Usenet Newsgroup Archive: rec.radio.amateur.moderated

2007

These Usenet messages were preserved as a plain-text archive. This PDF was generated by Digital Library of Amateur Radio & Communications from the source text file in 2026.

Date span: 2007-02-23 through 2007-12-31

Source text: rec.radio.amateur.moderated.txt

Source item: https://archive.org/details/usenet-rec

Messages included in this PDF: 2,062

Message records with no readable body available in the source text: 2

Messages are presented chronologically by archived date.

Binary or encoded payloads are not printed as blocks of encoded text; a placeholder appears where such material was detected. The original source text is unchanged.

1. Re: Pocket guide for VX-7R

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-23 16:20:31 UTC
From: Edwin Johnson <edwinljohnson@bellsouth.net>
Message-ID: <89EDh.15998$O8.8847@bignews2.bellsouth.net>
Source record: 5392

On 2007-02-23, Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net> wrote:
> Since I can't remember all the functions(!) of my
> Yaesu VX-7R, I want to get one of those pocket
> guides that comprise sort of a "Readers Digest
> Condensed Version". I think I have seen two or
> three different ones out there, and wondering if

I have the VX-5R, the predecessor of the 7R, and looked into those after first buying my ht. I ended up making my own by printing the help list on card stock in a narrow, small (wallet size) format which folds to the size of a business card.

You will probably find the pocket guides very inclusive of all the functions, many of which you will not use. Rather than cluttering up a guide with those functions, I chose those which would be needed on a more regular basis and one quick look at my guide refreshes my memory. Since you create the guide, you can easily add or subtract functions and print again as usage of particular functions demands.

73 ...Edwin, KD5ZLB
--
_____
"Once you have flown, you will walk the earth with your eyes
turned skyward, for there you have been, there you long to
return."-da Vinci http://bellsouthpwp2.net/e/d/edwinljohnson

2. Re: Pocket guide for VX-7R

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-23 17:57:36 UTC
From: "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not>
Message-ID: <ern63a$37j$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 5393

Edwin Johnson wrote:
> On 2007-02-23, Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net> wrote:
>> Since I can't remember all the functions(!) of my
>> Yaesu VX-7R, I want to get one of those pocket
>> guides that comprise sort of a "Readers Digest
>> Condensed Version". I think I have seen two or
>> three different ones out there, and wondering if
>
> I have the VX-5R, the predecessor of the 7R, and looked into those after
> first buying my ht. I ended up making my own by printing the help list on
> card stock in a narrow, small (wallet size) format which folds to the size
> of a business card.
>
> You will probably find the pocket guides very inclusive of all the
> functions, many of which you will not use. Rather than cluttering up a guide
> with those functions, I chose those which would be needed on a more regular
> basis and one quick look at my guide refreshes my memory. Since you create
> the guide, you can easily add or subtract functions and print again as usage
> of particular functions demands.
>
> 73 ...Edwin, KD5ZLB

Edwin & Richard,

I'm going to disagree with Edwin on one point here: I have an FT-890,
and a similar issue, but I found that the most-often used functions
aren't a problem: it's easy for me to remember the things I use the most.

I'd recommend you follow Edwin's advice, but write down the functions
that you use _just often enough_ to need quickly, but not so often
they're on the tip of your tongue. He's right about the commercial
guides, though: it's the whole manual in tiny type, and I never found
them much use, especially when my "cheaters" are in my coat pocket ;-).

73, Bill W1AC

(Remove "73" and change top level domain for direct replies)

3. Re: CQ!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-23 17:57:49 UTC
From: ��н�� <artnet@rol.ru>
Message-ID: <ern6mi$1lt$1@news.rol.ru>
Source record: 5394

Hi
"OZ1HMX" <mail@stoevsugercenteret.dk> ��������/��������� ? ��������
���������:
news:45deaa8b$0$4175$ba624c82@nntp02.dk.telia.net...
> Hello from oz1hmx
>
> "Jeff Caird" <professor.jc@knox.edu> skrev i en meddelelse
> news:12ts2e9mpprn949@corp.supernews.com...
> > Hello, everybody.
> >
>
>

4. ANNOUNCE: rec.radio.amateur.moderated has been created

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-23 18:59:02 UTC
From: The Big-8 Management Board <board@big-8.org>
Message-ID: <nan.20070223185902$4bc4@killfile.org>
Source record: 5395
Cross-posted to:
rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info,news.announce.newgroups,rec.radio.amateur.policy,rec.radio.amateur.misc

On 19 Feb 2007, the Big-8 Management Board decided to create the moderated group rec.radio.amateur.moderated. The group was created on 22 Feb 2007.

For more information on the proposal and history, please refer to the archives:

ftp://ftp.isc.org/usenet/news.announce.newgroups/rec/rec.radio.amateur.moderated

For your newsgroups file:
rec.radio.amateur.moderated Amateur radio practices, rules, etc. (Moderated)

CHARTER:

rec.radio.amateur.moderated is for the discussion of amateur ("ham") radio, also known as the Amateur Radio Service, as defined in Federal Communications Commission Regulations and U.S. Law (47 CFR Part 97), and in similar laws and regulations in other countries, based on international treaty. It is not limited to the rules of any one country or time period. Possible topics include past, present, and future operating practices; events; contests; past, present, and potential-future rules; power limitations; authorized frequencies; allowed modes and band plans (or other gentlemen's agreements) that govern how we are to operate; what constitutes the acceptable operation of amateur stations.

The newsgroup is intended to be international in scope, not just for amateurs in the United States. It is, however, intended as an English-language forum, by custom and practice. As with General Aviation and other internationally-scoped endeavors, the Amateur Radio Service has a strong custom of the use of English and the Latin alphabet. Discussion of amateur radio in languages other than English also occurs in many country- and region-specific hierarchies, many of which have specific amateur radio newsgroups, including:

de.* (Germany)
dk.* (Denmark)
es.* (Spain)
fr.* (France)
nl.* (Netherlands)
pl.* (Poland)
pt.* (Portugal)
relcom.* (Russia)

This newsgroup is only intended to supplement, not supersede, any other amateur radio newsgroups.

General communications law or government policy of various government agencies is also on-topic, as long as the discussion relates to amateur radio. Examples would be emergency communications, local antenna restrictions, and property deed restrictions applying to operation of amateur radio stations.

Discussion of other types of radio, such as Citizens Band, Broadcast, other Personal Radio Services, Commercial or Private Land Mobile, and Marine or Aviation services are off-topic, except when *directly* related to amateur radio. Similarly, discussion of methods violating applicable communications law and regulations concerning radio equipment or operations are off-topic.

The following are prohibited:

* Personal advertisements (submitters of such articles will be referred to rec.radio.swap, instead).
* Commercial advertisements and money-making schemes.
* Chain letters.
* Posts in HTML.
* EMP spam.
* Binaries, apart from PGP signatures, X-Face headers, and other ancillary article meta-data.
* Forgery of valid e-mail addresses.
* Excessive morphing/nym-shifting.
* Copyright violations. Pointers to news articles, blogs, etc. on this topic are welcome but are required to comply with fair use standards.
* Personal attacks and flames, as defined by the moderation team.
* Advertising items and/or services for sale (also will be referred to rec.radio.swap).
* Links to "objectionable" web content, including pornographic sites, sites encouraging illegal activities, or sites deemed unacceptable by the moderation team. The moderation team will cursorily check the contents of specific links to confirm on-topic content, but acceptance for posting does not imply endorsement or approval of the entire present or future contents of that web site.
* Discussion of moderation decisions. See below for information on appealing moderator action.

LINKS:

Amateur Radio Newsgroups in Total Meltdown (QRZ)
http://www.qrz.com/ib-bin/ikonboard.cgi?s=ff745d20e58c50c63315835c3cefd8d9;act=ST;f=7;t=119282

Amateur Radio Newsgroups: Total Meltdown (eHam)
http://www.eham.net/articles/13581

Secure, Team-Based Usenet Moderation Program (STUMP)
http://www.algebra.com/~ichudov/stump/

MODERATION POLICY: rec.radio.amateur.moderated

A moderation robot will scan all submitted posts. Each post will be either automatically approved, rejected, or sent to the moderators for manual review. The moderator 'bot will enforce the following guidelines:

* Crossposting is generally not allowed, with the general exception of crossposts of bulletins, FAQ's, and other informational articles to rec.radio.info, rec.answers, and news.answers. Infrequent administrative crossposts may occasionally be allowed at the sole discretion of the moderator.

* Postings must be in plain text. In particular no HTML or mixed text and HTML posts will be allowed. Messages that are multipart/alternative will be automatically filtered to pass just the text/plain version to the newsgroup.

* No binary postings of any sort will be accepted. Exceptions will be made for cryptographic signatures and such.

* Messages must not have a 'Followup-To' header that points out of rec.radio.amateur.moderated (other than to "poster").

* Messages must not continue a thread that has been "closed" by the moderators.

Individual posters may be temporarily banned for consistently violating the group charter. Posters who feel that their posts have been unfairly rejected or banned, either for specific content or by a specific moderator, may appeal the decision. They may do so by contacting the Appeals Board, consisting of a rotating group of 2 or more moderators, at the Administrative Contact address below. The Board will discuss and vote on the appeal and respond within 14 days if the appeal is successful. The Board will also reply within 14 days to unsuccessful submitters of any appeal that is on-topic, reasoned, civilly stated, and is not substantially an attempt to revisit the subject matter and arguments of a previous unsuccessful appeal.

Multiple temporary bans, attempting to circumvent the ban, or abuse of the appeal system may result in a permanent ban.

MODERATOR INFO: rec.radio.amateur.moderated

Moderator: Paul W. Schleck, K3FU <pschleck@novia.net>
Moderator: Bob Diepenbrock, KC4UAI <bob_deep@yahoo.com>
Moderator: Jack Cook, VK2CJC <vk2cjc@bigpond.com>
Moderator: Jim Hampton, AA2QA <aa2qa@frontiernet.net>
Moderator: Ace Ratliff, WH2T <ace@wh2t.com>
Moderator: Jeff Angus, WA6FWI <jangus@socal.rr.com>
Moderator: Hans Brakob, K0HB <k0hb@arrl.net>

In addition, the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team will utilize the expertise of the following consultants:

Consultant: Cecil A. Moore, W5DXP <Cecil.A.Moore@ieee.org>
Consultant: Phil Kane, K2ASP <k2asp@arrl.net>
Consultant: Brian Short, K7ON <k7on@cox.net>

The moderators are seeking additional candidates for the moderation team in order to ensure minimal posting delays and to avoid any appearance of bias. We would especially like to find moderators in other time zones, countries/continents, etc.

Article Submissions: rec-radio-amateur-moderated@panix.com
Administrative Contact: rec-radio-amateur-moderated-request@panix.com

PROPONENT:

"Paul W. Schleck, K3FU" <pschleck@novia.net>

CHANGE HISTORY:

2007-01-10 1st RFD
2007-01-24 2nd RFD
2007-02-12 3rd RFD/LCC
2007-02-19 Results

5. Crossband repeat

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-23 21:34:15 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <12tumarqt577r3a@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 5396

As the time of year approaches to begin thinking about hurricanes and disaster communications, I'm going to upgrade my 2-meter rig with one that is capable of crossband repeat. I would like for this same radio to double as my in-shack equipment during normal times.

I'm looking for something with enough power to handle marginal conditions, rugged and able to handle high temperatures and long duty cycles, and reasonably easy to operate in the field. (I don't mind needing a computer and software to set up lots of memories, but I need to be able to program in an unknown repeater in the field when the computer isn't available.) Naturally the vendors assure me that all their new gear can do this, but somehow I'd rather hear it from people who have actually done it in the heat of battle.

73, Steve KB9X

6. Re: Crossband repeat

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-23 22:20:12 UTC
From: "Karsten H." <bito@karby.dk>
Message-ID: <12tup4hi0df089b@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 5397

Steve Bonine wrote:
> As the time of year approaches to begin thinking about hurricanes and
> disaster communications, I'm going to upgrade my 2-meter rig with one
> that is capable of crossband repeat. I would like for this same radio
> to double as my in-shack equipment during normal times.
>
> I'm looking for something with enough power to handle marginal
> conditions, rugged and able to handle high temperatures and long duty
> cycles, and reasonably easy to operate in the field. (I don't mind
> needing a computer and software to set up lots of memories, but I need
> to be able to program in an unknown repeater in the field when the
> computer isn't available.) Naturally the vendors assure me that all
> their new gear can do this, but somehow I'd rather hear it from people
> who have actually done it in the heat of battle.
>
> 73, Steve KB9X

I have a YAESU FT-8500 from as early as 1995 which apperars to meat your reuirements, and I'm sure that at lot of newer dual-banders also meat your requirements.

I've had no faults what so ever on mine sine I bought from new in 1995. The newer models might be simpler to operate.

73, Karsten, OZ1GB

7. Re: ANNOUNCE: rec.radio.amateur.moderated has been created

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-23 23:35:24 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <6kqut2tv49s8lb6gqrej4f1agbqpds8i3r@4ax.com>
Source record: 5398

On Fri, 23 Feb 2007 12:59:02 -0600, The Big-8 Management Board
<board@big-8.org> wrote:

>On 19 Feb 2007, the Big-8 Management Board decided to create the moderated
>group rec.radio.amateur.moderated. The group was created on 22 Feb 2007.

It's good to see that civilization has returned to Usenet Amateur
Radio discussions.

Welcome back to us all.....
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kzne

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] org

8. ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-23 23:36:11 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1172270812.015451.248090@j27g2000cwj.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5399

These are the numbers of current,
unexpired FCC-issued amateur
radio licenses held by individuals
on the stated dates, and the
percentage of the total number
of active licenses that class contains:

As of May 14, 2000:

Novice- 49,329 (7.3%)
Technician - 205,394 (30.4%)
Technician Plus - 128,860 (19.1%)
General - 112,677 (16.7%)
Advanced - 99,782 (14.8%)
Extra - 78,750 (11.7%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 334,254 (49.5%)

Total General/Advanced/Extra - 291,209 (43.2%)

Total all classes - 674,792

As of February 20, 2007:

Novice - 22,893 (3.5%) [decrease of 26,436]
Technician - 293,177 (44.8%) [increase of 87,783]
Technician Plus - 30,881 (4.7%) [decrease of 97,979]
General - 130,092 (19.9%) [increase of 17,415]
Advanced - 69,040 (10.6%) [decrease of 30,742]
Extra - 108,205 (16.5%) [increase of 29,455]

(percentages may not add up to exactly 100.0% due to rounding)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 324,058 (49.5%) [decrease of 10,196]

Total General/Advanced/Extra - 307,337 (47.0%) [increase of 16,128]

Total all classes - 654,288 (decrease of 20,504)

Note that these totals do not include licenses
that have expired but are in the grace period.

They also do not include club, military
or other station-only licenses.

Note also that effective April 15, 2000, new Novice,
Technician Plus and Advanced licenses are no longer
issued.

Since April 15, 2000, FCC has renewed all
existing Technician Plus licenses as Technician. By May of 2010, the
number of Technician Plus licenses
should drop to zero, because all of them will have been renewed as
Technician or allowed to expire. It is therefore
informative to consider the totals of the two classes,
since the Technician class includes a significant
number of Technician Plus licenses renewed as Technician.

73 de Jim, N2EY

9. Re: Crossband repeat

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-24 02:16:48 UTC
From: W5DXP <w5dxp@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <1172282919.710971.39920@z35g2000cwz.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5400

On Feb 23, 3:34 pm, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
> As the time of year approaches to begin thinking about hurricanes and
> disaster communications, I'm going to upgrade my 2-meter rig with one
> that is capable of crossband repeat.

That's the way I use my old Alinco DR-570. Works like a charm.
--
73, Cecil, w5dxp.com

10. Kenwood TS-520

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-24 04:01:40 UTC
From: Jeff Caird <professor.jc@knox.edu>
Message-ID: <12tvdunr8il5nd5@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 5401

IMHO, the TS-520 is the '57 Chevy of ham rigs. (Or is it the '65 Mustang, or the '67 GTO?) In any case, $175 at a flea and abt $75 for a new set of tubes (GE 6146Bs MP) got me a fun rig! It does everything I want except WARC bands.

kb1gej

11. Info. Please - Yaesu FT-897D

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-24 12:29:43 UTC
From: Newby <nobody@nowhere.net>
Message-ID: <12u08aloj96d029@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 5402

Does anyone in the group have one? Do you like it? Any shortcomings?

Thanks.

12. Re: Info. Please - Yaesu FT-897D

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-24 16:52:08 UTC
From: Mike Andrews <mikea@mikea.ath.cx>
Message-ID: <erpj3d$82k$1@puck.litech.org>
Source record: 5403

On 24 Feb 2007 07:29:43 -0500, Newby <nobody@nowhere.net> wrote in
<12u08aloj96d029@corp.supernews.com>:
> Does anyone in the group have one? Do you like it? Any shortcomings?

I have an 897D as my main shack rig, an 857D in the car, and an 857 as the second shack rig. They're essentially the same radio in two unlike packages, the 857 being optimized for mobile use.

I quite like them, though I'd like more front panel controls and less menu-diving to change things.

The 897D (and 857D), as they ship, have quite decent receivers, though they're not up with a Watkins-Johnson or Cubic surveillance RX, or even with my good R-390.

I'm sure they have shortcomings; I just haven't yet been hit severely enough by any to remember it.

--
Mike Andrews, W5EGO
mikea@mikea.ath.cx
Tired old sysadmin

13. Re: Crossband repeat

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-24 16:52:23 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1172334325.202161.178560@p10g2000cwp.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5404

On Feb 23, 2:34 pm, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
> As the time of year approaches to begin thinking about hurricanes and
> disaster communications, I'm going to upgrade my 2-meter rig with one
> that is capable of crossband repeat.

Steve,

I've used the FT8100R in this role in the past. The manual did a
fairly good job of explaining the setup.

73, de Hans, K0HB

14. Re: ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-24 18:18:52 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1172338842.904237.268970@k78g2000cwa.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5405

This is a special listing of the ARS license numbers,
the last totals before the FCC rules change dropping
all Morse Code testing went into effect.

Future postings of these numbers will use a somewhat
different format, to show comparisons to both May 14,
2000, and February 22, 2007.

I intend to post these numbers once per month, on or about the 23rd of
the month. I also intend to post the totals on or
about March 1, 2007, as a one-time thing.

These are the number of current,
unexpired FCC-issued amateur
radio licenses held by individuals
on the stated dates, and the
percentage of the total number
of active licenses that class contains:

As of May 14, 2000:

Novice- 49,329 (7.3%)
Technician - 205,394 (30.4%)
Technician Plus - 128,860 (19.1%)
General - 112,677 (16.7%)
Advanced - 99,782 (14.8%)
Extra - 78,750 (11.7%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 334,254 (49.5%)

Total General/Advanced/Extra - 291,209 (43.2%)

Total all classes - 674,792

As of February 22, 2007:

Novice - 22,896 (3.5%) [decrease of 26,433]
Technician - 293,508 (44.8%) [increase of 88,114]
Technician Plus - 30,818 (4.7%) [decrease of 98,042]
General - 130,138 (19.9%) [increase of 17,461]
Advanced - 69,050 (10.5%) [decrease of 30,732]
Extra - 108,270 (16.5%) [increase of 29,520]

(percentages may not add up to exactly 100.0% due to rounding)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 324,326 (49.5%) [decrease of 9,928]

Total General/Advanced/Extra - 307,458 (47.0%) [increase of 16,249]

Total all classes - 654,680 (decrease of 20,112)

These totals do not include licenses
that have expired but are in the grace period,
nor do they include club, military and other
station-only licenses.

Effective April 15, 2000, FCC no longer issued
new Novice, Technician Plus and Advanced
class licenses.

Also since April 15, 2000, FCC has renewed all
existing Technician Plus licenses as Technician.
It is therefore informative to consider the totals of
the two classes, since the Technician class
includes a significant number of Technician Plus
licenses renewed as Technician.

73 de Jim, N2EY

15. Re: Crossband repeat

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-24 19:56:12 UTC
From: "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not>
Message-ID: <erq19snkp1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 5406

Steve Bonine wrote:
> As the time of year approaches to begin thinking about hurricanes and
> disaster communications, I'm going to upgrade my 2-meter rig with one
> that is capable of crossband repeat. I would like for this same radio
> to double as my in-shack equipment during normal times.
>
> I'm looking for something with enough power to handle marginal
> conditions, rugged and able to handle high temperatures and long duty
> cycles, and reasonably easy to operate in the field. (I don't mind
> needing a computer and software to set up lots of memories, but I need
> to be able to program in an unknown repeater in the field when the
> computer isn't available.) Naturally the vendors assure me that all
> their new gear can do this, but somehow I'd rather hear it from people
> who have actually done it in the heat of battle.
>
> 73, Steve KB9X

Steve,

It's always a good idea to have a rig with good capabilities, and any of the commercial units that advertise cross-band repeat will fill that need.

I feel compelled, however, to sound a note of caution: I've been involved with disaster preparedness for many years, and was even on the Boston Esplanade helping to manage the medical responses and lost children during the July 4, 1976 Pops concert that drew the largest crowd ever recorded in Boston's history.

The long and short of it is that _WE_ are the most important asset in an emergency and that _WE_ are most in need of preparation. If we're going to represent ourselves as being ready to help during times of crisis, then the practical knowledge and preparedness we bring with us will outweigh any single radio.

A cross-band repeater might, or might not, be the "Deus ex machina" that solves all your team's problems - but don't count on it, because technology is the least important weapon in a ham's arsenal when the chips are down. I once owned a fancy and delicate radio that I hesitated to take out in the rain or loan to another ham: now, I have three basic HT's and I invest in myself and my capabilities instead.

Having regular exercise, which is free, has better prepared me for an emergency than any amount of money could have. Knowing the capabilities, limitations, and advantages of RG-8 has made it possible to connect thirty-year-old ground planes cut for 46 MHz to two-meter radios and have them in service in minutes instead of hours. Participating in

regular drills, although inconvenient, has been twice as valuable as any piece of hardware could have been when I was tired, hungry, irritated, wet, and constipated.

The most important asset we can bring to any deployment, no matter what the situation or the location, is _adaptability_. Although having good technology is helpful, having good practice and common sense and a "can do" attitude will always get you through when technology lets you down.

HTH. YMMV.

73, Bill W1AC

P.S. Whatever you do, don't forget extra batteries, duct tape, and toilet paper. You can use the bag the duct tape came in to wrap the toilet paper, and trust me on this - wet duct tape is a lot easier to use than wet toilet paper. ;-)

(Remove "73" and change the top level domain for direct replies)

16. Re: Kenwood TS-520

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-24 21:28:08 UTC
From: k8mn@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1172352231.835768.173560@s48g2000cws.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5407

On Feb 24, 4:01 am, Jeff Caird <professor...@knox.edu> wrote:
> IMHO, the TS-520 is the '57 Chevy of ham rigs. (Or is it the
> '65 Mustang, or the '67 GTO?) In any case, $175 at a flea and
> abt $75 for a new set of tubes (GE 6146Bs MP) got me a fun
> rig! It does everything I want except WARC bands.
>
> kb1gej

I think you have it about right. Maybe rigs like the TS-520, TS-120, TS-130, Yaesu FT0101/A/B/E/EX and the Heath SB-100/101/102 and HW-100/101 are more like the Chevy Vega of amateur transceivers. They do the basics pretty well. They have RIT and can be used with an outboard VFO to make DXing fun. The best part is their affordability. Amateur radio does not have to be expensive in order for one to derive a lot of enjoyment. There are still companies selling accessory filters for all of the rigs mentioned.

Dave Heil K8MN

17. Disaster response

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-24 23:21:10 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <12u1hkdfsibs934@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 5408

Bill Horne, W1AC wrote:

> A cross-band repeater might, or might not, be the "Deus ex machina" that
> solves all your team's problems - but don't count on it, because
> technology is the least important weapon in a ham's arsenal when the
> chips are down.

I certainly agree, Bill. But I need to upgrade my equipment, and as long as I'm buying something, I want to be sure that it does what I need. Based on experience during Katrina, crossband can be a valuable capability. But that's all it is -- a capability.

By the way, thanks to everyone who chimed in their opinion on equipment. I have to admit that I did not realize that crossband capability has existed for so long. I was not active on VHF during the 90's when it was apparently in its heyday. I thought it was a relatively new development. I don't need the latest and greatest, so maybe I can find something that's older and will do what I want.

> I once owned a fancy and delicate radio that I hesitated
> to take out in the rain or loan to another ham: now, I have three basic
> HT's and I invest in myself and my capabilities instead.

Since right now I'm investing in myself, doing some training, I agree.

One of the people that I worked with in Mississippi during the Katrina effort had recently purchased several "old" 2-meter radios on eBay, just for the purpose of having them available for his ARES group. These were invaluable, along with his seemingly-endless supply of barrel connectors, coax, cigarette lighter adapters, and all those "little things" that make the difference between being effective and being frustrated.

> Having regular exercise, which is free, has better prepared me for an
> emergency than any amount of money could have. Knowing the capabilities,
> limitations, and advantages of RG-8 has made it possible to connect
> thirty-year-old ground planes cut for 46 MHz to two-meter radios and
> have them in service in minutes instead of hours.

When we were called upon to provide communications for Red Cross ERVs (Emergency Response Vehicle; the ones that they use for mobile feeding and other similar assignments) we were stymied because there's no place to use a mag mount. The vehicles are almost 100% fiberglass, and even the hood is non-magnetic. We used the whip that was intended for the Red Cross radio, which is cut for 47 MHz. It worked just fine on 144 MHz. The coax run was short enough, and the radios had sufficient power and auto-shutdown based on SWR, that we were able to easily hit the

repeaters that we needed to use.

Perfection is not needed. Resourcefulness works wonders.

> Participating in
> regular drills, although inconvenient, has been twice as valuable as any
> piece of hardware could have been when I was tired, hungry, irritated,
> wet, and constipated.

I will probably get some flak for this statement, but the hams who
really disappoint me are the ones who never have time for the training
sessions, the drills, or even the regular net session, but their mantra
is, "If you ever need me, I'll be there." Yeah, you'll be there all
right, but you'll be part of the problem, not part of the solution.

> The most important asset we can bring to any deployment, no matter what
> the situation or the location, is _adaptability_. Although having good
> technology is helpful, having good practice and common sense and a "can
> do" attitude will always get you through when technology lets you down.

I'm a great believer in the KISS principle, and simple is almost always
better in a disaster situation. The people are much more important than
the technology.

73, Steve KB9X

18. Re: CQ!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 01:15:23 UTC
From: wxfreqrs <wxfreqrs@cableone.net>
Message-ID: <12u1ldpc3f7iof9@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 5409

G'Day
>From KB5FHX on the MS Gulf Coast
21.5 yrs 72-93 Mil(NAVY RADIO) op got first ticket in 88
looking forward to civilized discussion on all aspects of the hobby

--
Don
SEMPER VIGILIS
http://myweb.cableone.net/wxfreqrs/ REAL TIME WEATHER Pascagoula Ms
http://www.qsl.net/kb5fhx/index.html HAM RADIO
Those who live by the sword get shot by those who don't.

"Jeff Caird" <professor.jc@knox.edu> wrote in message
news:12ts2e9mpprn949@corp.supernews.com...
> Hello, everybody.
>

19. Re: Disaster response

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 02:29:16 UTC
From: "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not>
Message-ID: <erqrfcusv1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 5410

Steve Bonine wrote:
> Bill Horne, W1AC wrote:
>
>> A cross-band repeater might, or might not, be the "Deus ex machina"
>> that solves all your team's problems - but don't count on it, because
>> technology is the least important weapon in a ham's arsenal when the
>> chips are down.
>
> I certainly agree, Bill. But I need to upgrade my equipment, and as
> long as I'm buying something, I want to be sure that it does what I
> need. Based on experience during Katrina, crossband can be a valuable
> capability. But that's all it is -- a capability.

I hope I'm not beating a dead horse, but I'll emphasize the point
another way: two simple radios will often cost only slightly more than
one feature-rich rig.

[snip]
>> Having regular exercise, which is free, has better prepared me for an
>> emergency than any amount of money could have. Knowing the
>> capabilities, limitations, and advantages of RG-8 has made it possible
>> to connect thirty-year-old ground planes cut for 46 MHz to two-meter
>> radios and have them in service in minutes instead of hours.
>
> When we were called upon to provide communications for Red Cross ERVs
> (Emergency Response Vehicle; the ones that they use for mobile feeding
> and other similar assignments) we were stymied because there's no place
> to use a mag mount. The vehicles are almost 100% fiberglass, and even
> the hood is non-magnetic. We used the whip that was intended for the
> Red Cross radio, which is cut for 47 MHz. It worked just fine on 144
> MHz. The coax run was short enough, and the radios had sufficient power
> and auto-shutdown based on SWR, that we were able to easily hit the
> repeaters that we needed to use.

Glad to here it: nothing more useless than a good radio without an
antenna, except for an operator who doesn't try every option.

In the event I remember, it was actually the _long_ length of the RG-8
that I was depending on: since the antennas were 70+ feet away, I knew
that the loses in the cable would obviate any SWR issue. In fact, Ed
Tilton's favorite microwave dummy load was a long length of unterminated
coax.

> Perfection is not needed. Resourcefulness works wonders.

Amen.

>
>> Participating in regular drills, although inconvenient, has been twice
>> as valuable as any piece of hardware could have been when I was tired,
>> hungry, irritated, wet, and constipated.
>
> I will probably get some flak for this statement, but the hams who
> really disappoint me are the ones who never have time for the training
> sessions, the drills, or even the regular net session, but their mantra
> is, "If you ever need me, I'll be there." Yeah, you'll be there all
> right, but you'll be part of the problem, not part of the solution.

I was present at at public-service event where a ham who weighed over 300 pounds volunteered to accompany a group of firefighters who were about to respond to a fuel spill. The firefighters, all professionals in excellent condition, told him that they were not trained to handle heart attacks and that he would not go with them. He was, to put it mildly, upset, but he went on a diet and started operating bicycle mobile, so the firefighters did him a big favor by making sure that he wouldn't have a heart attack in the first place.

This brings up another important, and often overlooked, aspect of emergency preparedness: the men and women who do it for a living train hard, and work hard, and talk hard. Ham's with thin skin have no place in disaster response, because the other people who are paid to be there are also paid to speak the truth, bluntly and quickly. "Check your ego at the door" is the best advice anyone can give or receive.

[snip]

Glad to have met you: if you're deployed to New England during our next earthquake, I'll share my duct tape :-).

73,

Bill W1AC

20. Human-powered portable power generation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 03:10:39 UTC
From: "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not>
Message-ID: <erquio$2ur$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 5411

Fellow hams,

KB9X's thread about cross-band radios has reminded me of an old question that I've wondered about during many public service events, usually at the point when my nicads die and I realize that the spares are on the other side of a wall of people.

As we all know, and many have experienced, discharged nicads that aren't charged quickly can go permanently bad. I've had a couple of occasions where I had to "zap" dead nicads by putting them is series with automobile headlights, but when I did it I couldn't help but think there has to be a better way.

The problem isn't limited to nicads: even with NiMH batteries, discharged is still "dead", even if they don't get damaged, so I'd like to be able to charge any kind of battery with a human-powered source. There's never an AC outlet, or even AC, when and where you need it, and I'd appreciate you sharing any expertise or ideas.

I don't want to limit this to portables: let's talk about possibilities for fixed stations as well. We've all seen the old WWII movies that showed someone cranking a hand generator or using a pedal-powered device to get on the air, and I wonder if these gadgets can be recreated from parts that are almost always available everywhere, namely car alternators and car batteries. I'd like to have a set of plans that I could use to construct something quickly.

All ideas appreciated.

73,

Bill W1AC

21. Re: ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 03:31:53 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <1172373612.134213.33660@m58g2000cwm.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5412

On Feb 24, 1:18 pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> This is a special listing of the ARS license numbers,
> the last totals before the FCC rules change dropping
> all Morse Code testing went into effect.
>
> Future postings of these numbers will use a somewhat
> different format, to show comparisons to both May 14,
> 2000, and February 22, 2007.
>
> I intend to post these numbers once per month, on or about the 23rd of
> the month. I also intend to post the totals on or
> about March 1, 2007, as a one-time thing.
>

May I suggest doing the one-time special posting to be for a March 9th
date? With the large number of upgrades that may be going in, it
could take a bit longer for them to get processed.

Dee, N8UZE

22. Re: ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 05:37:28 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1172379846.186123.37540@v33g2000cwv.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5413

On Feb 24, 11:18 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:

>
> Total Tech/TechPlus - 334,254 (49.5%)
>
> Total General/Advanced/Extra - 291,209 (43.2%)
>

Jim,

I'm not certain of the underlying analytic reason for this particular two-bucket breakout of the statistics, but I often wonder why it ignores the Novice class. Maybe Novices are irrelevant to the point you're highlighting, or it is considered a "dead" license class, but in that sense, so is Advanced. I guess my question is "where is the Novice bucket?"

73, de Hans, K0HB

23. Re: Human-powered portable power generation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 05:38:25 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1172381007.275860.137220@t69g2000cwt.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5414

Couple of thoughts from my experience.

First, for portable devices.

One of my other hobbies is backcountry hiking in the Superstitions (in the winter) and exploring the BWCA (in the summer). I carry GPS and MURS/FRS radios. My solution is to carefully plan my trips and carry charged (or alkaline) spares at a rate of 200% of what I expect to need. The logistics of carrying some 'charging system' is simply untenable in these environments, since they'd be bulkier/heavier than a few spare hot batteries.

Second, for fixed stations.

My home station is AC-centric, so human-powered sources aren't as good a solution as the small 3kw Honda generator which also powers my RV when I go boonie camping.

73, de Hans, K0HB

PS: Besides, I had enough of hand-cranked transmitters in the Navy --- my 'abondon ship' duties included toting/operating an AN/CRT-3 "Gibson Girl" transmitter.

24. Re: Kenwood TS-520

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 05:57:52 UTC
From: Jack VK2CJC <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com>
Message-ID: <err7u5dts1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 5415

> The best part is their
> affordability. Amateur radio does not have to be expensive in order
> for one to derive a lot of enjoyment.

Absolutely. I think I had more fun when I had least "disposable income".
Scraping together old unwanted equipment to make up a station was far more
challenging and rewarding than signing a large cheque and waiting for the
boxes to arrive.
I'd recommmend everyone try that approach sometime.
--
Jack VK2CJC / MM0AXL
FISTS# 9666
www.qsl.net/vk2cjc
MSN messenger ID - my email address
Yahoo messenger ID - vk2cjc

25. Welcome to rec.radio.info!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 06:38:51 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/welcome-1-1172385531@panix.com>
Source record: 5416
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.scanner,rec.radio.shortwave

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/welcome
Revision: 1.1 2007/02/24 19:44:46
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

*** Welcome to rec.radio.info! ***

Welcome to rec.radio.info, a group that aims to provide a noise-free
source of information and news for the entire rec.radio hierarchy.

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to the group
every month. You are now reading the first article, which explains what
rec.radio.info is, and answers some Frequently Asked Questions. The
second article is titled Posting Guidelines, and you only need to read
it if you want to submit an article to rec.radio.info.

You can skip to the next section of this article by searching for the
next
" -- " string. The sections available are:
- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?
- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?
- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?
- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.
- What type of material is considered inappropriate?
- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to
rec.radio.info?
- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?
- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to
speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

-- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?

The purpose or charter of rec.radio.info is to provide the Usenet
community with a resource for information, news, and facts about any and
all things radio.

All the other rec.radio groups are intended for discussions and general
chit chat about radio. Rec.radio.info will contain informational,
factual articles only. Follow-ups are redirected to an appropriate other
group, and further discussion (if any) will not take place in
rec.radio.info.

In order to ensure that rec.radio.info contains only appropriate
articles, it was decided to create the group as a moderated newsgroup.
```

-- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?

It provides a "tag" for each article to be assembled into a filtered presentation in rec.radio.info (even with cross-posting, only one message, with a unique Message-ID, is propagated across the net). This tag also facilitates a pre-existing method of dropping or canceling the articles locally within the discussion groups if you don't want to see them. This accommodates individuals who want to separate the bulletins from the discussions, discussions from the bulletins, as well as those who are adamant about not reading another newsgroup and wanted to see everything all in one basket.

With the total size of Usenet (in number of newsgroups and total traffic) doubling every year or so, this is no insignificant contribution to reducing information noise and chaos. Making the discussion groups a catch-all, and making extra newsgroups filters on that catch-all, is also the most realistic way to implement such a scheme (It's not intuitively obvious what the charter, contents, and general appropriate topics for each and every newsgroup are. Seeing FAQ's and charter/intro postings in the home newsgroup is beneficial for new readers).

By cross-posting one only is adding a few tens of bytes to each bulletin (to specify the extra group on the Newsgroups line), but are adding the capability for very powerful filtering features available on most news servers, listservers and readers. Your local news guru could probably explain these features in more detail.

In rn, for example, according to Leanne Phillips in her rn kill-file FAQ, add a line of the form:

/Newsgroups:.*[,]rec\.radio\.info/h:j

either in ~/News/KILL (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere) or ~/News/rec/radio/amateur/misc/KILL (if you don't want to see them just in rec.radio.amateur.misc). The latter method means your kill file will only be consulted during rec.radio.amateur.misc (and hence runs more efficiently), and will probably work for most people.

In nn, according to Bill Wohler in his nn FAQ, add a line of the form:

rec.radio.info:!s/:^

in ~/.nn/kill (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere), or put the following lines:

sequence
rec.radio.info
rec.radio.

at the end of ~/.nn/init in order to see all the rec.radio.info bulletins first, then read the remaining rec.radio.* without the bulletins.

-- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?

If you are new to Usenet and are not familiar with the terminology, you might want to read the general introductory articles found in the newsgroup news.announce.newusers. Doing so will make your life on the net much easier, and will probably save you from making silly beginner's mistakes.

If you think that at this moment you are reading an echo, a conference, or a bulletin board, I'd also strongly suggest a trip over to news.announce.newusers.

For the rest of this article, we will assume you have a basic knowledge of Usenet terminology and mechanics.

A moderated group means that any article that needs to be posted to the group has to be accepted by the moderator of the group. Since we need to ensure that followups to an article (discussion) do not show up in the rec.radio.info newsgroup, the `Followup-To:' header line contains a newsgroup that is appropriate for discussions about the specific article.

-- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.

Rec.radio.info is a moderated newsgroup, which means that all articles submitted to the group will have to be approved by the moderator first.

The current moderator of the group is the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team. Submissions to rec.radio.info can be posted, or e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Comments, criticisms, suggestions or questions about the group can be e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

But before you do so, please be sure to check out the "Posting Guidelines" article.

The influence of the moderator should be minimal and of an administrative nature, consisting chiefly of weeding out obviously inappropriate articles, while making sure correct headers etc. are used for the appropriate ones.

-- What type of material is considered inappropriate?

There are three broad categories of articles which will be rejected by the moderator:

1) Requests for information: rec.radio.info is strictly a one-way street. We receive information in our mailbox; we then post it to rec.radio.info. Requests for specific information belong in the normal discussion newsgroups. If your request gets answered, you might consider passing the answer on to rec.radio.info, though. Especially if you can edit it into a informational, rather than a discussion, format.

2) Obvious discussion articles, or articles that appear unsubstantiated.

3) Commercial stuff: a relatively unbiased test of a radio product would be accepted, but any hint of for-profit might be reason for rejection. For three reasons: This is not the purpose of the list, for-profit is a controversial topic, and this list may be passed onto Amateur Packet Radio (where for-profit is prohibited except under certain provisos).

rec.radio.swap may be more deserving of the posting in any matter.

Similarly, copyrighted material generally cannot be used. If it's TRULY worthwhile to the net, We would recommend obtaining permission from the copyright holder. Please note the source, and if permission was given. We reserve the right to make the final decision concerning appropriateness in all situations. In most cases, a brief summary of, or pointer to, the copyrighted information may be all we can allow.

-- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to rec.radio.info?

Google has an excellent web interface to Usenet newsgroups. It is available at:

http://groups.google.com

It supports both reading and posting.

-- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?

Yes. See Google Groups above.

Effectively this means that anything you post to rec.radio.info will be permanently stored, so your work will not be lost.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as time critical.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires co-operation and goodwill to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio hierarchy.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

26. rec.radio.info Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 06:39:43 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines-1-1172385581@panix.com>
Source record: 5417
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.scanner,rec.radio.shortwave

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines
Revision: 1.2 2007/02/25 06:38:39
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

*** rec.radio.info - Posting Guidelines and Etiquette ***

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to this group
and to rec.answers/news.answers every two weeks. You are now reading the
second article, which explains how to submit something to
rec.radio.info, and which answers some Frequently Asked Questions about
the submission process. The first article is titled "Welcome to
rec.radio.info", and it might be a good idea to check it out as well.

-- How do I submit something to rec.radio.info?

Two possibilities. You can use your newsreading software to just post
the article to rec.radio.info, as you would do with any other
newsgroup. The difference is that the software recognizes the special
status of rec.radio.info as a moderated group, and will e-mail your
article to us, the moderation team, instead of posting it to the group.

Alternatively, you can mail your article directly to us at the following
address:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Mailing us directly is probably (a wee bit) faster, but using the
transparency offered by the newsreading software is probably more
convenient.

If you have any questions, or wish to deal with some administrivia with
the moderation team, we suggest mailing to the following address:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

-- How soon will I see my article appear?

It depends on how busy we are. Your article reaches us as mail, we have
to read it first, give it the stamp of approval, and finally send it on
to the group. We will attempt to read and decide on all submissions
within 72 hours at the very least, though we will probably be able to
process submissions much faster in actual practice.

The site from which we moderate this newsgroup, "Public Access Internet
and Unix, NYC" (Panix), is directly connected to the Internet, and
```

articles posted at that site should appear at most major news sites, including Google Groups, the same day. The principal delay, therefore, will be the wait in the moderator's submission queue.

If you post a periodic article, and have shown to be trustworthy, we may allow you to post directly if the article is of a timely nature. See the section below on direct posting.

-- Should my article be in a specific format?

No. If it is not totally illegible, we will accept it, and if it does not have a correct subject-line we will correct it with your permission -- that's what a moderator is for.

However.

You could do us a big favor by making sure your article conforms to these simple requirements:

1) The article must present information, not discussion or requests, We will reject the article or require you to change the wording if it is worth it.
2) A good, descriptive Subject line.
3) Always mention what source you got the information from.
4) Don't forget to include a Followup-To header, at least if you don't want further discussion to automatically be forwarded to you, the poster, which is the default if the article is only posted to rec.radio.info.

As we said: if your article is appropriate we will post it even if you don't follow these guidelines, but then don't blame us for not processing it immediately. 'Perfect' articles we can send on with a couple of keystrokes. Stuff that needs minor editing is going to have to wait until we have time to do so.

Please do not waste both our and your time by posting requests, as this is an information only news group.

-- What about crossposting?

If you send something to rec.radio.info, just name any group you'd like to cross-post to in the Newsgroups field. Then, when we approve the article for rec.radio.info it will get automatically cross-posted to any other groups mentioned. This will also override the default Followup-To: poster, replacing it with the groups you cross posted to.

We would prefer if the group be cross-posted to the various discussion groups in the rec.radio.* hierarchy that are appropriate:

rec.radio.amateur.misc Amateur (ham) radio and related matters
rec.radio.amateur.packet Amateur Packet Radio discussions
rec.radio.amateur.policy Amateur Radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.noncomm Non commercial radio discussions
rec.radio.shortwave International broadcasting on the 'HF' bands

rec.radio.cb Citizens Band (27 MHz) discussion
rec.radio.scanner Scanner discussions (unsupported group)

or in one of the moderated groups:

rec.radio.amateur.moderated Amateur radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.broadcasting Discussion of *domestic* radio broadcasting

We will leave it up to the poster to decide which group(s) are appropriate, but reserve the right to add groups if we feel it has broader interest. We will consult with the poster first.

Notes on crossposting:

- rec.radio.broadcasting is also a moderated group. The rec.radio.broadcasting moderator prefers to review all articles himself before posting. Placing rec.radio.broadcasting before rec.radio.info on the Newsgroups line should accomplish this. We will typically abide by the rec.radio.broadcasting moderator's decision whether the article is appropriate for rec.radio.info.

- rec.radio.amateur.moderated is also a moderated group. As the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team manages both rec.radio.amateur.moderated and rec.radio.info, we can manage crossposting and approvals for both newsgroups. The rec.radio.amateur.moderated group does not allow crossposting to other discussion newsgroups, whether moderated or unmoderated. However, we would like to manage rec.radio.info as consistently as possible with how it was done by previous moderators, including the grandfathering of existing regular postings. Therefore, the submitter can choose rec.radio.amateur.moderated or the other unmoderated rec.radio.amateur.* discussion newsgroups for crossposting, but not both.

- Any FAQ or informational posting approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderation team that is also crossposted to any rec.radio.* newsgroup (besides just rec.radio.info) is also automatically pre-approved for rec.radio.info. See below for more information.

If you post to another moderated group, it may be better to make special arrangements with both moderators before posting by contacting us at our administrivia addresses.

In addition, cross-posts do not take up extra space; modern newsreaders can be configured to show you cross-posted articles only once anyway; not everybody reads rec.radio.info; and rec.radio.info was never meant to reduce the volume of the regular discussion newsgroups. But keep in mind that some of the mail gateways may filter out the informational postings (at request of the subscribers) to keep the load down.

You decide.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, can I make arrangements to help speed up delivery by posting directly from my site?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as timely.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires cooperation and good will to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio.* hierarchy.

If you are currently maintaining (or plan to maintain) a radio-related periodic information posting, you may wish to consider crossposting it to rec.answers/news.answers. Postings that are approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderators for this treatment are automatically pre-approved for crossposting to rec.radio.info (as the news.answers requirements are far more rigorous than the requirements this newsgroup ever plans to use). For more information about this option, consult the appropriate information articles and posting guidelines in rec.answers/news.answers.

Realize also, that even if your post is not approved for rec.answers/news.answers, it can still be approved for rec.radio.info. The intention is not so much to get every last bit of radio-related information on rec.answers/news.answers, but rather to provide an alternative avenue of approval (as well as grandfather existing maintainers of radio-related information and spare them additional bureaucratic hurdles). Again, crossposting to either rec.radio.info or rec.answers/news.answers, both, or neither, is at the discretion of the poster (subject to the approval of the moderators). You decide what is most appropriate for your article.

Please remember that as an information maintainer, you are not alone. There are many others on the net who maintain and post periodic information postings, using various intermediate-to-advanced features of Usenet (usually via automated tools). Various degrees of technical support and general hand-holding are available from many Usenet veterans. Send us some E-mail describing your needs to our administrative address below, and we'll try to help, or at least refer you to the right knowledgeable individual(s).

-- And Follow-ups?

If the only newsgroup you have specified is rec.radio.info, then the Followup-To: field will always be set to poster. If you do not want this, you must supply a Followup-To line of your own, and we will honor that one, as long as it is a subset of the original Newsgroups line.

If you specify newsgroups to cross-post to, then the Followup-To field will be set to include all the cross-posted groups, excepting rec.radio.info itself. Again, if you do not wish this behavior, supply your own Followup-To line.

We maintain other standards on the various RFC-1036 (news transport) header lines. For example, if the article is appropriate for passing into the Packet Radio Information Network, we encapsulate the Packet Bulletin Identifier (BID) in the Message-ID: news header line indicating the machine of origin as the ampr.org domain:

Message-ID: <$opa.55.1994@ampr.org>

where the Packet Radio BID, in this example, is `$OPA.55', and it was posted in the year 1994, because some of the Bid numbers are cycled yearly. Hopefully, this can be used as a key to re-introduce the articles for the Packet Radio network. Also, if the article is a repost of an already existing information article in the rec.radio heirarchy, we ensure that the References: header line is linked to that previously posted article. This also helps to tag articles, and may be used for additional filtering if needed.

Since the articles are archived, please use the Summary and Keywords header lines to help one search for your article.

-- Why have I received no reply from you?

We never reject anything in silence, and we make a point of it to answer all our mail. However, E-mail, like a brain cell, can and does get lost, every now and again.

So, if you send us something, and you don't see it appear it rec.radio.info, and you still have not heard from us in reply after say, five days, you can be pretty sure that either your mail never reached us, or that our answer has never reached you. In that case, please try again (We will filter out duplicates).

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

27. Re: Human-powered portable power generation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 07:05:42 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <12u2ct3ngaeq863@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 5418

Bill Horne, W1AC wrote:

> I don't want to limit this to portables: let's talk about possibilities
> for fixed stations as well. We've all seen the old WWII movies that
> showed someone cranking a hand generator or using a pedal-powered device
> to get on the air, and I wonder if these gadgets can be recreated from
> parts that are almost always available everywhere, namely car
> alternators and car batteries. I'd like to have a set of plans that I
> could use to construct something quickly.

Have you ever actually *used* one of those WWII generators? <grin>

Many years ago, my Field Day partner and I decided to use one of those devices to get a few "alternative power" contacts. My memory of the rules is foggy, but I think that if you made a few contacts using something other than a gasoline-powered generator, you got a significant bonus, score-wise.

So my buddy somehow acquired one of those devices. He must have found one at a surplus store.

Anyway, the point is that they're *very* tiring to use. You see this vintage footage where they're in use, and you forget that they guys making them work are probably 18-20 years old. I was dismayed at how hard I had to work to get a few watts of power. Plus, the device was very heavy and unweildy.

On the other hand, you occasionally see these flashlights or radios that are powered by a crank that winds a spring and as the spring unwinds it generates enough power to create light or run the radio. So the technology has improved since the vintage model that we used for FD. Maybe it's now efficient enough (and small/light enough) to be usable.

(Yes, we did make the required contacts and receive the bonus points.)

28. Re: ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 15:13:38 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1172406640.744834.8800@m58g2000cwm.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5419

On Feb 25, 12:37 am, groupk...@earthlink.net wrote:
> On Feb 24, 11:18 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:

> > Total Tech/TechPlus - 334,254 (49.5%)
>
> > Total General/Advanced/Extra - 291,209 (43.2%)
>
> Jim,
>
> I'm not certain of the underlying analytic reason for this particular
> two-bucket breakout of the statistics, but I often wonder why it
> ignores the Novice class. Maybe Novices are irrelevant to the point
> you're highlighting, or it is considered a "dead" license class, but
> in that sense, so is Advanced. I guess my question is "where is the
> Novice bucket?"
>
Hans,

The two subtotals are in response to questions/issues
raised long ago.

The Technician/Technician Plus total was added in
response to claims that the Technician was the fastest-
growing license class, which somehow proved some
point or other. Of course the Technician *was* the
fastest growing class, because after 4/15/2000
all renewed Technician Pluses became Technicians.
Looking at the total revealed that a net loss rather than
gain since 4/15/2000.

The General/Advanced/Extra subtotal was added in
response to a request to subtotal the licenses that
give "lots of HF privileges", compared to those which
do not. Perhaps it is no longer relevant to the discussion.

One fact that interests me is that the Advanced has
decreased in number (compared to what they were
before 4/15/2000) far more slowly than the Novice,
even though both are no longer issued, and are not
subject to automatic license class change.

What "buckets" would you prefer to see?

73 de Jim, N2EY

29. Re: ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 15:14:02 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1172407448.857690.33090@m58g2000cwm.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5420

On Feb 24, 10:31 pm, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:
> On Feb 24, 1:18 pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>
> > This is a special listing of the ARS license numbers,
> > the last totals before the FCC rules change dropping
> > all Morse Code testing went into effect.
>
> > Future postings of these numbers will use a somewhat
> > different format, to show comparisons to both May 14,
> > 2000, and February 22, 2007.
>
> > I intend to post these numbers once per month, on or about the 23rd of
> > the month. I also intend to post the totals on or
> > about March 1, 2007, as a one-time thing.
>
> May I suggest doing the one-time special posting to be for a March 9th
> date? With the large number of upgrades that may be going in, it
> could take a bit longer for them to get processed.

Good idea, Dee. That will give two weeks rather than
one since the rules change.

I recall that immediately after the restructuring of 2000,
hams who upgraded reported delays of up to several
weeks before their info showed up in the FCC database,
due to volume at both the VECs and FCC.

Look for the next post full of ARS numbers around
March 9th.

73 de Jim, N2EY

30. Re: ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 16:01:44 UTC
From: W5DXP <w5dxp@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <1172417188.214230.288680@j27g2000cwj.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5421

On Feb 25, 9:13 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> What "buckets" would you prefer to see?

How about including all US hams?

Total Novice/Tech/Tech+ = 56.8%

Total General/Advanced/Extra = 43.2%

That splits the classes 3/3 and shows the average US amateur radio operator licensee to be in the Novice/Tech/Tech+ group. I will predict that, before 2010, the General/Advanced/Extra group will be in the majority once again.
--
73, Cecil, w5dxp.com

31. Re: ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 16:01:57 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1172418989.281213.29950@j27g2000cwj.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5422

On Feb 25, 8:13 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:

>
> What "buckets" would you prefer to see?
>

Novice, Tech, General, Advanced, Extra

Anything else seems to perpetuate a forgotten argument. Let's move
forward.

73, de Hans, K0HB

32. Re: Human-powered portable power generation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 16:39:11 UTC
From: W5DXP <w5dxp@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <1172420355.103383.273790@a75g2000cwd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5423

On Feb 25, 1:05 am, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
> On the other hand, you occasionally see these flashlights or radios that
> are powered by a crank that winds a spring and as the spring unwinds it
> generates enough power to create light or run the radio. So the
> technology has improved since the vintage model that we used for FD.
> Maybe it's now efficient enough (and small/light enough) to be usable.

There's a big difference between powering a receiver and powering a
transmitter. I have a Sony that receives for many hours on a single
AAA battery. But 100 watts output from a transmitter cannot be
reduced below 100 watts of supplied power. Given that efficiency may
be around 50%, 200 watts of human generated energy is a heck of a
lot of calories. Need to lose some weight?
--
73, Cecil, w5dxp.com

33. Re: Info. Please - Yaesu FT-897D

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 17:01:21 UTC
From: Rod <rodd@cox.net>
Message-ID: <1172422131.300271.21130@8g2000cwh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5424

On Feb 24, 4:29 am, "Newby" <nob...@nowhere.net> wrote:
> Does anyone in the group have one? Do you like it? Any shortcomings?
>
> Thanks.

193 reviews by owners at E-Ham URL:
http://www.eham.net/reviews/detail/2432

Rod in San Diego

34. New government rules mandating hands-free devices in vehicles

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 17:07:02 UTC
From: John Doe <hgorden@adelphia.net>
Message-ID: <lOKdnf5F0JQuNHzYnZ2dnUVZ_rylnZ2d@adelphia.com>
Source record: 5425

(See Title 32 of the CFR Part 634 Section 634.25 paragraph (3))

This is FEDERAL not just some state or city. It applies to all personnel on all federal installations (military posts, VA hospitals, national parks, national forests, any other federal property with its own roads). It also applies to all military personnel on and off post, on and off duty.

A revision to the Code of Federal Regulations mandates that all federal installations prohibit the use of cellular phones, PDAs, and similar communication devices by persons operating motor vehicles, unless used with a hands-free device. Effective 1 March 2007, the use of such devices without hands-free devices will be prohibited on [this installation]. This regulation applies to all devices using cellular technology. Cellular systems built into the vehicle and activated by voice or push-button (On-Star) are considered hands-free. An earpieces used in one ear or headphones are the only other approved hands-free devices for motor vehicle operators.

Radio communication devices (hand sets or "mikes") may only be used by operators if the radio device is mounted (wired) to the vehicle. Use of walkie-talkies or phones in the direct connect mode is not authorized. This includes the use of Motorola or other "Brick" type radios in GOVs and POVs. The use of tactical radios in tactical vehicles is not subject to this regulation.

The use of video technology in any playback mode, by the driver, is prohibited. The only exception is the use of vehicular-mounted navigation systems.

Any vehicle operator desiring to use cellular phones, PDAs, and similar communication devices without a hands-free device may do so only after safely exiting the roadway and placing the vehicle in park. The wearing of portable headphones, earphones or other listening devices while operating a motor vehicle is prohibited.

Operators found in violation of this policy during the grace period of March 1, 2007 through April 1, 2007 will receive a warning ticket. Beginning 2 April 2007, violators will be ticketed. Violation of the above stated policy may result in suspension or revocation of post driving privileges, the assessment of points, and/or a fine.

These restrictions apply to all personnel on post and to military personnel both on and off post regardless of their duty status.

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Caveats: NONE

35. Re: Crossband repeat

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 17:58:58 UTC
From: Dick Grady AC7EL <rng@richbonnie.com>
Message-ID: <03i3u29q2cnp17h3m9koltuaip9f5fm4bl@4ax.com>
Source record: 5426

There is one legal problem with using a dual-band rig as a crossband repeater. Both the 2-meter and 70-cm sides are ham transmitters, and must be ID'd every 10 minutes and at the end of every series of transmissions, just like every other station and repeater. See this article:

How can I legally make my VHF/UHF station into a crossband repeater?
http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/faq-aux.html#_Toc70492016

Some people say "In an emergency, all rules are out the window, and anything goes." Maybe, but I doubt it; I think ID rules still apply during emergencies. But whenever you practice communication procedures (and you must practice to make sure it will work in an emergency), all the rules apply.

73 de Dick, AC7EL

On 23 Feb 2007 16:34:15 -0500, Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> wrote:

>As the time of year approaches to begin thinking about hurricanes and
>disaster communications, I'm going to upgrade my 2-meter rig with one
>that is capable of crossband repeat. I would like for this same radio
>to double as my in-shack equipment during normal times.
>
>I'm looking for something with enough power to handle marginal
>conditions, rugged and able to handle high temperatures and long duty
>cycles, and reasonably easy to operate in the field. (I don't mind
>needing a computer and software to set up lots of memories, but I need
>to be able to program in an unknown repeater in the field when the
>computer isn't available.) Naturally the vendors assure me that all
>their new gear can do this, but somehow I'd rather hear it from people
>who have actually done it in the heat of battle.
>
>73, Steve KB9X
73 de Dick, AC7EL

36. Re: Human-powered portable power generation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 17:59:14 UTC
From: an old friend <kb9rqz@yahoo.com>
Message-ID: <1172425104.968799.7230@h3g2000cwc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5427

On Feb 24, 10:10 pm, "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorn...@comcast.not>
wrote:
> Fellow hams,
>

> The problem isn't limited to nicads: even with NiMH batteries,
> discharged is still "dead", even if they don't get damaged, so I'd like
> to be able to charge any kind of battery with a human-powered source.
> There's never an AC outlet, or even AC, when and where you need it, and
> I'd appreciate you sharing any expertise or ideas.

while not exactly human powered I have several smaller backpackable
solar unit the charge my NiCads well (I bought a huge supply of NiCads
cheaps) and rarely use NiMH) they would run my HT eeasy or a short
wave receiver might even mange the QRP level Ft 817 my wife has me
looking at

37. Re: ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 17:59:34 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <1172425365.401452.249700@z35g2000cwz.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5428

On Feb 25, 11:01 am, "W5DXP" <w...@hotmail.com> wrote:
> On Feb 25, 9:13 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>
> > What "buckets" would you prefer to see?
>
> How about including all US hams?
>
> Total Novice/Tech/Tech+ = 56.8%
>
> Total General/Advanced/Extra = 43.2%
>
> That splits the classes 3/3 and shows the average US amateur radio
> operator licensee to be in the Novice/Tech/Tech+ group. I will predict
> that, before 2010, the General/Advanced/Extra group will be in the
> majority once again.
> --
> 73, Cecil, w5dxp.com

I personally expect to see the General/Advanced/Extra group to be in the majority in a year myself. In my opinion, the only reason it would not occur that fast is if there is a significant percentage of Techs/Tech+ who are inactive and don't know about the licensing change.

Based on personal experience, I can understand why one might not include the Novice group. I've not encountered any on the air and a check of our club roster here shows no Novices. If there are any active Novices out there, they are as scarce as hen's teeth. The license numbers (they've dropped by over 50%) seem to support the thought that they have either upgraded by now or are inactive. There will be a few exceptions no doubt.

Dee N8UZE

38. Re: New government rules mandating hands-free devices in vehicles

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 18:18:06 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1172426445.072639.276150@p10g2000cwp.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5429

I'd be interested in seeing the source of this excerpt. (It isn't the cited Title 32 of the CFR Part 634 Section 634.25 paragraph (3))

My guess is that what the author has posted is a local implementation, such as an excerpt from some Army base regulation or similar document. A CFR wouldn't single out "military personnel both on and off post regardless of their duty status" or specify dates for grace period "warnings".

73, de Hans, K0HB

39. Re: New government rules mandating hands-free devices in vehicles

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 18:18:31 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xpr7t.net>
Message-ID: <12u3kcojavfhr42@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 5430

```
"John Doe" wrote ...
> (See Title 32 of the CFR Part 634 Section 634.25 paragraph (3))
>
> This is FEDERAL not just some state or city.
....
> A revision to the Code of Federal Regulations mandates that all
> federal installations prohibit the use of cellular phones, PDAs, and
> similar communication devices by persons operating motor vehicles,
> unless used with a hands-free device.

Similar legislation (2 bills) pending in the state of Oregon.
```

40. Re: Human-powered portable power generation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 18:25:09 UTC
From: You <You@shadow.orgs>
Message-ID: <You-3C7119.09222725022007@netnews.worldnet.att.net>
Source record: 5431

In article <1172420355.103383.273790@a75g2000cwd.googlegroups.com>,
"W5DXP" <w5dxp@hotmail.com> wrote:

> On Feb 25, 1:05 am, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
> > On the other hand, you occasionally see these flashlights or radios that
> > are powered by a crank that winds a spring and as the spring unwinds it
> > generates enough power to create light or run the radio. So the
> > technology has improved since the vintage model that we used for FD.
> > Maybe it's now efficient enough (and small/light enough) to be usable.
>
> There's a big difference between powering a receiver and powering a
> transmitter. I have a Sony that receives for many hours on a single
> AAA battery. But 100 watts output from a transmitter cannot be
> reduced below 100 watts of supplied power. Given that efficiency may
> be around 50%, 200 watts of human generated energy is a heck of a
> lot of calories. Need to lose some weight?
> --
> 73, Cecil, w5dxp.com
>

It is well documented that a very "FIT" human male can output in
the 100 Watt range on a well designed peddle powered Generator.
Most of the WWII handcranked gensets powered radios in the 20
- 40 watt range. Australia' Peddle Powered HF Sets were also
in the 40 watt range.

41. Re: New government rules mandating hands-free devices in vehicles

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 18:54:51 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <54e3enF20j5ulU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 5432

"Richard Crowley" <rcrowley@xpr7t.net> wrote in message
news:12u3kcojavfhr42@corp.supernews.com
> "John Doe" wrote ...
> > (See Title 32 of the CFR Part 634 Section 634.25
> > paragraph (3)) This is FEDERAL not just some state or city.
> ....
> > A revision to the Code of Federal Regulations mandates
> > that all federal installations prohibit the use of
> > cellular phones, PDAs, and similar communication
> > devices by persons operating motor vehicles, unless
> > used with a hands-free device.
>
> Similar legislation (2 bills) pending in the state of
> Oregon.

Sounds similar to the regulations we now have here in the UK, although the law here is specifically limited to cellular devices, normal 2-way radio equipment is exempt, so we amateurs are ok, although of course if the police really wanted to, we have the offence here of driving without due care and attention, which really covers it, but there was a lot of complaining by pressure groups that got the phone law introduced.

Of course we all use hands free equipment on both our phones and amateur radios anyway, don't we ;-)

Ivor G6URP

42. Re: Crossband repeat

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 18:55:06 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <54e3iqF1vcq6eU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 5433

"Dick Grady AC7EL" <rng@richbonnie.com> wrote in message
news:03i3u29q2cnp17h3m9koltuaip9f5fm4bl@4ax.com
> There is one legal problem with using a dual-band rig as
> a crossband repeater. Both the 2-meter and 70-cm sides
> are ham transmitters, and must be ID'd every 10 minutes
> and at the end of every series of transmissions, just
> like every other station and repeater. See this article:

There's another problem as well in some countries, it's not permitted at
all in the UK (and the rest of Region 1 AFAIK) :-(

Ivor G6URP

43. Re: Human-powered portable power generation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 19:38:04 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <etn3u2lt1bmneq60fisok5hge9lcnljol0@4ax.com>
Source record: 5434

On 25 Feb. 2007 02:05:42 -0500, Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> wrote re:
hand-cranked generators:

>Anyway, the point is that they're *very* tiring to use. You see this
>vintage footage where they're in use, and you forget that they guys
>making them work are probably 18-20 years old. I was dismayed at how
>hard I had to work to get a few watts of power. Plus, the device was
>very heavy and unweildy.

Years ago when I was doing ship radio safety inspections, we had to
test the lifeboat hand-cranked radios. We would always ask the master
to assign one of the seamen (affectionately called "deck apes") to lug
and crank it. I tried doing it myself once - and once was enough. I'd
rather operate the radio...
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

44. Re: New government rules mandating hands-free devices in vehicles

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 21:32:47 UTC
From: Jack VK2CJC <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com>
Message-ID: <ersop2kqu1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 5435

> Sounds similar to the regulations we now have here in the UK, although the
> law here is specifically limited to cellular devices, normal 2-way radio
> equipment is exempt, so we amateurs are ok,

Same situation here in Australia.

Although I always felt that the only thing that made "two way radio" exempt
from the regs was that the police and ambulance guys would then be unable to
use their radios without a second operator.

I wonder if they have thought of that in the US?
--
Jack VK2CJC / MM0AXL
FISTS# 9666
www.qsl.net/vk2cjc
MSN messenger ID - my email address
Yahoo messenger ID - vk2cjc

45. Re: Disaster response

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 21:40:29 UTC
From: "R.A Abrahams" <r.aabrahams@wanadoo.nl>
Message-ID: <45e1e9ff$0$3597$dbd4b001@news.wanadoo.nl>
Source record: 5436

Dear OM's

lovely discussions about communications in disasters.
in the beginning of amateur radio it was a great help however!
first the organisation of first aid and the nescesarry communicarion is
the responsibillety of the authorety and politici
They make risk analyses and in it there are calculated victems each body
has its price!
It's fine that we OM's from different nations and cultures may discuse this
openly
We are intended to help without questions different rules makes it not
easely

for exampel
years ago there was a big breakdown of electricty in the northerpart of PA
troubles in communications police ambulance fire workers security etc each
service had their own frequency and channels and band disciplens
How can you than communicate ? it is like buying bread from a recent
discovered tribe living in the stone age
shortly a group of legal and illegal ham's build a emergynet FM radio's
tuned to police channels at 86 mc relaided to 145 and 433 mc illegal
transmitted by broadcastamateurs to 86 mc again
So we accompanyed a traffic accedent and a troubelsome delivery to a
hospital
A couple of months later speaking a policeofficer he told us abaout a
scrambler and that it was unpossible that we could do the job again.
My simple answerd if he knows how that new rig works with al l the used
components and frequencies give me a lot of trouble SSB like distorsion of
the audio

example 2
late 70 surf accident at coastal sea
windsurfer surfing at force 8 a 9 slipped of his board could not find it
back because the high waves .
truck driver sees it happening and used his CB set ignored!!!!
lucky to the surfer A cber ringed a radarpost and the operator could see the
surfer
Life boat out troubles could not find the surfer becuase the waves
radaroperator could not communicate the lifeboat mariphone at 156.8 mc
Lucky guy in the waves. a police officer ham too noticed that his potobel
ham set was abble to transmit out of band did not know how.Local home net
gives the answer and the radarpost was abled to accompagny the lifeboat at
time.

Now the emergy services have a brandnew system with the diapers problems
too mainly potentionproblems who is responsebel for what politics
Had we to solve this problems
I spoked a local politicus about the emergy flyers now to day needed for
terrorist attacs.the stupid things in it and foolish solutions of suspected
problems
close your windows because there is no problem for your health and listen to
the blowed up local radiostation without power
He noticed that always radioamateurs do a great job we are a reliable
service. so the politici know the problem to solve it it costs money
I' now back again at my remark However ???? !!!!!!
See you down in the log
Ruud PA 0 RAB

"Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not> schreef in bericht
news:erqrfcusv1@victor.killfile.org...
> Steve Bonine wrote:
>> Bill Horne, W1AC wrote:
>>
>>> A cross-band repeater might, or might not, be the "Deus ex machina" that
>>> solves all your team's problems - but don't count on it, because
>>> technology is the least important weapon in a ham's arsenal when the
>>> chips are down.
>>
>> I certainly agree, Bill. But I need to upgrade my equipment, and as long
>> as I'm buying something, I want to be sure that it does what I need.
>> Based on experience during Katrina, crossband can be a valuable
>> capability. But that's all it is -- a capability.
>
> I hope I'm not beating a dead horse, but I'll emphasize the point another
> way: two simple radios will often cost only slightly more than one
> feature-rich rig.
>
> [snip]
>>> Having regular exercise, which is free, has better prepared me for an
>>> emergency than any amount of money could have. Knowing the capabilities,
>>> limitations, and advantages of RG-8 has made it possible to connect
>>> thirty-year-old ground planes cut for 46 MHz to two-meter radios and
>>> have them in service in minutes instead of hours.
>>
>> When we were called upon to provide communications for Red Cross ERVs
>> (Emergency Response Vehicle; the ones that they use for mobile feeding
>> and other similar assignments) we were stymied because there's no place
>> to use a mag mount. The vehicles are almost 100% fiberglass, and even
>> the hood is non-magnetic. We used the whip that was intended for the Red
>> Cross radio, which is cut for 47 MHz. It worked just fine on 144 MHz.
>> The coax run was short enough, and the radios had sufficient power and
>> auto-shutdown based on SWR, that we were able to easily hit the repeaters
>> that we needed to use.
>
> Glad to here it: nothing more useless than a good radio without an

> antenna, except for an operator who doesn't try every option.
>
> In the event I remember, it was actually the _long_ length of the RG-8
> that I was depending on: since the antennas were 70+ feet away, I knew
> that the loses in the cable would obviate any SWR issue. In fact, Ed
> Tilton's favorite microwave dummy load was a long length of unterminated
> coax.
>
>> Perfection is not needed. Resourcefulness works wonders.
>
> Amen.
>
>>
>>> Participating in regular drills, although inconvenient, has been twice
>>> as valuable as any piece of hardware could have been when I was tired,
>>> hungry, irritated, wet, and constipated.
>>
>> I will probably get some flak for this statement, but the hams who really
>> disappoint me are the ones who never have time for the training sessions,
>> the drills, or even the regular net session, but their mantra is, "If you
>> ever need me, I'll be there." Yeah, you'll be there all right, but
>> you'll be part of the problem, not part of the solution.
>
> I was present at at public-service event where a ham who weighed over 300
> pounds volunteered to accompany a group of firefighters who were about to
> respond to a fuel spill. The firefighters, all professionals in excellent
> condition, told him that they were not trained to handle heart attacks and
> that he would not go with them. He was, to put it mildly, upset, but he
> went on a diet and started operating bicycle mobile, so the firefighters
> did him a big favor by making sure that he wouldn't have a heart attack in
> the first place.
>
> This brings up another important, and often overlooked, aspect of
> emergency preparedness: the men and women who do it for a living train
> hard, and work hard, and talk hard. Ham's with thin skin have no place in
> disaster response, because the other people who are paid to be there are
> also paid to speak the truth, bluntly and quickly. "Check your ego at the
> door" is the best advice anyone can give or receive.
>
> [snip]
>
> Glad to have met you: if you're deployed to New England during our next
> earthquake, I'll share my duct tape :-).
>
> 73,
>
> Bill W1AC
>

46. Formula for Q of resonant circuit?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 21:40:59 UTC
From: M J Dowden <mjdowden@panix.com>
Message-ID: <ersv5a$9kj$1@reader2.panix.com>
Source record: 5437

I am trying to find the formula used to calculate the Q of a
parallel R-L-C resonant circuit. There are a number of questions in
the Amateur Extra test pool[1] that ask this and the formula that I
have does not produce the correct answers.
I have been using Q = (2 * Pi * f * L) / R, but the questions in
section E5G of the test pool don't seem to work with that. The
answers that are produced by that formula are among the
"distracters," suggesting that I am making an obvious error that they
expect some people to make.

[1] http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/2002_Extra_Pool3.txt

M J Dowden <mjdowden@panix.com>
PGP key: <http://www.panix.com/~mjdowden/keys.shtml>
No Microsoft products were used in the
preparation or transmission of this message

47. Re: Info. Please - Yaesu FT-897D

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 22:04:35 UTC
From: Newby <nobody@nowhere.net>
Message-ID: <12u40r6i70ilef6@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 5438

"Rod" <rodd@cox.net> wrote in message
news:1172422131.300271.21130@8g2000cwh.googlegroups.com...
> On Feb 24, 4:29 am, "Newby" <nob...@nowhere.net> wrote:
> > Does anyone in the group have one? Do you like it? Any shortcomings?
> >
> > Thanks.
>
> 193 reviews by owners at E-Ham URL:
> http://www.eham.net/reviews/detail/2432
>
> Rod in San Diego
>
Thanks, I had already looked at them when I posted my request for info.
Just wanted some 'one on one' info. Looks like most of the reviews are
favorable.

48. Re: Crossband repeat

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-25 22:05:16 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <12u414vg84338b1@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 5439

Dick Grady AC7EL wrote:
> There is one legal problem with using a dual-band rig as a crossband repeater.
> Both the 2-meter and 70-cm sides are ham transmitters, and must be ID'd every 10
> minutes and at the end of every series of transmissions, just like every other
> station and repeater.

This is an interesting point, and one that I had not considered. I thought about ID, but not on the UHF output of the crossbanding unit.

I don't remember seeing any available gear that supports an automated id for this transmitter, but then again I wasn't looking for it specifically. Anyone know of a rig that can do the id?

73, Steve KB9X

49. Re: Human-powered portable power generation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-26 01:42:13 UTC
From: Wayne Lundberg <Waynelund@worldnet.att.net>
Message-ID: <ntoEh.13473$as2.10858@bgtnsc05-news.ops.worldnet.att.net>
Source record: 5441

"You" <You@shadow.orgs> wrote in message
news:You-3C7119.09222725022007@netnews.worldnet.att.net...
> In article <1172420355.103383.273790@a75g2000cwd.googlegroups.com>,
> "W5DXP" <w5dxp@hotmail.com> wrote:
>
> > On Feb 25, 1:05 am, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
> > > On the other hand, you occasionally see these flashlights or radios
that
> > > are powered by a crank that winds a spring and as the spring unwinds
it
> > > generates enough power to create light or run the radio. So the
> > > technology has improved since the vintage model that we used for FD.
> > > Maybe it's now efficient enough (and small/light enough) to be usable.
> >
> > There's a big difference between powering a receiver and powering a
> > transmitter. I have a Sony that receives for many hours on a single
> > AAA battery. But 100 watts output from a transmitter cannot be
> > reduced below 100 watts of supplied power. Given that efficiency may
> > be around 50%, 200 watts of human generated energy is a heck of a
> > lot of calories. Need to lose some weight?
> > --
> > 73, Cecil, w5dxp.com
> >
>
> It is well documented that a very "FIT" human male can output in
> the 100 Watt range on a well designed peddle powered Generator.
> Most of the WWII handcranked gensets powered radios in the 20
> - 40 watt range. Australia' Peddle Powered HF Sets were also
> in the 40 watt range.
>
There was a very interesting article in the latest Invention magazine about
the development of cell phones made possible only because of the short range
cellular concept and improved batteries.

As to human power... the Daedalus human powered airplane that flew the Greek
islands got its power from an athlete. The actual power that can be
generated from a human being for an extended period is something like one
tenth of a HP... in theory something like 75 Watts... but as has been shown
in this thread, seems like by the time all the juice goes through all the
resistors you only get something like 40 Watts.

50. Re: Formula for Q of resonant circuit?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-26 01:42:15 UTC
From: Fabian Kurz <usenet@fkurz.net>
Message-ID: <54egrnF20q7ppU1@mid.dfncis.de>
Source record: 5440

M J Dowden wrote:
> I am trying to find the formula used to calculate the Q of a
> parallel R-L-C resonant circuit. There are a number of questions in
> the Amateur Extra test pool[1] that ask this and the formula that I
> have does not produce the correct answers.
> I have been using Q = (2 * Pi * f * L) / R, but the questions in
> section E5G of the test pool don't seem to work with that. The
> answers that are produced by that formula are among the
> "distracters," suggesting that I am making an obvious error that they
> expect some people to make.

It's obvious that this formula for Q is not valid for a parallel
RLC-Circuit. If you let R go towards infinity, by this formula,
the Q goes to zero, although it should obviously be infinite,
since the circuit has no losses.

The correct formula is Q = R / (2*pi*f*L) = R * 2*pi*f*C

73,
--
Fabian Kurz, DJ1YFK * Dresden, Germany * http://fkurz.net/
Online Log: http://dl0tud.tu-dresden.de/~dj1yfk/log.html

51. Re: ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-26 01:42:17 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1172448350.434493.208130@j27g2000cwj.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5342

On Feb 25, 11:01?am, "W5DXP" <w...@hotmail.com> wrote:
> On Feb 25, 9:13 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>
> > What "buckets" would you prefer to see?
>
> How about including all US hams?

I did - see the grand totals at the bottom of
each date's numbers.
>
> Total Novice/Tech/Tech+ = 56.8%
>
> Total General/Advanced/Extra = 43.2%

Back in May of 2000, yes.

But in February of 2007, it works out to:

Total Novice/Tech/Tech+ = 53.0%

Total General/Advanced/Extra = 47.0%
>
> That splits the classes 3/3 and shows the average US amateur radio
> operator licensee to be in the Novice/Tech/Tech+ group.

It is more accurate to say that the Novice/Tech/Tech+
group has a slight and shrinking majority over the
General/Advanced/Extra group.

> I will predict
> that, before 2010, the General/Advanced/Extra
> group will be in the
> majority once again.

I agree 100% - and I think it will be much sooner than
2010.

73 de Jim, N2EY

52. Re: Formula for Q of resonant circuit?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-26 01:42:19 UTC
From: Lloyd <lloyd@no.spammmmm>
Message-ID: <230984733.2458F8789@tarrnews.net>
Source record: 5344

On 25 Feb 2007 16:40:59 -0500, M J Dowden <mjdowden@panix.com> wrote:
> I am trying to find the formula used to calculate the Q of a
> parallel R-L-C resonant circuit. There are a number of questions in
> the Amateur Extra test pool[1] that ask this and the formula that I
> have does not produce the correct answers.
> I have been using Q = (2 * Pi * f * L) / R, but the questions in
> section E5G of the test pool don't seem to work with that. The
> answers that are produced by that formula are among the
> "distracters," suggesting that I am making an obvious error that they
> expect some people to make.

The formula you used for Q is for a series resonant circuit - call it Qs.
For a parallel resonant circuit, you should calculate Q as Qp = 1/Qs.

That is, at the end of your calculation, hit the "1/x" key on your
calculator.

(See also http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RLC_circuit)

53. Re: Formula for Q of resonant circuit?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-26 01:42:20 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1172447942.654500.38590@q2g2000cwa.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5343

On Feb 25, 4:40 pm, M J Dowden <mjdow...@panix.com> wrote:

> I have been using Q = (2 * Pi * f * L) / R,

That's the formula for Q in a series resonant circuit. It's upside down from what you need for a parallel resonant circuit.

What you need is this formula, which is used for parallel RLC circuits:

Qp = R / (2 * Pi * f * L)

It's easy to remember which to use if you consider that in a parallel resonant circuit, increasing the resistance in parallel with L and C increases the Q. In a series resonant circuit, *decreasing* the resistance in series with L and C increases the Q.

> but the questions in
> section E5G of the test pool don't seem to work with that.

Try again with the formula above.

Some simplifications help, too:

1) There are combinations of units that result in exponents cancelling. For example, MHz times microhenries is 10^6 times 10^-6, effectively eliminating them from the calculation.

2) 2 * pi is 6.28 for almost all work.

3) The inductive reactance, aka XL, is (6.28 * f * L).

E5G01 (A)
What is the Q of a parallel R-L-C circuit if the resonant frequency is 14.128 MHz, L is 2.7 microhenrys and R is 18 kilohms?

First we figure out XL

XL = 6.28 * 14.128 * 2.7

Since we are dealing in microhenries and megahertz, the 10^6 and 10^-6 exponents cancel out, and XL = 239.5 ohms.

Then we divide R, which is 18,000 by XL, which is 239.5 ohms

Answer: 75.15

The choices on the exam are:

A. 75.1
B. 7.51
C. 71.5
D. 0.013

Clearly the answer is A. The answer isn't exact because of rounding of 6.28 and 239.5.

Try some others in the pool.

73 de Jim, N2EY

54. Re: Formula for Q of resonant circuit?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-26 01:45:04 UTC
From: W5DXP <w5dxp@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <1172453308.043905.231840@8g2000cwh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5345

On Feb 25, 3:40 pm, M J Dowden <mjdow...@panix.com> wrote:
> I am trying to find the formula used to calculate the Q of a
> parallel R-L-C resonant circuit.
> I have been using Q = (2 * Pi * f * L) / R,

That formula is for the Q of a series circuit. The formula for the
Q of a parallel circuit is the reciprocal of that formula.
--
73, Cecil, w5dxp.com

55. Re: ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-26 01:45:06 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1172449032.346134.98530@k78g2000cwa.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5346

On Feb 25, 12:59 pm, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:

> I personally expect to see the General/Advanced/Extra group to be in
> the majority in a year myself. In my opinion, the only reason it
> would not occur that fast is if there is a significant percentage of
> Techs/Tech+ who are inactive and don't know about the licensing
> change.

I think there are a considerable number of US hams who
are inactive, and a considerable number who don't
know about the rules changes. Within the past year
I have had occasion to explain the *2000* rules changes
to several licensed hams who were not aware of how that
restructuring affected them. In a couple of those cases,
an upgrade resulted.
>
> Based on personal experience, I can understand why one might not
> include the Novice group. I've not encountered any on the air and a
> check of our club roster here shows no Novices. I If there are any
> active Novices out there, they are as scarce as hen's teeth. The
> license numbers (they've dropped by over 50%) seem to support the
> thought that they have either upgraded by now or are inactive. There
> will be a few exceptions no doubt.

Agreed, but every month FCC reports at least some Novice
renewals. Sometimes there are enough renewals that the
Novice total actually climbs for a day or two.

A unique characteristic of the Novice license today is that
it now carries no test element credit at all towards an upgrade.

73 de Jim, N2EY

56. Re: ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-26 01:45:11 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1172448662.788163.63480@q2g2000cwa.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5347

On Feb 25, 11:01 am, groupk...@earthlink.net wrote:
> On Feb 25, 8:13 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:

> > What "buckets" would you prefer to see?
>
> Novice, Tech, General, Advanced, Extra

What about Tech Plus?

> Anything else seems to perpetuate a forgotten
> argument.

I think the Tech/Tech Plus total serves a useful purpose,
because it is an automatic license class change upon
renewal.

I agree that the General/Advanced/Extra total doesn't serve
much of a purpose anymore. It will be discontinued in
future "ARS License Numbers" posts of mine.

If anyone wants those totals, they will be easily calculated.

> Let's move forward.

Look for the next totals on or about March 10th, in a revised format.
Then once a month, on or about the 23rd.

73 de Jim, N2EY

57. Re: Formula for Q of resonant circuit?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-26 03:22:51 UTC
From: M J Dowden <mjdowden@panix.com>
Message-ID: <ertia5$99v$1@reader2.panix.com>
Source record: 5348

Thanks ENORMOUSLY. This is what I needed:
Qp = R / (2 * Pi * f * L) I have been all through the Radio Handbook
by Orr and three other books and it was in none of them.
Best regards.

M J Dowden <mjdowden@panix.com>
PGP key: <http://www.panix.com/~mjdowden/keys.shtml>
No Microsoft products were used in the
preparation or transmission of this message

58. Re: ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-26 06:02:37 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1172469587.030117.49670@q2g2000cwa.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5349

On Feb 25, 6:45 pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:

>
> I think the Tech/Tech Plus total serves a useful purpose,
> because it is an automatic license class change upon
> renewal.
>

"Tech+" was dropped some time back, is not recognized at FCC as a license class, and as of 2/23/07 there is no distinction in privileges or any other practical difference between it and plain old "Tech". A Tech is a Tech is a Tech.

73, de Hans, K0HB

59. Re: Human-powered portable power generation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-26 12:26:52 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1172491003.709424.129970@q2g2000cwa.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5350

Couple of ideas:

1) If you use batteries, the recharger doesn't have to
supply enough power to operate the rig at maximum
demand - only average demand. If a rig draws 4 W on
receive and 20 W on transmit, and you transmit 10% of
the time, a 6-7 watt source should be more than enough.

2) A small solar panel can provide a trickle charge for
NiMH/nicad batteries. Of course it doesn't work at night.

3) Costco and others sell a small crankpowered LED flashlight. No
springs - winding the crank charges the batteries.

4) Or you could follow G5BD's example:

http://jacksonharbor.home.att.net/g5bd.jpg

73 de Jim, N2EY

60. Re: Human-powered portable power generation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-26 13:44:36 UTC
From: Jon Kåre Hellan <dev@null.com>
Message-ID: <1mfy8tnihr.fsf@persaunet.uninett.no>
Source record: 5351

N2EY@AOL.COM writes:

> Couple of ideas:
>
> 1) If you use batteries, the recharger doesn't have to
> supply enough power to operate the rig at maximum
> demand - only average demand. If a rig draws 4 W on
> receive and 20 W on transmit, and you transmit 10% of
> the time, a 6-7 watt source should be more than enough.
>
> 2) A small solar panel can provide a trickle charge for
> NiMH/nicad batteries. Of course it doesn't work at night.
>
> 3) Costco and others sell a small crankpowered LED flashlight. No
> springs - winding the crank charges the batteries.
>
> 4) Or you could follow G5BD's example:
>
> http://jacksonharbor.home.att.net/g5bd.jpg
>
> 73 de Jim, N2EY

The guys on the Kon-Tiki raft expedition in 1947 used a hand cranked generator. I guess hearing Thor Heyerdahl read the Kon-Tiki book aloud on the radio when I was 9 was one of the things which pushed me in the direction of ham radio. The radio operators on Kon-Tiki had been making clandestine transmissions out of occupied Norway a few years earlier.

Some months ago a portable, steam powered WWII agents' generator was on ebay.

73 de LA4RT Jon, Trondheim, Norway

61. Let's have some fun with phonetics

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-26 19:37:17 UTC
From: "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not>
Message-ID: <erv7dq$1lb$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 5352

Fellow ham,

My brother has just gotten his license.

He is now KB3OPR. I'd like to see some imaginative possibilities for phonetics - within the bounds of good taste, of course. ;-)

Already taken:

Odd Person Rambling
Old Parent, Retired

73,

Bill W1AC

(Remove "73" and change top level domain for direct replies)

62. Re: Human-powered portable power generation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-26 19:37:19 UTC
From: "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not>
Message-ID: <erv7nn$1lb$2@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 5353

Jon K�re Hellan wrote:

[snip]

>
> Some months ago a portable, steam powered WWII agents' generator was
> on ebay.

Jon,

I never would have thought of that.

Do you have URL or item number, or any other information? TIA.

73,

Bill W1AC

63. Line of sight vs. RF in wartime question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-26 19:37:23 UTC
From: Wayne Lundberg <Waynelund@worldnet.att.net>
Message-ID: <4nFEh.15770$as2.13673@bgtnsc05-news.ops.worldnet.att.net>
Source record: 5354

Back in the mid 50's on patrol in the Formosa Straights I had daily challenges to read code being jammed by the Chinese. I knew then, that only Morse code would be a viable means of communication. Even as we, in the Navy, were installing the new teletype systems. A single ping of interference on the teletype signal would cause an error. Then came Single Sideband, and then digital.

What I'm getting at is what I read about the recent battle between Israel and the Iranian sponsored terrorists and how they were able to almost disrupt communications through jamming techniques, but the Israeli's prevailed through the use of line of sight technology.

Is this the wave of the future for ham radio as well? I've been out of the technology for a long time, so forgive the obvious ignorance in my question.

We used to bounce waves off the stratosphere and I can only assume that today you are bouncing waves off the moon and artificial satellites?

Wayne in Chula Vista with only an emergency CB to remind me of the good old days.

64. Emergency power alternatives

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-26 19:37:23 UTC
From: "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not>
Message-ID: <erv9bp$3t8$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 5355

Fellow ham,

A post from LA4RT has made me realize that "Human powered" power generation is too narrow a scope for this discussion, so I'm starting a new thread.

Let's hear ideas about alternative sources of power for radios: we might be unable to find steam-driven units ;-) but there's always more that one way to skin a cat.

I'll ask that some methods be omitted, for the reasons shown:

1. Portable generators - too expensive, and they can't go on airplanes.
2. Solar - can't rely on sunlight, especially after a weather-related incident.

There are probably designs for power generation in undeveloped areas, so let's see pointers to that kind of info along with the "Store bought" machines.

Bill

--
73,

Bill W1AC

(Remove "73" and change top level domain for direct replies)

65. Re: Human-powered portable power generation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-26 20:15:06 UTC
From: "LenAnderson@ieee.org" <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1172520334.935859.298400@a75g2000cwd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5356

From: Phil Kane <Phil.K...@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> on Sun, Feb 25 2007 11:38 am

>On 25 Feb. 2007 02:05:42 -0500, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote re:
>hand-cranked generators:

>>Anyway, the point is that they're *very* tiring to use. You see this
>>vintage footage where they're in use, and you forget that they guys
>>making them work are probably 18-20 years old. I was dismayed at how
>>hard I had to work to get a few watts of power. Plus, the device was
>>very heavy and unweildy.
>
>Years ago when I was doing ship radio safety inspections, we had to
>test the lifeboat hand-cranked radios. We would always ask the master
>to assign one of the seamen (affectionately called "deck apes") to lug
>and crank it. I tried doing it myself once - and once was enough. I'd
>rather operate the radio...

Phil and Steve, I will agree to the above on TIRING. As a 2-stripe 21-year-old of modest upper-body strength Signalman in the early 1950s, I was picked by SFC Don Ross (Maintenance NCOIC at station ADA) to operate a very standard WW2 relic portable AN/GRC-9 hand-cranked generator (Ross worked the radio...RHIP). The "Angry-9" seems to be one of the favorites of old military radio collectors.

On receive I could crank for about 20 minutes at a time and become only weary in the arms and shoulders. The so-called "seat" on the tripod mounting was most uncomfortable although the crank handle axis was about right for distance when seated on the dismantleable tripod mount. The GRC-9 had a double-handled crank so both arms were used.

On transmit it was a whole different story. Five minutes of cranking with key-down had the arms and shoulders aching and ready to give up. Note: Ross had to fiddle with the Angry-9 PA tuning (in the old style) to get a reasonable match with a throw-up wire antenna...hence the long key-down time. Short transmit sequences were okay, but any prolonged key-down was an arm-shoulder killer. Attempts at voice modulation were a bit worse on me although it was hard to tell by that time...the whole upper body was getting pooped.

The Angry-9 could probably put out a modest 30 W RF if all the controls were set just right. The average male cranker could barely keep up with that on transmit. One needed to

be a body-builder type to play power supply. I tried
a modification by wrapping the crank handles with industrial
rags (for damage protection) and, using a tall metal chair,
could crank it by leg power for an hour-plus and much less
fatigue. "Not standard operating procedure!" said higher-
ups..."that's not the way 'we' do it!" Just the same, using
leg power was much better. That radio set was designed in
a hurry during WW2 and, I would guess, by those who would
never operate it in the field and approved by those who
hadn't done much physical labor in their last dozen-plus
years of career. However, historical data will imply that
arm-power was "okay" and those who came later will assume
that it was "approved" because "it was done that way."
The human body has much more strength and endurance in the
legs than in the arms.

LenAnderson@ieee.org

66. Re: Emergency power alternatives

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-26 20:15:32 UTC
From: Wayne Lundberg <Waynelund@worldnet.att.net>
Message-ID: <B9HEh.66118$5j1.31591@bgtnsc04-news.ops.worldnet.att.net>
Source record: 5357

"Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not> wrote in message
news:erv9bp$3t8$1@victor.killfile.org...
> Fellow ham,
>
> A post from LA4RT has made me realize that "Human powered" power
> generation is too narrow a scope for this discussion, so I'm starting a
> new thread.
>
> Let's hear ideas about alternative sources of power for radios: we might
> be unable to find steam-driven units ;-) but there's always more that
> one way to skin a cat.
>
> I'll ask that some methods be omitted, for the reasons shown:
>
> 1. Portable generators - too expensive, and they can't go on airplanes.
> 2. Solar - can't rely on sunlight, especially after a
> weather-related incident.
>
> There are probably designs for power generation in undeveloped areas, so
> let's see pointers to that kind of info along with the "Store bought"
> machines.
>
> Bill
>
>
> --
> 73,
>
> Bill W1AC

Way back when car generators were true generators, we built a tower, put a drone target propeller on a generator, put three car batteries with a standard controller and used it to power our huge vacuum tube radio receiver in Veracruz, Mexico.

We could pick up Del-Rio, and that's about it. Certainly not enough juice to power a transmitter.

But think wind power and batteries to accumulate enough energy to maybe work for a while.

Until a Sterling engine can be built cheap enough to pack it into the field then use a campfire for power.... I'm voting for the Sterling as a future source in that it can use reflected solar onto a pinpoint external

combustion device, as well as a fire, a candle, a kerosene lamp, gasoline, a torch, an LP tank and nozzle... very, very versatile.

Wayne

67. Re: New government rules mandating hands-free devices in vehicles

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-26 20:38:23 UTC
From: Bert Hyman <bert@iphouse.com>
Message-ID: <Xns98E2A37184543VeebleFetzer@216.250.184.7>
Source record: 5358

In news:ersop2kqu1@victor.killfile.org "Jack VK2CJC"
<vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com> wrote:

>> Sounds similar to the regulations we now have here in the UK,
>> although the law here is specifically limited to cellular devices,
>> normal 2-way radio equipment is exempt, so we amateurs are ok,
>
> Same situation here in Australia.
>
> Although I always felt that the only thing that made "two way radio"
> exempt from the regs was that the police and ambulance guys would then
> be unable to use their radios without a second operator.
>
> I wonder if they have thought of that in the US?

Most likely not; legislators rarely consult with people familiar with
the areas in which they legislate, unless they've received sufficient
campaign donations.

There are a number of bills pending before the Minnesota legislature
intended to regulate the use of cellphones and the like in automobiles;
one, if passed and enforced as written, would completely outlaw use of
all radios of any kind in automobiles, under any circumstances.

--
Bert Hyman St. Paul, MN bert@iphouse.com

68. Re: Let's have some fun with phonetics

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-26 22:28:24 UTC
From: Newby <nobody@nowhere.net>
Message-ID: <12u6m07mf6n8sfe@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 5359

"Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not> wrote in message
news:erv7dq$1lb$1@victor.killfile.org...
> Fellow ham,
>
> My brother has just gotten his license.
>
> He is now KB3OPR. I'd like to see some imaginative possibilities for
> phonetics - within the bounds of good taste, of course. ;-)
>
> Already taken:
>
> Odd Person Rambling
> Old Parent, Retired
>
> 73,
>
> Bill W1AC
>
> (Remove "73" and change top level domain for direct replies)
>

Why not use standard phonetics?

69. Re: Human-powered portable power generation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-26 22:29:29 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1172526857.287928.246960@s48g2000cws.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5360

On Feb 26, 8:44?am, Jon K?re Hellan <d...@null.com> wrote:

> The guys on the Kon-Tiki raft expedition in 1947
> used a hand cranked generator.

To a certain extent, yes. But they also had lots of dry
batteries to power the radio. Only when the batteries
were gone did they turn to the hand cranked generator.

Their transmitter output was about 6 watts, and the receiver
was a National NC-173. Yet they managed long-distance
communication, even with the antipodes.

The two radio operators, Torstein Raaby and Knut Haugland, were
skilled and experienced operators
and technicians, having both been in underground
units during the war. Their stories are interesting in
their own right.

> I guess hearing Thor Heyerdahl read the Kon-Tiki
> book aloud
> on the radio when I was 9 was one of the things
> which pushed me in the
> direction of ham radio.

I read the book when I was 11 or so. Still have it.

> The radio operators on Kon-Tiki had been
> making clandestine transmissions out of occupied
> Norway a few years earlier.

Yep - one of the more dangerous things to be
doing during WW2!

73 de Jim, N2EY

70. Re: Let's have some fun with phonetics

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-26 22:55:17 UTC
From: "Gerard R. Oppewal" <pe1oud@amsat.org>
Message-ID: <45e357b5$0$38370$dbd45001@news.wanadoo.nl>
Source record: 5361

"Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not> schreef in bericht
news:erv7dq$1lb$1@victor.killfile.org...
> Fellow ham,
>
> My brother has just gotten his license.
>
> He is now KB3OPR. I'd like to see some imaginative possibilities for
> phonetics - within the bounds of good taste, of course. ;-)
>
> Already taken:
>
> Odd Person Rambling
> Old Parent, Retired
>
Odd Person Receiving
Oh, Please: Rise!
Omen Precedes Rapture

> Bill W1AC
Want One Alternative Companion?

73, Gerard - PE1OUD

E-mail: pe1oud(NOTTHIS)@amsat.org

71. Re: Emergency power alternatives

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-26 23:32:28 UTC
From: MRe <m.reneman=geenspam=@hccnet.nl>
Message-ID: <45e36abb$0$333$e4fe514c@news.xs4all.nl>
Source record: 5362

"Wayne Lundberg" <Waynelund@worldnet.att.net> schreef in bericht
news:B9HEh.66118$5j1.31591@bgtnsc04-news.ops.worldnet.att.net...
>
> "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not> wrote in message
> news:erv9bp$3t8$1@victor.killfile.org...
> > Fellow ham,
> >
> > A post from LA4RT has made me realize that "Human powered" power
> > generation is too narrow a scope for this discussion, so I'm starting a
> > new thread.
> >
> > Let's hear ideas about alternative sources of power for radios: we might
> > be unable to find steam-driven units ;-) but there's always more that
> > one way to skin a cat.
> >
> > I'll ask that some methods be omitted, for the reasons shown:
> >
> > 1. Portable generators - too expensive, and they can't go on airplanes.
> > 2. Solar - can't rely on sunlight, especially after a
> > weather-related incident.
> >
> > There are probably designs for power generation in undeveloped areas, so
> > let's see pointers to that kind of info along with the "Store bought"
> > machines.
> >
> > Bill
> >
> >
> > --
> > 73,
> >
> > Bill W1AC
>
> -------
>
> Way back when car generators were true generators, we built a tower, put a
> drone target propeller on a generator, put three car batteries with a
> standard controller and used it to power our huge vacuum tube radio receiver
> in Veracruz, Mexico.
>
> We could pick up Del-Rio, and that's about it. Certainly not enough juice to
> power a transmitter.
>
> But think wind power and batteries to accumulate enough energy to maybe work

> for a while.
>
> Until a Sterling engine can be built cheap enough to pack it into the field
> then use a campfire for power.... I'm voting for the Sterling as a future
> source in that it can use reflected solar onto a pinpoint external
> combustion device, as well as a fire, a candle, a kerosene lamp, gasoline, a
> torch, an LP tank and nozzle... very, very versatile.
>

Sterling engines have been developed to use in small home power plants. These plants generate heat and electricity at the same time (powered on natural gas) and are very compact. Here in Holland they will in short time be ready for use in normal Dutch homes (which are a lot smaller than american houses....).
When these power plants become widespread, Sterling engines will become much cheaper.

MRe

72. Re: Emergency power alternatives

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-27 00:28:15 UTC
From: Wayne Lundberg <Waynelund@worldnet.att.net>
Message-ID: <BMKEh.16527$as2.1667@bgtnsc05-news.ops.worldnet.att.net>
Source record: 5363

```
"MRe" <m.reneman=geenspam=@hccnet.nl> wrote in message
news:45e36abb$0$333$e4fe514c@news.xs4all.nl...
>
> "Wayne Lundberg" <Waynelund@worldnet.att.net> schreef in bericht
> news:B9HEh.66118$5j1.31591@bgtnsc04-news.ops.worldnet.att.net...
> >
> > "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not> wrote in message
> > news:erv9bp$3t8$1@victor.killfile.org...
> > > Fellow ham,
> > >
> > > A post from LA4RT has made me realize that "Human powered" power
> > > generation is too narrow a scope for this discussion, so I'm starting
a
> > > new thread.
> > >
> > > Let's hear ideas about alternative sources of power for radios: we
might
> > > be unable to find steam-driven units ;-) but there's always more that
> > > one way to skin a cat.
> > >
> > > I'll ask that some methods be omitted, for the reasons shown:
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> > > 1. Portable generators - too expensive, and they can't go on
airplanes.
> > > 2. Solar - can't rely on sunlight, especially after a
> > > weather-related incident.
> > >
> > > There are probably designs for power generation in undeveloped areas,
so
> > > let's see pointers to that kind of info along with the "Store bought"
> > > machines.
> > >
> > > Bill
> > >
> > >
> > > --
> > > 73,
> > >
> > > Bill W1AC
> >
> > -------
> >
> > Way back when car generators were true generators, we built a tower, put
a
```

> > drone target propeller on a generator, put three car batteries with a
> > standard controller and used it to power our huge vacuum tube radio
receiver
> > in Veracruz, Mexico.
> >
> > We could pick up Del-Rio, and that's about it. Certainly not enough
juice to
> > power a transmitter.
> >
> > But think wind power and batteries to accumulate enough energy to maybe
work
> > for a while.
> >
> > Until a Sterling engine can be built cheap enough to pack it into the
field
> > then use a campfire for power.... I'm voting for the Sterling as a
future
> > source in that it can use reflected solar onto a pinpoint external
> > combustion device, as well as a fire, a candle, a kerosene lamp,
gasoline, a
> > torch, an LP tank and nozzle... very, very versatile.
> >
>
> Sterling engines have been developed to use in small home power plants.
These plants
> generate heat and electricity at the same time (powered on natural gas)
and are very
> compact. Here in Holland they will in short time be ready for use in
normal Dutch
> homes (which are a lot smaller than american houses....).
> When these power plants become widespread, Sterling engines will become
much cheaper.
>
> MRe
>
That's great news! The only thing that has kept them off the mass market is
mass production economies. They are great engines. I built one years ago
using a solar dish to focus the sun on a one centimeter diameter on the
transfer cylinder head. Worked like a charm!

73. Re: Let's have some fun with phonetics

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-27 00:58:15 UTC
From: "Karsten H." <bito@karby.dk>
Message-ID: <12u6vkfcavsjp4d@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 5364

Gerard R. Oppewal wrote:
> "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not> schreef in bericht
> news:erv7dq$1lb$1@victor.killfile.org...
> > Fellow ham,
> >
> > My brother has just gotten his license.
> >
> > He is now KB3OPR. I'd like to see some imaginative possibilities for
> > phonetics - within the bounds of good taste, of course. ;-)
> >
> > Already taken:
> >
> > Odd Person Rambling
> > Old Parent, Retired
> >
> Odd Person Receiving
> Oh, Please: Rise!
> Omen Precedes Rapture
>
> > Bill W1AC
> Want One Alternative Companion?
>
> 73, Gerard - PE1OUD
>
> E-mail: pe1oud(NOTTHIS)@amsat.org

My guess is that odd phonetics mostly are used within more local places/countries. F.inst. my call OZ1GB correctly Golf Bravo is often changed to Great Britain or Greenland Boston. The "OZ" is not always used within the country because so far we only utilize one prefix.

The nicknames are also used as alternatives for better perception under difficult conditions.

73, Karsten, OZ1GB

74. Re: New government rules mandating hands-free devices in vehicles

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-27 01:56:46 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <e827u2te4dks6aaijf2uqe2g3knifb270m@4ax.com>
Source record: 5365

On 25 Feb 2007 13:18:31 -0500, "Richard Crowley" <rcrowley@xpr7t.net>
wrote:

>> A revision to the Code of Federal Regulations mandates that all
>> federal installations prohibit the use of cellular phones, PDAs, and
>> similar communication devices by persons operating motor vehicles,
>> unless used with a hands-free device.
>
>Similar legislation (2 bills) pending in the state of Oregon.

The legislation is now dead in Oregon, thankfully.

As originally drafted, they would have prohibited all non-hands-free
two-way communication including those of amateur operators, The
description of the prohibited devices in the proposed bills was done
very inexpertly - some of us felt that it was done by a technically
-focused person trying to cover all the latest developments in digital
messaging used by consumers but who had no working knowledge of
real-world radio communications devices or techniques - and the
proposals gave rise to lots of adverse feelings in the amateur
community.

Our ARRL Section Manager, Bonnie Altus AB7ZC, put together an
ad-hoc task force (including myself) in an effort to ensure that the
bills would be amended to exclude licensed amateur radio operators.
We contacted as many state Senators and Representatives as we could,
and by reports of those who were at the committee hearings, we were
certainly not alone in trying to get all sorts of communications
entities and services included in the exemption list.

It must have been successful, because the Legislative committees
irresponsible dismissed the THREE bills pertaining to that, deciding
instead to rely on existing legislation proscribing driving while
distracted. It makes more sense to deal with the action rather than
the device.

The statutes in NY, NJ, and CT specifically exempt licensed amateur
radio operators from the prohibition. California's statute doesn't
but uses the term "mobile radiotelephones" and by definition, amateur
radio transceivers are not "mobile radiotelephones".
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
ARRL Volunteer Counsel

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

75. Re: New government rules mandating hands-free devices in vehicles

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-27 02:59:17 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <ha67u29vc0r0cv380p3149fi8r6qco6jg3@4ax.com>
Source record: 5366

On 25 Feb 2007 16:32:47 -0500, "Jack VK2CJC"
<vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com> wrote:

>Although I always felt that the only thing that made "two way radio" exempt
>from the regs was that the police and ambulance guys would then be unable to
>use their radios without a second operator.
>
>I wonder if they have thought of that in the US?

Definitely. In all the existing and proposed legislation, there are
specific exemptions for public safety and emergency personnel.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

76. Re: Human-powered portable power generation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-27 04:04:51 UTC
From: BNB Sound <jon@bnbsound.com>
Message-ID: <1172547948.298343.105340@h3g2000cwc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5367

On Feb 24, 10:10 pm, "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorn...@comcast.not>
wrote:
> Fellow hams,

-SNIP-
> All ideas appreciated.
>
> 73,
>
> Bill W1AC

I know there's a lot of designs to make a 12v supply from a deisel truck alternator and a push lawnmower engine. You might need a couple extra pulleys to get it geared down to where it's comfortable to crank by hand (or foot), but it ought to be possible. The reasons for using a semi alternator are that the 12v regulator is built in and it simplifies things; also these trucks typically idle at about 1/3 the rate of a gasoline engine, they have to maintain voltage at low speed. You can idle down that Toro and run your rig all night on a gallon or two, it would seem like running a receiver, QRP rig, or even 100w for short bursts ought to be possible on a meat powered rig.

Jon - KC2PNF/A

77. Re: Human-powered portable power generation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-27 06:44:03 UTC
From: "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not>
Message-ID: <es0fuu$3ab$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 5368

BNB Sound wrote:
>
> I know there's a lot of designs to make a 12v supply from a deisel
> truck alternator and a push lawnmower engine. You might need a couple
> extra pulleys to get it geared down to where it's comfortable to crank
> by hand (or foot), but it ought to be possible. The reasons for using
> a semi alternator are that the 12v regulator is built in and it
> simplifies things; also these trucks typically idle at about 1/3 the
> rate of a gasoline engine, they have to maintain voltage at low speed.
> You can idle down that Toro and run your rig all night on a gallon or
> two, it would seem like running a receiver, QRP rig, or even 100w for
> short bursts ought to be possible on a meat powered rig.
>
> Jon - KC2PNF/A
>

Jon,

Thanks for the info: these are good ideas.

I'd like to talk some more about solutions like these: the problem I'm thinking about is the lack of power in the days immediately after a Katrina-type event, where the only sources will be the ones found on every street corner.

There are automobile batteries on every street corner, there are cars, and there are lawnmowers. The question is how they could be combined to provide power for ham rigs: I'd bet that 12v batteries would be the first step, since most ham transceivers run off 12v now, and the batteries could at least be rotated between cars and radio for charging and use, respectively.

The question would be how to charge the batteries without relying on cars, since working vehicles are a valuable asset in themselves and fuel may also be in short supply: I suppose we could devise a "standard" method to hook batteries to working vehicles so they could be carried around while being charged, but that's about it.

That leaves the charging problem. If we can make a "standard" set of plans that allow a team to dismount an auto alternator and connect it to any source of torque, we'd have a lot more flexibility: broken-down cars are always in good supply.

Lawnmower engines interest me because there are only three or four major manufacturers, which means a lot of common parts and so forth. Nobody's looking to mow their lawn right after a hurricane, so it's not a

resource conflict.

I don't want to get too far afield, so I'll leave it that: the idea is to prepare response teams to improvise from local materials, but we need something in between jumper-cables and windmills.

Bill

--
73,

Bill W1AC

(Remove "73" and change top level domain for direct replies)

78. Re: Let's have some fun with phonetics

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-27 09:05:19 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <54iaegF21922nU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 5369

"Newby" <nobody@nowhere.net> wrote in message
news:12u6m07mf6n8sfe@corp.supernews.com
> "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not> wrote in
> message news:erv7dq$1lb$1@victor.killfile.org...
> > Fellow ham,
> >
> > My brother has just gotten his license.
> >
> > He is now KB3OPR. I'd like to see some imaginative
> > possibilities for phonetics - within the bounds of good
> > taste, of course. ;-)
> >
> > Already taken:
> >
> > Odd Person Rambling
> > Old Parent, Retired
> >
> > 73,
> >
> > Bill W1AC
> >
> > (Remove "73" and change top level domain for direct
> > replies)
> >
>
> Why not use standard phonetics?

Because it's not as much fun..!

Ivor G6 Unique Radio Personality

or G6 Useless Ridiculous Person

:-)

79. Re: New government rules mandating hands-free devices in vehicles

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-27 09:05:33 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <54iaguF21958jU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 5370

"Bert Hyman" <bert@iphouse.com> wrote in message
news:Xns98E2A37184543VeebleFetzer@216.250.184.7
> In news:ersop2kqu1@victor.killfile.org "Jack VK2CJC"
> <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com> wrote:

[snip]

> There are a number of bills pending before the Minnesota
> legislature intended to regulate the use of cellphones
> and the like in automobiles; one, if passed and enforced
> as written, would completely outlaw use of all radios of
> any kind in automobiles, under any circumstances.

I hope they told the police and other emergency services..!

Ivor

80. Encouraging LOTW

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-27 10:46:17 UTC
From: Rich McAllister K6RFM <rfm@pensfa.org>
Message-ID: <87y7mk2ckr.fsf@terra.pensfa.org>
Source record: 5371

Just had an interesting conversation on IRC with some DL hams, who mentioned that they haven't signed up for "Logbook of the World" yet because of the hassle. Anybody have an opinion where we should be applying pressure? To the ARRL to come up with an easier way for non-US hams to sign up? For non-US amateur radio organizations to step in as an intermediary?

Rich

81. Re: Human-powered portable power generation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-27 10:47:22 UTC
From: Jon Kåre Hellan <dev@null.com>
Message-ID: <1mbqjgj6mn.fsf@persaunet.uninett.no>
Source record: 5372

"Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not> writes:

> Jon Kåre Hellan wrote:
>
> [snip]
>
>>
>> Some months ago a portable, steam powered WWII agents' generator was
>> on ebay.
>
> Jon,
>
> I never would have thought of that.
>
> Do you have URL or item number, or any other information? TIA.

I didn't find the ebay auction. But I found this from QRP-L in 1996
(http://www.kkn.net/archives/html/QRP-L/1996-07/msg01007.html):

> During WW2 there were a number of unique radios made principally by the
> Britts for the underground in Europe. After the war a number of these found
> their way into surplus stores in Australia. I had one of these (and how I
> wish I still had it but it was stolen years ago). This radio had as its
> power source a steam driven generator. This comprised a boiler about 2-3
> gallons as I recall and a very neat little engine driving a 6 volt generator
> which was used to charge a lead acid battery. The boiler could be heated in
> any way including an open fire or a primus stove or whatever. The radio had
> an 807 in the output (cw only) and put out about 5 watts. I built a small
> modulator for it and had a lot of fun on AM in the portable mode.
> Regards
> Dave KI6QE/7 VK2IMJ

Seriously, a 20-50W generator would be very useful for emergency
communications if it could be made light enough. An improvised
repeater placed on a convenient hill or mountain can do a lot of good,
but you'd have to carry it on foot. At a good location, output power
doesn't have to be high. Solar needs to be backed by heavy
batteries. How light could such a generator be made?

And viewed from a different angle: What's the minimum power you'd need
for a cross-band repeater with 5 W output? Would other technologies
than FM repeaters be more useful?

73 de LA4RT Jon, Trondheim, Norway

82. Re: New government rules mandating hands-free devices in vehicles

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-27 13:57:59 UTC
From: "\"Gerard R. Oppewal\" <pe1oud" <NOTTHIS@dr1.euro.net>
Message-ID: <45e42fbb$0$38175$dbd45001@news.wanadoo.nl>
Source record: 5373

"Phil Kane" <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> schreef in bericht
news:ha67u29vc0r0cv380p3149fi8r6qco6jg3@4ax.com...
>
>>Although I always felt that the only thing that made "two way radio"
>>exempt
>>from the regs was that the police and ambulance guys would then be unable
>>to
>>use their radios without a second operator.
>>
>>I wonder if they have thought of that in the US?
>
> Definitely. In all the existing and proposed legislation, there are
> specific exemptions for public safety and emergency personnel.
>
Here in the Netherlands holding and using a cellular phone is prohibited
while
driving a motorvehicle.
So, while at a traffic light: no problem(but beware if teh light turns
green!).
Holding anything BUT a cellular phone(coffee, sandwiches, rasor, mike,
etc.):
again no problem.

No exemptions: just a very simple law (enforced by a $150,- fine).

73, Gerard - PE1OUD

E-mail: pe1oud(NOTTHIS)@amsat.org

83. Re: Human-powered portable power generation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-27 15:23:35 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <es1hqdroe1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 5374

Bill Horne, W1AC wrote:

> The question would be how to charge the batteries without relying on
> cars, since working vehicles are a valuable asset in themselves and fuel
> may also be in short supply: I suppose we could devise a "standard"
> method to hook batteries to working vehicles so they could be carried
> around while being charged, but that's about it.

I have been looking into the utility of "ground batteries" as either a charging source or even a source in itself. This is a source that I haven't considered despite knowing of it's existence for some time. When the ground thaws I'm going to plant some electrodes in front of the house and see what generates....

> That leaves the charging problem. If we can make a "standard" set of
> plans that allow a team to dismount an auto alternator and connect it to
> any source of torque, we'd have a lot more flexibility: broken-down cars
> are always in good supply.

Another alternator application might be a "low head" turbine. I once saw a television show that included a person who powered his house from the creek running alongside it. Envision a alternator/generator attached to what looks like one of those roof vent turbines. Place it in the creek, and it charges batteries.

> Lawnmower engines interest me because there are only three or four major
> manufacturers, which means a lot of common parts and so forth. Nobody's
> looking to mow their lawn right after a hurricane, so it's not a
> resource conflict.

Connecting an alternator to a lawnmower engine would be an excellent method of generating power. It is also something that could be rigged in an emergency fairly easily. Mount the engine on top of a box, couple the alternator and driveshaft, wire in the regulator and battery, and there ya go.

> I don't want to get too far afield, so I'll leave it that: the idea is
> to prepare response teams to improvise from local materials, but we need
> something in between jumper-cables and windmills.

Bill, I don't know if you remember the program on Discovery channel where teams of people were let loose in a junkyard with a task of building some sort of contraption from materials they had to scrounge within the yard.

Imagine the fun of setting groups of hams down with instructions that they would have to put together a power source and power their radios

from non standard materials. First group on the air wins - or some other criteria of course - Power, reliability, etc.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

84. Re: Crossband repeat

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-27 16:26:14 UTC
From: Mike Mc <beagle@gwi.net>
Message-ID: <1172592908.094169.202350@v33g2000cwv.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5375

On Feb 25, 5:05 pm, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
> Dick Grady AC7EL wrote:
> > There is one legal problem with using a dual-band rig as a crossband repeater.
> > Both the 2-meter and 70-cm sides are ham transmitters, and must be ID'd every 10
> > minutes and at the end of every series of transmissions, just like every other
> > station and repeater.

The sure-fire method I use is to use a dual-band HT and go over to the
2-meter input side and ID once every ten minutes. Thus all frequencies
are covered for ID.

85. Re: Crossband repeat

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-27 17:42:39 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net>
Message-ID: <54j5neF20e1c0U1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 5376

"Mike Mc" wrote ...
> Steve Bonine wrote:
>> Dick Grady AC7EL wrote:
>> > There is one legal problem with using a dual-band rig as a crossband
>> > repeater.
>> > Both the 2-meter and 70-cm sides are ham transmitters, and must be ID'd
>> > every 10
>> > minutes and at the end of every series of transmissions, just like
>> > every other
>> > station and repeater.
>
> The sure-fire method I use is to use a dual-band HT and go over to the
> 2-meter input side and ID once every ten minutes. Thus all frequencies
> are covered for ID.

Doesn't an ID originating on the 70-cm link end up being
transmitted on *both* frequencies? Am I missing something?

86. Re: Human-powered portable power generation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-27 17:42:57 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net>
Message-ID: <54j5vfF20tblgU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 5377

"Bill Horne, W1AC" wrote ...
> I don't want to get too far afield, so I'll leave it that: the idea is to
> prepare response teams to improvise from local materials, but we need
> something in between jumper-cables and windmills.

As a result of this discussion, I looked up DIY fuel cells yesterday
and concluded that they are still impractically expensive. Is it because
of the precious metals content? Are there any similar DIY power
sources that amateurs could develop for emergency/disaster use?

87. Re: Human-powered portable power generation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-27 17:43:25 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net>
Message-ID: <54j69uF2099pbU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 5378

"Michael Coslo" wrote ...
> Bill, I don't know if you remember the program on Discovery channel where
> teams of people were let loose in a junkyard with a task of building some
> sort of contraption from materials they had to scrounge
> within the yard.

"Junkyard Wars" (US) / "Scrapheap Challenge" (UK)
http://us.imdb.com/title/tt0169491/
One of my favorite shows. It it were still on, I would keep my
TVRO subscription, otherwise, 120 channels and literally
nothing worth watching. :-(

>
> Imagine the fun of setting groups of hams down with instructions that they
> would have to put together a power source and power their radios from non
> standard materials. First group on the air wins - or some other criteria
> of course - Power, reliability, etc.

I like it. Could be combined/cooridnated with Field Day events(?)

88. Re: Human-powered portable power generation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-27 17:43:39 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <aoq8u2t3fcnuivu4vclf9jmcbh21m45d2j@4ax.com>
Source record: 5379

On 27 Feb 2007 10:23:35 -0500, Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:

> Envision a alternator/generator attached
>to what looks like one of those roof vent turbines. Place it in the
>creek, and it charges batteries.

That, on steroids, is what Boulder Dam is !!
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

89. Re: Kenwood TS-520

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-27 19:26:26 UTC
From: james <james27613@yahoo.com>
Message-ID: <45E47F39.A187BFDE@yahoo.com>
Source record: 5380

I agree these classic radios are great value.

Learning how to tune and use the radio only takes
a little reading of the manuals and is fun too.
I just remember Drive, Plate and Load.

Big plus, we can work on these radios because the
parts are easily replaced with modern parts.

I get a kick out of the owner manual,

3 tubes, 17 fet, 47 transistors and 84 diodes !

And that GREAT Kenwood audio.

73 james ke4drn

90. Re: Welcome

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-27 20:56:34 UTC
From: Pat Cook <pchamster@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <qLmdnVxWDIBwE3nYnZ2dnUVZ_sGqnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 5381

Hi everyone:

"JDP" <k4jdp@bellsouth.net> wrote in message
news:6xADh.20426$m7.6977@bignews5.bellsouth.net...
> To other hams around the world, welcome, it will be nice to get ham radio
> discussed in a professional way.

Until this newsgroup came along, I pretty much gave up the
rec.radio.amateur.* hierarchy up for dead given all the chaos that started
on the flagship newsgroup.

Glad to see someone it's been restarted in a moderated format. :)

> 73's

Pat Cook, KB0OXD
Denver, Colorado
WEBSITE - http://www.qsl.net/kb0oxd/

91. Re: Crossband repeat

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-27 20:57:41 UTC
From: Mike Mc <beagle@gwi.net>
Message-ID: <1172607313.392673.239910@k78g2000cwa.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5382

> Doesn't an ID originating on the 70-cm link end up being
> transmitted on *both* frequencies? Am I missing something?

Not on the 70-cm side coming OUT of the mobile radio. That's why you
come in on the 2 meter input.

92. Re: Crossband repeat

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-27 21:55:43 UTC
From: Jon Kåre Hellan <dev@null.com>
Message-ID: <1mvehnnz2i.fsf@persaunet.uninett.no>
Source record: 5383

"Richard Crowley" <rcrowley@xp7rt.net> writes:

> "Mike Mc" wrote ...
>> Steve Bonine wrote:
>> The sure-fire method I use is to use a dual-band HT and go over to the
>> 2-meter input side and ID once every ten minutes. Thus all frequencies
>> are covered for ID.
>
> Doesn't an ID originating on the 70-cm link end up being
> transmitted on *both* frequencies? Am I missing something?

I thought the point of cross-band repeat was that input and output
frequencies are so far apart that you don't need cavity filters.
Which is why you can do it in a simple transceiver. If true, what you
send to it on one band only gets transmitted on the other
band. Correct me if I'm wrong.

73 de LA4RT Jon, Trondheim, Norway

93. Re: Encouraging LOTW

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-27 23:00:31 UTC
From: k8mn@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1172615721.277773.136220@t69g2000cwt.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5384

On Feb 27, 10:46 am, Rich McAllister K6RFM <r...@pensfa.org> wrote:
> Just had an interesting conversation on IRC with some DL hams, who
> mentioned that they haven't signed up for "Logbook of the World" yet
> because of the hassle. Anybody have an opinion where we should be
> applying pressure? To the ARRL to come up with an easier way for
> non-US hams to sign up? For non-US amateur radio organizations to
> step in as an intermediary?
>
> Rich

Rich,

I don't see the ARRL relinquishing control of LOTW so I don't believe you'll see any "intermediaries" coming into play. LOTW is a bit of a pain. The process is clunky but it works. There is a need for good security. There has to be a way to ensure that each fellow uploading information is who he says he is.

I was slow to come on board but the process costs less than mailing QSLs.

Dave K8MN

94. Re: Encouraging LOTW

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-27 23:01:53 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <1172617066.043926.88590@a75g2000cwd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5385

On Feb 27, 5:46 am, Rich McAllister K6RFM <r...@pensfa.org> wrote:
> Just had an interesting conversation on IRC with some DL hams, who
> mentioned that they haven't signed up for "Logbook of the World" yet
> because of the hassle. Anybody have an opinion where we should be
> applying pressure? To the ARRL to come up with an easier way for
> non-US hams to sign up? For non-US amateur radio organizations to
> step in as an intermediary?
>
> Rich

What particular parts in the sign up process do they consider to be a
hassle? That would be the place to start in attempting to come up
with a solution.

Dee. N8UZE

95. Re: Emergency power alternatives

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-28 02:13:19 UTC
From: k8mn@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1172617167.693765.279850@h3g2000cwc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5386

On Feb 26, 7:37 pm, "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorn...@comcast.not>
wrote:
> Fellow ham,
>
> A post from LA4RT has made me realize that "Human powered" power
> generation is too narrow a scope for this discussion, so I'm starting a
> new thread.
>
> Let's hear ideas about alternative sources of power for radios: we might
> be unable to find steam-driven units ;-) but there's always more that
> one way to skin a cat.
>
> I'll ask that some methods be omitted, for the reasons shown:
>
> 1. Portable generators - too expensive, and they can't go on airplanes.
> 2. Solar - can't rely on sunlight, especially after a
> weather-related incident.
>
> There are probably designs for power generation in undeveloped areas, so
> let's see pointers to that kind of info along with the "Store bought"
> machines.
>
> Bill

I live in a rural area where quite a number of folks have free natural
gas through leases of wells to Columbia Gas. It is quite inexpensive
to convert a gasoline generator for natural gas (or even propane)
use. There is an outfit near Summersville, West Virginia which sells
a kit of all things needed for as little as $80, including a six inch
pancake regulator. I use a Craftsman/Generac unit capable of 4,000
watts. It is capable of not only providing power for the radio gear,
but it means that we have running (well) water, power for the gas
furnace controls/blower, lights and refrigeration.

For local ARES work, I depend upon mobile and handheld equipment.

Dave K8MN

96. Re: Let's have some fun with phonetics

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-28 02:14:04 UTC
From: k8mn@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1172617783.082629.32530@z35g2000cwz.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5387
Body handling: HTML body converted to readable text

```
On Feb 27, 9:05 am, "Ivor Jones" wrote:
> "Newby" wrote in message
>
> news:12u6m07mf6n8sfe@corp.supernews.com
>
>
>
> > "Bill Horne, W1AC" wrote in
> > messagenews:erv7dq$1lb$1@victor.killfile.org...
> > > Fellow ham,
>
> > > My brother has just gotten his license.
>
> > > He is now KB3OPR. I'd like to see some imaginative
> > > possibilities for phonetics - within the bounds of good
> > > taste, of course. ;-)
>
> > > Already taken:
>
> > > Odd Person Rambling
> > > Old Parent, Retired
>
> > > 73,
>
> > > Bill W1AC
>
> > > (Remove "73" and change top level domain for direct
> > > replies)
>
> > Why not use standard phonetics?
>
> Because it's not as much fun..!
>
> Ivor G6 Unique Radio Personality
>
> or G6 Useless Ridiculous Person
>
> :-)

The fact is that the cutesy phonetics don't always get the job done.
I remember a domestic SSB Sweepstakes contest where I was having a
great deal of trouble copying one particular weak station through the
75m QRM/QRN.
```

He'd given his call several times. It finally dawned on me that he was saying, "Whiskey Delta Zero Loving Very Nicely".

Dave K8MN

97. Re: Let's have some fun with phonetics

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-28 02:14:22 UTC
From: John Smith I <assemblywizard@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <es2ef9$hr3$1@news.albasani.net>
Source record: 5388

```
Bill Horne, W1AC wrote:
> Fellow ham,
>
> My brother has just gotten his license.
>
> He is now KB3OPR. I'd like to see some imaginative possibilities for
> phonetics - within the bounds of good taste, of course. ;-)
>
> Already taken:
>
> Odd Person Rambling
> Old Parent, Retired
>
> 73,
>
> Bill W1AC
>
> (Remove "73" and change top level domain for direct replies)
>

One Perfect Radio
```

98. Re: Encouraging LOTW

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-28 02:15:24 UTC
From: Rich McAllister K6RFM <rfm@pensfa.org>
Message-ID: <87odnfw1of.fsf@terra.pensfa.org>
Source record: 5389

"Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> writes:

> On Feb 27, 5:46 am, Rich McAllister K6RFM <r...@pensfa.org> wrote:
>> Just had an interesting conversation on IRC with some DL hams, who
>> mentioned that they haven't signed up for "Logbook of the World" yet
>> because of the hassle.
>
> What particular parts in the sign up process do they consider to be a
> hassle? That would be the place to start in attempting to come up
> with a solution.
>

https://p1k.arrl.org/lotw/docreq shows the procedure. US hams can request a postcard by email/upload and that's it. DX hams have to copy their license and another piece of government ID and send this by international physical mail to Newington. Doesn't sound like much, but copying and mailing documents isn't necessarily cheap or easy, and I suspect that not everybody still has a physical copy of the license. It sure seems like other IARU societies could be deputized to send out local postcards without breaching security, or the ARRL could get trustable copies of the license information. NOthing is likely to work everywhere (some of the societies are very small and have limited resources, I'm sure not every government makes trustable copies of the databases available) but just getting some of the bigger ones would be progress.

Rich, K6RFM

99. Re: Amateur vs. Professional

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-28 02:16:01 UTC
From: Norman Perelson <norman@shoso.co.za>
Message-ID: <1172624332.182270@vasbyt.isdsl.net>
Source record: 5390

<plonnie@bellsouth.net> wrote in message
news:Y5tDh.21818$6a.11845@bignews4.bellsouth.net...
> Would like your opinions on amateur licensing someone who had nearly 20
> years military experience as a radio operator (in my opinion, a
> professional) ? I have worked HF, VHF, UHF, SHF, SATCOM, AM, FM, CW, etc.
> I even did some time with Mystic Star for AF One and Two.
>
> --
> Chappie
Not wishing to belittle your vast experiance and professional abilities, I
believe it is better to be an amateur because the difference, in my opinion,
is that a professional must do what they have to do while following the
rules, while an amateur has the freedom to do whatever he/she likes while
keeping within the rules.
--
Norman, ZS2RI

100. Re: Let's have some fun with phonetics

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-28 03:38:37 UTC
From: John Smith I <assemblywizard@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <es2pv1$6v6$1@news.albasani.net>
Source record: 5391

John Smith I wrote:

> ...
> One Perfect Radio
>

Too bad it has to be in "good taste."

I'd kinda like Kickin' Butt 3 On Perfect Radio <grin>

JS

101. Re: Crossband repeat

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-28 03:39:29 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <12u9rhv2evjfkca@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 5192

Jon Kï¿½re Hellan wrote:
> "Richard Crowley" <rcrowley@xp7rt.net> writes:
>
>> "Mike Mc" wrote ...
>>> Steve Bonine wrote:
>>> The sure-fire method I use is to use a dual-band HT and go over to the
>>> 2-meter input side and ID once every ten minutes. Thus all frequencies
>>> are covered for ID.
>> Doesn't an ID originating on the 70-cm link end up being
>> transmitted on *both* frequencies? Am I missing something?
>
> I thought the point of cross-band repeat was that input and output
> frequencies are so far apart that you don't need cavity filters.
> Which is why you can do it in a simple transceiver. If true, what you
> send to it on one band only gets transmitted on the other
> band. Correct me if I'm wrong.

You are not wrong. But assume that the crossband repeater is just sitting there listening on 2 meters and re-transmitting what it hears on 70 cm. The owner is just listening, not transmitting. But the crossband repeater (the mobile rig) IS transmitting on 70 cm because it's functioning as a repeater; what it hears on 2 meters it transmits on 70 cm.

Where's the id for the 70 cm transmission?

The person who is transmitting on 2 meters is id'ing those transmissions, but that id does not apply to the 70 cm RF from the crossband rig.

I see a way around this for the scenario I originally mentioned, but I do not know if the crossband rigs can be configured this way. In that scenario, there is a person using an HT who can hear the 2-meter repeater but cannot get into it with the HT. In this case, the 70 cm transmissions from the crossband repeat rig are not needed; the HT user can simply listen to the 2-meter repeater. What is needed is the repeat from 70 cm to 2 meters. In other words, the HT user listens on 2 meters and transmits on 70 cm; the crossband rig is just there to listen on 70 cm and retransmit that signal on 2 meters. I guess you could say simplex instead of duplex.

Maybe this is a common way of using crossband repeat?

73, Steve KB9X

102. Re: Let's have some fun with phonetics

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-28 03:39:55 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <12u9rvk3j6pbm3c@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 5193

(Attributions removed since it doesn't matter.)

>>> Why not use standard phonetics?
>> Because it's not as much fun..!
> The fact is that the cutesy phonetics don't always get the job done.

Depends on the job that needs doing.

If you're trying to get your call through during a hectic contest or
when conditions are poor, cutesy phonetics are not appropriate.

If you're just having a good time and conditions aren't an issue then
cutesy phonetics can provide a pleasant chuckle.

Different tools for different jobs . . .

73, Steve KB9X

103. Re: Emergency power alternatives

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-28 04:45:30 UTC
From: "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not>
Message-ID: <es30pv$170$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 5194

Bill Horne, W1AC wrote:
> Fellow ham,
>
> A post from LA4RT has made me realize that "Human powered" power
> generation is too narrow a scope for this discussion, so I'm starting a
> new thread.
>
> Let's hear ideas about alternative sources of power for radios: we might
> be unable to find steam-driven units ;-) but there's always more that
> one way to skin a cat.
>
> I'll ask that some methods be omitted, for the reasons shown:
>
> 1. Portable generators - too expensive, and they can't go on airplanes.
> 2. Solar - can't rely on sunlight, especially after a
> weather-related incident.
>
> There are probably designs for power generation in undeveloped areas, so
> let's see pointers to that kind of info along with the "Store bought"
> machines.
>
> Bill
>
>

Here are some links to DIY projects for power generation.

http://www.qsl.net/k5lxp/projects/Lawnernator/Lawnernator.html
http://theepicenter.com/tow02077.html
http://theepicenter.com/tow03167.html
http://theepicenter.com/tow082099.html

Good luck!

Bill

<ob.disclaimer: Carbon monoxide is odorless, colorless, tasteless, and
deadly. Use only under professional supervision. Don't try this at home.
If it maimes you, kills you, or makes you ugly, don't blame me. Use at
your own risk. I don't get any money from anything I've posted.>

--
73,

Bill W1AC

(Remove "73" and change top level domain for direct replies)

104. Re: Human-powered portable power generation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-28 04:45:33 UTC
From: "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not>
Message-ID: <es2vi4vge1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 5195

Steve Bonine wrote:

> Have you ever actually *used* one of those WWII generators? <grin>
[snip]

I've found some links to modern versions.

http://www.designthatmatters.org/news/pubs/LindseyCameron-HarvardFinal.pdf
http://courses.ece.uiuc.edu/ece445/projects/fall2005/project25_final_paper.doc
http://web.media.mit.edu/~nitin/thinkcycle/ppg/pedalpower.txt
http://www.gaiam.com/retail/product/17330
http://www.los-gatos.ca.us/davidbu/pedgen.html
http://www.sciencesshareware.com/bicycle-generator-faq.htm
http://www.econvergence.net/electro.htm
http://www.alternative-energy-news.info/pedal-power/news2006-01.php
http://www.bikefriday.com/pipermail/yak/2005-October/003231.html
http://www.evconvert.com/article/free-ev-energy
http://www.otherpower.com/otherpower_links.html

This was from a Google search for '"human powered" alternator pedal'.

Some really good info came up:

1. Alternators are only about 30% efficient (URL 2), so
permanent magnet DC motors would be a better choice for
long-term use. However, alternators are more easily
available and I'd like to keep them as an option.
2. There are a lot of designs for using an unmodified
bicycle to spin a generator. These are good because
any source of torque would work as well.
3. There are two types of info: practical plans, often
made for use in developing countries, and store-bought
gadgets that cost more than my FT-890. I've included both
types, but you'll have to dig a bit to get to the good stuff.

HTH. YMMV (pun intended).

<ob.disclaimer: I'm not affiliated with, and don't know any of the
people or companies mentioned in these web pages. Nobody paid me to
reprint these URLs here, and I get no money or commission or anything
else from anything you buy. If you fry your nads trying to build one,
poison the environment for a thousand years, or lose your
fingers/hands/whatever, don't blame me. Use at your own risk. Don't try
this at home. Batteries not included.>

--
73,

Bill W1AC

(Remove "73" and change top level domain for direct replies)

105. Re: Human-powered portable power generation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-28 06:17:08 UTC
From: James Giles <jamesgiles@worldnet.att.net>
Message-ID: <Sk8Fh.20038$as2.15173@bgtnsc05-news.ops.worldnet.att.net>
Source record: 5196

Bill Horne, W1AC wrote:
....
> 2. There are a lot of designs for using an unmodified
> bicycle to spin a generator. These are good because
> any source of torque would work as well.

It always amazed me that exercise machines consumed
electriciy instead of producing it. Why not use the treadmill
to charge a ank of batteries for your ham rig?

--
J. Giles

106. Re: Crossband repeat

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-28 06:17:16 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xpr7t.net>
Message-ID: <12ua4it90gg97a5@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 5197

"Mike Mc" wrote ...
>> Doesn't an ID originating on the 70-cm link end up being
>> transmitted on *both* frequencies? Am I missing something?
>
> Not on the 70-cm side coming OUT of the mobile radio. That's why you
> come in on the 2 meter input.

No matter which way you slice it, when you give an ID
it goes out on BOTH bands concurrently. Still don't see
that there is even any issue here?

107. Re: Amateur vs. Professional

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-28 13:20:15 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1172662798.760268.50550@v33g2000cwv.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5198

On Feb 27, 9:16 pm, "Norman Perelson" <nor...@shoso.co.za> wrote:
> <plon...@bellsouth.net> wrote in message
>
> news:Y5tDh.21818$6a.11845@bignews4.bellsouth.net...> Would like your opinions on amateur licensing someone who had nearly 20
> > years military experience as a radio operator (in my opinion, a
> > professional) ? I have worked HF, VHF, UHF, SHF, SATCOM, AM, FM, CW, etc.
> > I even did some time with Mystic Star for AF One and Two.
>
> > --
> > Chappie
>
> Not wishing to belittle your vast experiance and professional abilities, I
> believe it is better to be an amateur because the difference, in my opinion,
> is that a professional must do what they have to do while following the
> rules, while an amateur has the freedom to do whatever he/she likes while
> keeping within the rules.
> --
> Norman, ZS2RI

I think that neither is "better" than the other. Experience as
a professional may or may not transfer well to amateur,
and vice versa, for a number of reasons:

1) Professionals often do not have to pay for their equipment,
training or other expenses. When they do,
it's an expense of doing business. Amateurs almost
always have to pay for everything out of their own
pockets.That difference in resources makes a lot of difference in
practice. A lot of things that are standard
practice in, say, military radio are simply not affordable
for most amateurs.

2) There are big differences in the time, space and
other resources available to professionals vs. amateurs.

3) There is always a "command structure" in place for
professionals. It may be in the form of a company
organization chart, or a military chain of command, or
simply keeping the customer satisfied. Amateurs have
a completely different situation.

4) Professionals are paid, amateurs are volunteers, which
means they need to be managed in different ways.

5) Most of all, when it comes to something like radio, the goals are usually completely different. To the professional, radio is a means to an end. To the amateur, radio is an end in itself.

IMHO, the whole thing becomes an apples-and-oranges comparison.

73 de Jim, N2EY

108. Re: Let's have some fun with phonetics

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-28 15:42:06 UTC
From: "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not>
Message-ID: <es45e9fpn1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 5199

Steve Bonine wrote:
> (Attributions removed since it doesn't matter.)
>
>>>> Why not use standard phonetics?
>>> Because it's not as much fun..!
>> The fact is that the cutesy phonetics don't always get the job done.
>
> Depends on the job that needs doing.
>
> If you're trying to get your call through during a hectic contest or
> when conditions are poor, cutesy phonetics are not appropriate.
>
> If you're just having a good time and conditions aren't an issue then
> cutesy phonetics can provide a pleasant chuckle.
>
> Different tools for different jobs . . .
>
> 73, Steve KB9X

Gentlemen,

It appears some background is in order: once you know the history of my brother's ham radio involvement, this will make a lot more sense.

In the 1970's, when my brother was the Resident Host of the Friends center in San Francisco, he went to an estate sale being held on behalf of a Silent Key. He purchased, for _incredibly_ short money, a Drake TR-4, AC-4, RV-4, and MS-4.

At the time, he was not a ham operator, and so his dear brother, who had held a ham license since he was Fourteen, naturally assumed that the aforementioned equipment would, in the natural course of events, make its way to the East coast and into the loving and grateful arms of the aforementioned sibling, who was struggling to stay on the air with very ugly Motorola Twin-V units modified for two meters.

Said sibling, being innocent and trusting, did not see the need to lobby for the natural course of events to take place: after all, what was his brother going to do with the radio except listen to W1AW's code practice? A quiet word in the right quarter, that was all that happened, and the sibling sat back and dreamed of the soon-to-be-state-of-the-art ham shack he would enjoy in short order. He was, in short order, disappointed.

The State of California intervened: it seemed that the executor of the estate had sold a lot of things for incredibly short money, not just the

ham radio gear, and the state chose to disqualify said executor and request all involved to return the goodies for a refund. My brother, being that kind of a guy, even though he was legally in possession of the Drake-station-of-my-dreams and did not have to do anything, chose to accept the state's offer and take a refund. The equipment was promptly on its way to South America for use by the religious organization which was the primary beneficiary of the estate.

Which left me cursing Ghod and the fates and the State of California and my brother, not necessarily in that order.

But, I got over it, sort of, after a very, very, very long time. I made it a point to ask my brother how his Drake station was doing at various family gatherings during the ensuing years - although not at his wedding, even though I was tempted and had flown cross-country twice in twenty-four hours to attend it - but certainly at other times.

Time, as they say, heals all wounds. Thanks to the Internet and Ebay and rec.radio.amateur.boatanchors, I now have a VERY nice TR-4, and a VERY nice RV-4, and a VERY nice MS-4 with a VERY nice AC-4 inside it. They say anything that doesn't cause a cerebral hemorrhage makes you stronger, and they're right, but I'm wondering at this moment if I didn't suffer one after all, because I've had occasions of insanity which could not be explained any other way - such as the time I promised my VERY nice TR-4 etc. to my brother if he ever obtained a ham license.

Let's hear some _really_ imaginative ideas here, folks. I want whatever small amount of payback I can get.

W1AC

--
73,

Bill W1AC

(Remove "73" and change top level domain for direct replies)

109. RFI from Switched power supply

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-28 18:26:18 UTC
From: rob.geurtsen@nike.com
Message-ID: <1172682452.917600.95630@a75g2000cwd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5200

Hi all,

I have the (incredible fast and reliable) Verizon fiber optic into the house for my internet connection. So far so good. However at the access point there is a battery backup unit for the fiber->Copper converter. This battery unit is kept charged by a powersupply that makes an ENOURMOUS amount of RFI that radiates onto the (15 feet) lead into the unit and from there into the shack. (S6)

Does anybody have any suggestions on how to silence this? Or... a suggestion for a cheap and 'quiet' powersupply? (It's output is a regular 12v)

73 Rob

KE7KZN

110. Re: RFI from Switched power supply

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-28 19:30:08 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net>
Message-ID: <54m31nF220civU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 5201

<rob.geurtsen@nike.com> wrote ...
> I have the (incredible fast and reliable) Verizon fiber optic into the
> house for my internet connection. So far so good. However at the
> access point there is a battery backup unit for the fiber->Copper
> converter. This battery unit is kept charged by a powersupply that
> makes an ENOURMOUS amount of RFI that radiates onto the (15 feet) lead
> into the unit and from there into the shack. (S6)
>
> Does anybody have any suggestions on how to silence this? Or... a
> suggestion for a cheap and 'quiet' powersupply? (It's output is a
> regular 12v)

You could likely find a linear (old-fashioned 60Hz transformer)
"wall-wart" power supply at Radio Shack (and the appropriate
connector/adapter to fit your equipment).

I have FIOS in my neighborhood, but haven't signed up yet.
I'm going to give up waiting for the WiMax broadband wireless
network service and just go with FIOS.

Richard KE7GKP (down the street at Intel)

111. Re: Encouraging LOTW

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-28 19:30:09 UTC
From: stevenrobeson@yahoo.com
Message-ID: <1172690401.285397.218080@s48g2000cws.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5202

On Feb 27, 4:46 am, Rich McAllister K6RFM <r...@pensfa.org> wrote:
> Just had an interesting conversation on IRC with some DL hams, who
> mentioned that they haven't signed up for "Logbook of the World" yet
> because of the hassle. Anybody have an opinion where we should be
> applying pressure? To the ARRL to come up with an easier way for
> non-US hams to sign up? For non-US amateur radio organizations to
> step in as an intermediary?

Sorry, Rich, but in this case I have to side with the "let's keep
this the HUMAN side of the contact" idea.

To me, the real reward of the QSO, other than having made a new
acquaintence, is that card that I know was actually in his/her hands
(big DXpeditions and QSL-managed stations aside...)

73

Steve, K4YZ

112. Re: ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-28 19:30:12 UTC
From: stevenrobeson@yahoo.com
Message-ID: <1172689825.263909.18750@8g2000cwh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5203

On Feb 25, 7:45?pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:

> I think there are a considerable number of US hams who
> are inactive, and a considerable number who don't
> know about the rules changes. Within the past year
> I have had occasion to explain the *2000* rules changes
> to several licensed hams who were not aware of how that
> restructuring affected them. In a couple of those cases,
> an upgrade resulted.

Sure would be nice if the League made a one time mailing to ALL
existing licensee with a "State Of The Amateur Service" along with
some invitation to get active again but WITHOUT the "...and while
you're at it, send us $40..." part. THAT might get more folks back on
the air AND impress them enough to join up.

73

Steve, K4YZ

113. Re: ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-28 19:30:14 UTC
From: stevenrobeson@yahoo.com
Message-ID: <1172689959.824466.164210@h3g2000cwc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5204

On Feb 26, 12:02 am, groupk...@earthlink.net wrote:
> On Feb 25, 6:45 pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>
>
>
> > I think the Tech/Tech Plus total serves a useful purpose,
> > because it is an automatic license class change upon
> > renewal.
>
> "Tech+" was dropped some time back, is not recognized at FCC as a
> license class, and as of 2/23/07 there is no distinction in privileges
> or any other practical difference between it and plain old "Tech". A
> Tech is a Tech is a Tech.

Wasn't the point of Jim's segregation of those numbers to show the distinction between coded and non-coded licensees, Hans?

73

Steve, K4YZ

114. Re: Encouraging LOTW

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-28 19:32:31 UTC
From: stevenrobeson@yahoo.com
Message-ID: <1172690794.044370.30040@m58g2000cwm.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5205

On Feb 27, 8:15 pm, Rich McAllister K6RFM <r...@pensfa.org> wrote:
> "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> writes:
> > On Feb 27, 5:46 am, Rich McAllister K6RFM <r...@pensfa.org> wrote:
> >> Just had an interesting conversation on IRC with some DL hams, who
> >> mentioned that they haven't signed up for "Logbook of the World" yet
> >> because of the hassle.
>
> > What particular parts in the sign up process do they consider to be a
> > hassle? That would be the place to start in attempting to come up
> > with a solution.
>
> https://p1k.arrl.org/lotw/docreqshows the procedure. US hams can
> request a postcard by email/upload and that's it. DX hams have to copy
> their license and another piece of government ID and send this by
> international physical mail to Newington. Doesn't sound like much, but
> copying and mailing documents isn't necessarily cheap or easy, and I
> suspect that not everybody still has a physical copy of the license.

I don't get it, Rich. I don't know of any administration that
DOESN'T issue some sort of hardcopy document for a license. Mine's
both on the wall and in my pocket, and both are points of pride.

Unless you're using the one working copier in Mogadishu chances
are the copy price isn't more than the equivilent of $1, and another
$1-3 to mail it, depending on the method...So...A one time expense of
less than $5.00...Tell me what DX station can't afford this and I'll
spot them the fin!

73

Steve, K4YZ

115. Re: RFI from Switched power supply

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-28 19:32:36 UTC
From: richgr@panix.com
Message-ID: <es4im0$lk5$1@reader2.panix.com>
Source record: 5206

In article <1172682452.917600.95630@a75g2000cwd.googlegroups.com>,
<rob.geurtsen@nike.com> wrote:
>Hi all,
>
>I have the (incredible fast and reliable) Verizon fiber optic into the
>house for my internet connection. So far so good. However at the
>access point there is a battery backup unit for the fiber->Copper
>converter. This battery unit is kept charged by a powersupply that
>makes an ENOURMOUS amount of RFI that radiates onto the (15 feet) lead
>into the unit and from there into the shack. (S6)
>
>Does anybody have any suggestions on how to silence this? Or... a
>suggestion for a cheap and 'quiet' powersupply? (It's output is a
>regular 12v)

You could try ferrite beads on the wires. YMMV.

Or just bitch to Verizon.

--
Rich Greenberg N Ft Myers, FL, USA richgr atsign panix.com + 1 239 543 1353
Eastern time. N6LRT I speak for myself & my dogs only. VM'er since CP-67
Canines:Val, Red, Shasta & Casey (RIP), Red & Zero, Siberians Owner:Chinook-L
Retired at the beach Asst Owner:Sibernet-L

116. Re: RFI from Switched power supply

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-28 19:44:30 UTC
From: Mike Andrews <mikea@mikea.ath.cx>
Message-ID: <es4lkm$5n4$1@puck.litech.org>
Source record: 5207

On 28 Feb 2007 14:30:08 -0500, Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net> wrote in
<54m31nF220civU1@mid.individual.net>:
> <rob.geurtsen@nike.com> wrote ...
>> I have the (incredible fast and reliable) Verizon fiber optic into the
>> house for my internet connection. So far so good. However at the
>> access point there is a battery backup unit for the fiber->Copper
>> converter. This battery unit is kept charged by a powersupply that
>> makes an ENOURMOUS amount of RFI that radiates onto the (15 feet) lead
>> into the unit and from there into the shack. (S6)
>>
>> Does anybody have any suggestions on how to silence this? Or... a
>> suggestion for a cheap and 'quiet' powersupply? (It's output is a
>> regular 12v)

> You could likely find a linear (old-fashioned 60Hz transformer)
> "wall-wart" power supply at Radio Shack (and the appropriate
> connector/adapter to fit your equipment).

> I have FIOS in my neighborhood, but haven't signed up yet.
> I'm going to give up waiting for the WiMax broadband wireless
> network service and just go with FIOS.

Seems to me that their power supply is interfering with a licensed
service, and that it's Verizon's problem to solve. In addition, if
you do anything to their hardware, however well-intentioned and
skillful you are, you're giving them an excuse to blame any of your
future problems on you.

At least they *have* a battery backup for their FIOS.

--
Mike Andrews, W5EGO
mikea@mikea.ath.cx
Tired old sysadmin

117. Re: Let's have some fun with phonetics

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-28 19:44:57 UTC
From: Pat Cook <pchamster@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <fYqdnZsRcLuyR3jYnZ2dnUVZ_tGlnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 5208

Hi everyone:

FWIW....I'm known as the following (Mostly because nothing else seemed to make sense).

Kilo (Or Kilowatt) Bravo ZERO Obnoxious Xray Device (Or KB0OXD, my current call).

For my old call, which I changed in an attempt to try to land KB0PAT or KB0PDC (The latter being my initials) when the N0 calls ran out and the KB0 were rapidly approaching the KB0P** region, I was known as the following (Again becaise it was the only thing that seemed to make any amount of sense).

November ZERO Slimey Milli Watt (Or N0SMW, which was my original call when I was first licensed).

Credit BTW goes to O.J., K0OJ for coming up with both of those.

That's my story. :D

Cheers & 73 :D

Pat Cook, KB0OXD
Denver, Colorado
WEBSITE - http://www.qsl.net/kb0oxd/
**NEW VIDEO SECTION - http://www.qsl.net/kb0oxd/cybershacktv/

118. Re: Encouraging LOTW

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-28 21:50:18 UTC
From: Rich McAllister K6RFM <rfm@pensfa.org>
Message-ID: <87irdm9dt5.fsf@terra.pensfa.org>
Source record: 5209

stevenrobeson@yahoo.com writes:

> On Feb 27, 8:15 pm, Rich McAllister K6RFM <r...@pensfa.org> wrote:

>> DX hams have to copy
>> their license and another piece of government ID and send this by
>> international physical mail to Newington. Doesn't sound like much, but
>> copying and mailing documents isn't necessarily cheap or easy, and I
>> suspect that not everybody still has a physical copy of the license.
>
> I don't get it, Rich. I don't know of any administration that
> DOESN'T issue some sort of hardcopy document for a license.

Well, note I said "not everybody still has", not "ever had". Some
people take pride just in the fact of having the license, or in the
accomplishments they've made after getting it, rather than in the
piece of paper; not to mention the possibility of simply losing it
over time. "It's in the house -- somewhere!"

> Mine's
> both on the wall and in my pocket, and both are points of pride.
>
> Unless you're using the one working copier in Mogadishu chances
> are the copy price isn't more than the equivilent of $1, and another
> $1-3 to mail it, depending on the method...So...A one time expense of
> less than $5.00...Tell me what DX station can't afford this and I'll
> spot them the fin!

The hassle is probably much more of a barrier than the monetary
cost, for sure.

What we have here is your opinion of what might be a reasonable effort
for someone else to make, versus the opinions I heard from people who
would actually have to make the effort; I find the second more
convincing.

[from <1172690401.285397.218080@s48g2000cws.googlegroups.com>]
> To me, the real reward of the QSO, other than having made a new
> acquaintence, is that card that I know was actually in his/her hands
> (big DXpeditions and QSL-managed stations aside...)

Opinions do differ. Some people don't care much about QSLs at all;
this is a pretty common (not universal!) attitude among
contesters. LOTW would never be a satisfactory substitute for people
like you who love the physical QSL, but it does have the ability to
make one sizeable group -- award chasers -- happy while reducing the
overall hassle for another sizeable group -- contesters and to some extent

DXpeditioners.

Rich, K6RFM

119. Re: ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-28 21:50:19 UTC
From: Pat Cook <pchamster@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <gY-dnejhKbZ3QXjYnZ2dnUVZ_oKnnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 5210

Hi everyone:
<groupk0hb@earthlink.net> wrote in message
news:1172469587.030117.49670@q2g2000cwa.googlegroups.com...
> On Feb 25, 6:45 pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> A Tech is a Tech is a Tech.

True Hans. Except you're forgetting one very important thing. That is that
while one Tech may have morse code credit, another Tech may not.

> 73,

Pat Cook, KB0OXD
Denver, Colorado
WEBSITE - http://www.qsl.net/kb0oxd/
**NEW VIDEO SECTION - http://www.qsl.net/kb0oxd/cybershacktv/

120. Re: RFI from Switched power supply

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-02-28 21:50:25 UTC
From: John Smith I <assemblywizard@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <es4muikb2@news.albasani.net>
Source record: 5211

rob.geurtsen@nike.com wrote:
> Hi all,
>
> I have the (incredible fast and reliable) Verizon fiber optic into the
> house for my internet connection. So far so good. However at the
> access point there is a battery backup unit for the fiber->Copper
> converter. This battery unit is kept charged by a powersupply that
> makes an ENOURMOUS amount of RFI that radiates onto the (15 feet) lead
> into the unit and from there into the shack. (S6)
>
> Does anybody have any suggestions on how to silence this? Or... a
> suggestion for a cheap and 'quiet' powersupply? (It's output is a
> regular 12v)
>
> 73 Rob
>
> KE7KZN
>

Run it off a pack of eight rechargable nimh or nicads, make a simple
charger unit and fast charge when not in use.

Should be a quiet as a lamb ...

JS
--
http://assemblywizard.tekcities.com

121. Re: ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-01 00:21:34 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1172700569.903001.12580@h3g2000cwc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5212

On Feb 28, 2:50 pm, "Pat Cook" <pchams...@gmail.com> wrote:

>
> True Hans. Except you're forgetting one very important thing. That is that
> while one Tech may have morse code credit, another Tech may not.
>

FCC rules for the Amateur Service no longer have any provision for
"morse code credit".

73, de Hans, K0HB

122. Re: Amateur vs. Professional

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-01 00:23:21 UTC
From: "LenAnderson@ieee.org" <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1172703717.517089.285010@m58g2000cwm.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5213

☐From: N2EY@AOL.COM on Wed 28 Feb 2007 08:20

>On Feb 27, 9:16 pm, "Norman Perelson" <nor...@shoso.co.za> wrote:

```
>> > years military experience as a radio operator (in my opinion, a
>> > professional) ? I have worked HF, VHF, UHF, SHF, SATCOM, AM, FM, CW, etc.
>> > I even did some time with Mystic Star for AF One and Two.
>
>> > --
>> > Chappie
>
>> Not wishing to belittle your vast experiance and professional abilities, I
>> believe it is better to be an amateur because the difference, in my opinion,
>> is that a professional must do what they have to do while following the
>> rules, while an amateur has the freedom to do whatever he/she likes while
>> keeping within the rules.
> --
>> Norman, ZS2RI
>
>I think that neither is "better" than the other. Experience as
>a professional may or may not transfer well to amateur,
>and vice versa, for a number of reasons:
>
>1) Professionals often do not have to pay for their equipment,
>training or other expenses.

Not a universal truism. The state-of-the-art in ALL
electronics ("radio" is a subset of that) keeps changing
and the professionals have to keep up by constant study
and information input lest they become non-professional
(as in very unpaid). College-University training of
the 1980s and before (especially before) cannot prepare
anyone for anything but the basics of electronics.

>When they do, it's an expense of doing business.

Not a universal truism. "Business" is not always
obliging in making a profit sufficient to allow
perquisites of paid-for continuing education for
those below the CEOs and their staff.

>Amateurs almost
>always have to pay for everything out of their own
>pockets.
```

Of course. That is why the FCC defines "amateur
radio" as not having a pecuniary interest. :-)

On the other hand, the USA has a number of amateur
radio products and services businesses who depend
very much on their "pecuniary interst" to survive,
keep eating, and have shelter and clothing.

>That difference in resources makes a lot of difference in
>practice.

Perhaps. On the other hand, there seems to be a
sizeable market for amateur radio equipment that
can easily reach multiple thousands of dollars in
value for each amateur station. See any issue of
QST or CQ for ads and pictures of "ham shacks"
within them...

>A lot of things that are standard
>practice in, say, military radio are simply not affordable
>for most amateurs.

The military have the very basic requirement of
defending their country...with their lives, if
necessary. I don't know of ANY nation which
requires the Ultimate Sacrifice for amateur radio.

Military radio equipment is required to work over
extremes of environmental conditions that would
disable consumer-market radios...even "high-end"
commercial amateur radio equipment.

>2) There are big differences in the time, space and
>other resources available to professionals vs. amateurs.

Yes, if the professionals work for Fortune 500
companies in regards to monetary budgets. To
attempt doing the same in the average small
business is financial folly. :-)

As to "space and resources," professional-
commercial radio equipment MUST operate on
different spectrum space, MUST use reliable
modes to preform services, yet be WITHIN
very finite budget constraints. [been there,
got the cheap T-shirt...:-)]

Is there a real difference on radio operation
from say, a USN destroyer radio room versus a
private sailing vessel? Yes, the sailboat
cabin is generally more comfortable. :-)

Is there much difference between a Taxicab
mid-[business]-band two-way radio operation
mobile at work with an amateur radio mobile

2m transceiver operation while going to work?
Yes, the private vehicle is generally more
comfortable and the amateur is not stuck on
just one or a few channels as in the taxi.

>3) There is always a "command structure" in place for
>professionals. It may be in the form of a company
>organization chart, or a military chain of command, or
>simply keeping the customer satisfied.

Yes, professionals have to stay within the
"command structure" or find themselves no
longer employed (therefore NON-professionals).
On the other hand, radio amateurs with spouses
and/or family are in the SAME personal "command
structure" as any professional with personal
spouse and/or family.

"Simply keeping the customer satisfied" is NOT
so "simple." Having done that too, I have to
express some disagreement with that rather
flippant remark.

Military radio might be classified as being in
an entirely different universe as to its "chain
of command." In the USA the Department of
Defense regulates military radio use (with
some support of the NTIA) and is not obligated
to directly obey regulations put forth by the
FCC. Contrary to what some have said elsewhere,
MARS is directed by the US DoD; MARS accepts the
volunteer efforts of US radio amateurs but does
not operate within US amateur radio bands nor
does it use similar protocols in communications.

> Amateurs have
>a completely different situation.

Yes and no. Regardless of the human legislatures'
law, ALL elecrons, fields, and waves operate
according to laws of physics. That means that
the technology of ALL radio, "amateur" included
have a very common bond of functioning. USE is
different but then such use is also different
between differing commercial-professional radio
services in the USA.

>4) Professionals are paid, amateurs are volunteers, which
>means they need to be managed in different ways.

In the USA the FCC regulates BOTH civil professional
radio AND amateur and personal radio services. The
FCC also licenses both amateur and professional

radio operators where a professional radio service
requires operator licensing. The difference in
operator licensing is small...COLEMs perform exams
for professional operator licenses and VECs do that
for amateur radio licenses. The FCC can test both
as it wishes...and is the final arbiter on that.

>5) Most of all, when it comes to something like radio, the
>goals are usually completely different. To the professional, radio is
>a means to an end. To the amateur, radio is an end in itself.

Yes and no. A large number of professionals in
electronics (and radio) that I have worked with
are very satisfied to remain as pros without ever
obtaining any amateur radio license or even
operating any radio (except a cell or cordless
telephone) their whole life. To the few people
I've met in high positions of professional
activities, business is an "end in itself."

On the other hand, I've met a large number of
radio amateurs who have other, non-radio, even non-
electronic hobby interests OTHER than amateur radio.

>IMHO, the whole thing becomes an apples-and-oranges
>comparison.

Both apples and oranges are fruit of trees. They
differ only in shape, texture, color, taste, and
digestibility. Humans have cross-bred both for new
varieties suitable for human consumption. Neither
one nor their varieties grow or ripen by laws of
physics but rather by natural laws of chemistry.

"Radio" has evolved greatly in its 111-year life as
a medium of communication. Evolution has happened
through a combination of technological arts, human
use, and various legislations on that use. In my
opinion there is very little comparison between the
"radio" of today and that of "radio" of 70 years
ago. Trying to freeze evolution in midway of its
evolution, holding absolutely to human-derived
protocols and standards of that mid-point is a real
danger to that evolutionary process.

Obviously, others disagree with that opinion. So
be it.

LenAnderson@ieee.org

123. Re: ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-01 00:31:10 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1172708717.780891.189720@j27g2000cwj.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5214

On Feb 28, 2:30 pm, stevenrobe...@yahoo.com wrote:
> On Feb 26, 12:02 am, groupk...@earthlink.net wrote:
> > On Feb 25, 6:45 pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>
> > > I think the Tech/Tech Plus total serves a useful purpose,
> > > because it is an automatic license class change upon
> > > renewal.
>
> > "Tech+" was dropped some time back, is not recognized at FCC as a
> > license class,

This is not exactly correct.

FCC records still distinguish between Technician and
Technician Plus. When a Technician Plus is renewed as
a Technician, the "former license class" says "Technician
Plus".

> > and as of 2/23/07 there is no distinction in privileges
> > or any other practical difference between it and plain old "Tech".

There's no distinction in privileges, and in a few years there
won't be any difference in name, either.

> >A Tech is a Tech is a Tech.

> Wasn't the point of Jim's segregation of those numbers to show the
> distinction between coded and non-coded licensees, Hans?

No, it wasn't.

When FCC stopped issuing new Tech Pluses, and began renewing all
existing Tech Pluses as Techs back on
April 15, 2000, it was no longer correct to say that
all Techs weren't code tested. So that wasn't why I listed
them separately as well as combined.

I listed Techs and Tech Pluses separately because:

- that's how FCC lists them in the database
- it documents the numerical decline of the Tech Plus as a separate
license class due to renewal, upgrading and attrition
- at some point, the number of Tech Pluses will drop to zero,
and listing them separately shows that event approaching.

The main reasons I have posted, and will continue to post,
the ARS License Numbers is so that interested folks can

watch the trends, and so there will be a consistent record
available to all with Usenet access, for as long as those posts are
archived.

73 de Jim, N2EY

124. Re: Amateur vs. Professional

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-01 01:03:58 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns98E5C73AEDA1Cmcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 5215

"LenAnderson@ieee.org" <LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote in
news:1172703717.517089.285010@m58g2000cwm.googlegroups.com:

>
> "Radio" has evolved greatly in its 111-year life as
> a medium of communication. Evolution has happened

I'm not sure if anyone answered Norman's question or not, so I'll
take a stab at it.

Norman, I suspect that you will find yourself perfectly happy as an
amateur, and would suggest that you go for your license. You will not only
be able to operate - and be in fsmilisr territory - but you will also have
the ability to build and modify equipment, antennas and a lot of other
freedoms as an amateur. Your experience may also come in very handy if you
are interested in emergency comms.

Looking forward to hearning you announce your licensing here some
day. 8^)

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

125. Push up mast

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-01 01:11:49 UTC
From: Steveo <moparholic@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <20070228200534.379$dl@newsreader.com>
Source record: 5216

Anyone know where to find the 50' Rohn style telescopic mast? I know the shipping is a killer on it, but what they sell at Lowes doesn't hold a candle.

Thanks for any advice.

126. Re: Encouraging LOTW

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-01 03:55:38 UTC
From: k8mn@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1172711723.706681.237800@m58g2000cwm.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5217

On Feb 28, 9:50 pm, Rich McAllister K6RFM <r...@pensfa.org> wrote:
> stevenrobe...@yahoo.com writes:
> > On Feb 27, 8:15?pm, Rich McAllister K6RFM <r...@pensfa.org> wrote:
> >> DX hams have to copy
> >> their license and another piece of government ID and send this by
> >> international physical mail to Newington. Doesn't sound like much, but
> >> copying and mailing documents isn't necessarily cheap or easy, and I
> >> suspect that not everybody still has a physical copy of the license.
>
> > I don't get it, Rich. I don't know of any administration that
> > DOESN'T issue some sort of hardcopy document for a license.
>
> Well, note I said "not everybody still has", not "ever had". Some
> people take pride just in the fact of having the license, or in the
> accomplishments they've made after getting it, rather than in the
> piece of paper; not to mention the possibility of simply losing it
> over time. "It's in the house -- somewhere!"

I've never operated from a DX country where one did not need to keep
tabs on his license. Many foreign countries issue licenses *yearly*.

> > Mine's
> > both on the wall and in my pocket, and both are points of pride.
>
> > Unless you're using the one working copier in Mogadishu chances
> > are the copy price isn't more than the equivilent of $1, and another
> > $1-3 to mail it, depending on the method...So...A one time expense of
> > less than $5.00...Tell me what DX station can't afford this and I'll
> > spot them the fin!
>
> The hassle is probably much more of a barrier than the monetary
> cost, for sure.

Even in places like Sierra Leone, it is possible to find a street
corner stand with a copy machine. If the object is being able to
participate in the LOTW program, what real barrier is presented by
having to photocopy a couple of documents and mail them?

> What we have here is your opinion of what might be a reasonable effort
> for someone else to make, versus the opinions I heard from people who
> would actually have to make the effort; I find the second more
> convincing.

I disagree with you, Rich. If there are DX station who find it too
much trouble to participate in LOTW, let them be non-participants.
Either they want to participate or not. Copying and mailing documents

aren't the real difficulty of using LOTW.

> [from <1172690401.285397.218...@s48g2000cws.googlegroups.com>]
>
> > To me, the real reward of the QSO, other than having made a new
> > acquaintence, is that card that I know was actually in his/her hands
> > (big DXpeditions and QSL-managed stations aside...)
>
> Opinions do differ. Some people don't care much about QSLs at all;
> this is a pretty common (not universal!) attitude among
> contesters.

Again, I disagree. Many contesters are also DXers. They understand
that the other guy is attempting to confirm a QSL for awards credit.
A number of them send out QSLs to every station worked in a contest,
the object being to insure that those stations work the contester the
next time 'round. I don't know of any contester who does not at least
respond to direct or bureau QSLs.

> LOTW would never be a satisfactory substitute for people
> like you who love the physical QSL, but it does have the ability to
> make one sizeable group -- award chasers -- happy while reducing the
> overall hassle for another sizeable group -- contesters and to some extent
> DXpeditioners.

There's nothing at all wrong with using both LOTW and direct, paper
QSL cards.
On the other hand, I don't respond to any "QSL's" via E-QSL. Those
confirmations don't count toward many awards and certainly don't count
for DXCC credit.

Dave K8MN

127. Re: Push up mast

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-01 03:55:55 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1172712329.745235.213440@k78g2000cwa.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5218

On Feb 28, 6:11 pm, Steveo <moparho...@hotmail.com> wrote:
> Anyone know where to find the 50' Rohn style telescopic mast? I know the
> shipping is a killer on it, but what they sell at Lowes doesn't hold a
> candle.

I'm not familiar with a Rohn model, but I have a Wilson (now US Tower)
pushup 55-footer at my secondary station. Here's a link to their spec
---> http://www.ustower.com/ma-550.html

Not too impressive windload specs, but it's OK for a small beam like a
TA33-jr or similar. I use it to hang a 160M inverted-L. Not sure
I'd want it for my primary tower.

73, de Hans, K0HB

128. Re: ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-01 03:57:45 UTC
From: Pat Cook <pchamster@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <lLadnWfQi8DIr3vYnZ2dnUVZ_v2knZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 5219

Hi everyone:

<groupk0hb@earthlink.net> wrote in message
news:1172700569.903001.12580@h3g2000cwc.googlegroups.com...
> On Feb 28, 2:50 pm, "Pat Cook" <pchams...@gmail.com> wrote:
>
>>
>> True Hans. Except you're forgetting one very important thing. That is
>> that
>> while one Tech may have morse code credit, another Tech may not.
>>
>
> FCC rules for the Amateur Service no longer have any provision for
> "morse code credit".

If this is the case Hans, then I should be able to legally get on HF (When I
get my radio fixed that is) because I've *NEVER* passed a Morse Code test.

I hate to say it Hans, but you haven't got your facts straight. If you do,
would you care to quote the part you are referring to or point us to the
website where you're getting your information from?

Curious minds would like to know. :D

> 73,

Pat Cook, KB0OXD
Denver, Colorado
WEBSITE - http://www.qsl.net/kb0oxd/
**NEW VIDEO SECTION - http://www.qsl.net/kb0oxd/cybershacktv/

129. Re: Human-powered portable power generation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-01 03:58:02 UTC
From: w1gsl@mit.edu
Message-ID: <45e63861$0$576$b45e6eb0@senator-bedfellow.mit.edu>
Source record: 5220

Hi Bill

Been there done that...

Almost 20 years ago Penn Clower W1BG and I built and published
a peddal powered setup to run a 100 W HF rig. I recall the article
in 73 but it might have been Ham Radio. If you really want
I could probably find the date.

Penn used it regularly for exersize, but I recall it being a great effort
to hold a QSO while cranking away. To make it a better workout
it had no electrical energy storage, you had to work as long as you wanted
to talk.

The rig consisted of most of a bike frame, a wheel weighted
to become a flywheel and an alternator with some control electronics.
It probably weighed 50 pounds.

I don't think that is the way to go to rescue your dead cells.
The best way is to monitor the voltage and stop before
you fully dischare the pack. If you migrate to Lithum cells
this is much more important as an over dischared cell is a serious
fire hazzard.

If you just want to top up a reversed charged cell, you might
try adapting one of the crank powered radios.. Just remember
they run on less than 1 W.

Even better just buy the 12 V mobile charger for your HT battery.
12 V lead acid batteries are more tolerant of over discharge
and are usually around...

FWIW as a member of the Deadalus team we had ~300 W available for
a 6 hour planned flight. Our pilot athletes were world class bike racers.
Somewhat conserative data on power available vs time is available
in Wilson's book Bicycling Science.

73 Steve F
W1GSL

****
Steve Finberg W1GSL w1gsl@mit.edu
PO Box 397082 MIT Br Cambridge MA 02139-7082 617 258 3754
****

130. Re: RFI from Switched power supply

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-01 03:58:35 UTC
From: Pat Cook <pchamster@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <xLqdnUULOdIzpHvYnZ2dnUVZ_tadnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 5221

Hi everyone:

"Mike Andrews" <mikea@mikea.ath.cx> wrote in message
news:es4lkm$5n4$1@puck.litech.org...
> On 28 Feb 2007 14:30:08 -0500, Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net> wrote
> in <54m31nF220civU1@mid.individual.net>:
>> <rob.geurtsen@nike.com> wrote ...
>>> I have the (incredible fast and reliable) Verizon fiber optic into the
>>> house for my internet connection. So far so good. However at the
>>> access point there is a battery backup unit for the fiber->Copper
>>> converter. This battery unit is kept charged by a powersupply that
>>> makes an ENOURMOUS amount of RFI that radiates onto the (15 feet) lead
>>> into the unit and from there into the shack. (S6)
>>>
>>> Does anybody have any suggestions on how to silence this? Or... a
>>> suggestion for a cheap and 'quiet' powersupply? (It's output is a
>>> regular 12v)
>
> Seems to me that their power supply is interfering with a licensed
> service, and that it's Verizon's problem to solve. In addition, if
> you do anything to their hardware, however well-intentioned and
> skillful you are, you're giving them an excuse to blame any of your
> future problems on you.

I'm afraid I have to respectfully disagree Mike.

While it's EASY to blame Verizon and accuse them of interfering with a licensed service, you're forgetting one thing. Their technicians, just like that of any major broadband provider (Be it Verizon, Time-Warner, Comcast, QWORST, etc),.ARE NOT trained to handle Ham Radio Operators as customers nor are they trained to customize the installation so it doesn't interfere with Amateur Radio. They are only required to troubleshoot (Or at least attempt to) problems with the equipment and/or anything it's connected to. If no problems exist within the equipment or anything it's connected to, then the problem(s) lie with the Ham station itself.

That can only be corrected by the Ham.

Richard....Did you do a full diagnostic on your station to see if the problem might somehow be in your Ham equipment that might be receiving excessive amounts of RF, thus causing the problem?

> At least they *have* a battery backup for their FIOS.

This may be true Mike, but as I said IF the problem is not with the provider's equipment and/or anything it's connected to, then Richard is the

one with the problem and only he can solve it. Verizon can't do a thing about problems with his Ham station because, again assuming there are no problems with Verizon's equipment or anything it's connected to, they're not responsible.

Just my $.02 worth :D

Cheers & 73 :D

Pat Cook, KB0OXD
Denver, Colorado
WEBSITE - http://www.qsl.net/kb0oxd/
**NEW VIDEO SECTION - http://www.qsl.net/kb0oxd/cybershacktv/

131. Re: Amateur vs. Professional

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-01 03:58:53 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <kfecu213ck0ku18ordpf1307qqf6skamcl@4ax.com>
Source record: 5222

On 28 Feb 2007 19:23:21 -0500, "LenAnderson@ieee.org"
<LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote:

> In my
> opinion there is very little comparison between the
> "radio" of today and that of "radio" of 70 years
> ago. Trying to freeze evolution in midway of its
> evolution, holding absolutely to human-derived
> protocols and standards of that mid-point is a real
> danger to that evolutionary process.
>
> Obviously, others disagree with that opinion. So
> be it.

Believe it or not, Len, I agree with that.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

132. Re: Crossband repeat

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-01 03:59:25 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <12uchcirbel2mce@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 5223

Richard Crowley wrote:
> "Mike Mc" wrote ...
>>> Doesn't an ID originating on the 70-cm link end up being
>>> transmitted on *both* frequencies? Am I missing something?
>>
>> Not on the 70-cm side coming OUT of the mobile radio. That's why you
>> come in on the 2 meter input.
>
> No matter which way you slice it, when you give an ID
> it goes out on BOTH bands concurrently. Still don't see
> that there is even any issue here?

OK, I will try this one more time.

KB9X is running a crossband repeat. It is listening on two meters, and retransmitting everything it hears on 70 cm. KB9X is not a part of any QSO. He is not giving any id. He might, in fact, be asleep.

W9ABC is transmitting on two meters. KB9X's crossband rig hears W9ABC and retransmits that signal on 70 cm.

Where is the id for the 70 cm signal? It needs to be id'ed with a call of KB9X (because it is KB9X's transmitter that is creating it) but KB9X is asleep.

73, KB9X

133. Re: Encouraging LOTW

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-01 06:17:23 UTC
From: Rich McAllister K6RFM <rfm@pensfa.org>
Message-ID: <87ejo9a66z.fsf@terra.pensfa.org>
Source record: 5224

k8mn@earthlink.net writes:

> On Feb 28, 9:50 pm, Rich McAllister K6RFM <r...@pensfa.org> wrote:
>> stevenrobe...@yahoo.com writes:
>
> I've never operated from a DX country where one did not need to keep
> tabs on his license.

Under what circumstances does a German, Canadian or UK ham have to produce a paper copy, and to whom?

>> The hassle is probably much more of a barrier than the monetary
>> cost, for sure.
>
> Even in places like Sierra Leone, it is possible to find a street
> corner stand with a copy machine.

I don't particularly care about the Sierra Leones of the world, people operating from there are generally very highly motivated and one of the main goals is to get the QSLs out. I'm more interested in greasing the skids for a large population of more casual ops, probably in the big developed countries where the welfare state has created a sense of entitlement.

> If the object is being able to
> participate in the LOTW program, what real barrier is presented by
> having to photocopy a couple of documents and mail them?

The barrier of going out, getting photocopies, finding a big-enough envelope, determining and acquiring the right amount of postage. It doesn't sound like much, but the alternative is to not do it at all, which is *way* less work on a relative basis. US hams just have to log on to a web site twice, waiting for a postcard in between. It was worth some amount of organizational effort to make it easy for US hams, why isn't it worth the same to do so for others?

>
> I disagree with you, Rich. If there are DX station who find it too
> much trouble to participate in LOTW, let them be non-participants.

But I *want* them to be participants.

> Either they want to participate or not.

Fallacy of the excluded middle here, they may want to participate but also want to spend the afternoon running a new feed line instead of getting photocopies and standing in line at the post office.

> Copying and mailing documents aren't the real difficulty of using
> LOTW.

But it's the part that's different for non-US hams. Hassling with the certificates and logging software is pretty much the same for everybody.

>>
>> Opinions do differ. Some people don't care much about QSLs at all;
>> this is a pretty common (not universal!) attitude among
>> contesters.
>
> Again, I disagree. Many contesters are also DXers. They understand
> that the other guy is attempting to confirm a QSL for awards credit.
> A number of them send out QSLs to every station worked in a contest,
> the object being to insure that those stations work the contester the
> next time 'round.

Some people QSL 100% just to avoid the hassle of keeping track of QSLs sent and owed, batch processing being less time consuming than individual transactions. This way they can just throw away any incoming QSLs, and do.

As you note, right now contesters pretty much have to do it as part of the game. LOTW has the possiblity of making it easier for the big statiions that pound out a lot of Q's while still rewarding the award chasers for getting on in the contest. We get to keep the fun part and reduce the busywork part, sure seems like a win to me.

>
> There's nothing at all wrong with using both LOTW and direct, paper
> QSL cards.

Who said there was? Where did this come from?

> On the other hand, I don't respond to any "QSL's" via E-QSL. Those
> confirmations don't count toward many awards and certainly don't count
> for DXCC credit.

I fooled with eQSL for a while (mostly before LOTW got started.) I eventually came to the conclusion it was pointless and gave up.

Rich, K6RFM

134. Re: Push up mast

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-01 06:19:14 UTC
From: Steveo <moparholic@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <20070301003409.374$XY@newsreader.com>
Source record: 5225

groupk0hb@earthlink.net wrote:
> On Feb 28, 6:11 pm, Steveo <moparho...@hotmail.com> wrote:
> > Anyone know where to find the 50' Rohn style telescopic mast? I know
> > the shipping is a killer on it, but what they sell at Lowes doesn't
> > hold a candle.
>
> I'm not familiar with a Rohn model, but I have a Wilson (now US Tower)
> pushup 55-footer at my secondary station. Here's a link to their spec
> ---> http://www.ustower.com/ma-550.html
>
> Not too impressive windload specs, but it's OK for a small beam like a
> TA33-jr or similar. I use it to hang a 160M inverted-L. Not sure
> I'd want it for my primary tower.
>
> 73, de Hans, K0HB
>
Hello Hans

Thanks for the quick reply, but that's over-kill to what I'm looking for.

135. Re: RFI from Switched power supply

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-01 06:19:20 UTC
From: Mike Andrews <mikea@mikea.ath.cx>
Message-ID: <es5p51$728$1@puck.litech.org>
Source record: 5226

On 28 Feb 2007 22:58:35 -0500, Pat Cook <pchamster@gmail.com> wrote in
<xLqdnUULOdIzpHvYnZ2dnUVZ_tadnZ2d@comcast.com>:
> Hi everyone:

> "Mike Andrews" <mikea@mikea.ath.cx> wrote in message
> news:es4lkm$5n4$1@puck.litech.org...
>> On 28 Feb 2007 14:30:08 -0500, Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net> wrote
>> in <54m31nF220civU1@mid.individual.net>:
>>> <rob.geurtsen@nike.com> wrote ...
>>>> I have the (incredible fast and reliable) Verizon fiber optic into the
>>>> house for my internet connection. So far so good. However at the
>>>> access point there is a battery backup unit for the fiber->Copper
>>>> converter. This battery unit is kept charged by a powersupply that
>>>> makes an ENOURMOUS amount of RFI that radiates onto the (15 feet) lead
>>>> into the unit and from there into the shack. (S6)
>>>>
>>>> Does anybody have any suggestions on how to silence this? Or... a
>>>> suggestion for a cheap and 'quiet' powersupply? (It's output is a
>>>> regular 12v)
>>
>> Seems to me that their power supply is interfering with a licensed
>> service, and that it's Verizon's problem to solve. In addition, if
>> you do anything to their hardware, however well-intentioned and
>> skillful you are, you're giving them an excuse to blame any of your
>> future problems on you.

> I'm afraid I have to respectfully disagree Mike.

> While it's EASY to blame Verizon and accuse them of interfering with a
> licensed service, you're forgetting one thing. Their technicians, just like
> that of any major broadband provider (Be it Verizon, Time-Warner, Comcast,
> QWORST, etc),.ARE NOT trained to handle Ham Radio Operators as customers nor
> are they trained to customize the installation so it doesn't interfere with
> Amateur Radio. They are only required to troubleshoot (Or at least attempt
> to) problems with the equipment and/or anything it's connected to. If no
> problems exist within the equipment or anything it's connected to, then the
> problem(s) lie with the Ham station itself.

> That can only be corrected by the Ham.

> Richard....Did you do a full diagnostic on your station to see if the
> problem might somehow be in your Ham equipment that might be receiving
> excessive amounts of RF, thus causing the problem?

>> At least they *have* a battery backup for their FIOS.

> This may be true Mike, but as I said IF the problem is not with the
> provider's equipment and/or anything it's connected to, then Richard is the
> one with the problem and only he can solve it. Verizon can't do a thing
> about problems with his Ham station because, again assuming there are no
> problems with Verizon's equipment or anything it's connected to, they're not
> responsible.

> Just my $.02 worth :D

"Assuming there's no problem with Verizon's equipment ... ."

Richard wrote explicitly that there *was* something wrong with it --
that "his battery unit is kept charged by a powersupply that makes an
ENOURMOUS amount of RFI that radiates onto the (15 feet) lead into the
unit and from there into the shack. (S6)"

Looks like it's not justifiable to assume that there's no problem with
Verizon's equipment.

Ah, but ... The FCC sends out enforcement letters to folks with noise
generators -- unintentional radiators -- with some frequency. The
ones I've seen have included fence chargers with problems, aquarium
heaters, televisions that were leaking signal, power line transformers
and insulators, and a great many more classes of sources.

If it's Verizon's equipment, then it's Verizon's problem, and a
letter to them -- outlining the problem and suggesting that they do
something to fix it before a letter gets sent to the FCC -- probably
should be sent. And, of course, it is not Richard's equipment, but
Verizon's equipment. While their run-of-the-mill techs may not be
qualified to deal with this, VZ will have some higher-level techs who
are so qualified.

VZ is *required* to not interfere, just as the folks with the aquarium
heater, the folks with the bad fence chargers, the folks with the leaky
TVs, and the folks operating the power transmission system are required
to not interfere. The enforcement letters tell them what will happen if
they continue to interfere, and it's generally pretty pricey.

If the power supply is radiating enough to interfere, then it's also
radiating enough that VZ is required to fix the problem. Whether they
have techs trained to do so isn't germane to the issue; the FCC has in
the past just told the folks responsible for the interference to stop
it. Or else. Period.

--
Mike Andrews, W5EGO
mikea@mikea.ath.cx
Tired old sysadmin

136. Re: RFI from Switched power supply

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-01 08:18:49 UTC
From: rob.geurtsen@nike.com
Message-ID: <1172734287.724897.271160@m58g2000cwm.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5227

Thanks guys!

I'm going to play with some filters and beads. See if that works
first. I agree that it actually is Verizon's problem (and I will
inform them when I can't get it resolved.) but I want to see if I can
avoid the headace of trying to explain them the issue. $5 worth of
filter/beads might not be so badly spend if it works. Oh by the way...
found out that the powersupply is 48V! (my bad!)

137. Re: Human-powered portable power generation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-01 08:19:35 UTC
From: John Smith I <assemblywizard@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <es6150$vq1$1@registered.motzarella.org>
Source record: 5228

Bill Horne, W1AC wrote:

> ...
> All ideas appreciated.
>
> 73,
>
> Bill W1AC
>

Bill:

Your search for a "simple" way to power gear is great. It points out a lot of what is, and what is NOT possible.

Just powering a little 100 watt rig is not a simple thing, when you don't have access to a 120v plug.

Your question points out what a joke electric and hydrogen powered cars are. There are no hydrogen wells and you still have to burn oil to get the electricity you need to power umpteen electric cars. (yes, there are windmills and hydro-generators, but they could not produce a fraction of the power which would be needed if all cars were powered off electric)

Makes one yearn for a true "zero point energy" source ...

Regards,
JS

138. Re: ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-01 13:27:28 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1172744201.074115.35780@8g2000cwh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5229

On Feb 28, 2:30 pm, stevenrobe...@yahoo.com wrote:
> On Feb 25, 7:45?pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>
> > I think there are a considerable number of US hams who
> > are inactive, and a considerable number who don't
> > know about the rules changes. Within the past year
> > I have had occasion to explain the *2000* rules changes
> > to several licensed hams who were not aware of how that
> > restructuring affected them. In a couple of those cases,
> > an upgrade resulted.
>
> Sure would be nice if the League made a one time mailing to ALL
> existing licensee with a "State Of The Amateur Service" along with
> some invitation to get active again but WITHOUT the "...and while
> you're at it, send us $40..." part. THAT might get more folks back on
> the air AND impress them enough to join up.

Maybe. Have you suggested this to the ARRL BoD and the
Hq staff? Only takes an email.

73 de Jim, N2EY

139. Re: Push up mast

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-01 15:28:53 UTC
From: stevenrobeson@yahoo.com
Message-ID: <1172762863.224278.168220@v33g2000cwv.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5230

On Mar 1, 12:19 am, Steveo <moparho...@hotmail.com> wrote:
> groupk...@earthlink.net wrote:
> > On Feb 28, 6:11 pm, Steveo <moparho...@hotmail.com> wrote:
> > > Anyone know where to find the 50' Rohn style telescopic mast? I know
> > > the shipping is a killer on it, but what they sell at Lowes doesn't
> > > hold a candle.
>
> > I'm not familiar with a Rohn model, but I have a Wilson (now US Tower)
> > pushup 55-footer at my secondary station. Here's a link to their spec
> > --->http://www.ustower.com/ma-550.html
>
> > Not too impressive windload specs, but it's OK for a small beam like a
> > TA33-jr or similar. I use it to hang a 160M inverted-L. Not sure
> > I'd want it for my primary tower.
>
> > 73, de Hans, K0HB
>
> Hello Hans
>
> Thanks for the quick reply, but that's over-kill to what I'm looking for

"Fair Radio" in Lima, Ohio, often has some great push-up masts.
"www.fairradio.com" for further...

73

Steve, K4YZ

140. Re: Crossband repeat

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-01 15:29:46 UTC
From: stevenrobeson@yahoo.com
Message-ID: <1172762610.146955.18310@31g2000cwt.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5231

On Feb 25, 4:05 pm, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
> Dick Grady AC7EL wrote:
> > There is one legal problem with using a dual-band rig as a crossband repeater.
> > Both the 2-meter and 70-cm sides are ham transmitters, and must be ID'd every 10
> > minutes and at the end of every series of transmissions, just like every other
> > station and repeater.
>
> This is an interesting point, and one that I had not considered. I
> thought about ID, but not on the UHF output of the crossbanding unit.
>
> I don't remember seeing any available gear that supports an automated id
> for this transmitter, but then again I wasn't looking for it
> specifically. Anyone know of a rig that can do the id?

In the past I've seen portable, itinerant repeaters ID's by the USERS....ie: "This K4YZ via K4YZ repeater"....There's no law that says the ID HAS to come from the repeater itself as long as it's clearly IDed...If you're only going to be doing this under short term, "emergency" situations, it's completely legal and will save you having to mod a rig..

Some of the Yaesu rigs that I have DO have a "CW IDer" in them, however...Tour the owner's manual.

73

Steve, K4YZ

141. Re: ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-01 15:49:29 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1172761972.253166.224980@n33g2000cwc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5232

On Feb 28, 8:57 pm, "Pat Cook" <pchams...@gmail.com> wrote:

>
> > FCC rules for the Amateur Service no longer have any provision for
> > "morse code credit".
>
> If this is the case Hans, then I should be able to legally get on HF (When I
> get my radio fixed that is) because I've *NEVER* passed a Morse Code test.
>

Of course you can get on HF!

Article 97.301 gives Technicians privileges on 5 HF bands. Go to this
webpage http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/news/part97/ and
scroll down to 97.301.

Congratulations on your new privileges which have been available to
you for about a week now.

73, de Hans, K0HB

142. Re: Amateur vs. Professional

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-01 16:32:52 UTC
From: Norman Perelson <norman@shoso.co.za>
Message-ID: <1172763565.233351@vasbyt.isdsl.net>
Source record: 5233

"Mike Coslo" <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net> wrote in message
news:Xns98E5C73AEDA1Cmcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136...
> "LenAnderson@ieee.org" <LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote in
> news:1172703717.517089.285010@m58g2000cwm.googlegroups.com:
>
>>
>> "Radio" has evolved greatly in its 111-year life as
>> a medium of communication. Evolution has happened
>
>
> I'm not sure if anyone answered Norman's question or not, so I'll
> take a stab at it.
>
> Norman, I suspect that you will find yourself perfectly happy as an
> amateur, and would suggest that you go for your license. You will not only
> be able to operate - and be in fsmilisr territory - but you will also have
> the ability to build and modify equipment, antennas and a lot of other
> freedoms as an amateur. Your experience may also come in very handy if you
> are interested in emergency comms.
>
> Looking forward to hearning you announce your licensing here some
> day. 8^)
>
> - 73 de Mike KB3EIA -
>
Actually it was Chappie who made the original post with the question. (I've
been a licenced amateur for nearly 43 years.) But I fully agree with your
answer.
--
73 de Norman ZS2RI

143. Re: Crossband repeat

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-01 18:39:54 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <es75nk$1k00$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 5234

stevenrobeson@yahoo.com wrote:

> In the past I've seen portable, itinerant repeaters ID's by the
> USERS....ie: "This K4YZ via K4YZ repeater"....There's no law that
> says the ID HAS to come from the repeater itself as long as it's
> clearly IDed...If you're only going to be doing this under short term,
> "emergency" situations, it's completely legal and will save you having
> to mod a rig..

You hit the head on the nail with the emergency comment Steve. A
crossband repeater isn't a good idea for continuous use. So your method
is appropriate for the appropriate use of that type of repeater.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

144. Re: Amateur vs. Professional

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-01 18:40:17 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <es75vb$1hf8$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 5235

Norman Perelson wrote:
> "Mike Coslo" <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net> wrote in message

>> Looking forward to hearning you announce your licensing here some
>> day. 8^)
>>
>> - 73 de Mike KB3EIA -
>>
> Actually it was Chappie who made the original post with the question. (I've
> been a licenced amateur for nearly 43 years.) But I fully agree with your
> answer.

Oops! Thanks for the correction Norman. So your one of the new guys,
eh? Chappie might take some note of that too - that there are a lot of
Hams who have been intrigued by the hobby that they have stayed in it
for so long... What a hobby!

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

145. Re: RFI from Switched power supply

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-01 21:16:50 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <00geu2d2s3m7d1kucm6krf6pbj5h0o4gfe@4ax.com>
Source record: 5236

On 1 Mar 2007 01:19:20 -0500, "Mike Andrews" <mikea@mikea.ath.cx>
wrote:

>VZ is *required* to not interfere, just as the folks with the aquarium
>heater, the folks with the bad fence chargers, the folks with the leaky
>TVs, and the folks operating the power transmission system are required
>to not interfere. The enforcement letters tell them what will happen if
>they continue to interfere, and it's generally pretty pricey.
>
And on a practical point, Verizon would rather spend the $100 in
labor and $10 in equipment costs to solve the problem to avoid having
their name "flagged" in regulatory enforcement files and have it pop
up when they apply for something really important such as rule
exemptions or rate increases!

If it were me, I would run a good heavy fused lead to my 12V station
battery and leave the charger unplugged and disconnected. That's
something the average installation tech can understand.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

146. Re: RFI from Switched power supply

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-01 21:17:13 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <mbgeu21a3a2jtgtt4490vvo9qd7os3kuqp@4ax.com>
Source record: 5237

On 1 Mar 2007 03:18:49 -0500, rob.geurtsen@nike.com wrote:

>Oh by the way...
>found out that the powersupply is 48V! (my bad!)

Well, it won't work from a 12V battery then... <g>

The only 48V supplies that I am used to are ones that take up, a whole
wall in a communications vault...not quite the same!
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

147. Re: Human-powered portable power generation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-02 00:02:49 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1172789252.681377.245770@t69g2000cwt.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5238

On Mar 1, 3:19 am, John Smith I <assemblywiz...@gmail.com> wrote:
> Bill Horne, W1AC wrote:

> > All ideas appreciated.
>
> > 73,
>
> > Bill W1AC
>
> Bill:
>
> Your search for a "simple" way to power gear is great.

Agreed!

> It points out a
> lot of what is, and what is NOT possible.

I'd say it's more about practicality.

btw, the Honda EU1000i generator weighs less
than 30 pounds, is quiet and reportedly well-behaved.
Not inexpensive and you wouldn't want to backpack
one too far, but an off-the-shelf solution.

> Just powering a little 100 watt rig is not a simple thing, when you
> don't have access to a 120v plug.

Perhaps part of the solution is thinking outside the box.
For example, cutting the power to 50 W reduces the
peak power load by half, but only costs 3 dB. Using
more-efficient modes means QRP can do the work
of QRO.
>
> Your question points out what a joke electric and hydrogen powered cars
> are.

I disagree - about electric, anyway.

> There are no hydrogen wells and you still have to burn oil to get
> the electricity you need to power umpteen electric cars.

Until somebody figures out a way to produce, transport and store large
quantities of hydrogen economically, H2 power
will not make any difference.

The main engineering limitation of electric cars is the battery
technology.

Oil is not a major source of electricity in the USA, however.
As of 2005, US electricity was produced from the following
sources:

Coal 49.7%
Nuclear 19.3%
Natural Gas 18.7%
Hydroelectric 6.6%
Petroelum 3.0%
Other (wind, PV, etc.) 2.7%

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Electricity_generation

The current use of wind and other sources can be greatly
expanded.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wind_farm

>�(yes, there
> are windmills and hydro-generators, but they could not produce a
> fraction of the power which would be needed if all cars were powered off
> electric)

There is no one easy solution to the problem of
energy supply, but there *are* solutions, whether
it's powering a ham rig or an electric car.

73 de Jim N2EY

148. Re: Push up mast

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-02 00:18:56 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1172794429.114433.184390@30g2000cwc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5239

On Feb 28, 8:11?pm, Steveo <moparho...@hotmail.com> wrote:
> Anyone know where to find the 50' Rohn style telescopic mast?

Here's one source:

http://www.tessco.com/products/displayProducts.do?groupId=341&subgroupId=70&search=false&page=2

aka

http://tinyurl.com/36z373

(usual disclaimers apply - I have not done any business
with Tessco, I just found them googling "Rohn telescoping mast". There
are other dealers who may be closer to you.)

Please note that these Rohn masts require guying and are
really only meant for very small beams or wire antennas.
Also, a "50 foot" mast isn't really fifty feet high. Like ladders,
the length given is the sum of all the sections, but the actual
installed height is less because of overlap.

Be sure to consider the total cost of mast, guys, anchors,
base, hardware, etc.

There are also the military surplus sectional (not telescoping)
masts mentioned by K4YZ. All of the ones I've used (FD) require
guying, too. Search eBay on "antenna mast" and
they will come up.

What do you intend to put on the mast?

73 es GL de Jim, N2EY

149. Re: Crossband repeat

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-02 03:38:40 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net>
Message-ID: <54phkhF21r0s1U1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 5240

"Steve Bonine" wrote ...
> Richard Crowley wrote:
>> "Mike Mc" wrote ...
>>>> Doesn't an ID originating on the 70-cm link end up being
>>>> transmitted on *both* frequencies? Am I missing something?
>>>
>>> Not on the 70-cm side coming OUT of the mobile radio. That's why you
>>> come in on the 2 meter input.
>>
>> No matter which way you slice it, when you give an ID
>> it goes out on BOTH bands concurrently. Still don't see
>> that there is even any issue here?
>
> OK, I will try this one more time.
>
> KB9X is running a crossband repeat. It is listening on two meters, and
> retransmitting everything it hears on 70 cm. KB9X is not a part of any
> QSO. He is not giving any id. He might, in fact, be asleep.
>
> W9ABC is transmitting on two meters. KB9X's crossband rig hears W9ABC and
> retransmits that signal on 70 cm.
>
> Where is the id for the 70 cm signal? It needs to be id'ed with a call of
> KB9X (because it is KB9X's transmitter that is creating it) but KB9X is
> asleep.

Bzzzzt! Of course. I was only thinking about the HT transmit
direction and not remote receiving and relaying. Thanks.

150. Re: Push up mast

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-02 13:18:18 UTC
From: Steveo <moparholic@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <20070302072921.290$kR@newsreader.com>
Source record: 5241

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
> On Feb 28, 8:11?pm, Steveo <moparho...@hotmail.com> wrote:
> > Anyone know where to find the 50' Rohn style telescopic mast?
>
> Here's one source:
>
> http://www.tessco.com/products/displayProducts.do?groupId=341&subgroupId=
> 70&search=false&page=2
>
> aka
>
> http://tinyurl.com/36z373
>
> (usual disclaimers apply - I have not done any business
> with Tessco, I just found them googling "Rohn telescoping mast". There
> are other dealers who may be closer to you.)
>
> Please note that these Rohn masts require guying and are
> really only meant for very small beams or wire antennas.
> Also, a "50 foot" mast isn't really fifty feet high. Like ladders,
> the length given is the sum of all the sections, but the actual
> installed height is less because of overlap.
>
> Be sure to consider the total cost of mast, guys, anchors,
> base, hardware, etc.
>
> There are also the military surplus sectional (not telescoping)
> masts mentioned by K4YZ. All of the ones I've used (FD) require
> guying, too. Search eBay on "antenna mast" and
> they will come up.
>
> What do you intend to put on the mast?
>
> 73 es GL de Jim, N2EY
>
Hello Jim and thanks for the reply.

Yes that's what I'm looking for. It's for a lightweight scanner antenna.

151. Re: RFI from Switched power supply

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-02 16:31:01 UTC
From: KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <1172848428.872871.157880@v33g2000cwv.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5292

On Mar 1, 3:17 pm, Phil Kane <Phil.K...@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:
> On 1 Mar 2007 03:18:49 -0500, rob.geurt...@nike.com wrote:
>
> >Oh by the way...
> >found out that the powersupply is 48V! (my bad!)
>
> Well, it won't work from a 12V battery then... <g>
>
> The only 48V supplies that I am used to are ones that take up, a whole
> wall in a communications vault...not quite the same!

Wow.. I have FIOS here in Texas and I don't have excessive noise from
it. 48 Volts? That seems strange because it has only a 12V battery
for backup power.

Are we sure that the problem is not the network wires or something
else?

I guess, I'm asking how did we determine that the power supply was the
problem? (Aside from the fact that this is normally the problem..)

-= Bob =-

152. Re: RRAM on Worldnet

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-02 18:40:56 UTC
From: John Doe <hgorden@adelphia.net>
Message-ID: <2e6dneiWQdLm8nXYnZ2dnUVZ_vKunZ2d@adelphia.com>
Source record: 5293

RRAM has now been picked up by ADELPHIA/COMCAST as well.
73's

"Bill Powell" <whp@att.net> wrote in message
news:gmnst2d5g45r4dq19jlri764u3svndbu73@4ax.com...
> RRAM has been picked up by AT&T Worldnet
>

153. Re: RRAM on Worldnet

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-03 00:45:15 UTC
From: Cecil Moore <mycall@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <_53Gh.4071$jx3.3668@newssvr25.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 5294

John Doe wrote:
> RRAM has now been picked up by ADELPHIA/COMCAST as well.

Also by sbcglobal.yahoo.com in Houston
--
73, Cecil http://www.w5dxp.com

154. Re: RRAM on Worldnet

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-03 01:51:20 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <12uhl1r96uj8qce@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 5295

"Cecil Moore" wrote

> John Doe wrote:
>> RRAM has now been picked up by ADELPHIA/COMCAST as well.
>
> Also by sbcglobal.yahoo.com in Houston
> --
> 73, Cecil http://www.w5dxp.com

And by dakotacom in Tucson. Hello, Cecil!!

Howard N7SO

155. Re: RRAM on Worldnet

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-03 04:33:15 UTC
From: "John.Smith.I" <assemblywizard@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <esaqkc$6ic$1@registered.motzarella.org>
Source record: 5296

Cecil Moore wrote:
> John Doe wrote:
>> RRAM has now been picked up by ADELPHIA/COMCAST as well.
>
> Also by sbcglobal.yahoo.com in Houston

Cecil:

If your news server ain't picked it up days ago, get another one.

Got it on news.albasani.net, news.motzarella.org, and
news.linuxfan.it--for example--these are ALL free news servers if you
just register with 'em--give 'em a try! Google will be your best friend
for registering with 'em ...

JS
--
http://assemblywizard.tekcities.com

156. Re: RRAM on Worldnet

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-03 05:06:58 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <1172896801.521263.236120@v33g2000cwv.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5297

On Mar 2, 11:33 pm, "John.Smith.I" <assemblywiz...@gmail.com> wrote:
> Cecil Moore wrote:
> > John Doe wrote:
> >> RRAM has now been picked up by ADELPHIA/COMCAST as well.
>
> > Also by sbcglobal.yahoo.com in Houston
>
> Cecil:
>
> If your news server ain't picked it up days ago, get another one.
>
> Got it on news.albasani.net, news.motzarella.org, and
> news.linuxfan.it--for example--these are ALL free news servers if you
> just register with 'em--give 'em a try! Google will be your best friend
> for registering with 'em ...
>
> JS
> --http://assemblywizard.tekcities.com

It's not showing up here on my server here yet (Comcast in Clinton
Twp, MI).

Dee, N8UZE

157. Re: RRAM on Worldnet

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-03 13:48:44 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns98E8567494739mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 5298

"Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> wrote in
news:1172896801.521263.236120@v33g2000cwv.googlegroups.com:

> It's not showing up here on my server here yet (Comcast in Clinton
> Twp, MI).

Hi Dee,

You might try a call to them. Comcast gets their newgroup feed
through Giganews, and Gnews has had the group for around a week. I think
it might take a while to propagate to the various Camcast locations - but
not exactly sure how that process goes exactly.

Just to be sure, did you refresh your Newsgroup list or check for new
groups?

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

158. Re: RRAM on Worldnet

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-03 20:06:55 UTC
From: John Smith I <assemblywizard@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <esci9knpj1@nnrp.linuxfan.it>
Source record: 5299

Dee Flint wrote:
> On Mar 2, 11:33 pm, "John.Smith.I" <assemblywiz...@gmail.com> wrote:
>> Cecil Moore wrote:
>>> John Doe wrote:
>>>> RRAM has now been picked up by ADELPHIA/COMCAST as well.
>>> Also by sbcglobal.yahoo.com in Houston
>> Cecil:
>>
>> If your news server ain't picked it up days ago, get another one.
>>
>> Got it on news.albasani.net, news.motzarella.org, and
>> news.linuxfan.it--for example--these are ALL free news servers if you
>> just register with 'em--give 'em a try! Google will be your best friend
>> for registering with 'em ...
>>
>> JS
>> --http://assemblywizard.tekcities.com
>
> It's not showing up here on my server here yet (Comcast in Clinton
> Twp, MI).
>
> Dee, N8UZE
>
>

Give one of those free news servers a try dee. They won't give you a
complete listing of all the threads which are available UNTIL you
register with 'em. Just get a gmail email addy (gmail handles spam
"right out of the box" better than any email I have used) as they send
you your user name and password which you must use to identify to, to
use the server ...

JS
--
http://assemblywizard.tekcities.com

159. Re: RRAM on Worldnet

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-03 20:07:12 UTC
From: John Smith I <assemblywizard@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <escibanpj2@nnrp.linuxfan.it>
Source record: 5300

Dee Flint wrote:

> ...
> It's not showing up here on my server here yet (Comcast in Clinton
> Twp, MI).
>
> Dee, N8UZE
>
>

Of course, using google groups, as you are doing, is also a good
alternative.

JS
--
http://assemblywizard.tekcities.com

160. Re: ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-04 02:50:08 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1172744844.376297.156560@n33g2000cwc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5301

On Feb 28, 10:57 pm, "Pat Cook" <pchams...@gmail.com> wrote:
> Hi everyone:
>
> <groupk...@earthlink.net> wrote in message
>
> news:1172700569.903001.12580@h3g2000cwc.googlegroups.com...
>
> > On Feb 28, 2:50 pm, "Pat Cook" <pchams...@gmail.com> wrote:
>
> >> True Hans. Except you're forgetting one very important thing. That is
> >> that
> >> while one Tech may have morse code credit, another Tech may not.
>
> > FCC rules for the Amateur Service no longer have any provision for
> > "morse code credit".
>
> If this is the case Hans, then I should be able to legally get on HF (When I
> get my radio fixed that is) because I've *NEVER* passed a Morse Code test.

In case you missed it, Pat, the FCC completely eliminated Morse
Code testing for all classes of amateur license back on Feb 23, 2007.

If you have a Technician class license, you now have the same HF
privileges as a Technician Plus, without taking any more tests or
filing any kind of paperwork. If you have a Technician license and
want to upgrade to General, all you need to do is pass the General
written exam (Element 3). If you have a Technician license and want to
upgrade to Extra, all you need to do is pass the General and Extra
written exams (Elements 3 and 4).

The HF privileges of a Technician/Technician Plus license consist of
Morse Code only on parts of 80, 40, 15 and 10 meters, and SSB only on
part of 10 meters. Getting more spectrum, power and modes on HF/MF
requires upgrading to General or Extra, but as previously stated,
those licenses now require only written tests.

Hans' point is that, as of Feb 23, all Technicians and Technician
Pluses
have exactly the same operating privileges and upgrade credits,
whether or not they passed a Morse Code test.
>
> I hate to say it Hans, but you haven't got your facts straight. If you do,
> would you care to quote the part you are referring to or point us to the
> website where you're getting your information from?

Take a look at:

www.arrl.org

for starters.

Hope to work you on HF!

73 de Jim, N2EY

161. Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-04 17:48:54 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns98E95BD02831Amcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 5302

Solid state transmitters are notoriously finicky about matching to the antenna. Tube equipment is not, so I am told, and early experience seems to bear that out.

Certainly I can see one of my newer rigs start to fold back at 2:1.

What are the practical limitations of the Tube finals apparent flexibility?

Is it safe to compare the load, plate, and drive controls to some of the functions of a tuner? (possible real dumb question)

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

162. Exam session attendance

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-04 17:49:20 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <JoidnSMRKefTSXfYnZ2dnUVZ_oytnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 5303

To support other teams in this area, I participated in their VE sessions this weekend. Already the flurry of applicants has dropped and attendance is close to that of pre-Feb 23 levels. I hope it is just this area that is seeing this phenomenon.

Dee, N8UZE

163. Re: Push up mast

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-04 17:53:25 UTC
From: Nate Bargmann <n0nb.DO.NOT.SPAM@ME.networksplus.net>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.03.04.17.01.06@ME.networksplus.net>
Source record: 5304

On Thu, 01 Mar 2007 19:18:56 -0500, N2EY wrote:

> On Feb 28, 8:11?pm, Steveo <moparho...@hotmail.com> wrote:
>> Anyone know where to find the 50' Rohn style telescopic mast?
>
> Here's one source:
>
> http://www.tessco.com/products/displayProducts.do?
groupId=341&subgroupId=70&search=false&page=2
>
> aka
>
> http://tinyurl.com/36z373
>
> (usual disclaimers apply - I have not done any business with Tessco, I
> just found them googling "Rohn telescoping mast". There are other
> dealers who may be closer to you.)

As far as I know, Tessco is a distributor, and they don't sell direct to
the public. Perhaps it can be order through Graybar or a similar
electrical supplier may be able to order from them.

73, de Nate >>

--

"The optimist proclaims that we live in the best of all possible worlds,
the pessimist fears this is true."

164. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-04 19:48:06 UTC
From: "LenAnderson@ieee.org" <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1173036056.406784.68930@t69g2000cwt.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5305

On Mar 4, 9:48?am, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
> Solid state transmitters are notoriously finicky about matching to the
> antenna. Tube equipment is not, so I am told, and early experience seems
> to bear that out.

I disagree some with that, having entered HF radio comms
QSYing 1- to 15-KW transmitters. Failure to properly
neutralize a final RF amp can result in heating sufficient
to melt the glass envelope enough to let air in and thus
destroy the tube (an 833 that was mounted on the control
console at Army station ADA for weeks as a reminder).

> Certainly I can see one of my newer rigs start to fold back at 2:1.

That's a somewhat arbitrary level that is designed into
most solid-state PAs. One can run them without the
VSWR sensing but it isn't a good idea.

For one thing, RF power transistors are expensive and
replacement is not the relatively easy task of just
unplugging the old tube and plugging in the new one.
It's a mechanical task and one has to remember to
properly heat-couple the new PA transistor...the amount
of waste heat is concentrated in a much smaller space
than big tube envelopes-bases.

> What are the practical limitations of the Tube finals apparent
> flexibility?

That's in many decades of old literature and covered
extensively. Data from commercial service transmitters
is more comprehensive than amateur types as a
general rule. Some of that may be hard to get now.

> Is it safe to compare the load, plate, and drive controls to some of the
> functions of a tuner? (possible real dumb question)

Not dumb, it's more like comparing potatoes and peas.

The long-common tube tuning controls are directly
connected to variable, relatively narrow-band tuning
and impedance-matching passive circuits. The tube
plate source impedance is relatively high compared
to the antenna feedline, even if that feedline is 600
Ohms balanced. The common pi-network is both
a resonating network and an impedance-changing
circuit.

An antenna tuner is very simlar to a tube pi-network
but operates either to change (narrowband) impedances
up or down relative to the feedline characteristic
impedance. Again, passive components do the work
of transformation.

By contrast, most of the solid-state power amplifiers
are broadband, much more so than common tube
circuits. Since their input-output impedances are
relatively low and known (and predictable) over a wide
frequency range, they can use broadband transformers
for matching. The end result in the design is one
without many of the tube controls' necessity.

Usually, but not always, either type of amplifier is
still suceptible to damage from mismatching load
impedances. The mismatching just takes on a
slightly different form between the two.

73,
LenAnderson@ieee.org

Remember: All electronics works by smoke. If the smoke
gets out, it won't work... :-)

165. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-04 20:53:02 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1173037747.337331.255330@p10g2000cwp.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5306

On Mar 4, 12:48?pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
> Solid state transmitters are notoriously finicky about matching to the
> antenna. Tube equipment is not, so I am told, and early experience seems
> to bear that out.

IMHO, it's really a matter of the actual circumstances. As far
back as the late 1950s there were hollow-state ham rigs made
that were meant for 50 ohm loads only. In fact, there
were some HF tube ham rigs made that required no conventional tuneup
at all (CE 100V, 200V, 600L).
>
> Certainly I can see one of my newer rigs start to fold back at 2:1.

Most hollow-state ham rigs can handle 2:1 SWR no problem.
Sometimes there is less tolerance for loads that are highly
reactive, though.

> What are the practical limitations of the Tube finals apparent
> flexibility?

It's really a matter of how the rig was designed.

Many 1950s hollow-state ham rigs were built with pi-networks that
could match a wide variety of loads efficiently. The EF Johnson Viking
2 is a classic example of that type. Many
homebrew designs also had such pi-networks.

The problem is that the components for such a wide-range network tend
to be large, heavy and expensive. So in the late 1950s and early
1960s, rigmakers designed more for compactness than for wide matching
range. Still, the typical
ham rig of those days could usually handle SWR of 2:1 or
less with no problems.
>
> Is it safe to compare the load, plate, and drive controls to some of the
> functions of a tuner? (possible real dumb question)
>
Not a dumb question at all IMHO.

The short answer is "no". Tuning up a hollowstate
ham rig is a similar but not identical to adjusting the
typical tuner.

Some may tell you that all it takes to tune up a tube
transmitter is to "peak the grid and dip the plate", but
that's simply not correct. Tuneup procedures vary
according to rig design and you have to be specific.

Of course once you get the hang of it, the procedure rapidly becomes second nature.

What specific hollowstate rigs are you considering?

73 de Jim, N2EY

166. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-04 20:53:49 UTC
From: k8mn@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1173037864.252263.154720@i80g2000cwc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5307

On Mar 4, 5:48 pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
> Solid state transmitters are notoriously finicky about matching to the
> antenna. Tube equipment is not, so I am told, and early experience seems
> to bear that out.

I don't know if "finicky" is a good term, Mike. "Different" might be the best word to use. Transmitters with vacuum tube finals can match a wider range as a rule, but there is a limit to what they can handle. Some of the older Johnson and Globe/WRL rigs matched a wider range than some of the other brands.

> Certainly I can see one of my newer rigs start to fold back at 2:1.

Most Japanese gear is designed to do just what you're experiencing. That's a form of protection for the final transistors. Ten-Tec does it differently. Ten-Tec rigs do not start to reduce power. They depend upon the supply to fault and trip if too much current is drawn. That's why it is important to use a Ten-Tec supply with them or to use a fast breaker rated to trip near the maximum current draw expected of the transmitter.

> What are the practical limitations of the Tube finals apparent
> flexibility?

That depends entirely upon the design specifications set by the manufacturer.
If the manufacturer's manual says "45-90 ohms", that's the practical limitation.
Some of those old Globe transmitters used to have ranges of up to 1000 or 2000 ohms as I recall. At the other end of the spectrum, Hallicrafters produced some transmitters without even a loading control. These were designed to be used with an antenna presenting something very close to 50 or 75 ohms.

> Is it safe to compare the load, plate, and drive controls to some of the
> functions of a tuner? (possible real dumb question)

Not the "drive" control, but certainly the other controls of a tuner could be considered comparable to the "tune" and "load" controls.

If the only antennas we have are trapped verticals, tribanders or dipoles/inverted vees cut for the band to be used, we might get away with not having to use a tuner at all. Still there are likely to be frequencies significantly removed from the antenna's resonant frequency where one might need a tuner to enable the transmitter to make full power. We aren't likely to need a wide range tuner for those times. A simple T-match will likely enable us to find a

combination of settings which will present a low VSWR to the transmitter. The main alternative is to have a variety of antennas which present a VSWR of under 2:1 to a transmitter.

Dave K8MN

167. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-04 20:54:02 UTC
From: John Smith I <assemblywizard@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <esf946$r48$1@nnrp.linuxfan.it>
Source record: 5308

Mike Coslo wrote:
> Solid state transmitters are notoriously finicky about matching to the
> antenna. Tube equipment is not, so I am told, and early experience seems
> to bear that out.
>
> Certainly I can see one of my newer rigs start to fold back at 2:1.
>
> What are the practical limitations of the Tube finals apparent
> flexibility?
>
> Is it safe to compare the load, plate, and drive controls to some of the
> functions of a tuner? (possible real dumb question)
>
> - 73 de Mike KB3EIA -
>

Most quality built amps will cover 2-30mhz, they only need the proper filters behind 'em to keep 'em clean, and of course, you exciter needs to put out a clean sig.

Motorola has a great circuit using four 250W transistors to get you a kilo. It can be found on the web.

There are scores of tech papers by motorola on 100W to 1K and beyond amps, a little research on the web should discover them.

JS
--
http://assemblywizard.tekcities.com

168. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-04 23:21:38 UTC
From: "LenAnderson@ieee.org" <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1173045687.199631.226520@h3g2000cwc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5309

On Mar 4, 12:53?pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> On Mar 4, 12:48?pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:

> Some may tell you that all it takes to tune up a tube
> transmitter is to "peak the grid and dip the plate", but
> that's simply not correct. Tuneup procedures vary
> according to rig design and you have to be specific.

Sorry, but that was procedure for pre-WW2 high-
power HF transmitters. While it is a simplistic
phrase, it still applies. A more exact procedure
was to tune up the exciter with reduced drive
power and literally peak the grid current. Plate
current was then observed with the plate tuning
adjusted for a slight, but observable dip in plate
current. Of (perhaps) greater importance was setting
the neutralizing control for minimum grid current;
"dipping" the plate current should produce the least
grid current peak on adjusting the plate tuning.

For best results on setting the load-side capacitor
of the common pi-network without a bidirectional
power meter, a detector way out in the field with
meter next to the transmitter is the simplest way
to "tune" that capacitor. However, with about 34+
other high-power transmitters all in the antenna
field, that is impractical; presets for that control
would suffice. The load capacitor of a pi-net has
the least effect on tuning to a new frequency.

When someone does about two QSYs per shift
on at least 15 different transmitters with pi-network
output circuits (all with vacuum tube PAs), yes,
one "gets used to it" but what I described was the
correct phrase.

The pi-network has been around and used in HF
transmitters since at least the late 1930s and has
survived past the start of the semiconductor era.
However, the convenience of broadband transistor
power amplifiers has pretty much tossed that whole
tube tuning procedure. Used with a Bruene detector
sensor for an automatic antenna tuner, it makes
QSYing a snap, even jumping bands (with a broad-
band antenna, of course).

"Peak the grid and dip the plate" is an old correct phrase. It will be found mentioned in the current US amateur radio question pools.

Yes, there are exceptions. I was once involved with a distributed amplifier design that would cover over an octave of spectrum using tubes and was NOT tuned at all in normal operation. Since that one involved over a dozen vacuum tubes (ceramic-metal medium-power types), it would not be suitable for ordinary amateur radio HF transmitter stations. The vertical amplifier of the old Tektronix 54n series oscilloscopes used push-pull tube-type (all glass envelope "receiving" type) distributed vertical deflection amplifier.

The pi-network output circuit was a favorite among amateur homebrewers for decades due to its simplicity and better ability to attenuate harmonics, that coming to be more and more prominent in regulations as HF users became more plentiful.

LenAnderson@ieee.org

169. Re: Exam session attendance

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-04 23:41:46 UTC
From: an old freind <konstans@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <1173048540.734928.159610@n33g2000cwc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5310

On Mar 4, 12:49 pm, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:
> To support other teams in this area, I participated in their VE sessions
> this weekend. Already the flurry of applicants has dropped and attendance
> is close to that of pre-Feb 23 levels. I hope it is just this area that is
> seeing this phenomenon.
>
> Dee, N8UZE

well it is what Iwould expect dee first weekend you get a lot of the
die hards like myself then other will start drifting in

170. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-04 23:56:03 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns98E9BF4384743mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 5311

"LenAnderson@ieee.org" <LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote in
news:1173036056.406784.68930@t69g2000cwt.googlegroups.com:

> Failure to properly
> neutralize a final RF amp can result in heating sufficient
> to melt the glass envelope enough to let air in and thus
> destroy the tube (an 833 that was mounted on the control
> console at Army station ADA for weeks as a reminder).

I would also suspect that when dealing with 15 KW transmitters,
errors would be pretty unforgiving.

>> What are the practical limitations of the Tube finals apparent
>> flexibility?
>
> That's in many decades of old literature and covered
> extensively. Data from commercial service transmitters
> is more comprehensive than amateur types as a
> general rule. Some of that may be hard to get now.

I'm going to have to try to find some of the literature.

>
> Remember: All electronics works by smoke. If the smoke
> gets out, it won't work... :-)

Thanks much Len - I'm digesting the info now. I know it seems a
little strange to become interested in tube equipment at this late stage,
butour hobbies sometimes take us in strange directions. 8^)

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

171. Re: Push up mast

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-04 23:56:27 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1173047472.098771.300250@p10g2000cwp.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5312

On Mar 4, 12:53 pm, Nate Bargmann
<n0nb.DO.NOT.S...@ME.networksplus.net> wrote:
>
> As far as I know, Tessco is a distributor, and they don't sell direct to
> the public.

Probably worth an inquiry to find out.

Here are some other options. All appear to sell to individuals. I
have not dealt with
any of them, though:

Kollman Radio (Kansas)

http://kollmanradio.com/product_info.php?products_id=2730

Henshaws (also Kansas)

http://secure.cartsvr.net/catalogs/catalog.asp?prodid=4925373&showprevnext=1

Burghardt (South Dakota)

http://www.burghardt-amateur.com/Burghardt/HTML/new_product_frames/new_text_frame.html

R&L Electronics (Ohio)

http://www.randl.com/cgi-local/cart/cart.cgi?cart=Search&groupnumber=(7990)&nh=6

Radio Shack used to list a telescoping pole that
was allegedly made for them by Rohn. May be
available on special order.

Due to the cost of shipping, it may be less
expensive to order everything from one supplier,
even if that supplier's prices aren't the lowest.

73 de Jim, N2EY

172. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-04 23:57:39 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns98E9C02CCB073mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 5313

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote in
news:1173037747.337331.255330@p10g2000cwp.googlegroups.com:

> Most hollow-state ham rigs can handle 2:1 SWR no problem.
> Sometimes there is less tolerance for loads that are highly
> reactive, though.
>
>> What are the practical limitations of the Tube finals apparent
>> flexibility?
>
> It's really a matter of how the rig was designed.
>
> Many 1950s hollow-state ham rigs were built with pi-networks that
> could match a wide variety of loads efficiently. The EF Johnson Viking
> 2 is a classic example of that type. Many
> homebrew designs also had such pi-networks.
>
> The problem is that the components for such a wide-range network tend
> to be large, heavy and expensive. So in the late 1950s and early
> 1960s, rigmakers designed more for compactness than for wide matching
> range. Still, the typical
> ham rig of those days could usually handle SWR of 2:1 or
> less with no problems.

>> Is it safe to compare the load, plate, and drive controls to some of
>> the functions of a tuner? (possible real dumb question)

> The short answer is "no". Tuning up a hollowstate
> ham rig is a similar but not identical to adjusting the
> typical tuner.
>
> Some may tell you that all it takes to tune up a tube
> transmitter is to "peak the grid and dip the plate", but
> that's simply not correct. Tuneup procedures vary
> according to rig design and you have to be specific.

> Of course once you get the hang of it, the procedure
> rapidly becomes second nature.

I enjoy twiddling knobs, kind of the same way I like a manual
transmission. 8^)

> What specific hollowstate rigs are you considering?

Last year at Dayton I purchased a 40 and 80 meter Heathkit single
Bander as a learning tool - they are pretty simple. I restored the

80 meter unit, and will start on the 40 meter one sometime. I am now looking at a Kenwood TS-830S. It's a hybrid, with tube finals. I really like it so far, although I don't see it replacing my IC-761. I am hooked on computer control of the newer rig - sometimes! Other times I just like that retro aspect.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

173. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-05 00:09:19 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns98E9C1A232FCmcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 5314

k8mn@earthlink.net wrote:

> If the only antennas we have are trapped verticals, tribanders or
> dipoles/inverted vees cut for the band to be used, we might get away
> with not having to use a tuner at all. Still there are likely to be
> frequencies significantly removed from the antenna's resonant
> frequency where one might need a tuner to enable the transmitter to
> make full power. We aren't likely to need a wide range tuner for
> those times. A simple T-match will likely enable us to find a
> combination of settings which will present a low VSWR to the
> transmitter. The main alternative is to have a variety of antennas
> which present a VSWR of under 2:1 to a transmitter.

That brings up a related issue. Lots of Hams today are restricted to one antenna, yet they would like all band operation. I think it would be a great idea for a manufacturer to have a transciever that included a tuner right in the rig itself.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

174. Re: Exam session attendance

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-05 00:24:06 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns98E9C3AE4AA9Cmcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 5315

"Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> wrote in
news:JoidnSMRKefTSXfYnZ2dnUVZ_oytnZ2d@comcast.com:

> To support other teams in this area, I participated in their VE
> sessions this weekend. Already the flurry of applicants has dropped
> and attendance is close to that of pre-Feb 23 levels. I hope it is
> just this area that is seeing this phenomenon.

That isn't too surprising. The first several months are likely to
be upgrades from people who paid attention to the change in testing.

I suspect the next batch will be Hams that found out about the
change right around now. This group will be upgrading about 6 - 12 months
from the change.

Absolutely new people won't be testing until around a year from
now.

This is all give or take a bit. In our area, we are averaging a
little over 1 per month, even before the change. I consider that good
growth.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

175. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-05 00:28:51 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <551675F22bpu8U1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 5316

"Mike Coslo" <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net> wrote in message
news:Xns98E9C1A232FCmcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136
> k8mn@earthlink.net wrote:
>
> > If the only antennas we have are trapped verticals,
> > tribanders or dipoles/inverted vees cut for the band to
> > be used, we might get away with not having to use a
> > tuner at all. Still there are likely to be frequencies
> > significantly removed from the antenna's resonant
> > frequency where one might need a tuner to enable the
> > transmitter to make full power. We aren't likely to
> > need a wide range tuner for those times. A simple
> > T-match will likely enable us to find a combination of
> > settings which will present a low VSWR to the
> > transmitter. The main alternative is to have a variety
> > of antennas which present a VSWR of under 2:1 to a
> > transmitter.
>
> That brings up a related issue. Lots of Hams today are
> restricted to one antenna, yet they would like all band
> operation. I think it would be a great idea for a
> manufacturer to have a transciever that included a tuner
> right in the rig itself.
>
> - 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

They do exist, although being primarily interested in VHF/UHF operation (we only recently had the morse requirement for HF dropped over here in the UK, but that's another topic..!!) I've had little experience of them.

I do remember vividly using a Drake commercial HF transceiver (I think it came out of a ship's radio room) back in the late 80's at a special event station that had this feature, you could operate on any band without any form of tuning at all, although of course how much power would get out on a really bad antenna is debatable ;-)

Of course if you've enough money, there are those antennas that tune themselves. A friend has a 3-element beam that is computer controlled; as you tune across the bands, the elements automatically adjust themselves to the correct length..! I don't recall the make/model, but it is of American origin, does anyone know of it..?

73 Ivor G6URP

176. Re: Exam session attendance

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-05 02:09:37 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <GsWdnQk5io6g9XbYnZ2dnUVZ_oGlnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 5317

"Mike Coslo" <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net> wrote in message
news:Xns98E9C3AE4AA9Cmcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136...
> "Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> wrote in
> news:JoidnSMRKefTSXfYnZ2dnUVZ_oytnZ2d@comcast.com:
>
>> To support other teams in this area, I participated in their VE
>> sessions this weekend. Already the flurry of applicants has dropped
>> and attendance is close to that of pre-Feb 23 levels. I hope it is
>> just this area that is seeing this phenomenon.
>
>
> That isn't too surprising. The first several months are likely to
> be upgrades from people who paid attention to the change in testing.
>
> I suspect the next batch will be Hams that found out about the
> change right around now. This group will be upgrading about 6 - 12 months
> from the change.
>
> Absolutely new people won't be testing until around a year from
> now.
>
> This is all give or take a bit. In our area, we are averaging a
> little over 1 per month, even before the change. I consider that good
> growth.
>
> - 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

Well you can't tell if that is growth or not unless you are sure that no one
died or let their license lapse. I generally get 2 to 4 brand new licensees
per session but that probably just barely offsets those that are lost.

Dee, N8UZE
>

177. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-05 02:09:49 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <2aidnR78js3j9HbYnZ2dnUVZ_sCinZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 5318

"Ivor Jones" <ivor@despammed.invalid> wrote in message
news:551675F22bpu8U1@mid.individual.net...
> "Mike Coslo" <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net> wrote in message
> news:Xns98E9C1A232FCmcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136
>> k8mn@earthlink.net wrote:
>>

[snip]

>>
>> That brings up a related issue. Lots of Hams today are
>> restricted to one antenna, yet they would like all band
>> operation. I think it would be a great idea for a
>> manufacturer to have a transciever that included a tuner
>> right in the rig itself.
>>
>> - 73 de Mike KB3EIA -
>
> They do exist, although being primarily interested in VHF/UHF operation
> (we only recently had the morse requirement for HF dropped over here in
> the UK, but that's another topic..!!) I've had little experience of them.
>

My main HF rig and my husband's main HF rig both have built in tuners. Both
work pretty well. However they do not have the range of outboard tuners.

> I do remember vividly using a Drake commercial HF transceiver (I think it
> came out of a ship's radio room) back in the late 80's at a special event
> station that had this feature, you could operate on any band without any
> form of tuning at all, although of course how much power would get out on
> a really bad antenna is debatable ;-)
>

A lot of commericial and military equipment have built in tuners with quite
significant tuning ranges. Of course this comes at a price so amateur gear
doesn't have as much range in their tuning capacity on the built in tuners.

> Of course if you've enough money, there are those antennas that tune
> themselves. A friend has a 3-element beam that is computer controlled; as
> you tune across the bands, the elements automatically adjust themselves to
> the correct length..! I don't recall the make/model, but it is of American
> origin, does anyone know of it..?
>
> 73 Ivor G6URP

I think it is called the SteppIR. Too rich for my pocket book.

Dee, N8UZE

178. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-05 02:10:17 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1173056103.032157.274120@v33g2000cwv.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5319

On Mar 4, 6:57 pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote innews:1173037747.337331.255330@p10g2000cwp.googlegroups.com:
>
> > Most hollow-state ham rigs can handle 2:1 SWR no problem.
> > Sometimes there is less tolerance for loads that are highly
> > reactive, though.
>
> >> What are the practical limitations of the Tube finals apparent
> >> flexibility?
>
> > It's really a matter of how the rig was designed.
>
> > Many 1950s hollow-state ham rigs were built with pi-networks that
> > could match a wide variety of loads efficiently. The EF Johnson Viking
> > 2 is a classic example of that type. Many
> > homebrew designs also had such pi-networks.
>
> > The problem is that the components for such a wide-range network tend
> > to be large, heavy and expensive. So in the late 1950s and early
> > 1960s, rigmakers designed more for compactness than for wide matching
> > range. Still, the typical
> > ham rig of those days could usually handle SWR of 2:1 or
> > less with no problems.
> >> Is it safe to compare the load, plate, and drive controls to some of
> >> the functions of a tuner? (possible real dumb question)
> > The short answer is "no". Tuning up a hollowstate
> > ham rig is a similar but not identical to adjusting the
> > typical tuner.
>
> > Some may tell you that all it takes to tune up a tube
> > transmitter is to "peak the grid and dip the plate", but
> > that's simply not correct. Tuneup procedures vary
> > according to rig design and you have to be specific.
> > Of course once you get the hang of it, the procedure
> > rapidly becomes second nature.
>
> I enjoy twiddling knobs, kind of the same way I like a manual
> transmission. 8^)

It's a question of skill vs. automation.

> > What specific hollowstate rigs are you considering?

> Last year at Dayton I purchased a 40 and 80 meter Heathkit single
> Bander as a learning tool - they are pretty simple. I restored the
> 80 meter unit, and will start on the 40 meter one sometime.

I think you mean the Heath HW-12 and HW-22, or the later
A models of the same rigs.

They are from the early-to-mid 1960s, and have very limited
matching range. They are really only meant to match a 50
ohm load. Note that there isn't even a LOADING control on
them.

The Single Banders were Heath's answer to the "SSB is too
expensive" idea. Every possible simplification and economy
measure was used in them, yet the result is a usable 100 W
class SSB transceiver for one HF ham band. Note that the
75 meter one stops at 3.8 MHz. Heath figured that by
simplifying the output pi network to the most extreme degree,
they could save a few dollars. Coming up with a 50 ohm
antenna was the ham's problem.

> I am now
> looking at a Kenwood TS-830S. It's a hybrid, with tube finals. I
> really like it so far, although I don't see it replacing my IC-761.

That's a pretty good rig for its era. The matching range is limited
but it will handle 2:1 SWR without problems IMLE.

> I am hooked on computer control of the newer rig - sometimes! Other
> times I just like that retro aspect.

One of the great things about amateur radio today is that we can
use a wide variety of technologies for the same or similar purposes.

I find it ironic that the evolution of the "state of the art" has come
full circle in about a half-century, at least in HF/MF:

- Ham rigs of the 1950s usually had wide range pi-nets which required
adjustment, but would match almost anything without an external
device.
- Ham rigs of the 1960s and 1970s usually had restricted-range
pi-nets which were easier to adjust, but sometimes required an
external matching device.
- Ham rigs of the 1980s and later usually have solid-state finals and
no adjustment - and usually require an external matching device.

73 de Jim, N2EY

179. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-05 02:10:29 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1173056655.007654.187560@j27g2000cwj.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5320

On Mar 4, 7:09?pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:

>. Lots of Hams today are restricted to
> one antenna, yet they would like all band operation. I think it would be a
> great idea for a manufacturer to have a transciever that included a tuner
> right in the rig itself.
>
Many rigs offer that as an option. For example, the Elecraft K2 can be
equipped with the optional KAT2 internal automatic antenna tuner. In
my experience, the KAT2 can match at least a 10:1 SWR, if not more. It
doesn't have
manual adjustments, however - it's a form of autotuner.

The 100 watt version of the K2 can be equipped with the
matching external tuner.

One interesting feature of these autotuners is that they
automatically reduce power to a few watts while the tuning routine is
operating.

I don't know of any solidstate HF ham rig with a *manual*
tuner built-in.

73 de Jim, N2EY

180. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-05 02:10:57 UTC
From: "LenAnderson@ieee.org" <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1173059630.160596.217050@n33g2000cwc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5321

On Mar 4, 3:56 pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
> "LenAnder...@ieee.org" <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote
innews:1173036056.406784.68930@t69g2000cwt.googlegroups.com:
>
> > Failure to properly
> > neutralize a final RF amp can result in heating sufficient
> > to melt the glass envelope enough to let air in and thus
> > destroy the tube (an 833 that was mounted on the control
> > console at Army station ADA for weeks as a reminder).
>
> I would also suspect that when dealing with 15 KW transmitters,
> errors would be pretty unforgiving.
>
> >> What are the practical limitations of the Tube finals apparent
> >> flexibility?
>
> > That's in many decades of old literature and covered
> > extensively. Data from commercial service transmitters
> > is more comprehensive than amateur types as a
> > general rule. Some of that may be hard to get now.
>
> I'm going to have to try to find some of the literature.

Besides old ARRL Handbooks prior to the 1970s, I'd suggest
finding the site that has digitized copies of GE Ham News.
Those were (bi-monthly?) hand-outs by GE to push their
tubes (naturally) but they contained lots of different ham
projects (using tubes, of course).

I found such a site a few years ago but didn't bookmark it.
Was incomplete then but being worked on. The 1960s
was a good peiod for new designs in USA amateur radio.
I used to grab my boss' copies as soon as he was done
with them back then. :-)

73, Len

181. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-05 02:11:17 UTC
From: "LenAnderson@ieee.org" <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1173060200.584307.135060@c51g2000cwc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5322

On Mar 4, 4:09 pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
> k...@earthlink.net wrote:

> That brings up a related issue. Lots of Hams today are restricted to
> one antenna, yet they would like all band operation. I think it would be a
> great idea for a manufacturer to have a transciever that included a tuner
> right in the rig itself.

IF and only IF they appear on some modern-day surplus
market, look carefully at an AN/PRC-104. That is a manpack
HF radio with an extra box on the side for an automatic
tuner for the whip antenna. It's been in military service
(land forces) for about 20 years now and several companies
are trying to get in with new replacements for it...Harris for
one (if I remember the military news).

Neat little thing, frequency-synthesized, SSB, can be keyed.
Designed and manufactured by Hughes Aircraft Ground
Systems. QRP of course but the military used the same
R/T for higher-power vehicular and fixed HF sets (higher
power antenna tuners, too, in those). All solid-state,
of course. I have the TM on it in PDF in case you were
really interested in that...:-)

73, Len

182. Re: RFI from Switched power supply

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-05 02:11:34 UTC
From: Dick Grady AC7EL <rng@richbonnie.com>
Message-ID: <cgumu2pj8jte28m4mc4bonami6r1iivhv8@4ax.com>
Source record: 5323

Call Verizon and complain to get the problem fixed! The noise also may be interfering with other people (for example, short-wave radio listeners) who, because they don't have technical knowledge like you, wouldn't have a clue what's causing all the noise.

On 1 Mar 2007 03:18:49 -0500, rob.geurtsen@nike.com wrote:

>Thanks guys!
>
>I'm going to play with some filters and beads. See if that works
>first. I agree that it actually is Verizon's problem (and I will
>inform them when I can't get it resolved.) but I want to see if I can
>avoid the headace of trying to explain them the issue. $5 worth of
>filter/beads might not be so badly spend if it works. Oh by the way...
>found out that the powersupply is 48V! (my bad!)
73 de Dick, AC7EL

183. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-05 03:23:38 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns98E9DDDA6D963mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 5324

"Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> wrote in
news:2aidnR78js3j9HbYnZ2dnUVZ_sCinZ2d@comcast.com:

> My main HF rig and my husband's main HF rig both have built in tuners.
> Both work pretty well. However they do not have the range of
> outboard tuners.

I should have noted large range and balanced/unbalanced output. My
IC-761 has an autotuner on it that works pretty well with my vertical
antenna. The dipole is run with balanced line, and needs a different
tuner.

> A lot of commericial and military equipment have built in tuners with
> quite significant tuning ranges. Of course this comes at a price so
> amateur gear doesn't have as much range in their tuning capacity on
> the built in tuners.

Size can be an issue too. The IC 761's tuner is a pretty tiny
thing. I had to take an IC 765's autotuner 9 (very similar) apart once to
repair it, and it was around the size of one of the mfj tiny tuners.

A little bigger components, plus a 4:1 balun, and they would have
it.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

184. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-05 03:26:23 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns98E9E37C07FB6mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 5325

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote in
news:1173056103.032157.274120@v33g2000cwv.googlegroups.com:
>> > Some may tell you that all it takes to tune up a tube
>> > transmitter is to "peak the grid and dip the plate", but
>> > that's simply not correct. Tuneup procedures vary
>> > according to rig design and you have to be specific.
>> > Of course once you get the hang of it, the procedure
>> > rapidly becomes second nature.
>>
>> I enjoy twiddling knobs, kind of the same way I like a manual
>> transmission. 8^)
>
> It's a question of skill vs. automation.

I've always wanted to know just what was going on in what I was
operating. I at least like the option betwen automatic operation and
manual. Skills can never hurt.

>> > What specific hollowstate rigs are you considering?
>
>> Last year at Dayton I purchased a 40 and 80 meter Heathkit single
>> Bander as a learning tool - they are pretty simple. I restored
>> the 80 meter unit, and will start on the 40 meter one sometime.
>
> I think you mean the Heath HW-12 and HW-22, or the later
> A models of the same rigs.
>
> They are from the early-to-mid 1960s, and have very limited
> matching range. They are really only meant to match a 50
> ohm load. Note that there isn't even a LOADING control on
> them.

That would be the units with one exception. More on that later..

> The Single Banders were Heath's answer to the "SSB is too
> expensive" idea. Every possible simplification and economy
> measure was used in them, yet the result is a usable 100 W
> class SSB transceiver for one HF ham band.

The simplicity was what attracted me to them. No filters, nonotch,
no pbt, no RIT, no - well you get it.

> Note that the
> 75 meter one stops at 3.8 MHz. Heath figured that by
> simplifying the output pi network to the most extreme degree,
> they could save a few dollars. Coming up with a 50 ohm

> antenna was the ham's problem.

The 75 meter rig I have tunes to 4 MHz. It's also a HW22a, probably a later mod. But all that simplicity is a good thing for a lad raised mostly on integrated circuits! 8^)

>> I am now
>> ◆ ◆ looking at a Kenwood TS-830S. It's a hybrid, with tube finals. I
>> ◆ ◆ really like it so far, although I don't see it replacing my
>> IC-761.
>
> That's a pretty good rig for its era. The matching range is limited
> but it will handle 2:1 SWR without problems IMLE.

I have been pretty impressed so far. The receiver seems pretty hot, certainly the sound is *good*. I'm listening to it right now, and it is simply very legible. Tuning is only one speed, and a tad fast. Seems strange just having SSB and CW, but overall I think I'll keep it.

>
>> I am hooked on computer control of the newer rig - sometimes!
>> Other times I just like that retro aspect.
>
> One of the great things about amateur radio today is that we can
> use a wide variety of technologies for the same or similar purposes.

> I find it ironic that the evolution of the "state of the art" has come
> full circle in about a half-century, at least in HF/MF:
>
> - Ham rigs of the 1950s usually had wide range pi-nets which required
> adjustment, but would match almost anything without an external
> device.
> - Ham rigs of the 1960s and 1970s usually had restricted-range
> pi-nets which were easier to adjust, but sometimes required an
> external matching device.
> - Ham rigs of the 1980s and later usually have solid-state finals and
> no adjustment - and usually require an external matching device.

And that is what I'm thinking about with regards to new rigs with an internal tuner that has both balanced and unbalanced capabilities as a natural evolution. There are a lot of Hams that don't have the ability to put up towers and beams, and are looking at a wire antenna for a while. I think its time for that

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

185. Re: Exam session attendance

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-05 03:27:03 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns98E9E3EBF312Fmcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 5326

"Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> wrote in
news:GsWdnQk5io6g9XbYnZ2dnUVZ_oGlnZ2d@comcast.com:

>> This is all give or take a bit. In our area, we are averaging a
>> little over 1 per month, even before the change. I consider that good
>> growth.
>>
>> - 73 de Mike KB3EIA -
>
> Well you can't tell if that is growth or not unless you are sure that
> no one died or let their license lapse. I generally get 2 to 4 brand
> new licensees per session but that probably just barely offsets those
> that are lost.

I have a pretty good track of the hams in our area. In the last
year, we have had ~ 2 SK's. Lapses are a little more difficult, but still
not too many. The local club has grown at around 1 per month. Club growth
probably can't be sustained at that level. But all appearances are that
in this area, we are doing well.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

186. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-05 03:56:32 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns98E9E5A5DCCmcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 5327

"LenAnderson@ieee.org" <LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote in
news:1173059630.160596.217050@n33g2000cwc.googlegroups.com:

> Besides old ARRL Handbooks prior to the 1970s, I'd suggest
> finding the site that has digitized copies of GE Ham News.
> Those were (bi-monthly?) hand-outs by GE to push their
> tubes (naturally) but they contained lots of different ham
> projects (using tubes, of course).

Got it! Thanks a lot Len - I googled them up, and have enough reading
material to keep me busy for a while.

the site is: http://bama.sbc.edu/ge_ham_news.htm

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

187. Re: Exam session attendance

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-05 03:56:54 UTC
From: Nate Bargmann <n0nb.DO.NOT.SPAM@ME.networksplus.net>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.03.05.03.47.02@ME.networksplus.net>
Source record: 5328

On Sun, 04 Mar 2007 12:49:20 -0500, Dee Flint wrote:

> To support other teams in this area, I participated in their VE sessions
> this weekend. Already the flurry of applicants has dropped and
> attendance is close to that of pre-Feb 23 levels. I hope it is just
> this area that is seeing this phenomenon.

I haven't even held our first session since the rule changes and that
won't occur until March 27. There is some interest around here in
upgrades and none have indicated much urgency until later on anyway, so
it will work out.

As for new hams, we average one every couple of years. Yes, I'm in the
sticks...

73, de Nate >>

--

"The optimist proclaims that we live in the best of all possible worlds,
the pessimist fears this is true."

188. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-05 06:08:48 UTC
From: k8mn@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1173073870.934350.123730@j27g2000cwj.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5329

On Mar 4, 11:21 pm, "LenAnder...@ieee.org" <LenAnder...@ieee.org>
wrote:
> On Mar 4, 12:53?pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>
> > On Mar 4, 12:48?pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
> > Some may tell you that all it takes to tune up a tube
> > transmitter is to "peak the grid and dip the plate", but
> > that's simply not correct. Tuneup procedures vary
> > according to rig design and you have to be specific.
>
> Sorry, but that was procedure for pre-WW2 high-
> power HF transmitters.

Sure it was.

> While it is a simplistic
> phrase, it still applies. A more exact procedure
> was to tune up the exciter with reduced drive
> power and literally peak the grid current. Plate
> current was then observed with the plate tuning
> adjusted for a slight, but observable dip in plate
> current. Of (perhaps) greater importance was setting
> the neutralizing control for minimum grid current;
> "dipping" the plate current should produce the least
> grid current peak on adjusting the plate tuning.

A number of amateur transmitters/transceivers have used a quick
peaking of the drive/preselector control followed by adjustment of
tune and load controls for maximum output, keeping readings within
operating parameters. I've never seen an amateur transmitter with a
front panel neutralizing capacitor. Neutralization is normally a set
and forget procedure which one needn't worry about until the final
tubes are replaced.

Tuning for maximum output for a given amount of drive has become the
norm in tuning high power, vacuum tube linear amplifiers. All one
needs do is make certain that the bottles don't aren't drawing too
much grid current. A check of linearity can be made with the station
monitor 'scope.

> The load capacitor of a pi-net has
> the least effect on tuning to a new frequency.

That would depend upon the antenna being used and the amount of
frequency change as well as the type of equipment being used. Some
manufacturers switch in some fixed capacitance on various bands or

portions of bands.

> The pi-network output circuit was a favorite among
> amateur homebrewers for decades due to its
> simplicity and better ability to attenuate harmonics...

...but the Pi-L did a much better job of attenuating harmonics with only a little more circuit complexity. Quite a number of Novice licensees found themselves in receipt of OO notices or letters from the FCC when using a simple pi-net output tank with a multiband antenna.

Dave K8MN

189. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-05 06:09:12 UTC
From: k8mn@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1173074601.187985.39610@8g2000cwh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5330

On Mar 5, 3:26 am, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote innews:1173056103.032157.274120@v33g2000cwv.googlegroups.com:

> The simplicity was what attracted me to them. No filters, nonotch,
> no pbt, no RIT, no - well you get it.

> > Note that the
> > 75 meter one stops at 3.8 MHz. Heath figured that by
> > simplifying the output pi network to the most extreme degree,
> > they could save a few dollars. Coming up with a 50 ohm
> > antenna was the ham's problem.
>
> The 75 meter rig I have tunes to 4 MHz. It's also a HW22a, probably a
> later mod. But all that simplicity is a good thing for a lad raised
> mostly on integrated circuits! 8^)

The 75m transceiver is the HW-12A. It runs 3.8-4.0 MHz. That's all
the phone band there was back when the rig was produced. There's a
mod in one of the mags--CQ, I think--that puts in a fixed silver mica
cap with a little trimmer cap in parallel for making the thing work on
both 3.8-4.0 and 3.7-3.9 MHz at the flip of a mini-toggle switch.
That'd give you a bit more room to roam.

> >> I am now
> >> looking at a Kenwood TS-830S. It's a hybrid, with tube finals. I
> >> really like it so far, although I don't see it replacing my
> >> IC-761.
>
> > That's a pretty good rig for its era. The matching range is limited
> > but it will handle 2:1 SWR without problems IMLE.
>
> I have been pretty impressed so far. The receiver seems pretty hot,
> certainly the sound is *good*. I'm listening to it right now, and it is
> simply very legible. Tuning is only one speed, and a tad fast. Seems
> strange just having SSB and CW, but overall I think I'll keep it.

In it's era, the TS-830 was somewhat of a DXer's and contester's dream
machine.
That receiver has an extra filter slot for cascading filters. One can
still buy after market filters for it.

Dave K8MN

190. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-05 11:28:33 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1173092442.289016.212760@30g2000cwc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5331

On Mar 4, 10:23 pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
> I should have noted large range and balanced/unbalanced output. My
> IC-761 has an autotuner on it that works pretty well with my vertical
> antenna. The dipole is run with balanced line, and needs a different
> tuner.

> A little bigger components, plus a 4:1 balun, and they would have
> it.
>
Well, sort of.

The Ancient Ones used antenna matching
devices to feed balanced lines. The Johnson
Matchboxes are one example of a commercial
version. Most Handbooks have examples of
link-coupled balanced wide-range tuners.

The problem was that such link-coupled tuners are large
and not easy to bandswitch.

About 1970, a new idea in tuners appeared: Use an
unbalanced matching network such as a T or L
network with a roller inductor or tapped inductor, with a
balun if balanced output was wanted. 4:1 iron-core toroid
baluns were compact and broadband, the T or L tuner
could be made wide-range without complex bandswitching,
and the whole works seemed an improvement on the old
link-coupled balanced tuner.

The problem was that baluns aren't magic devices. The
system works well if the shack-end of the transmission line
is around 200 ohms impedance and not too reactive. But in
many cases the shack-end impedance with balanced line
is very high or very low, and/or very reactive. Under such
conditions the balun may not do a very good job because it is
being asked to work far outside its design parameters.

Also, if the shack-end impedance is low (say, 12 ohms), the
use of a 4:1 balun will make it so low (3 ohms) that it may be outside
the efficient matching range of the T or L network.

These conditions may be partially remedied by use of a balun
that can be switched to either 4:1 or 1:1 ratio, and by choosing
antenna and feedline combinations that don't result in extreme

values of shack-end impedance/reactance. But that reduces
the flexibility of the system.

The "unbalanced tuner followed by a balun" idea is clearly
one where "newer" wasn't necessarily "better" in all cases.
Yet it became very popular because it usually worked.
But in many cases the balanced line was actually
doing a lot of radiating and there was considerable loss in the
system.

Back in 1990, AG6K came up with an answer to the
shortcomings of that method. He put a 1:1 balun between the
rig and a simple balanced tuner, so the balun only has to
deal with a pure 50 ohm load once the tuner is adjusted.
Although AG6K favors baluns made from coax wound on
PVC pipe, other forms of balun such as ferrite-bead and
wound-toroid can be used if preferred.

You can read AG6K's article here:

http://www.somis.org/bbat.html

and judge for yourself.

AG6K's approach used two ganged roller inductors and
a single variable capacitor, compared to most commercial
manual tuners that use two variable caps and a single variable
inductor. Because there are only two controls, remoting the
tuner is made easier.

73 de Jim, N2EY

191. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-05 13:36:46 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <12uo6o25leunc4@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 5332

Mike Coslo wrote:

> A little bigger components, plus a 4:1 balun, and they would have
> it.

I wish that the manufacturers would include the provision for balanced feedline. The random-length dipole, fed with balanced line, is an ideal antenna in many cases. It's especially appropriate for disaster situations (and simulated disasters, like Field Day). Find the two highest supports that are available, as far apart as possible, measure the distance, cut the wire and install the middle insulator and feedline, hoist each end, and you're done. Now you've got a reasonably efficient radiator (especially if there's enough distance between those two supports) that you can use on any band, and the length of the feedline isn't particularly critical. But it takes a tuner and balun to make it work, and if this was included in the rig and was automatic, it would be ideal.

73, Steve KB9X

192. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-05 15:20:35 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <eshb11$12s0$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 5333

k8mn@earthlink.net wrote:
> On Mar 5, 3:26 am, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
>> N...@AOL.COM wrote innews:1173056103.032157.274120@v33g2000cwv.googlegroups.com:
>
>
>> The simplicity was what attracted me to them. No filters, nonotch,
>> no pbt, no RIT, no - well you get it.
>
>>> Note that the
>>> 75 meter one stops at 3.8 MHz. Heath figured that by
>>> simplifying the output pi network to the most extreme degree,
>>> they could save a few dollars. Coming up with a 50 ohm
>>> antenna was the ham's problem.
>> The 75 meter rig I have tunes to 4 MHz. It's also a HW22a, probably a
>> later mod. But all that simplicity is a good thing for a lad raised
>> mostly on integrated circuits! 8^)
>
> The 75m transceiver is the HW-12A. It runs 3.8-4.0 MHz. That's all
> the phone band there was back when the rig was produced.

Thanks for the correction Dave. I should have looked at the back of the
unit when I was composing my email

There's a
> mod in one of the mags--CQ, I think--that puts in a fixed silver mica
> cap with a little trimmer cap in parallel for making the thing work on
> both 3.8-4.0 and 3.7-3.9 MHz at the flip of a mini-toggle switch.
> That'd give you a bit more room to roam.

Now there is serendipity for ya! I was trying to align the thing, and
having some trouble with the top end. And the unit had this extra switch
on the front. Since I couldn't find the schematic for the "a" version, I
wasn't sure if that switch was part of th ea version or not. Preliminary
looks made me think that it might have been something to lower the
frequency down to the CW portion of the band. But it looks as if my rig
has that mod .

> In it's era, the TS-830 was somewhat of a DXer's and contester's dream
> machine.
> That receiver has an extra filter slot for cascading filters. One can
> still buy after market filters for it.

I can believe that it was very popular. The hybrid concept is
interesting. I especially like that you can turn the tubes off if you
just want to listen.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

193. Re: Exam session attendance

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-05 18:56:59 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <1173120827.887112.111970@q40g2000cwq.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5334

On Mar 4, 7:24 pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
> "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote
innews:JoidnSMRKefTSXfYnZ2dnUVZ_oytnZ2d@comcast.com:
>
> > To support other teams in this area, I participated in their VE
> > sessions this weekend. Already the flurry of applicants has dropped
> > and attendance is close to that of pre-Feb 23 levels. I hope it is
> > just this area that is seeing this phenomenon.
>
> That isn't too surprising. The first several months are likely to
> be upgrades from people who paid attention to the change in testing.
>
> I suspect the next batch will be Hams that found out about the
> change right around now. This group will be upgrading about 6 - 12 months
> from the change.
>
> Absolutely new people won't be testing until around a year from
> now.
>
> This is all give or take a bit. In our area, we are averaging a
> little over 1 per month, even before the change. I consider that good
> growth.
>
> - 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

Well time will tell. When I have occasion to mention ham radio, the
responses tell me that most people don't even know it exists let alone
what the requirements are. Changing the requirements won't change
that.

Dee, N8UZE

194. Re: Exam session attendance

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-05 20:41:46 UTC
From: an old freind <konstans@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <1173127016.638482.144370@j27g2000cwj.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5335

On Mar 5, 1:56 pm, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:
> On Mar 4, 7:24 pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
>
>

> Well time will tell. When I have occasion to mention ham radio, the
> responses tell me that most people don't even know it exists let alone
> what the requirements are. Changing the requirements won't change
> that.

correct as far as you go

the next step in requruiting is making the sale so to sayTHAT is where
the requirement matters
>
> Dee, N8UZE- Hide quoted text -
>
> - Show quoted text -

195. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-06 00:22:45 UTC
From: "LenAnderson@ieee.org" <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1173140382.900806.323550@t69g2000cwt.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5336

From: Mike Coslo on Sun 4 Mar 2007 22:56

>"LenAnderson@ieee.org" wrote:

>> Besides old ARRL Handbooks prior to the 1970s, I'd suggest
>> finding the site that has digitized copies of GE Ham News.
>> Those were (bi-monthly?) hand-outs by GE to push their
>> tubes (naturally) but they contained lots of different ham
>> projects (using tubes, of course).
>
>Got it! Thanks a lot Len - I googled them up, and have enough reading
>material to keep me busy for a while.
>
>the site is: http://bama.sbc.edu/ge_ham_news.htm

Thanks for the reminder on BAMA contents. BAMA has more
than just old tube equipment manuals. :-) Good site!

On the general subject of tube PA matching to load, some
remarks:

The automatic antenna tuner might have its beginning at
Collins Radio of the 1950s decade. Reference is the T-195
transmitter, part of a set that used the special version
of the R-390 series called the R-392, designed and built
for the USMC, first fielded in 1955, intended to be Jeep
mounted. The basic whip antenna matching was a servoed
single variable L and a single variable C to a conventional
PA output tank...so-called Ell-network, switchable to
the four possible L-C connection possibilities. On an
Army demo in late 1955, I was most impressed when the
demonstrating officer simply removed half of a whip
section (!), hit the tune function, and the servo
system re-tuned to this new antenna impedance in
seconds. :-)

Warren Bruene must have had a hand in that Autotune
labeled antenna matcher because it has the first instance
I've seen for the "Bruene detector" in the transmission
line to get both amplitude and phase of the RF. Slight
variations of that exist today, generally with a toroid
for current output and a small capacitor for voltage
output, both combined into dual diode detectors. Today's
antenna auto-tuning subsystems use binary-progression
switched single inductors and single capacitors with the
servo system basically a microcontroller plus small

frequency counter (sometimes) that can determine which L or C to switch and remember the frequency and setting. SGC (Stoner Goral Company) in the Puget Sound area of Washington state has at least three models for both maritime and amateur radio HF use. The Big3 (Icom, Yaesu, Kenwood) have them, either built-in or as out-board boxes. Several independent USA companies have them.

ALL (no exceptions) antenna tuners have limits on their impedance matching capabilities, whether "Pi-L" output tanks or big boatanchor style structures that look very impressive. There are few overall advantages in any configuration with the possible exception of Simplicity of the single L, single C variety now common to today's autotuning matchers. ALL, even the popular Pi-network, have limits that can be proven mathematically; if the math doesn't fit, no amount of publicity or historical references will make it fit better.

If you or anyone else would like an algebraic-only math explanation of the four combinations of single L and C matching combinations...with their limits of load impedance variation, I'll be happy to forward them by e-mail attachments. No binary files here and the equations, figures are better shown in the PDF format.

73, LenAnderson@ieee.org

196. Re: Kenwood TS-520

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-06 02:29:32 UTC
From: ITCCS <ITCCS@gmx.net>
Message-ID: <Qq3Hh.38031$as2.6223@bgtnsc05-news.ops.worldnet.att.net>
Source record: 5337

I had a TS-520....it is a great lil rig...for sure now I have an old TS-820S
with 160 mtrs...and ten mhz.

They just keep ticking and tak a licking. Good luck with it...the 6146 tube
finals are very durable too.

Bob
<k8mn@earthlink.net> wrote in message
news:1172352231.835768.173560@s48g2000cws.googlegroups.com...
> On Feb 24, 4:01 am, Jeff Caird <professor...@knox.edu> wrote:
>> IMHO, the TS-520 is the '57 Chevy of ham rigs. (Or is it the
>> '65 Mustang, or the '67 GTO?) In any case, $175 at a flea and
>> abt $75 for a new set of tubes (GE 6146Bs MP) got me a fun
>> rig! It does everything I want except WARC bands.
>>
>> kb1gej
>
> I think you have it about right. Maybe rigs like the TS-520, TS-120,
> TS-130, Yaesu FT0101/A/B/E/EX and the Heath SB-100/101/102 and
> HW-100/101 are more like the Chevy Vega of amateur transceivers. They
> do the basics pretty well. They have RIT and can be used with an
> outboard VFO to make DXing fun. The best part is their
> affordability. Amateur radio does not have to be expensive in order
> for one to derive a lot of enjoyment. There are still companies
> selling accessory filters for all of the rigs mentioned.
>
> Dave Heil K8MN
>

197. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-06 02:30:08 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1173144358.138202.162700@n33g2000cwc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5338

On Mar 4, 10:56 pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:

> the site is:http://bama.sbc.edu/ge_ham_news.htm
>
Mike,

If you like the BoatAnchor Manual Archive, you
may be interested in these sites. Lots of
downloadable manuals and data:

First is Pete Millett's book site:

http://www.pmillett.com/tecnical_books_online.htm

Has some incredible stuff, like complete ARRL and
Radio Handbooks, Radiotron Designer's Handbook,
Reference Data for Radio Engineers, and much more.
All in PDF.

CAUTION! Some files are quite large, and will take a long
time to download via dialup. One trick I have used is to set up
a dialup download late at night, hit the button and go to bed.

and tube data, from the RCA HB-3 books:

http://www.pmillett.com/hb-3_tube_manual.htm

arranged by inidvidual tube type, for easy download.

The Glowbugs website has lots of downloadable info:

http://www.mines.uidaho.edu/~glowbugs/index.html

including some good manuals and articles on WW2 military surplus:

http://www.mines.uidaho.edu/~glowbugs/Military__and__Surplus.html

http://www.mines.uidaho.edu/~glowbugs/PDF%20files/

Some of these are quite large, too.

"Bunker of Doom" site with lots of stuff:

http://www.bunkerofdoom.com/

Tube manuals, for example.

Transformer catalogs and other data:

http://www.bunkerofdoom.com/xfm/index.html

Another good site:

http://www.antiqueradioarchives.com/archives_index.htm

73 de Jim, N2EY

198. Re: Human-powered portable power generation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-06 09:16:15 UTC
From: "Dr.Ace" <Ace@WH2T.com>
Message-ID: <7903b$45ed0ae2$4e151b4$3224@DIALUPUSA.NET>
Source record: 5339

"Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
news:es1hqdroe1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...
> Bill Horne, W1AC wrote:
>
>> The question would be how to charge the batteries without relying on
>> cars, since working vehicles are a valuable asset in themselves and fuel
>> may also be in short supply: I suppose we could devise a "standard"
>> method to hook batteries to working vehicles so they could be carried
>> around while being charged, but that's about it.
>

Hi All,

I know this requires some power source , but it is none the less an
interesting and possibly useful concept.

3 Dollar Battery Charger
http://www.alpharubicon.com/elect/3dollarbattggn.htm

Ace - WH2T

.

199. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-06 14:30:58 UTC
From: k8mn@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1173187620.715023.159860@h3g2000cwc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5340

On Mar 5, 3:20 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> k...@earthlink.net wrote:
> > On Mar 5, 3:26 am, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:

> > The 75m transceiver is the HW-12A. It runs 3.8-4.0 MHz. That's all
> > the phone band there was back when the rig was produced.
>
> Thanks for the correction Dave. I should have looked at the back of the
> unit when I was composing my email

Not a problem. I'm fairly familiar with the series since I ran them
mobile for a number of years.

> There's a
>
> > mod in one of the mags--CQ, I think--that puts in a fixed silver mica
> > cap with a little trimmer cap in parallel for making the thing work on
> > both 3.8-4.0 and 3.7-3.9 MHz at the flip of a mini-toggle switch.
> > That'd give you a bit more room to roam.
>
> Now there is serendipity for ya! I was trying to align the thing, and
> having some trouble with the top end. And the unit had this extra switch
> on the front. Since I couldn't find the schematic for the "a" version, I
> wasn't sure if that switch was part of th ea version or not. Preliminary
> looks made me think that it might have been something to lower the
> frequency down to the CW portion of the band. But it looks as if my rig
> has that mod .

If I run across the mod, I'll forward a scan of the information to
you. There was another easy mod which padded the carrier oscillator
frequency in order to roll off some of the annoying high frequency
hiss on receiver, while adding fullness to the transmitted audio. It
had the added benefit of more carrier output for tune up.
Your HW-12A may have that mod as well.

> > In it's era, the TS-830 was somewhat of a DXer's and contester's dream
> > machine.
> > That receiver has an extra filter slot for cascading filters. One can
> > still buy after market filters for it.
>
> I can believe that it was very popular. The hybrid concept is
> interesting. I especially like that you can turn the tubes off if you
> just want to listen.

The '830 doesn't get points for being an early hybrid, but it does get
points for having that cascaded filter availability. The early

Hybrids were rigs like the Yaesu FT-101 and variants along with the Kenwood TS-520 and TS-820. Drake used a hybrid design in the T4-XC/R4-C transmitter/receiver pair but there was a mix of tubes/solid state devices in the receiver. The Drake 2-C receiver might have been the earliest hybrid design amateur receiver.

Dave K8MN

200. Re: Exam session attendance

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-06 18:07:56 UTC
From: KH6HZ <kh6hz@arrl.net>
Message-ID: <1173192374.719619.148760@s48g2000cws.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5341

On Mar 4, 12:49 pm, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:

> Already the flurry of applicants has dropped and attendance
> is close to that of pre-Feb 23 levels.

This is not surprising. Amateur radio has already had a "code-free"
license for 15 years. The claims that there was this huge untapped
reservoir of new licensees just waiting for a "code-free HF" license
was never supported by any facts -- just supposition and anecdotal
claims of "deaf PhD EE friends". Why anyone would even think there
would be this huge wave of new applicants is beyond me.

On Mar 4, 7:24 pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:

> That isn't too surprising. The first several months are likely to
> be upgrades from people who paid attention to the change in testing.

Frankly, I suspect that 99.9% of the activity generated from this
latest licensing change will be nothing but upgrades.

As I posted on another thread, I predict at the end of the year we
will see a 0 to -1% "growth" in ham radio resulting from these
changes.

> I suspect the next batch will be Hams that found out about the
> change right around now. This group will be upgrading about 6 - 12 months
> from the change.

Given the current state of the theory examinations, I suspect you'll
see an upgrade curve which is steep at first, tapers off, and then
falls rapidly as well, as the pool of people who are interested in
upgrading is exhausted.

Frankly, not everyone is interested in upgrading. My family has
Advanced, General, and Tech-class licensees. None of them have any
intention of upgrading, the last I knew.

> Absolutely new people won't be testing until around a year from
> now.

I'm not quite sure how you formulate this claim. It certainly doesn't
take a year to study to pass an amateur radio examination. People
finding out about the licensing changes now could have a license in-
hand virtually immediately. Certainly within 60 to 90 days.

We've already had a codeless license for 15 years. All we have now are
codeless HF licenses as well. Is there going to be this huge influx of
people who never got licensed as Techs because they couldn't operate

HF? I seriously doubt it.

I'm sure there will be some, but the number will be statistically insignificant.

73
kh6hz

201. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-06 21:30:02 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <eskiq7$lp0$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 5242

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:

> These conditions may be partially remedied by use of a balun
> that can be switched to either 4:1 or 1:1 ratio, and by choosing
> antenna and feedline combinations that don't result in extreme
> values of shack-end impedance/reactance. But that reduces
> the flexibility of the system.

True enough.

<snip>

> You can read AG6K's article here:
>
> http://www.somis.org/bbat.html
>
> and judge for yourself.

I have gathered the parts to make just that!. I'd have it up now, but I switched to a coax fed antenna for a while, and built a more traditional tuner. In the interim I went back to balanced line.

> AG6K's approach used two ganged roller inductors and
> a single variable capacitor, compared to most commercial
> manual tuners that use two variable caps and a single variable
> inductor. Because there are only two controls, remoting the
> tuner is made easier.

Some day I'll report on how mine is doing. In the present situation I don't need remote tuning, but will probably motorize the unit anyway.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

202. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-06 21:38:39 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <eskj9a$1e26$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 5243

LenAnderson@ieee.org wrote:

> If you or anyone else would like an algebraic-only
> math explanation of the four combinations of single
> L and C matching combinations...with their limits of
> load impedance variation, I'll be happy to forward
> them by e-mail attachments. No binary files here
> and the equations, figures are better shown in the
> PDF format.

I would appreciate that very much, Len. This address would be fine.
Thanks - Mike -

203. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-07 04:02:41 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1173236060.698773.181820@t69g2000cwt.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5244

On Mar 6, 4:30?pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote:

> > You can read AG6K's article here:
>
> >http://www.somis.org/bbat.html
>
> > and judge for yourself.
>
> I have gathered the parts to make just that!. I'd have it up now, but I
> switched to a coax fed antenna for a while, and built a more traditional
> tuner. In the interim I went back to balanced line.

The AG6K tuner can be used with balanced or unbalanced
line.

All you have to do to use it with an unbalanced line is to ground the
coax shield at the tuner end of the coax balun,
and use the "other side" to feed the ungrounded line. A
simple SPST switch of adequate ratings can do the job.

The AG6K tuner, as described, has adequate matching
range for most dipole-fed-with-balanced-line amateur
antennas. A little care in choosing the antenna and
feedline length can make the tuner's job a lot easier.

Reg Edwards' DIPOLE3 program can be a big help in
figuring out the shack-end impedance of various
antenna/transmission line combinations.

> > AG6K's approach used two ganged roller inductors and
> > a single variable capacitor, compared to most commercial
> > manual tuners that use two variable caps and a single variable
> > inductor. Because there are only two controls, remoting the
> > tuner is made easier.
>
> Some day I'll report on how mine is doing. In the present situation I
> don't need remote tuning, but will probably motorize the unit anyway.

Although not mentioned in the article, the roller inductors
could be replaced by a pair of tapped coils and a double-pole switch.
The tap positions would have to be found by
experiment, but could be made permanent once they were found. Tuner
adjustment could then consist of simply selecting the correct tap
postion with the switch, and
adjusting the variable capacitor for minimum SWR.

Automatic tuners are not new to amateur radio, btw.
An automatic balanced tuner was described in QST for July, 1952. It would automatically retune itself within
an amateur band. Changing bands meant changing coils, but once that was done the tuner would do the rest automatically.

73 de Jim, N2EY

204. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-07 04:12:37 UTC
From: "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not>
Message-ID: <eslaff$kk5$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 5245

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
[snip]
> The "unbalanced tuner followed by a balun" idea is clearly
> one where "newer" wasn't necessarily "better" in all cases.
> Yet it became very popular because it usually worked.
> But in many cases the balanced line was actually
> doing a lot of radiating and there was considerable loss in the
> system.
>
> Back in 1990, AG6K came up with an answer to the
> shortcomings of that method. He put a 1:1 balun between the
> rig and a simple balanced tuner, so the balun only has to
> deal with a pure 50 ohm load once the tuner is adjusted.
> Although AG6K favors baluns made from coax wound on
> PVC pipe, other forms of balun such as ferrite-bead and
> wound-toroid can be used if preferred.
[snip]

I'm not sure a "balanced" tuner is required. I have an off-center-fed dipole I use with 600 ohm ladder line, and I'd like to try it with an Ultimate Transmatch. If I put AG6K's coax balun on the input and isolate the chasis from ground, wouldn't that achieve the same result?

Bill

--
73,

Bill W1AC

(Remove "73" and change top level domain for direct replies)

205. Re: Human-powered portable power generation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-07 04:31:18 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <mZCdnU_Yw7JBs3PYnZ2dnUVZ_rWnnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 5246

"Dr.Ace" <Ace@WH2T.com> wrote in message
news:7903b$45ed0ae2$4e151b4$3224@DIALUPUSA.NET...
>
> "Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
> news:es1hqdroe1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...
>> Bill Horne, W1AC wrote:
>>
>>> The question would be how to charge the batteries without relying on
>>> cars, since working vehicles are a valuable asset in themselves and fuel
>>> may also be in short supply: I suppose we could devise a "standard"
>>> method to hook batteries to working vehicles so they could be carried
>>> around while being charged, but that's about it.
>>
>
> Hi All,
>
> I know this requires some power source , but it is none the less an
> interesting and possibly useful concept.
>
> 3 Dollar Battery Charger
> http://www.alpharubicon.com/elect/3dollarbattggn.htm
>
> Ace - WH2T
>

At our last club meeting, our guest speaker had a small generated that was
operated by pedaling it like a bicycle. It was quite interesting.

Dee, N8UZE

206. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-07 17:01:34 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <esmn62mbs1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 5247

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
> On Mar 6, 4:30?pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:

>> I have gathered the parts to make just that!. I'd have it up now, but I
>> switched to a coax fed antenna for a while, and built a more traditional
>> tuner. In the interim I went back to balanced line.
>
> The AG6K tuner can be used with balanced or unbalanced
> line.

I should have been more clear about the reasons. The tuner that I made is a massively retro unit that is kinda pretty. Cherry finished wood face, with real old time knobs and cranks. If I went to the balanced one now, I'd need to start over again. I will eventually build the AG6K type balanced tuner of course, but want to enjoy this one for a while.

> Reg Edwards' DIPOLE3 program can be a big help in
> figuring out the shack-end impedance of various
> antenna/transmission line combinations.

I have all his programs. Upon his demise, his family and a number of interested amateurs made sure to archive and distribute them. We miss Reg over on rraa.

> Although not mentioned in the article, the roller inductors
> could be replaced by a pair of tapped coils and a double-pole switch.

The tuner can be hot switched, I assume?

> Automatic tuners are not new to amateur radio, btw.
> An automatic balanced tuner was described in QST for July, 1952. It
> would automatically retune itself within
> an amateur band. Changing bands meant changing coils, but once that
> was done the tuner would do the rest automatically.

Thanks for the reference, Jim. It should be interesting to see how they did it then.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

207. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-08 04:19:33 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1173323835.273126.100860@8g2000cwh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5248

On Mar 7, 12:01 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> > On Mar 6, 4:30?pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> >> I have gathered the parts to make just that!. I'd have it up now, but I
> >> switched to a coax fed antenna for a while, and built a more traditional
> >> tuner. In the interim I went back to balanced line.
>
> > The AG6K tuner can be used with balanced or unbalanced
> > line.
>
> I should have been more clear about the reasons. The tuner that I made
> is a massively retro unit that is kinda pretty. Cherry finished wood
> face, with real old time knobs and cranks. If I went to the balanced one
> now, I'd need to start over again. I will eventually build the AG6K type
> balanced tuner of course, but want to enjoy this one for a while.

Understood.
>
> > Reg Edwards' DIPOLE3 program can be a big help in
> > figuring out the shack-end impedance of various
> > antenna/transmission line combinations.
>
> I have all his programs.

Me too. In several places!

> Upon his demise, his family and a number of
> interested amateurs made sure to archive and distribute them. We miss
> Reg over on rraa.
>
I miss him too. I read his bio somewhere - very impressive.
A real class act.

> > Although not mentioned in the article, the roller inductors
> > could be replaced by a pair of tapped coils and a double-pole switch.
>
> The tuner can be hot switched, I assume?

Depends on the switch, but I would not do that even with
heavy-duty switches. Puts an unnecessary strain on the
rig feeding the tuner.

> > Automatic tuners are not new to amateur radio, btw.
> > An automatic balanced tuner was described in QST for July, 1952. It
> > would automatically retune itself within

> > an amateur band. Changing bands meant changing coils, but once that
> > was done the tuner would do the rest automatically.

To be really accurate, such a tuner might best be
called "semi automatic". You had to manually
set it up for each band - it couldn't usually find a
match by blind luck. But once you had the coil and taps
set, it would find a match and follow you up and down the band.

Although the original used a balanced link-coupled tuner, the
principles could be applied to any tuner that meets the
basic concepts.

One modern-day use I can see for such a tuner is for 80/75 meters
with, say, a dipole. You could QSY anywhere in the band and the tuner
would automatically follow.
>
> Thanks for the reference, Jim. It should be interesting to see how they
> did it then.
>
I looked up the articles. Here's how they did it:

The key to the system is the in-line phase detector. It looks a lot
like the sensing element of an SWR bridge, but what
it senses is the power factor (reactance ratio) of the load.
The phase detector has two DC outputs.

If the load is resistive, the two outputs are equal. If the load is
inductive, one output is higher than the other, and if the load is
capacitive the other output is higher.

The DC outputs are fed into a sort of DC differential amplifier
(couple of 6SN7s) which operate a pair of relays.
The relays control a reversible 2 rpm motor that turns the
big splitstator capacitor in the tuner.

If the two outputs are equal, neither relay energizes and the motor
doesn't run. If the load is capacitive, one relay energizes and turns
the motor one way, and if the load is inductive the other relay
energizes and turns the motor the other way.

No operator attention was needed at all once the system was set up.
You didn't have to push a "TUNE" button or anything else - the tuner
would simply do its thing when you transmitted.

In a later article, the same idea was applied to a mobile
installation, retuning the antenna loading coil automatically.
This was long before "screwdriver" antennas!

The whole thing is so simple that at first I wondered why it wasn't
more common back then. The answer is that most rigs of that era had
lots of adjustments, and automating one
of them didn't really save all that much in most cases. Today, with no-

tune rigs, maybe it's worth another look.

73 de Jim, N2EY

208. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-08 05:17:17 UTC
From: Cecil Moore <mycall@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <w5MHh.6808$jx3.2315@newssvr25.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 5249

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
> The whole thing is so simple that at first I wondered why it wasn't
> more common back then.

Ever watch an ART-13 tune itself?
--
73, Cecil http://www.w5dxp.com

209. Question about radio noise

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-08 06:52:26 UTC
From: rfdjr1@optonline.net
Message-ID: <vl0vu25n8dufsb132ntbuhpgo79rkb7hoq@4ax.com>
Source record: 5250

Hi. I know nothing about amateur radio nor electronics so I'm here looking for an answer to a question which bothers me. There are a number of places near where I live that, if you drive by them with the AM radio in the car on, there's an extreme amount of noise. It usually last while driving parallel to overhead wires (not high power lines, must the ones on poles), then goes away. It's always the same places and doesn't come or go. I'm guessing bad shielding of the wires. My concern is, if it does this to the radio, is it harmful to people who are near it? Thanks.

210. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-08 06:53:10 UTC
From: "LenAnderson@ieee.org" <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1173330698.061682.76530@q40g2000cwq.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5251

On Mar 7, 9:17 pm, Cecil Moore <myc...@hotmail.com> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> > The whole thing is so simple that at first I wondered why it wasn't
> > more common back then.
>
> Ever watch an ART-13 tune itself?
> --
> 73, Cecil http://www.w5dxp.com

Heh, I have, about 20 years after it first came out. That, and
I used to align R-391s...which were much more fun to watch.
ADA had one commercial Collins Autotune transmitter for
about two years, three racks wide, all the Autotune rotary
power came from a single quarter-horsepower reversible
motor. Fastest-reversing motor I'd seen up to 1953.

73, Len AF6AY

211. Re: Question about radio noise

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-08 14:07:05 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <12v0175irk6r0fd@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 5252

rfdjr1@optonline.net wrote:

> My concern is, if it does this to the radio, is it harmful to people who
> are near it? Thanks.

The short answer is, no.

What you're probably hearing on your AM radio is noise caused by arcing on high voltage lines due to defective or dirty insulators. Your radio receiver is sensitive to this RF because, well, that's what radio receivers do.

But the fact that you can hear it on your receiver does not imply that it is harmful, any more than the fact that you can hear the local AM station means that it's harmful. If you were in close proximity to the AM station's transmitting antenna, you would be receiving exposure to RF [Radio Frequency emissions] in excess of regulated maximums. But I can't imagine a leaky high-voltage line putting out enough RF to be dangerous even in close proximity.

See http://www.fcc.gov/oet/rfsafety/rf-faqs.html for full details.

73, Steve KB9X

212. Re: Tube equipment question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-08 14:07:08 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1173351574.892715.125730@q40g2000cwq.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5253

On Mar 8, 12:17?am, Cecil Moore <myc...@hotmail.com> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> > The whole thing is so simple that at first I wondered why it wasn't
> > more common back then.
>
> Ever watch an ART-13 tune itself?

Yep, Cecil, quite a show!

But the Collins Autotune is really a form of mechanical
memory re-tuning, like the mechanical pushbuttons on
an old-style car radio. A human operator tunes up the ART-13 manually,
locks the settings into one of the Autotune 'memories' then the
Autotune remembers the exact settings of each control and resets them,
when requested.

What the Autotune does not do is to adjust any of the controls to some
electrical parameter in the rig itself - plate current, low SWR,
resonance, etc. It just puts all the knobs back where they were.

Still very impressive, though. And about a decade before the articles
I mentioned.

73 de Jim, N2EY

213. Re: Question about radio noise

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-08 18:45:36 UTC
From: Rod <rodd@cox.net>
Message-ID: <1173375674.907155.77380@64g2000cwx.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5254

On Mar 7, 10:52 pm, rfd...@optonline.net wrote:
> Hi. I know nothing about amateur radio nor electronics so I'm here looking for
> an answer to a question which bothers me. There are a number of places near
> where I live that, if you drive by them with the AM radio in the car on, there's
> an extreme amount of noise. It usually last while driving parallel to overhead
> wires (not high power lines, must the ones on poles), then goes away. It's
> always the same places and doesn't come or go. I'm guessing bad shielding of the
> wires. My concern is, if it does this to the radio, is it harmful to people who
> are near it? Thanks.

All about power line noise and possible harm to humans at URL:
http://tdworld.com/mag/power_smarter_approach_resolving/?cid=most-popular

214. Re: Question about radio noise

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-08 20:34:38 UTC
From: "LenAnderson@ieee.org" <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1173377781.625174.6790@q40g2000cwq.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5255

On Mar 7, 10:52?pm, rfd...@optonline.net wrote:
> Hi. I know nothing about amateur radio nor electronics so I'm here looking for
> an answer to a question which bothers me. There are a number of places near
> where I live that, if you drive by them with the AM radio in the car on, there's
> an extreme amount of noise. It usually last while driving parallel to overhead
> wires (not high power lines, must the ones on poles), then goes away. It's
> always the same places and doesn't come or go. I'm guessing bad shielding of the
> wires. My concern is, if it does this to the radio, is it harmful to people who
> are near it? Thanks.

Like Steve remarked, the noise you hear isn't harmful.

Overhead electric power distribution lines aren't shielded.
With time and exposure their insulators, even the wire
(if covered with insulation) will accumulate semi-conducting
dirt and grime. That can cause minor to major arc-overs
which are short-impluse energy spikes. Since those are
of very short duration their bandwidth is wide and can
spread the impulse energy up into the VHF range of
FM broadcast band.

In newer construction the electric power distribution
lines are underground, generally through metal conduit,
and don't get a change to radiate wideband RF energy
nor are there as many arc-overs.

If the irritation from picked-up noise is a bother, it can
be reported to the local power utility. It's touch and go
whether or not they do anything about it, though. It is
only an irritant to radio listeners and not harmful to any
human...but it is covered by FCC regulations as
"incidental, unintentional RF radiation" and has limits.

73, AF6AY

215. Re: Question about radio noise

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-09 04:18:40 UTC
From: rfdjr1@optonline.net
Message-ID: <iak1v2h5esmo2c443h3889ghbeoqmmf44o@4ax.com>
Source record: 5256

Thanks much for the replies.

216. Re: Question about radio noise

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-09 17:26:02 UTC
From: "Ed Hare, W1RFI" <w1rfi@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <1173457349.153186.123950@h3g2000cwc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5257

On Mar 8, 1:52 am, rfd...@optonline.net wrote:
> Hi. I know nothing about amateur radio nor electronics so I'm here looking for
> an answer to a question which bothers me. There are a number of places near
> where I live that, if you drive by them with the AM radio in the car on, there's
> an extreme amount of noise. It usually last while driving parallel to overhead
> wires (not high power lines, must the ones on poles), then goes away. It's
> always the same places and doesn't come or go. I'm guessing bad shielding of the
> wires. My concern is, if it does this to the radio, is it harmful to people who
> are near it? Thanks.

First, the levels of emissions are probably about a million times
lower than the standards for human exposure to electromagnetic fields,
so there are no safety concerns. See http://www.arrl.org/rfsafety for
more information on the subject in general.

The problem is generally caused by defective hardware on the poles,
from loose hardware to defective insulators (actually pretty rare.)

The subject is covered in detail at http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/rfi-elec.html,
especially relating to Amateur Radio.

73,
Ed Hare, W1RFI
ARRL Lab
W1RFI@arrl.org

217. Re: Question about radio noise

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-09 18:24:24 UTC
From: "Ed Hare, W1RFI" <w1rfi@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <1173460015.409690.163260@8g2000cwh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5258

On Mar 8, 3:34 pm, "LenAnder...@ieee.org" <LenAnder...@ieee.org>
wrote:

> but it is covered by FCC regulations as "incidental, unintentional
> RF radiation" and has limits.

Congratulations on your license, Len.

It is probably best not to mx "unintentional" into that explanation
because under Part 15, "unintentional emitters" are treated
differently than "incidental emitters."

In the US, under Part 15 of the FCC's rules, power lines are
classified as "incidental emitters" -- devices that do not
intentionally generate RF signals inside of them, but that may do so
as an incidental part of their operation. Examples of incidental
emitters are electric motors or the power-line noise sources being
discussed.

Unintentional emitters are devices that do intentionally generate RF
signals internally, but that do not intend to radiate them. Examples
are computers, calculators and most digital devices.

Under the rules, indidental emitters do not have any specific radiated
or conducted emissions limits. The manufacturer of an incidental
emitter has a responsibility to use good engineering practice
(whatever that may be construed to mean) and the operator of the
device must do so in a way that does not cause harmful interference to
licensed radio users.

73,
Ed Hare, W1RFI
ARRL Lab

218. Re: RFI from Switched power supply

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-09 18:46:06 UTC
From: "Ed Hare, W1RFI" <w1rfi@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <1173461176.675253.227780@t69g2000cwt.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5259

On Feb 28, 1:26 pm, rob.geurt...@nike.com wrote:

> I have the (incredible fast and reliable) Verizon fiber optic into the
> house for my internet connection. So far so good. However at the
> access point there is a battery backup unit for the fiber->Copper
> converter. This battery unit is kept charged by a powersupply that
> makes an ENOURMOUS amount of RFI that radiates onto the (15 feet) lead
> into the unit and from there into the shack. (S6)

> Does anybody have any suggestions on how to silence this? Or... a
> suggestion for a cheap and 'quiet' powersupply? (It's output is a
> regular 12v)

Over the years, I have seen a number of posts that cite strong RFI from various sources. In most cases, where I have obtained a unit and made measurements, the units have complied with the FCC limits.

Most of these devices are switchmode power supplies. In the US, because they intentionally generate signals above 9 kHz internally, they are classified as unintentional emitters and must meet the FCC Part 15 conducteed emissions limits below 30 MHz and the radiated emissions limits above 30 MHz. (The premise is that on HF, small chasses don't radiate much, while the wires they are connected to do.)

Unless they are used as part of a computer system, they are "verified" as described in the Part 15 rules. This means that the manufacturer is required to test them and keep the results on file. Switchmode power supplies used in computers are authorized under a Declaration of Conformity (tested by the manufacturer as verified devices, but only by labs the FCC has approved) or, rarely nowadays, under certification, where the manufacturer sends test data to the FCC, which then authorizes the product.

The manufacturer must meet the limits and authorization requirements; the operator of the device is responsible for harmful interference.

In most of the interference reports I have seen, someone is interfering with themselves. If the device meets the FCC rules, and it is likely that it does, the FCC not, of course, offer much sympathy.

The premise that boxes don't radiate much on HF, but wires do, points to the cure. The easiest thing to try is a common-mode choke on the wires going to and from the box. Below 30 MHz, ferrite beads usually don't have enough inductance to function well as ferrites. You will need to get a toroidal core that is big enough to pass the connector(s) through, and wrap about 10 turns of wire onto it. For

lower HF, -73, -75, -77 or -J material is probably best. For upper HF, I would use -43. The nomenclature of most cores sold to hams has the size in the first part of the part number and the material in the second part. For example, an F-240-43 core has an outer diameter of 2.4 inches and uses -43 material.

That may solve the problem, but with a switch-mode supply, it is likely that differntial-mode noise is also being coupled onto the line. For that, you need a "brute-force" AC-line filter that uses inductors and capacitors. I don't know if is still a good number, but Radio Shack's catalog # 15-1111 is a suitable filter. Others are sold by Industrial Communications Engineers (http://www.iceradioproducts.com/).

You may need a combination of brute-force and common-mode filtering.

73,
Ed Hare, W1RFI
ARRL Lab

219. Re: RFI from Switched power supply

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-09 18:46:48 UTC
From: "Ed Hare, W1RFI" <w1rfi@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <1173461308.258188.233550@t69g2000cwt.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5260

Oh, one other point I wanted to make.

Typically, from the house next door, a device that complies with Part 15 will be about S7 on HF. If hams know of devices that are significantly louder than that, I would like to test them. If you can, provide me with a model number and source and/or the unit itself, which I can return to you.

Ed Hare, W1RFI@arrl.org
225 Main St
Newington, CT 06111
Tel: 860-594-0318

220. Re: Question about radio noise

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-10 01:32:07 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1173483377.945124.90310@30g2000cwc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5261

On Mar 9, 12:26?pm, "Ed Hare, W1RFI" <w...@arrl.org> wrote:

> The problem is generally caused by defective hardware on the poles,
> from loose hardware to defective insulators (actually pretty rare.)

Hello Ed,

On my early-moring runs I've come across more than one pole that was
clearly a noise source. In the damp morning air just before dawn, you
can hear and sometimes see the arcing. PECO is pretty good about
fixing such things
because they often prevent a failure. But simple visual and
audible observations won't find all problems.

One caution: I have occasionally heard hams speak of
finding noise sources by climbing poles, or whacking them
with a sledgehammer to shake the loose hardware.

DON'T DO IT!

Besides being illegal, it's dangerous. And it won't
make utilities any more likely to fix RFI troubles.

Some may ask why the utilities don't just bury
all the wires. Four reasons:

1) The intitial construction cost is higher, as are any
changes in the future.

2) Finding and fixing problems can be a lot harder.

3) The utility has to deal with things like flooding of
underground facilities, people digging up high
voltage lines unintentionally, and rodents.

4) The transmission losses in buried power cables
are higher, meaning more energy is wasted.

73 de Jim, N2EY

221. PRB-1 and CCNR's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-10 05:15:04 UTC
From: KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <1173494973.507929.53550@j27g2000cwj.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5262

I was just reading on the ARRL's website where the FCC has once again declined to include CCNR's (Deed restrictions) in it's "must be accommodating to Ham Radio" rules. I was wondering if anybody knew much about the organization that petitioned the FCC?

I was also wondering if somebody has re-introduced the bill into the new congress that would force the FCC to include CCNRs in it's PRB-1 pre-emption rules? I'm just guessing but it seems that the previous bill that was introduced, got shuttled to committee and died there.

This is important to me because I live in a deed restricted community with a very picky HOA.

-= bob =-

222. Re: PRB-1 and CCNR's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-10 10:38:34 UTC
From: "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not>
Message-ID: <estinj$5sn$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 5263

KC4UAI wrote:
> I was just reading on the ARRL's website where the FCC has once again
> declined to include CCNR's (Deed restrictions) in it's "must be
> accommodating to Ham Radio" rules. I was wondering if anybody knew
> much about the organization that petitioned the FCC?
>
> I was also wondering if somebody has re-introduced the bill into the
> new congress that would force the FCC to include CCNRs in it's PRB-1
> pre-emption rules? I'm just guessing but it seems that the previous
> bill that was introduced, got shuttled to committee and died there.
>
> This is important to me because I live in a deed restricted community
> with a very picky HOA.
>
> -= bob =-

Bob,

IANALB, the way it was explained to me is that Congress is very reluctant to intercede in what is, in essence, a contractual matter, and I think that reluctance is justified.

I think homeowners are justified in seeking relief from _government_ regulation of antennas, since such rules are not the sort of thing local governments do well. Deed restrictions, however, are something I think the government should stay out of unless there's a _very_ compelling public interest.

YMMV.

73, W1AC

--
Bill Horne, W1AC
Life Memeber, ARRL

(Remove "73" and change top level domain for direct replies)

223. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-10 13:55:41 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1173531208.221903.102670@t69g2000cwt.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5264

On Mar 10, 5:38 am, "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorn...@comcast.not>
wrote:
> KC4UAI wrote:
> > I was just reading on the ARRL's website where the FCC has once again
> > declined to include CCNR's (Deed restrictions) in it's "must be
> > accommodating to Ham Radio" rules. I was wondering if anybody knew
> > much about the organization that petitioned the FCC?
>
> > I was also wondering if somebody has re-introduced the bill into the
> > new congress that would force the FCC to include CCNRs in it's PRB-1
> > pre-emption rules? I'm just guessing but it seems that the previous
> > bill that was introduced, got shuttled to committee and died there.
>
> > This is important to me because I live in a deed restricted community
> > with a very picky HOA.
>
> > -= bob =-
>
> Bob,
>
> IANALB, the way it was explained to me is that Congress is very
> reluctant to intercede in what is, in essence, a contractual matter, and
> I think that reluctance is justified.
>
> I think homeowners are justified in seeking relief from _government_
> regulation of antennas, since such rules are not the sort of thing local
> governments do well. Deed restrictions, however, are something I think
> the government should stay out of unless there's a _very_ compelling
> public interest.
>
> YMMV.
>
Bill,

I think there *is* a compelling public interest in the anti-antenna
regulations contained in many CC&Rs.

First off, those regulations have become "boilerplate"
in many if not most new construction since the 1970s.
The percentage of "no antenna" homes keeps growing
with time.

Second, deed restrictions and covenants are a form of
self-perpetuating contract that the buyer must accept

or not buy the house, even though the buyer does not
get anything tangible from them.

Third, many of the "no-antennas" clauses are overly
restrictive in that they cover antennas that are not
visible to the neighbors, or are no more visually
intrusive than the utility wires and poles. It is simply
illogical that a nearly invisible wire antenna somehow
ruins the neighborhood, but the multiple poles and wires
for power, cable TV, telephone, etc, do not.

I am not against reasonable regulations, zoning, and codes.
IMHO, many anti-antenna CC&Rs are simply not reasonable.
They are an attempt to get around the limits of government power by
means of private contracts.

73 de Jim, N2EY

224. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-10 16:11:53 UTC
From: Alan WA4SCA <APBIDDLE@UNITED.NET>
Message-ID: <5nb5v2l91v7mq89fbgmrv0oav5blq4t6iq@4ax.com>
Source record: 5265

Hi,

Some time back, I did some looking around for an Arizona retirement home. In an area with approximately 100k population, I saw exactly 2 real HF stations with a true antenna farm in a week. Both were owned by people whose family had been there before the boom, and were grandfathered. Except for that, I saw a low dipole, a couple of flagpoles which were disguised verticals, and one StepIR vertical standing proudly in someone's back yard. That turned out to be an interesting story, since the residents of the new development had voted not to form a HOA. So while it violated the CC&Rs, there was no organization to enforce it.

Being a place where they prided themselves on being "rustic," they had instituted some very tight zoning on antennas of every sort. However, the real problem, from a ham standpoint, was posed by the HOAs and CC&Rs. They were so standard and pervasive that except for some very old areas, there was no place to buy which did not have them. As a buyer, you had no input to their formulation, and because they are considered private agreements, you had little appeal if you could not get a waiver from the HOA. According to the locals, you basically worked 2 meters, used a stealth antenna, or bought a house out in the county. Way out.

I am all in favor of allowing people to pick an area where the environment is congenial to them. However, when there may as well be a sign on the city limits saying "Hams Not Welcome," even if that is not the intend, it may be time to at least have a vigorous discussion of the formulations of CC&Rs. As for me, I decided to stay were I am, where they consider regulation the last resort, not the first.

--
Alan
WA4SCA

225. Re: PRB-1 and CCNR's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-10 16:12:14 UTC
From: Cecil Moore <mycall@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <KTylh.2893$uo3.2071@newssvr14.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 5266

KC4UAI wrote:
> This is important to me because I live in a deed restricted community
> with a very picky HOA.

Did you previously agree to the restrictions?
If so, it is likely a legally enforceable contract
between you and the other party.
--
73, Cecil http://www.w5dxp.com

226. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-10 17:35:04 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <12v5j0j3tgvfca7@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 5267

<N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote

> I think there *is* a compelling public interest in the anti-antenna
> regulations contained in many CC&Rs.
>
> First off, those regulations have become "boilerplate"
> in many if not most new construction since the 1970s.
> The percentage of "no antenna" homes keeps growing
> with time.

However, a number of years ago the FCC prevented HOA's from restricting the use of outdoor TV antennas and 3' satellite dishes unless the home is in a "historic district" or is on a list of "historic homes." The only restriction I know of otherwise is, as I recall, that the HOA may restricted the antenna's height to no more than 12 feet above the roof line.

Yes, I know some HOA's prevent even the use of a 2 meter "J pole" taped to the inside of the owner's window....

Howard N7SO

227. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-10 17:35:55 UTC
From: bill@cs.uofs.edu
Message-ID: <55g2i3F2508ggU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 5268

In article <5nb5v2l91v7mq89fbgmrv0oav5blq4t6iq@4ax.com>,
Alan WA4SCA <APBIDDLE@UNITED.NET> writes:
> Hi,
>
> Some time back, I did some looking around for an Arizona retirement
> home. In an area with approximately 100k population, I saw exactly 2
> real HF stations with a true antenna farm in a week. Both were owned
> by people whose family had been there before the boom, and were
> grandfathered. Except for that, I saw a low dipole, a couple of
> flagpoles which were disguised verticals, and one StepIR vertical
> standing proudly in someone's back yard. That turned out to be an
> interesting story, since the residents of the new development had
> voted not to form a HOA. So while it violated the CC&Rs, there was no
> organization to enforce it.
>
> Being a place where they prided themselves on being "rustic," they had
> instituted some very tight zoning on antennas of every sort. However,
> the real problem, from a ham standpoint, was posed by the HOAs and
> CC&Rs. They were so standard and pervasive that except for some very
> old areas, there was no place to buy which did not have them. As a
> buyer, you had no input to their formulation, and because they are
> considered private agreements, you had little appeal if you could not
> get a waiver from the HOA. According to the locals, you basically
> worked 2 meters, used a stealth antenna, or bought a house out in the
> county. Way out.
>
> I am all in favor of allowing people to pick an area where the
> environment is congenial to them. However, when there may as well be
> a sign on the city limits saying "Hams Not Welcome," even if that is
> not the intend, it may be time to at least have a vigorous discussion
> of the formulations of CC&Rs. As for me, I decided to stay were I am,
> where they consider regulation the last resort, not the first.

Having not been actively involved in ham radio for several years
(actually, more than a decade) I am amazed to see the same arguments
still going on. This one in particular.

Hams make up approximately 00.2% of the US population. And, decreasing
every year. Why would you be surprised that more and more places don't
want structures they consider unsightly in their neighborhoods.

As has already been stated (and was stated when we argued this more
than a decade ago) CC&R's are contractual matters and you are not
going to see laws to overturn or limit them. If you move into an
area that doesn't allow antennas it was your decision. The argument

that you can't find a place that allows them is bogus. What you
can't find is a place that is willing to operate by your terms.
If you want an antenna farm buy property where that is allowed. If
you want to live in developed neighborhood, then either build one
full of hams or accept that your neighbors don't share your idea
of aesthetics.

bill
KB3YV

--
Bill Gunshannon | de-moc-ra-cy (di mok' ra see) n. Three wolves
bill@cs.scranton.edu | and a sheep voting on what's for dinner.
University of Scranton |
Scranton, Pennsylvania | #include <std.disclaimer.h>

228. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-10 18:37:20 UTC
From: Cecil Moore <mycall@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <45F2E8DA.6070309@hotmail.com>
Source record: 5269

Howard Lester wrote:
> However, a number of years ago the FCC prevented HOA's from restricting the
> use of outdoor TV antennas and 3' satellite dishes unless the home is in a
> "historic district" or is on a list of "historic homes." The only
> restriction I know of otherwise is, as I recall, that the HOA may restricted
> the antenna's height to no more than 12 feet above the roof line.

Here's what Texas Law says:

"Tex. Loc. Gov't Code Ann. § 250.002 (Vernon 2005)
§ 250.002. REGULATION OF AMATEUR RADIO ANTENNAS.

(a) A municipality or county may not enact or enforce an ordinance or order that does not comply with the ruling of the Federal Communications Commission in "Amateur Radio Preemption, 101 FCC 2nd 952 (1985)" or a regulation related to amateur radio service adopted under 47 C.F.R. Part 97.

(b) If a municipality or county adopts an ordinance or order involving the placement, screening, or height of an amateur radio antenna based on health, safety, or aesthetic conditions, the ordinance or order must:
(1) reasonably accommodate amateur communications; and
(2) represent the minimal practicable regulation to accomplish the municipality's or county's legitimate purpose.

(c) This section does not prohibit a municipality or county from taking any action to protect or preserve a historic, historical, or architectural district that is established by the municipality or county or under state or federal law.

Added by Acts 1999, 76th Leg., ch. 68, § 1, eff. May 10, 1999."

Of course, this doesn't apply to willingly signed personal contracts.

Howard, did you get the email I sent?
--
73, Cecil http://www.w5dxp.com

229. March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-10 20:01:47 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1173551042.644998.80300@j27g2000cwj.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5270

These are the number of current,
unexpired FCC-issued amateur
radio licenses held by individuals
on the stated dates, and the
percentage of the total number
of active licenses that class contains.

Percentages may not add up to exactly
100.0% due to rounding.

These totals do not include licenses
that have expired but are in the grace
period, nor do they include club, military
and other station-only licenses.

Effective April 15, 2000, FCC no longer issued
new Novice, Technician Plus and Advanced
class licenses, so the numbers of those license
classes have declined steadily since then.

Also since April 15, 2000, FCC has renewed all
existing Technician Plus licenses as Technician.
It is therefore informative to consider the totals of
the two classes, since the Technician class
includes a significant number of Technician Plus
licenses renewed as Technician.

On February 23, 2007, the last Morse Code
test element, the 5 wpm receiving test, was
eliminated as a requirement.

The ARS License Numbers:

As of May 14, 2000:

Novice- 49,329 (7.3%)
Technician - 205,394 (30.4%)
Technician Plus - 128,860 (19.1%)
General - 112,677 (16.7%)
Advanced - 99,782 (14.8%)
Extra - 78,750 (11.7%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 334,254 (49.5%)

Total all classes - 674,792

As of February 22, 2007:

Novice - 22,896 (3.5%)
Technician - 293,508 (44.8%)
Technician Plus - 30,818 (4.7%)
General - 130,138 (19.9%)
Advanced - 69,050 (10.5%)
Extra - 108,270 (16.5%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 324,326 (49.5%)

Total all classes - 654,680

As of March 9, 2007:

Novice - 22,725 (3.5%)
Technician - 291,312 (44.5%)
Technician Plus - 30,243 (4.6%)
General - 132,863 (20.3%)
Advanced - 68,837 (10.5%)
Extra - 108,789 (16.6%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 321,555 (49.1%)

Total all classes - 654,769

Changes:

>From May 14, 2000, to February 22, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 26,433
Technician - increase of 88,114
Technician Plus - decrease of 98,042
General - increase of 17,461
Advanced - decrease of 30,732
Extra - increase of 29,520

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 9,928

Total all classes - decrease of 20,112

>From May 14, 2000, to March 9, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 26,604
Technician - increase of 85,918
Technician Plus - decrease of 98,617
General - increase of 20,816
Advanced - decrease of 30,945
Extra - increase of 30,039

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 12,699

Total all classes - decrease of 20,023

>From February 22, 2007, to March 9, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 171
Technician - decrease of 2,196
Technician Plus - decrease of 575

General - increase of 2,725
Advanced - decrease of 213
Extra - increase of 519

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 2,771

Total all classes - increase of 89

---

73 de Jim, N2EY

230. multi mode digtilasignal dection and decoding

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-10 20:03:16 UTC
From: an old freind <konstans@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <1173552586.398945.298650@s48g2000cws.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5271

in the last couple of weeks as I have been exploring HF I fihave found it frustrating that I I am lloking say looking for PSK 31 I hear something else (that I don't KNOW what else is part of the problem) and try to shift mode and programs to try and read that signal but it may be gon efore I figure out which type and varraint it is

what are the issues with current computer speeds and tech etc in developing software that can foucs on a given mode that are currently interested but able to detect and decoded several other (even if less well than the focus mode) so you could tell what they are and what they just said

231. Re: PRB-1 and CCNR's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-10 22:37:36 UTC
From: Bill Beeman <bbeeman@beemangroup.com>
Message-ID: <45f3230a$0$14128$742ec2ed@news.sonic.net>
Source record: 5272

"Cecil Moore" <mycall@hotmail.com> wrote
>
> Did you previously agree to the restrictions?
> If so, it is likely a legally enforceable contract
> between you and the other party.
> --

I used to live in a town where the cable company had required builders to attach a 'no-antenna' covenant as a condition of providing service....and the town insisted that builders see that cable service was provided. So it wound up as a covenant, but coerced by the city. Not exactly a level playing field.

It was almost impossible to live in that area without having some restrictive covenants...so it oversimplifies to simply suggest that you can choose to live elsewhere. Most of us have to go where the work is.

Bill KB0RF (now happily living with no covenants and no HOA)

232. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-10 23:58:14 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <R5udnXoEmq84qm7YnZ2dnUVZ_u-unZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 5273

<N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote in message
news:1173551042.644998.80300@j27g2000cwj.googlegroups.com...

[snip]
>
> Total all classes - increase of 89
>
> ---
>
> 73 de Jim, N2EY
>

Well if we continue at this pace, that will mean 0.35% growth in one year.

Dee, N8UZE

233. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-11 02:19:22 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1173575929.836470.182550@q40g2000cwq.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5274

On Mar 10, 8:36 pm, Jim Higgins <inva...@invalid.invalid> wrote:
> On Sat, 10 Mar 2007 14:01:47 CST, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> >These are the number of current,
> >unexpired FCC-issued amateur
> >radio licenses held by individuals
>
> Why don't you put this info in table form on a web site and post a
> link to it? http://www.ah0a.org/FCC/Licenses.htmlprovides an
> excellent example.
>
> As it is it's hard to digest at a glance and provides no history, only
> a monthly snapshot.

The problem with the website idea is that the information will
only be available as long as the website is active.

By posting to Usenet, the numbers will be generally available as long
as Usenet is archived. I've been posting these numbers twice a month
since 2002 or so, and anybody with internet access can reference the
old numbers by a Google search.

To keep the traffic level down, I'm going to once-a-month
now, and a revised format to show changes relative to May
2000 and February 2007.

Perhaps in the future, I will collect all those old postings
and condense them into one, or a few, postings. Such as
numbers-by-year.

73 de Jim, N2EY

234. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-11 02:32:02 UTC
From: bill@cs.uofs.edu
Message-ID: <55h2fjF2573rmU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 5275

In article <R5udnXoEmq84qm7YnZ2dnUVZ_u-unZ2d@comcast.com>,
"Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> writes:
>
> <N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote in message
> news:1173551042.644998.80300@j27g2000cwj.googlegroups.com...
>
> [snip]
>>
>> Total all classes - increase of 89
>>
>> ---
>>
>> 73 de Jim, N2EY
>>
>
> Well if we continue at this pace, that will mean 0.35% growth in one year.

Except it fails to take into account hams who die who's licenses will
remain in the count for as much as 10 years afterwards. And statistics
show ham radio is a very grey hobby and getting greyer all the time.

bill
KB3YV

--
Bill Gunshannon | de-moc-ra-cy (di mok' ra see) n. Three wolves
bill@cs.scranton.edu | and a sheep voting on what's for dinner.
University of Scranton |
Scranton, Pennsylvania | #include <std.disclaimer.h>

235. Re: multi mode digtilasignal dection and decoding

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-11 03:03:27 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns98EFD0941BB0Bmcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 5276

"an old freind" <konstans@hotmail.com> wrote in
news:1173552586.398945.298650@s48g2000cws.googlegroups.com:

> in the last couple of weeks as I have been exploring HF I fihave found
> it frustrating that I I am lloking say looking for PSK 31 I hear
> something else (that I don't KNOW what else is part of the problem)
> and try to shift mode and programs to try and read that signal but it
> may be gon efore I figure out which type and varraint it is

What you are probably hearing is one of the robot PACTOR stations
or perhaps a rtty station, and yes it is a problem for PSK31 operators

> what are the issues with current computer speeds and tech etc in
> developing software that can foucs on a given mode that are currently
> interested but able to detect and decoded several other (even if less
> well than the focus mode) so you could tell what they are and what
> they just said

There is one program that will identify and shift modes to another
station's mode, but it relies on the other station using the same
software. It was covered in this past mont's QST. It probably isn't all t
that helpful if all parties have to run the same software.

It should not be an impossible task to design software that can
auto identify the various digital transmission modes. It is less likely
that we would want to auto-switch, as we'll likely be operating in one
mode at any given time.

Here is a link that can help you identify the way that various modes
sound:

http://www.kb9ukd.com/digital/

Other info is that PSK tends to little "islands":

160 meters: 1838 KHz
80 3580 KHz
40 7035 KHz
40 7080 KHz
30 10142 KHz
20 14070 KHz
17 18100 KHz
15 21080 KHZ
15 21070 KHZ
12 24920 KHZ
10 28120 KHz

Try 20 meters first - it is the busiest PSK band

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

236. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-11 03:23:39 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1173579770.291179.271790@p10g2000cwp.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5277

On Mar 10, 9:32 pm, b...@cs.uofs.edu (Bill Gunshannon) wrote:
> In article <R5udnXoEmq84qm7YnZ2dnUVZ_u-un...@comcast.com>,
> "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> writes:

> > <N...@AOL.COM> wrote in message
> >news:1173551042.644998.80300@j27g2000cwj.googlegroups.com...
>
> > [snip]
>
> >> Total all classes - increase of 89
>
> >> ---
>
> >> 73 de Jim, N2EY
>
> > Well if we continue at this pace, that will mean 0.35% growth in one year.

Which fits right into my prediction of 0% to 1% growth!

And I'll take 0.35% growth over a decline.

But what is completely unknown at this point is whether the growth
will continue. After the 2000 restructuring, the license numbers
climbed for about three years - and then began to decline, until now
they are well below what they were before the restructuring of 2000.

> Except it fails to take into account hams who die who's licenses will
> remain in the count for as much as 10 years afterwards.

That's always been part of the statistics, Bill. It's part of the
reason I exclude licenses that are in the grace period.

> And statistics
> show ham radio is a very grey hobby and getting greyer all the time.
>
Those statistics need to be seen in the context of the US population.

First, the US population is getting older, too. More people are living
longer, having fewer children, and having them later in life.
According to the Census Bureau, the median age for the US population
(half older, half younger) is now over 39 years! From 1990 to 2000, it
rose by more than four years.

Second, while we occasionally read stories of young children earning
an amateur license, in reality there are, and have always been, very
few hams under the age of 10 years. So if we remove the under-10
population from consideration, the median age of amateurs should be

somewhere around 50 years.

73 de Jim, N2EY

237. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-11 17:21:40 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <12v86q7gdcb5b58@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 5278

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:

> So if we remove the under-10
> population from consideration, the median age of amateurs should be
> somewhere around 50 years.

Is there any real data on the median age of amateurs? Does a database exist that contains date-of-birth so that the actual statistic could be developed?

My personal opinion, based on looking around at gatherings of amateur radio operators and on-the-air contacts, is that the median age is closer to 60, at least for US ops. I wish we had real data.

73, Steve KB9X

238. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-11 18:29:30 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <SJKdnbjuLJi7t2nYnZ2dnUVZ_v6tnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 5279

"Steve Bonine" <spb@pobox.com> wrote in message
news:12v86q7gdcb5b58@news.supernews.com...

[snip]

> My personal opinion, based on looking around at gatherings of amateur
> radio operators and on-the-air contacts, is that the median age is closer
> to 60, at least for US ops. I wish we had real data.
>

Keep in mind though that this also is not representative. It is the older operators and retirees that have the time and money to more actively participate in the hobby.

This is true in many activities. For example, the average age of the members in the community band to which I belong is also in about the 50 to 60 year old range.

Dee, N8UZE

239. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-11 19:38:33 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1173634631.383098.70980@t69g2000cwt.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5280

On Mar 10, 10:46 pm, Jim Higgins <inva...@invalid.invalid> wrote:
> On Sat, 10 Mar 2007 20:19:22 CST, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> >On Mar 10, 8:36 pm, Jim Higgins <inva...@invalid.invalid> wrote:
> >> On Sat, 10 Mar 2007 14:01:47 CST, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> >> >These are the number of current,
> >> >unexpired FCC-issued amateur
> >> >radio licenses held by individuals
>
> >> Why don't you put this info in table form on a web site and post a
> >> link to it? http://www.ah0a.org/FCC/Licenses.htmlprovidesan
> >> excellent example.
>
> >> As it is it's hard to digest at a glance and provides no history, only
> >> a monthly snapshot.
>
> >The problem with the website idea is that the information will
> >only be available as long as the website is active.
>
> >By posting to Usenet, the numbers will be generally available as long
> >as Usenet is archived. I've been posting these numbers twice a month
> >since 2002 or so, and anybody with internet access can reference the
> >old numbers by a Google search.
>
> >To keep the traffic level down, I'm going to once-a-month
> >now, and a revised format to show changes relative to May
> >2000 and February 2007.
>
> >Perhaps in the future, I will collect all those old postings
> >and condense them into one, or a few, postings. Such as
> >numbers-by-year.
>
> Your choice; you're certainly under no obligation. For sure - at
> least IMO - the usefulness of the data will increase by several orders
> of magnitude if put in tabular form to allow seeing historical trends
> easily.-

I agree! I invite and encourage you to collect the
postings I have made on the "ARS License Numbers",
put them in tabular form (say, monthly)
and put them on a website of your choice. They're
all in the Usenet archives, all posted by the same author (me).

73 de Jim, N2EY

240. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-11 19:58:11 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1173634400.537859.60080@t69g2000cwt.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5281

On Mar 11, 12:21 pm, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> > So if we remove the under-10
> > population from consideration, the median age of amateurs should be
> > somewhere around 50 years.
>
> Is there any real data on the median age of amateurs? Does a database
> exist that contains date-of-birth so that the actual statistic could be
> developed?

I don't know of any.

At various times, FCC has required date-of-birth information. But that policy has changed over time, so the license database contains DOB info on some, but not all, US hams, depending on when they were first licensed. So the FCC license database is not a reliable sample or source.

> My personal opinion, based on looking around at gatherings of amateur
> radio operators and on-the-air contacts, is that the median age is
> closer to 60, at least for US ops.

The problem with using such observations is that they are not reliable samples either. For example, the hams you see at gatherings are those who have the time, interest and resources to go to them. The younger amateur who is raising children, taking care of elders, busy with a career or education, etc., is much less likely to go to a hamfest or club meeting.

Similar concerns go with on-air observations. The younger ham with a car full of children is less likely to be operating mobile, for example. The ham with a 60-hour-per-week day job is not likely to be on the air at 2 PM on a weekday. Etc.

> I wish we had real data.
>
Me too!

The numbers I see published lack even the most basic detail. For example, I've seen claims that the "average age of US hams is xx years" - without any info about how the number was derived, whether it's the mean, median, or some other number, nor how it compares to the US population as a whole.

73 de Jim, N2EY

241. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-11 19:58:23 UTC
From: Cecil Moore <mycall@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <gbXIh.9254$jx3.1251@newssvr25.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 5282

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
> I agree! I invite and encourage you to collect the
> postings I have made on the "ARS License Numbers",
> put them in tabular form (say, monthly)
> and put them on a website of your choice. They're
> all in the Usenet archives, all posted by the same author (me).

May I suggest that they be put in an Excel spreadsheet
so that graphics may be generated?
--
73, Cecil http://www.w5dxp.com

242. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-11 21:26:44 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <55iu7mF24urpdU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 5283

"Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> wrote in message
news:SJKdnbjuLJi7t2nYnZ2dnUVZ_v6tnZ2d@comcast.com
> "Steve Bonine" <spb@pobox.com> wrote in message
> news:12v86q7gdcb5b58@news.supernews.com...

[snip]

> Keep in mind though that this also is not representative.
> It is the older operators and retirees that have the time
> and money to more actively participate in the hobby.

I know plenty of licensed people a lot younger than that who have plenty of money to go on air but have simply lost interest. The internet has a lot to do with it IMHO, this discussion for example would probably have taken place on a packet radio BBS 10 to 15 years ago. Indeed I ran a packet BBS for 11 years, when I started it in 1993 I had around 100 users, when it closed in 2004 there were just three.

They have just introduced a lifetime licence here in the UK, which means no more renewals will be necessary, although a licensee will have to confirm every 5 years if they still want to retain the callsign. This will still give a false impression of the number of people actually on the air, though.

> This is true in many activities. For example, the
> average age of the members in the community band to which
> I belong is also in about the 50 to 60 year old range.
>
> Dee, N8UZE

There are also those who still hold licences but are inactive. Of the 20 or so people that I still keep in touch with from my old radio club, only 3 or 4 apart from me are still actively on the air, even though they still hold callsigns, plus I'm the only one of those who still has 2m/70cm equipment in the car. Age wise, most of them are anywhere between 30 and 50, with one or two approaching 60 and one who is 62.

Ivor G6URP

243. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-11 23:16:55 UTC
From: "LenAnderson@ieee.org" <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1173647091.288959.288400@s48g2000cws.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5284

From: b...@cs.uofs.edu (Bill Gunshannon) on Sat, Mar 10 2007 9:35 am

>Alan WA4SCA <APBID...@UNITED.NET> writes:

>> I am all in favor of allowing people to pick an area where the
>> environment is congenial to them. However, when there may as well be
>> a sign on the city limits saying "Hams Not Welcome," even if that is
>> not the intend, it may be time to at least have a vigorous discussion
>> of the formulations of CC&Rs. As for me, I decided to stay were I am,
>> where they consider regulation the last resort, not the first.
>
>Having not been actively involved in ham radio for several years
>(actually, more than a decade) I am amazed to see the same arguments
>still going on. This one in particular.

"Humankind invented language to satisfy its need to complain."
(anonymous tagline) :-)

>Hams make up approximately 00.2% of the US population.

0.023 % actually (understanding the typo on decimal point).

>And, decreasing
>every year. Why would you be surprised that more and more places don't
>want structures they consider unsightly in their neighborhoods.

It's a matter of esthetics and all neighbors wanting the
place where they live to be nice. I've lived at this QTH
for close to 44 years and have seen it grow more attractive
when all in the neighborhood take pride in making their
homes and surrounding territory look good. No unsightly
trash lying around, no rusted car hulks, no huge satellite
dishes of the old kind, just nice upkeep on their property
and landscaping.

My only restriction is of the FAA kind since I am located
about a mile from the nearest corner of Bob Hope Airport
in Burbank, CA. However, trying to put up 200 feet of
tower (plus some) won't get me over the near hilltops for
low-angle HF shoots to the north to east. That didn't
matter when I bought this place back in '63.

>As has already been stated (and was stated when we argued this more
>than a decade ago) CC&R's are contractual matters and you are not
>going to see laws to overturn or limit them. If you move into an
>area that doesn't allow antennas it was your decision. The argument
>that you can't find a place that allows them is bogus. What you

>can't find is a place that is willing to operate by your terms.

The center area of Santa Barbara, CA, has (perhaps) the most draconian restrictions beginning with the style of architecture (!) in keeping with tradition of olde California living. For those that want to live in that style, let them enjoy it say I.

>If you want an antenna farm buy property where that is allowed.

Some 53 years ago I lived and worked IN a two-square-mile former airfield filled with wire antennas and their support poles. For half a year until the Army reassigned me to another place in Japan. That airfield also had dozens of Japanese farmers on it, living and working at their agricultural tasks. Those Japanese who contracted with their government to work that land resented the "intrusion" of a military who filled their observable sky with wire and hundreds of poles...not to mention disturbing their BC receivers with about 250 KW worth of assorted HF signals from that large transmitter station. The farmers were there first but their government let the USA put up that station. Needless to say the farmers were upset with it. While I enjoyed that assignment, I could understand their dislike of their new conditions.

>If you want to live in developed neighborhood, then either build one
>full of hams or accept that your neighbors don't share your idea
>of aesthetics.

That's the bottom line. It's a matter of priorities in life and getting along with all the others in a neighbor-hood. Radio amateurs are generally out-numbered by all the others who do NOT share hams' liking for "living IN a radio station."

I'm planning a new ham station installation but I'm also considering the esthetics from my neighbor's point of view. I LIKE my neighbors and I LOVE my wife who lives with me even though she does not share my electronics interest of work and play.

73,
Len, AF6AY

244. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-11 23:56:42 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <ha2dnYyNZ7zZ6WnYnZ2dnUVZ_q6vnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 5285

<LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote in message
news:1173647091.288959.288400@s48g2000cws.googlegroups.com...
> From: b...@cs.uofs.edu (Bill Gunshannon) on Sat, Mar 10 2007 9:35 am
>
>>Alan WA4SCA <APBID...@UNITED.NET> writes:

[snip]

>>Hams make up approximately 00.2% of the US population.
>
> 0.023 % actually (understanding the typo on decimal point).
>

Best to double check that math. It is indeed approximately 0.2% (not 0.02%)
or about 2 hams per thousand people.

Dee, N8UZE

245. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-12 01:54:46 UTC
From: "LenAnderson@ieee.org" <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1173656101.608518.77420@h3g2000cwc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5286

On Mar 11, 3:56 pm, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:
> <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote in message
>
> news:1173647091.288959.288400@s48g2000cws.googlegroups.com...
>
> > From: b...@cs.uofs.edu (Bill Gunshannon) on Sat, Mar 10 2007 9:35 am
>
> >>Alan WA4SCA <APBID...@UNITED.NET> writes:
>
> [snip]
>
> >>Hams make up approximately 00.2% of the US population.
>
> > 0.023 % actually (understanding the typo on decimal point).
>
> Best to double check that math. It is indeed approximately 0.2% (not 0.02%)
> or about 2 hams per thousand people.

```
Yes. :-) (710K / 300M) = 2.3^(10-3) = 0.23%

88, AF6AY
```

246. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-12 02:10:58 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1173658130.127289.62010@q40g2000cwq.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5287

On Mar 11, 2:58?pm, Cecil Moore <myc...@hotmail.com> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> > I agree! I invite and encourage you to collect the
> > postings I have made on the "ARS License Numbers",
> > put them in tabular form (say, monthly)
> > and put them on a website of your choice. They're
> > all in the Usenet archives, all posted by the same author (me).
>
> May I suggest that they be put in an Excel spreadsheet
> so that graphics may be generated?

Great idea, Cecil! Be my guest.

If my research is correct, the first "ARS License Numbers" posting I made was back in September 2001, comparing the numbers of September 22 2001 to those of May 14, 2000.

73 es TNX de Jim, N2EY

247. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-12 02:57:50 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1173660170.460036.127700@q40g2000cwq.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5288

On Mar 10, 12:35 pm, "Howard Lester" <heyles...@dakotacom.net> wrote:
> <N...@AOL.COM> wrote
>
> > I think there *is* a compelling public interest in the anti-antenna
> > regulations contained in many CC&Rs.
>
> > First off, those regulations have become "boilerplate"
> > in many if not most new construction since the 1970s.
> > The percentage of "no antenna" homes keeps growing
> > with time.
>
> However, a number of years ago the FCC prevented HOA's from restricting the
> use of outdoor TV antennas and 3' satellite dishes unless the home is in a
> "historic district" or is on a list of "historic homes." The only
> restriction I know of otherwise is, as I recall, that the HOA may restricted
> the antenna's height to no more than 12 feet above the roof line.

FCC only did that because the Supreme Court told them to.

IANAL, but here's what I learned:

What happened was the satellite TV folks claimed that no-antenna CC&Rs
were unfair restraint of interstate
commerce. IOW, they effectively created a cable-TV
monopoly in many areas, because the satellite TV
pizza-dish antennas won't work reliably unless they
can 'see' the satellite.

The satellite TV folks fought it all the way to the Supreme
Court, and won. But only for the small dishes.

"Regular" TV broadcast reception was also included, if the TV antenna
did not exceed a certain size and wasn't more
than a certain height above ground. But the antenna must be
used *only* for TV reception - not ham radio, Wi-Fi, FM radio, SW
radio, public service, etc.

For more details, search for the "OTARD" ruling ("Off The
Air Reception Decision", IIRC.)

It doesn't matter what the HOA rules, deed restrictions,
covenants, etc., say, or that people knowingly bought into
places with "no antennas" clauses. Unless they're in a
certified historic district, they have the right to put up
certain antennas for TV reception. The Feds preempted
those contracts and rules.

>
> Yes, I know some HOA's prevent even the use of a 2 meter "J pole" taped to
> the inside of the owner's window....
>

In reading this discussion, it seems there's a major point
being missed: reasonable accomodation.

The issue isn't just about towers and big beams. It's about
unreasonable prohibition of even simple wire and vertical
antennas that are almost invisible.

The simple solution of "don't buy a restricted property"
works well in some places and not in others. It all depends
on what houses are for sale in an area when *you* need to
move. In some areas, there's no shortage of affordable
unrestricted homes for sale, but in others, they are
essentially nonexistent.

73 de Jim, N2EY

248. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-12 04:35:28 UTC
From: Cecil Moore <mycall@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <JI2Jh.2706$JZ3.2654@newssvr13.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 5289

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
> But the antenna must be
> used *only* for TV reception - not ham radio, Wi-Fi, FM radio, SW
> radio, public service, etc.

One more example of an irrational federal
government completely out of control. What
ever happened to "We The People"?
--
73, Cecil http://www.w5dxp.com

249. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-12 05:53:52 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <vjg9v29p55veleqkgtqqjit9oq6sj7unt8@4ax.com>
Source record: 5290

On Sat, 10 Mar 2007 10:11:53 CST, Alan WA4SCA <APBIDDLE@UNITED.NET>
wrote:

>Some time back, I did some looking around for an Arizona retirement
>home.

You would be interested to hear that the proposed Arizona statute
mirroring PRB-1 is drafted to apply to homeowner restrictions enacted
AFTER the statute goes into effect but not retroactively.

At least it's a start.

73 de K2ASP -- Phil Kane
ARRL Volunteer Counsel

250. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-12 05:54:11 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <rch9v2pqe9ejl366lcoaco4qddis6k88cl@4ax.com>
Source record: 5291

On Sat, 10 Mar 2007 11:35:55 CST, bill@cs.uofs.edu (Bill Gunshannon) wrote:

> What you
>can't find is a place that is willing to operate by your terms.
>If you want an antenna farm buy property where that is allowed. If
>you want to live in developed neighborhood, then either build one
>full of hams or accept that your neighbors don't share your idea
>of aesthetics.

The history behind antenna restrictions, BTW, have nothing to do with ham radio or aesthetics. They were instituted at the urging (read: financial support) of cable TV companies in the mid 60s to prevent outdoor TV antennas from being erected, forcing the buyer to take cable service at a time when all one could get on the cable were the local TV stations anyhow. Like a bad fungus, it kept on attaching itself to every new development filing - "monkey see, monkey do".

With all due respect, Bill, there have been several surveys in the past years that new or modern developments all have the same "boilerplate" restrictions. You are certainly entitled to the opinion which you have presented above, but it's not in the best interests of amateur radio as an integral part of our community. If it takes the government to force reasonable accommodation, so be it. Somehow it has to be done. That's my opinion.

A large part of my legal practice is concerned with fighting unreasonable zoning restrictions on radio facilities, including amateur radio stations, whether instituted by government or by individuals.

73 de K2ASP -- Phil Kane
--
Philip M. Kane P E / Esq.
VP - Regulatory Counsel & Engineering Manager
CSI Telecommunication Consulting Engineers
San Francisco, CA - Beaverton, OR

251. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-12 05:54:30 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <8di9v2l2765920ebjah9r3ntcmdc9jee9s@4ax.com>
Source record: 5142

On Sun, 11 Mar 2007 20:57:50 CST, N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:

>The simple solution of "don't buy a restricted property"
>works well in some places and not in others. It all depends
>on what houses are for sale in an area when *you* need to
>move. In some areas, there's no shortage of affordable
>unrestricted homes for sale, but in others, they are
>essentially nonexistent.

As you know, Jim, we passed up three homes which were better and nicer
than the one we got because of restrictive covenants or in one case a
"thick" local zoning authority which was known to not understand what
"reasonable accommodation" is all about.

I'm assisting in a case this coming week on just that issue.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
ARRL Volunteer Counsel

email: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

252. Re: PRB-1 and CCNR's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-12 05:55:03 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <nvi9v2d754e3jfb8i2lbf326d3cfgq7ml8@4ax.com>
Source record: 5143

On Fri, 9 Mar 2007 23:15:04 CST, "KC4UAI" <kc4uai@gmail.com> wrote:

>
>I was just reading on the ARRL's website where the FCC has once again
>declined to include CCNR's (Deed restrictions) in it's "must be
>accommodating to Ham Radio" rules. I was wondering if anybody knew
>much about the organization that petitioned the FCC?

The ARRL, among others.

>I was also wondering if somebody has re-introduced the bill into the
>new congress that would force the FCC to include CCNRs in it's PRB-1
>pre-emption rules? I'm just guessing but it seems that the previous
>bill that was introduced, got shuttled to committee and died there.

I haven't heard that it was reintroduced, but I hope that it is
shortly.

>This is important to me because I live in a deed restricted community
>with a very picky HOA.

It's important to all hams nationwide, whether they know/admitted it
or not.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
ARRL Volunteer Counsel

email: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

253. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-12 05:55:15 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <67j9v29cg6m652p2n9acnc3gmnvm9davqf@4ax.com>
Source record: 5144

On Sat, 10 Mar 2007 11:35:04 CST, "Howard Lester"
<heylester@dakotacom.net> wrote:

>However, a number of years ago the FCC prevented HOA's from restricting the
>use of outdoor TV antennas and 3' satellite dishes unless the home is in a
>"historic district" or is on a list of "historic homes." The only
>restriction I know of otherwise is, as I recall, that the HOA may restricted
>the antenna's height to no more than 12 feet above the roof line.

The history behind that is that The Congress in passing the
Telecommunications Reform Act of 1996 specifically directed the FCC to
do that. This of course was at the urging of the satellite TV
companies. Money talks, and big money talks loudly.

The FCC specifically said in reply to a petition by the ARRL recently
that until and unless The Congress directs otherwise, they will not
exercise the preemption on CC&Rs and HOA regulations.

(I do this stuff for a living.....)
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
ARRL Volunteer Counsel

email: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

254. Re: PRB-1 and CCNR's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-12 05:55:28 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <gbj9v25kk9dkiqvfni0clhiifcbbcnar08@4ax.com>
Source record: 5145

On Sat, 10 Mar 2007 04:38:34 CST, "Bill Horne, W1AC"
<billhorne73@comcast.not> wrote:

>I think homeowners are justified in seeking relief from _government_
>regulation of antennas, since such rules are not the sort of thing local
>governments do well. Deed restrictions, however, are something I think
>the government should stay out of unless there's a _very_ compelling
>public interest.

But there is a compelling public interest, Bill, there certainly is.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
ARRL Volunteer Counsel

email: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

255. Re: PRB-1 and CCNR's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-12 06:01:33 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <sdj9v2teatqspr4jm7pm8oh6n4no80jvsp@4ax.com>
Source record: 5146

On Sat, 10 Mar 2007 10:12:14 CST, Cecil Moore <mycall@hotmail.com>
wrote:

>Did you previously agree to the restrictions?
>If so, it is likely a legally enforceable contract
>between you and the other party.

Cecil, look up the term "contract of adhesion" in a legal text on
contracts. It is a "take it or leave it" situation where there is no
real bargaining.

In California, where I practice state law, a deed restriction or HOA
regulation can be declared unenforceable if it is found to be
unreasonable but the burden of proof of unreasonableness is on the
homeowner seeking relief.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
ARRL Volunteer Counsel

email: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

256. Re: PRB-1 and CCNR's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-12 12:44:44 UTC
From: "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not>
Message-ID: <et2o94$7tq$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 5147

Phil Kane wrote:
> On Sat, 10 Mar 2007 04:38:34 CST, "Bill Horne, W1AC"
> <billhorne73@comcast.not> wrote:
>
>> I think homeowners are justified in seeking relief from _government_
>> regulation of antennas, since such rules are not the sort of thing local
>> governments do well. Deed restrictions, however, are something I think
>> the government should stay out of unless there's a _very_ compelling
>> public interest.
>
> But there is a compelling public interest, Bill, there certainly is.
> --
>

Phil,

Not being a lawyer, I won't attempt to argue the law with you ;-).

I think that "public interest" is, by its nature, subject to debate.
It's also something that is debated only when the "public" doesn't know
what's good for it: after all, if everybody agreed that there should be
hams and that they should have antennas, there would be no problem. That
means that decisions about public interest _always_ involve political
risk, and politicians are the most risk-averse group on the planet.

I have said before, and will repeat here: there used to be a de facto
agreement between hams and the military. We were a trained pool of
operators who could be drafted and placed in service quickly during
wars: that's why the NTS is a mirror of the military network model.
Since the military wanted hams to be (pardon the pun) up to speed, it
defended our frequency assignments in an era when there was fierce
competition for HF from short-wave broadcasting, point-to-point
services, and even other government agencies.

Times have changed: military electronics are too complicated and secret
for civilian training to be meaningful, and code is pass, so hams
aren't high on the pentagon's list-of-friends right now. Ergo, no free
ride at the allocation conferences or inter-agency sessions, and no
"public interest" in keeping hams on the air.

In addition to the military connection, we were also the beneficiary of
the government's push to increase science education in the wake of the
Sputnik panic and ensuing Apollo programs during the cold war. Movies
and periodicals showed hams as young wizards, with attendant benefits:
our neighbors, by and large, admired us and looked the other way when we
wanted a beam.

However, that is also in the past. International phone calls are now routine, cell phones have removed any sense of wonder from mobile radio, the Internet has given curious children access to different points of view and cultures from all over the world. Small wonder, then, that aging baby-boomers, eager for their own quarter-acre of paradise, have endorsed deed restrictions and other ways to prevent their neighbors from darkening their view of the skyline.

So, we come to the question of what the public "needs". We hams are no longer valuable just for our everyday skills, such as Morse, and we're not nearly good enough at providing other public services that might justify overriding local ordinances. Unless Uncle Sam can be convinced that Amateur Radio is once again relevant and worth keeping, I don't see the government stepping in where contracts are involved: there's too much political risk and no pressing need for intervention.

YMMV.

Bill

--
73,

Bill W1AC

(Remove "73" and change top level domain for direct replies)

257. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-12 12:45:06 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1173695723.463849.93510@64g2000cwx.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5148

On Mar 12, 12:54?am, Phil Kane <Phil.K...@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:
> On Sun, 11 Mar 2007 20:57:50 CST, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> >The simple solution of "don't buy a restricted property"
> >works well in some places and not in others. It all depends
> >on what houses are for sale in an area when *you* need to
> >move. In some areas, there's no shortage of affordable
> >unrestricted homes for sale, but in others, they are
> >essentially nonexistent.
>
> As you know, Jim, we passed up three homes which were better and nicer
> than the one we got because of restrictive covenants or in one case a
> "thick" local zoning authority which was known to not understand what
> "reasonable accommodation" is all about.

Hello Phil,

Yes, I remember that.

Here's another example:

I moved to this house in October of 1999. It has no anti-antenna restrictions at all. However, it *does* have a page and a half of fine print deed restrictions about what can and cannot be done with the property. The house was built in 1950, too.

Those deed restrictions were unknown to the seller and the real estate agents. My real estate attorney and I found them by reading the deed/title (can't remember which) and finding a reference in there to "all other restrictions filed...." That led us to the County Courthouse, where the restrictions had been filed for the whole development a half-century earlier. If I hadn't pushed the issue, I never would have known about the restrictions.

Some might say that it's just due diligence to look up everything about a property before buying. That's true, but often it's not practical. When the RE market was hot here, houses were often under contract the day they went on the market. Even now, with higher interest rates, good homes don't stay on the market more than a few days.

As you know, disclosure laws vary from state to state. Who is going to walk away from a sale at the last minute because they were informed of restrictions at the closing?

To me, the most ominous facet of deed restrictions and
covenants is that they are designed to be unchangeable
forever. When it comes to laws, zoning codes and
ordinances can be changed, variances can be allowed, etc., but deed
restrictions and covenants do not fall under
their jurisdiction. As properties have boilerplate restrictions
added, the number of ham-friendly homes drops.
>
> I'm assisting in a case this coming week on just that issue.
> --
Excellent! Good Luck!

73 de Jim, N2EY

258. Re: PRB-1 and CCNR's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-12 17:17:55 UTC
From: Alan WA4SCA <APBIDDLE@UNITED.NET>
Message-ID: <ebpav256jrjhe9vj7367meooj2843gape5@4ax.com>
Source record: 5149

Phil,

And California is one of the lucky states where there is at least the potential for relief from unreasonable CC&Rs. Not many do, as you know.

It also seems somewhat atypical of California. Where I live, there has been an increasing stream of people moving to escape, their word, California nuttiness. Of course, they are promptly surprised to find out that they are expected to get along with their neighbors without endless rules, regulations, CC&Rs, etc. Quite a culture shock, but after a couple of years they fit right in.

--
Alan
WA4SCA

259. Re: PRB-1 and CCNR's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-12 17:18:20 UTC
From: Cecil Moore <mycall@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <2_dJh.2789$Qw.322@newssvr29.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 5150

Phil Kane wrote:
> Cecil, look up the term "contract of adhesion" in a legal text on
> contracts. It is a "take it or leave it" situation where there is no
> real bargaining.

When I bought my house in CA, I amended the antenna restriction portion of the contract. When the neighbors objected to my antennas, I dragged out the contract and showed them the marked out section initialed by me, the seller, and the planning commission. It probably would not have stood up in court but it never got that far. I was sorta like that ham in Lubbock, TX. Did you see that video?
--
73, Cecil http://www.w5dxp.com

260. Re: PRB-1 and CCNR's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-12 18:00:36 UTC
From: Mike Andrews <mikea@mikea.ath.cx>
Message-ID: <et3sgemuh1@puck.litech.org>
Source record: 5151

On Mon, 12 Mar 2007 11:18:20 CST, Cecil Moore <mycall@hotmail.com> wrote in
<2_dJh.2789$Qw.322@newssvr29.news.prodigy.net>:

> Phil Kane wrote:
>> Cecil, look up the term "contract of adhesion" in a legal text on
>> contracts. It is a "take it or leave it" situation where there is no
>> real bargaining.

> When I bought my house in CA, I amended the antenna
> restriction portion of the contract. When the
> neighbors objected to my antennas, I dragged out the
> contract and showed them the marked out section
> initialed by me, the seller, and the planning
> commission. It probably would not have stood up in
> court but it never got that far. I was sorta like
> that ham in Lubbock, TX. Did you see that video?

No, actually. I haven't, and I suspect a lot of the other denizens of
this fine group haven't and would like to. URL?

--
Death is just Mother Nature's way of telling you
to Slow Down.

261. Public service and ham radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-12 20:30:12 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <12vb5c0m9duatb4@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 5152

Reading the recent thread on antenna restrictions has me musing about public-service aspects of ham radio. This has always been an important aspect of the hobby for me; somehow I never got hooked on things like chasing DX, collecting wallpaper, or winning contests.

Bill makes good points about how ham radio's contribution to military readiness and science education has changed over the past decade or so. I'm beginning to wonder if, in another decade or so, ham radio will be in the same public-service category as stamp collecting. (Nothing against stamp collecting, but as far as I know the hobby isn't known for its public-service aspects.)

When I examine the potential for public service from the hobby, I separate them into the two areas of disaster and non-disaster.

Non-disaster includes providing communications for local events like parades. Time was that ham radio operators were really key in this regard, then along came cell phones. Ham radio still provides a pool of people who can pitch in and help, but it's not the only pool now. I'm sure there are shining examples of ham groups that continue to provide stellar service to this kind of event, but my personal experience suggests that the hobby is becoming less and less involved with helping out in non-emergency situations.

Then there's the disaster aspect, the "when all else fails, ham radio works" event. I was a part of the Katrina effort; I saw ham radio working when the communications infrastructure had failed. But I saw other things, too. I saw vanishingly little health-and-welfare traffic on NTS. I see organizations like the Red Cross pumping lots of money into satellite-based communications systems that can be quickly deployed for the next Katrina-like event.

How can we maximize the potential for ham radio to contribute to public service in the future?

One thing that I think we need to realize is that hams are a pool of people who can help, but we no longer have a monopoly on communications, especially for non-disaster events. We need to pitch in and get the job done, not fixate on providing communications. If the organizer needs someone to direct traffic, and you refuse to do that because your job is communications, the organizer is going to find someone with a cell phone who is willing to direct traffic and also can handle communications.

Hams need to work more effectively with non-hams. For example, if FRS/GRS radios make sense, they should be a part of the plan. Local events can provide good recruiting opportunities to get people

interested in the hobby.

ARRL needs to step up to the plate and actually _do something_ about a national plan for ham radio in a large-scale disaster. It has been 18 months since Katrina demonstrated the need for such planning, and while there is progress, it is slow. ARES organization is great in some areas and nonexistent in others, so the training level of people who show up on the scene varies from excellent to zero.

I feel that ARRL has been unnecessarily antagonistic to the Red Cross. The first news release that came out regarding background checks was downright derogatory, although each one since has been progressively less confrontational. While I applaud ARRL's attempts to protect the interests of their members, some of the language has been unnecessarily harsh. In a large national disaster, Red Cross is running the show in most of the areas where hams can contribute, and it's to everyones' benefit to improve the relationship between the two organizations. It strikes me as ironic that the hobby is essentially communications, yet we continue to demonstrate that communications is not our strong point when it comes to inter-organization politics.

I hope we're able to maintain a public-service aspect to the amateur radio hobby. Without it, little details like frequency allocations and the ability to erect antennas will suffer.

73, Steve KB9X

262. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-13 00:36:08 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <s4kbv2l53l0o0ka6obng7co8up7g2khgjb@4ax.com>
Source record: 5153

On Sun, 11 Mar 2007 22:35:28 CST, Cecil Moore <mycall@hotmail.com>
wrote:

>> But the antenna must be
>> used *only* for TV reception - not ham radio, Wi-Fi, FM radio, SW
>> radio, public service, etc.
>
>One more example of an irrational federal
>government completely out of control. What
>ever happened to "We The People"?

That was the deal worked out with the satellite TV folks, who could
care less about the other services. You may consider it "out of
control". I consider that they finally took at least one baby step
towards the right goal.

Money talks. Big Money talks loudly.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

263. Re: PRB-1 and CCNR's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-13 00:41:16 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <f3lbv2llrfab7gk3t781nael8b2rt6jq7a@4ax.com>
Source record: 5154

On Mon, 12 Mar 2007 06:44:44 CST, "Bill Horne, W1AC"
<billhorne73@comcast.not> wrote:

> Unless Uncle Sam can be convinced
>that Amateur Radio is once again relevant and worth keeping, I don't see
>the government stepping in where contracts are involved: there's too
>much political risk and no pressing need for intervention.

You are aware, aren't you, that Amateur Radio has been integrated into
Homeland Security as a necessary civilian resource. Here. we are the
backup for the county's and cities' public safety and hospital
communications and we are used for real-fife situations regularly.

International treaties and Congressional legislation specifically
provide valuable spectrum resources for Amateur Radio on an exclusive
basis. That sounds like "relevant", "public interest", and "worth
keeping" to me.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

264. Re: Public service and ham radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-13 00:59:55 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <jqlbv21ujqp5jptoiblajmn24j7hn6hkg2@4ax.com>
Source record: 5155

On Mon, 12 Mar 2007 14:30:12 CST, Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> wrote:

> We need to pitch in and get the job
>done, not fixate on providing communications. If the organizer needs
>someone to direct traffic, and you refuse to do that because your job is
>communications, the organizer is going to find someone with a cell phone
>who is willing to direct traffic and also can handle communications.

Our folks (Washington County, Oregon ARES/RACES/HEARTNET) are capable
of multi=tasking, but our served agencies and the Incident Commanders
(remember the NIMS ?) are tasked with using the specialists for
specialist tasks. For example, of we need to move the EOC's comm
console (which is on wheels) from the EOC to a relocation site, we get
movers from the Labor Pool. That's THEIR job. If there aren't enough
laborers to do it, that's the IC's problem to delegate someone to get
them per the Plan.

>Hams need to work more effectively with non-hams. For example, if
>FRS/GRS radios make sense, they should be a part of the plan. Local
>events can provide good recruiting opportunities to get people
>interested in the hobby.

Our county operations are totally integrated with the various cities'
CERT members who use FRS/GMRS as their primary comm system. As a
result, we've recruited quite a number of CERT people as new hams, and
they make GOOD hams, (with or without code!).
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

265. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-13 01:00:29 UTC
From: Patty.Winter@b.mail.sonic.net
Message-ID: <45f5d9da$0$14064$742ec2ed@news.sonic.net>
Source record: 5156

In article <1173660170.460036.127700@q40g2000cwq.googlegroups.com>,
<N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote:
>
>"Regular" TV broadcast reception was also included, if the TV antenna
>did not exceed a certain size and wasn't more
>than a certain height above ground. But the antenna must be
>used *only* for TV reception - not ham radio, Wi-Fi, FM radio, SW
>radio, public service, etc.

Actually, it isn't just for TV reception:

http://www.fcc.gov/mb/facts/otard.html

"Fixed wireless signals" are any commercial non-broadcast communications
signals transmitted via wireless technology to and/or from a fixed
customer location. Examples include wireless signals used to provide
telephone service or high-speed Internet access to a fixed location.

I have friends who have HOA restrictions but had no problem putting
up antennas for Sprintlink (wireless Internet access) because of the
OTARD rules.

Patty N6BIS

266. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-13 02:10:57 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1173744634.850740.201410@p10g2000cwp.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5157

On Mar 12, 8:00 pm, Patty.Win...@b.mail.sonic.net
(pat...@wintertime.com) wrote:
> In article <1173660170.460036.127...@q40g2000cwq.googlegroups.com>,
>
> <N...@AOL.COM> wrote:
>
> >"Regular" TV broadcast reception was also included, if the TV antenna
> >did not exceed a certain size and wasn't more
> >than a certain height above ground. But the antenna must be
> >used *only* for TV reception - not ham radio, Wi-Fi, FM radio, SW
> >radio, public service, etc.

Not exactly - see below. My mistake!
>
> Actually, it isn't just for TV reception:
>
> http://www.fcc.gov/mb/facts/otard.html
>
> --------
>
> "Fixed wireless signals" are any commercial non-broadcast communications
> signals transmitted via wireless technology to and/or from a fixed
> customer location. Examples include wireless signals used to provide
> telephone service or high-speed Internet access to a fixed location.
>

Thanks for the info!

Unfortunately, the same link says that amateur radio is specifically
not included in the preemption.
> ----------
>
> I have friends who have HOA restrictions but had no problem putting
> up antennas for Sprintlink (wireless Internet access) because of the
> OTARD rules.
>
That's a step in the right direction, but we hams are still outside
that
fence looking in.

And the preemption is specific about size and height of
antenna. Even if ham radio were included, a simple wire
antenna like the G5RV would not be covered.

Thanks again for the info.

73 de Jim, N2EY

267. HF Portable

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-13 04:26:29 UTC
From: Newby <nobody@nowhere.net>
Message-ID: <12vbubd2g6fuf5a@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 5158

Anybody here using the Kenwood TS-480SAT or the Yaesu FT-897D? I am thinking about buying another radio and trying to decide on which of these to buy.

Thanks and 73.

268. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-13 05:15:25 UTC
From: Patty.Winter@a.mail.sonic.net
Message-ID: <45f61682$0$14141$742ec2ed@news.sonic.net>
Source record: 5159

In article <1173744634.850740.201410@p10g2000cwp.googlegroups.com>,
<N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote:
>On Mar 12, 8:00 pm, Patty.Win...@b.mail.sonic.net
>(pat...@wintertime.com) wrote:
>>
>> "Fixed wireless signals" are any commercial non-broadcast communications
>> signals transmitted via wireless technology to and/or from a fixed
>> customer location. Examples include wireless signals used to provide
>> telephone service or high-speed Internet access to a fixed location.
>
>Thanks for the info!
>
>Unfortunately, the same link says that amateur radio is specifically
>*not* included in the preemption.

That's correct. I was just addressing the "TV only" statement. It
would be great if there were similar rules about amateur radio antennas.

Patty

269. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-13 06:11:36 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <bf6cv2dchnmbo4n9brgltjn8v6akq8oq06@4ax.com>
Source record: 5160

On Mon, 12 Mar 2007 23:15:25 CST, Patty.Winter@a.mail.sonic.net
(patty1@wintertime.com) wrote:

>That's correct. I was just addressing the "TV only" statement. It
>would be great if there were similar rules about amateur radio antennas.

`"Money talks. Big money talks loudly"
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

270. Re: HF Portable

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-13 16:03:05 UTC
From: Mike Andrews <mikea@mikea.ath.cx>
Message-ID: <et6aci$3me$1@puck.litech.org>
Source record: 5161

On Mon, 12 Mar 2007 22:26:29 CST, Newby <nobody@nowhere.net> wrote in
<12vbubd2g6fuf5a@corp.supernews.com>:
> Anybody here using the Kenwood TS-480SAT or the Yaesu FT-897D? I am
> thinking about buying another radio and trying to decide on which of these
> to buy.

I run an FT-897D in the shack, and an FT-857D mobile. They're pretty much the same radio in two different packages, and both are good rigs IMHO. They're menu-driven, rather than having one button or knob or switch per function on the front panel; they don't have enough front-panel real estate to accommodate all the necessary controls, and so I have to dive into menus occasionally to do things like move the edges of the DSP high- and low-pass filters and set the output power level.

I have an FT-857 (no "D") as a second shack rig; it doesn't have 60 meter phone, which is no loss to me, but does have DSP: I bought the processor and installed it. It's a nice rig, too.

With the MH-59A8J DTMF remote hand mic., which fits both the FT-897D and FT-857D, you have control of everything except squelch levels on the mic; I find this extremely useful for mobile operations, and have one on the shack rig as well, so that I can run the rig from the bed when I'm feeling lazy.

There probably are more sensitive receivers, and quieter receivers, and receivers with more bells and whistles. I get good-enough DX with the ones I have: Canary Islands on USB phone yesterday while driving home; France, Canary Islands, and other pretty nice DX from the shack in the last month. See <http://mikea.ath.cx/hamlog> for a more complete list.

--
Mike Andrews, W5EGO
mikea@mikea.ath.cx
Tired old sysadmin

271. Re: HF Portable

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-13 16:03:29 UTC
From: Edwin Johnson <edwinljohnson@bellsouth.net>
Message-ID: <44yJh.13186$Dw2.3743@bignews4.bellsouth.net>
Source record: 5162

On 2007-03-13, Newby <nobody@nowhere.net> wrote:
> Anybody here using the Kenwood TS-480SAT or the Yaesu FT-897D? I am
> thinking about buying another radio and trying to decide on which of these
> to buy.

While I've had no experience with the TS-480SAT, I do have a Yaesu FT-857. This is the same radio (circuitry) as the FT-897, but in different packaging (face and provision for batteries). It is a little smaller than the FT-897 and may be something to consider, although no provision for internal batteries.

I use my FT-857 for mobile with it's removable, remote head for the car and put the radio in one piece for portable use. I use it for tent camping and also while at fly-ins with my small airplane, both with a small battery I carry. For antenna I built a portable vertical which covers from 80 through 10m, but if trees are handy I use a small tuner and a random wire.

The radio performs very well, power output can easily be adjusted for your battery usage requirements, has a wonderful receiver, and works equally well with ssb or cw. I can heartily recommend this radio.

If I recall (only from advertisements) the TS-480SAT has a remote head but cannot be put together, although this could certainly be managed somehow, I would think. That might be a factor for you. Also, if weight is a consideration, for such as backpacking, that may become a factor in your choice. Make sure you can vary the power output adequately if you need to do so for battery life. Depending on your antenna situation, the built-in antenna tuner in the 480 might be handy, although there are several small, portable type tuners available.

The above are just some thoughts that come to mind in operating portable and sure you should have more input on this from others.

73 ...Edwin, KD5ZLB
--
_____
"Once you have flown, you will walk the earth with your eyes
turned skyward, for there you have been, there you long to
return."-da Vinci http://bellsouthpwp2.net/e/d/edwinljohnson

272. Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-13 17:01:34 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <et6e82mfa1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 5163

What is the process of modifying the gentlemen's agreements?
Specifically, I would like to explore the idea of adding a new PSK31
segment or two.

Presently, the "suggested frequencies" take up about a ssb voice slice
of bandwidth per band. And that slice is getting pretty busy. esp on 20
meters.

While the short and simple answer is just move to a new frequency, in
practical terms it is nice for low power modes like PSK 31 to have a
place to gather.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

273. Re: Public service and ham radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-13 22:27:16 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <et70dj$370$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 5164

Steve Bonine wrote:

> Non-disaster includes providing communications for local events like
> parades. Time was that ham radio operators were really key in this
> regard, then along came cell phones. Ham radio still provides a pool of
> people who can pitch in and help, but it's not the only pool now. I'm
> sure there are shining examples of ham groups that continue to provide
> stellar service to this kind of event, but my personal experience
> suggests that the hobby is becoming less and less involved with helping
> out in non-emergency situations.

Hi Steve. Your's was a thoughtful post. I would like to bring in some observations of my own on the topic of Emergency communications and public service.

We still do some help with events. We even had a group come back to us after trying to go with cell phones. Turns out that at a few critical times, the critical person was not in range of a tower. And the biggest problem turned out to be getting a message to everyone at once. One call on the repeater can do what ten cell phone calls could do, plus repeats for those out of range.

> Then there's the disaster aspect, the "when all else fails, ham radio
> works" event. I was a part of the Katrina effort; I saw ham radio
> working when the communications infrastructure had failed. But I saw
> other things, too. I saw vanishingly little health-and-welfare traffic
> on NTS. I see organizations like the Red Cross pumping lots of money
> into satellite-based communications systems that can be quickly deployed
> for the next Katrina-like event.

Whatever is come up with, it will probably be another infrastructure laden system that will fail with the first major disaster. And if it isn't, then it should be a welcome addition. My money is on heavy infrastructure. (for what will be built, not how it will work)

> How can we maximize the potential for ham radio to contribute to public
> service in the future?

Maximizing might be a tall order. Not all Hams are interested in public service. I think that PS will always be a subset, just like DX'ing or Building equipment.

I am interested in Public service, but I have a number of concerns.

> One thing that I think we need to realize is that hams are a pool of
> people who can help, but we no longer have a monopoly on communications,
> especially for non-disaster events. We need to pitch in and get the job

> done, not fixate on providing communications. If the organizer needs
> someone to direct traffic, and you refuse to do that because your job is
> communications, the organizer is going to find someone with a cell phone
> who is willing to direct traffic and also can handle communications.

That is a double edged sword though. I've read and listened to a lot of EC Hams telling me just that. That if I'm needed to mop the floors or unload trucks at HQ, then that's what I have to do.

While I'm always happy to do a little extra, I can say with certainty that If I volunteer for comms, and then spend most of my time with these other tasks, I doubt that I'll take off personal time in the future to do that.

I guess the metric would be that I expect to be treated in as professional manner as everyone else on the job.

> It has been 18
> months since Katrina demonstrated the need for such planning, and while
> there is progress, it is slow.

All things considered, Amateur radio is probably a fair way down on the list of things that need fixed.

> I feel that ARRL has been unnecessarily antagonistic to the Red Cross.

If background checks are required, it is a fact that we will lose people. I was involved with a youth organization that required background checks. A lot of people simply won't get involved. Either they have a philosophical reason, or have some kind of minor offense in the past. Even though we assure them we aren't looking for people who may have been throwing eggs at the principles house in high school- we're looking for people who shouldn't be around children - most say something like "I won't take that chance, and the possible embarrassment and damage to my reputation is not worth it". And mistakes do happen.

> I hope we're able to maintain a public-service aspect to the amateur
> radio hobby. Without it, little details like frequency allocations and
> the ability to erect antennas will suffer.

If I were to make some suggestions for the Emergency Comm Hams, this might be it:

1. We need to ease up. Emergency comm Hams have a lot of statements that start out with "Amateur radio must....., or Amateur Radio has to..... All referring to some sort of shortcoming of Amateur Radio.

2. What am I doing here? I've seen a lot of articles telling us we have to be ready to do whatever we're assigned to do. While this may in fact be true, the approach can be improved.

An example of a bad approach, very similar to what I have read in an article, and in the general tone of a lot of ARS emergency

communications criticism:

"Hams have to get rid of the idea that they are just there to operate radios. They may need to unload trucks, mop floors, or bring the EC employees coffee".

Perhaps this is better:

"Operations during disasters can be chaotic at times, and we may find ourselves helping in many different ways. Communications, errands, and sometimes even helping to keep the EC in order may be part of our job."

I even read an article about switching over to new forms that are consistent with other Emergency ops. Great idea, but they spent too much time attacking the old forms, when all they had to say was that it would improve consistency.

3. What do Amateurs have to tell the "pros"?

4. These people are volunteers. I've run organizations of volunteers, and you can't run them like you can paid staff. I can order a paid person to change their ways or else, and almost always they will. Give a volunteer that same order, and they will probably find a better way to spend their time.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

274. Re: Public service and ham radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-13 22:27:57 UTC
From: k8mn@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1173757401.978083.237920@30g2000cwc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5165

On Mar 12, 8:30 pm, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
> Reading the recent thread on antenna restrictions has me musing about
> public-service aspects of ham radio. This has always been an important
> aspect of the hobby for me; somehow I never got hooked on things like
> chasing DX, collecting wallpaper, or winning contests.

That's the kind of thing which makes amateur great. There's room for
those with any number of interests within it. Some enjoying
experimenting with circuitry.
Some enjoy digital mode ragchewing.

> When I examine the potential for public service from the hobby, I
> separate them into the two areas of disaster and non-disaster.
>
> Non-disaster includes providing communications for local events like
> parades. Time was that ham radio operators were really key in this
> regard, then along came cell phones.

I don't know when you came into amateur radio, Steve, but when I
entered it, there was very little in the way of radio amateurs
providing communications for a parade. I've never thought it a valid
use for ham radio. Our local ARES group has participated in things
like Independence Day parades and Christmas parades. The ARES group
in the county to the north of us provides communications for a number
of running marathons. I do not participate in these activities.

>Ham radio still provides a pool of
> people who can pitch in and help, but it's not the only pool now. I'm
> sure there are shining examples of ham groups that continue to provide
> stellar service to this kind of event, but my personal experience
> suggests that the hobby is becoming less and less involved with helping
> out in non-emergency situations.

I think that is probably a good thing. I'm part of ARES because of
what the letter "E" stands for.

> Then there's the disaster aspect, the "when all else fails, ham radio
> works" event. I was a part of the Katrina effort; I saw ham radio
> working when the communications infrastructure had failed. But I saw
> other things, too. I saw vanishingly little health-and-welfare traffic
> on NTS. I see organizations like the Red Cross pumping lots of money
> into satellite-based communications systems that can be quickly deployed
> for the next Katrina-like event.

That's a good thing too. The more communications capability, the
better as far as I'm concerned.

> How can we maximize the potential for ham radio to contribute to public
> service in the future?

Radio amateurs can get there first. They can go where a van full of
Red Cross workers can't.

> One thing that I think we need to realize is that hams are a pool of
> people who can help, but we no longer have a monopoly on communications,
> especially for non-disaster events.

We may just need to realize that there are (mostly) other alternatives
from which to choose.

> We need to pitch in and get the job
> done, not fixate on providing communications.

That's the sole reason we are involved, Steve.

>If the organizer needs
> someone to direct traffic, and you refuse to do that because your job is
> communications, the organizer is going to find someone with a cell phone
> who is willing to direct traffic and also can handle communications.

I think that's a great thing. Let the organizer find someone else.
I'm not showing up to direct traffic. For the past couple of years,
our local ARES group has participated in our county fair--as parking
attendants. I'm not going to show up to be a parking attendant. The
county fair makes money. Let the fair hire parking attendants.

> Hams need to work more effectively with non-hams. For example, if
> FRS/GRS radios make sense, they should be a part of the plan. Local
> events can provide good recruiting opportunities to get people
> interested in the hobby.

I think that's a very good idea.

> ARRL needs to step up to the plate and actually _do something_ about a
> national plan for ham radio in a large-scale disaster.

I'm not sure just how detailed a national plan for amateur radio
disasters can be.
What works for a group on flat terrain or in an urban or suburban area
may not work well at all in a swamp or in mountainous terrain with
poor roads.

> It has been 18
> months since Katrina demonstrated the need for such planning, and while
> there is progress, it is slow. ARES organization is great in some areas
> and nonexistent in others, so the training level of people who show up
> on the scene varies from excellent to zero.

We should urge those with little or no training to stay at home.

> I feel that ARRL has been unnecessarily antagonistic to the Red Cross.
> The first news release that came out regarding background checks was
> downright derogatory, although each one since has been progressively

> less confrontational. While I applaud ARRL's attempts to protect the
> interests of their members, some of the language has been unnecessarily
> harsh. In a large national disaster, Red Cross is running the show in
> most of the areas where hams can contribute, and it's to everyones'
> benefit to improve the relationship between the two organizations. It
> strikes me as ironic that the hobby is essentially communications, yet
> we continue to demonstrate that communications is not our strong point
> when it comes to inter-organization politics.

If the American Red Cross wants to do a background check on me, based upon whatever information it can readily find, that'd suit me. If it expects me to submit financial information, that isn't happening. If it finds itself short of volunteers, it'll likely wake up. Our local ARES group is supported by Marshall County, West Virginia. The county provides us with a place to meet, space for an operations center. It provides us with money for equipment upgrades and maintenance and even provides tower space for an ARES repeater. We work closely with the Marshall County Office of Emergency Services. The Red Cross isn't a factor.
Marshall County ARES is likely to be activated during flooding, searches for lost individuals (with the Northern Panhandle Search and Rescue team), the aftermath of wind storms and fires/explosions at area chemical factories.

> I hope we're able to maintain a public-service aspect to the amateur
> radio hobby. Without it, little details like frequency allocations and
> the ability to erect antennas will suffer.

I suspect that a reduced public service role won't play a large part in our ability to erect antennas. I exercised my choice to buy a home in an area where no one may tell me what antennas or towers I can install and no one can tell me what color to paint my house. I wouldn't consider buying in a place where conditions are otherwise.

Dave K8MN

275. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-14 02:46:28 UTC
From: Alan Larson <larson@w6yx.stanford.edu>
Message-ID: <200703140000.I2E008OP023040@w6yx.stanford.edu>
Source record: 5166

In article <estinj$5sn$1@victor.killfile.org> billhorne73@comcast.not writes:

>IANALB, the way it was explained to me is that Congress is very
>reluctant to intercede in what is, in essence, a contractual matter, and
>I think that reluctance is justified.
>
>I think homeowners are justified in seeking relief from _government_
>regulation of antennas, since such rules are not the sort of thing local
>governments do well. Deed restrictions, however, are something I think
>the government should stay out of unless there's a _very_ compelling
>public interest.
>
>YMMV.
>
>73, W1AC

In some cases, the regulations in CC&Rs are governmental requirements.

Years ago, while looking at houses for sale, I stopped in on a newly constructed pair of houses on what had been a single large (for the area) lot. While talking to the selling agent, I learned that there was a requirement that the houses have no antennas, and that when cable reached the area, they could not even have TV antennas. (Yes, this was before the FCC stepped into CC&R issues with broadcst TV antennas.)

I asked why. The explanation was that the city required them to include those restrictions in order to get the permit to develop as they had.

So, CC&Rs are not always private agreements.

Alan
wa6azp

276. Re: PRB-1 and CCNR's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-14 03:02:33 UTC
From: KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <1173833611.557166.293970@l75g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5167

On Mar 10, 5:38 am, "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorn...@comcast.not>
wrote:
>
> IANALB, the way it was explained to me is that Congress is very
> reluctant to intercede in what is, in essence, a contractual matter, and
> I think that reluctance is justified.

I understand that the FCC didn't want to get involved for Hams, but
they did use PRB-1 to pre-empt these private contracts for TV and Data
Services so they do have the right.

> I think homeowners are justified in seeking relief from _government_
> regulation of antennas, since such rules are not the sort of thing local
> governments do well. Deed restrictions, however, are something I think
> the government should stay out of unless there's a _very_ compelling
> public interest.

One can argue that there is a compelling interest in providing
"reasonable accommodation" for armature radio. Should I desire to put
up any kind of usable antenna, my options are as follows:

1. Get the HOA to back off by my persuasive arguments about the
neighborhood being better off having such communications
infrastructure in my back yard. (Very unlikely)
2. Move to a different house that has less restrictive CCNR's. (Which
I cannot find with the same quality/price that I have now)
3. Put it up anyway and wait for a court order to take it down (and
pay the HOA whatever they decide the fines are going to be) (Which I
cannot afford, I'm sure.)
4. Hope for a state or federal law that preempts the CCNR's I feel
where forced on me in many ways.

I'm here to tell you that in Northeast Dallas you are very unlikely to
find reasonable housing in the $200K price range built in the last few
years that is not CCNR restricted from ham radio antennas. The
builders here simply use the same boiler plate CCNR for all their
developments and there is little else to buy here. It may be
different in rural areas, but I'm betting that around larger cities in
the US this is standard practice. This means that #4 is about all I
can hope for.

-= bob =-

277. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-14 05:56:30 UTC
From: k8mn@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1173844574.093656.301430@y66g2000hsf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5168

On Mar 13, 5:01 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> What is the process of modifying the gentlemen's agreements?
> Specifically, I would like to explore the idea of adding a new PSK31
> segment or two.

Heck, Mike, your first challenge will be to get the gentlemen to
agree. ;-)

> Presently, the "suggested frequencies" take up about a ssb voice slice
> of bandwidth per band. And that slice is getting pretty busy. esp on 20
> meters.

Those suggested frequencies are simply that: suggested.

> While the short and simple answer is just move to a new frequency, in
> practical terms it is nice for low power modes like PSK 31 to have a
> place to gather.

PSK31 isn't just a low power mode, Mike. If you need to boost your
signal to compensate for band conditions, there's nothing precluding
that.

Dave K8MN

278. Re: PRB-1 and CCNR's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-14 06:47:09 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1173837397.337294.54580@n76g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5169

On Mar 13, 10:02 pm, "KC4UAI" <kc4...@gmail.com> wrote:
>
> One can argue that there is a compelling interest in providing
> "reasonable accommodation" for armature radio. Should I desire to put
> up any kind of usable antenna, my options are as follows:
>
> 1. Get the HOA to back off by my persuasive arguments about the
> neighborhood being better off having such communications
> infrastructure in my back yard. (Very unlikely)
> 2. Move to a different house that has less restrictive CCNR's. (Which
> I cannot find with the same quality/price that I have now)

I would argue that lack of CC&Rs is a quality-of-life issue.
If I can't do reasonable things with my home, my quality-
of-life is reduced.

Now of course "reasonable" is the key factor. Putting a 90 foot tower
holding several large beams on a quarter-acre lot
isn't very reasonable. Putting up a dipole or vertical on the same lot
is reasonable, IMHO.

> 3. Put it up anyway and wait for a court order to take it down (and
> pay the HOA whatever they decide the fines are going to be) (Which I
> cannot afford, I'm sure.)
> 4. Hope for a state or federal law that preempts the CCNR's I feel
> where forced on me in many ways.

How about working for such a law?

> I'm here to tell you that in Northeast Dallas you are very unlikely to
> find reasonable housing in the $200K price range built in the last few
> years that is not CCNR restricted from ham radio antennas. The
> builders here simply use the same boiler plate CCNR for all their
> developments and there is little else to buy here. It may be
> different in rural areas, but I'm betting that around larger cities in
> the US this is standard practice. This means that #4 is about all I
> can hope for.

A lot depends on the area.

Here in suburban Philadelphia, CC&Rs vary all over the place. Many
older homes, and there are lots of them,
are completely unrestricted as to antennas. You still
have to satisfy the building code, but that's a safety
issue.

With newer homes (less than 40 years old), it's a mixed bag. Some are extremely restricted, some not. It just depends on the builder and the community.

Some folks like CC&Rs because they think CC&Rs "protect property values". Yet in every case I've seen in this area, unrestricted houses command *higher* prices and better appreciation than their CC&R'd counterparts.

In my case I settled for less house and less land in order to have no anti-antenna restrictions for a given price and community. I could have gotten more for less elsewhere, but there were other considerations as to where I would live.

$200K isn't a lot of money for a house these days in many markets. Take a look at realtor.com and/or zillow.com, and see what houses go for in various cities. One thing to look for in the house description is "fee simple". While it's no guarantee of an unrestricted property, anything other than fee simple is almost guaranteed to have lots of restrictions.

73 de Jim, N2EY

279. Re: Public service and ham radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-14 06:47:25 UTC
From: Steven Stone <spfleck@citlink.net>
Message-ID: <MPG.2061212efd9e2faf9896eb@news.frontiernet.net>
Source record: 5170

I have found that the best way to approach the group you would like to support is to ask them what they need and then figure out if you can accommodate them.

Sometimes you have to tell a group you can help them in a certain area but they will have to absorb the equipment costs.. like a group that wants on site TV back to an operations center or e-mail from a field location where Blackberrys and cell text messaging don't work.

280. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-14 06:47:40 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1173846950.757895.41010@y66g2000hsf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5171

On Mar 13, 11:01 am, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> What is the process of modifying the gentlemen's agreements?
> Specifically, I would like to explore the idea of adding a new PSK31
> segment or two.

Hi Mike,

I'm not a big fan of "gentlemen's agreements". Neither am I a fan of
FCC mandated "segment by mode", a related issue.

If the "market" is demanding more space for PSK31, then let the market
forces prevail. A broader PSK31 segment will occur (or not occur)
based on the priciple of supply/demand.

Were it up to me the FCC would get out of the business of regulation-
by-mode and simplify 97.305 would be simplified to read: "Here are
your band segments by license class. Stay inside them and play nice
with each other."

73, de Hans, K0HB

281. Re: Public service and ham radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-14 17:20:34 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <12vg484i5kdda60@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 5172

k8mn@earthlink.net wrote:
> On Mar 12, 8:30 pm, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:

> I don't know when you came into amateur radio, Steve, but when I
> entered it, there was very little in the way of radio amateurs
> providing communications for a parade. I've never thought it a valid
> use for ham radio. Our local ARES group has participated in things
> like Independence Day parades and Christmas parades. The ARES group
> in the county to the north of us provides communications for a number
> of running marathons. I do not participate in these activities.

As you say, different strokes for different folks.

There are good reasons for participating in these kinds of events. For
an ARES group, these kinds of events provide an opportunity to actually
do something besides checking into a weekly net. Training is key for
ARES groups. Actually getting into the field and using radios to do
real communications is the best kind of training. Short of an actual
disaster, public service events provide the best opportunity to do that.

>> Ham radio still provides a pool of
>> people who can pitch in and help, but it's not the only pool now. I'm
>> sure there are shining examples of ham groups that continue to provide
>> stellar service to this kind of event, but my personal experience
>> suggests that the hobby is becoming less and less involved with helping
>> out in non-emergency situations.
>
> I think that is probably a good thing. I'm part of ARES because of
> what the letter "E" stands for.

Problem is, how many "E"s do you have? What does the group do between
the "E"s? How do they build and maintain their expertise?

Many of the same kinds of tactical-communications and organizational
skills that are valuable in an emergency situation are used in public
service events.

>> ARRL needs to step up to the plate and actually _do something_ about a
>> national plan for ham radio in a large-scale disaster.
>
> I'm not sure just how detailed a national plan for amateur radio
> disasters can be.
> What works for a group on flat terrain or in an urban or suburban area
> may not work well at all in a swamp or in mountainous terrain with
> poor roads.

The main thing is to get people deployed. For Katrina, the Red Cross went to ARRL a couple of days into the event and asked for help. ARRL had to start from scratch in terms of finding people who were able and willing to help. They put a notice on the web site asking interested volunteers to send mail to kartina@arrl.org and went from there. It was a great effort, and it worked, but it would have been so much more effective if there had existed some sort of national database containing information on hams who were able to help. This was the recommendation of the committee put together after Katrina, and I expect that such a facility will eventually be built, but it sure would be nice if it were put in place before this year's hurricane season.

As for a national plan, I think that the training provided by ARRL in emergency communications is valuable. Sure, different techniques will need to be used depending on the type of disaster, the terrain, and so on. But there are certain basic things that will always be true, and teaching people the basics is extremely valuable when you have to build a team quickly using people from many different geographic areas. Just teaching vocabulary so that everyone is speaking the same language is a huge asset.

> If the American Red Cross wants to do a background check on me, based
> upon whatever information it can readily find, that'd suit me. If it
> expects me to submit financial information, that isn't happening.

Basically the information that the Red Cross is asking you to provide is your Social Security Number so that they can be sure that the information they're obtaining is really about you. A lot of people have a problem even with that. In today's environment of identity theft, I can understand that.

> If it finds itself short of volunteers, it'll likely wake up.

"Waking up", in the sense of not requiring the background check, isn't an option. The background check has been mandated by all the publicity related to fraud during previous operations. Red Cross volunteers will have to submit to the background check. Some will refuse. Volunteers will be lost. It's a fact of life in today's society.

There's another issue, though. When is an ARES member considered a Red Cross volunteer? This has been a sticky issue, and no doubt will continue to be one. ARRL still has not updated the information on their web site to reflect recent changes in this policy.

> Our local
> ARES group is supported by Marshall County, West Virginia. The county
> provides us with a place to meet, space for an operations center. It
> provides us with money for equipment upgrades and maintenance and even
> provides tower space for an ARES repeater. We work closely with the
> Marshall County Office of Emergency Services. The Red Cross isn't a
> factor.

On the local level, I understand. But if there is a large national disaster, Red Cross will be a factor. In fact, they're likely to be

calling the shots in many of the areas in which amateur radio is involved.

> I suspect that a reduced public service role won't play a large part
> in our ability to erect antennas.

I think that the fact that amateur radio serves a public interest is key to the survival of the hobby, not just in the sense of erecting antennas, but in terms of maintaining our frequency allocations and recruiting new hams. How many teenagers, clutching their cell phone in one hand, are going to be wooed into ham radio by the allure of talking to someone in the next state or even a country on the other side of the world? But show them a news story about how ham radio is key to providing communications in an emergency, and a few of them might be interested.

How many voters care that we can sit in our shacks and chew the fat with our peers, or chase wallpaper? But sell them on the fact that ham radio provides a valuable service if there's a flood or tornado or blizzard, and they might be willing to tolerate an antenna.

Ham radio is a unique hobby in the sense that it requires support from governmental agencies in order to exist. Public service has always been an important aspect of justifying and obtaining that support.

73, Steve KB9X

282. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-14 21:27:55 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <et9hbsppu1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 5173

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
> On Mar 10, 9:32ï¿½pm, b...@cs.uofs.edu (Bill Gunshannon) wrote:
>> In article <R5udnXoEmq84qm7YnZ2dnUVZ_u-un...@comcast.com>,
>> "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> writes:
>
>>> <N...@AOL.COM> wrote in message
>>> news:1173551042.644998.80300@j27g2000cwj.googlegroups.com...
>>> [snip]
>>>> Total all classes - increase of 89
>>>> ---
>>>> 73 de Jim, N2EY
>>> Well if we continue at this pace, that will mean 0.35% growth in one year.
>
> Which fits right into my prediction of 0% to 1% growth!
>
> And I'll take 0.35% growth over a decline.
>
> But what is completely unknown at this point is whether the growth
> will continue. After the 2000 restructuring, the license numbers
> climbed for about three years - and then began to decline, until now
> they are well below what they were before the restructuring of 2000.

Here are some really rough calculations for my area:

Presently licensed in the State College area:

231 - I'll have to subtract 3 club licenses

229 local State College Hams

In the past 6 months, we've had around 2 hams per month added by club
testing. Note that this includes testing under the old system.

The local University also has testing as part of one of the EE classes.
I don't have the exact numbers, or even close. They test by semester.

Given that about 12 hams have been added to the rosters by us in the
last 6 months there is at least a 1 percent growth rate - disregarding
the college group. Taking a rough estimate, they must be doing at least
as well, as the classes continue. My guess is that the final growth in
this area is around 2 percent. That is as just about at the top of the
growth that I would like to see.

We often speak of the effects that recent changes will have on the
number of new Hams coming into the fold.

I think this is a bit of a red herring attribute.

I think that growth in the service is much more dependent on what we do to get people into it.

We've been on a recruitment effort that allows the new guys and gals to not feel inadequate. We're teaching real basics, like how to solder, how to read color codes on resistors. That kind of stuff. Oh yeah, and how to operate that HF rig. I'm our club station manager, and we're turning one corner of the building into a classroom for the new folks. And we're being very careful to not sound like we know everything. (I don't have to work too hard at that) ;^)

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

283. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-14 21:28:25 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <et9i5spqm1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 5174

k8mn@earthlink.net wrote:
> On Mar 13, 5:01 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>> What is the process of modifying the gentlemen's agreements?
>> Specifically, I would like to explore the idea of adding a new PSK31
>> segment or two.
>
> Heck, Mike, your first challenge will be to get the gentlemen to
> agree. ;-)

Or even finding Gentlemen!

>
>> Presently, the "suggested frequencies" take up about a ssb voice slice
>> of bandwidth per band. And that slice is getting pretty busy. esp on 20
>> meters.
>
> Those suggested frequencies are simply that: suggested.

Very true. What would be nice would be some extra suggestions. What would be nice would be to have another couple SSB signals worth of space, separated by enough to allow a RTTY signal or two between 'em.

>> While the short and simple answer is just move to a new frequency, in
>> practical terms it is nice for low power modes like PSK 31 to have a
>> place to gather.
>
> PSK31 isn't just a low power mode, Mike. If you need to boost your
> signal to compensate for band conditions, there's nothing precluding
> that.

We've always tried to use as low power as possible. Unless a person's signal is extremely good - I'm talking about top-notch sound card, very low drive, and precise transmitter settings - that signal starts getting very wide, and gets into everyone else's transmissions. Occasionally you can help a little with turning the ALC off.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

284. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-14 22:36:41 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <et9iqbpqu1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 5175

groupk0hb@earthlink.net wrote:
> On Mar 13, 11:01 am, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>> What is the process of modifying the gentlemen's agreements?
>> Specifically, I would like to explore the idea of adding a new PSK31
>> segment or two.
>
>
> Hi Mike,
>
> I'm not a big fan of "gentlemen's agreements". Neither am I a fan of
> FCC mandated "segment by mode", a related issue.
>
> If the "market" is demanding more space for PSK31, then let the market
> forces prevail. A broader PSK31 segment will occur (or not occur)
> based on the priciple of supply/demand.

I guess that would mean a group of us PSK'ers would decide to pick another frequency as secondary and start moving there. Keeping in mind that we are a tiny (but growing) segment of the activity, just one SSB signal in width per band essentially. We need to know where to find each other.

> Were it up to me the FCC would get out of the business of regulation-
> by-mode and simplify 97.305 would be simplified to read: "Here are
> your band segments by license class. Stay inside them and play nice
> with each other."

I guess the key would be just how nicely we would play with each other.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

285. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-15 00:14:58 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1173910472.613265.173210@e65g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5176

On Mar 14, 4:27 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> > On Mar 10, 9:32?pm, b...@cs.uofs.edu (Bill Gunshannon) wrote:
> >> In article <R5udnXoEmq84qm7YnZ2dnUVZ_u-un...@comcast.com>,
> >> "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> writes:
>
> >>> <N...@AOL.COM> wrote in message
> >>> news:1173551042.644998.80300@j27g2000cwj.googlegroups.com...
> >>> [snip]
> >>>> Total all classes - increase of 89
> >>>> ---
> >>>> 73 de Jim, N2EY
> >>> Well if we continue at this pace, that will mean 0.35% growth in one year.
>
> > Which fits right into my prediction of 0% to 1% growth!
>
> > And I'll take 0.35% growth over a decline.

However, it is foolish to look at short-term results and
assume they will continue. Day-to-day variations can be quite
large.

For example, the most recent numbers I have at hand are
for March 12, 2007. Total current FCC-issued licenses
on that date (as of 7 PM March 13) were 654,331. That's
349 less than the 654,680 on Feb 22. Of course tomorrow's
numbers may be much higher.

> > But what is completely unknown at this point is whether the growth
> > will continue. After the 2000 restructuring, the license numbers
> > climbed for about three years - and then began to decline, until now
> > they are well below what they were before the restructuring of 2000.
>
> Here are some really rough calculations for my area:
>
> Presently licensed in the State College area:
>
> 231 - I'll have to subtract 3 club licenses
>
> 229 local State College Hams
>
> In the past 6 months, we've had around 2 hams per month added by club
> testing. Note that this includes testing under the old system.

OK so far.

> The local University also has testing as part of one of the EE classes.
> I don't have the exact numbers, or even close. They test by semester.
>
> • • • • Given that about 12 hams have been added to the rosters by us in the
> last 6 months there is at least a 1 percent growth rate - disregarding
> the college group. Taking a rough estimate, they must be doing at least
> as well, as the classes continue. My guess is that the final growth in
> this area is around 2 percent. That is as just about at the top of the
> growth that I would like to see.

That's all good stuff - for the State College area.

But it may or may not be applicable to other areas. We really don't
know for sure.

> • • • • We often speak of the effects that recent changes will have on the
> number of new Hams coming into the fold.
>
> • • • • I think this is a bit of a red herring attribute.
>
> • • • • I think that growth in the service is much more dependent on what we do
> to get people into it.

I agree 100%.

However, in recent decades, one of the main reasons given for
changing the license test requirements has been to stimulate
growth. Time and again, those pushing for the changes have
said they were absolutely necessary in order for the number
of US hams to grow in the future. So it's certainly worth watching
to see whether they were right or wrong.

> We've been on a recruitment effort that allows the new guys and gals to
> not feel inadequate. We're teaching real basics, like how to solder, how
> to read color codes on resistors. That kind of stuff. Oh yeah, and how
> to operate that HF rig. I'm our club station manager, and we're turning
> one corner of the building into a classroom for the new folks. And we're
> being very careful to not sound like we know everything. (I don't have
> to work too hard at that) ;^)

This is all good stuff.Excellent work, Mike!

73 de Jim, N2EY

286. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-15 00:24:16 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1173911033.784721.224810@n59g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5177

On Mar 14, 4:28?pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>
> What would be nice would be some extra suggestions. What
> would be nice would be to have another couple SSB signals
> worth of
> space, separated by enough to allow a RTTY signal or two between 'em.

I disagree!

It seems to me that the best way for the different modes to
coexist is for like modes to cluster together, rather than being
spread about the band. If PSK31 is currently between
Frequency A and Frequency (A plus 2.7 kHz), and more room is needed,
it seems the most logical thing to do is to
spread out a little below A and/or a little above (A plus 2.7)
That way it's easy to find each other.

IMHO the whole point of gentleman's agreements is not to set
a hard line in the sand that marks absolute territory (the regs
do that)., but rather to be a flexible line that moves as
conditions warrant.

This will be more and more important in the future, as more
diverse modes share the same bandspace, often without the
ability to intercommunicate.

Expecting every amateur station to be equipped to transmit
and receive every possible digital mode in use by hams on
a band just isn't reasonable. So we need gentleman's
agreements.

IMHO.

73 de Jim, N2EY

287. Any other UK calls out there..?!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-15 03:52:05 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <55rk7jF25s9h9U1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 5178

Hi All,

Well this group has been up & running for a few weeks now and I still seem to be the only one here from the UK..!

I haven't been all that active I admit, but blame work, we've had the builders in making serious alterations to my office (think knocking walls down etc..!) and it's been rather hectic..!

Anyway, let's hear from some others this side of the pond :-)

73 Ivor G6URP

288. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-15 05:44:41 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <gv7hv2lp3f1d35esrpjic3bo0okc67s3bv@4ax.com>
Source record: 5179

On Wed, 14 Mar 2007 00:47:40 CST, groupk0hb@earthlink.net wrote:

>Were it up to me the FCC would get out of the business of regulation-
>by-mode and simplify 97.305 would be simplified to read: "Here are
>your band segments by license class. Stay inside them and play nice
>with each other."

That's "Regulation-By-Abstention", Hans, which is no regulation at all
and is extremely poor policy. The FCC has done far too much of that
in the last 20 years, which pains me no end, and not only in the
Amateur Radio Service. It's the FCC's -JOB - to find out "what the
market wants" and to react to that as regulatory professionals, not to
hide behind the curtain or under the rug.

<Time for me to cool down>
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

289. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-15 05:45:19 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <6h8hv2p9emtp6tsalu3lr294s1btjr6q97@4ax.com>
Source record: 5180

On Tue, 13 Mar 2007 20:46:28 CST, Alan Larson
<larson@w6yx.stanford.edu> wrote:

> Years ago, while looking at houses for sale, I stopped in on a newly
>constructed pair of houses on what had been a single large (for the area)
>lot. While talking to the selling agent, I learned that there was a
>requirement that the houses have no antennas, and that when cable reached
>the area, they could not even have TV antennas. (Yes, this was before the
>FCC stepped into CC&R issues with broadcst TV antennas.)
>
> I asked why. The explanation was that the city required them to include
>those restrictions in order to get the permit to develop as they had.

The real reason was that the cable company got to the city to force
the developer to put such a restriction into the CC&Rs. A little
"hand-holding" between the city and the cable companies is not unknown
in this business.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

290. rec.radio.amateur.moderated Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-15 06:00:02 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines-1-1173938401@panix.com>
Source record: 5181
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines
Revision: 1.2 2007/02/22 18:15:39
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rram/index.html

Welcome to rec.radio.amateur.moderated! This is a moderated newsgroup
for amateur radio operators and other people having an interest in the
Amateur Radio Service, as defined by national regulations and
international treaties. Following are the posting guidelines for this
newsgroup.

This message includes the following sections:

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter
2. Additional posting guidelines
2.1 Netiquette guidelines
2.2 Posting form requirements
2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files
2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting
2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources
2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability to hold
an amateur radio license
2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling
2.8 Guidelines regarding civility
2.9 Other unacceptable topics

------------------------------------------------------------------------

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter

rec.radio.amateur.moderated is an inclusive on-line community of amateur
radio operators and other people having an interest in the Amateur Radio
Service. Participants are invited to engage in open discussion of
amateur radio issues and exchange information about participating in the
hobby/service, in an atmosphere of civility, friendship, and fun.

Acceptable topics include but, are not necessarily limited to, questions
and discussions about amateur radio licensing, regulations, tips on
various aspects of setting up an amateur radio station, and sharing
operating experiences and insights.

Unacceptable posts include, but are not limited to, buy/sell/trade
posts, posts that are off-topic to the Amateur Radio Service, posts
promoting or defending unlawful activities, etc. Crossposts of regular
discussion articles between rec.radio.amateur.moderated and other
```

discussion newsgroups are not permitted.

Frequently-Asked-Questions lists and other information/bulletin/
announcement postings may be crossposted to rec.radio.info, rec.answers,
and news.answers only with prior approval of the moderators of those
newsgroups. In all such cases, an appropriate "Followup-To" header,
containing only rec.radio.amateur.moderated, will be added by the
moderators if one is not already provided.

Posters are encouraged to state their own views and share their
experiences, but to refrain from making assumptions about the
motivations of other newsgroup participants. Posters are expected to
maintain a basic tone of civility. Prohibited uncivil discourse
includes, but is not limited to, name calling.

Posts containing unsolicited advice questioning the right, worthiness,
suitability and/or readiness of any individual (or members of any group)
to be an amateur radio operator are unacceptable in this newsgroup. If
an individual chooses to post asking for advice on when or whether to
obtain an amateur radio license, or to participate in any type of lawful
activity in the Amateur Radio Service, respondents should be careful to
address their comments only to the original poster and not explicitly
generalize to others in similar situations.

Similarly, posts that arbitrarily declare certain classes of amateur
radio licenses, or certain members of national amateur radio societies
(e.g., American Radio Relay League, Radio Amateurs of Canada, Radio
Society of Great Britain, Wireless Institute of Australia, etc.), to be
more or less worthy than others, are not permitted. Posts that politely
encourage individuals to join their local amateur radio society, or to
upgrade to higher classes of amateur radio license in order to enjoy
greater operating privileges, are permitted, however. Posts that
contain reasoned, civil, and fact-based discussion of the activities and
internal politics of national amateur radio societies are also
permitted.

Buy/Sell/Trade and Commercial Policy:

Posts containing offers to buy, sell, or trade are not permitted on
rec.radio.amateur.moderated. The rec.radio.swap newsgroup was created
for this purpose, and should be used instead. All such articles will be
rejected by the moderators with the advice to re-post to that newsgroup.

Postings that are entirely commercial press releases, advertisements, or
other public relations campaigns will not be permitted. Relatively
unbiased announcements or reviews of new amateur radio-related products
or services may be permitted at the discretion of the moderators. Such
posters are asked to disclose their financial or professional interest,
if any, in such products or services.

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2. Additional Posting Guidelines

2.1 Netiquette guidelines

Participants who are new to Usenet should familiarize themselves with the "netiquette" of Usenet as well as the particular posting guidelines for this group. Several useful posts for "newbies" can be found on the newsgroup news.announce.newusers or on the WWW at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/by-newsgroup/news/news.announce.newusers.html

Particularly helpful articles are:
Welcome to Usenet!
Rules for posting to Usenet
Hints on writing style for Usenet
A Primer on How to Work With the Usenet Community
Emily Postnews Answers Your Questions on Netiquette
Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Usenet

2.2 Posting form requirements

Any article that falls into any of the following categories will be automatically rejected:

A) Articles that contain original text of more than 75 characters per line
B) Crossposted articles to newsgroups not included in these Guidelines
C) Articles that contain more than 400 lines
D) Encoded binary files (except PGP and other short digital signatures)
E) Attachments to posts
F) Articles containing obscene language
G) Articles from individuals who have been suspended or banned from the newsgroup

2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files

Many people close each article they write with a few lines of common text. This may be a cute quip or quote, or may include information about their family, contact information, or disclaimers required by their employer, for example.

Signature files used on rec.radio.amateur.moderated posting must be no longer than 8 lines.

The content of a poster's signature need not be relevant to amateur radio, but it must not violate any of the other posting guidelines. (For example, name-calling that would not be acceptable in the body of a message is also unacceptable in a signature.) Posters may include Uniform Resource Locators (URL's) and business addresses in signature files, provided they comply with all the other guidelines regarding signatures.

2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting

Posts more than 20 lines long that also have more than 75% quoted text will be carefully reviewed by a moderator to determine if that degree of quoting is warranted. Posts with excessive quoted text may be rejected.

Posters must show a reasonable effort to trim the post they are replying to and to include just enough material to establish context. "Me too!" posts are discouraged, and, when posted, must edit the quoted material significantly.

2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources

Unsolicited announcements and pointers to web sites that are strictly commercial press releases, advertisements, or other public relations campaigns, are not permitted. However, a pointer to a website or other external source of information is permitted and encouraged in cases where it is relevant to an existing thread, with appropriate context being given in the post. A URL with no information about what a user should expect to find there will be rejected. A pointer to information that is off-charter for rec.radio.amateur.moderated will be rejected, as will a pointer which itself does not meet the rec.radio.amateur.moderated guidelines (such as a URL containing embedded name-calling).

Moderators are not responsible for verifying the contents of any external information source.

2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability hold an amateur radio license

Identifiable groups and individuals may not be asked/told/etc. not to obtain an amateur radio license, or to only obtain certain classes of amateur radio license. It is not permissible to make statements that a person or members of a specific group "should" not, or should not be allowed to, become an amateur radio operator.

Solicited advice of this type is permissible; however, posters must be careful not to explicitly generalize to others who are in some way "like" the poster asking the question. Stick to the individual asking for advice.

It is acceptable to discuss verified violations, documented in criminal convictions or other government enforcement actions, by a person or members of a specific group.

2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling

Nastiness addressed at a person is considered name-calling. Criticizing a person's *actions* is not, provided that it is done in a civil manner.

Attacks on an action which by their very nature include an accusation against the person's character are not acceptable. For example, "That's a lie" implies an intentional prevarication, and is considered name-calling. Acceptable ways of questioning the truth of a poster's statement include the more tactful "I don't think that's true," "I believe you are mistaken because..." or even simply "That's not true."

"That's not true and you know it" crosses back over into name-calling, however.

2.8 Guidelines regarding civility

By charter, posters are expected to maintain a civil tone in all their postings. The guidelines on name-calling cover part of that requirement, but not all of it.

In general, posters are expected to consider the reputations of other participants, and refrain from making unnecessary accusations or assumptions about the motivations of others. A good rule of thumb is to phrase your comments as your opinion -- "I think..." "It seems to me that..." "This makes me wonder whether..." etc...

Posters are expected to make factual claims, to debate topics openly and in good faith, and to accept honest criticism, all without provocation or prevarication. At least one professional organization, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), has recognized that such fair dealings are necessary components of ethical conduct, and has incorporated them into its Code of Ethics:

http://www.ieee.org/portal/pages/about/whatis/code.html

Though the Amateur Radio Service is not a professional endeavor, the moderators strongly feel that the IEEE Code of Ethics is also a worthwhile set of guiding principles for participants in the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup.

Posters are not required to support the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). However, they are expected to adhere to the spirit of the other parts of the ARRL's "Amateur's Code":

http://www.arrl.org/acode.html

2.9 Other unacceptable topics

Participants are reminded that the charter also prohibits posts promoting or defending unlawful operating practices.

Posts may discuss whether operating practices are unlawful, or engage in reasoned debate over why certain operating practices should or should not be unlawful. Posts may discuss enforcement actions, such as by the Federal Communications Commission in the United States or similar government agencies in other countries, and evidence gathered by parties such as Official Observers in support of complaints about unlawful operation.

Discussions of what practices constitute unlawful operation in the Amateur Radio Service should be limited to *factual* descriptions of the laws in various jurisdictions. Posters' *opinions* as to what practices they consider unlawful are not permitted. In particular, posters are cautioned not to extrapolate their country's laws and regulations to those in other parts of the world, as they may be quite different.

Posts that entirely concern themselves with other radio services or hobbies, such as Citizen's Band, General Mobile Radio Service/Family Radio Service, and Scanner or Shortwave Listening, are considered off-topic to the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup. Newsgroups such as rec.radio.cb, rec.radio.scanner, and/or rec.radio.shortwave may be more appropriate venues for such posts.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-amateur-moderated-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the misc.kids.moderated Posting Guidelines.)

291. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-15 20:44:06 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <etc3nqrvk1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 5182

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
> On Mar 14, 4:28?pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>> What would be nice would be some extra suggestions. What
>> would be nice would be to have another couple SSB signals
>> worth of
>> space, separated by enough to allow a RTTY signal or two between 'em.
>
> I disagree!
>
> It seems to me that the best way for the different modes to
> coexist is for like modes to cluster together, rather than being
> spread about the band. If PSK31 is currently between
> Frequency A and Frequency (A plus 2.7 kHz), and more room is needed,
> it seems the most logical thing to do is to
> spread out a little below A and/or a little above (A plus 2.7)
> That way it's easy to find each other.

It does make it easy, very true.

A little bit about my seemingly weird rationale.

RTTY signals often trash the segment, especially when there is a
contest going on. A couple RTTY signals in the segment, PSKer's just
turn their radios off (or switch modes) My thoughts were that if there
were a RTTY station in between segments, another RTTY will probably set
up far away from them to give us a little breathing room

> IMHO the whole point of gentleman's agreements is not to set
> a hard line in the sand that marks absolute territory (the regs
> do that)., but rather to be a flexible line that moves as
> conditions warrant.
>
> This will be more and more important in the future, as more
> diverse modes share the same bandspace, often without the
> ability to intercommunicate.

We really get hammered by those robot stations. Open up on top of us
and since they are automatic, not much can be done about it.

Digipan does have recieve software so that we can ID the station and
issue a complaint to the FCC. I haven't seen as much of it lately,
mayber the complaints are working.

I don't mean to sound like a wimp regarding PSK31. It is just a unique
and low power mode that is easily disruptable by other modes.

> Expecting every amateur station to be equipped to transmit
> and receive every possible digital mode in use by hams on
> a band just isn't reasonable. So we need gentleman's
> agreements.
>
> IMHO.
>
> 73 de Jim, N2EY
>

292. Antenna Tuner

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-15 23:24:36 UTC
From: Newby <nobody@nowhere.net>
Message-ID: <12vjbemsv6dae85@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 5183

CQ CQ CQ

I am looking to buy an antenna tuner and would appreciate suggestions and/or recommendations from the group. I will use it with a Yaesu FT-897D and an ICOM 706IIG.

Thanks for any recommendations.

73 to all.

293. Re: Antenna Tuner

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-16 00:03:34 UTC
From: Jeen de Swart <j.de.swart@xs4all.nl>
Message-ID: <45f9c12e$0$333$e4fe514c@news.xs4all.nl>
Source record: 5184

A good antenna tuner for the Yaesu FT-97D is the AT-897 from LDG.
Look at e-Ham http://www.eham.net/reviews/detail/3265

73 de PE0JDS

"Newby" <nobody@nowhere.net> schreef in bericht
news:12vjbemsv6dae85@corp.supernews.com...
> CQ CQ CQ
>
> I am looking to buy an antenna tuner and would appreciate suggestions
> and/or
> recommendations from the group. I will use it with a Yaesu FT-897D and an
> ICOM 706IIG.
>
> Thanks for any recommendations.
>
> 73 to all.
>
>

294. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-16 01:44:00 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1174002199.409582.231660@o5g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5185

On Mar 15, 3:44 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> > On Mar 14, 4:28?pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> >> What would be nice would be some extra suggestions. What
> >> would be nice would be to have another couple SSB signals
> >> worth of
> >> space, separated by enough to allow a RTTY signal or two between 'em.
>
> > I disagree!
>
> > It seems to me that the best way for the different modes to
> > coexist is for like modes to cluster together, rather than being
> > spread about the band. If PSK31 is currently between
> > Frequency A and Frequency (A plus 2.7 kHz), and more room is needed,
> > it seems the most logical thing to do is to
> > spread out a little below A and/or a little above (A plus 2.7)
> > That way it's easy to find each other.
>
> It does make it easy, very true.
>
> A little bit about my seemingly weird rationale.
>
> RTTY signals often trash the segment, especially when there is a
> contest going on. A couple RTTY signals in the segment, PSKer's just
> turn their radios off (or switch modes) My thoughts were that if there
> were a RTTY station in between segments, another RTTY will probably set
> up far away from them to give us a little breathing room

Maybe.

It seems to me that there are really two problems here.

The first is that there are times when there are so many

PSKers' on simultaneously that more room is needed.
That's the situation I imagined, and what my fix was aimed
at.

The second problem is when the band gets busy with
contesters and such. That's a problem every mode faces,
and going elsewhere in the band may or may not solve
it. The WARC bands are one solution.

> > IMHO the whole point of gentleman's agreements is not to set
> > a hard line in the sand that marks absolute territory (the regs

> > do that)., but rather to be a flexible line that moves as
> > conditions warrant.
>
> > This will be more and more important in the future, as more
> > diverse modes share the same bandspace, often without the
> > ability to intercommunicate.
>
> We really get hammered by those robot stations. Open up on top of us
> and since they are automatic, not much can be done about it.
>
One solution is to expand the PSK31 watering hole outside
the robot subband.

> Digipan does have recieve software so that we can ID the station and
> issue a complaint to the FCC. I haven't seen as much of it lately,
> mayber the complaints are working.

Yup. It's important to document such things, particularly
from robots, because one of the arguments put forth for
allowing "semi-robot" operation all over the band was that the
nonrobot end would avoid QRM. In the real world, that may
not work out.

> I don't mean to sound like a wimp regarding PSK31. It is just a unique
> and low power mode that is easily disruptable by other modes.
>
Nothing wimpy about it, Didn't sound that way either.

> > Expecting every amateur station to be equipped to transmit
> > and receive every possible digital mode in use by hams on
> > a band just isn't reasonable. So we need gentleman's
> > agreements.
>
> > IMHO.
>
It seems to me that as the variety of modes used by hams
continues to grow, we need more and better agreements
in order to be able to best use the spectrum available to us.

--

K0HB has suggested that we let "the market" decide.
I think that has been done, in a way.

Some time back, a group calling itself the "Communications Think
Tank" (CTT), proposed simply eliminating all subbands-by-mode from the
regulations. Their proposal
would have allowed all authorized modes on every Hz of
every band.

"The market" spoke very clearly, in the form of comments
to FCC. The CTT proposal was overwhelmingly
opposed. About 7 out of 8 comments on it clearly said NO.

Sounds like a clear message from the market to me!

73 de Jim, N2EY

295. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-16 04:38:41 UTC
From: John Smith I <assemblywizard@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <etcq96vcd1@nnrp.linuxfan.it>
Source record: 5186

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:

> ...
> "The market" spoke very clearly, in the form of comments
> to FCC. The CTT proposal was overwhelmingly
> opposed. About 7 out of 8 comments on it clearly said NO.
> Sounds like a clear message from the market to me!
>
> 73 de Jim, N2EY
>

However, if a new market comes forth, one composed of amateurs with little or no knowledge of CW and only using digital voice and digital data transmission--it would be market controlled also, and one would suspect it would self-correct and frown on the use of the bands for wasteful analog and cw communications.

Let's face it, digital voice is the only way to go. PSK is too slow for data transmission of LARGE and multi-megabyte amounts of data, end of story.

An "industry standard" for encryption/compaction and decryption/de-compaction still needs to come forth to deal with HIGH transfer rates of digital voice and data transmission and availability to ALL hardware/software developers/manufacturers be assured to such a standard(s) ...

Great care needs to exercised when proposing and developing acceptable schemes to the above, we certainly don't need to create a "tower of babel" by not having free access to algorithms and standard methods in common use--and free use and experimentation needs to be right up front and encouraged--this only holds with the tradition of amateur radio!

Regards,
JS
--
http://assemblywizard.tekcities.com

296. Re: Public service and ham radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-16 05:28:32 UTC
From: k8mn@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1174015462.571860.326600@o5g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5187

On Mar 14, 5:20 pm, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
> k...@earthlink.net wrote:
> > On Mar 12, 8:30 pm, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
> > I don't know when you came into amateur radio, Steve, but when I
> > entered it, there was very little in the way of radio amateurs
> > providing communications for a parade. I've never thought it a valid
> > use for ham radio. Our local ARES group has participated in things
> > like Independence Day parades and Christmas parades. The ARES group
> > in the county to the north of us provides communications for a number
> > of running marathons. I do not participate in these activities.
>
> As you say, different strokes for different folks.

It is quite simple. I participate in emergency communications. In
the past, the ARRL had both AREC, the Amateur Radio Emergency Corps
and ARPSC, the Amateur Radio Public Service Corps. Interest in
participation in both wasn't necessary. I don't object if others
choose to participate in parades. I trust that they won't object if I
choose not to do so.

> There are good reasons for participating in these kinds of events. For
> an ARES group, these kinds of events provide an opportunity to actually
> do something besides checking into a weekly net.

That's a good point. Participation in a parade can be seen as a
training exercise. Parking cars, on the the other hand, isn't
training.

> Training is key for
> ARES groups. Actually getting into the field and using radios to do
> real communications is the best kind of training.

You're quite right.

> Short of an actual
> disaster, public service events provide the best opportunity to do that.

Well, they provide one way to do so, but not the only way.

> >> Ham radio still provides a pool of
> >> people who can pitch in and help, but it's not the only pool now. I'm
> >> sure there are shining examples of ham groups that continue to provide
> >> stellar service to this kind of event, but my personal experience
> >> suggests that the hobby is becoming less and less involved with helping
> >> out in non-emergency situations.
>
> > I think that is probably a good thing. I'm part of ARES because of

> > what the letter "E" stands for.
>
> Problem is, how many "E"s do you have?

I don't think anyone would like to see to many. We have had more than
enough actual events to keep us active.

> What does the group do between
> the "E"s? How do they build and maintain their expertise?

We're fairly unique in this area. The old state prison at Moundsville
is now used by national law enforcement for training. There are mock
prison riots a couple of times per year in which Marshall County ARES
is a participant. There was also a mock plague drill in which all
agencies participated throughout the area. Radio amateurs manned
positions at various EOC's, local hospitals and at the epicenter of
the event. The ARES group also participates in Field Day each year.
We've all received training in operating county radio equipment so
that we can serve as auxiliary ops in the event that there is a
shortage of professional ops.

> Many of the same kinds of tactical-communications and organizational
> skills that are valuable in an emergency situation are used in public
> service events.

Well, a number of them are used. A guy sitting in his car with a
mobile dual-bander or a fellow with an HT on a street corner for a
couple of hours doesn't use all of the skills involved in a severe
weather event which might last for days and require loads of spare
batteries and other backup equipment. Passing accurate messages via
digital modes may not come into play

> >> ARRL needs to step up to the plate and actually _do something_ about a
> >> national plan for ham radio in a large-scale disaster.
>
> > I'm not sure just how detailed a national plan for amateur radio
> > disasters can be.
> > What works for a group on flat terrain or in an urban or suburban area
> > may not work well at all in a swamp or in mountainous terrain with
> > poor roads.
>
> The main thing is to get people deployed. For Katrina, the Red Cross
> went to ARRL a couple of days into the event and asked for help. ARRL
> had to start from scratch in terms of finding people who were able and
> willing to help. They put a notice on the web site asking interested
> volunteers to send mail to kart...@arrl.org and went from there. It was
> a great effort, and it worked, but it would have been so much more
> effective if there had existed some sort of national database containing
> information on hams who were able to help. This was the recommendation
> of the committee put together after Katrina, and I expect that such a
> facility will eventually be built, but it sure would be nice if it were
> put in place before this year's hurricane season.

I think that is a very good idea. Having a pool of trained ops who
can leave for a major disaster site on short notice would be extremely
helpful. I'd think that not many of us would be in a position to drop
everything and rush to a different region, especially for what might
become a prolonged absence.

> As for a national plan, I think that the training provided by ARRL in
> emergency communications is valuable. Sure, different techniques will
> need to be used depending on the type of disaster, the terrain, and so
> on. But there are certain basic things that will always be true, and
> teaching people the basics is extremely valuable when you have to build
> a team quickly using people from many different geographic areas. Just
> teaching vocabulary so that everyone is speaking the same language is a
> huge asset.

You have a valid point though I don't think vocabulary should be a
problem. We're hams passing traffic via amateur radio. Whatever
official jargon the supported agency uses will be passed in its
message traffic. All radio amateur need do is relay that information
accurately.

> > If the American Red Cross wants to do a background check on me, based
> > upon whatever information it can readily find, that'd suit me. If it
> > expects me to submit financial information, that isn't happening.
>
> Basically the information that the Red Cross is asking you to provide is
> your Social Security Number so that they can be sure that the
> information they're obtaining is really about you.

I seem to recall the word "financial", coupled with the words
"background check".
Am I mistaken?

> A lot of people have
> a problem even with that.

I think I'd have a problem with that. The FCC has issued me an
amateur radio license. The FCC knows who I am and where I live. I
have other forms of identification. That should be good enough for
the American Red Cross.
I'm not hiring on with that agency. I'd simply be volunteering my
time.

>In today's environment of identity theft, I
> can understand that.

Lots of folks can identify with such things. A group of older women
used to go to a local nursing home to read to the residents. The
state suddenly and arbitrarily mandated that they be fingerprinted and
have a background investigation done on them. Now there is a shortage
of readers.

> > If it finds itself short of volunteers, it'll likely wake up.
>

> "Waking up", in the sense of not requiring the background check, isn't
> an option.

It certainly is an option. Whether the Red Cross thinks that everyone
will bow to the idea is an unknown. Who is hurt if the Red Cross has
a shortage of volunteer radio operators spending their own money?

> The background check has been mandated by all the publicity
> related to fraud during previous operations.

Were there any reports of radio amateurs being involved with fraud?

>Red Cross volunteers will
> have to submit to the background check. Some will refuse. Volunteers
> will be lost. It's a fact of life in today's society.

That was my point. Each member of our county ARES group is issued an
ID card. None of us submitted to a background investigation by
anyone.

> There's another issue, though. When is an ARES member considered a Red
> Cross volunteer? This has been a sticky issue, and no doubt will
> continue to be one. ARRL still has not updated the information on their
> web site to reflect recent changes in this policy.

As far as I'm concerned, I'm a radio amateur operating under the
auspices of the ARRL's AREC through my county organization. I'm
assigned to serve whichever agency I'm assigned to work under. I'm
never in a position where I'm working for that agency.

> > Our local
> > ARES group is supported by Marshall County, West Virginia. The county
> > provides us with a place to meet, space for an operations center. It
> > provides us with money for equipment upgrades and maintenance and even
> > provides tower space for an ARES repeater. We work closely with the
> > Marshall County Office of Emergency Services. The Red Cross isn't a
> > factor.
>
> On the local level, I understand. But if there is a large national
> disaster, Red Cross will be a factor. In fact, they're likely to be
> calling the shots in many of the areas in which amateur radio is involved.

The Red Cross is not the only factor though. One can work with local,
county or state police, with the Salvation Army with any number of
other non-governmental organizations. I used to belong to the
Northern Kentucky Amateur Radio Association. It did respond to the
Red Cross. My local ARES group here does not.

> > I suspect that a reduced public service role won't play a large part
> > in our ability to erect antennas.
>
> I think that the fact that amateur radio serves a public interest is key
> to the survival of the hobby, not just in the sense of erecting

> antennas, but in terms of maintaining our frequency allocations and
> recruiting new hams.

We have the HF amateur bands through international treaty. We don't risk losing them through lack of public service participation. The percentage of radio amateurs who regularly participate in ARES or public service operations have always been traditionally small.

As discussed elsewhere in this group, antennas are quite a different matter.
The real threat to the erection of antennas is real estate covenants, not lack of participation in public service work. I don't and won't live in some subdivision with such restrictions. Others may find it a near necessity to buy in such developments.

> How many teenagers, clutching their cell phone in
> one hand, are going to be wooed into ham radio by the allure of talking
> to someone in the next state or even a country on the other side of the
> world?

I honestly don't know, Steve. I suppose that some of them who realize that their cellular phones are actually tiny, low-powered radio transceivers, linked somewhere to telephone lines in order to fuction, might get it.

I've run into a number of folks who are fascinated that I can drive my car down the highway while chatting with a friend in Finland--maybe even using Morse code--and that I'm not paying so much money per minute. Some find it very interesting that I've checked into the West Virginia Phone Net and am simultaneous contact with radio amateurs all over this state.

> But show them a news story about how ham radio is key to
> providing communications in an emergency, and a few of them might be
> interested.

They certainly might be interested. What interested you in becoming a radio amateur? Were you a kid when it happened? I was interested at 12 and licensed at 14. My interest was in talking with people all over the world without telephone wires--and aside from the modest cost of my equipment, it was for free! Well, the cost of my equipment and antennas is no longer modest, but a kid can still get on the air for a couple or three hundred bucks and a few pieces of wire. Radio for its own sake, that's what it was about for me.

> How many voters care that we can sit in our shacks and chew the fat with
> our peers, or chase wallpaper?

I'm a voter and I care. :-)

> But sell them on the fact that ham radio
> provides a valuable service if there's a flood or tornado or blizzard,
> and they might be willing to tolerate an antenna.

We should sell them on that idea, but I didn't buy my land for them, I bought it for me. If I can "tolerate" a pink plastic flamingo on my neighbor's lawn in front of his parked RV beside his pink brick home, he can "tolerate" my antenna. [all hypothetical, of course]

> Ham radio is a unique hobby in the sense that it requires support from
> governmental agencies in order to exist.

It is recognized by the Federal government and licensed by an agency of the government. Did you know that the FCC never mentions the word "hobby" in Part 97?

>Public service has always been
> an important aspect of justifying and obtaining that support.

It is part of the reason that we exist and are licensed by our government.

A great number of radio amateurs in other parts of the world pay a yearly license fee. In some countries, radio amateurs are forbidden to participate in public service work. I don't know how it is in the U.K. now (maybe Ivor can fill us in), but it used to be forbidden to use a phone patch in the U.K.

We American radio amateurs have free licenses and a great deal of freedom to participate in numerous ways in amateur radio. It behooves us to become skilled ops, using as many different modes as possible. Public service work plays a role, but it isn't the ne plus ultra of amateur radio.

Dave K8MN

> 73, Steve KB9X

297. Re: Antenna Tuner

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-16 08:07:28 UTC
From: "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not>
Message-ID: <etd518$k5u$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 5188

Newby wrote:
> CQ CQ CQ
>
> I am looking to buy an antenna tuner and would appreciate suggestions and/or
> recommendations from the group. I will use it with a Yaesu FT-897D and an
> ICOM 706IIG.
>

Newby,

Please send us more details on your antenna(s): the type and size of
tuner will depend on the type(s) and size(s) of antenna(s) you're using
or planning.

While a "Garden Variety" tuner may be OK for a coax-fed dipole if it's
near to resonance, other feedlines and an antenna further from resonance
will need a more robust design.

Of course, some tuners have switching for multiple antennas, and some
don't, so let us know if you're using a single cloudburner, or multiple
skyhooks.

HTH.

Bill

--
73,

Bill W1AC

(Remove "73" and change top level domain for direct replies)

298. Re: Public service and ham radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-16 08:08:35 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <12vk9gipahs9q7c@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 5189

k8mn@earthlink.net wrote:
> On Mar 14, 5:20 pm, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:

> I don't object if others
> choose to participate in parades. I trust that they won't object if I
> choose not to do so.

I certainly don't object. You've described other things that you chose
to do. The thing that I object to is the folks who say that they don't
have time to participate in training, but "I'll be there if you need me
in an emergency."

>> What does the group do between
>> the "E"s? How do they build and maintain their expertise?
>
> We're fairly unique in this area. The old state prison at Moundsville
> is now used by national law enforcement for training. There are mock
> prison riots a couple of times per year in which Marshall County ARES
> is a participant. There was also a mock plague drill in which all
> agencies participated throughout the area. Radio amateurs manned
> positions at various EOC's, local hospitals and at the epicenter of
> the event. The ARES group also participates in Field Day each year.
> We've all received training in operating county radio equipment so
> that we can serve as auxiliary ops in the event that there is a
> shortage of professional ops.

That's impressive. It's just about as opposite from our situation here
as it could possibly be.

>> Many of the same kinds of tactical-communications and organizational
>> skills that are valuable in an emergency situation are used in public
>> service events.
>
> Well, a number of them are used. A guy sitting in his car with a
> mobile dual-bander or a fellow with an HT on a street corner for a
> couple of hours doesn't use all of the skills involved in a severe
> weather event which might last for days and require loads of spare
> batteries and other backup equipment. Passing accurate messages via
> digital modes may not come into play

Yes, but it's a lot better than nothing, and the only thing that we have
to work with in an area with no ARES.

[National database of hams trained in emergency communications]
> I think that is a very good idea. Having a pool of trained ops who
> can leave for a major disaster site on short notice would be extremely

> helpful. I'd think that not many of us would be in a position to drop
> everything and rush to a different region, especially for what might
> become a prolonged absence.

You might be surprised. Quite a few are retired and in exactly that position. I was pleased to discover during the Katrina effort that many companies are willing to give their employees time off with pay to participate in national disaster work.

> I seem to recall the word "financial", coupled with the words
> "background check".
> Am I mistaken?

You're not mistaken about recalling the words. The Red Cross is not doing a financial background check. There is controversy on how the wording reads on the web site that does the background check. I believe that the problem has been worked out, but the last I checked the information on the ARRL web site had not been updated.

>> A lot of people have
>> a problem even with that.
>
> I think I'd have a problem with that. The FCC has issued me an
> amateur radio license. The FCC knows who I am and where I live. I
> have other forms of identification. That should be good enough for
> the American Red Cross.

The reason that the Red Cross instituted background checks was to try to prevent the type of fraud that occurred during Katrina. There's no correlation between having an FCC license and passing a background check. I'd like to think that all licensed amateurs are honest upstanding folks, but I know that's not true.

> I'm not hiring on with that agency. I'd simply be volunteering my
> time.

It's not that simple.

For one thing, you are likely to be issued Red Cross credentials. This implies a level of responsibility for the Red Cross.

Also, you're likely, as a communicator, to be in very sensitive locations like the EOC or in service centers in close proximity to sensitive documents and information. If there's logic for Red Cross volunteers to be required to pass a background check, the same logic applies to the ham radio operators who are shadowing them or assisting them in close quarters. And speaking of close quarters, you're likely to be sharing sleeping quarters with these people; personally I feel better about sleeping with 100 of my new co-workers if I have reason to believe that at least some basic screening has been done on them.

Finally, there's the public view of things. The "man on the street" sees two people walking together, both wearing similar credentials, and

doing the same job. The ham radio operator will not be distinguished from the Red Cross volunteer. If there's a problem, the Red Cross will take the heat. I don't think it's unreasonable for them to hold ham volunteers to some standard.

>>> If it finds itself short of volunteers, it'll likely wake up.
>> "Waking up", in the sense of not requiring the background check, isn't
>> an option.
>
> It certainly is an option. Whether the Red Cross thinks that everyone
> will bow to the idea is an unknown. Who is hurt if the Red Cross has
> a shortage of volunteer radio operators spending their own money?

The people who are hurt are the disaster victims. You seem to think that logic applies here. It doesn't. This is a political decision.

FEMA and the NGOs took a lot of heat for errors made in the Katrina response. One of those errors involved not adequately screening volunteers and suffering fraud because of it. I do not think that those errors will be made again.

Will this result in better service to the disaster victims? NO, most certainly, it will not. Every check that is put in place to prevent fraud will make it harder for legitimate victims to obtain the aid that they need. But that will not stop those checks from being made because the taxpayers demand a certain level of assurance that their tax money is being distributed to people with a legitimate need.

>> The background check has been mandated by all the publicity
>> related to fraud during previous operations.
>
> Were there any reports of radio amateurs being involved with fraud?

You're trying to invoke logic again. <grin>

Yes, I did run into a few radio amateurs during the Katrina operation who were not mentally stable. Fraud? No. Irrational behavior? Yes. Would a background check have had any effect? I don't know. It MIGHT have kept them at home. Or not.

One more comment, only peripherally related to background checks. This is specifically aimed at _national_ disasters, not local ones where local credentials are used. I am afraid that Katrina was the death knell for just showing up and being put to work. The agencies -- be they non-governmental or official -- are likely to be much more picky about who they press into service. An FCC license or an ARES membership card may not mean much, and you are likely to have to submit to a background check before being able to participate fully in the operation. Maybe I am completely wrong, and the need for qualified people will trump the need to screen out the crooks. Time will tell.

> The Red Cross is not the only factor though. One can work with local,
> county or state police, with the Salvation Army with any number of

> other non-governmental organizations. I used to belong to the
> Northern Kentucky Amateur Radio Association. It did respond to the
> Red Cross. My local ARES group here does not.

You're right. It depends on the disaster and what role you want to play.

In a national disaster, the Red Cross is mandated by Federal law with the Mass Care component. They run the shelters, including regulating health and welfare traffic. They handle disbursement of disaster aid funds. They do the damage assessment.

But they don't have responsibility for the EOC. So depending on the mutual-aid arrangement that got you into the disaster, you might have nothing to do with the Red Cross. But as I mentioned above, the agency you're working for may have their own requirements in place.

> We have the HF amateur bands through international treaty. We don't
> risk losing them through lack of public service participation. The
> percentage of radio amateurs who regularly participate in ARES or
> public service operations have always been traditionally small.

The ARRL continues to lobby in DC, and they need ammunition for that lobbying effort. I don't see them talking to a Senator and saying, "We need these political concessions so that hams can sit on their butt and chew the fat with their buddies." I think "We provide a public service" is likely to have a better effect.

> We American radio amateurs have free licenses and a great deal of
> freedom to participate in numerous ways in amateur radio. It behooves
> us to become skilled ops, using as many different modes as possible.
> Public service work plays a role, but it isn't the ne plus ultra of
> amateur radio.

I wish that I had a better feeling that current US hams were doing that. My personal method of achieving the goal involves public-service activities. I'm certainly not saying that that's the only way to justify the hobby. One of the things that makes ham radio great is that it has so many different aspects.

299. Re: Public service and ham radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-16 14:17:26 UTC
From: Newby <nobody@nowhere.net>
Message-ID: <12vl0udo04pq490@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 5190

"Steve Bonine" <spb@pobox.com> wrote in message
news:12vk9gipahs9q7c@news.supernews.com...
> k8mn@earthlink.net wrote:
> > On Mar 14, 5:20 pm, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
>
[snipped]

> > I seem to recall the word "financial", coupled with the words
> > "background check".
> > Am I mistaken?
>
> You're not mistaken about recalling the words. The Red Cross is not
> doing a financial background check. There is controversy on how the
> wording reads on the web site that does the background check. I believe
> that the problem has been worked out, but the last I checked the
> information on the ARRL web site had not been updated.
>

[snipped]

"Background check" sounds too intrusive. If it is a criminal records check,
than say "criminal records check."

>
> The reason that the Red Cross instituted background checks was to try to
> prevent the type of fraud that occurred during Katrina. There's no
> correlation between having an FCC license and passing a background
> check. I'd like to think that all licensed amateurs are honest
> upstanding folks, but I know that's not true.
>
[snipped]

I don't recall hearing anything about ham radio operators commiting fraud.
I did hear a lot about 'victims' perpatrating fraud.

[snipped]

> Yes, I did run into a few radio amateurs during the Katrina operation
> who were not mentally stable. Fraud? No. Irrational behavior? Yes.
> Would a background check have had any effect? I don't know. It MIGHT
> have kept them at home. Or not.
>
[snipped]

Often we use our own frame of reference to judge the actions of others.
Perhaps some of those mentioned above might have a different view of your
actions than you do. Perhaps to some of them, your actions might be deemed

to be 'irrational'; not saying that is the case at all. A criminal records check will not uncover that kind of behavior unless it is related to some offense. A full blown background check, where neighbors are interviewed, might uncover it but it is not likely.

300. Re: Antenna Tuner

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-16 14:17:34 UTC
From: Newby <nobody@nowhere.net>
Message-ID: <12vl0uerjmltr94@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 5191

"Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not> wrote in message
news:etd518$k5u$1@victor.killfile.org...
> Newby wrote:
> > CQ CQ CQ
> >
> > I am looking to buy an antenna tuner and would appreciate suggestions
and/or
> > recommendations from the group. I will use it with a Yaesu FT-897D and
an
> > ICOM 706IIG.
> >
>
> Newby,
>
> Please send us more details on your antenna(s): the type and size of
> tuner will depend on the type(s) and size(s) of antenna(s) you're using
> or planning.
>
> While a "Garden Variety" tuner may be OK for a coax-fed dipole if it's
> near to resonance, other feedlines and an antenna further from resonance
> will need a more robust design.
>
> Of course, some tuners have switching for multiple antennas, and some
> don't, so let us know if you're using a single cloudburner, or multiple
> skyhooks.
>
[snipped]
>
> Bill W1AC
>

All good questions which is why I came to the group for advice.

Don't have the antenna(s) yet.

I am looking for a "more robust" design that will tune almost anything, an
automatic tuner rather than a manual one, and don't need switching between
multiple antennas.

73.

301. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-16 15:42:30 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <ete4q6ome1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 5092

John Smith I wrote:
> N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
>
> > ...
>> "The market" spoke very clearly, in the form of comments
>> to FCC. The CTT proposal was overwhelmingly
>> opposed. About 7 out of 8 comments on it clearly said NO.
>> Sounds like a clear message from the market to me!
>>
>> 73 de Jim, N2EY
>>
>
> However, if a new market comes forth, one composed of amateurs with
> little or no knowledge of CW and only using digital voice and digital
> data transmission--it would be market controlled also, and one would
> suspect it would self-correct and frown on the use of the bands for
> wasteful analog and cw communications.

I would disagree. Those modes are not wasteful. On the other hand, a vision of using the HF bands for data transmission would indeed be a way of filling up our bands pretty quickly, and for not a lot of gain. If I'm interested in Data Transmission, I would design a system for frequencies where there is less natural noise - VHF and up. Then bandwidth issues would be less of a problem too.

> Let's face it, digital voice is the only way to go.

I would disagree. What I have seen in digital voice so far offers no particular advantage over SSB, unless we are talking about digital for it's own sake. Most schemes that I have seen have some fatal flaws, such as the received transmission must be received in toto - IOW if you don't catch the beginning, you don't catch anything. The solution to that would be channelizing HF, or assigning specific frequencies to Digital voice. In addition, unless there have been some big advances recently, Digital voice does not have any particular bandwidth advantages.

Give me a Digital voice mode that I can tune across the band and pick up a conversation at any point in the transmission, and a 1 KHz or less bandwidth signal, and then I'll be interested. And of course, I'll need to see that some other folks are buying the digital radios too, so I'll have people to talk to.

> PSK is too slow for
> data transmission of LARGE and multi-megabyte amounts of data, end of
> story.

As for PSK, you are correct that it is too slow for data transmission. But that little 31 baud signal was never intended for Data transmission. It was intended for correctable text at a rate that a reasonably proficient typist could tap away at the keyboard in real time. Also a mode that can be efficiently operated at QRP and lover levels. And for that, it is an excellent mode.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

302. Re: Public service and ham radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-16 15:57:40 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <55vkt5F1uqk1dU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 5093

<k8mn@earthlink.net> wrote in message
news:1174015462.571860.326600@o5g2000hsb.googlegroups.com

[snip]

> A great number of radio amateurs in other parts of the
> world pay a yearly license fee. In some countries, radio
> amateurs are forbidden to participate in public service
> work. I don't know how it is in the U.K. now (maybe Ivor
> can fill us in), but it used to be forbidden to use a
> phone patch in the U.K.

It still is. We now have Echolink of course, where repeaters are linked via the internet (over a phone line of course) but direct connection with the PSTN is still forbidden.

As far as emergency service work goes, we have RAYNET (Radio Amateur Emergency Network) but that has IMHO degenerated into little more than helping with organising parades etc. which is why I got out of it many years ago. If there's a genuine emergency somewhere then I'll be happy to assist in whatever way I can, but I have no desire to stand around on street corners watching marathon runners.

BTW we now have a lifetime licence here, which means no more renewal fees (I suspect the dwindling numbers mean it's not worth collecting) but you do have to confirm that you are still active every 5 years.

73 Ivor G6URP

PS am I still the only UK call on here..?!

303. Re: Public service and ham radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-16 15:58:07 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <55vl33F26qp69U1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 5094

"Steve Bonine" <spb@pobox.com> wrote in message
news:12vk9gipahs9q7c@news.supernews.com
> k8mn@earthlink.net wrote:
> > On Mar 14, 5:20 pm, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
>
> > I don't object if others
> > choose to participate in parades. I trust that they
> > won't object if I choose not to do so.
>
> I certainly don't object. You've described other things
> that you chose to do. The thing that I object to is the
> folks who say that they don't have time to participate in
> training, but "I'll be there if you need me in an
> emergency."

Sorry, but I'm one of those. I *don't* have time, I have a full time job and I volunteer for an animal rescue charity at the weekends, plus all the normal family/household things that most people do. Besides, what training is necessary to pass radio messages..? Don't we already know how to do that..?

Or am I missing something..?

73 Ivor G6URP

304. UK license rules

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-16 16:17:22 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <12vl9mndrpq4ecd@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 5095

Ivor Jones wrote:

> BTW we now have a lifetime licence here, which means no more renewal fees
> (I suspect the dwindling numbers mean it's not worth collecting) but you
> do have to confirm that you are still active every 5 years.

I'm just curious . . .

How do you accomplish this confirmation? What happens if you don't?

I get the impression that this is functionally equivalent to the US license in which we must renew (but every ten years now, instead of five). There's no fee for renewal and it can be accomplished in a few minutes using the FCC web site.

73, Steve KB9X

305. Re: Public service and ham radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-16 17:40:54 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <12vlejclgebbt97@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 5096

Ivor Jones wrote:
> "Steve Bonine" <spb@pobox.com> wrote

>> . . . The thing that I object to is the
>> folks who say that they don't have time to participate in
>> training, but "I'll be there if you need me in an
>> emergency."
>
> Sorry, but I'm one of those. I *don't* have time, I have a full time job
> and I volunteer for an animal rescue charity at the weekends, plus all the
> normal family/household things that most people do. Besides, what training
> is necessary to pass radio messages..? Don't we already know how to do
> that..?
>
> Or am I missing something..?

My experience in actual disasters suggests both good news and bad news
in this regard.

Bad news: Yes, you're probably missing something. Knowing how to pass
radio messages is a valuable skill, but it doesn't translate directly to
the kinds of tactical communications required during a real event.
Having trained with your local group can be a big help, both in terms of
honing specific skills, getting familiar with the local people so you
work better as a team, and forging relationships with the local agencies
that you're going to work with in the actual disaster.

Good news: During the Katrina operation, I worked with a team of hams
who had never met each other until we were thrown together in
Mississippi. Experience and training ran the gamut from decades to
minutes. We were able to meld into an effective operation and provide a
much-needed service. Some in the group had a lot of training and
experience that they shared with the rest of us. Most hams are fast
learners and the basic experience of using the radio is valuable.

So in the best of all worlds, everyone would have had training. In this
world we live in, I understand that it's simply not possible for
everyone, either because of time constraints or because there's no
organized ham radio group in the area.

My comment was actually aimed at a tiny minority of hams who show up on
site and become a part of the problem rather than a part of the
solution. These people do exist, even in the ham radio fraternity.

73, Steve KB9X

306. Re: UK license rules

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-16 17:51:34 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <55vnjpF26oum8U1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 5097

"Steve Bonine" <spb@pobox.com> wrote in message
news:12vl9mndrpq4ecd@news.supernews.com
> Ivor Jones wrote:
>
> > BTW we now have a lifetime licence here, which means no
> > more renewal fees (I suspect the dwindling numbers mean
> > it's not worth collecting) but you do have to confirm
> > that you are still active every 5 years.
>
> I'm just curious . . .
>
> How do you accomplish this confirmation? What happens if
> you don't?

It's only just been introduced this year, I received mine a few weeks ago.
It can be renewed in the same way as yours via the web, or of course by
post. If you don't, the licence is revoked and the call will be cancelled.

> I get the impression that this is functionally equivalent
> to the US license in which we must renew (but every ten
> years now, instead of five). There's no fee for renewal
> and it can be accomplished in a few minutes using the FCC
> web site.
> 73, Steve KB9X

73 Ivor G6URP

307. Cox's news servers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-16 19:05:10 UTC
From: KH6HZ <kh6hzA@Tarrl.net>
Message-ID: <lYzKh.23500$Cp1.8414@newsfe14.lga>
Source record: 5098

... have finally picked up RRAModerated, although, as of 1pm Friday, there are no messages hosted.

308. Re: PRB-1 and CCNR's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-16 19:05:57 UTC
From: KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <1174064484.732450.54560@b75g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5099

On Mar 10, 11:12 am, Cecil Moore <myc...@hotmail.com> wrote:
> KC4UAI wrote:
> > This is important to me because I live in a deed restricted community
> > with a very picky HOA.
>
> Did you previously agree to the restrictions?
> If so, it is likely a legally enforceable contract
> between you and the other party.
> --
> 73, Cecil http://www.w5dxp.com

Well.. If truth be told, I knew in advance about the restrictions. However, this was *only* because I asked. CCNR's are not normally disclosed in total prior to writing a contract on a house. Your only indication that there *might* be CCNR's is that you are told that there is an HOA who collects dues and how much the dues are. In my experience, if you see HOA dues, you should assume the CCNR's restrict antenna installations. And walking away from your contract will cost you the earnest money if the reason is that you found the CCNR's too restrictive.

My complaint here is that the CCNR's are all boilerplate and just about 100% of the builders in the area I live have their standard CCNR's that they file before they start building. If you want to buy a house built in the last 5 years or so, almost 100% of them will have CCNR's that restrict antenna installations that are visible from any other lot or the street. Almost 100% of houses are built by builders who's standard operating procedure is to file boiler plate CCNR's before they even subdivide the land and start building roads.

Further, it's next to impossible to change these agreements. Legally, you have to get 100% of the lot owners on the original land that the CCNR got enacted on to agree to modify the agreement. (Can you say herding cats..) You cannot even go to the HOA and get an "agreement" here, because if they choose to not enforce the CCNR the guy next door has the right to take you to court himself. In fact *anybody* in the neighborhood can.

CCNRs have their place, and I understand that. How else would you get folks to pay for the community pool. But, I believe that there is a vested interest in the pre-emption of these agreements in a few more cases than the FCC has chosen. Amateur Radio being among these few cases.

-= bob =-

309. Re: PRB-1 and CCNR's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-16 19:37:56 UTC
From: KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <1174065308.879891.91050@b75g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5100

On Mar 14, 1:47 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> On Mar 13, 10:02 pm, "KC4UAI" <kc4...@gmail.com> wrote:
> > 4. Hope for a state or federal law that preempts the CCNR's I feel
> > where forced on me in many ways.
>
> How about working for such a law?
>

Aside from writing my congressman and advocating that others with my same views do the same, what else can one do? The last house bill got introduced and quickly referred to a committee where it died. How can we get it out of that committee with a recommendation that it be passed?

The FCC in it's latest ruling on this specifically states that if the Congress tells them to do it they will expand PRB-1 to include CCNRs for ham radio. How do we get Congress to do that? After all, there are but 600K or so hams who one could argue might be interested in this, and few others outside that group who would care.

I actually think this is as important as the spectrum protection stuff we do. Spectrum doesn't mean a thing, if you cannot build an antenna to use it.

-= bob =-

310. Re: PRB-1 and CCNR's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-16 19:39:15 UTC
From: Cecil Moore <nospam@w5dxp.com>
Message-ID: <bkAKh.9112$FG1.3787@newssvr27.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 5101

KC4UAI wrote:
> Further, it's next to impossible to change these agreements. Legally,
> you have to get 100% of the lot owners on the original land that the
> CCNR got enacted on to agree to modify the agreement.

Legally, it is not a contract unless you agree to it.
What would happen if you simply crossed out the antenna
restrictions clause before signing the contract?
--
73, Cecil, w5dxp.com

311. Re: Public service and ham radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-16 20:29:06 UTC
From: "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not>
Message-ID: <etelvndkm1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 5102

Ivor Jones wrote:
> "Steve Bonine" <spb@pobox.com> wrote in message
> news:12vk9gipahs9q7c@news.supernews.com
>> k8mn@earthlink.net wrote:
>>> On Mar 14, 5:20 pm, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
[snip]
>> The thing that I object to is the
>> folks who say that they don't have time to participate in
>> training, but "I'll be there if you need me in an
>> emergency."
>
> Sorry, but I'm one of those. I *don't* have time, I have a full time job
> and I volunteer for an animal rescue charity at the weekends, plus all the
> normal family/household things that most people do. Besides, what training
> is necessary to pass radio messages..? Don't we already know how to do
> that..?
>
> Or am I missing something..?

Ivor,

We're all too busy these days: I'd guess that the rest of the world said goodbye to the 40 hour work-week at about the same time as those of us in the U.S. Both parents working, kids in day care, constant juggling: it's a familiar story.

But -

Drills, especially large ones, are the _ONLY_ way to prepare for the mass confusion, conflicting agendas, egomania, short tempers, long waits, and broken radios that hams must deal with during a deployment. Those who don't prepare _are_ a part of the problem: however well-intentioned an operator might be, (s)he will bring a set of expectations and capabilities to a response which only training can shape.

On my first deployment, I brought a massive backpack, which included almost nothing I later needed and almost everything I didn't. The drills that I attended after that did little to hone my radio skills, but a lot to make me ready to use them, quickly and effectively.

In short, time is the currency of the realm in disaster response: it's the _only_ item that can't be bought, fabricated, fedex'd or helicoptered into a disaster. However well-intentioned a ham may be, if (s)he's not trained and in practice, then it takes time to get him/her up to speed, and that's time that's better used for other things. Those of us who must choose to spend our time in other activities - there is,

of course, nothing wrong with that - can best prepare for disasters by getting ready to help from our own QTH: there are, after all, always two ends to any radio circuit.

Bill
P.S. There's are a lot of old sayings in the business: here are some I've found inspirational -

"Always Arrange Agreement in Advance"

"Bring Basics: Bandages, Bedding, Bottles, Batteries, Beans"

"Proper Planning and Practice Provides Peak Performance"

"Water, Wind, Waves, and Weakness Won't Wait".

P.P.S. I'd bet there isn't a single question on any ham exam in the world that asks how much toilet paper to bring to a deployment; Q.E.D.

--
73,

Bill W1AC

(Remove "73" and change top level domain for direct replies)

312. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1544 - March 16, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-16 21:24:27 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <E1HSG1L-0006j1-RG@elasmtp-banded.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 5103
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1544 - March 16, 2007

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1544 with a
release date of Friday, March 16th, 2007 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. Iraq closes down
Amateur Radio, U-S hams respond after tornadoes
hit the south and New Zealand T-Hunts a jamming
E-L-T. You wont believe where it was
found. Find out the details on Amateur Radio
Newsline(tm) report number 1544 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

WORLDBEAT: YI1DZ CLAIMS IRAQ HAS BANNED HAM RADIO

Amateur Radio operation has been banned in
Iraq That is a claim made in a letter to the
world-wide ham radio community from Diya
Sayah,YI1DZ and distributed by Ian Abel,
G3ZHI Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, reports:

--

In his note dated March 13th, Iraq Amateur Radio
Society President Diya Sayah, YI1DZ, says that he
received confirmation from the office of Prime
Minister Al Maliki that all Amateur Radio
activity in that nation is to be closed down
immediately. This includes operation by Iraqi
nationals, foreign visitors and even members of
the coalition forces safeguarding that nation.

Thinking the note may have been a mistake, YI1DZ
made contact with Iraq's Ministry of Higher
Education and Scientific Research. Its reply was
to confirm that all ham radio in Iraq was to
cease operation and that hams would not be
permitted to return to the airwaves until that
nations security has been stabilized. As to how
casual Amateur Radio contacts made for
recreational purposes could be a danger to the
stability of Iraq's government -- this was not revealed.

Interestingly, Sayah's letter seems to blame the United States and Great Britain for Iraq's new ban on ham radio rather than the administration that imposed it. It says and we quote as closely as we can: "Congratulations to Mr. Bush and Blair for this freedom and democracy brought to a new Iraq and the new strategy to impose the law. If you think you can support Amateur Radio in Iraq , you need to talk to the creators of democracy and freedom."

The writers words, not ours.

More on this as we get it. For now, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the studio in Los Angeles, Fred.

--

No word on how long ham radio operation will remain banned in Iraq. YI1DZ note does allow for a possible misunderstanding on the part of government officials as to the nature and purpose of Amateur Radio. You can read the complete text of the YI1DZ letter to the ham community on the home page at www.qrz.com (G3ZHI, QRZ.com, others)

**

RESCUE RADIO: SEVERE WEATHER PUTS AMATEUR RADIO VOLUNTEERS TO THE TEST IN 3 STATES

Back in the United States, tornadoes and other severe weather on March 1st prompted activation by Amateur Radio Emergency Service and SKYWARN volunteers in Alabama, Georgia and Missouri. This, according to the ARRL Letter which says that twenty people died in the three states, including seven in Alabama.

ARRL Alabama Section Manager Greg Sarratt, W4OZK. said that tornadoes wreaked extensive property damage in the affected communities. Sarratt said that Amateur Radio operators all across the state were busy tending to the massive severe weather outbreak. At week's end, Sarratt had informed the ARRL that Enterprise and Coffee County Emergency Coordinator Jim Garrison, KL0LN, and local amateurs were still at the Enterprise E-O-C assisting the local emergency management agency and the city with recovery efforts.

In Georgia, ARRL Section Traffic Manager Charles Pennington, K4GK, said the Georgia ARES Net activated during the afternoon of March 1st and continued into the wee hours of March 2nd. This,

as a series of severe weather watches and
warnings were posted there. Several tornadoes
were reported, scattered mostly through central
and southern Georgia. Georgia ARES stood down
March 2nd but remained on standby if needed during recovery operations..

In Missouri, Section Traffic Manager Dale
Huffington, AEZ0S, cited many reports of
activation March 1st on the 75-meter phone
net. Amateurs in over half of Missouri's ARES
districts reported activation due to the storm.

In Howell County, in south-central Missouri, , a
tornado was blamed for the death of a
seven-year-old girl. An ARES net activated in that area.

In Boone County, in central Missouri, ARES teams
activated at the request of the Joint
Communications Information Center. Ten weather
spotters including Missouri Section Emergency
Coordinator Don Moore, KM0R provided real-time,
ground-level weather observations to supplement
the National Weather Service radar in Kansas City and St Louis. (ARRL)

**

RESCUE RADIO: ELT DOWN IN THE DUMPS

New Zealand's Radio Spectrum Management Hamilton
Office was recently called out to locate
interfering signals affecting emergency
frequencies. Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF, has more:

--

From the outset, New Zealand's Radio Spectrum
Management searchers kind of figured that they
were hunting for a wayward Emergency Locator
Transmitter. A helicopter had already traced the
signals, which were coming from a landfill
outside Paeroa. Now it was time for the dirty work to begin.

Using the latest global positioning technology
together with a negative gain antenna, an area of
interest on the far side of the landfill was
selected. After each grab by a back hoe digger,
the area was checked to ensure the transmitter
was still operational. On the fourth grab, the beacon was unearthed.

Markings on the outside indicated that it could
have been 20 years old. The on/off and test
control had been lost in the landfill. The Radio
Spectrum Management inspectors removed the

batteries to stop it from transmitting. All agreed that it was another job well done by New Zealand's Radio Spectrum Management in action.

In Auckland, I'm Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF

--

New Zealand's Radio Spectrum Management group regularly deals with similar scenarios involving distress beacons. They and other administrations urge all users of these devices to ensure that batteries have been properly removed prior to disposal. (WIA, NZART, others)

**

Break 1

From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world

(5 sec pause here)

**

ENFORCEMENT: SALE OF MODIFYABLE CB SETS BRINGS $7000 FINE

Call this one the case of the C-B Radio retailer who did not know to quit while he was ahead. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, has the details:

--

The FCC says that Ben Metzger owns 1 Stop Communications also known as the 1 Stop CB Shop in Titusville, Florida. The regulatory agency also says that on March 21st, 2006, the Commission's Tampa Office issued Metzger and his store a Citation for marketing non-certified CB transceivers. This included Connex models 3300, CX 3300HP, CX 4400HP as well as Galaxy models DX44 and DX88HL. This says the FCC is a violation of Section 302(b) of the Act and Section 2.803(a)(1) of the Commissions Rules.

In a response dated March 31st, 2006, Metzger stated that the models listed in the Citation were Amateur Radio Service radios. He claimed that they not require type acceptance. On May 11th of 2006, the Tampa Office responded that the models were intended for use on CB as well as Amateur Service frequencies because they have built-in design features which facilitate their

operation on CB by the exercise of simple, end-user accessible modifications. Accordingly, the letter advised, such devices are considered CB transmitters irrespective of any labeling purporting the devices to be "Amateur Radio Transceivers."

In his response dated May 16, 2006, Metzger stated he removed the Connex and Galaxy radios mentioned in the Citation from his store. On June 6, 2006, the Tampa Office received a letter from his attorney, which requested that the Citation be withdrawn, again insisting that the radios were marketed and sold as ham gear, not CB radios. The FCC refused to withdraw the Citation.

But it was not over yet. A few days later on June 22nd of 2006, agents from the Tampa Office revisited the 1 Stop CB Shop. There they observed a "40 Channel" Connex CX 3300HP transceiver along with other uncertified radios in the display case. The Commission's Office of Engineering and Technology had previously tested Connex models very similar to the CX 3300HP and determined them to be non-certified CB transceivers.

The agents inquired whether this particular Connex could operate on both CB channels and amateur bands. Metzger reportedly stated that there were easy directions on the Internet which show how to modify the radio to operate on CB. He also stated that he could easily modify the radio to operate on the CB channels for a small "tune-up" charge.

The agents paid him for the radio and the "tune-up." Mr. Metzger handed them the modified Connex CX 3300HP transceiver about 20 minutes later and then demonstrated how to use the different toggle switches on the radio to switch from the amateur band to the different CB channels. The agents later determined that the modified Connex radio was capable of operating on frequencies from 25.615 MHz to 28.305 MHz with an output power that varied from 2.4 watts to 15 watts.

On December 12, 2006, the Tampa Office issued a Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture to Metzger in the amount of $7,000. This, for the apparent willful and repeated violation of Section 302(b) of the Act and Section 2.803(a) of the Rules.

Metzger responded with a letter requesting cancellation of the proposed forfeiture. In it

Metzger states that he sold the agents a Connex CX 3300HP ARS radio, which he still maintained does not require FCC certification.. He claimed that if he modified the radio to operate on CB frequencies after selling it, a point which he does not concede, such action does not violate the Rules. Metzger also claimed that being fined for selling an easily modifiable piece of gear that he says is for ham radio use violates due process.

But the FCC sees things differently. In its February 28th order, the agency says that it has examined Metzger's response to the N-A-L pursuant to the statutory factors and in conjunction with the Forfeiture Policy Statement. . It found that based on the evidence before it, Metzger apparently willfully and repeatedly violated Section 302(b) of the Act and Section 2.803(a) of the FCC Rules by offering for sale non-certified CB transmitters on March 21, and June 22, 2006. And as a result of this review it no basis for cancellation of the proposed forfeiture and the $7,000 fine stands.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, reporting.

--

Metzger was given the customary 30 days to pay. If he fails to do so, the FCC says it can turn the matter over to the Department of Justice for collection and follow-up. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: BROOKLYN UNLICENSED BROADCASTER FINED $10000

An unlicensed broadcaster in New York has been hit with a rather stiff fine by the FCC. Jim Davis, W2JKD, tells us who and how much:

--

The FCC has fined Elroy Simpson of Brooklyn, New York $10000. This for willfully and repeatedly violating Section 301 of the Communications Act by operating an unlicensed radio transmitter on the frequency 102.3 MHz.

On November 8, 2006, the Commission's New York Field Office issued a Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture in the amount of $10,000 to Simpson. This, after tracing the unlicensed broadcast transmitter to him.

To date, Simpson has not filed a response to the N-A-L. Based on the information before it, the FCC has now affirmed the forfeiture and given Simpson 30 days to pay. . If the forfeiture is not paid within the period specified, FCC says that the case may be referred to the Department of Justice for collection.

--

This is just another in a long series of fines recently handed down against unlicensed broadcast operations all across the United States. (FCC)

**

RADIO RULES: REQUEST FOR STUDY OF BIRD TO TOWER CRASHES

Broadcast and tower groups are joining with wildlife advocates. This, in calling on the FAA to look into whether the use of steady red obstruction sidelights can be safely eliminated. The move is a development in recent discussions over the long-debated migratory bird question and whether these lights are a major contributing factor in the deaths of thousands of migratory birds each year as conservationists claim. (CGC)

**

TELECOMMUNICATIONS LAW: MICROSOFT VS. CYBERSQUATTERS

Microsoft has decided to get tough with those illegally using its name and logo. Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, reports:

--

Microsoft has filed two lawsuits against so-called cybersquatters who use the company's product names to profit illegally from online advertising. The world's largest software maker said the explosion in online advertising in recent years had given rise to the illegal registration of Web site domains containing trademark Microsoft phrases or common brand name misspellings. With billing for the ads determined by number of clicks, such sites can drive up traffic and, ultimately, ad revenue.

--

No word as to who will be first to get dinged by a Microsoft powered lawsuit. (Published reports)

**

HAM RADIO ON THE NET: REC.RADIO.AMATEUR.MODERATED IS CREATED

A new, moderated discussion newsgroup for Amateur Radio has been Created on Usenet. It's title is rec.radio.amateur.moderated and as its name suggests, safeguards are in place to preclude junk posting, feuds and personal attacks.

As the group is brand new some Internet Service Providers may not have it listed as of yet. If your I-S-P does not provide access to it or to the Usenet newsgroups, you can also read and post to this new ham radio moderated newsgroup at the Google Groups Web Site. Just go to www.google.com and then click on the word more then on the word groups. The type rec.radio.amateur.moderated in the find group dialogue box. (K3FU)

**

HAM RADIO ON THE WEB: 60M WEB PAGE FOR DXERS.

Ton Colyard, K4MM, has created an interesting Web page for 60 meters operators looking for DX. The site lists stations that have been active on this new band and also lists upcoming operations. Its in cyberspace at http://60meters.info (Via e-mail)

**

DAYTON HAMVENTION RTTY FORUM.

Shelby Summerville, K4WW, in Louisville says that the 2007 Dayton RTTY forum will take place on Sunday, May 20th, from 10:15 to noon. The venue is the Hara Arena, in Meeeting Room 2.

This years speakers will include Ken Wolff, K1EA, and Ed Muns, W0YK. Wolff will discuss log checking, and distinguish between myth and reality. Muns will give ideas of efficiently improving RTTY contesting. Time permitting, there will be a question and answer session following the presentations. (Via e-mail)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: CHANGE A BULB AND SAVE THE ENVIRONMENT

A new coalition is urging everyone to throw away
incandescent light bulbs and go modern to help
save the environment. Burt Hicks, WB6MQV, has more:

--

A coalition of private companies and government
agencies is launching a grass-roots marketing
campaign to persuade more Americans to help
combat global warming by using Energy efficient
light bulbs. Backers of the 18 Seconds movement
include the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,
the Department of Energy, U.S. mayors, retailers,
religious organizations and conservation groups.

The campaign's goal is to increase awareness of
energy-efficient light bulbs as a way to slow
global climate change. Organizers say that If
every American swapped just one bulb, the country
could save $8 billion in energy costs and
eliminate 2 million cars worth of greenhouse gas
emissions. The campaigns name is based upon
thre average time it takes to remove an
incandescent lamp and replace it with one that's more energy efficient.

--

More is on-line at www.18seconds.org (Press release)

**

RESCUE RADIO: COMMUNICATIONS ACADEMY 2007

Communications Academy 2007 will be held from
March 31st to April 1st in Seattle,
Washington. This event offers 40 hours of
instruction along with a static display of
Emergency Communications vehicles and the like.

Communications Academy is not a hamfest but will
have several prominent ham radio speakers
including John Cline W5USN and the ARRL's Harold
Kramer, WJ1B. More is on line at www.commacadeny.org (N7NVP)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: NAB HONORS LOUIS KING, PE

The National Association of Broadcasters has
named Louis King, chairman of Kintronic
Laboratories, as the recipient of its Radio
Engineering Achievement Award, to be presented

during the upcoming NAB2007 convention. The NAB says that from the time that he built his first crystal radio to the receipt of his amateur radio license, Louis King was destined to make his mark on the broadcast world. And says the NAB, he did.

It was here in the early 1950's that King started manufacturing AM broadcast antenna systems and components. That lead to his establishing Kintronic Laboratories which today is an RF equipment manufacturer with customers in all 50 states and in over 100 countries,. King still serves as its Chairman of the Board. King is a life member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. (NAB)

**

WORLDBEAT - BELGIUM: AMATEUR RADIO EXHIBITED AT EUROPEAN PARLIMENT

"Amateur Radio, a European Resource" was the title of a short term exhibit set up for a week at the European Parliament, Brussels Belgium. It was inaugurated at a special ceremony on Monday March 5th with about 100 guests in attendance.

The display consisted of five self supporting panels each of which represents a specific aspect of amateur radio. Among the items shown were emergency activities, space communications, the training of the youth, careers directly influenced by amateur radio and even an area dealing with personalities who are radio amateurs. Several additional posters told onlookers whom hams are, why the service exists and what we do.

The Exhibition was installed Friday March 2nd and removed March 9th. The president of IARU Region 1 along with several presidents and vice-presidents of national societies were on hand for the exhibits grand opening.

**

WORLDBEAT - AUSTRALIA: FREQUENCIES RESERVED FOR DRM

Meantime, down-under, Australia's radio regulator is preparing for the introduction of Digital Radio Mondiale transmissions. Again, from Auckland, heres Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF:

--

The Australian Communications and Media Authority has placed an embargo on frequencies and bands

potentially suitable for use by digital
broadcasting services using Digital Radio
Mondiale. These bands are outside the spectrum
used by traditional broadcasting services.

The frequencies involved are 5.950 to 6200, 7.100
to 73.00, 9.500 to 9900, 11.650 to 12.050, 13.600
to 13.800, 15.100 to 15.600, 17.550 to 17.900,
21.450 to 21.850 and 25.670 to 2.6100
MHz. The ACMA will consider applications for
the licensing of trials to investigate the use of
these bands for Digital Radio Mondiale operations.
--

No word as to when the spectrum study will be completed. (WIA News)

**

WORLDBEAT - CUBA: CONGRESS TO SCRUTINIZE RADIO MARTI

The Miami Herald reports that a congressional
committee now led by Democrat Representative
William Delahunt of Massachusetts plans oversight
hearings into Radio and TV Marti. This, amid
allegations of mismanagement of taxpayer money.

According to the news account the Oversight and
Investigations Subcommittee of the House
International Relations Committee will hold the
hearings. Radio and Television Marti are United
States propaganda stations that beam news and
other information to communist dominated Cuba. (RW)

**

DX

In D-X, the W2RZS Amateur Radio Club will be returning to Dominica
for the 2007 CQ WW WPX SSB Contest (March
24-25th) and they will be using their J75RZ
callsign. They expect to arrive on March 21st and
stay for 6 days. All QSLs for J75RZ should be
sent to W2RZS via direct or by the bureau.

And UA4WHX, continues to be active from
Madagascar as 5R8VB, but there are no details on
when he is leaving. He was heard this past
several weeks on 80 through 18 meters using CW or
SSB. QSL via UA4WHX, after he returns from his trip. (OPDX)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: GOING BACK TO CELEBRATE 50 YEARS

And finally this week, a special celebration for
a California ham. Gordon West, WB6NOA, has the story:

--

Audio report only. Hear it I the audio version at www.arnewsline.org

--

And we add our congratulations to Dr. Overbeck on
this very special moment in his ham radio career. (WB6NOA)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the
CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio
Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the
RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A
News, that's all from the Amateur Radio
Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is
newsline@arnewsline.org. More information is
available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only
official website located at
www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or
support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), P.O. Box
660937, Arcadia, California 91066.

A reminder that Amateur Radio Newsline is
currently seeking nominees for our Young Ham of
the Year Award. Candidates must be 18 years of
age or younger. An on-line nominating form is in cyberspace at
www.yhoty.org

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the
editors desk, I'm Fred Vobbe, W8HDU, saying 73
and we thank you for listening. Amateur Radio
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313. Re: Public service and ham radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-16 21:34:09 UTC
From: dplatt@radagast.org
Message-ID: <12vlpq8giv9cu57@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 5104

In article <12vk9gipahs9q7c@news.supernews.com>,
Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> wrote:

>> I don't object if others
>> choose to participate in parades. I trust that they won't object if I
>> choose not to do so.
>
>I certainly don't object. You've described other things that you chose
>to do. The thing that I object to is the folks who say that they don't
>have time to participate in training, but "I'll be there if you need me
>in an emergency."

I'm reminded of a comment made by Bart Lee KV6LEE, who happened to be
in New York City on 9/11 and served as the night-shift amateur radio
communications coordinator for the first few days of the incident.

He said,

"You may know the saying 'In a crisis, you'll rise to the occasion.'

It's not true.

You'll sink to the level of your experience."

I agree - if you intend to be of real use in a crisis, you need to
drill and practice on the skills and techniques that you'll use when
the fewmets hit the ventilator, so that they're as close to second
nature as possible.

Organized comms-and-crisis training is surely the best way to go.
Doing comms for public-service events isn't quite the same, but I
think it's distinctly better than nothing.

Doing _other_ things, like handling parking at public service events,
would seem to have little training benefit. That's not to say that
hams shouldn't accept such jobs... but they should probably consider
themselves to be doing so just as J. Random Volunteer, not as a ham
per se, since what they're doing has nothing to do with their
particular specialty.

>>> What does the group do between
>>> the "E"s? How do they build and maintain their expertise?
>>
>> We're fairly unique in this area. The old state prison at Moundsville
>> is now used by national law enforcement for training. There are mock
>> prison riots a couple of times per year in which Marshall County ARES
>> is a participant. There was also a mock plague drill in which all

>> agencies participated throughout the area. Radio amateurs manned
>> positions at various EOC's, local hospitals and at the epicenter of
>> the event. The ARES group also participates in Field Day each year.
>> We've all received training in operating county radio equipment so
>> that we can serve as auxiliary ops in the event that there is a
>> shortage of professional ops.
>
>That's impressive. It's just about as opposite from our situation here
>as it could possibly be.

My county (Santa Clara, CA) is fortunate enough to have a very well organized ARES/RACES setup, which is valued by the county and by most of the cities... and I have the good fortune to be in a city with an a topnotch ARES/RACES EC and an excellent relationship between the ARES/RACES hams and the city emergency manager. Lots of training, both within the city, and at the county level (trained and city-nominated hams are signed up by the county as Mutual Aid Communicators, and can be formally activated to provide inter-city support). It's a very impressive setup (to me, at least) with a lot of thought and effort behind it.

I still participate as a communicator in PSEs, though, both to help keep my skills up and because it's usually a lot of fun.

Part of what has forced a degree of formalism (dare I say "professionalism" w/r/t "amateur" radio?) is the whole issue of liability and insurance coverage for hams who have been formally called out by their city or by the county. In order to receive California Disaster Service Worker coverage, the hams must be formally activated by a suitable authority, and *must* be qualified for the duties for which they are being activated.

Our county AEC is very clear about the limits: he's instructed his MACs that he does *not* authorize them to perform certain types of duties or to follow officials to which they are assigned into physically dangerous locations, because the MACs have not received adequate training in those areas (e.g. fireline training). He (and the city ECs) have also made it very clear that their ARES/RACES hams are *not* to "self-activate" if they perceive an emergency - they are to contact their EC or other authorized official and await formal activation.

One of the responsibilities of almost any professional is to have a clear understanding of his/her "scope of practice", and to be willing to say "What you're asking me to do is outside my scope of practice, and I must decline." Hams who want to help out in emergencies need to be equally professional, I think.

As Harry Callahan said, "A man's got to know his limitations."

Part of the problem with people who haven't participated in training is a twofold issue: they may not know their limitations, and the

people they're working with won't know those limitations either. If a guy you've never seen before shows up in an emergency with a radio and an offer to help, you have no way of knowing whether he's $DEITY's gift to emergency comms, or a loose cannon with a lit fuse.

Around here, unaffiliated hams who show up in a crisis will be treated just like any other "convergent volunteer" - they'll be referred to a centralized volunteer center (there are two such in the county), interviewed, and (if apparently qualified enough to be useful) may be signed up as DSWs and put into _supervised_ service (e.g. sent out with another, trained ham). Such convergent-volunteer hams will *not* be put into solo, standalone service as part of an activation until their level of training, behavior under stress, etc. have been evaluated in the field.

>> I seem to recall the word "financial", coupled with the words
>> "background check".
>> Am I mistaken?
>
>You're not mistaken about recalling the words. The Red Cross is not
>doing a financial background check. There is controversy on how the
>wording reads on the web site that does the background check. I believe
>that the problem has been worked out, but the last I checked the
>information on the ARRL web site had not been updated.

Yeah, the latest version is still unclear... the Red Cross says that they won't actually *do* such a check, but the private company they've contracted the checking to *does* insist that the person being checked give a very-wide-range authorization for checking which could include financial and "lifestyle" checks.

>> I think I'd have a problem with that. The FCC has issued me an
>> amateur radio license. The FCC knows who I am and where I live. I
>> have other forms of identification. That should be good enough for
>> the American Red Cross.
>
>The reason that the Red Cross instituted background checks was to try to
>prevent the type of fraud that occurred during Katrina. There's no
>correlation between having an FCC license and passing a background
>check. I'd like to think that all licensed amateurs are honest
>upstanding folks, but I know that's not true.

Our city, and the county, and many of the other cities here in the county have a background-check requirement for anyone who is going to be granted physical access to secure or sensitive areas. For instance, my city's ARES/RACES hamshack is in the Police and Fire Admin building, literally one (unlocked) door away from the 911 dispatch consoles. The ARES EC and AECs have been given ID cards which unlock the outside building door... we don't even have to pick up the phone and buzz for access. There's no way that the city would authorize access to this sort of area to unescorted hams, without at least a basic background check. Hams can sign up for ARES

and participate in the weekly nets without going through such a check,
but in order to be listed under RACES and make themselves available
for formal activation they have to be checked.

In our case, the check is a "Livescan", which includes a "wants and
warrants" check and fingerprinting. No financial/lifestyle check.
The county's rules are similar.

I understand that the county is trying to negotiate an MOU with our
local Red Cross organizations, in which the Red Cross would accept any
ham who had been through a city or county background check without
further huhu. This sort of arrangement would seem to be implied in
the original Red Cross announcement, which spoke of doing background
checks for anyone who was coming in from an organization which didn't
already do such checks, so with a bit of luck it'll be formalized
hereabouts before too long.

I think that the big hassle w/r/t the Red Cross announcement, is that
they subcontracted the checking out to a company which has (so far)
insisted on having only a single level of "OK, check me out!"
authorization - one which is rather more invasive than the Red Cross's
criteria would require.

>For one thing, you are likely to be issued Red Cross credentials. This
>implies a level of responsibility for the Red Cross.
>
>Also, you're likely, as a communicator, to be in very sensitive
>locations like the EOC or in service centers in close proximity to
>sensitive documents and information. If there's logic for Red Cross
>volunteers to be required to pass a background check, the same logic
>applies to the ham radio operators who are shadowing them or assisting
>them in close quarters. And speaking of close quarters, you're likely
>to be sharing sleeping quarters with these people; personally I feel
>better about sleeping with 100 of my new co-workers if I have reason to
>believe that at least some basic screening has been done on them.
>
>Finally, there's the public view of things. The "man on the street"
>sees two people walking together, both wearing similar credentials, and
>doing the same job. The ham radio operator will not be distinguished
>from the Red Cross volunteer. If there's a problem, the Red Cross will
>take the heat. I don't think it's unreasonable for them to hold ham
>volunteers to some standard.

Yup, all valid concerns.

>FEMA and the NGOs took a lot of heat for errors made in the Katrina
>response. One of those errors involved not adequately screening
>volunteers and suffering fraud because of it. I do not think that those
>errors will be made again.
>
>Will this result in better service to the disaster victims? NO, most
>certainly, it will not. Every check that is put in place to prevent

>fraud will make it harder for legitimate victims to obtain the aid that
>they need. But that will not stop those checks from being made because
>the taxpayers demand a certain level of assurance that their tax money
>is being distributed to people with a legitimate need.

Agreed. It has become a political necessity... I have to admit that,
as little as I like the idea and the invasiveness and the bureaucracy.

>Yes, I did run into a few radio amateurs during the Katrina operation
>who were not mentally stable. Fraud? No. Irrational behavior? Yes.
>Would a background check have had any effect? I don't know. It MIGHT
>have kept them at home. Or not.

Or might, at least, have helped keep them in areas of lower stress
where their behavior could do less damage to the disaster work.

>One more comment, only peripherally related to background checks. This
>is specifically aimed at _national_ disasters, not local ones where
>local credentials are used. I am afraid that Katrina was the death
>knell for just showing up and being put to work.

As far as hams go, in a lot of cities, the idea of "just showing up
and going to work" fell into disrepute quite some time ago. I've
heard several stories about how a few "bad apples" in the ham
community, showing up at disasters and getting in the way, were enough
of a problem to cause the city to kick *all* the hams out of the area
and the process, and (in effect) declare hams to be "persona non
grata". This sort of damage can take years, or even decades to
repair.

A big part of the training and background-check process (and having
this be visible to the cities, counties, Red Cross, etc.) is to
reassure these organizations that the hams who they're dealing with
are going to be assets rather than liabilities.

--
Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO
Friends of Jade Warrior home page: http://www.radagast.org/jade-warrior
I do _not_ wish to receive unsolicited commercial email, and I will
boycott any company which has the gall to send me such ads!

314. Re: Public service and ham radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-16 21:34:50 UTC
From: dplatt@radagast.org
Message-ID: <12vlqlllguqn031@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 5105

In article <55vl33F26qp69U1@mid.individual.net>,
Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid> wrote:

>Sorry, but I'm one of those. I *don't* have time, I have a full time job
>and I volunteer for an animal rescue charity at the weekends, plus all the
>normal family/household things that most people do. Besides, what training
>is necessary to pass radio messages..? Don't we already know how to do
>that..?

Some do. Some do not. It does not come naturally.

Chatting with someone on the radio, or making HF QSOs, is not
necessarily going to prepare you for passing formal or semi-formal
message traffic *efficiently* on a busy net, when you and everyone
else are under stress in an emergency.

Things like "listen before you transmit", "don't read the message
faster than you can write it", "pause and drop carrier after every N
words", "don't editorialize", "think of what you're going to say
before you press PTT", and so forth don't come automatically,
and it's disturbingly easy to forget them when under pressure. I
believe that's just as true for "quarter century" hams as it is for
the newly licensed.

A message-net (formal or otherwise) with well-practiced operators can
be a joy to observe. Just one or two untrained or out-of-practice ops
can slow things to a crawl.

My own experience, after five years as a ham and after dozens of
training sessions and drills, is simply this: training and regular
practice makes a huge difference.

I remember reading a comment by Vladimir Horowitz, some years ago,
about his piano practice. He said something to the effect of "If I
skip my scales practice for a day, I can tell the difference in how
well I play. If I skip it for two days, my wife can tell. If I skip
it for three days, everybody can tell."

--
Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO
Friends of Jade Warrior home page: http://www.radagast.org/jade-warrior
I do _not_ wish to receive unsolicited commercial email, and I will
boycott any company which has the gall to send me such ads!

315. Re: Public service and ham radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-16 22:59:56 UTC
From: Newby <nobody@nowhere.net>
Message-ID: <12vlvmrdmr94ef3@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 5106

"Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not> wrote in message
news:etelvndkm1@victor.killfile.org...
> Ivor Jones wrote:
> > "Steve Bonine" <spb@pobox.com> wrote in message
> > news:12vk9gipahs9q7c@news.supernews.com
> >> k8mn@earthlink.net wrote:
> >>> On Mar 14, 5:20 pm, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
> [snip]
[snipped]
>
> P.P.S. I'd bet there isn't a single question on any ham exam in the
> world that asks how much toilet paper to bring to a deployment; Q.E.D.
>
[snipped]

Most hams won't even think to put it in there go kit.

Another clue, if going on a long deployment (subjective) take twice as many
socks as you think you will need and you will probably have enough.

316. Re: PRB-1 and CCNR's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 00:20:39 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1174083611.918823.275810@n76g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5107

On Mar 16, 2:39 pm, Cecil Moore <nos...@w5dxp.com> wrote:
> KC4UAI wrote:
> > Further, it's next to impossible to change these agreements. Legally,
> > you have to get 100% of the lot owners on the original land that the
> > CCNR got enacted on to agree to modify the agreement.
>
> Legally, it is not a contract unless you agree to it.

Not only do *you* have to agree to it, but everyone
else involved has to agree to it as well.

> What would happen if you simply crossed out the antenna
> restrictions clause before signing the contract?

That depends:

IANAL, but this is what I've learned.

If the seller is the person who put the restriction on the
contract, and has the authority to remove it, then the
two of you (and all other parties involved) could agree to
remove the restriction.

But in many cases that simply won't work. Here's why:

Most deed restrictions and covenants are specifically
written to be self-perpetuating. There is usually a clause
which says that the restrictions cannot be removed by
future owners - including the restriction that says
restrictions cannot be removed.

In those cases, the seller does not have the right to
remove the restrictions. S/he agreed to give up that right
and to continue all the restrictions as a condition of the
sale when *s/he* bought the property.

So you could cross it out and sign it, and so could the seller,
but if it were challenged by anyone, it would not stand up. In
fact, you might be in trouble for attempting to alter an
official document.

Deed restrictions are written that way for a reason: they'd
be too easy to change without it.

For example, a friend of mine lives on a 1.2 acre lot. The zoning in
the area requires a lot size of at least 0.5 acre.
His house and garage are at one end of the property, and

he could easily slice off a half-acre at the back without violating any setback requirements. But a deed restriction dating from the building of the house prohibits the further subdivision of the land. So it's 1.2 acres essentially forever.

If we could get rid of deed restrictions and covenants just by crossing them out, why would we need PRB-1?

73 de Jim, N2EY

317. Re: Public service and ham radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 00:27:16 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <12vm6dkf3koa33d@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 5108

Dave Platt wrote:

> I've
> heard several stories about how a few "bad apples" in the ham
> community, showing up at disasters and getting in the way, were enough
> of a problem to cause the city to kick *all* the hams out of the area
> and the process, and (in effect) declare hams to be "persona non
> grata". This sort of damage can take years, or even decades to
> repair.

Indeed, this is exactly the situation we're in right now. Once someone in charge gets it in their head that hams are a problem, it is almost impossible to change their mind. In fact, the only reason we're now beginning to mend fences is that the personalities involved have changed.

Bill Horne, W1AC wrote:

> On my first deployment, I brought a massive backpack, which included
> almost nothing I later needed and almost everything I didn't.

I went to the Katrina effort with another ham from the area. We drove down in his Suburban, and the vehicles was completely full. We used almost nothing that we brought.

On the other hand, one of the other hams drove down in a similarly-sized vehicle that he had equipped after years of experience with disaster operations. It was almost uncanny how he had exactly what he, and the rest of us, needed. If we came up short, the answer was "Ask Al." and he invariably had what we needed and the knowledge to use it.

That's the difference that training and experience makes.

Newby wrote:
> "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not> wrote:

>> P.P.S. I'd bet there isn't a single question on any ham exam in the
>> world that asks how much toilet paper to bring to a deployment; Q.E.D.

> Most hams won't even think to put it in there go kit.

I wonder how many hams even _have_ a go-kit. Or even a list to create one when needed.

I forgot a particularly important item during a training exercise and realized that I needed to make an actual checklist for my go-kit. I was astounded to discover that it contained over 100 items. No, that's not a Suburban-full; it's one carry-on bag and a small rolling suitcase.

318. Re: PRB-1 and CCNR's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 01:35:55 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <lf8mv2lttbssnsq3h4i9up8cun3do2alqq@4ax.com>
Source record: 5109

On Tue, 13 Mar 2007 21:02:33 CST, "KC4UAI" <kc4uai@gmail.com> wrote:

>I understand that the FCC didn't want to get involved for Hams, but
>they did use PRB-1 to pre-empt these private contracts for TV and Data
>Services so they do have the right.

Actually not so on all points. The FCC did not use "PRB-1" in the
OTARD issue. They were commanded by The Congress to adopt regulations
to provide for OTARD, whereas PRB-1 was issued on the FCC's motion
alone. Secondly, the FCC has clearly stated several times that they
will not preempt private land use restrictions until and unless The
Congress mandates it, and they are taking their own sweet time in
doing so.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
ARRL Volunteer Counsel

email: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

319. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 02:30:41 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1174009282.941229.47770@n76g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5110

On Mar 15, 7:44 pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>.
> Sounds like a clear message from the market to me!
>

Actually I suspect it is a clear message from the embedded
"gentlemen".

73, de Hans, K0HB

320. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 02:49:26 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1173836521.381233.291580@p15g2000hsd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5111

On Mar 13, 9:46 pm, Alan Larson <lar...@w6yx.stanford.edu> wrote:
> In article <estinj$5s...@victor.killfile.org> billhorn...@comcast.not writes:

>
> In some cases, the regulations in CC&Rs are governmental requirements.

IANAL either.

But it's important to understand what "CC&Rs" really are.

CC&R stands for Codes, Covenants and Restrictions.

In general:

Codes refers to building codes, zoning codes, etc., which
are government regulations. PRB-1 directly affects them.
There are definite limits to government power, and those
codes can be changed, or a variance granted.

Covenants and Restrictions refer to things that are
essentially private agreements or contracts.

In many newer communities, particularly condos, at least
some of the land is jointly owned. This results in special
covenants/agreements as to how the community is run.
These can, in theory, be changed, but it usually requires
agreement of everyone in the agreement, and is almost
impossible to get.

Then there are deed restrictions. These are conditions
that attach to the property itself. They are essentially a
contract between the seller and buyer. For example,
a deed restriction may be written to prevent further
subdivision of a lot by future owners.

The really insidious thing about most deed restrictions is
that many are written to be self-perpetuating. This is done
by including a restriction that says you can't change any
of the existing restrictions. IOW, when you buy the
property, you not only agree to abide by all of the
restrictions for as long as you own the property, but
you also agree to make the next owner agree to all of them
as well.

> Years ago, while looking at houses for sale, I stopped in on a newly
> constructed pair of houses on what had been a single large (for the area)
> lot. While talking to the selling agent, I learned that there was a

> requirement that the houses have no antennas, and that when cable reached
> the area, they could not even have TV antennas. (Yes, this was before the
> FCC stepped into CC&R issues with broadcst TV antennas.)
>
> I asked why. The explanation was that the city required them to include
> those restrictions in order to get the permit to develop as they had.

In many newer developments, the developer seeks zoning changes, variances, tax relief, etc. Often they are gotten as part of a bargaining process, such as the developer installing and maintaining the roads and water/sewer mains, etc. The no-antennas clause may have been to get a higher density than would have normally been allowed, or some other variance.

> So, CC&Rs are not always private agreements.

It sounds as if, in your case, the restrictions were put in to make the city happy.

73 de Jim, N2EY

321. Re: PRB-1 and CCNR's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 03:31:18 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <45emv29d84r7lp466787j11efbga0knqvn@4ax.com>
Source record: 5112

On Fri, 16 Mar 2007 13:05:57 CST, "KC4UAI" <kc4uai@gmail.com> wrote:

>Well.. If truth be told, I knew in advance about the restrictions.
>However, this was *only* because I asked. CCNR's are not normally
>disclosed in total prior to writing a contract on a house. Your only
>indication that there *might* be CCNR's is that you are told that
>there is an HOA who collects dues and how much the dues are. In my
>experience, if you see HOA dues, you should assume the CCNR's restrict
>antenna installations. And walking away from your contract will cost
>you the earnest money if the reason is that you found the CCNR's too
>restrictive.

Depends on where you are. In California and some other states, the seller's agent must produce the documentation of CC&Rs and HOA Regulations before the contract goes into effect, and I insist - for myself and my clients - that a clause be inserted into the contract that the buyer has a set time such as five days to back out with no penalty if there are restrictions on antennas or if the seller's agent fails to produce the above documentation to prove that there are no such restrictions.

When we were in the process if buying our house here in 1999, we didn't wait for the seller's agent -- we had our agent telephone her office to get the CC&Rs on every house that we were interested in (they are on file with the county recorder and can be obtained by FAX). There was one brand new townhouse that we really liked that really screamed "CC&Rs" but the search did not reveal any. I didn't trust the search, and we passed it by. We settled for our third choice, a 30-year old house that had CC&Rs but no HOA, and nothing in the CC&Rs would serve as a restriction to what I wanted to erect.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

322. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 03:31:19 UTC
From: N2EY@aol.com
Message-ID: <1174042000.130938.133850@y66g2000hsf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5114

On Mar 15, 11:38 pm, John Smith I <assemblywiz...@gmail.com> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote:

> > "The market" spoke very clearly, in the form of comments
> > to FCC. The CTT proposal was overwhelmingly
> > opposed. About 7 out of 8 comments on it clearly said NO.
> > Sounds like a clear message from the market to me!
>
> > 73 de Jim, N2EY
>
> However, if a new market comes forth, one composed of amateurs with
> little or no knowledge of CW and only using digital voice and digital
> data transmission--it would be market controlled also, and one would
> suspect it would self-correct and frown on the use of the bands for
> wasteful analog and cw communications.

If a new market appears, use of various modes will change,
and the new market can propose rules changes to FCC.

If a new market really does emerge, such proposal will
be widely supported in the comments.

However, it seems to me that the "new market" may be
more of an illusion than a reality. We've had PCs in
hamshacks for a couple decades now, and yet the
popularity of analog modes doesn't seem to be declining.

I recall being told, 20+ years ago, that there would soon
be a national highspeed digital amateur radio packet
network using VHF and UHF that would turn HF into a
backup system. Never happened.

As for "wasteful analog and cw communications" - why do
you call them wasteful?

Can a real-time digital voice message be sent in the
width of an SSB voice signal and result in the same
effectiveness? (signal to noise, power requirements, lack of need to
synchronize, tolerance of interference and fading, etc.)?

Is there any non-text data mode (IOW, something you listen to rather
than look at) which can replace Morse Code?

Should AM voice be banned from amateur radio? How
about FM voice?

> Let's face it, digital voice is the only way to go.

Why? And which kind of digital voice?

Why can't there be a choice of modes - digital, analog,
old, new - available to hams?

> PSK is too slow for
> data transmission of LARGE and multi-megabyte amounts of data, end of story.

Not the end of the story at all.

Yes, PSK31 is too slow for large amounts of data - because
it wasn't designed for that. PSK31 was designed to be a
keyboard-to-keyboard mode that uses very little bandwidth and has
excellent performance with low S/N ratios. It was
meant as an improvement to FSK RTTY for such QSOs.

For real-time (live) QSOs, PSK31 is fast enough.
>
> An "industry standard" for encryption/compaction and
> decryption/de-compaction still needs to come forth to deal with HIGH
> transfer rates of digital voice and data transmission and availability
> to ALL hardware/software developers/manufacturers be assured to such a
> standard(s) ...

Yup. And that's the "who's going to tie the bell on the cat" question.
Who will come up with that standard?

That's the key question to the whole issue. Who is going to
do all that development work and then give it away free?
G3PLX and a small group did it for PSK31.
>
> Great care needs to exercised when proposing and developing acceptable
> schemes to the above, we certainly don't need to create a "tower of
> babel" by not having free access to algorithms and standard methods in
> common use--and free use and experimentation needs to be right up front
> and encouraged--this only holds with the tradition of amateur radio!

Agreed! And it's already been established as a tradition.
PSK-31 is a classic example. Everything about it is wide
open and free-for-the-download.

OTOH, Pactor 2/3 is not free at all.
Implementing it requires buying a
specific hardware modem that is rather pricey. Some may
say that $600 for a modem isn't much in the scheme of
things, but even if that's true, it's the principle of proprietary
methods that goes against the grain.

btw, there is a downside to all this digital stuff. With
'analog' modes, such as AM, FM, SSB and Morse Code,
anyone with a suitable receiver can hear amateur
communications as they were meant to be heard. Tuning
in SSB requires a specialized technique, and *understanding* Morse
Code requires learning a skill or

using a decoder, but all that is needed to receive them
is a suitable receiver. IOW, they're wide open.

With digital modes, the incoming message is incomprehensible without a
decoding device - usually
a computer. That creates a divide between those who
are equipped and those who aren't.

Some may think this is trivial in a world where computers
are all over the place. And perhaps it is. But it may not
be a trivial thing at all. In the days when AM voice was
the voice mode used by hams on HF, amateur radio
got a lot of new hams from folks who heard hams talking
on their 'shortwave' receivers. That source all but
disappeared when SSB replaced AM, because most
SWLs couldn't receive SSB. More recently, we've gotten
new hams from the ranks of the scanner folks, because
they could hear amateur FM repeaters.

Going digital would eliminate most of that.

IOW, watch out for the Law of Unintentional Consequences.

73 de Jim, N2EY

323. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 03:31:20 UTC
From: peace@capebyron.com
Message-ID: <1173980927.235371.60730@o5g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5113

Hi,

I wouldn't expect ham numbers to climb dramatically but I would expect to see the Amateur Extra class increase in proportion so that it will be the majority of ***active*** hams, ie active hams seeking out the highest privilege level, this is typically what has happened in other countries that kept multiple tier licenses after 2003. Amateur radio growth is limited by the internet. We call relatives in Australia via Skype and don't think twice about it, the world is a smaller place and the excitement of radio contact is less.

That being said, I'm a new Extra and am just setting up a station.

As for the numbers, I passed my Extra on March 4th and I'm still a General in ULS, so be patient on the numbers.

Thank you for your effort.

On Mar 14, 7:14 pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> On Mar 14, 4:27 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>
>
>
> > N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> > > On Mar 10, 9:32?pm, b...@cs.uofs.edu (Bill Gunshannon) wrote:
> > >> In article <R5udnXoEmq84qm7YnZ2dnUVZ_u-un...@comcast.com>,
> > >> "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> writes:
>
> > >>> <N...@AOL.COM> wrote in message
> > >>>news:1173551042.644998.80300@j27g2000cwj.googlegroups.com...
> > >>> [snip]
> > >>>> Total all classes - increase of 89
> > >>>> ---
> > >>>> 73 de Jim, N2EY
> > >>> Well if we continue at this pace, that will mean 0.35% growth in one year.
>
> > > Which fits right into my prediction of 0% to 1% growth!
>
> > And I'll take 0.35% growth over a decline.
>
> However, it is foolish to look at short-term results and
> assume they will continue. Day-to-day variations can be quite
> large.
>
> For example, the most recent numbers I have at hand are

> for March 12, 2007. Total current FCC-issued licenses
> on that date (as of 7 PM March 13) were 654,331. That's
> 349 less than the 654,680 on Feb 22. Of course tomorrow's
> numbers may be much higher.
>
>
>
>
>
> > > But what is completely unknown at this point is whether the growth
> > > will continue. After the 2000 restructuring, the license numbers
> > > climbed for about three years - and then began to decline, until now
> > > they are well below what they were before the restructuring of 2000.
>
> > Here are some really rough calculations for my area:
>
> > Presently licensed in the State College area:
>
> > 231 - I'll have to subtract 3 club licenses
>
> > 229 local State College Hams
>
> > In the past 6 months, we've had around 2 hams per month added by club
> > testing. Note that this includes testing under the old system.
>
> OK so far.
>
> > The local University also has testing as part of one of the EE classes.
> > I don't have the exact numbers, or even close. They test by semester.
>
> > Given that about 12 hams have been added to the rosters by us in the
> > last 6 months there is at least a 1 percent growth rate - disregarding
> > the college group. Taking a rough estimate, they must be doing at least
> > as well, as the classes continue. My guess is that the final growth in
> > this area is around 2 percent. That is as just about at the top of the
> > growth that I would like to see.
>
> That's all good stuff - for the State College area.
>
> But it may or may not be applicable to other areas. We really don't
> know for sure.
>
> > We often speak of the effects that recent changes will have on the
> > number of new Hams coming into the fold.
>
> > I think this is a bit of a red herring attribute.
>
> > I think that growth in the service is much more dependent on what we do
> > to get people into it.

>
> I agree 100%.
>
> However, in recent decades, one of the main reasons given for
> changing the license test requirements has been to stimulate
> growth. Time and again, those pushing for the changes have
> said they were absolutely necessary in order for the number
> of US hams to grow in the future. So it's certainly worth watching
> to see whether they were right or wrong.
>
> > We've been on a recruitment effort that allows the new guys and gals to
> > not feel inadequate. We're teaching real basics, like how to solder, how
> > to read color codes on resistors. That kind of stuff. Oh yeah, and how
> > to operate that HF rig. I'm our club station manager, and we're turning
> > one corner of the building into a classroom for the new folks. And we're
> > being very careful to not sound like we know everything. (I don't have
> > to work too hard at that) ;^)
>
> This is all good stuff.Excellent work, Mike!
>
> 73 de Jim, N2EY

324. Re: PRB-1 and CCNR's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 03:31:21 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <dtemv256ss3pps0f77jb6likul1trr3hec@4ax.com>
Source record: 5115

On Fri, 16 Mar 2007 13:39:15 CST, Cecil Moore <nospam@w5dxp.com>
wrote:

>Legally, it is not a contract unless you agree to it.
>What would happen if you simply crossed out the antenna
>restrictions clause before signing the contract?

Both the contract and state law says that you agree to all recorded
CC&Rs on file. Usually one of the CC&Rs is that you will comply with
HOA regulations. An individual buyer cannot modify such restrictions
unilaterally. There may - or may not - be a provision for modifying
them spelled out in the CC&Rs or HOA Regulations themselves, but that
usually requires a unanimous or super-majority vote of all those to
whom the restriction applies (lots of luck). The only other way is
that some states permit a homeowner to sue for a declaration that the
restriction is unreasonable and therefore unenforceable, but the
burden of proving unreasonableness is very high and is on the
homeowner seeking relief.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
ARRL Volunteer Counsel

email: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

325. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 03:31:29 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <12vmf6eocnd6r12@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 5116

Covenants, Conditions, AND Restrictions = CC & R's, not CCNR's.

No, I don't think the Homeowner's Association is going to agree to a crossed out antenna restriction, even if the seller does. The seller does not represent the HOA. The HOA, however, *may* grant an exception if requested.

N7SO

326. Re: PRB-1 and CCNR's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 05:12:41 UTC
From: KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <1173834419.821053.325730@e65g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5117

On Mar 10, 11:12 am, Cecil Moore <myc...@hotmail.com> wrote:
> KC4UAI wrote:
> > This is important to me because I live in a deed restricted community
> > with a very picky HOA.
>
> Did you previously agree to the restrictions?
> If so, it is likely a legally enforceable contract
> between you and the other party.

In all fairness, Yes and no. Did I know about the restrictions? Yes, however, unless I had asked about antennas, the only thing I would have been told was that there was a HOA and they collected dues to support the community pool. But, I really had no other choice at the time and don't really have one now. There simply are no similar houses in the area that would not have CCNRs where I could relocate to.

The problem here is that the CCNR's are not a contract between me and the HOA per-say, but an agreement with every other lot owner in the subdivision. This means I could go the the HOA and get an agreement to alter the CCNRs but my neighbor could still choose to enforce the CCNRs himself even if the HOA declined. The only way to change the CCNR's is to get *every* party of the contract (all 250+ lot owners) to agree. My only real option is a federal rule similar to PRB-1 and what it does for broadcast and data services. (or wining the lottery or finding some non-existent house w/o CCNR's that the XYL and I can live with..)

-= Bob =-

327. Re: Cox's news servers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 05:12:59 UTC
From: Ron <apositiveplace@netscape.net>
Message-ID: <OVIKh.3025$nh4.2028@newsfe20.lga>
Source record: 5118

"KH6HZ" <kh6hzA@Tarrl.net> wrote in message
news:lYzKh.23500$Cp1.8414@newsfe14.lga...
> ... have finally picked up RRAModerated, although, as of 1pm Friday, there
> are no messages hosted.

Gee, that didnt last long. FINALLY!!! A moderated group, no more children!

Ron
kc0mxx

328. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 06:10:45 UTC
From: dplatt@radagast.org
Message-ID: <12vmoe22ppba773@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 5119

In article <1174042000.130938.133850@y66g2000hsf.googlegroups.com>,
<N2EY@aol.com> wrote:

>Can a real-time digital voice message be sent in the
>width of an SSB voice signal and result in the same
>effectiveness? (signal to noise, power requirements, lack of need to
>synchronize, tolerance of interference and fading, etc.)?

The review of DRM-based digital voice in this month's QST makes a
point of noting that both the WinDRM and hardware-modem-based systems
require a pretty clean, fade-free propagation path in order to perform
well. On less clean paths, they're prone to drop out... I infer that
as soon as the facing or QRM is severe enough to overcome the forward
error correction coding, you lose an entire packet.

>Not the end of the story at all.
>
>Yes, PSK31 is too slow for large amounts of data - because
>it wasn't designed for that. PSK31 was designed to be a
>keyboard-to-keyboard mode that uses very little bandwidth and has
>excellent performance with low S/N ratios. It was
>meant as an improvement to FSK RTTY for such QSOs.

I've heard of at least two groups who have been working on a PSK31-based
bulk data transmission system - both systems uses both forward error
correction and an ACK/NAK protocol structure. It's not intended for
megabytes of data, but for semi-unattended transmission of modest
amounts of data during emergencies. For example, basic health&welfare
traffic (queries and "We're OK, are in the shelter" responses) can be
entered via online Web forms, the fields converted to a compact
representation and heavily compressed, and then sent out in big
batches via PSK31 or a similar narrow-bandwidth mode.

The idea isn't to replace SSB voice (or CW net traffic) but to
supplement it, reducing the operators' workload and reducing errors.
It's certainly not intended as a substitute for broadband!

>Yup. And that's the "who's going to tie the bell on the cat" question.
>Who will come up with that standard?
>
>That's the key question to the whole issue. Who is going to
>do all that development work and then give it away free?
>G3PLX and a small group did it for PSK31.

>Agreed! And it's already been established as a tradition.
>PSK-31 is a classic example. Everything about it is wide

>open and free-for-the-download.
>
>OTOH, Pactor 2/3 is not free at all.
>Implementing it requires buying a
>specific hardware modem that is rather pricey. Some may
>say that $600 for a modem isn't much in the scheme of
>things, but even if that's true, it's the principle of proprietary
>methods that goes against the grain.

There was some work going on towards an open-source higher-speed
HF-data protocol a couple of years ago - SCAMP. If I recall correctly
it's based on OFDM (like DRM) with heavy use of forward error
correction. The last I heard of it, it had worked out well under
clean-pathway conditions, but wasn't working all that well under
noisy/fade-prone conditions and wasn't yet considered "ready for prime
time" or (as yet) a serious competitor to Pactor 2/3. Haven't heard
anything more about it in the last year or so - it's possible that
development has stalled.

>IOW, watch out for the Law of Unintentional Consequences.

a.k.a. "Oops!" :-)

--
Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO
Friends of Jade Warrior home page: http://www.radagast.org/jade-warrior
I do _not_ wish to receive unsolicited commercial email, and I will
boycott any company which has the gall to send me such ads!

329. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 07:19:45 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <NYOdnbMFPtWx92bYnZ2dnUVZ_tKjnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 5120

<N2EY@aol.com> wrote in message
news:1174042000.130938.133850@y66g2000hsf.googlegroups.com...
> On Mar 15, 11:38 pm, John Smith I <assemblywiz...@gmail.com> wrote:
>> N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>

[snip]

>> PSK is too slow for
>> data transmission of LARGE and multi-megabyte amounts of data, end of
>> story.
>
> Not the end of the story at all.
>
> Yes, PSK31 is too slow for large amounts of data - because
> it wasn't designed for that. PSK31 was designed to be a
> keyboard-to-keyboard mode that uses very little bandwidth and has
> excellent performance with low S/N ratios. It was
> meant as an improvement to FSK RTTY for such QSOs.
>

My question on this is why would we be sending large amounts of data on
amateur radio? The need for it doesn't exist in general. If it did,
someone would have developed the appropriate digital mode by now.

Dee, N8UZE

330. ?portable rigs?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 13:28:37 UTC
From: ml <m@di.net>
Message-ID: <m-F1BD0F.06411817032007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 5121

hi

I was thinking about getting a very small radio to use backpack /travel portable

small size is what i am after but i also want more than flea power .(ie 20w) in fact 100 is my target. and all bands

i thought about the 897d it' a great rig has everything i need (all band but weighs a ton

the 857mobile rig or 100d might be a possibility

the sgc i believe is discontinued?

but wanted to see if anybody know of any other rigs out there i might have over looked

331. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 14:27:12 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1174134407.802252.154260@o5g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5122

On Mar 17, 2:19 am, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:

> My question on this is why would we be sending large amounts of data on
> amateur radio?

I can think of a couple uses for it, Dee.

First there's emergency/public service comms. The served agencies
are used to being able to send emails with sizable attachments through
the usual networks. A mode that would let them do that via amateur
radio
when the usual networks are not available would be a really good tool
in the emcomm toolbox. IMHO it's the thinking pushing WinLink.

Second, there are plenty of times in an ordinary QSO when it
would be good to be able to send a picture, station description,
article, a sound clip, etc. directly by radio, and have it in digital
format at the other end. In the past, such modes as SSTV have
gained limited acceptance because they required lots of extra
apparatus, but with the widespread acceptance of PCs today
the big limitation is software, not hardware.

> The need for it doesn't exist in general.

In some cases, if something is presented to people, they
will find a use for it. Look back on predictions about
computers - in the early '50s it was predicted that a half-
dozen or so general-purpose computers would serve all
the needs of the USA, and in the '70s it was said that no
ordinary person would ever need a computer in their home.
Both pronouncements were made by knowledgeable
professionals, and at the time seemed quite reasonable.

Of course "if you build it, they will come" doesn't always
work out.

>If it did,
> someone would have developed the appropriate digital mode by now.

I disagree. One of the big problems is that such development
tends to be protected by the developers, and *not* made
open-source. PSK-31 and Linux are exceptions, not the rule.

In the bad old days, the focus was on hardware, and the
idea of controlling a mode-concept wasn't taken too
seriously. SSB, FM, SSTV, RTTY, AX.25 packet,
etc., all came to amateur radio essentially as freebies.

The standard was widely and publicly
available, just meet it and go on the air.

But you can't homebrew
a Pactor 2/3 modem today the way you could homebrew
an SSB rig 50 years ago.

The "bell-the-cat" question is still *who* is going to develop
such new modes and then just give them away for free.
Groups that have tried (TAPR and the spread-spectrum idea)
have taken years without much to show.

All IMHO

73 de Jim, N2EY

332. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 14:43:39 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1174135394.720807.179620@y80g2000hsf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5123

On Mar 17, 12:12 am, "KC4UAI" <kc4...@gmail.com> wrote:
> On Mar 10, 11:12 am, Cecil Moore <myc...@hotmail.com> wrote:
>
> > KC4UAI wrote:
> > > This is important to me because I live in a deed restricted community
> > > with a very picky HOA.
>
> > Did you previously agree to the restrictions?
> > If so, it is likely a legally enforceable contract
> > between you and the other party.
>
> In all fairness, Yes and no. Did I know about the restrictions? Yes,
> however, unless I had asked about antennas, the only thing I would
> have been told was that there was a HOA and they collected dues to
> support the community pool. But, I really had no other choice at the
> time and don't really have one now. There simply are no similar
> houses in the area that would not have CCNRs where I could relocate
> to.

Which is the textbook definition of a "contract of adhesion",
IMHO.
>
> The problem here is that the CCNR's are not a contract between me and
> the HOA per-say, but an agreement with every other lot owner in the
> subdivision. This means I could go the the HOA and get an agreement
> to alter the CCNRs but my neighbor could still choose to enforce the
> CCNRs himself even if the HOA declined. The only way to change the
> CCNR's is to get *every* party of the contract (all 250+ lot owners)
> to agree.

Another way of making them practically unchangeable.

> My only real option is a federal rule similar to PRB-1 and
> what it does for broadcast and data services. (or wining the lottery
> or finding some non-existent house w/o CCNR's that the XYL and I can
> live with..)
>
This is where real estate differs from other purchases IMHO.
Unlike almost everything else, RE is in limited supply and not
portable. They're not making much more of it, either. Plus you cannot
buy what isn't for sale.

Most of all, RE is often a joint purchase that affects many
people, rather than just one. Getting family agreement is
the reality of most modern families.

KC4UAI does have some possible options besides those
listed:

1) Watch the RE ads and websites looking for a unrestricted
house - and be ready to jump on it if on does appear.

2) Look for brand-new developments, and offer to buy only
if the developer (who almost always is the one who adds
the restrictions) does not include the anti-antenna CC&Rs
on the house. It probably will not have an effect right
away, but after a while the developers might get the
message that they are losing sales because of the restrictions.

3) Save up for the dream house out beyond the restrictions.

4) Figure out ways to get a ruling like the OTARD one for
amateur antennas.

73 de Jim, N2EY

333. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 15:06:04 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5621tsF2531oqU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 5124

"Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> wrote in message
news:NYOdnbMFPtWx92bYnZ2dnUVZ_tKjnZ2d@comcast.com

[snip]

> My question on this is why would we be sending large
> amounts of data on amateur radio? The need for it
> doesn't exist in general. If it did, someone would have
> developed the appropriate digital mode by now.
> Dee, N8UZE

Erm.... Packet Radio..?!

I ran a packet BBS for 11 years, ok so it was slow (1200/9600 bd) but it was reliable and transmitted a *lot* of data (ok most of it rubbish, but what the heck..?!)

73 Ivor G6URP

334. Re: ?portable rigs?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 15:06:52 UTC
From: Alex Flinsch <avflinsch@att.net>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.03.17.12.46.44.305492@att.net>
Source record: 5125

On Sat, 17 Mar 2007 08:28:37 -0600, ml wrote:

> hi
>
> I was thinking about getting a very small radio to use backpack /travel
> portable
>
> small size is what i am after but i also want more than flea power
> .(ie 20w) in fact 100 is my target. and all bands
>
> i thought about the 897d it' a great rig has everything i need (all
> band but weighs a ton
>
> the 857mobile rig or 100d might be a possibility
>
> the sgc i believe is discontinued?
>

The SGC 2020 is discontinued, as is the Yaesu FT-100D

The 857 is essentially the same rig as the 897 without the battery pack,
once you add in a battery for portable use, the weight will be about the
same. One advantage of the 897 is that has bigger controls than the 857.

Personally I use a Icom 703 for portable work. 10 Watts is enough most of
the time.

--

Alex/AB2RC

335. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 15:09:27 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1174136785.043710.317870@p15g2000hsd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5126

On Mar 16, 10:31 pm, p...@capebyron.com wrote:
> Hi,
>
> I wouldn't expect ham numbers to climb dramatically but I would expect
> to see the Amateur Extra class increase in proportion so that it will
> be the majority of ***active*** hams, ie active hams seeking out the
> highest privilege level, this is typically what has happened in other
> countries that kept multiple tier licenses after 2003.

Maybe - but I doubt it will happen.

Back in 2000 the FCC reduced both the written and Morse Code
testing. Anyone who held a Morse Code tested license could upgrade
to Extra with just some written testing - and the amount of written
testing was reduced too.

Yet here it is seven years later and several hundred thousand hams
hold General and Advanced licenses. Surely they aren't all inactive.
They just haven't gotten around to passing the written tests yet.

> Amateur radio
> growth is limited by the internet. We call relatives in Australia via
> Skype and don't think twice about it, the world is a smaller place and
> the excitement of radio contact is less.

I think that depends on why someone wants to be a radio amateur.

IMHO, there are three basic motivations to being a ham:

1) Operating radios

2) Messing around with technology

3) Communicating electronically

Most hams are motivated by a mixture of these three. Their
relative importance varies with the person.

There was a time when the average person's options for
electronic/electric communication were very limited. Those
days are long gone - not just because of the internet but
because of lowcost cell phones and long distance calling.
So those who are primarily motivated by 3) aren't going to
be hams any more.

But 1) and 2) are still going strong. The big difference is
that they represent the individual doing something that is
independent of a big commercial network. Being an

operator, not a user.

It's a bit like the difference between flying a plane yourself
and riding in an airliner. Both get you there, and the
airliner is almost certainly faster, safer and less expensive.
But it's not the same thing. Ask any pilot.

What amateur radio is really all about today is "radio for
its own sake". Radio as an end in itself, not a means to
an end.

> That being said, I'm a new Extra and am just setting up a station.

Congratulations and welcome! I hope to work you on the air.

> As for the numbers, I passed my Extra on March 4th and I'm still a
> General in ULS, so be patient on the numbers.

Yup. It will take a while for the dust to settle. The big hamfest/VE
session season is only just beginning.
>
> Thank you for your effort.

You're welcome. Next set of numbers will be in a week or so,
then once a month after that, on or around the 23rd of the month.

73 de Jim, N2EY

336. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 15:25:12 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <12vnr1a4c43mce0@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 5127

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
> On Mar 17, 2:19ï¿½am, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:
>
>> My question on this is why would we be sending large amounts of data on
>> amateur radio?
>
> I can think of a couple uses for it, Dee.
>
> First there's emergency/public service comms. The served agencies
> are used to being able to send emails with sizable attachments through
> the usual networks. A mode that would let them do that via amateur
> radio
> when the usual networks are not available would be a really good tool
> in the emcomm toolbox. IMHO it's the thinking pushing WinLink.

Yes, I agree that this is exactly what's pushing WinLink.

This is one of those areas in which I have very strong opinions both pro and con. It's almost like the devil on one shoulder and an angel on the other, each speaking into one ear.

On the pro side, it really makes a lot of sense in theory. If we hams could offer this kind of capability to emergency agencies, it would provide a much-needed communications capability in times of disaster. But it would need to be stand-alone and not depend upon repeaters that might be out of service, which to me implies HF.

On the con side, a real disaster is the worst possible scenario for trying to get this technology to work reliably. You're potentially in a high-noise low-signal poor-antenna situation. The equipment required is fairly complex, and you need a fair amount of technical knowledge to set it up. When I build a mental image of someone at a shelter trying to set up this gear, it's hard for me to see success. Finally there's the issue of what data gets sent; some of it probably is not appropriate for transmission using amateur radio.

> Second, there are plenty of times in an ordinary QSO when it
> would be good to be able to send a picture, station description,
> article, a sound clip, etc. directly by radio, and have it in digital
> format at the other end. In the past, such modes as SSTV have
> gained limited acceptance because they required lots of extra
> apparatus, but with the widespread acceptance of PCs today
> the big limitation is software, not hardware.

This one I find intriguing. I do think that if the capability existed, and did not require purchase of hardware in addition to a PC, that it

would be interesting to enough hams to create a critical mass. It provides an alternative playground for hams who prefer to experiment using the keyboard of their PC rather than their soldering iron.

73, Steve KB9X

337. Re: PRB-1 and CCNR's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 16:01:14 UTC
From: Cecil Moore <nospam@w5dxp.com>
Message-ID: <rwSKh.8805$Um6.5178@newssvr12.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 5128

KC4UAI wrote:
> There simply are no similar
> houses in the area that would not have CCNRs where I could relocate
> to.

CC&Rs are a part of the price one pays for a house
and I, for one, am not willing to pay a price that
prohibits amateur radio antennas. That price is
just too high.
--
73, Cecil http://www.w5dxp.com

338. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 16:12:49 UTC
From: Cecil Moore <nospam@w5dxp.com>
Message-ID: <nHSKh.8807$Um6.209@newssvr12.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 5129

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
> IMHO, there are three basic motivations to being a ham:
> 1) Operating radios
> 2) Messing around with technology
> 3) Communicating electronically

(4) Was motivated in the past by one or more of the
above but now just continues to renew his/her ham
license while operating cell phones, sending emails,
and posting to r.r.a.* groups. :-)
--
73, Cecil http://www.w5dxp.com

339. Re: PRB-1 and CCNR's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 16:59:58 UTC
From: Ralph E Lindberg <n7bsn@callsign.net>
Message-ID: <n7bsn-C648DF.07483917032007@individual.net>
Source record: 5130

In article <sdj9v2teatqspr4jm7pm8oh6n4no80jvsp@4ax.com>,
Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:

> On Sat, 10 Mar 2007 10:12:14 CST, Cecil Moore <mycall@hotmail.com>
> wrote:
>
> >Did you previously agree to the restrictions?
> >If so, it is likely a legally enforceable contract
> >between you and the other party.
>
> Cecil, look up the term "contract of adhesion" in a legal text on
> contracts. It is a "take it or leave it" situation where there is no
> real bargaining.
>
> In California, where I practice state law, a deed restriction or HOA
> regulation can be declared unenforceable if it is found to be
> unreasonable but the burden of proof of unreasonableness is on the
> homeowner seeking relief.
> --

As I understand Washington (state) law, the same is true here, plus if
the regulation hasn't been enforced in years, or has been "selectively"
enforced.

Except for the race restriction found in some old CCNRs

--

Personal e-mail is the n7bsn but at amsat.org
This posting address is a spam-trap and seldom read
RV and Camping FAQ can be found at
http://www.ralphandellen.us/rv

340. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 18:22:52 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1174148105.750208.238600@b75g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5131

On Mar 17, 1:19 am, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:

>
> My question on this is why would we be sending large amounts of data on
> amateur radio?
>

"Because we can"

Actually, I agree that there may be no particular ongoing NEED for an Amateur Radio high volume data channel, but neither was there a NEED for LEOs, APRS, and similar "tinkerer" modes, many of which had their genesis in ham shacks and now have morphed into commercial applications.

I believe that the rules for Amateur Radio regulations should be loosened to the "least required to protect other spectrum users" with the intention to promote a renewed spirit of experimentation by hams.

73, de Hans, K0HB

341. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 20:37:30 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <waSdneIZMovYtWHYnZ2dnUVZ_vumnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 5132

<N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote in message
news:1174134407.802252.154260@o5g2000hsb.googlegroups.com...
> On Mar 17, 2:19 am, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:
>
>> My question on this is why would we be sending large amounts of data on
>> amateur radio?
>
> I can think of a couple uses for it, Dee.
>
> First there's emergency/public service comms. The served agencies
> are used to being able to send emails with sizable attachments through
> the usual networks. A mode that would let them do that via amateur
> radio
> when the usual networks are not available would be a really good tool
> in the emcomm toolbox. IMHO it's the thinking pushing WinLink.
>

Perhaps they would like to have such but IMHO, when the catastrophe is
serious enough and wide spread enough that hams are truly needed, that is
apt to be coupled with power source limitations that would make it unwise to
send such length attachments in many cases. Plain ascii text would be the
most useful and results in low file size. There are several modes that can
handle that. In addition, the power source limitations might make running
computers as well as radios an unwise choice in some situations.

> Second, there are plenty of times in an ordinary QSO when it
> would be good to be able to send a picture, station description,
> article, a sound clip, etc. directly by radio, and have it in digital
> format at the other end. In the past, such modes as SSTV have
> gained limited acceptance because they required lots of extra
> apparatus, but with the widespread acceptance of PCs today
> the big limitation is software, not hardware.
>

Yes the PC capabilities have done a lot for digital modes of all types.

>> The need for it doesn't exist in general.
>
> In some cases, if something is presented to people, they
> will find a use for it. Look back on predictions about
> computers - in the early '50s it was predicted that a half-
> dozen or so general-purpose computers would serve all
> the needs of the USA, and in the '70s it was said that no
> ordinary person would ever need a computer in their home.
> Both pronouncements were made by knowledgeable

> professionals, and at the time seemed quite reasonable.
>

Well the science fiction authors were envisioning small personal size
computers almost from the day computers were invented. I must have read a
lot of it as I've always believed that computers would become an everyday
tool for everyone.

> Of course "if you build it, they will come" doesn't always
> work out.
>
>> If it did,
>> someone would have developed the appropriate digital mode by now.
>
> I disagree. One of the big problems is that such development
> tends to be protected by the developers, and *not* made
> open-source. PSK-31 and Linux are exceptions, not the rule.
>

Well I disagree with your disagreement. To me it seems that there are
enough hams that somewhere in that group are several people capable of doing
this it they deemed it worth doing. Then we would have modes and software
developed by hams for hams. Then there would be more likelihood that it
would be shared in the same manner as PSK-31. There is nothing stopping
anyone from doing that development other than lack of interest.

> etc., all came to amateur radio essentially as freebies.
> The standard was widely and publicly
> available, just meet it and go on the air.
>
> But you can't homebrew
> a Pactor 2/3 modem today the way you could homebrew
> an SSB rig 50 years ago.
>

Well the today's computer capabilities, the hardware aspect simply goes
away. It becomes a software issue.

> The "bell-the-cat" question is still *who* is going to develop
> such new modes and then just give them away for free.
> Groups that have tried (TAPR and the spread-spectrum idea)
> have taken years without much to show.
>

I think the problem with the spread-spectrum is that for ham radio
operators, the usefulness simply doesn't justify setting up to use it.
People want to get out there and find stations rather than having to have
pre-arranged schedules for everything.

If it doesn't seem useful to them, people will pass on it.

This occurs in all fields of endeavor. A person has a bright idea, packages
it, markets it, and it doesn't sell simply because the market doesn't

perceive any significant need for or pleasure derived from the product.

Dee, N8UZE

342. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 20:37:57 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <4a6dnZXyzNNLtGHYnZ2dnUVZ_rGinZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 5133

"Steve Bonine" <spb@pobox.com> wrote in message
news:12vnr1a4c43mce0@news.supernews.com...
> N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
>> On Mar 17, 2:19 am, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:
>>

[snip]

> On the pro side, it really makes a lot of sense in theory. If we hams
> could offer this kind of capability to emergency agencies, it would
> provide a much-needed communications capability in times of disaster. But
> it would need to be stand-alone and not depend upon repeaters that might
> be out of service, which to me implies HF.
>
> On the con side, a real disaster is the worst possible scenario for trying
> to get this technology to work reliably. You're potentially in a
> high-noise low-signal poor-antenna situation. The equipment required is
> fairly complex, and you need a fair amount of technical knowledge to set
> it up. When I build a mental image of someone at a shelter trying to set
> up this gear, it's hard for me to see success. Finally there's the issue
> of what data gets sent; some of it probably is not appropriate for
> transmission using amateur radio.

Another thing to keep in mind that as our infrastructure becomes stronger,
hams will only really be needed in the absolutely worst disasters. Not only
do you have the bad signal to noise ratio and poor antennas, you may be
power limited. People remark on the low power capabilities of PSK31 for
example but they are only looking at transmit power. You really need to
look at power consumption. That means adding in the computer/monitor combo.
One might actually be better off with voice.

>
>> Second, there are plenty of times in an ordinary QSO when it
>> would be good to be able to send a picture, station description,
>> article, a sound clip, etc. directly by radio, and have it in digital
>> format at the other end. In the past, such modes as SSTV have
>> gained limited acceptance because they required lots of extra
>> apparatus, but with the widespread acceptance of PCs today
>> the big limitation is software, not hardware.
>
> This one I find intriguing. I do think that if the capability existed,
> and did not require purchase of hardware in addition to a PC, that it
> would be interesting to enough hams to create a critical mass. It
> provides an alternative playground for hams who prefer to experiment using
> the keyboard of their PC rather than their soldering iron.

>
> 73, Steve KB9X

I agree that the fun of it is the most probable driver. Yet SSTV has not grown as rapidly as one might expect when it became possible to do it all with one's computer.

Dee, N8UZE

343. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 20:38:10 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <r_CdnSmLwrB8t2HYnZ2dnUVZ_rylnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 5134

"Cecil Moore" <nospam@w5dxp.com> wrote in message
news:nHSKh.8807$Um6.209@newssvr12.news.prodigy.net...
> N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
>> IMHO, there are three basic motivations to being a ham:
>> 1) Operating radios
>> 2) Messing around with technology
>> 3) Communicating electronically
>
> (4) Was motivated in the past by one or more of the
> above but now just continues to renew his/her ham
> license while operating cell phones, sending emails,
> and posting to r.r.a.* groups. :-)
> --
> 73, Cecil http://www.w5dxp.com
>

In my opinion there is another motivator. To me, the main fascination is being able to communicate without the need for any infrastructure. All I need is my radio, the stuff to make a basic dipole, a source of power, and my mike or key. Nothing ties us together except the ionosphere. On top of all that, when conditions are moderately good, it can be done with relatively small amounts of power. i.e. It is the ability to basically do this independently.

Dee, N8UZE

344. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 20:38:30 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <cPCdneL7ycMZtmHYnZ2dnUVZ_oipnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 5135

<groupk0hb@earthlink.net> wrote in message
news:1174148105.750208.238600@b75g2000hsg.googlegroups.com...
> On Mar 17, 1:19 am, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:
>
>>
>> My question on this is why would we be sending large amounts of data on
>> amateur radio?
>>
>
> "Because we can"
>

Now that is the best answer I've seen. It embodies the spirit of amateur radio and the idea of experimenting be it hardware or software.

> Actually, I agree that there may be no particular ongoing NEED for an
> Amateur Radio high volume data channel, but neither was there a NEED
> for LEOs, APRS, and similar "tinkerer" modes, many of which had their
> genesis in ham shacks and now have morphed into commercial
> applications.
>

That is how I view amateur radio. The concept is to develop something new and different not to try to integrate commercial developments into amateur radio unless it were necessary to use as a basis for that "new and different" development.

Dee, N8UZE

345. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-17 22:25:30 UTC
From: Cecil Moore <nospam@w5dxp.com>
Message-ID: <1QXKh.14624$uo3.885@newssvr14.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 5136

Dee Flint wrote:
> In my opinion there is another motivator. To me, the main fascination is
> being able to communicate without the need for any infrastructure.

Good luck at being in the right place at the right
time when all other infrastructure fails. I've been
a coded ham for 55 years and have yet to use CW for
any emergency communications. The only HF emergency
communications I ever needed to use was CB.
--
73, Cecil http://www.w5dxp.com

346. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-18 00:30:38 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <SMqdnQwmqqhV-2HYnZ2dnUVZ_ragnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 5137

"Cecil Moore" <nospam@w5dxp.com> wrote in message
news:1QXKh.14624$uo3.885@newssvr14.news.prodigy.net...
> Dee Flint wrote:
>> In my opinion there is another motivator. To me, the main fascination is
>> being able to communicate without the need for any infrastructure.
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> Good luck at being in the right place at the right
> time when all other infrastructure fails. I've been
> a coded ham for 55 years and have yet to use CW for
> any emergency communications. The only HF emergency
> communications I ever needed to use was CB.
> --
> 73, Cecil http://www.w5dxp.com
>

I did not mention or imply anything to do with emergency communications or CW. I merely stated that the fascinating part was to be able to contact people without the need for an infrastructure. There is a feeling of independence from being able to, as an individual, communicate around the world.

Dee, N8UZE

347. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-18 00:31:34 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1174169438.238829.87830@l75g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5138

On Mar 14, 11:44 pm, Phil Kane <Phil.K...@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:

>
> That's "Regulation-By-Abstention", Hans, which is no regulation at all
> and is extremely poor policy.
>

I understand your view, Phil, especially coming from your long background in a regulatory environment.

But I think one of the failures of the FCC stewardship of Amateur Radio has been over-regulation.

Pause here, and refresh your mindset on the difference between "regulation" and "enforcement".

One of the bedrock 'values' of the Amateur Radio Service is experimentation and "advancement of the radio art", yet FCC has historically dragged its feet in allowing us the leeway to try unorthodox modulation schemes, new transmission modes, etc. (As an example, Canadian amateurs had AX.25 up and running for almost a decade before FCC would allow W/K guys to play in that mode.)

Paraphrasing Thomas Paine, "That government is best which governs least." I believe "that agency regulates best which regulates least."

Give us a sandbox to play in, make sure we don't trash the surrounding neighborhood, and let us play our game. Use enforcement, not over regulation, to make sure the public interest is served.

73, de Hans, K0HB

348. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-18 00:32:21 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns98F6BC213A18Dmcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 5139

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote in
news:1174134407.802252.154260@o5g2000hsb.googlegroups.com:

> On Mar 17, 2:19 am, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:
>
>> My question on this is why would we be sending large amounts of data
>> on amateur radio?
>
> I can think of a couple uses for it, Dee.
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> First there's emergency/public service comms. The served agencies
> are used to being able to send emails with sizable attachments through
> the usual networks. A mode that would let them do that via amateur
> radio
> when the usual networks are not available would be a really good tool
> in the emcomm toolbox. IMHO it's the thinking pushing WinLink.
>
> Second, there are plenty of times in an ordinary QSO when it
> would be good to be able to send a picture, station description,
> article, a sound clip, etc. directly by radio, and have it in digital
> format at the other end. In the past, such modes as SSTV have
> gained limited acceptance because they required lots of extra
> apparatus, but with the widespread acceptance of PCs today
> the big limitation is software, not hardware.

I think that emergency comms might make use of large amounts ot data
transmission, but the average ham needs to use the modes in order to
have the modes available during those emergencies. IOW, it's a matter
not of what I get for emergencies, but what Joe Ham is going to get
along with me so we can use it when there isn't an emergency. Otherwise
it isn't of a whole lot of use.

And then there is that old bugaboo of bandwidth. HF really isn't
the place for wide bandwidth modes.

..
>
> I disagree. One of the big problems is that such development
> tends to be protected by the developers, and *not* made
> open-source. PSK-31 and Linux are exceptions, not the rule.

Our "hamness" tend to make us gravitate towards those open source
modes. And it isn't just my ceap tendencies. I've tried most of the
digital modes at least once. That would not have happened if I had
to pay for every mode.

> The "bell-the-cat" question is still *who* is going to develop
> such new modes and then just give them away for free.
> Groups that have tried (TAPR and the spread-spectrum idea)
> have taken years without much to show.

Often people will wonder why Hams don't run to every new mode that comes along. Some assume that we are not adaptable as a group. I would say it has a lot more to do with simply having someone on the other end to talk to. We need an early following to get the ball rolling, then there needs to be a good reason to use the mode. The difference between say Spread spectrum and say PSK31 is that PSK apparently serves some purpose for a growing number of Hams, and SS doesn't.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

349. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-18 00:40:16 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5638p3F25qf8qU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 5140

"Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> wrote in message
news:SMqdnQwmqqhV-2HYnZ2dnUVZ_ragnZ2d@comcast.com

[snip]

> I did not mention or imply anything to do with emergency
> communications or CW. I merely stated that the
> fascinating part was to be able to contact people without
> the need for an infrastructure. There is a feeling of
> independence from being able to, as an individual,
> communicate around the world.
> Dee, N8UZE

I agree. People often ask me why I use 2m & 70cm in the car, for example, when everyone (well, nearly everyone) has a mobile phone (cellphone for you US types..!). I always answer that you can't put a blind CQ call out on a phone. That's the attraction for me, you never know who might reply to a call.

73 Ivor G6URP

350. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-18 06:06:19 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1174190755.323958.202540@e1g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5141

On Mar 17, 3:38 pm, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:

> In my opinion there is another motivator. To me, the main fascination is
> being able to communicate without the need for any infrastructure. All I
> need is my radio, the stuff to make a basic dipole, a source of power, and
> my mike or key. Nothing ties us together except the ionosphere. On top of
> all that, when conditions are moderately good, it can be done with
> relatively small amounts of power. i.e. It is the ability to basically do
> this independently.

Dee,

At one time I would put all that under "operating radios",
but I think you have hit on something that deserves its own
classification. Or at least more words.

What you describe is a combination of independence and
simplicity. It's partly about not being dependent on a communications
infrastructure other than your station, the
other station(s), and natural features like the ionosphere,
troposphere, etc. It's also partly about the relative simplicity
of an amateur station compared to the enormous but largely
unseen complexity of other modern communications
systems. Sure, I can call Australia on my cell phone - but
the cell phone is only one small part of the enormous and
complex infrastructure needed to make the call.

In amateur radio, the complex infrastructure is replaced by
a combination of luck (propagation) and operator skill.
This makes for unpredictable communications at times -
which is actually a big part of the attraction. When I call
CQ, or listen for another's CQ, I don't know who I'll run into,
whether I'll contact them or not, etc.

IMHO, one of the things many people miss in modern life is
a certain feeling of actually doing something start-to-finish. In most
jobs nowadays, people are part of a team, or a process, contributing
their specialized part to the result. This
is how our complex technological society is able to function
so efficiently.

The downside is that very few people today can point to
something in their work and say "I did that, start to finish,
all by myself". In fact, many things that people used to do
for themselves like car repair/maintenance and fixing things
are either too complex for the DIY person, or are not

meant to be fixed economically.

Amateur radio (and many other DIY activities) offer a way for people to actually do something start-to-finish, all by themselves. That's a key point is 'selling' amateur radio.

It's also a big reason behind homebrewing - the homebrewer knows every part of the radio, how it works, and how to fix it. That it may not be state-of-the-art or have all the features of a manufactured item is besides the point. That's something that simply cannot be bought.

73 de Jim, N2EY

351. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-18 08:10:40 UTC
From: stevenrobeson@yahoo.com
Message-ID: <1174197349.131373.304280@n59g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4949

On Mar 17, 7:31 pm, groupk...@earthlink.net wrote:
> On Mar 14, 11:44 pm, Phil Kane <Phil.K...@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:
>
>
>
> > That's "Regulation-By-Abstention", Hans, which is no regulation at all
> > and is extremely poor policy.
>
> I understand your view, Phil, especially coming from your long
> background in a regulatory environment.
>
> But I think one of the failures of the FCC stewardship of Amateur
> Radio has been over-regulation.
>
> Pause here, and refresh your mindset on the difference between
> "regulation" and "enforcement".
>
> One of the bedrock 'values' of the Amateur Radio Service is
> experimentation and "advancement of the radio art", yet FCC has
> historically dragged its feet in allowing us the leeway to try
> unorthodox modulation schemes, new transmission modes, etc. (As an
> example, Canadian amateurs had AX.25 up and running for almost a
> decade before FCC would allow W/K guys to play in that mode.)
>
> Paraphrasing Thomas Paine, "That government is best which governs
> least." I believe "that agency regulates best which regulates
> least."
>
> Give us a sandbox to play in, make sure we don't trash the surrounding
> neighborhood, and let us play our game. Use enforcement, not over
> regulation, to make sure the public interest is served.

In this case, however, you have a very finite resource (the
electromagnetic spectrum) and a multitude of users with varying needs
for it's use. In most cases, mixed-mode operqations don't work...Or
at the very least don't work well.

The proposed bandwidth subdivisions will be a disaster if they
ever come to fruition.

73

Steve, K4YZ

352. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-18 08:11:43 UTC
From: stevenrobeson@yahoo.com
Message-ID: <1174196948.801266.11530@d57g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4950

On Mar 17, 5:25 pm, Cecil Moore <nos...@w5dxp.com> wrote:
> Dee Flint wrote:
> > In my opinion there is another motivator. To me, the main fascination is
> > being able to communicate without the need for any infrastructure.
>
> Good luck at being in the right place at the right
> time when all other infrastructure fails. I've been
> a coded ham for 55 years and have yet to use CW for
> any emergency communications. The only HF emergency
> communications I ever needed to use was CB.

I was under the impression that the "CW-vs-every other mode" stuff
was over.

Nes pas?

Steve, K4YZ

353. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-18 08:11:50 UTC
From: stevenrobeson@yahoo.com
Message-ID: <1174197145.198917.326970@p15g2000hsd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4951

On Mar 14, 1:47 am, groupk...@earthlink.net wrote:
> On Mar 13, 11:01 am, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>
> > What is the process of modifying the gentlemen's agreements?
> > Specifically, I would like to explore the idea of adding a new PSK31
> > segment or two.

> Were it up to me the FCC would get out of the business of regulation-
> by-mode and simplify 97.305 would be simplified to read: "Here are
> your band segments by license class. Stay inside them and play nice
> with each other."

This doesnt' work with other radio services very well. Why would
it be appropriate for Amateur Radio?

Steve, K4YZ

354. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-18 15:03:35 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <12vqe4ke83akm20@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 4952

stevenrobeson@yahoo.com wrote:
> On Mar 14, 1:47ï¿½am, groupk...@earthlink.net wrote:
>> On Mar 13, 11:01 am, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>>
>>> What is the process of modifying the gentlemen's agreements?
>>> Specifically, I would like to explore the idea of adding a new PSK31
>>> segment or two.
>
>> Were it up to me the FCC would get out of the business of regulation-
>> by-mode and simplify 97.305 would be simplified to read: "Here are
>> your band segments by license class. Stay inside them and play nice
>> with each other."
>
> This doesnt' work with other radio services very well. Why would
> it be appropriate for Amateur Radio?

Because amateur radio is supposed to be self regulating.

Perhaps my impression is wrong, in which case I hope that someone will
correct me, but don't most countries treat the regulation of amateur
radio more like "here are your allocations"?

I would like to think that there are enough gentlemen in ham radio that
gentlemen's agreements and voluntary bandplans would be sufficient.
Based on what I hear on the air, that's a rather silly hope.
Nonetheless, it reflects badly on our hobby that an agency needs to
stand by with a big stick to make us do what we should be able to do on
our own.

73, Steve KB9X

355. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-18 15:04:36 UTC
From: Cecil Moore <nospam@w5dxp.com>
Message-ID: <dAaLh.9055$Um6.1095@newssvr12.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 4953

stevenrobeson@yahoo.com wrote:
>> I've been
>> a coded ham for 55 years and have yet to use CW for
>> any emergency communications. The only HF emergency
>> communications I ever needed to use was CB.
>
> I was under the impression that the "CW-vs-every other mode" stuff
> was over.

My ham experience is mostly limited to CW so I
cannot speak for the other modes.
--
73, Cecil http://www.w5dxp.com

356. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-18 16:56:46 UTC
From: an old freind <konstans@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <1174229201.236486.114400@b75g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4954

On Mar 17, 4:37 pm, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:
> <N...@AOL.COM> wrote in message
>

> If it doesn't seem useful to them, people will pass on it.

ever heard of APRS? ;) for some time it existed and described as a
solution is search of a problem

what is needed in digital mode "sexiness" for want of a better term.
if it fun to do nobody (but grousers) will care how usefull it is

357. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-18 17:22:07 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xpr7t.net>
Message-ID: <12vqkpmo1tsovdf@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 4955

"Steve Bonine" wrote ...
> Perhaps my impression is wrong, in which case I hope that someone will
> correct me, but don't most countries treat the regulation of amateur
> radio more like "here are your allocations"?
>
> I would like to think that there are enough gentlemen in ham radio
> that gentlemen's agreements and voluntary bandplans would be
> sufficient. Based on what I hear on the air, that's a rather silly
> hope. Nonetheless, it reflects badly on our hobby that an agency needs
> to stand by with a big stick to make us do what we should be able to
> do on our own.

OTOH, Why should we be surprised if Amateur Radio
appears to reflect the declining conduct of society in general?
It would be nice if we were better behaved, but perhaps that
is too high an expectation.

Richard Crowley KE7GKP

358. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-18 17:48:45 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1174232299.677793.194910@e1g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4956

On Mar 18, 2:10 am, stevenrobe...@yahoo.com wrote:

>
> In this case, however, you have a very finite resource (the
> electromagnetic spectrum) and a multitude of users with varying needs
> for it's use. In most cases, mixed-mode operqations don't work...Or
> at the very least don't work well.
>

Thank you, Steve. Your point is very real, and the historic 'solution' has been for the government (FCC) to impose regulatory handcuffs on the market-based arbitration of that tension. This has the practical effect of total regulatory favor of the legacy use over the exploration of new ideas.

New ideas not only have to overcome regulatory hindrance to feasibility trial (STA's, etc.) but once on the air must fit into a regulatory mishmash of allocation buckets already dominated by old legacy uses. This is the ultimate irony in the only radio service chartered to "advance the state of the radio art".

73, de Hans, K0HB

359. ICOM 7000 vs Yaesu FT-897D

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-18 18:48:37 UTC
From: Newby <nobody@nowhere.net>
Message-ID: <12vqr1pgtuptp39@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 4957

Would appreciate opinions from those who are familiar with either or both radios. Still trying to decide what to buy. Don't like the detached head of the Kenwood 480 SAT.

73.

360. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-18 19:11:31 UTC
From: Cecil Moore <nospam@w5dxp.com>
Message-ID: <BoeLh.14314$FG1.12995@newssvr27.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 4958

Richard Crowley wrote:
> OTOH, Why should we be surprised if Amateur Radio
> appears to reflect the declining conduct of society in general?

Not to mention the declining technical interest
and mathematical expertise.
--
73, Cecil http://www.w5dxp.com

361. Upgrade to Extra using 2001 License Manual?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-18 19:24:36 UTC
From: Rick <Nospam@reply.in.gp>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.03.18.17.06.15.25413@reply.in.gp>
Source record: 4959

Is the 2001 ARRL Extra Class License Manual still sufficient for taking and passing the current (2007) Element 4 written, or should I spend the money for a newer license manual?

362. Re: Antenna Tuner

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-18 20:40:58 UTC
From: "LenAnderson@ieee.org" <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1174241548.015556.98170@p15g2000hsd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4960

"Newby" <nob...@nowhere.net> on Fri, 16 Mar 2007 08:17:34 CST wrote:

>"Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorn...@comcast.not> wrote in message

>> While a "Garden Variety" tuner may be OK for a coax-fed dipole if it's
>> near to resonance, other feedlines and an antenna further from resonance
>> will need a more robust design.
>
>> Of course, some tuners have switching for multiple antennas, and some
>> don't, so let us know if you're using a single cloudburner, or multiple
>> skyhooks.

[snipped]

>Don't have the antenna(s) yet.
>
>I am looking for a "more robust" design that will tune almost anything, an
>automatic tuner rather than a manual one, and don't need switching between
>multiple antennas.

The majority of automatic antenna tuners now made have some
form of frequency sensing to set their internal setting
memories. The majority of types will handle 100 W PEP RF
which fits the average manufactured transceiver of today.
Depending on the type/model, they can cover just the HF
spectrum or the HF plus 6m.

The single most important technical factor (after power
handling and frequency range) is the RANGE of impedance
magnitude that can be matched. That will vary depending on
type/model but a typical magnitude range is 6 to 1200 Ohms.
That is roughly the ability to handle SWR maximums of 8:1
to ~20:1. Baluns can be used to extend either end of the
range as needed. Most autotuners will indicate something if
they can't get a match so that lets you know.

Note I said Magnitude of the impedance to be matched. That
includes both the resistive part and the reactive part of
the impedance to be matched. The reactive part can be
capacitive or inductive but the autotuner will set itself
to match either...then it will set itself to match the
resistive part as close as the designers chose to 50 Ohms.

The end result is an autotuner that can handle the very low
impedances of mobile whip antennas to certain conditions of
frequency with long-wire antennas where the impedance
magnitude can be very high. As far as matching range goes,

the "robustness" is very good on all models within their
RF power range specifications. No sweat. :-)

73, Len AF6AY

363. Re: ICOM 7000 vs Yaesu FT-897D

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-18 20:41:20 UTC
From: Mike Andrews <mikea@mikea.ath.cx>
Message-ID: <etjvc4$ks6$1@puck.litech.org>
Source record: 4961

On Sun, 18 Mar 2007 12:48:37 CST, Newby <nobody@nowhere.net> wrote in
<12vqr1pgtuptp39@corp.supernews.com>:
> Would appreciate opinions from those who are familiar with either or both
> radios. Still trying to decide what to buy. Don't like the detached head
> of the Kenwood 480 SAT.

I have an FT-897D as my primary shack rig, as well as an FT-857D (mobile)
and an FT-857 (secondary shack rig). I don't have any experience with the
KW 480SAT at all. I *do* like the FT-897D quite a lot: it has a decent
receiver with quite good noise reduction through DSP, as well as DSP-based
bandpass filters. I'd buy another in a heartbeat. The FT-857 and FT-857D
are the same radio (modulo 60- meter phone, TCXO, and possibly DSP) as the
FT-897 and FT-897D. All of them use the same programming software, have the
same set of CAT commands, return the same data, and can be run remotely
using the same programs. This has made life very much easier for me.

I don't like having to dive into a menu for some settings that I would
like to have on the front panel, but there's damn little real-estate
on the 897's front panel, and about half that on the 857, so I live
with it and enjoy the wonderful things the radio does. It does a great
many things very well stock from the factory; add some filters for CW
and SSB, and it's even better.

--
Mike Andrews, W5EGO
mikea@mikea.ath.cx
Tired old sysadmin

364. Re: Upgrade to Extra using 2001 License Manual?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-18 20:41:29 UTC
From: Mike Andrews <mikea@mikea.ath.cx>
Message-ID: <etjvfd$ks6$2@puck.litech.org>
Source record: 4962

On Sun, 18 Mar 2007 13:24:36 CST, Rick <Nospam@reply.in.gp> wrote in
<pan.2007.03.18.17.06.15.25413@reply.in.gp>:

> Is the 2001 ARRL Extra Class License Manual still sufficient for taking
> and passing the current (2007) Element 4 written, or should I spend the
> money for a newer license manual?

I think it's good until July first, 2007. Good luck -- and may you be
so well prepared that you need no luck at all.

--
Mike Andrews, W5EGO
mikea@mikea.ath.cx
Tired old sysadmin

365. Re: ICOM 7000 vs Yaesu FT-897D

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-18 20:41:40 UTC
From: "LenAnderson@ieee.org" <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1174241881.608322.183520@d57g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4963

On Mar 18, 10:48 am, "Newby" <nob...@nowhere.net> wrote:
> Would appreciate opinions from those who are familiar with either or both
> radios. Still trying to decide what to buy. Don't like the detached head
> of the Kenwood 480 SAT.

One place to get more opinions is www.eham.net. Click on the
"Product Reviews" on the lest to the left. Lots and lots of
reviews there on many different kinds of amateur radio
equipment.

73, Len AF6AY

366. Re: Upgrade to Extra using 2001 License Manual?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-18 20:42:06 UTC
From: "LenAnderson@ieee.org" <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1174242508.702723.297990@o5g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4964

On Mar 18, 11:24?am, Rick <Nos...@reply.in.gp> wrote:
> Is the 2001 ARRL Extra Class License Manual still sufficient for taking
> and passing the current (2007) Element 4 written, or should I spend the
> money for a newer license manual?

I would suggest just going to www.ncvec.org and downloading
your choice of the current Extra exam and/or the one that
will go into effect in July of this year. You can then look them
over and see what you need to study more. The changes
might be slight such as the regulations (affected by the
restructuring of 2000?) but the VEC might have changed a
few "distractor" questions...:-)

Be aware that the Extra written element has about sixteen
times as many quesions as the minimum ten required by
the FCC. That is, to me, highly commendable of the NCVEC.
It is now more difficult to "memorize" everything on a test.

73, Len AF6AY

367. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-18 20:43:42 UTC
From: "LenAnderson@ieee.org" <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1174242936.660783.65660@n76g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4965

Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> on Fri, 16 Mar 2007 09:42:30 CST wrote:

>John Smith I wrote:
>> N...@AOL.COM wrote:

>> However, if a new market comes forth, one composed of amateurs with
>> little or no knowledge of CW and only using digital voice and digital
>> data transmission--it would be market controlled also, and one would
>> suspect it would self-correct and frown on the use of the bands for
>> wasteful analog and cw communications.
>
> I would disagree. Those modes are not wasteful. On the other hand, a
>vision of using the HF bands for data transmission would indeed be a way
>of filling up our bands pretty quickly, and for not a lot of gain. If
>I'm interested in Data Transmission, I would design a system for
>frequencies where there is less natural noise - VHF and up. Then
>bandwidth issues would be less of a problem too.

I disagree with both of you...:-) For one thing, 300 WPM
equivalent data rate at 170 Hz "Spread" on HF does a
credible job of sending text in only a half-KHz of
bandwidth.

The presumption is that "data" somehow MUST have "perfect"
conditions to avoid errors is false. The BER or Bit Error
Rate rules the show and is a function of noise and
transmission rate (in units per second) and bandwidth.
Claude Shannon used the example of a teleprinter signal on
his seminal 1947 paper...which became boiled down to the
more familiarly-known "Shannon's Law." That was 60 years
ago and Claude wasn't considering OOK CW modes. :-)

"Data" can have a wide BER range depending on the design
of the data coding, all compared data systems having the
same data rate, signal-to-noise ratio, and channel
bandwidth. Forward Error Correction improves the BER
but isn't an absolute necessity.

An example is the ordinary modem we use on-line. If you
have a human handset as well as the modem line, try
picking up the handset and making random noise in it while
the modem is on-line. That's an extreme case, but
survivable without data disaster. You might be surprised
at how well it can survive without messing up the screen.

>> Let's face it, digital voice is the only way to go.
>
> I would disagree. What I have seen in digital voice so far offers no
>particular advantage over SSB, unless we are talking about digital for
>it's own sake. Most schemes that I have seen have some fatal flaws, such
>as the received transmission must be received in toto - IOW if you don't
>catch the beginning, you don't catch anything.

I disagree with that and I have seen/heard many such systems
but - certainly - not all of them. The digitized bit stream
can be structured to enable a receiver to ID it and lock onto
it quickly. It there are lots of tones in the multiplexed
digital signal (such as with OFDM) that should be enough for
an ID and lock-in.

>The solution to that
>would be channelizing HF, or assigning specific frequencies to Digital
>voice. In addition, unless there have been some big advances recently,

The "big advances" have already come, like in the late 1980s.
I'm mentioning a hint to the U.S. military SINCGARS in its
digital mode (with or without frequency-hopping). DSSS
essentially. Such can be slowed down or scaled to reduce its
bandwidth without disabling intelligibility (no encryption
needed or allowed by amateur regulations).

>Digital voice does not have any particular bandwidth advantages.

Maybe not, but the decoded voice can be crystal clear all the
way to the threshold point (where it breaks up suddenly). It
sounds like an FM link with lots of amplitude variation, yet
there isn't any decoded speach amplitude variation.

A case in point is HDTV that we've had in this house for a
year. I've put an attenuator in the TV cable line and NOT
see a bit of difference in video nor hear any in the audio
until there is lots of attenuation reaching the threashold
of input.

>Give me a Digital voice mode that I can tune across the band and pick up
>a conversation at any point in the transmission, and a 1 KHz or less
>bandwidth signal, and then I'll be interested.

Those are already in the works.

>And of course, I'll need
>to see that some other folks are buying the digital radios too, so I'll
>have people to talk to.

Hmmm...what if they are thinking the same thing? :-)

Case in point: PSK31, Peter Martinez' clever brainchild was
spread all over Europe and tested by many on the Continent for
four years before it was first publicized in ARRL publications.
Not many in the USA were aware that PSK31 even existed, let

alone proven under "field conditions." Publicity caused its
spread over on this side of the pond.

>> PSK is too slow for
>> data transmission of LARGE and multi-megabyte amounts of data, end of
>> story.

Sorry, John, but you haven't justified any NEED for "large and
multi-megabyte amounts of data" in the amateur bands below
30 MHz. Please think harder on how much data throughput CAN
happen with existing data bandwidths and rates first. It is
quite large, although that is in subjective terms.

> As for PSK, you are correct that it is too slow for data transmission.
>But that little 31 baud signal was never intended for Data transmission.
>It was intended for correctable text at a rate that a reasonably
>proficient typist could tap away at the keyboard in real time.

Absolutely so and that was a design goal of G3PLX way back
in the begining.

>Also a
>mode that can be efficiently operated at QRP and lover levels. And for
>that, it is an excellent mode.

Not necessarily true. PSK31 is efficient in terms of bandwidth
reduction versus data rate, still well within Shannon's Law, but
it can be used at high RF powers just as easily as low RF powers.

It seems to me to be Conventional Wisdom (a new form of "CW")
that "high power" in USA amateur bands is associated only with
OOK CW or SSB. All other modes seem to be ignored in the
literature as a general rule. That's not a technical thing,
just a subjective thing of the high-power types' desires. I've
observed that most of them are ultra-conservative (as a general
rule) insofar as mode use is concerned.

Sometimes one has to look "outside the box" of Conventional
[amateur] Wisdom to see where contemporary limits are in the
practical, working sense.

73, Len AF6AY

368. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-18 21:08:00 UTC
From: "LenAnderson@ieee.org" <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1174244635.905243.326450@e1g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4966

On Mar 18, 9:22 am, "Richard Crowley" <rcrow...@xpr7t.net> wrote:
> "Steve Bonine" wrote ...
>
> > Perhaps my impression is wrong, in which case I hope that someone will
> > correct me, but don't most countries treat the regulation of amateur
> > radio more like "here are your allocations"?
>
> > I would like to think that there are enough gentlemen in ham radio
> > that gentlemen's agreements and voluntary bandplans would be
> > sufficient. Based on what I hear on the air, that's a rather silly
> > hope. Nonetheless, it reflects badly on our hobby that an agency needs
> > to stand by with a big stick to make us do what we should be able to
> > do on our own.
>
> OTOH, Why should we be surprised if Amateur Radio
> appears to reflect the declining conduct of society in general?
> It would be nice if we were better behaved, but perhaps that
> is too high an expectation.
>
> Richard Crowley KE7GKP

I can't agree with the "general societal decline" opinion.
That's been a general remark all through seven decades
of my life by each successive generation...who have all
generally flourished despite all their dire predictions.

What has been happening, to amateur radio as well as
to "general society" is CHANGE. Changes upset our
cozy concepts, those of the liked and familiar, with
strange new things, unfamiliar and untried. Changes
WILL happen and succeeding generations will consider
them as "old hat" in their day yet to come. :-)

I have to agree with Hans Brakob's "here are your
bands, have a nice day" concept (borrowed from the
late Don Stoner?). In general, that is. Practically,
there must be a middle ground in regulations. I don't
think that governmental micromanagement of mode
allocations per band is the way to go...nor should
there be so many conditional regulations on top of
those when the rest of the radio world is exploring
new things and making them work.

The FCC presently yields a lot of options to amateurs
insofar as mode use goes. If certain "gentlemen" are

inclined to stick with their familiar options at the expense of other gentlemen, then the gentlemen ought to settle it themselves. All the FCC can do is enforce their long-standing "no interference with licensed users" dictum which I think is a good thing. There's no territorial imperative to be claimed in amateur radio spectrum allocations, nobody "owns" certain bandspaces nor frequencies.

As time goes on, there WILL be changes to amateur radio bandspace divisions. There WILL be the usual cry by the established "gentlemen" and the general harrangues of those "gentlemen" desiring change. Seeking a middle ground is necessary and the FCC may have to step in (again) and change the subdivisions. If it must, then the "gentlemen" on both sides have failed to agree and the pessimistic view will be realized.

I'm not optimistic that all are "gentlemen" and can settle things among themselves. I would hope they would but I've seen a lot of generations of humans do their thing on many varieties of activities.

73, Len AF6AY

369. Being paid while you operate

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-18 21:17:10 UTC
From: Rick <Nospam@reply.in.gp>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.03.18.19.13.28.559819@reply.in.gp>
Source record: 4967

In studying for my Extra, using the ARRL Extra Class License Manual (2001), I came across an interesting note...

"There is a general rule that you may not be paid to operate your Amateur Radio station. In most cases this also means that you cannot operate an Amateur Radio station during the time that you are being paid by your employer."

Does this mean that if I'm sitting at my desk at work, doing a job that doesn't have anything to do with radio, and during break time I pick up my HT and call someone on the local repeater, that I'm violating FCC rules?

That would be a bizarre interpretation, and not anything I've ever seen before in 42 years as a ham...

370. Re: Being paid while you operate

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-18 21:31:43 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net>
Message-ID: <12vr4sjscil3u40@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 4968

"Rick" < wrote...
> In studying for my Extra, using the ARRL Extra Class License Manual
> (2001), I came across an interesting note...
>
> "There is a general rule that you may not be paid to operate your
> Amateur
> Radio station. In most cases this also means that you cannot operate
> an
> Amateur Radio station during the time that you are being paid by your
> employer."
>
> Does this mean that if I'm sitting at my desk at work, doing a job
> that
> doesn't have anything to do with radio, and during break time I pick
> up my
> HT and call someone on the local repeater, that I'm violating FCC
> rules?
>
> That would be a bizarre interpretation, and not anything I've ever
> seen
> before in 42 years as a ham...

And I participate during lunch-hour in a weekly net of our
employer-sanctioned (and supported) emergency amateur
radio services organization. Virtually all of us are sallaried
(not hourly) employees, and technically "on the clock".

I always assumed it was a prohibition on using amateur radio
for transport of commercial traffic.

371. Call signs for foreign amateurs operating in US

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-18 21:38:07 UTC
From: Rick <Nospam@reply.in.gp>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.03.18.19.33.52.871616@reply.in.gp>
Source record: 4969

In the old days, a foreign amateur operating in the US, or a US amateur operating in a foreign country, would use his own call sign, a slant bar, and the prefix of the country or location in which he is operating, e.g. "G5ABC/W1".

Somewhere along the way that got changed so that the prefix is now inserted ahead of the call sign instead of after, e.g. "W1/G5ABC".

When did that rule change go into effect? It must have been sometime during the 1990's when I was inactive on ham radio ... one of the many rule changes that surprised me when I got back into it in 2001, such as the 5 WPM code requirement for Extras for whom it used to be 20 WPM...

372. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-18 21:48:38 UTC
From: LA4RT Jon Kåre Hellan <dev@null.com>
Message-ID: <1m648yibf3.fsf@persaunet.uninett.no>
Source record: 4970

Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> writes:

> stevenrobeson@yahoo.com wrote:
> Perhaps my impression is wrong, in which case I hope that someone will
> correct me, but don't most countries treat the regulation of amateur
> radio more like "here are your allocations"?

I can't speak for anybody else, but here in Norway this is the
case. There are power limits, of course, and bandwidth limits - 6 kHz
on most of HF, wider for higher frequencies. The IARU bandplans are
respected, so although SSB is legal in below 14.1 MHz, you don't hear
any.

Our regulations are very short - less than 2 1/2 pages when printed
by Firefox. http://www.lovdata.no/ltavd1/lt2004/t2004-1-10-65.html, if
anybody is curious.

73 de LA4RT Jon

373. Re: Call signs for foreign amateurs operating in US

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-18 21:51:07 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net>
Message-ID: <12vr6122ev55fdd@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 4971

"Rick" wrote ...
> In the old days, a foreign amateur operating in the US, or a US
> amateur
> operating in a foreign country, would use his own call sign, a slant
> bar,
> and the prefix of the country or location in which he is operating,
> e.g.
> "G5ABC/W1".
>
> Somewhere along the way that got changed so that the prefix is now
> inserted ahead of the call sign instead of after, e.g. "W1/G5ABC".
>
> When did that rule change go into effect? It must have been sometime
> during the 1990's when I was inactive on ham radio ... one of the many
> rule changes that surprised me when I got back into it in 2001, such
> as
> the 5 WPM code requirement for Extras for whom it used to be 20 WPM...

Don't look now, but it is zero WPM. For everyone. :-)

When I sat for my written test, I took the one for General
also. I hadn't studied for it at all, but it didn't cost anything
extra. I missed it by two points, else I would be a General
today. I guess I'll have to break down and study this time.

Richard Crowley KE7GKP

374. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 00:02:45 UTC
From: "LenAnderson@ieee.org" <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1174253591.541922.294030@d57g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4972

Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote on Sat, 17 Mar 2007 18:32:21 CST

> Often people will wonder why Hams don't run to every new mode that
> comes along. Some assume that we are not adaptable as a group. I
> would say it has a lot more to do with simply having someone on the
> other end to talk to. We need an early following to get the ball
> rolling, then there needs to be a good reason to use the mode.

Mike, you've seen enough other licensed radio amateurs by now to understand that, technically, they are rather conservative in adopting "new" things. My own opinion is 'uber-conservative' but that is just personal. :-)

PUBLICITY on new things, new modes is the key to getting attention.

I'll recite that PSK31 was innovated in the UK and air-tested by many amateurs in Europe for years before it got its first write-up in QST for USA amateur radio consumption. Why? I don't know for sure but I will start shining some light on editors and frequent contributors to QST. I think that they were honestly unaware of it. It isn't like they are unaware of the RSGB periodicals.

Another case is Mike Gingell's polyphase audio network. Mike, now a resident and ham licensee in the USA, did his PhD dissertation on that network. It enabled four quadrature-phased audio outputs with excellent phasing accuracy using lower-tolerance parts. It was publicized in Pat Hawker's column in Radio Communication magazine in 1973, the experimenter trying it out was Peter Martinez, G3PLX, the guy who would come up with PSK31 later. European hams have been trying it out for SSB modulation and demodulation ever since; makes for a smaller SSB sub-assembly. It got some attention from 1974 onwards over here, but not a lot. It even got lots of attention in the IEEE Communications magazine for frequency-multiplexed telephony but that was displaced by up and coming digital time-multiplexing right afterwards. Long-distance wired telephony was the first user of SSB, BTW. :-)

Conservative USA amateurs tend to stay with what they know and learned when young...except for the few who actually work with higher-tech modes for a living...and some of those tend to "relax" with tried-and-true modes off-work. That re-enforces the conservative approach to "state of the Art" advancement.

Part of that conservatism may be the "made only in America" thinking. Look at D-Star that's been getting publicity by

the Big3 amateur radio makers of Japan. D-Star has been
around for three years, innovated by the JARL. It seems to be
very good in providing flexibility to connect with the Internet
through VHF-UHF repeaters. [I got a demo of it just recently]
No, it's not a "practical" thing on "the bands" (what so many
amateurs call the HF bands) but it seems to work just dandy
on handling both voice and data together on VHF-UHF.

> The
> difference between say Spread spectrum and say PSK31 is that PSK
> apparently serves some purpose for a growing number of Hams, and SS
> doesn't.

Ummm...PSK31 was originally designed for HF ham bands and was
deliberately narrow-band. Spread-Spectrum modes are for wider
bandwidths available only on UHF and up in frequency. DSSS is
already a proven winner in multiple-user WLANs in other radio
services (no discernable interference or catastrophic BERs) but
is good only for LOS radio paths. As a result, it will see
application only in more densely populated urban areas in the
USA. Conservative radio amateurs here stay on HF and all its
narrowband limitations.

Now, it MIGHT be that FHSS could be adapted to HF, even if only
to 10m with that band's 1.7 MHz total bandwidth. That is uncertain
since it absolutely requires a higher-accuracy timebase than is
found in most upscale HF+ transceivers. [think timing update
and correction via GPS] It will NOT be "tunable" like the older
analog modes, at least that I can envision. Neither will it cause
much interference to those legacy-mode users already there.
However, it does have a potential of getting more users in the
same bandwidth for higher throughput than is possible with analog
modes.

Many, many things are possible, even the digital voice and music
on HF now being used for BC purposes. But, that's a niche thing
and only proves the mode is practical and viable. On the other
hand, there's some "comfort" in staying "establishment," of not
having to spend time finding out how those new-fangled things
work; i.e., survivalist conservatism. :-)

73, Len AF6AY

375. Re: ?portable rigs?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 00:31:30 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <6tdrv25e5tusc66iqsij3lbupv7a2pd947@4ax.com>
Source record: 4973

On Sat, 17 Mar 2007 07:28:37 CST, ml <m@di.net> wrote:

>I was thinking about getting a very small radio to use backpack /travel
>portable
>
>small size is what i am after but i also want more than flea power
>.(ie 20w) in fact 100 is my target. and all bands

>but wanted to see if anybody know of any other rigs out there i might
>have over looked

You seem to have overlooked the Elecraft line of HF transceivers. Mine
packs 100W all bands all modes into a very small package.
Check out their site at www.elecraft.com

WARNING - Cheap they are not. You get what you pay for.
--
Phil Kane
Beaverton, OR

376. Re: Being paid while you operate

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 00:32:07 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <8aerv25smmmpm6kc07l83soobu2jp0evkd@4ax.com>
Source record: 4974

On Sun, 18 Mar 2007 15:17:10 CST, Rick <Nospam@reply.in.gp> wrote:

>Does this mean that if I'm sitting at my desk at work, doing a job that
>doesn't have anything to do with radio, and during break time I pick up my
>HT and call someone on the local repeater, that I'm violating FCC rules?
>
>That would be a bizarre interpretation, and not anything I've ever seen
>before in 42 years as a ham...

If you are doing this "on your own time" (which includes break time)
and does not have anything to do with the business of the employer or
the job that you are hired for or work that you are assigned to do,
then there's no violation involved. This is no different from reading
a book or balancing your checkbook on break time.

Of course if your employer objects, you may find yourself with lots of
time to work ham radio!!
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
ARRL Volunteer Counsel

email: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

377. Re: Call signs for foreign amateurs operating in US

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 00:55:40 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <0kerv2pfvhcdq1a15mh8ieidiub7s0goig@4ax.com>
Source record: 4975

On Sun, 18 Mar 2007 15:38:07 CST, Rick <Nospam@reply.in.gp> wrote:

>Somewhere along the way that got changed so that the prefix is now
>inserted ahead of the call sign instead of after, e.g. "W1/G5ABC".
>
>When did that rule change go into effect?

That change went into effect with the Commission's Order FCC 98-204
released October 1, 1988 in WT Docket 98-20, setting up the ULS and
authorized CEPT and CITEL foreign licensed amateurs to operate in the
US without formal US reciprocal licensing.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
ARRL Volunteer Counsel

email: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

378. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 01:17:35 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <4egrv2li7506mtnl7qmvn0va935mmvlv8h@4ax.com>
Source record: 4976

On Sat, 17 Mar 2007 14:37:57 CST, "Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net>
wrote:

>Another thing to keep in mind that as our infrastructure becomes stronger,
>hams will only really be needed in the absolutely worst disasters.

There will always be a need because no matter how strong the
infrastructure is, situations will arise that exceed that capability.
Design of public safety communication systems is the specialty of my
engineering firm and I'm all too painfully aware of the real-world
limitations

Example: One of our med center nets is an inter-hospital net that
carries traffic on bed availability, staff availability, and medical
supply status and need to and from the Metro Regional Hospital
dispatch, the "czar" of inter-hospital operation, which directs
ambulances and supply resources to the available facilities. It is
currently staffed by personnel located in another neighboring med
center. The VHF simplex and repeater ham portion (ham stations
located in the Emergency Departments of all the local hospitals) backs
up a system which is a user group on the City of Portland's 800 MHz
trunked system. When things get tight, the trunked system will be
overloaded with police and fire operations, assuming that the system
survives at all. That's where the hams come in.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

379. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 01:18:03 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <iihrv2lf0fmu13mpeamarfsliqqs3iebt9@4ax.com>
Source record: 4977

On Sat, 17 Mar 2007 18:31:34 CST, groupk0hb@earthlink.net wrote:

>One of the bedrock 'values' of the Amateur Radio Service is
>experimentation and "advancement of the radio art", yet FCC has
>historically dragged its feet in allowing us the leeway to try
>unorthodox modulation schemes, new transmission modes, etc. (As an
>example, Canadian amateurs had AX.25 up and running for almost a
>decade before FCC would allow W/K guys to play in that mode.)

Interesting example because in some aspects the US is more liberal
than a lot of other countries with regard to the amateur service.

The only modulation scheme that I had any contact with the "delaying
factor" was spread spectrum. The powers-that-were were very reluctant
to permit this in the amateur service because of the history of spread
spectrum - as you well know it was developed for the military to
frustrate transmitter location and interception of traffic, two "gotta
haves" in FCC amateur radio enforcement (whether they are used or not
is a different story). When the equipment to do so was finally
acquired and put into service, the mode was released for general use.
That's real life in the trenches....
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

380. Re: Call signs for foreign amateurs operating in US

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 01:46:44 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <565uf2F27sgmpU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4978

"Phil Kane" <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote in message
news:0kerv2pfvhcdq1a15mh8ieidiub7s0goig@4ax.com
> On Sun, 18 Mar 2007 15:38:07 CST, Rick
> <Nospam@reply.in.gp> wrote:
>
> > Somewhere along the way that got changed so that the
> > prefix is now inserted ahead of the call sign instead
> > of after, e.g. "W1/G5ABC".
> >
> > When did that rule change go into effect?
>
> That change went into effect with the Commission's Order
> FCC 98-204 released October 1, 1988 in WT Docket 98-20,
> setting up the ULS and authorized CEPT and CITEL foreign
> licensed amateurs to operate in the US without formal US
> reciprocal licensing.

Are you certain of the date..? I certainly had to apply for reciprocal
"Alien Permits" the first 2 times I operated in the US, in 1993 & 1995.
>From 2000 on I never had to apply for one, but I'm sure I still put the
local prefix after my own call rather than before.

73 Ivor G6URP

381. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 01:47:13 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <qairv2hgq816h8egfg5k6fimlv7her4mun@4ax.com>
Source record: 4979

On Sun, 18 Mar 2007 11:48:45 CST, groupk0hb@earthlink.net wrote:

>Thank you, Steve. Your point is very real, and the historic
>'solution' has been for the government (FCC) to impose regulatory
>handcuffs on the market-based arbitration of that tension. This has
>the practical effect of total regulatory favor of the legacy use over
>the exploration of new ideas.

A (sad) example of the interaction of the Amateur Radio Service with the :"marketplace" can be shown in the loss of the 220-222 MHz band. The FCC's expectation was that it was going to be dedicated to a small number of wide-area commercial networks using Amplitude Compandered Side Band (ACSB), a system developed by "basement" tinkerers for commercial use using amateur frequencies because they couldn't get a license for commercial development (*)

It never happened. ACSB never worked, and the commercial equipment manufacturers never produced any sizeable amount of equipment for that band.

Did we get the frequencies back? In your dreams.

(*) I won't get into the personalities involved in the ACSB fiasco or of the slicing of the 220 MHz band - it's Sunday and I can't get enough blood pressure medicine if I do.... Suffice it to say that despite urban legend, UPS was not a real player in that mess.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

382. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 02:05:34 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <g8krv2tful752rkubmi8rer46av0pflovj@4ax.com>
Source record: 4980

On Sun, 18 Mar 2007 15:48:38 CST, LA4RT Jon K&#65533;re Hellan <dev@null.com>
wrote:

>Our regulations are very short - less than 2 1/2 pages when printed
>by Firefox. http://www.lovdata.no/ltavd1/lt2004/t2004-1-10-65.html, if
>anybody is curious.

I am. Are they available in English?
--
Phil Kane
Beaverton, OR

383. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 02:05:46 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <pckrv292jgg98aajrj4a5bh0np7h7v7be6@4ax.com>
Source record: 4981

On Fri, 16 Mar 2007 20:49:26 CST, N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:

>But it's important to understand what "CC&Rs" really are.
>
>CC&R stands for Codes, Covenants and Restrictions.

CONDITIONS, Covenants, and Restrictions
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

384. Re: Being paid while you operate

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 02:37:25 UTC
From: Larry <noone@home.com>
Message-ID: <Xns98F7CE0468FE5noonehomecom@208.49.80.253>
Source record: 4982

Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote in
news:8aerv25smmmpm6kc07l83soobu2jp0evkd@4ax.com:

> 73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
> ARRL Volunteer Counsel
>

What about ARRL employees who are paid for amateur related work?

Case in point - An ARRL tech is being paid to test, in the ARRL Lab, a new 2 meter radio for publication in the magazine companies August issue. He's being paid to write the article and operate the radio, right?

Of course, how does a magazine company with paid subscribers get a ham license in the first place (W1AW)??

Larry
--
Message for Comcrap Internet Customers:
http://tinyurl.com/3ayl9c
Unlimited Service my ass.....(d^:)
.

385. Re: Question about radio noise

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 02:38:07 UTC
From: Larry <noone@home.com>
Message-ID: <Xns98F7CFA46B848noonehomecom@208.49.80.253>
Source record: 4983

Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> wrote in
news:12v0175irk6r0fd@news.supernews.com:

> If you were in close proximity to the
> AM station's transmitting antenna, you would be receiving exposure to RF
> [Radio Frequency emissions] in excess of regulated maximums.

417 ft from the business end of WWKB's 50KW blowtorch in Hamburg, NY, the former WKBW, a neighborhood popped up probably many years ago. Those houses closest to the last tower in the chain, using the inverse square law and the FCC database 4.2V/M at 1KM on two of the lobes, I figure there's over 200 VOLTS/meter in their living rooms on Robin Lane.

I wonder how they get the flourescent lights in the kitchens to go out? Can anyone have a stereo with external speaker wires feeding 200V/M back into the feedback lines of the transistor amps without making it go nuts like my neighbor's did from the Drake L4B?...(c;

Larry W4CSC
"POWER is our friend!" - (Robert, KD4PBC - paging engineer)
--
Message for Comcrap Internet Customers:
http://tinyurl.com/3ayl9c
Unlimited Service my ass.....(d^:)
.

386. Re: PRB-1 and CCNR's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 02:38:39 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <n2lrv2lk5av70hkk7nmab6rrocpcnus6ai@4ax.com>
Source record: 4984

On Sat, 17 Mar 2007 10:59:58 CST, Ralph E Lindberg
<n7bsn@callsign.net> wrote:

>As I understand Washington (state) law, the same is true here, plus if
>the regulation hasn't been enforced in years, or has been "selectively"
>enforced.
>
> Except for the race restriction found in some old CCNRs

That was thrown out by the Supreme Court of the United States in the
landmark case _Shelley v Kraemer_ that everyone studies in
Constitutional Law classes. The SCOTUS declared that a state court
enforcing that restriction made it a state action and such
discrimination was against Federal law, making that contract term
unenforceable.

We tried using that same approach to have PRB-1 apply via the
back-door in _Hotz v Rich_. a mid-1990s CC&R case in California, but
the California Court of Appeal shot us down, claiming that problems
with amateur radio antennas did not reach the same level of public
policy that racial discrimination did.
--
Phil Kane
Beaverton, OR

387. Re: Upgrade to Extra using 2001 License Manual?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 02:39:09 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <qhlrv2hb4a4b1v9b9j650cfdnse1ts80hf@4ax.com>
Source record: 4985

On Sun, 18 Mar 2007 13:24:36 CST, Rick <Nospam@reply.in.gp> wrote:

>
>Is the 2001 ARRL Extra Class License Manual still sufficient for taking
>and passing the current (2007) Element 4 written, or should I spend the
>money for a newer license manual?

The theory is still the same. Regulations have changed. Your choice.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

388. Re: Call signs for foreign amateurs operating in US

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 02:39:32 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <74mrv2deub8nf2vji8m4kgb4gg0l6kefm4@4ax.com>
Source record: 4986

On Sun, 18 Mar 2007 19:46:44 CST, "Ivor Jones"
<ivor@despammed.invalid> wrote:

>> That change went into effect with the Commission's Order
>> FCC 98-204 released October 1, 1988 in WT Docket 98-20,
>> setting up the ULS and authorized CEPT and CITEL foreign
>> licensed amateurs to operate in the US without formal US
>> reciprocal licensing.
>
>Are you certain of the date..?

You are right. It should have been October 21, 1998. My typo error.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

389. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 02:39:51 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <vjmrv2pe8cb5oe6sgkrgempal54n5jbpq5@4ax.com>
Source record: 4987

On Sun, 18 Mar 2007 17:31:46 CST, N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:

>The bands below 30 MHz (except 30 meters) are divided into two
>parts, with the lower part devoted to data modes and the upper part
>devoted to voice and image. CW (Morse Code) is allowed almost
>everywhere but is very rarely found in the voice/image subbands.
>30 meters does not have a voice/image subband because it is only 50 kHz wide.

Do not forget 60 meters which is SSB specified-bandwidth voice in
prescribed channels.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

390. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 02:58:57 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1174265924.746664.248390@n59g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4988

On Mar 18, 9:05 pm, Phil Kane <Phil.K...@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:
> On Fri, 16 Mar 2007 20:49:26 CST, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> >But it's important to understand what "CC&Rs" really are.
>
> >CC&R stands for Codes, Covenants and Restrictions.
>
> CONDITIONS, Covenants, and Restrictions

Thanks, Phil!

I've always seen it written as "Codes", but after a bit of thought, "Conditions" makes a lot more sense. Codes are not usually attached to a specific property; conditions are.

It should be noted that lack of CC&Rs still does not mean that a ham can simply put up whatever antenna(s) s/he likes without any concern about building codes, permits, etc.

This may seem self-evident, but I have seen too many hams try to do just that, or say that nobody can tell them what they can and cannot build on their own property. In most places, that's simply not the case at all.

73 es TNX de Jim, N2EY

391. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 03:19:18 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <opmrv2huc30qhh8t17fnvi9j75d5mrsdkb@4ax.com>
Source record: 4989

On Sun, 18 Mar 2007 18:02:45 CST, "LenAnderson@ieee.org"
<LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote:

>Mike, you've seen enough other licensed radio amateurs by now to
>understand that, technically, they are rather conservative in
>adopting "new" things. My own opinion is 'uber-conservative' but
>that is just personal. :-)

Some of it is just economic. I'll be damned if I'm going to buy an
$800 ICOM D-Star VHF/UHF digital radio that operationally doesn't give
me any more than my existing VHF and UHF ICOM "rice boxes".

Especially since I just invested $2K in an Elecraft K2/100 HF rig with
all the bells and whistles.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

392. Re: Being paid while you operate

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 03:19:27 UTC
From: Larry <noone@home.com>
Message-ID: <Xns98F7CD7E1B3D9noonehomecom@208.49.80.253>
Source record: 4990

"Richard Crowley" <rcrowley@xp7rt.net> wrote in news:12vr4sjscil3u40
@corp.supernews.com:

> And I participate during lunch-hour in a weekly net of our
> employer-sanctioned (and supported) emergency amateur
> radio services organization. Virtually all of us are sallaried
> (not hourly) employees, and technically "on the clock".
>
> I always assumed it was a prohibition on using amateur radio
> for transport of commercial traffic.
>
>

Hospital workers and emergency service personnel are all being "paid" to
operate ham radio after they get their licenses, as are NOAA Weather Bureau
bureaucrats at WX4CHS, at the Charleston Weather Bureau Office.

None that I know of have been busted.

Larry W4CSC
--
Message for Comcrap Internet Customers:
http://tinyurl.com/3ayl9c
Unlimited Service my ass.....(d^:)
.

393. Re: Being paid while you operate

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 03:19:38 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <jsnrv21fb25u1u4ulchufidpjj5rjg8ofh@4ax.com>
Source record: 4991

On Sun, 18 Mar 2007 20:37:25 CST, Larry <noone@home.com> wrote:

>What about ARRL employees who are paid for amateur related work?

There is a specific exemption in the Rules for operators at W1AW.

>Case in point - An ARRL tech is being paid to test, in the ARRL Lab, a new
>2 meter radio for publication in the magazine companies August issue. He's
>being paid to write the article and operate the radio, right?

How do you know that s/he is not operating into a dummy load? <g>

The answer is in the content of the communication. If the content is
on the business of the employer, it is improper. If it's just general
hamming, especially if it's under the W1AW "umbrella" then it's not
improper.

It's no different from me borrowing a specific piece of equipment to
evaluate and then writing a magazine article on it for which I am
being paid
>
>Of course, how does a magazine company with paid subscribers get a ham
>license in the first place (W1AW)??

The ARRL is a membership organization. The licensee of W1AW is the
ARRL Headquarters Operators Club, a bona fide amateur radio club. They
do not operate the station to further the publishing arm of the ARRL.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

394. Re: Upgrade to Extra using 2001 License Manual?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 03:21:03 UTC
From: Rick <Nospam@reply.in.gp>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.03.19.01.16.33.585189@reply.in.gp>
Source record: 4992

On Sun, 18 Mar 2007 20:39:09 -0600, Phil Kane wrote:

> The theory is still the same. Regulations have changed. Your choice.

That's mostly what I was wondering. I know some of the frequency allocations have changed, and I have the 12/15/06 allocation chart here. And I know there's no more CW requirement. What else changed in the last 6 years or so that's important?

395. Re: Upgrade to Extra using 2001 License Manual?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 03:40:57 UTC
From: "LenAnderson@ieee.org" <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1174267357.894623.193370@l75g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4993

On Mar 18, 3:30 pm, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:
> <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote in message
>
> news:1174242508.702723.297990@o5g2000hsb.googlegroups.com...
>
> > On Mar 18, 11:24?am, Rick <Nos...@reply.in.gp> wrote:
> >> Is the 2001 ARRL Extra Class License Manual still sufficient for taking
> >> and passing the current (2007) Element 4 written, or should I spend the
> >> money for a newer license manual?
>
> > I would suggest just going towww.ncvec.organd downloading
> > your choice of the current Extra exam and/or the one that
> > will go into effect in July of this year. You can then look them
> > over and see what you need to study more. The changes
> > might be slight such as the regulations (affected by the
> > restructuring of 2000?) but the VEC might have changed a
> > few "distractor" questions...:-)
>
> > Be aware that the Extra written element has about sixteen
> > times as many quesions as the minimum ten required by
> > the FCC. That is, to me, highly commendable of the NCVEC.
> > It is now more difficult to "memorize" everything on a test.
>
> The General class pool changes July 1, 2007. The Extra will not change
> until July 1, 2008.
>
> The effectivity dates for the current Extra question pool are: July 1, 2002
> until June 30, 2008.

Thank you, Dee. Correction noted. I took and passed all
three on 25 Feb 07 so I guess my memory just crossed
it out on effective dates of exams. :-)

73, Len AF6AY

396. Re: ICOM 7000 vs Yaesu FT-897D

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 04:17:48 UTC
From: xpyttl <xpyttl_NOSPAM@earthling.net>
Message-ID: <bYILh.120$td3.20@newsfe05.lga>
Source record: 4994

I have a 7000 and love it to death. I have a couple of 706's, they are nice, but the 7000 is a step up. The 700 does have an awful lot of stuff on the menus, but they have moved most of the things you want to get to out onto the panel. There is a button every place there could possibly be a button!

Personally, I happen to like Icom's ergonomics better than Yaesu. Not as good in that department as Elecraft, but generally well thought out. (I'm kind of a CW guy so maybe Elecraft is a little more CW focused).

The DSP on the 7000 is a giant step up from the 706 (can't speak for the Yaesu). Not only does it do filtering and adjustable edges, but there are a pair of notches that actually work. The DSP noise reduction and ANF seem to work a little better than the 706.

Kinda cool that you can get a waterfall display on the front panel, but unless you are a RTTY guy, probably not all that useful... but cool. Bandscope is OK, better than the 706, but could be better. SWR graph is a wonderful thing.

Although it kinda sorta looks like a 706, and there is some commonality with the menu of the 706, it definitely ain't a 706. Way better in a ton of ways.
..

"Newby" <nobody@nowhere.net> wrote in message
news:12vqr1pgtuptp39@corp.supernews.com...
> Would appreciate opinions from those who are familiar with either or both
> radios. Still trying to decide what to buy. Don't like the detached head
> of the Kenwood 480 SAT.
>
> 73.
>
>

397. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 04:18:11 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns98F7D58B5838Cmcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 4995

Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote in
news:4egrv2li7506mtnl7qmvn0va935mmvlv8h@4ax.com:

> On Sat, 17 Mar 2007 14:37:57 CST, "Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net>
> wrote:
>
>>Another thing to keep in mind that as our infrastructure becomes
>>stronger, hams will only really be needed in the absolutely worst
>>disasters.
>
> There will always be a need because no matter how strong the
> infrastructure is, situations will arise that exceed that capability.
> Design of public safety communication systems is the specialty of my
> engineering firm and I'm all too painfully aware of the real-world
> limitations

Infrastructure by it's very nature becomes more fragile the more
there is of it. disasters by their nature tend to occur when multiple
problems happen. Seems like a "duh" statement, but we see it all the
time. We going to put satellites up to do emergency Operations? Right
away I see some issues. Those birds aren't cheap, so we'll probably put a
lot of stuff on them. We'll probably have a lot if interacency
"patching" available, trunking of course. It will probably be an awesome
piece of technology. Maybe it will work. Fortunately no satellite has
ever failed.... ;^)

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

398. Re: Upgrade to Extra using 2001 License Manual?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 04:18:30 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <r6srv2tbkfgaqf0efhag1r859uqtpenoiq@4ax.com>
Source record: 4996

On Sun, 18 Mar 2007 21:40:57 CST, "LenAnderson@ieee.org"
<LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote:

>Thank you, Dee. Correction noted. I took and passed all
> three on 25 Feb 07 so I guess my memory just crossed
> it out on effective dates of exams. :-)
>
> 73, Len AF6AY

Congrats Len, and welcome to the Wide World of Hamdom.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

399. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 04:43:50 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns98F7DA85DADBAmcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 4997

groupk0hb@earthlink.net wrote in news:1174232299.677793.194910
@e1g2000hsg.googlegroups.com:

> On Mar 18, 2:10 am, stevenrobe...@yahoo.com wrote:
>
>>
>> In this case, however, you have a very finite resource (the
>> electromagnetic spectrum) and a multitude of users with varying needs
>> for it's use. In most cases, mixed-mode operqations don't work...Or
>> at the very least don't work well.
>>
>
> Thank you, Steve. Your point is very real, and the historic
> 'solution' has been for the government (FCC) to impose regulatory
> handcuffs on the market-based arbitration of that tension. This has
> the practical effect of total regulatory favor of the legacy use over
> the exploration of new ideas.
>
> New ideas not only have to overcome regulatory hindrance to
> feasibility trial (STA's, etc.) but once on the air must fit into a
> regulatory mishmash of allocation buckets already dominated by old
> legacy uses. This is the ultimate irony in the only radio service
> chartered to "advance the state of the radio art".

Your points are well taken Hans, butI see that as a need to have
regulatory responsiveness, not lack of regulations.

As I listen on 75/80 meters this evening, I consider the impact of
no suggested operating frequencies. At this low point in the sunspot
cycle, 75/80 becomes like a drying pond. There are a lot of people
operating there. There is plenty of griping about people operating too
close by in frequency too. Let's get rid of all the agreements? That will
be a great thing for the SSB OPs, especially running power. Move on down
the band a bit, and all is well. All isn't so well for low power ops such
as my favorite PSK31. We have enough trouble when W1AW opens up on 3580
with their CW bulletins. Much more the fun when High power ops can wipe
out our entire group. (actually 100 watts will do that) I suppose that
one could argue that majority rules - although 1 healthy SSB signal can
wipe out 20 psk31 signals. We could presumably up our power - although
every 100 watt PSK31 signal I've seen looks pretty awful, and pretty much
forces everyone else to crank up their power. That's just one example.
But it sounds to me like complete abandonment of the gentlemen's rules is
a great way to chase some people away and discourage some of the
experimentalism you would like to encourage.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

400. Re: Upgrade to Extra using 2001 License Manual?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 06:01:11 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <bJWdnZpMuoobZ2DYnZ2dnUVZ_rKvnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4998

<LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote in message
news:1174267357.894623.193370@l75g2000hse.googlegroups.com...
> On Mar 18, 3:30 pm, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:
>> <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote in message
>>
>> news:1174242508.702723.297990@o5g2000hsb.googlegroups.com...
>>
>> > On Mar 18, 11:24?am, Rick <Nos...@reply.in.gp> wrote:
>> >> Is the 2001 ARRL Extra Class License Manual still sufficient for
>> >> taking
>> >> and passing the current (2007) Element 4 written, or should I spend
>> >> the
>> >> money for a newer license manual?
>>
>> > I would suggest just going towww.ncvec.organd downloading
>> > your choice of the current Extra exam and/or the one that
>> > will go into effect in July of this year. You can then look them
>> > over and see what you need to study more. The changes
>> > might be slight such as the regulations (affected by the
>> > restructuring of 2000?) but the VEC might have changed a
>> > few "distractor" questions...:-)
>>
>> > Be aware that the Extra written element has about sixteen
>> > times as many quesions as the minimum ten required by
>> > the FCC. That is, to me, highly commendable of the NCVEC.
>> > It is now more difficult to "memorize" everything on a test.
>>
>> The General class pool changes July 1, 2007. The Extra will not change
>> until July 1, 2008.
>>
>> The effectivity dates for the current Extra question pool are: July 1,
>> 2002
>> until June 30, 2008.
>
> Thank you, Dee. Correction noted. I took and passed all
> three on 25 Feb 07 so I guess my memory just crossed
> it out on effective dates of exams. :-)
>
> 73, Len AF6AY
>

It gets confusing even for those of us who need to stay on top of it. The
Extra pool was originally slated to expire in 2006 but it was extended two

years as the VECs decided that the Tech needed reworked in 2006. Then they proceeded to the General for 2007. This pushed the Extra out to 2008.

Dee, N8UZE

401. Re: Call signs for foreign amateurs operating in US

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 07:07:32 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net>
Message-ID: <12vs6k8rqules0f@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 4999

"Sven Pran" wrote...
> You shouldn't need to study this time? Remember you are
> an experienced candidate by now as it will be your second
> try! 8-)

I have a hard time memorizing the band limits.
I can program my equipment to stay within the
allotted bands. I usually don't make my brain
remember stuff like that. :-(

402. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 09:52:04 UTC
From: "LenAnderson@ieee.org" <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1174285055.108938.34310@o5g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5000

On Mar 18, 8:18 pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
> Phil Kane <Phil.K...@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote innews:4egrv2li7506mtnl7qmvn0va935mmvlv8h@4ax.com:
>
> > On Sat, 17 Mar 2007 14:37:57 CST, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net>
> > wrote:
>
> >>Another thing to keep in mind that as our infrastructure becomes
> >>stronger, hams will only really be needed in the absolutely worst
> >>disasters.
>
> > There will always be a need because no matter how strong the
> > infrastructure is, situations will arise that exceed that capability.
> > Design of public safety communication systems is the specialty of my
> > engineering firm and I'm all too painfully aware of the real-world
> > limitations
>
> Infrastructure by it's very nature becomes more fragile the more
> there is of it. disasters by their nature tend to occur when multiple
> problems happen. Seems like a "duh" statement, but we see it all the
> time. We going to put satellites up to do emergency Operations? Right
> away I see some issues. Those birds aren't cheap, so we'll probably put a
> lot of stuff on them. We'll probably have a lot if interacency
> "patching" available, trunking of course. It will probably be an awesome
> piece of technology. Maybe it will work. Fortunately no satellite has
> ever failed.... ;^)

Mike, PART of the "infrastructure" includes radio amateurs.

Back after the 17 Jan 94 Northridge earthquake here, the
existing infrastructure was behaving just fine and FEMA
brought in a bunch more communications equipment, some
of it used to show continuous video of family/friend messages.
For all of FEMA's highlighted "faults," they were equipped to
handle comms as needed. By now the Los Angeles
Communications Auxiliary (run more or less by the LAFD)
is equipped and able to roll with comm-center bus/RV
modifications. I took my exam at one such Aux station
now still called "Old Fire House 77" despite it being
re-assigned from fire fighting to communications. Some
members of that Aux group are also licensed radio
amateurs and can operate from fixed as well as mobile
station locations.

Things really aren't so scarce/rare insofar as comms
are concerned in this big city complex of 8 million plus.
It may be that much smaller areas have scarce
facilities but that is up to those locations. I'm proud
that this area I live in has beefed up its communications
in the 13 years since the Northridge quake hit. What it
has done can be a model of integration for other areas.

Just a view a bit different than most others in here.

73, Len AF6AY

403. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 14:41:13 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <EJqdnaRyJJRc82PYnZ2dnUVZ_oavnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 5001

"Mike Coslo" <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net> wrote in message
news:Xns98F7D58B5838Cmcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136...
> Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote in
> news:4egrv2li7506mtnl7qmvn0va935mmvlv8h@4ax.com:
>
>> On Sat, 17 Mar 2007 14:37:57 CST, "Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net>
>> wrote:

I didn't explain myself very well on my comments on infrastructure and hams in emergencies. What I was trying to say was that the smaller disasters will need hams less and less as the normal infrastructure becomes more robust despite its complexity. Therefore when the big disasters hit that do compromise the infrastructure, there will be a lower percentage of people with training and experience available.

Dee, N8UZE

404. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 15:16:18 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <12vt2ph6t7ula80@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 5002

LenAnderson@ieee.org wrote:

> Things really aren't so scarce/rare insofar as comms
> are concerned in this big city complex of 8 million plus.
> It may be that much smaller areas have scarce
> facilities but that is up to those locations. I'm proud
> that this area I live in has beefed up its communications
> in the 13 years since the Northridge quake hit. What it
> has done can be a model of integration for other areas.
>
> Just a view a bit different than most others in here.

I suppose that what I'm about to say will raise some eyebrows, too.

It strikes me that the contribution of ham radio operators in a disaster is changing. Not so many years ago, it wasn't unusual for all communications to be rendered inoperable when a disaster hit, and ham radio was the only link with the outside world. We're proud of our "When everything else fails, ham radio still works" abilities.

Then there are the organizations that are spending lots of money to prepare mobile and semi-fixed facilities. Government agencies and NGOs have equipped various types of vehicles to roll into a disaster and provide communications using satellite and radio. They've installed or staged equipment in strategic locations. Much of this work has been done based on lessons learned during the Katrina operation.

The one thing that is always needed during a disaster is manpower. You can stage a satellite dish, but you need someone who is trained to deploy it after the hurricane passes through. You can equip a truck with all the communications equipment needed to hook up an EOC with the outside world, but who drives the truck into the area and sets up the equipment there?

The amateur radio community is the ideal place to recruit this kind of expertise. An alternative to doing things in the traditional way -- using your own equipment and communicating between hams using ham frequencies -- is to affiliate with an organization that is going to need manpower when a disaster hits. It's a different way of accomplishing the same goal. As the requirements for communication become more stringent due to pressure to prevent fraud and maintain privacy, I think that this aspect will become more and more important.

I present this as food for thought and an alternative, not as any criticism of current operations.

73, Steve KB9X

405. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 15:36:05 UTC
From: Jon Kåre Hellan <dev@null.com>
Message-ID: <1mmz29nzg4.fsf@persaunet.uninett.no>
Source record: 5003

Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> writes:

> On Sun, 18 Mar 2007 15:48:38 CST, LA4RT Jon Kåre Hellan <dev@null.com>
> wrote:
>
>>Our regulations are very short - less than 2 1/2 pages when printed
>>by Firefox. http://www.lovdata.no/ltavd1/lt2004/t2004-1-10-65.html, if
>>anybody is curious.
>
> I am. Are they available in English?

I have written and asked.

73 de LA4RT Jon, Trondheim, Norway

406. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 17:20:05 UTC
From: Dennis Brothers <brothers@abbreviatemysurname.com>
Message-ID: <567mg1F26ir6dU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 5004

"Steve Bonine" <spb@pobox.com> wrote in message
news:12vnr1a4c43mce0@news.supernews.com...
> N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
> On the con side, a real disaster is the worst possible scenario for trying
> to get this technology to work reliably. You're potentially in a
> high-noise low-signal poor-antenna situation. The equipment required is
> fairly complex, and you need a fair amount of technical knowledge to set
> it up. When I build a mental image of someone at a shelter trying to set
> up this gear, it's hard for me to see success. Finally there's the issue
> of what data gets sent; some of it probably is not appropriate for
> transmission using amateur radio.
>
A way this works with WinLink (and what we are implementing in MA) is that
you put full-up WinLink stations, with both HF and VHF capability, in a few
hardened (state-owned) EOCs. Local EOCs and shelters use AirMail (the
WinLink client) with VHF TNCs to communicate with the state EOCs, with
forwarding over the Internet if it's still up, or HF otherwise. A VHF-only
WinLink client station can be quickly set up in a temporary EOC or shelter,
and can even be used mobile.

- Dennis Brothers, N1DB

407. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 17:20:57 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <etm86r$s7o$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 5005

LenAnderson@ieee.org wrote:
> On Mar 18, 8:18ï¿½pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:

> Things really aren't so scarce/rare insofar as comms
> are concerned in this big city complex of 8 million plus.
> It may be that much smaller areas have scarce
> facilities but that is up to those locations. I'm proud
> that this area I live in has beefed up its communications
> in the 13 years since the Northridge quake hit. What it
> has done can be a model of integration for other areas.

When things work, they work great.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

408. Re: Being paid while you operate

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 17:21:04 UTC
From: peace@capebyron.com
Message-ID: <1174316697.794421.106980@n59g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5006

>From the AE Question pool:

E1B05 (C) [97.113(c)]
When may an amateur operator accept compensation for serving as the
control
operator of an amateur station used in a classroom?
A. Only when the amateur operator does not accept pay during periods
of time
when the amateur station is used
B. Only when the classroom is in a correctional institution
C. Only when the amateur operator is paid as an incident of a
teaching position
during periods of time when the station is used by that teacher as a
part of
classroom instruction at an educational institution
D. Only when the station is restricted to making contacts with
similar stations
at other educational institutions

Answer is "C"

0n Mar 18, 10:19 pm, Phil Kane <Phil.K...@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:
> On Sun, 18 Mar 2007 20:37:25 CST, Larry <n...@home.com> wrote:
> >What about ARRL employees who are paid for amateur related work?
>
> There is a specific exemption in the Rules for operators at W1AW.
>
> >Case in point - An ARRL tech is being paid to test, in the ARRL Lab, a new
> >2 meter radio for publication in the magazine companies August issue. He's
> >being paid to write the article and operate the radio, right?
>
> How do you know that s/he is not operating into a dummy load? <g>
>
> The answer is in the content of the communication. If the content is
> on the business of the employer, it is improper. If it's just general
> hamming, especially if it's under the W1AW "umbrella" then it's not
> improper.
>
> It's no different from me borrowing a specific piece of equipment to
> evaluate and then writing a magazine article on it for which I am
> being paid
>
>
>
> >Of course, how does a magazine company with paid subscribers get a ham

> >license in the first place (W1AW)??
>
> The ARRL is a membership organization. The licensee of W1AW is the
> ARRL Headquarters Operators Club, a bona fide amateur radio club. They
> do not operate the station to further the publishing arm of the ARRL.
> --
>
> 73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
>
> >From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
>
> Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon
>
> e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

409. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 19:00:14 UTC
From: KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <1174319843.921953.218710@b75g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5007

On Mar 17, 9:43 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> 2) Look for brand-new developments, and offer to buy only
> if the developer (who almost always is the one who adds
> the restrictions) does not include the anti-antenna CC&Rs
> on the house. It probably will not have an effect right
> away, but after a while the developers might get the
> message that they are losing sales because of the restrictions.

It's an idea, but there are pitfalls here. Having a developer wave or change the CC&R's is an option, but only if he actually can. Assuming that the developer actually owns the land (all of it) and can make changes to the restrictions for you, how many will? Remember there are only about 600K of us nation wide, not a large percentage of the market there. I'll bet that even if we all did this, any single developer would only see this once in a blue moon and making changes in the boiler plate CC&R's would not be done.

I'd also be afraid that the developer would try to give you a "waver letter" saying that the specific restriction in question didn't apply to you, but that's about as useful as the paper it's printed on once the development passes from developer control to HOA control. They wouldn't be bound by this "agreement" unless it's legally recorded on your title (and very likely on everybody else's titles as well.)

About the only real option here (Apart from joining the HOA Board and bribing the rest of the voting members to get a temporary exception just for me) is to save up my pennies and move to the sticks once I retire in 20+ years. In the mean time I'm stuck with what I can hide in the attic of my single story home which is full of HVAC equipment, electrical, alarm, and phone wiring and Christmas decorations.

-= bob =-

410. Re: PRB-1 and CCNR's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 19:00:35 UTC
From: KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <1174320379.093549.189290@y80g2000hsf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5008

On Mar 17, 11:01 am, Cecil Moore <nos...@w5dxp.com> wrote:
> KC4UAI wrote:
> > There simply are no similar
> > houses in the area that would not have CCNRs where I could relocate
> > to.
>
> CC&Rs are a part of the price one pays for a house
> and I, for one, am not willing to pay a price that
> prohibits amateur radio antennas. That price is
> just too high.

But you may have the option to choose a house without them. I don't feel that I do at this point. It's not within my means within reasonable commute from where I work.

I guess this doesn't have too much traction with the ham radio folks doe to the demographics involved. The Average ham is older than I am, with more options both financially and geographically than I have. They are more likely to be established in situations where they are not effected by deed restrictions, or have better options than I do.

That doesn't mean that this issue is not important. I believe that it is very important to the future of the amateur radio service, right up there with defending the spectrum we have if not directly related to this issue.

-= bob =-

411. Re: PRB-1 and CCNR's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 19:17:57 UTC
From: Cecil Moore <nospam@w5dxp.com>
Message-ID: <vAzLh.10062$M65.2057@newssvr21.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 5009

KC4UAI wrote:
> But you may have the option to choose a house without them. I don't
> feel that I do at this point. It's not within my means within
> reasonable commute from where I work.

When I lived in AZ, I chose a two hour per day commute
rather than antenna restrictions. Heck, I got in a lot
of operating time during that two hours per day.
--
73, Cecil http://www.w5dxp.com

412. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 21:15:50 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <1174327436.628752.89530@e65g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5010

On Mar 16, 10:30 pm, groupk...@earthlink.net wrote:
> On Mar 15, 7:44 pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>
> >.
> > Sounds like a clear message from the market to me!
>
> Actually I suspect it is a clear message from the embedded
> "gentlemen".
>
> 73, de Hans, K0HB

Yet those were the ones who cared enough to take the time and effort to comment. There was nothing stopping the proponents from commenting. If they didn't care enough to comment, they don't have much room to complain.

413. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 21:16:42 UTC
From: Steven Stone <spfleck@citlink.net>
Message-ID: <MPG.2068aa5ef2c8c4df9896ee@news.frontiernet.net>
Source record: 5011

```
|
|It strikes me that the contribution of ham radio operators in a disaster
|is changing.

There are localized emergencies.
There are regional and national disasters.

Two different animals that require different levels of response.

I don't see the need for extra radio channels going away anytime soon.

Those fancy DHS grant mobile communications centers on wheels are neat.
Typically they bring together fire, EMS, police comms at a single site
with an interoperatability black box to tie it all together.....

When the action is nowhere near a working Nextel tower or public
service repeater site and the satellite links are maxxed out and the
local telco can not climb a pole to jack them into the Internet or POTS
Amateur Radio technology will see action.

The biggest problems with the roving radio comm centers is desense.
With all the antennas ganged up on the roof of such a small area they
take each others radios out every time the other one transmits.

Steve
N2UBP
```

414. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 22:11:17 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <iiqtv2lr4u2hj2vmu9scimiflismg5io33@4ax.com>
Source record: 5012

On Mon, 19 Mar 2007 15:16:42 CST, Steven Stone <spfleck@citlink.net>
wrote:

>The biggest problems with the roving radio comm centers is desense.
>With all the antennas ganged up on the roof of such a small area they
>take each others radios out every time the other one transmits.

You've noticed......! <g>
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

415. Re: Being paid while you operate

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 22:30:28 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1174343403.976117.198050@n76g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5013

On Mar 19, 12:21 pm, p...@capebyron.com wrote:
> >From the AE Question pool:
>
> E1B05 (C) [97.113(c)]
> When may an amateur operator accept compensation for serving as the
> control
> operator of an amateur station used in a classroom?
> A. Only when the amateur operator does not accept pay during periods
> of time
> when the amateur station is used
> B. Only when the classroom is in a correctional institution
> C. Only when the amateur operator is paid as an incident of a
> teaching position
> during periods of time when the station is used by that teacher as a
> part of
> classroom instruction at an educational institution
> D. Only when the station is restricted to making contacts with
> similar stations
> at other educational institutions
>
> Answer is "C"
>
The key part of that is in the question.

It asks about accepting "compensation for serving as the control
operator of an amateur station"

In other words, acting as the control operator has to be
part of the job itself, not an incidental activity.

If a ham gets a paid lunch or break period and operates
an amateur station during that time, s/he isn't being paid to
do so. It's not part of the job.

Being paid *while* operating is not the same as
being paid *for* operating.

73 de Jim, N2EY

416. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 22:42:03 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1174344104.426307.231220@p15g2000hsd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5014

On Mar 19, 2:00 pm, "KC4UAI" <kc4...@gmail.com> wrote:
> On Mar 17, 9:43 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>
> > 2) Look for brand-new developments, and offer to buy only
> > if the developer (who almost always is the one who adds
> > the restrictions) does not include the anti-antenna CC&Rs
> > on the house. It probably will not have an effect right
> > away, but after a while the developers might get the
> > message that they are losing sales because of the restrictions.
>
> It's an idea, but there are pitfalls here. Having a developer wave or
> change the CC&R's is an option, but only if he actually can. Assuming
> that the developer actually owns the land (all of it) and can make
> changes to the restrictions for you, how many will? Remember there
> are only about 600K of us nation wide, not a large percentage of the
> market there. I'll bet that even if we all did this, any single
> developer would only see this once in a blue moon and making changes
> in the boiler plate CC&R's would not be done.

Still worth trying. If a developer starts losing sales because
of CC&Rs, they may be more flexible.

I don't know what the RE market is like in your area, but
here in EPA it is not as much a seller's market as it was
a few years ago. Sellers are making deals today that
they'd never have made in 2000.

> I'd also be afraid that the developer would try to give you a "waver
> letter" saying that the specific restriction in question didn't apply
> to you, but that's about as useful as the paper it's printed on once
> the development passes from developer control to HOA control. They
> wouldn't be bound by this "agreement" unless it's legally recorded on
> your title (and very likely on everybody else's titles as well.)

That's why you need a competent real estate attorney, to
see that the restrictions are completely removed from the
deed in accordance with all applicable laws.

Some things are *not* DIY.
>
> About the only real option here (Apart from joining the HOA Board and
> bribing the rest of the voting members to get a temporary exception
> just for me) is to save up my pennies and move to the sticks once I
> retire in 20+ years. In the mean time I'm stuck with what I can hide
> in the attic of my single story home which is full of HVAC equipment,

> electrical, alarm, and phone wiring and Christmas decorations.
>
I disagree! I think it's at least worth looking.

IMHO, one of the biggest problems with buying real estate
is that it's not something most people do often, nor when
they choose to do it. The trick to getting the best RE deals
is to simply watch the market in your target area, and be
ready to jump when the right house shows up.

But if you accept defeat before even trying.....

73 de Jim, N2EY

417. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 22:55:02 UTC
From: Jon Kåre Hellan <dev@null.com>
Message-ID: <1mvegw4zm8.fsf@persaunet.uninett.no>
Source record: 5015

Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> writes:

> On Sun, 18 Mar 2007 15:48:38 CST, LA4RT Jon Kåre Hellan <dev@null.com>
> wrote:
>
>>Our regulations are very short - less than 2 1/2 pages when printed
>>by Firefox. http://www.lovdata.no/ltavd1/lt2004/t2004-1-10-65.html, if
>>anybody is curious.
>
> I am. Are they available in English?

I got hold of an unofficial translation and put it up at
"http://jk.ufisa.uninett.no/la4rt/hamregs.pdf"

73 de LA4RT Jin, Trondheim, Norway

418. RFSpace.com SDR-IQ just arrived!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-19 23:44:43 UTC
From: Mike Andrews <mikea@mikea.ath.cx>
Message-ID: <etn71gtti1@puck.litech.org>
Source record: 5016

My SDR-IQ spectrum-analyzer/HF receiver just arrived. I got it all hooked up and am *AMAZED*.

This is about as much fun as I've had with my clothes on in years, folks. It's not my beloved Collins R-390. It's not glowbuggy at all. It is a little card, 3.75" square, with three LEDs and three jacks, with some software to let me control it and present a display: waterfall, spectrum amplitude, I&Q, and some others that at present are not useful. Display widths go do _way_ down, and as wide as 190 KHz, though 150 KHz is a little easier on the computer.

I hooked it up to my Gap Titan DX vertical, and have been watching the signals flow by. I click on one and I hear it; click on AM, FM, WFM, USB, LSB, ISB, CW, or CWr to select an appropriate demodulator; Click again to set up the digital filter for that mode. The software drives my sound card's line input, so I can use MixW with it if I want. It's just plain neat.

Anyone else out there got an SQR-IQ? SDR-14? An SDR-1000 from Flex Radio? Care to share?

--
Mike Andrews, W5EGO
mikea@mikea.ath.cx
Tired old sysadmin

419. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-20 02:02:23 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1174354087.551386.14570@o5g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5017

On Mar 19, 4:55 pm, Jon K�re Hellan <d...@null.com> wrote:

```
>
> I got hold of an unofficial translation and put it up at
> "http://jk.ufisa.uninett.no/la4rt/hamregs.pdf"
>

Essentially it says "Here are your bands. Mind your bandwidth. Have
a nice day."

I love it!

73, de Hans, K0HB
```

420. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-20 02:33:26 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <12vuhv35af3lf7a@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 5018

Jon Kï¿½re Hellan wrote:

> I got hold of an unofficial translation and put it up at
> "http://jk.ufisa.uninett.no/la4rt/hamregs.pdf"
>
> 73 de LA4RT Jin, Trondheim, Norway

I'm impressed. Especially when I think about how I would react if someone asked for US regs in Norwegian. Of course, I could probably take the FCC prose and ask Google to translate it; it would be just as opaque in the machine-translated version as it is in English/legalese. <grin>

Thanks, Jin.

73, Steve KB9X

421. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-20 05:46:08 UTC
From: "LenAnderson@ieee.org" <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1174362353.922179.270070@l75g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5019

On Mar 19, 2:11 pm, Phil Kane <Phil.K...@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:
> On Mon, 19 Mar 2007 15:16:42 CST, Steven Stone <spfl...@citlink.net>
> wrote:
>
> >The biggest problems with the roving radio comm centers is desense.
> >With all the antennas ganged up on the roof of such a small area they
> >take each others radios out every time the other one transmits.
>
> You've noticed.....! <g>
> --
I have to disagree somewhat. Having gone through an exercise
in determining "closeness" of same-band aircraft radios on the
same aircraft (civil aviation band at 118-137 MHz) running 10 to
20 W max AM, only five wavelengths separation was fine.
That was back at a time (early 1970s) when high-third-order
IM specs hardly existed.

In a relatively local area, most such emergency comms will
be, generally LOS, and not "working DX." There's no point
in everyone running transmitters full-out in power for relatively
short distances. Yes, I'm familiar with Oregon topography
but NVIS techniques can also get out of the trees and the
deep low spots. If there's a Power Output control on the
rigs in use, it ought to be used to drop the RF output and
minimize desensing of nearby radios.

I'm just tossing in some things to consider in real-world
conditions. It isn't anything against what anyone is doing.

73, Len AF6AY

422. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-20 16:14:51 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1174406309.296857.18230@l77g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5020

On Mar 19, 3:16 pm, Steven Stone <spfl...@citlink.net> wrote:

>
> The biggest problems with the roving radio comm centers is desense.
> With all the antennas ganged up on the roof of such a small area they
> take each others radios out every time the other one transmits.
>

Not if the comm center is properly designed. The techniques for
siting multiple transmitters/receivers in confined areas and
minimizing mutual interference are pretty well established.

73, de Hans, K0HB

423. Re: Being paid while you operate

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-20 18:40:22 UTC
From: Russ <kw5kw@swbell.net>
Message-ID: <sNVLh.15022$uo3.9215@newssvr14.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 5021

Being a Taxi driver and being dispatched by amateur radio = No - No!
Being a Taxi driver and visiting with friends on the local 2-meter while
waiting for a fare: No Problem.

Being an engineer for BNSF and talking to the conductor about the condition
of the train with 2-meter ham radio's = NO-NO!

Being a engineer/conductor and talking to the automobile driving down the
highway about the train on 2 meter simplex: No problem.

Space Shuttle (ISS) astronauts use Sarex to talk to school children all the
time, no problem, but if NASA used the amateur radio equipment to control
the flight then there would be a problem.

If you use the ham equipment IN/FOR your job is the problem.
If you use the ham equipment while at your job is only a problem if it
interfeers with your job performance.

Simple logic rules.
Russ

"Rick" <Nospam@reply.in.gp> wrote in message
news:pan.2007.03.18.19.13.28.559819@reply.in.gp...
>
> In studying for my Extra, using the ARRL Extra Class License Manual
> (2001), I came across an interesting note...
>
> "There is a general rule that you may not be paid to operate your Amateur
> Radio station. In most cases this also means that you cannot operate an
> Amateur Radio station during the time that you are being paid by your
> employer."
>
> Does this mean that if I'm sitting at my desk at work, doing a job that
> doesn't have anything to do with radio, and during break time I pick up my
> HT and call someone on the local repeater, that I'm violating FCC rules?
>
> That would be a bizarre interpretation, and not anything I've ever seen
> before in 42 years as a ham...
>

424. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-20 19:21:16 UTC
From: "LenAnderson@ieee.org" <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1174418356.524605.22650@p15g2000hsd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5022

On Mar 19, 7:16 am, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
> LenAnder...@ieee.org wrote:
> > > Things really aren't so scarce/rare insofar as comms
> > > are concerned in this big city complex of 8 million plus.
> > > It may be that much smaller areas have scarce
> > > facilities but that is up to those locations. I'm proud
> > > that this area I live in has beefed up its communications
> > > in the 13 years since the Northridge quake hit. What it
> > > has done can be a model of integration for other areas.
>
> > > Just a view a bit different than most others in here.
>
> I suppose that what I'm about to say will raise some eyebrows, too.
>
> It strikes me that the contribution of ham radio operators in a disaster
> is changing. Not so many years ago, it wasn't unusual for all
> communications to be rendered inoperable when a disaster hit, and ham
> radio was the only link with the outside world. We're proud of our
> "When everything else fails, ham radio still works" abilities.

Well, that's what I've kept seeing/hearing for over half a
century as an adult. I have yet to witness it first-hand.
That comes from growing up in northern Illinois which had
(sometimes) rather hard winters, although not to the extent
of NW New York state conditions. I've been through several
earthquakes in the Greater Los Angeles area plus at the
edges of a typhoon elsewhere...plus a couple of river over-
flows also elsewhere. I'll discount the typhoons since those
were in northern Asia and I was in the Army at the time.
Being aware and informed through all of those events, I
just haven't seen/witnessed any case where "when all else
fails, ham radio will come through" equivalent.

I've never been IN a hurricane nor IN a tornado location nor
a tsunami nor in the middle of a massive firestorm. However,
I've seen videos (amateur photographer videos) of such events
on TV news...including the very newsworthy Katrina disaster.
Seeing such things on TV is very definitely NOT being "in"
one or suddenly becoming an "expert" on surviving one. My
last event (of being, most definitely) IN one was 13 years
ago and that was quite enough, sufficiently anxiety-prone
feelings despite having gone through several earthquakes
of lesser shaking before, both here and in Japan.

Has amateur radio actually helped handle problems caused
by a disaster DURING an event or have they been relegated
to emotional-support health-welfare messaging AFTER it?
Those are two different conditions. Communications DURING
an event have direct bearing on life-death situations while
communications afterwards concern survivors, the living.

I think it is important to differentiate between the two and
ALSO consider what actually exists in the entire
communications infrastructure that can and does survive.
Example of observable condition of flooding prior to the
Katrina disaster: TV news of a journalist being relayed live
via satellite from the Dakotas...with a clear background
image of a National Guard comms humvee with its whip
antennas tied down for nevis operation. First, the TV
person was getting through (with wide bandwidth) and
obviously in portable operation. Secondly, the NG units
use the same military radio equipment the regular military
does and are far more capable of greater environmental
extremes than nearly all amateur radio gear. On the
newsgroups and various ham websites, everyone seemed
to be giving high-fives to all hams for their marvelous
communications accomplishments...without themselves
being there. :-(

My question has always been, who is kidding who on all
this "emergency work?" It's a serious question which
always seem to raise the emotional hackles of some.
Did everyone get INTO amateur radio JUST to do all
that emergency work? I really don't think so for the vast
majority of radio amateurs. I got into it quite late in life
for one reason and one reason only: To have fun with it,
to enjoy it, to experiment (on a minor scale)...after
spending a half century of adult work experience IN
radio-electronics and enjoying all that work. I might even
try PSK31 out of curiosity; I respect the work of G3PLX,
Peter Martinez, and think it is an elegant solution to
casual communications in a very bandwidth-restricted
spectrum space.

> The one thing that is always needed during a disaster is manpower. You
> can stage a satellite dish, but you need someone who is trained to
> deploy it after the hurricane passes through. You can equip a truck
> with all the communications equipment needed to hook up an EOC with the
> outside world, but who drives the truck into the area and sets up the
> equipment there?

Around here the (unpaid) volunteers of the Los Angeles
Auxiliary Communications Service do. They volunteer
to do what is needed. If that work is the "grunt" variety,
then they do "grunt" work. That's just how it is in real
emergencies.

> The amateur radio community is the ideal place to recruit this kind of
> expertise. An alternative to doing things in the traditional way --
> using your own equipment and communicating between hams using ham
> frequencies -- is to affiliate with an organization that is going to
> need manpower when a disaster hits. It's a different way of
> accomplishing the same goal. As the requirements for communication
> become more stringent due to pressure to prevent fraud and maintain
> privacy, I think that this aspect will become more and more important.

Well, I've served four separate terms of Jury Duty in my
county and served on five different juries. I don't plan on
becoming an attorney nor being involved in law...nor have
I planned to do so. Yet the jury panelists must exist IN
a very real courtroom environment and focus their
attention ON the law and case at hand. Good citizenship
should, I think, involve responsibility to the community.

I don't plan on becoming any sort of "emergency worker"
in communications yet, if a really big one occurs, I feel
that any kind of civic aid should be given, whatever kind.

> I present this as food for thought and an alternative, not as any
> criticism of current operations.

Understood. :-) Please color me skeptical on lots of
the emotional issues that have arisen in amateur radio
over time. I feel we should look at ALL sides of possibilities
and not get involved in the "cheering section" for "our team."

Excuse me while I continue to go through the manual for
this IC-746Pro that arrived safely yesterday. :-)

73, Len AF6AY

425. Re: Being paid while you operate

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-20 19:25:29 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <56aoclF282td6U1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 5023

"Russ" <kw5kw@swbell.net> wrote in message
news:sNVLh.15022$uo3.9215@newssvr14.news.prodigy.net
> Being a Taxi driver and being dispatched by amateur radio
> = No - No! Being a Taxi driver and visiting with friends on the
> local 2-meter while waiting for a fare: No Problem.

An interesting topic, but IMHO there are two distinct things here:

[1] being paid *to* operate and
[2] being paid *while* operating.

[1] is obviously a no-no but I see no problem with [2] - it is no different from what I can see to doing anything else personal while at work, i.e. reading a newspaper while having a cup of coffee in a spare few minutes or chatting to a colleague.

Unfortunately, my office itself is very well shielded from any local repeaters, but if I'm out and about around the site I'll often carry a handheld around with me.

73 Ivor G6URP

426. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-20 19:57:30 UTC
From: "LenAnderson@ieee.org" <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1174419349.963005.37750@b75g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5024

On Mar 20, 8:14 am, groupk...@earthlink.net wrote:
> On Mar 19, 3:16 pm, Steven Stone <spfl...@citlink.net> wrote:
>
> > The biggest problems with the roving radio comm centers is desense.
> > With all the antennas ganged up on the roof of such a small area they
> > take each others radios out every time the other one transmits.
>
> Not if the comm center is properly designed. The techniques for
> siting multiple transmitters/receivers in confined areas and
> minimizing mutual interference are pretty well established.

If that is a real worry, each local amateur radio group can check it out for themselves...base-mobile-handheld, any combination they can operate on/in. There is really a great freedom in amateur radio to convene such a group for a real test at equipment distances on same or different bands using different RF output powers. That will yield data that can be of good use later in real emergencies.

73, Len AF6AY

427. Re: Being paid while you operate

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-20 19:57:45 UTC
From: Rick <Nospam@reply.in.gp>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.03.20.19.48.30.446064@reply.in.gp>
Source record: 5025

On Tue, 20 Mar 2007 14:40:22 -0400, Russ wrote:

> Being a Taxi driver and being dispatched by amateur radio = No - No!
> Being a Taxi driver and visiting with friends on the local 2-meter while
> waiting for a fare: No Problem.

Right. I agree with that. And it's been my interpretation of the rules for 44 years.

But, now along comes the ARRL and, in their Extra Class License Manual, says "There is a general rule that you may not be paid to operate your Amateur Radio station. In most cases this also means that you cannot operate an Amateur Radio station during the time that you are being paid by your employer.".

Where do you suppose they came up with that goofball interpretation of the rule?

428. Re: Being paid while you operate

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-21 00:38:36 UTC
From: who knows <noone@nowhere.nohow.notime>
Message-ID: <460056df$1@dnews.tpgi.com.au>
Source record: 5026

"Rick" <Nospam@reply.in.gp> wrote in message
news:pan.2007.03.20.19.48.30.446064@reply.in.gp...
> On Tue, 20 Mar 2007 14:40:22 -0400, Russ wrote:
>
>> Being a Taxi driver and being dispatched by amateur radio = No - No!
>> Being a Taxi driver and visiting with friends on the local 2-meter while
>> waiting for a fare: No Problem.
>
> Right. I agree with that. And it's been my interpretation of the rules
> for 44 years.
>
> But, now along comes the ARRL and, in their Extra Class License Manual,
> says "There is a general rule that you may not be paid to operate your
> Amateur Radio station. In most cases this also means that you cannot
> operate an Amateur Radio station during the time that you are being paid
> by your employer.".
>
> Where do you suppose they came up with that goofball interpretation of the
> rule?
>

Sounds like it would be a good idea to ask Riley Hollingsworth for
clarification?

Keith G Malcolm
VK1ZKM
22 Mar 2007

429. Re: Being paid while you operate

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-21 00:47:44 UTC
From: "AF6AY@arrl.org" <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1174437898.558860.66610@n76g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5027

On Mar 20, 11:57 am, Rick <Nos...@reply.in.gp> wrote:
> On Tue, 20 Mar 2007 14:40:22 -0400, Russ wrote:
> > Being a Taxi driver and being dispatched by amateur radio = No - No!
> > Being a Taxi driver and visiting with friends on the local 2-meter while
> > waiting for a fare: No Problem.
>
> Right. I agree with that. And it's been my interpretation of the rules
> for 44 years.
>
> But, now along comes the ARRL and, in their Extra Class License Manual,
> says "There is a general rule that you may not be paid to operate your
> Amateur Radio station. In most cases this also means that you cannot
> operate an Amateur Radio station during the time that you are being paid
> by your employer.".
>
> Where do you suppose they came up with that goofball interpretation of the
> rule?

I suggest checking out the NCVEC and their Extra question
pool. See www.ncvec.org.

73, Len

430. Tech Plus upgrading to?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-21 08:15:22 UTC
From: Jim Langston <tazmaster@rocketmail.com>
Message-ID: <Vk4Mh.711$cy5.318@newsfe05.lga>
Source record: 5028

I'm a technitian plus and my license expires next January. I figure rather than just reupdating it, I would want to upgrade. I actually haven't used a ham radio for years. About 4 years ago I was trading cars and put my 2m into storage, which then we lost (long story) and haven't used a ham radio since.

Anyway, I understand that the different classes have changed (tech plus doesn't even really exist anymore, does it?). I used to be, if I remember corretly, novice, tech, tech plus, general, expert. Now I *think* it's technitian, general, expert. Am I correct? I already have my 5wpm morse code but don't have any of my paperwork anymore (including my license).

What will I need to provide to prove I have the 5wpm morse code? Will I need to get a new copy of my license? I had my address updated a few days ago and it should be updated by now, if so I'll request a duplicate of my license.

Any advice would be great.

431. Re: Being paid while you operate

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-21 11:50:37 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1174477785.821573.291760@d57g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5029

On Mar 20, 2:57 pm, Rick <Nos...@reply.in.gp> wrote:
> On Tue, 20 Mar 2007 14:40:22 -0400, Russ wrote:
> > Being a Taxi driver and being dispatched by amateur radio = No - No!
> > Being a Taxi driver and visiting with friends on the local 2-meter while
> > waiting for a fare: No Problem.
>
> Right. I agree with that. And it's been my interpretation of the rules
> for 44 years.
>
> But, now along comes the ARRL and, in their Extra Class License Manual,
> says "There is a general rule that you may not be paid to operate your
> Amateur Radio station.

And that's true. Except in certain specific cases, an
Amateur Radio operator cannot be paid to operate
an Amateur Radio station.

> In most cases this also means that you cannot
> operate an Amateur Radio station during the time that you are being paid
> by your employer.".
>
That's true as well - in *most* cases. Not *all* cases.

> Where do you suppose they came up with that goofball interpretation of the
> rule?

It's not a "goofball interpretation" at all. It's just common
sense. In *most* cases you cannot legally operate an
Amateur Radio station during the time that you are being paid by your
employer.

The exceptions are:

- Teachers and other educators that use Amateur Radio as
part of the curriculum (that's in the rules)
- Break times, layover/rest times and meal periods, when
the employee is being paid but is not expected to be working.
- Space Shuttle and other space operations (generally considered to be
a combination of the above two exceptions)
- In an emergency situation if all other means of
communication are not available. (This applies to just about
any radio available - but it better be a real emergency!)

Just common sense.

btw, someone gave some examples, such as the BNSF locomotive engineer and the taxi driver. It should be noted that while *FCC* Part 97 rules may permit the operations described, that does not make them 100% OK.

Many employers have rules prohibiting their employees' on-duty use of radios other than those provided by the employer. In some cases this includes personal cell phones. The idea is to eliminate distractions, and the possibility of interference between radio systems. Of course this does not apply in an emergency if the normal means of communication aren't available, and the employer's rules usually allow for that.

It doesn't do amateur radio any good if an employee comes under disciplinary action or is fired for operating an amateur radio station on the job. Particularly if that operation compromises safety or getting the job done.

73 de Jim, N2EY

432. Re: Tech Plus upgrading to?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-21 12:41:41 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <0sydnQ5iD9Hck5zbnZ2dnUVZ_r6vnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 5030

"Jim Langston" <tazmaster@rocketmail.com> wrote in message
news:Vk4Mh.711$cy5.318@newsfe05.lga...
> I'm a technitian plus and my license expires next January. I figure
> rather than just reupdating it, I would want to upgrade. I actually
> haven't used a ham radio for years. About 4 years ago I was trading cars
> and put my 2m into storage, which then we lost (long story) and haven't
> used a ham radio since.
>
> Anyway, I understand that the different classes have changed (tech plus
> doesn't even really exist anymore, does it?). I used to be, if I remember
> corretly, novice, tech, tech plus, general, expert. Now I *think* it's
> technitian, general, expert. Am I correct? I already have my 5wpm morse
> code but don't have any of my paperwork anymore (including my license).
>
> What will I need to provide to prove I have the 5wpm morse code? Will I
> need to get a new copy of my license? I had my address updated a few days
> ago and it should be updated by now, if so I'll request a duplicate of my
> license.
>
> Any advice would be great.

The current license classes are Technician, General, and Extra. There is no code test for any class of license so you will not need to provided proof of passing it. You will need to have your current license or proof of license.

To upgrade, you will just have to pass the written exams: element 3 to go to General and then Element 4 to go to Extra. You will also need your license, photocopy of the license, picture ID, and the test session fee.

Check the frequency charts on ARRL. Your HF privileges have changed. You now have CW privileges in the General CW portions of 15m, 40m, and 80m. Note however, that the General CW portion on 80m has also changed.

433. Re: Being paid while you operate

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-21 13:18:37 UTC
From: Dennis Brothers <brothers@abbreviatemysurname.com>
Message-ID: <56codmF28g836U1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 5031

"Larry" <noone@home.com> wrote in message
news:Xns98F7CD7E1B3D9noonehomecom@208.49.80.253...
>
> Hospital workers and emergency service personnel are all being "paid" to
> operate ham radio after they get their licenses, as are NOAA Weather
> Bureau
> bureaucrats at WX4CHS, at the Charleston Weather Bureau Office.
>
> None that I know of have been busted.
>
> Larry W4CSC
> --

This was explicitely addressed in the October Omnibus Report & Order:

52. Mr. DiGennaro also requests that we amend Section 97.113 our Rules,
which
prohibits "[c]ommunications for hire or for material compensation, direct or
indirect, paid or
promised," by amateur stations,227 to clarify that amateur licensees who, by
virtue of their
employment, are directly involved in facilitating relief and recovery in
times of disaster are not
prohibited from effecting emergency communications using amateur radio.228
We conclude that
the proposed rule change is not necessary, however, because Section 97.113
does not prohibit
amateur radio operators who are emergency personnel engaged in disaster
relief from using the
amateur service bands while in a paid duty status.229 These individuals are
not receiving
compensation for transmitting amateur service communications; rather, they
are receiving
compensation for services related to their disaster relief duties and in
their capacities as
emergency personnel.230

- Dennis Brothers, N1DB

434. Bigger than cycle 19?!?!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-21 14:04:47 UTC
From: Jeff Caird <professor.jc@knox.edu>
Message-ID: <1302cluf9nhmbea@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 5032

http://science.slashdot.org/science/07/03/21/1229247.shtml

I became a SWL just as cycle 19 was peaking. I became a ham during 22. I will be retired in 23. Hoorah for ten meters!

435. Re: Being paid while you operate

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-21 14:59:27 UTC
From: Russ <kw5kw@swbell.net>
Message-ID: <skbMh.214$rO7.66@newssvr25.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 5033

<N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote in message
news:1174477785.821573.291760@d57g2000hsg.googlegroups.com...
> On Mar 20, 2:57 pm, Rick <Nos...@reply.in.gp> wrote:
>> On Tue, 20 Mar 2007 14:40:22 -0400, Russ wrote:

> And that's true. Except in certain specific cases, an
> Amateur Radio operator cannot be paid to operate
> an Amateur Radio station.
>
>> In most cases this also means that you cannot
>> operate an Amateur Radio station during the time that you are being paid
>> by your employer.".
>>
> That's true as well - in *most* cases. Not *all* cases.
>
>> Where do you suppose they came up with that goofball interpretation of
>> the
>> rule?
>
> It's not a "goofball interpretation" at all. It's just common
> sense. In *most* cases you cannot legally operate an
> Amateur Radio station during the time that you are being paid by your
> employer.
>
> The exceptions are:
>
> - Teachers and other educators that use Amateur Radio as
> part of the curriculum (that's in the rules)
> - Break times, layover/rest times and meal periods, when
> the employee is being paid but is not expected to be working.
> - Space Shuttle and other space operations (generally considered to be
> a combination of the above two exceptions)
> - In an emergency situation if all other means of
> communication are not available. (This applies to just about
> any radio available - but it better be a real emergency!)
>
Ok...
I'm on a salary, I get paid for a week of work but I take a day off to go
fishin'... I talk on my 2mtr and by your interpertation, I'm illegal because
I'm using my 2mtr while I'm getting paid.

I think a little common sense goes a long ways here.

Now, the rule was meant that amateurs can not and will not use their radio
for conducting business. That's the illustration of the taxi driver or the

railroad engineer. They can't conduct actual business over amateur radio while at work or when off. They can, however, if within the rules and regulations of their particular company, talk to friends about non-business related chit-chat.

I have worked for an automotive dealer for >30 years. I catch myself giving automotive advise (service/parts type of advise) and wonder if I'm violating the business rule. I've had many private discussions with VE's and many others, and we figured out that as long as I don't ask them to come down and purchase a part/have the service done/ buy a car from me then I'm ok giving advise on how to fix the problem or what to look for or what to buy or how to do it, etc.

Now, while at work, and I see a storm comming, I'll make my report. If I'm takin' a break and go outside and talk to a friend on a machine for 5~10 minutes, I'm not breaking any FCC rules, nor am I breaking any company rules about radio communications.

436. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-21 15:33:07 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <etriih$o6c$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 5034

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
> On Mar 19, 2:00ï¿½pm, "KC4UAI" <kc4...@gmail.com> wrote:
>> On Mar 17, 9:43 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>>
>>> 2) Look for brand-new developments, and offer to buy only
>>> if the developer (who almost always is the one who adds
>>> the restrictions) does not include the anti-antenna CC&Rs
>>> on the house. It probably will not have an effect right
>>> away, but after a while the developers might get the
>>> message that they are losing sales because of the restrictions.
>> It's an idea, but there are pitfalls here. Having a developer wave or
>> change the CC&R's is an option, but only if he actually can. Assuming
>> that the developer actually owns the land (all of it) and can make
>> changes to the restrictions for you, how many will? Remember there
>> are only about 600K of us nation wide, not a large percentage of the
>> market there. I'll bet that even if we all did this, any single
>> developer would only see this once in a blue moon and making changes
>> in the boiler plate CC&R's would not be done.
>
> Still worth trying. If a developer starts losing sales because
> of CC&Rs, they may be more flexible.
>
> I don't know what the RE market is like in your area, but
> here in EPA it is not as much a seller's market as it was
> a few years ago. Sellers are making deals today that
> they'd never have made in 2000.

Agreed, Jim. It's a disaster up here. Not only are new houses not
selling, but there are going to be a lot of new ones coming on the
market as the people who bought all the houses on the "voodoo mortgage
plans" lose their homes as the payments double or more than double.

My point is that I would wager a beverage of your choice that at this
time, if you approach a real estate agent or developer and let them know
that the antenna restriction is there, you are going to walk - the
restriction will go in a New York minute.

>> I'd also be afraid that the developer would try to give you a "waver
>> letter" saying that the specific restriction in question didn't apply
>> to you, but that's about as useful as the paper it's printed on once
>> the development passes from developer control to HOA control. They
>> wouldn't be bound by this "agreement" unless it's legally recorded on
>> your title (and very likely on everybody else's titles as well.)
>
> That's why you need a competent real estate attorney, to

> see that the restrictions are completely removed from the
> deed in accordance with all applicable laws.

And how! When we bought our house, and at signing, our attorney found a lien on the place that wasn't found through the entire buying process. Apparently the previous owners knew about it too! We were saved an unholy mess after the sale. He did his job well and didn't just accept the papers he was given. We're a walking advertisement for the guy now.

One of the most fortunate bits of luck I had was that although I was about 5 years away from becoming a Ham when we bought it, the Neighborhood isn't antenna restricted, with the exception that if you put up a tower, it has to be far away enough from the neighbors that it won't fall on their house - seems reasonable to me! ;^) All I have to do is please the XYL, and I'm there.

> Some things are *not* DIY.
>> About the only real option here (Apart from joining the HOA Board and
>> bribing the rest of the voting members to get a temporary exception
>> just for me) is to save up my pennies and move to the sticks once I
>> retire in 20+ years. In the mean time I'm stuck with what I can hide
>> in the attic of my single story home which is full of HVAC equipment,
>> electrical, alarm, and phone wiring and Christmas decorations.
>>
> I disagree! I think it's at least worth looking.

People have pressed some unusual things into stealth antennas. My very first antenna was a wire just above the roof line. It was only visible if you knew exactly where to look. And it worked okay, nothing great, but I could get a signal out.

I suppose if a neighbor asked, you could tell them it was a roof moss control line... ;^)

There are a lot of flag poles that have funny little boxes at the bottom, and a wire that runs into the basement also...

> IMHO, one of the biggest problems with buying real estate
> is that it's not something most people do often, nor when
> they choose to do it. The trick to getting the best RE deals
> is to simply watch the market in your target area, and be
> ready to jump when the right house shows up.

Yup.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

437. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-21 17:53:57 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <etrq7fska1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 5035

LenAnderson@ieee.org wrote:

> Has amateur radio actually helped handle problems caused
> by a disaster DURING an event or have they been relegated
> to emotional-support health-welfare messaging AFTER it?

Personal listening experience here.

There was a hurricane that went through South America a year or two back, on the way toward the US. I listened to an emergency net as a Ham was helping another who was on a small ship caught in the storm. I believe it was near Grenada. The ship was having engine problems, the skipper was inexperienced, and a ham with maritime experience was "procured" to talk the other guy through saving the boat and passengers.

Listening to the transmissions, I have no doubt that had the instructions and help been relayed, the skipper and his passengers might have become statistics.

> Those are two different conditions. Communications DURING
> an event have direct bearing on life-death situations while
> communications afterwards concern survivors, the living.

The emergency is not a finite point. People who are injured during an emergency can survive or expire during the aftermath. Who can say which particular communications are critical except in retrospect? Health and welfare comms are extremely important to those affected. It is important work, whether involved in dire emergency or the less pressing aftermath.

> My question has always been, who is kidding who on all
> this "emergency work?" It's a serious question which
> always seem to raise the emotional hackles of some.

There is a difference between Amateurs and those who are being paid for their work. The amateurs are not being paid. Glad handing has sometimes been called the wages of volunteerism. Perhaps a situation similar to Volunteer firefighters is at work? Some people have issues with them also. Yet they fill an important function.

I respectfully have to say that if a ham says something about Amateur radio contributions to emergency communications, there are some people who automatically dismiss their statements. Fortunately one does not have to engage in the activity as a ham. It is completely voluntary.

73 de Mike KB3EIA -

438. Re: Tech Plus upgrading to?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-21 19:05:33 UTC
From: "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not>
Message-ID: <etrv90$kn2$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 5036

"Jim Langston" <tazmaster@rocketmail.com> wrote in message
news:Vk4Mh.711$cy5.318@newsfe05.lga...
> I'm a technitian plus and my license expires next January. I figure
> rather than just reupdating it, I would want to upgrade. I actually
> haven't used a ham radio for years. [snip]
>
> Anyway, I understand that the different classes have changed (tech plus
> doesn't even really exist anymore, does it?). [snip] I already have my 5wpm morse
> code but don't have any of my paperwork anymore (including my license).
>
> What will I need to provide to prove I have the 5wpm morse code? Will I
> need to get a new copy of my license? I had my address updated a few days
> ago and it should be updated by now, if so I'll request a duplicate of my
> license.
>
> Any advice would be great.

Jim,

If you passed the Technician test before March 21, 1987, you need only
provide proof to a VE team at an exam session, and you'll be given
element 3 credit, and thus will be entitled to a General upgrade without
testing.

If you passed the Technician test _after_ March 21, 1987, you'll need to
take the Element 3 written exam.

To get verification of your license status and exam date, write to the
FCC and ask for a "Status Verification": the procedure is attached below.

HTH.

Bill W1AC

- - -

Summary : Amateur Verification
Description : Amateur Verification
Solution Description : If you do not have a copy of your old amateur
license that shows when you were granted a certain operator class, you
can request a verification of your license status at that time by postal
mail, email, or fax.

Send a letter to:

FCC
Attn: Amateur Manager

1270 Fairfield Road
Gettysburg, PA 17325

You can also fax it to 717-338-2850 - put Attn: Amateur Manager on the cover sheet.

You can also submit this request at http://esupport.fcc.gov/index.htm

Information you need to include:
1)Call Sign you want researched
2)Licensee Name as it appeared on the license
3)Mailing Address as it appeared on the license
4)Current Mailing Address
5)DOB
6)Class of License (Novice, Tech, Tech Plus, General, Advanced, Extra)
7)Approximate date license was issued

You will be sent a letter verifying your license status, so please provide a current mailing address in your request. If you need an upgrade application submitted, you will need to contact a volunteer examiner. You will need to present a copy of your old license to show proof of passing the tests, or the amateur verification that you have received.

To locate an examiner in your area, visit
http://wireless.fcc.gov/services/amateur/licensing/vecs.html

--
73,

Bill W1AC

(Remove "73" and change top level domain for direct replies)

439. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-21 20:30:33 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1174508794.490853.75670@b75g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5037

Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote on Wed, 21 Mar 2007 13:53:57 EDT:

>LenAnder...@ieee.org wrote:
>> Has amateur radio actually helped handle problems caused
>> by a disaster DURING an event or have they been relegated
>> to emotional-support health-welfare messaging AFTER it?
>
>Personal listening experience here.
>
> There was a hurricane that went through South America a year or two
>back, on the way toward the US. I listened to an emergency net as a Ham
>was helping another who was on a small ship caught in the storm. I
>believe it was near Grenada. The ship was having engine problems, the
>skipper was inexperienced, and a ham with maritime experience was
>"procured" to talk the other guy through saving the boat and passengers.
>
> Listening to the transmissions, I have no doubt that had the
>instructions and help been relayed, the skipper and his passengers might
>have become statistics.

Not being a mariner and one who avoids riding ON water, I can't
comment on the veracity of that. :-)

In a relatively recent event, a west coast sailor was attempting
to sail solo towards the southern tip of South America, became
damaged (de-masted?) and the Chilean Navy - Coast Guard came to
his rescue along with other private ships in the area. The news
of both search and rescue was carried on all the TV news and
amateur radio did relay that news albeit a bit late.

Was amateur radio communications "vital" in that case? Or wasn't
it of a secondary nature in the form of "health and welfare?"
I say the latter since the principal rescuer was the military
of the government of Chile with the cooperation of fishing
vessels in the area. Safety of Life at Sea has been a bond of
ALL mariners since well before radio was demonstrated as a
communications medium. This was a case of SOLAS in action.

>> Those are two different conditions. Communications DURING
>> an event have direct bearing on life-death situations while
>> communications afterwards concern survivors, the living.
>
> The emergency is not a finite point.

I have to disagree. Those directly involved in ANY emergency
would probably agree with me on that.

> People who are injured during an
>emergency can survive or expire during the aftermath. Who can say which
>particular communications are critical except in retrospect?

I would say the individuals directly involved can say that very definitely. Before this solo sailor's power ran out, he reported being de-masted and adrift and that his power was running low. To my mind that is about as direct a determination of an actual emergency as can be...albeit my not being a mariner.

An airliner captatin reported an emergency when an air carrier's nose wheel did not retract properly; the nose wheel assembly had become turned from its natural position. The FAA accepted that as an emergency, coordinated with Los Angeles airports for emergency help, having fire engines standing by along with rescue workers. TV news relayed it live for viewers. Spectacular safe landing even though the nose wheel assembly caught fire. I don't recall the number of passengers on board but at least a hundred lives were directly at risk...all survived.

> Health and
>welfare comms are extremely important to those affected. It is important
>work, whether involved in dire emergency or the less pressing aftermath.

Well, I was taking things in order of importance. When human life is at stake, I put the priority on direct emergency communications to save such life. Reporting on the results of aid/rescue afterwards after that would, in my mind, be deemed secondary. Yes, that secondary role is important for the emotional well-being of relatives and friends via "health and welfare" comms, but I still rank it secondary. Others may disagree.

>> My question has always been, who is kidding who on all
>> this "emergency work?" It's a serious question which
>> always seem to raise the emotional hackles of some.
>
> There is a difference between Amateurs and those who are being paid for
>their work. The amateurs are not being paid.

Yes, that is why the FCC titles Part 97 as "AMATEUR Radio Service." :-)

>Glad handing has sometimes been called the wages of volunteerism.

Good point! But, my mention was in regards to amateur radio as a hobby, an avocation, something to be done in one's free time. Is/was the amateur radio service organized as an "emergency communications" primary role? Or was it organized as an unpaid, personal, technological-oriented activity done by individuals? I say the latter.

Too often some individuals blend the two organization-origins with the "emergency" part rationalized as justifying the real activity. I would say that is wrong. As responsible citizens

we all should help in some part with our communities in some
way. Amateur radio is only one way to help and then primarily
for rather extreme situations.

> I respectfully have to say that if a ham says something about Amateur
>radio contributions to emergency communications, there are some people
>who automatically dismiss their statements.

Yes, there are. I've been called one of those! :-)

>Fortunately one does not
>have to engage in the activity as a ham. It is completely voluntary.

True. The state of California Auxiliary Communications Service
will accept anyone to help in emergency communications, licensed
or not, as long as they can demonstrate they know something about
communications. The California ACS considers ALL forms of
communications to be vital and ANY that survive extreme
emergencies would be used. Yes, having a license helps, whether
commercial or amateur (in my case both), but that license by
itself is not proof positive that an individual knows enough
about radio and less about wired communications.

Now, I've been accused of being geographically bigoted by
mentioning California and the Greater Los Angeles area as models
of emergency communications. For one thing, California is BIG
having over 10 percent of this nation's population, rivaling
the entire population of Canada. The state has weathered a
tsunami wiping out a small coastal city, many earthquakes, many
brush and timber firestorms, flooding, and damage from heavy
rainstorms. The L.A. emergency communications center was new
and operating for the 17 Jan 94 Northridge earthquake that
affected about 10 million people and killed 53 humans...it
worked through the efforts of organization, training, and
regular drilling of participants. The "infrastructure" didn't
fail and the cities making up this megalopolis survived.
There's quite enough history of successful operations through
very real emergencies available to anyone who bothers to look
and seriously consider adopting those plans and experiences for
their own communities. Examination of what has worked and what
hasn't can be considered as a form of volunteerism...

73, Len AF6AY

440. Re: Being paid while you operate

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-21 22:20:21 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <AMadnUpJLrlHN5zbnZ2dnUVZ_ruknZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 5038

"Russ" <kw5kw@swbell.net> wrote in message
news:skbMh.214$rO7.66@newssvr25.news.prodigy.net...
>
> <N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote in message
> news:1174477785.821573.291760@d57g2000hsg.googlegroups.com...
>> On Mar 20, 2:57 pm, Rick <Nos...@reply.in.gp> wrote:
>>> On Tue, 20 Mar 2007 14:40:22 -0400, Russ wrote:
>
>> And that's true. Except in certain specific cases, an
>> Amateur Radio operator cannot be paid to operate
>> an Amateur Radio station.
>>
>>> In most cases this also means that you cannot
>>> operate an Amateur Radio station during the time that you are being paid
>>> by your employer.".
>>>
>> That's true as well - in *most* cases. Not *all* cases.
>>
>>> Where do you suppose they came up with that goofball interpretation of
>>> the
>>> rule?
>>
>> It's not a "goofball interpretation" at all. It's just common
>> sense. In *most* cases you cannot legally operate an
>> Amateur Radio station during the time that you are being paid by your
>> employer.
>>
>> The exceptions are:
>>
>> - Teachers and other educators that use Amateur Radio as
>> part of the curriculum (that's in the rules)
>> - Break times, layover/rest times and meal periods, when
>> the employee is being paid but is not expected to be working.
>> - Space Shuttle and other space operations (generally considered to be
>> a combination of the above two exceptions)
>> - In an emergency situation if all other means of
>> communication are not available. (This applies to just about
>> any radio available - but it better be a real emergency!)
>>
> Ok...
> I'm on a salary, I get paid for a week of work but I take a day off to go
> fishin'... I talk on my 2mtr and by your interpertation, I'm illegal
> because I'm using my 2mtr while I'm getting paid.

>

No, the "Break times....." comment applies to the day off situation. You are getting paid but you are not expected to be working. And you are not getting paid to specifically operate that radio.

Dee, N8UZE

441. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-22 01:16:00 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1174526133.463797.210160@n76g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5039

On Mar 21, 10:33 am, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> > On Mar 19, 2:00?pm, "KC4UAI" <kc4...@gmail.com> wrote:
> >> On Mar 17, 9:43 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>
> >>> 2) Look for brand-new developments, and offer to buy only
> >>> if the developer (who almost always is the one who adds
> >>> the restrictions) does not include the anti-antenna CC&Rs
> >>> on the house. It probably will not have an effect right
> >>> away, but after a while the developers might get the
> >>> message that they are losing sales because of the restrictions.
> >> It's an idea, but there are pitfalls here. Having a developer wave or
> >> change the CC&R's is an option, but only if he actually can. Assuming
> >> that the developer actually owns the land (all of it) and can make
> >> changes to the restrictions for you, how many will? Remember there
> >> are only about 600K of us nation wide, not a large percentage of the
> >> market there. I'll bet that even if we all did this, any single
> >> developer would only see this once in a blue moon and making changes
> >> in the boiler plate CC&R's would not be done.
>
> > Still worth trying. If a developer starts losing sales because
> > of CC&Rs, they may be more flexible.
>
> > I don't know what the RE market is like in your area, but
> > here in EPA it is not as much a seller's market as it was
> > a few years ago. Sellers are making deals today that
> > they'd never have made in 2000.
>
> Agreed, Jim. It's a disaster up here.

We don't have that problem here. But the market isn't as
hot as it was a few years ago. That's true almost everywhere.

>Not only are new houses not
> selling, but there are going to be a lot of new ones coming on the
> market as the people who bought all the houses on the "voodoo mortgage
> plans" lose their homes as the payments double or more than double.
>
Unfortunate but true.

There was a time, not too long ago, when the lenders
and regulations were *very* cautious about people's
debt limits. Things were set up to prevent people from
getting in too deep a hole. But in recent years, the

opposite has become true.

> • • • • My point is that I would wager a beverage of your choice that at this
> time, if you approach a real estate agent or developer and let them know
> that the antenna restriction is there, you are going to walk - the
> restriction will go in a New York minute.

I agree - *if* you are ready to buy, and *if* they can
get rid of the restrictions.

Side Note: The OTARD ruling is really just the tip of the iceberg
IMHO.

As energy prices rise, I think we will see more and more
alternative-energy installations. For example, a solar hot-water-
preheater could reduce the cost of domestic hot
water. If the price of photovoltaic cells comes down
enough, they could help reduce electricity cost. And of
course there's wind energy.

But such things are probably prohibited by many
CC&Rs, for a bunch of reasons. We may see the day
when such CC&Rs are being overturned because of the
cost of energy.

> >> I'd also be afraid that the developer would try to give you a "waver
> >> letter" saying that the specific restriction in question didn't apply
> >> to you, but that's about as useful as the paper it's printed on once
> >> the development passes from developer control to HOA control. •They
> >> wouldn't be bound by this "agreement" unless it's legally recorded on
> >> your title (and very likely on everybody else's titles as well.)
>
> > That's why you need a competent real estate attorney, to
> > see that the restrictions are completely removed from the
> > deed in accordance with all applicable laws.
>
> • • • • And how! When we bought our house, and at signing, our attorney found a
> lien on the place that wasn't found through the entire buying process.
> Apparently the previous owners knew about it too! •We were saved an
> unholy mess after the sale. He did his job well and didn't just accept
> the papers he was given. •We're a walking advertisement for the guy now.
>
My RE attorney found all the deed restrictions on this house.
Most of my neighbors had no idea they even existed. None
of them are anti-antenna, and most (like setbacks and
impervious-surface rules) have been superseded
by local ordinances.

> • • • • One of the most fortunate bits of luck I had was that although I was
> about 5 years away from becoming a Ham when we bought it, the
> Neighborhood isn't antenna restricted, with the exception that if you
> put up a tower, it has to be far away enough from the neighbors that it

> won't fall on their house - seems reasonable to me! ;^)

Depends on the size of the lot. On a lot that's , say, 100
feet wide, you can't put up a tower more than 50 feet high
and have its "fall circle" not go over the property line.

> All I have to do
> is please the XYL, and I'm there.

Yup.

> > Some things are *not* DIY.

Like The Law.

I am still surprised at how people who wouldn't dream of
working on their car, or their computer, etc., will think
they have the expertise to do real estate buying and selling
without a competent RE attorney looking things over.

> >> About the only real option here (Apart from joining the HOA Board and
> >> bribing the rest of the voting members to get a temporary exception
> >> just for me) is to save up my pennies and move to the sticks once I
> >> retire in 20+ years. In the mean time I'm stuck with what I can hide
> >> in the attic of my single story home which is full of HVAC equipment,
> >> electrical, alarm, and phone wiring and Christmas decorations.
>
> > I disagree! I think it's at least worth looking.
>
> People have pressed some unusual things into stealth antennas.

What I meant was that even though KC4UAI thinks there
are no unrestricted houses that are in his area and
affordable, he should still keep looking.

> My very
> first antenna was a wire just above the roof line. It was only visible
> if you knew exactly where to look. And it worked okay, nothing great,
> but I could get a signal out.
>
> I suppose if a neighbor asked, you could tell them it was a roof moss
> control line... ;^)

There you go!

> There are a lot of flag poles that have funny little boxes at the
> bottom, and a wire that runs into the basement also...

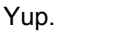
In SNJ a few years back there was a case where a
military veteran had all of his children on active military
duty in the Middle East. They were in combat units, too.

He put up a standard flagpole on his front lawn, and would
fly the US flag every day. I saw pictures of the house - the

flagpole was very nicely done, and not out of scale.

The CC&Rs on the property did not allow flagpoles. The HOA fined the vet and took him to court when he would neither pay the fines nor take down the flagpole.

I don't know how the case turned out. But I remember it when people say that if someone signs away their rights, they should stick to the rules.

> > IMHO, one of the biggest problems with buying real estate
> > is that it's not something most people do often, nor when
> > they choose to do it. The trick to getting the best RE deals
> > is to simply watch the market in your target area, and be
> > ready to jump when the right house shows up.
>
>  Yup.
>
73 de Jim, N2EY

442. Re: RFSpace.com SDR-IQ just arrived!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-22 02:10:21 UTC
From: wxfreqrs <wxfreqrs@cableone.net>
Message-ID: <1303addovl37b8b@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 5040

went here looks good
http://www.rfspace.com/sdriq.html
whats the price

--
Don
SEMPER VIGILIS
http://myweb.cableone.net/wxfreqrs/ REAL TIME WEATHER Pascagoula Ms
http://www.qsl.net/kb5fhx/index.html HAM RADIO
Those who live by the sword get shot by those who don't.

"Mike Andrews" <mikea@mikea.ath.cx> wrote in message
news:etn71gtti1@puck.litech.org...
> My SDR-IQ spectrum-analyzer/HF receiver just arrived. I got it all
> hooked up and am *AMAZED*.
>
> This is about as much fun as I've had with my clothes on in years,
> folks. It's not my beloved Collins R-390. It's not glowbuggy at all.
> It is a little card, 3.75" square, with three LEDs and three jacks,
> with some software to let me control it and present a display:
> waterfall, spectrum amplitude, I&Q, and some others that at present
> are not useful. Display widths go do _way_ down, and as wide as 190
> KHz, though 150 KHz is a little easier on the computer.
>
> I hooked it up to my Gap Titan DX vertical, and have been watching the
> signals flow by. I click on one and I hear it; click on AM, FM, WFM,
> USB, LSB, ISB, CW, or CWr to select an appropriate demodulator; Click
> again to set up the digital filter for that mode. The software drives
> my sound card's line input, so I can use MixW with it if I want. It's
> just plain neat.
>
> Anyone else out there got an SQR-IQ? SDR-14? An SDR-1000 from Flex
> Radio? Care to share?
>
> --
> Mike Andrews, W5EGO
> mikea@mikea.ath.cx
> Tired old sysadmin
>

443. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-22 02:10:49 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <1303j29rvdltsb1@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 5041

"Michael Coslo" wrote

> People have pressed some unusual things into stealth antennas. My very
> first antenna was a wire just above the roof line. It was only visible if
> you knew exactly where to look. And it worked okay, nothing great, but I
> could get a signal out.

I have the MFJ-1786 Hi-Q Loop (30-10 m) vertically mounted on a 5' tv mast in the middle of my small walled-in yard. It's easily visible from the main street that enters this HOA controlled subdivision, and in the 9 years I've lived here, NO one has said a word about it. If anyone were to ask, I would tell them it's a yard sculpture. (I painted the black plastic a light green to go with nearby trees.) The antenna works amazingly well, by the way.

Howard N7SO

444. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-22 02:11:47 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <jYOdndFnCPH5f5zbnZ2dnUVZ_smonZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 5042

<N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote in message
news:1174526133.463797.210160@n76g2000hsh.googlegroups.com...
> On Mar 21, 10:33 am, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>> N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>> > On Mar 19, 2:00?pm, "KC4UAI" <kc4...@gmail.com> wrote:
>> >> On Mar 17, 9:43 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>>

[snip]

>> One of the most fortunate bits of luck I had was that although I was
>> about 5 years away from becoming a Ham when we bought it, the
>> Neighborhood isn't antenna restricted, with the exception that if you
>> put up a tower, it has to be far away enough from the neighbors that it
>> won't fall on their house - seems reasonable to me! ;^)
>
> Depends on the size of the lot. On a lot that's , say, 100
> feet wide, you can't put up a tower more than 50 feet high
> and have its "fall circle" not go over the property line.
>

Yet is that actually the correct way to calculate it? That assumes that the tower will break at the base and fall over from the base. This is not the common failure mode (or so I've been told). From one of the experts who was speaking to a city council meeting around here, the towers either twist like a corkscrew or bend over somewhere between the middle and top. The "corkscrew" is supposedly the most common failure mode as that is the way the towers are designed to react if wind loads are exceeded. However in neither case is there a "fall circle".

Does anyone have information on this? Although the speaker was supposed to be an expert, I'd be interested in some independent information on this.

Dee, N8UZE

445. Welcome to rec.radio.info!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-22 06:00:03 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/welcome-1-1174543200@panix.com>
Source record: 5043
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.scanner,rec.radio.shortwave

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/welcome
Revision: 1.1 2007/02/24 19:44:46
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

*** Welcome to rec.radio.info! ***

Welcome to rec.radio.info, a group that aims to provide a noise-free
source of information and news for the entire rec.radio hierarchy.

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to the group
every month. You are now reading the first article, which explains what
rec.radio.info is, and answers some Frequently Asked Questions. The
second article is titled Posting Guidelines, and you only need to read
it if you want to submit an article to rec.radio.info.

You can skip to the next section of this article by searching for the
next
" -- " string. The sections available are:
- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?
- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?
- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?
- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.
- What type of material is considered inappropriate?
- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to
rec.radio.info?
- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?
- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to
speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

-- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?

The purpose or charter of rec.radio.info is to provide the Usenet
community with a resource for information, news, and facts about any and
all things radio.

All the other rec.radio groups are intended for discussions and general
chit chat about radio. Rec.radio.info will contain informational,
factual articles only. Follow-ups are redirected to an appropriate other
group, and further discussion (if any) will not take place in
rec.radio.info.

In order to ensure that rec.radio.info contains only appropriate
articles, it was decided to create the group as a moderated newsgroup.
```

-- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?

It provides a "tag" for each article to be assembled into a filtered presentation in rec.radio.info (even with cross-posting, only one message, with a unique Message-ID, is propagated across the net). This tag also facilitates a pre-existing method of dropping or canceling the articles locally within the discussion groups if you don't want to see them. This accommodates individuals who want to separate the bulletins from the discussions, discussions from the bulletins, as well as those who are adamant about not reading another newsgroup and wanted to see everything all in one basket.

With the total size of Usenet (in number of newsgroups and total traffic) doubling every year or so, this is no insignificant contribution to reducing information noise and chaos. Making the discussion groups a catch-all, and making extra newsgroups filters on that catch-all, is also the most realistic way to implement such a scheme (It's not intuitively obvious what the charter, contents, and general appropriate topics for each and every newsgroup are. Seeing FAQ's and charter/intro postings in the home newsgroup is beneficial for new readers).

By cross-posting one only is adding a few tens of bytes to each bulletin (to specify the extra group on the Newsgroups line), but are adding the capability for very powerful filtering features available on most news servers, listservers and readers. Your local news guru could probably explain these features in more detail.

In rn, for example, according to Leanne Phillips in her rn kill-file FAQ, add a line of the form:

/Newsgroups:.*[,]rec\.radio\.info/h:j

either in ~/News/KILL (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere) or ~/News/rec/radio/amateur/misc/KILL (if you don't want to see them just in rec.radio.amateur.misc). The latter method means your kill file will only be consulted during rec.radio.amateur.misc (and hence runs more efficiently), and will probably work for most people.

In nn, according to Bill Wohler in his nn FAQ, add a line of the form:

rec.radio.info:!s/:^

in ~/.nn/kill (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere), or put the following lines:

sequence
rec.radio.info
rec.radio.

at the end of ~/.nn/init in order to see all the rec.radio.info bulletins first, then read the remaining rec.radio.* without the bulletins.

-- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?

If you are new to Usenet and are not familiar with the terminology, you might want to read the general introductory articles found in the newsgroup news.announce.newusers. Doing so will make your life on the net much easier, and will probably save you from making silly beginner's mistakes.

If you think that at this moment you are reading an echo, a conference, or a bulletin board, I'd also strongly suggest a trip over to news.announce.newusers.

For the rest of this article, we will assume you have a basic knowledge of Usenet terminology and mechanics.

A moderated group means that any article that needs to be posted to the group has to be accepted by the moderator of the group. Since we need to ensure that followups to an article (discussion) do not show up in the rec.radio.info newsgroup, the `Followup-To:' header line contains a newsgroup that is appropriate for discussions about the specific article.

-- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.

Rec.radio.info is a moderated newsgroup, which means that all articles submitted to the group will have to be approved by the moderator first.

The current moderator of the group is the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team. Submissions to rec.radio.info can be posted, or e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Comments, criticisms, suggestions or questions about the group can be e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

But before you do so, please be sure to check out the "Posting Guidelines" article.

The influence of the moderator should be minimal and of an administrative nature, consisting chiefly of weeding out obviously inappropriate articles, while making sure correct headers etc. are used for the appropriate ones.

-- What type of material is considered inappropriate?

There are three broad categories of articles which will be rejected by the moderator:

1) Requests for information: rec.radio.info is strictly a one-way street. We receive information in our mailbox; we then post it to rec.radio.info. Requests for specific information belong in the normal discussion newsgroups. If your request gets answered, you might consider passing the answer on to rec.radio.info, though. Especially if you can edit it into a informational, rather than a discussion, format.

2) Obvious discussion articles, or articles that appear unsubstantiated.

3) Commercial stuff: a relatively unbiased test of a radio product would be accepted, but any hint of for-profit might be reason for rejection. For three reasons: This is not the purpose of the list, for-profit is a controversial topic, and this list may be passed onto Amateur Packet Radio (where for-profit is prohibited except under certain provisos).

rec.radio.swap may be more deserving of the posting in any matter.

Similarly, copyrighted material generally cannot be used. If it's TRULY worthwhile to the net, We would recommend obtaining permission from the copyright holder. Please note the source, and if permission was given. We reserve the right to make the final decision concerning appropriateness in all situations. In most cases, a brief summary of, or pointer to, the copyrighted information may be all we can allow.

-- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to rec.radio.info?

Google has an excellent web interface to Usenet newsgroups. It is available at:

http://groups.google.com

It supports both reading and posting.

-- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?

Yes. See Google Groups above.

Effectively this means that anything you post to rec.radio.info will be permanently stored, so your work will not be lost.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as time critical.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires co-operation and goodwill to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio hierarchy.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

446. rec.radio.info Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-22 06:05:01 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines-1-1174543501@panix.com>
Source record: 5044
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.scanner,rec.radio.shortwave

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines
Revision: 1.4 2007/03/12 19:31:14
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

*** rec.radio.info - Posting Guidelines and Etiquette ***

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to this group
and to rec.answers/news.answers every month. You are now reading the
second article, which explains how to submit something to
rec.radio.info, and which answers some Frequently Asked Questions about
the submission process. The first article is titled "Welcome to
rec.radio.info", and it might be a good idea to check it out as well.

-- How do I submit something to rec.radio.info?

Two possibilities. You can use your newsreading software to just post
the article to rec.radio.info, as you would do with any other
newsgroup. The difference is that the software recognizes the special
status of rec.radio.info as a moderated group, and will e-mail your
article to us, the moderation team, instead of posting it to the group.

Alternatively, you can mail your article directly to us at the following
address:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Mailing us directly is probably (a wee bit) faster, but using the
transparency offered by the newsreading software is probably more
convenient.

If you have any questions, or wish to deal with some administrivia with
the moderation team, we suggest mailing to the following address:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

-- How soon will I see my article appear?

It depends on how busy we are. Your article reaches us as mail, we have
to read it first, give it the stamp of approval, and finally send it on
to the group. We will attempt to read and decide on all submissions
within 72 hours at the very least, though we will probably be able to
process submissions much faster in actual practice.

The site from which we moderate this newsgroup, "Public Access Internet
and Unix, NYC" (Panix), is directly connected to the Internet, and
```

articles posted at that site should appear at most major news sites, including Google Groups, the same day. The principal delay, therefore, will be the wait in the moderator's submission queue.

If you post a periodic article, and have shown to be trustworthy, we may allow you to post directly if the article is of a timely nature. See the section below on direct posting.

-- Should my article be in a specific format?

No. If it is not totally illegible, we will accept it, and if it does not have a correct subject-line we will correct it with your permission -- that's what a moderator is for.

However.

You could do us a big favor by making sure your article conforms to these simple requirements:

1) The article must present information, not discussion or requests, We will reject the article or require you to change the wording if it is worth it.
2) A good, descriptive Subject line.
3) Always mention what source you got the information from.
4) Don't forget to include a Followup-To header, at least if you don't want further discussion to automatically be forwarded to you, the poster, which is the default if the article is only posted to rec.radio.info.

As we said: if your article is appropriate we will post it even if you don't follow these guidelines, but then don't blame us for not processing it immediately. 'Perfect' articles we can send on with a couple of keystrokes. Stuff that needs minor editing is going to have to wait until we have time to do so.

Please do not waste both our and your time by posting requests, as this is an information only news group.

-- What about crossposting?

If you send something to rec.radio.info, just name any group you'd like to cross-post to in the Newsgroups field. Then, when we approve the article for rec.radio.info it will get automatically cross-posted to any other groups mentioned. This will also override the default Followup-To: poster, replacing it with the groups you cross posted to.

We would prefer if the group be cross-posted to the various discussion groups in the rec.radio.* hierarchy that are appropriate:

rec.radio.amateur.misc Amateur (ham) radio and related matters
rec.radio.amateur.packet Amateur Packet Radio discussions
rec.radio.amateur.policy Amateur Radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.noncomm Non commercial radio discussions
rec.radio.shortwave International broadcasting on the 'HF' bands

rec.radio.cb Citizens Band (27 MHz) discussion
rec.radio.scanner Scanner discussions (unsupported group)

or in one of the moderated groups:

rec.radio.amateur.moderated Amateur radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.broadcasting Discussion of *domestic* radio broadcasting

We will leave it up to the poster to decide which group(s) are appropriate, but reserve the right to add groups if we feel it has broader interest. We will consult with the poster first.

Notes on crossposting:

- rec.radio.broadcasting is also a moderated group. The rec.radio.broadcasting moderator prefers to review all articles himself before posting. Placing rec.radio.broadcasting before rec.radio.info on the Newsgroups line should accomplish this. We will typically abide by the rec.radio.broadcasting moderator's decision whether the article is appropriate for rec.radio.info.

- rec.radio.amateur.moderated is also a moderated group. As the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team manages both rec.radio.amateur.moderated and rec.radio.info, we can manage crossposting and approvals for both newsgroups. The rec.radio.amateur.moderated group does not allow crossposting to other discussion newsgroups, whether moderated or unmoderated. However, we would like to manage rec.radio.info as consistently as possible with how it was done by previous moderators, including the grandfathering of existing regular postings. Therefore, the submitter can choose rec.radio.amateur.moderated or the other unmoderated rec.radio.amateur.* discussion newsgroups for crossposting, but not both.

- Any FAQ or informational posting approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderation team that is also crossposted to any rec.radio.* newsgroup (besides just rec.radio.info) is also automatically pre-approved for rec.radio.info. See below for more information.

If you post to another moderated group, it may be better to make special arrangements with both moderators before posting by contacting us at our administrivia addresses.

In addition, cross-posts do not take up extra space; modern newsreaders can be configured to show you cross-posted articles only once anyway; not everybody reads rec.radio.info; and rec.radio.info was never meant to reduce the volume of the regular discussion newsgroups. But keep in mind that some of the mail gateways may filter out the informational postings (at request of the subscribers) to keep the load down.

You decide.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, can I make arrangements to help speed up delivery by posting directly from my site?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as timely.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires cooperation and good will to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio.* hierarchy.

If you are currently maintaining (or plan to maintain) a radio-related periodic information posting, you may wish to consider crossposting it to rec.answers/news.answers. Postings that are approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderators for this treatment are automatically pre-approved for crossposting to rec.radio.info (as the news.answers requirements are far more rigorous than the requirements this newsgroup ever plans to use). For more information about this option, consult the appropriate information articles and posting guidelines in rec.answers/news.answers.

Realize also, that even if your post is not approved for rec.answers/news.answers, it can still be approved for rec.radio.info. The intention is not so much to get every last bit of radio-related information on rec.answers/news.answers, but rather to provide an alternative avenue of approval (as well as grandfather existing maintainers of radio-related information and spare them additional bureaucratic hurdles). Again, crossposting to either rec.radio.info or rec.answers/news.answers, both, or neither, is at the discretion of the poster (subject to the approval of the moderators). You decide what is most appropriate for your article.

Please remember that as an information maintainer, you are not alone. There are many others on the net who maintain and post periodic information postings, using various intermediate-to-advanced features of Usenet (usually via automated tools). Various degrees of technical support and general hand-holding are available from many Usenet veterans. Send us some E-mail describing your needs to our administrative address below, and we'll try to help, or at least refer you to the right knowledgeable individual(s).

-- And Follow-ups?

If the only newsgroup you have specified is rec.radio.info, then the Followup-To: field will always be set to poster. If you do not want this, you must supply a Followup-To line of your own, and we will honor that one, as long as it is a subset of the original Newsgroups line.

If you specify newsgroups to cross-post to, then the Followup-To field will be set to include all the cross-posted groups, excepting rec.radio.info itself. Again, if you do not wish this behavior, supply your own Followup-To line.

We maintain other standards on the various RFC-1036 (news transport) header lines. For example, if the article is appropriate for passing into the Packet Radio Information Network, we encapsulate the Packet Bulletin Identifier (BID) in the Message-ID: news header line indicating the machine of origin as the ampr.org domain:

Message-ID: <$opa.55.1994@ampr.org>

where the Packet Radio BID, in this example, is `$OPA.55', and it was posted in the year 1994, because some of the Bid numbers are cycled yearly. Hopefully, this can be used as a key to re-introduce the articles for the Packet Radio network. Also, if the article is a repost of an already existing information article in the rec.radio heirarchy, we ensure that the References: header line is linked to that previously posted article. This also helps to tag articles, and may be used for additional filtering if needed.

Since the articles are archived, please use the Summary and Keywords header lines to help one search for your article.

-- Why have I received no reply from you?

We never reject anything in silence, and we make a point of it to answer all our mail. However, E-mail, like a brain cell, can and does get lost, every now and again.

So, if you send us something, and you don't see it appear it rec.radio.info, and you still have not heard from us in reply after say, five days, you can be pretty sure that either your mail never reached us, or that our answer has never reached you. In that case, please try again (We will filter out duplicates).

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

447. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-22 06:18:45 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1174537394.735626.155510@y66g2000hsf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5045

On Mar 18, 2:11 am, stevenrobe...@yahoo.com wrote:

>
> This doesnt' work with other radio services very well. Why would
> it be appropriate for Amateur Radio?
>

Other radio services have distinct markets with distinct needs that
they are chartered to serve.

Amateur Radio is unique in that it is chartered as a playground for
tinkerers and experimenters. It seems ironic to tightly regulate
modes/bandwidths/modulation schemes in an environment where
experimentation is officially encouraged.

73, de Hans, K0HB

448. Re: RFSpace.com SDR-IQ just arrived!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-22 06:19:20 UTC
From: Mike Andrews <mikea@mikea.ath.cx>
Message-ID: <ett0c8$4us$1@puck.litech.org>
Source record: 5046

On Wed, 21 Mar 2007 22:10:21 EDT, wxfreqrs <wxfreqrs@cableone.net> wrote in
<1303addovl37b8b@corp.supernews.com>:
> went here looks good
> http://www.rfspace.com/sdriq.html
> whats the price

I gave $375, plus $15 shipping, for mine. Don't know if there are any
more left from that production run; apparently I was lucky to get one
that someone else had ordered and then backed out on.

It is the *NEAT*est toy I've had in a lot of years. Very high *SHINY*
factor, very high geek_quotient. But at 600 MBytes (call it one CDRROM)
every 15 minutes, saving RF capture files is damned disk-intensive. It
can be network-intensive, too: I ran the legs off my home Gig-E net
moving the files to the fileserver, and running it remotely over the
network leans hard on the network, too.

I'm also looking hard at the Flex-Radio SDR-1000; it's in a price
range that fits inside next year's longevity payment.

Gotta find an antenna relay now, and make sure I can use the SDR-IQ to
receive without blowing its front end when I transmit.

--
Mike Andrews, W5EGO
mikea@mikea.ath.cx
Tired old sysadmin

449. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-22 16:51:40 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <etuc2a$nl0$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 5047

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:

>> One of the most fortunate bits of luck I had was that although I was
>> about 5 years away from becoming a Ham when we bought it, the
>> Neighborhood isn't antenna restricted, with the exception that if you
>> put up a tower, it has to be far away enough from the neighbors that it
>> won't fall on their house - seems reasonable to me! ;^)
>
> Depends on the size of the lot. On a lot that's , say, 100
> feet wide, you can't put up a tower more than 50 feet high
> and have its "fall circle" not go over the property line.

True that the tower size ends up being a little restricted. In reality aren't many towers in my 'hood anyhow, because we are in the middle of a forest. Lots and lots of big trees to hang wires from tho'. ANd no restrictions on that.

> In SNJ a few years back there was a case where a
> military veteran had all of his children on active military
> duty in the Middle East. They were in combat units, too.
>
> He put up a standard flagpole on his front lawn, and would
> fly the US flag every day. I saw pictures of the house - the
> flagpole was very nicely done, and not out of scale.
>
> The CC&Rs on the property did not allow flagpoles. The
> HOA fined the vet and took him to court when he would
> neither pay the fines nor take down the flagpole.
>
> I don't know how the case turned out. But I remember it
> when people say that if someone signs away their rights,
> they should stick to the rules.

After reading your post, I visited a few sites on the subject. With all the other stuff on them, the one thing I took away was one HOA president trying to justify the ban on flagpoles: We have 1400 houses in this subdivision. What would happen if all 1400 put up flagpoles and flew flags?"

I for one, would find it a thrilling site!

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

450. Re: Bigger than cycle 19?!?!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-22 17:56:36 UTC
From: Rick Ruhl <ricker@cssincorp.com>
Message-ID: <1305enrsbep9nda@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 5048

"Jeff Caird" <professor.jc@knox.edu> wrote in message
news:1302cluf9nhmbea@corp.supernews.com...
> http://science.slashdot.org/science/07/03/21/1229247.shtml
>
> I became a SWL just as cycle 19 was peaking. I became a
> ham during 22. I will be retired in 23. Hoorah for ten
> meters!
>

Looks like the story slashdot linked to was over a year old.. LOL. But they
are right... this is gonna be a good cycle.

Worked Swaziland with one call on 40 last night. Gotta love low band.

Rick - W4PC

451. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-22 19:09:24 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net>
Message-ID: <56g2geF296a43U1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 5049

"Dee Flint" wrote ...
> <N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote ...

>> Depends on the size of the lot. On a lot that's , say, 100
>> feet wide, you can't put up a tower more than 50 feet high
>> and have its "fall circle" not go over the property line.
>
> Yet is that actually the correct way to calculate it? That assumes that
> the tower will break at the base and fall over from the base. This is not
> the common failure mode (or so I've been told). From one of the experts
> who was speaking to a city council meeting around here, the towers either
> twist like a corkscrew or bend over somewhere between the middle and top.
> The "corkscrew" is supposedly the most common failure mode as that is the
> way the towers are designed to react if wind loads are exceeded. However
> in neither case is there a "fall circle".
>
> Does anyone have information on this? Although the speaker was supposed
> to be an expert, I'd be interested in some independent information on
> this.

The structure hight as a radius is the "worst-case" limit of
damage. Insurance underwriters, country commissioners,
et.al. likely don't want to expose themselves to the liability
of setting a more risky limit. Our anecdotal history of typical
tower failures may not seem as compelling to people with
actuarial risk at stake.

452. Ladder line routing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-22 20:44:15 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <etup5l$si0$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 5050

The XYL has expressed her dismay at my ladder line coming down over the roof the way it does. I plan on rerouting it this spring.

I plan on routing the line along the roofline, then run it to and below the soffit. Then into the usual entrance.

What is a good holder for the ladder line - basic windowed plastic variety?

But my biggest concern is that metal soffit. I'll be running along about 20 feet of that, and I suspect that there will be some effect. What is a safe distance from the soffit?

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

453. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-22 23:11:32 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1174603559.568770.217750@l77g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5051

On Mar 22, 1:18 am, groupk...@earthlink.net wrote:
> On Mar 18, 2:11 am, stevenrobe...@yahoo.com wrote:

> > This doesnt' work with other radio services very well. Why would
> > it be appropriate for Amateur Radio?
>
> Other radio services have distinct markets with distinct needs that
> they are chartered to serve.
>
> Amateur Radio is unique in that it is chartered as a playground for
> tinkerers and experimenters.

That's one of the reasons for amateur radio. But not the
only one! A lot of different activities have to share the bands.

But I like the playground analogy.

All the playgrounds I've seen are carefully designed to
support a variety of different activities. There are
designated areas for various sports, for example. And
there are rules to keep order, permitted and prohibited
activities, etc. Certain activities need special permission,
others are informal.

IOW, there's a structure to a playground. And the structure
is most important when the playground is small and the
number of people who want to use it is large.

There was a time when 99% of ham radio activity was
either CW/Morse Code or plain AM voice. Back then, a
simple structure was all that was needed.

Those days are long gone. We need a lot more structure
than before, IMHO.

> It seems ironic to tightly regulate
> modes/bandwidths/modulation schemes in an environment where
> experimentation is officially encouraged.
>
Amateurs are much less regulated in that regard than
any other radio service. IMHO

73 de Jim, N2EY

454. Re: Ladder line routing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-23 00:26:33 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <130675l75h9u06e@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 5052

"Michael Coslo" wrote

> I plan on routing the line along the roofline, then run it to and below
> the soffit. Then into the usual entrance.
>
> What is a good holder for the ladder line - basic windowed plastic
> variety?

I used a standard screw-in TV-line standoff. In some places in the route, I just hung it with string.

> But my biggest concern is that metal soffit. I'll be running along about
> 20 feet of that, and I suspect that there will be some effect. What is a
> safe distance from the soffit?

I'd guess 4 - 5 inches should be fine. I ran both 300 and 450 ohm plastic "ladder" line at my old townhouse, and had no trouble using the above methods. I even ran the line through a frame/stucco/chickenwire house wall, via a 2" diameter PVC pipe, with good success.

Howard N7SO

455. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-23 00:42:14 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <PeOdneoXnZ1pvJ7bnZ2dnUVZ_t-mnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 5053

"Richard Crowley" <rcrowley@xp7rt.net> wrote in message
news:56g2geF296a43U1@mid.individual.net...
> "Dee Flint" wrote ...

[snip]

> The structure hight as a radius is the "worst-case" limit of
> damage. Insurance underwriters, country commissioners,
> et.al. likely don't want to expose themselves to the liability
> of setting a more risky limit. Our anecdotal history of typical
> tower failures may not seem as compelling to people with
> actuarial risk at stake.

Actually shouldn't there be some actuarial data on this? When it comes to damage, they'd be the most likely to have solid data. I noticed that no one addressing the council had bothered to get such data either way on this subject.

At this point, it's just idle curiosity as our ordinance got changed to 75 feet (up from 50) and there was no "fall circle" type of language included.

Dee, N8UZE

456. Re: Ladder line routing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-23 01:47:59 UTC
From: "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not>
Message-ID: <etvbe5sjc1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 5054

Michael Coslo wrote:
> The XYL has expressed her dismay at my ladder line coming down over the
> roof the way it does. I plan on rerouting it this spring.
>
> I plan on routing the line along the roofline, then run it to and
> below the soffit. Then into the usual entrance.
>
> What is a good holder for the ladder line - basic windowed plastic
> variety?
>
> But my biggest concern is that metal soffit. I'll be running along
> about 20 feet of that, and I suspect that there will be some effect.
> What is a safe distance from the soffit?

Mike,

If you're using ladder line on 160, 80, or 40, I recommend you just substitute coax. Assuming a reasonably cut antenna, the loses aren't high enough to hastle with the extra mounting stand-offs ladder-line requires.

Alternatively, you could drop the ladder-line directly from the antenna to a 4-to-1 or 6-to-1 balun, and use coax from there. I've seen both approaches used with good results.

W1AC

--
73,

Bill W1AC

(Remove "73" and change top level domain for direct replies)

457. Re: Being paid while you operate

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-23 06:29:07 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <plm6035on23udgqdelkql101708dfmklrq@4ax.com>
Source record: 5055

On Tue, 20 Mar 2007 14:40:22 EDT, "Russ" <kw5kw@swbell.net> wrote:

>Being a engineer/conductor and talking to the automobile driving down the
>highway about the train on 2 meter simplex: No problem.

YES problem. The FRA and most railroads' rule books prohibit train
operating crews from using any communication system not related to
train operation or safety (reporting incidents) while on duty.

Whether crewmenbers adhere to that or not is up to the individual, his
union representative, and the powers-that-be if caught.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

458. Re: Being paid while you operate

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-23 06:29:26 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <c0n603990ng2tq30cn6dbvg85l48ful7ng@4ax.com>
Source record: 5056

On Tue, 20 Mar 2007 15:57:45 EDT, Rick <Nospam@reply.in.gp> wrote:

>But, now along comes the ARRL and, in their Extra Class License Manual,
>says "There is a general rule that you may not be paid to operate your
>Amateur Radio station. In most cases this also means that you cannot
>operate an Amateur Radio station during the time that you are being paid
>by your employer.".
>
>Where do you suppose they came up with that goofball interpretation of the
>rule?

I think that it's a very clear statement. "In most cases" means just
what it says. There are exceptions.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
ARRL Volunteer Counsel

email: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

459. Re: Being paid while you operate

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-23 06:29:50 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <t2n603lg4bb0mgbbk2b39iauacbe7vrfs9@4ax.com>
Source record: 5057

On Tue, 20 Mar 2007 20:38:36 EDT, "who knows"
<noone@nowhere.nohow.notime> wrote:

>Sounds like it would be a good idea to ask Riley Hollingsworth for
>clarification?

Don't bother -- he clarified it many years ago, in public. This
question comes up every so often because folks don't remember the
answer.

This should be made clear in the first ten minutes of any ham radio
training course at any level.

No personal offenses intended....<g>
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
ARRL Volunteer Counsel

email: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

460. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-23 06:30:29 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <min603tu5ivq40rftomf2sp28pv39rd8ui@4ax.com>
Source record: 5058

On Mon, 19 Mar 2007 22:33:26 EDT, Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> wrote:

> Of course, I could probably
>take the FCC prose and ask Google to translate it; it would be just as
>opaque in the machine-translated version as it is in English/legalese.
><grin>

There's nothing wrong with the English version! Any communications attorney can understand it with no problem. <big grin>.

When I was an advisor to the Israeli Ministry of Communications (40 years ago) one of my jobs was to rewrite and translate their amateur rules into English. No big deal - I'm technically fluent in both languages. Same for the Norwegian, or Swahili, or Urdu - get someone who is technically fluent in both languages and it's a snap.

That job was a lot of fun, however. I fixed some problems that they didn't even know they had (and got reciprocity and third-party traffic approved in the process)! <even bigger grin>
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
ARRL Volunteer Counsel

email: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

461. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-23 06:31:15 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1174628469.011228.92910@l75g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5059

On Mar 22, 5:11 pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:

>
> All the playgrounds I've seen are carefully designed to
> support a variety of different activities.
>

Must be boring to explore in such a playground with all that structure and rules. One of my favorite playgrounds is the Superstition Mountain Wilderness, a playground completely disorganized except for the boundary around it.

You can go hiking there or ride your horse, prospect for gold (the "Lost Dutchman Mine" hasn't been found yet), camp for a night or a week or a month. You can follow trails which have been blazed by many hikers or horsemen before you, or be an explorer and leave the established trails to the timid. The only rules here are don't burn the place down, and don't trash the place for others. Explore without rules and structure.

Kinda like I'd like to see the amateur bands, open for the explorers and visionaries (so long as they're polite to the other children).

73, de Hans, K0HB

462. Re: Being paid while you operate

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-23 12:18:40 UTC
From: Newby <nobody@nowhere.net>
Message-ID: <1307750a4g2ond9@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 5060

"Phil Kane" <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote in message
news:t2n603lg4bb0mgbbk2b39iauacbe7vrfs9@4ax.com...
> On Tue, 20 Mar 2007 20:38:36 EDT, "who knows"
> <noone@nowhere.nohow.notime> wrote:
>
> >Sounds like it would be a good idea to ask Riley Hollingsworth for
> >clarification?
>
> Don't bother -- he clarified it many years ago, in public. This
> question comes up every so often because folks don't remember the
> answer.
>
> This should be made clear in the first ten minutes of any ham radio
> training course at any level.
>
> No personal offenses intended....<g>
> --
>
> 73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
> ARRL Volunteer Counsel
>
> email: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net
>
Since you have the knowledge, why not share it?

463. Re: Call signs for foreign amateurs operating in US

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-23 13:53:04 UTC
From: peace@capebyron.com
Message-ID: <1174655901.951158.87550@d57g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5061

It was a little different for me because I am a dual citizen
(Australia and the US). When I inquired they said I couldn't use my
Australian license in the US, even though I hadn't set foot in the US
in decades, because I maintained US citizenship, so I had to take US
tests and have a US callsign when visiting.

On Mar 19, 2:07 am, "Richard Crowley" <rcrow...@xp7rt.net> wrote:
> "Sven Pran" wrote...
> > You shouldn't need to study this time? Remember you are
> > an experienced candidate by now as it will be your second
> > try! 8-)
>
> I have a hard time memorizing the band limits.
> I can program my equipment to stay within the
> allotted bands. I usually don't make my brain
> remember stuff like that. :-(

464. Re: Being paid while you operate

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-23 14:58:42 UTC
From: who_me? <kw5kw@swbell.net>
Message-ID: <1bRMh.9521$yW.6359@newssvr11.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 5062

"Phil Kane" <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote in message
news:plm6035on23udgqdelkql101708dfmklrq@4ax.com...
> On Tue, 20 Mar 2007 14:40:22 EDT, "Russ" <kw5kw@swbell.net> wrote:
>
>>Being a engineer/conductor and talking to the automobile driving down the
>>highway about the train on 2 meter simplex: No problem.
>
> YES problem. The FRA and most railroads' rule books prohibit train
> operating crews from using any communication system not related to
> train operation or safety (reporting incidents) while on duty.
>
> Whether crewmenbers adhere to that or not is up to the individual, his
> union representative, and the powers-that-be if caught.
> --
>
It was an illustration---an analogy, not meant to be Gospel!
Not everything should be taken in a 100% wooden, literal sense!
Gee,
Russ
KW5KW

> 73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

465. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1545 - March 23, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-23 15:17:25 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <E1HUfbJ-0004z5-0L@elasmtp-masked.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 5063
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1545 - March 23, 2007

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1545 with a
release date of Friday, March 23rd, 2007 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. The power goes out and
the interference goes away. Find out how a bolt
of lightning strike provided proof positive that
Broadband Over Powerline is a nightmare for High
Frequency radio communications. That story and
more on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1545 coming your way right
now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

BPL INTERFERENCE: THE LIGHTNING STRIKE OF PROOF

A lightning induced power failure in an
Australian community has provided graphic proof
that Broadband Over Powerline communications can
be the source of massive interference to High
Frequency communications. W-I-A newsman Justin
Giles-Clark, VK7TW, joins us from South Hobart with the details:

--

On the morning of 17 February 2007 a lightning
strike caused the loss of power in the Mt Nelson
area. With power and BPL systems non-
operational, background noise level measurements
where taken around the QTH of VK7HCK and VK7HK.

Measurements were taken on 20 meters using Owen
VK1OD's field strength measurement
software. Comparisons between the previous noise
floor measurements taken in January, March and
July 2006 and measurements taken with no power
and no BPL, show a noise floor that is between
10.9dB (12 times lower) and 12.6dB (18 times)
lower than the previous noise floor measurements
taken outside the BPL Trail area.

The most likely explanation for the lower
measured noise floor level is the lack of power

in the previously BPL enabled area. This
would mean that all mains power devices
including BPL equipment would have ceased to
operate and therefore ceased to emit any contributory radio frequency
noise.

--

The key conclusion from this report is that the
interference caused by B-P-L emission levels has
been grossly understated. The complete report is
available on the VK7 BPL Watch Page. At
www.vk1od.net/fsm/ and http://reast.asn.au/vk7bplwatch.php#NoiseFloor
(WIA)

**

THE BPL FIGHT: IEEE DEVELOPS WORLD WIDE BPL STANDARD

Back in the United States,
Broadband-Over-Powerline has received words of
guidance from the Institute of Electrical and
Electronics Engineers. Better known as the IEEE
the assembly of technologists has announced that
a working group has developed requirements for a
baseline B-P-L standard that will hopefully
mitigate some of the current problems it causes to radio communications.

In its statement on March 14th, the IEEE 1901
Working Group said it has developed more than 400
requirements for the B-P-L standard. It had also
issued a June 4th deadline in calling for
proposals for technical systems that meet these
conditions. This involves protocols that govern
how hardware for various applications can share
the medium without interfering.

Entitled "Standard for Broadband over Power Line
Networks: Medium Access Control and Physical
Layer Specifications," the document will
hopefully pave the way for sending high-speed
digital data over power lines between substations
and home and offices with minimal interference to
other spectrum users. It will also provide
guidelines for the transmission of digital voice,
data, and video over electrical lines within structures.

With its new standard now released, the IEEE
expressed optimism that a draft global standard
could be created in 2008. After that, companies
would have a master plan to guide them to
manufacture components and systems to develop the BPL industry.
See

http://standards.ieee.org/announcements/pr_1901_proposalcall.html
for more. (IEEE)

**
REGULATORY: HAM RADIO BAND PROPOSALS TO THE ITU

Three items extremely important to Amateur Radio
are contained in a draft text of the technical
report to the World Radiocommunications
Conference. This in a paper that has been in
preparation by the ITU-R study groups over the past 3 to 4 years.

The items of consequence to hams are the
proposing a world-wide secondary Low Frequency
allocation to the Amateur Service between 135.7
and 137.8 Kilohertz. Also a proposal for a
world-wide primary allocation to the Amateur
Service of the band between 7.2 and 7.3 MHz and a
world-wide secondary allocation between 5.26 and 5.420 MHz.

The 135.7 kHz allocation proposal is widely
accepted. Japan has suggested that the power
limit for that spectrum be left to each
administration to be determined. This position
was strongly opposed by the Arab countries.
During a recent meeting, some compromise was
reached with a small change to the text.

A review of the allocations between 4 and 10 MHz
was much more difficult. It turns out that there
are major disagreements between opposing
groups. This could lead to the proposed Amateur
Service expansion of the 40 meter band becoming a bargaining chip.

A lot of behind maneuvering by an International
Amateur Radio Union team resulted in the 40 meter
proposal remaining intact in the final
report. Even so, a lot of work lies ahead for
the IARU and individual societies world-wide. (Southgate, SARL)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: KB2GSD SAYS US NEEDS TO GET OUT OF IRAQ

Famed CBS newsman Walter Cronkite, KB2GSD, says
that it time for the United State to get out of
Iraq. Amateur Radio Newsline's Fred Vobbe, W8HDU, has the details:

--

Retired CBS news anchor Walter Cronkite, KB2GSD,
says that the war in Iraq was a mistake and that
we should have gotten out a long time ago.

The 90-year-old Cronkite was in San Jose, California on Friday, February 23rd addressing the city's Commonwealth Club. Later, in an interview with the local CBS affiliate, weighed in on the situation in Iraq saying the entire war there it's a disaster and the earlier we get out the better.

It was in 1968, when the then CBS Evening News anchorman did a tour of Vietnam, and came back highly critical of that war. His declaration that the Vietnam War was un-winnable led to such a shift in public opinion against the war that then President Lyndon Johnson was quoted as having said, "If I've lost Cronkite, I've lost America."

But that was then and this is 2007. And when asked if his strong words against the Iraq War would have the same impact as his words against the Vietnam War, KB2GSD responded -- quote: "I would like to think it would be helpful in getting us out of there. Anybody who can put another match to that fire, to get us out would be, I think, welcome"

--

What effect if any that KB2GSD's statement on the Iraq war might have on future U-S foreign policy, is unknown. The complete interview with Walter Cronkite is on-line at http://cbs5.com/local/local_story_054223026.html (RW, KPIX-CBS-5, other published reports)

**

RESCUE RADIO: POTENTIAL WEATHERSAT FAILURE COULD MEAN MORE WORK FOR HAMS

Ham radio SKYWARN and post-storm relief operations could become even more vital in the future. This if a key weather satellite that is already beyond its expected life span were to fail on-orbit.

Bill Proenza is the new Director of the National Hurricane Center in Miami. He is quoted in the Southern Mississippi Sun Herald as saying that certain hurricane forecasts could be up to 16 percent less accurate if the aging satellite ceases to operate before it can be replaced.

One of Proenza's immediate concerns is the so-called "QuikScat" weather satellite. This is a bird that permits forecasters to measure basics such as wind speed. Replacing it would take at least four years even if the estimated $400 million cost were available immediately.

"QuikScat" is currently in its seventh year of operation and was only expected to last five. Without the satellite providing key data, both two and three day forecasts of a storm's path would be affected. That would also mean longer stretches of coastline would have to be placed under warnings, and more people than necessary would have to evacuate. Both of these are areas where ham radio volunteers are considered vital based on their training and expertise. (Adapted from Mississippi Sun Herald)

**

Break 1

From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the K0ASH repeater of the Ashland amateur Radio Club serving Ashland, Nebraska.

(5 sec pause here)

**

ENFORCEMENT: NEW FCC AMATEUR RADIO ENFORCEMENT WEB PAGE

The FCC is now publishing its own list of regulatory offenders on a newly created web site for that purpose. As of March 14, most Amateur Radio enforcement matters began being made available on the FCC's "Amateur Radio Service Enforcement Actions" cyberspace page.

According to FCC enforcement specialist Riley Hollingsworth, the agency expects to update the page it every 7 to 10 days. It will be a cumulative listing. That presumably means what gets posted for the most part will remain posted permanently.

Also, not every bit of correspondence will be included at the site. Such items as letters requiring re-testing or those requesting an initial response to a complaint will not be included. The link is http://www.fcc.gov/eb/AmateurActions/Welcome.html) (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: YET ANOTHER HEFTY ILLEGAL CB GEAR SALES FINE

The Federal Communications Commission has ordered Charles E. Vance III doing business as CB Candy Electronics to pay a $14,000 monetary forfeiture. This, for offering for sale

non-certified Citizens Band transceivers and
external RF power amplifiers at his place of
business in Ontario, California. Amateur Radio
Newsline's Bruce Tennant has more:

--

This is a story that will sound similar to one we
reported last week regarding the advertising and
sale of non FCC certified transmitters for 11
meters. This time around it is illegal C-B gear
on a website that is bringing a hefty monetary forfeiture.

The FCC says that Charles E. Vance III is being
fined for willful and repeated violation of
Section 302(b) of the Commissions Act and
Sections 2.803(a)(1) and 2.815(c) of the
Commission's Rules. This, based on several
pieces of non certificated radio transmitting
equipment listed for sale on his CB Candy Electronics website.

Thee FCC says that on June 28, 2005, an agent
from the Enforcement Bureau's Los Angeles Office
visited the CB Candy Electronics website. There
he downloaded a sales catalog that displayed and
offered for sale multiple makes and models of
non-certificated CB transceivers. The catalog
also included numerous makes and models of
external radio frequency power amplifiers. A
review of the Commission's records revealed that
these devices had not received an equipment authorization from the
Commission.

On June 28, 2005, the Los Angeles Office issued a
Citation to Vance for the alleged
violations. In a response dated July 21, 2005, a
lawyer for Vance disputed "all legal and factual
contentions set forth in the citation." Vance's
council stated that the transceivers listed in
the Citation were legal to sell.

The FCC says that the response did not address
the marketing of external power amplifiers at
all. Instead it stated the expectation that the
Citation would be withdrawn within 14 days. The
Los Angeles Office did not withdraw or otherwise
cancel the Citation within the period set forth by counsel for Vance.

Instead, on September 6, 2005, and again on
February 3, 2006, an agent from the Los Angeles
Office again visited the CB Candy Electronics
website. The agent downloaded the identical

catalog as found on the website on June 28, 2005. All of the non-certified CB transceivers and external RF power amplifiers were still being offered for sale.

On March 22, 2006, the Los Angeles Office issued a Notice of Apparent Liability in the amount of $14,000 to Vance. Vance's legal counsel filed a response on May 4, 2006, stating he was unable to obtain a copy of the catalog referenced in the N-A-L from Commission staff and argued that the refusal to provide him a copy of the catalog was a denial of due process.

But the FCC disagreed. In affirming the fine, the regulatory agency said that Sections 0.453 and 0.455 of the Rules detail the records that are routinely available for public inspection at the Commission. Unless a type of record is so listed, a request to inspect the record must be made pursuant to the Commission's Freedom of Information Act procedures. The FCC says that the type of investigatory records compiled for this enforcement action are not so listed. Therefore, Vance's counsel was required to file such a request to obtain them. But Vance's lawyer filed no such request and, consequently, failed to invoke the procedure mandated by the Commission to obtain such records. Therefore the FCC find no merit to his allegation that he was denied due process.

As to the actual violations, the FCC says that it has received no other response from Vance to the Notice of Apparent Liability. Consequently, based on the information before it, and having examined it according to the statutory factors and in conjunction with the Forfeiture Policy Statement, it finds that neither reduction nor cancellation of the proposed $14,000 forfeiture is warranted.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

--

The $14,000 fine was affirmed on Match 14th. Vance was given the customary 30 days to pay or to file a further appeal. (FCC)

**

RADIO ROBERY: ANTENNAS STOLEN FROM REMOTE SITE

Ed Tipler, WI6RE, reports via the CGC Communicator on a radio site theft. He says that thieves cut the hinges off a communications tower

fence gate on El Paso Peak, 10 Miles South of Ridgecrest California. They then made off with several antennas from the site.

According to Kern County Sheriff there were other communications sites hit over the weekend of Match 10th. Most took place along Highway 395 from the towns of Boron to Little Lake. (CGC)

**

OPERATING AIDS: CQ MAGAZINE PUBLISHES HF OPERATORS SURVIVAL GUIDE

CQ Magazine has introduced a new HF Operator's Survival Guide that it says is in response to the recent changes in licensing rules and operating privileges for all radio amateurs.

The 16 page booklet was penned by CQ Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU, Contesting Editor John Dorr, K1AR and award winning ham radio educator Gordon West WB6NOA. Its purpose is to welcome those who have never before operated on the bands below 6 meters to the interesting and challenging world of High Frequency Amateur Radio communications in a way that makes it fun to join the crowd.

Among other topics covered are how to choose the gear and antenna that you will need, how to operate on the H-F bands, the individual characteristics of each HF ham band and the various modes and operating activities. Also included is an easy to understand band chart that tells you which license class has what privileges on each band.

The new CQ HF Operator's Survival Guide is available directly from CQ. Contact them toll free at 800-853-9797 for pricing and available discounts for bulk purchases. More is on-line at www.cq-amateur-radio.com. (CQ)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: THE NAB HAM RADIO RECEPTION - APRIL 18 IN LAS VEGAS NEVADA

Bob Heil, K9EID, says that Heil Sound will once again be hosting the Amateur Radio Reception at this years National Association of Broadcasters Meeting in Las Vegas. Bob tells Amateur Radio Newsline that this year Heil Sound will be joined by B-S-W Professional Audio Gear of Seattle, Washington to host the event. B-S-W is one of the largest supply companies for the broadcast industry'

As has been the tradition, dozens of prizes will be given away during the two-hour event. Among them will be some Heil Performance microphones signed by famed rock guitarist Joe Walsh, WB6ACU of the Eagles. The date is Wednesday evening, April 18th in the Hilton Convention Center meeting room area in Ballroom B. Check out www.heilsound.com for updates in coming days. (Heil Sound)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: THE INTERBATIONAL DX CONVENTION - APRIL 27-29 IN VISALIA CALIFORNIA

Also, Bob Heil along with Chip Margelli, K7JA, will be presenting a special seminar titled "Audio Reinforcement in Contesting" at the upcoming International DX Convention. That event takes place April 27th to the 29th in Visalia, California. Also at this years DX extravaganza will be CQ Magazine editor Rich Moseson, W2VU, with a presentation titled "Working Your First 100 Countries" This years 58th Annual International DX Convention is sponsored by The Northern California DX Club. It will be held at The Visalia Holiday Inn Hotel & Conference Center. More information is on-line at www.dxconvention.org (Press release)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: THE SWODXA DAYTON HAMVENTION DX DINNER.

The 22nd annual DX Dinner sponsored by the South West Ohio DX Association will be held on Friday evening, May 18th in conjunction with the 2007 Dayton Hamvention. The venue once again is the Crowne Plaza Hotel, located in Dayton City Center with Ward Silver, N-0-A-X, slated as the events Keynote Speaker. Further information may be obtained from Jay Slough. K4ZLE, 8183 Woodward Dr., West Chester, Ohio. His zip is 45069 (Press release)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: EDITH LENNON, N2ZRW, NAMED EDITOR OF POPULAR COMMUNICATIONS MAGAZINE

Edith Lennon, N2ZRW, has been named Editor of Popular Communications magazine.

Lennon's name may be familiar to readers of CQ Communications magazines and books. In addition to her work on Popular Communications, Lennon has

been Editor of Radio magazine produced by CQ for RadioShack, the CQ Amateur Radio Buyer's Guide, the CQ Beginner's Guide to Amateur Radio and The Music and Computer Educator. She has also served as Managing Editor of several publications from CQ and other publishers, including CQ VHF and Communications Quarterly.

Lennon replaces Harold Ort, N2RLL, who has served as Editor of Popular Communications since 1996. (Popular Communications)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: AMAT-UK SEEKS COLLOQUIUM PRESENTERS

AMSAT UK has put out a call for papers to be presented at its 22nd International Space Colloquium. The Space Colloquium is slated for Friday 20th July to Sunday 22nd July at Surrey University in Guildford, England.
If you would like to present a paper at this year's event, send your submission to event organizer G4DPZ as soon as possible. The absolute latest deadline is mid-June 2007. Submissions should be sent by email to g4dpz@me.uk.

The Space Colloquium is billed as the United Kingdom's flagship amateur satellite and space event More about is on-line at www.uk.amsat.org. (AMSAT)

**

WORLDBEAT - AUSTRALIA: COMMEMORATIVE MICROPHONE DONATED

Australian telecommunications provider Telstra has placed a piece of that nations radio history in the public domain. Graham Kemp, VK4BB, of the WIA News is here with the details:

--

Telstra has given a rare microphone used to open the Sydney Harbour Bridge 75 years ago to the

Powerhouse Museum for all Australians to enjoy.

The Reisz microphone is an example of Australian
technology manufactured in 1930 and was used to
broadcast the 1932 opening ceremony of the Sydney
Harbour Bridge to thousands of people. This
historically significant microphone was signed by
all 10 dignitaries at the opening ceremony,
including NSW Premier John T Lang, NSW Governor
Philip Game and the Bridge's Chief Engineer, JJC Bradfield.

--

Every good piece of history has a story behind it
and this microphone is no exception. Telstra
came into possession of this microphone through
its acquisition of the Overseas Telecommunications Commission in 1993.
(WIA via Sarah McKinnon, Telstra)

**

CONTEST CALANDER: THEC 2007 MOTOROLA QSO PARTY

Back on this side of the Pacific, word that the
dates of the 2007 Motorola QSO Party have been
announced. Sponsored by the Motorola Amateur
Radio Club of the Illinois Section the event
takes place beginning at 1700 UTC on April 21st
running through 0300 UTC on April 22nd. All hams
are welcome to participate. For more information
e-mail motoham@gmail.com or visit www.qsl.net/k9mot/stations/k9mot/ (AA9VI)

**

DX

In D-X, word that 3D2AG. is active) as FK stroke
FO5RK from Noumea, New Caledonia. He is mostly
on 40 and 20 meter CW and is scheduled to remain there until the end of
April.

And news that DL2GAC is again active from the
Solomon Islands as H44MS. He is expected to be on until April 25th.

Also, K4QD reports hat he will be active portable
HH4 from Haiti through the 30th of March. Listen
out for him on 80 through 10 meters on Morse and
SSB. As in the past, he will operate from the
North West Haiti Christian Mission.

Last but by no means least, members of the Irish
Radio Transmitters Society are operating from
Swaziland, Africa as part of a special DXpedition
to celebrate the society's 75th anniversary. The DXpedition runs to the 30th

March. Look out for members of the AFRI 75
DXpedition on the airwaves, in particular during
St Patrick's Day and during the CQ WPX contest.

QSL al of these as directed on the air. (Various DX sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: A CHAT WITH 2007 RADIO AMATEUR OF THE YEAR JIM HAYNIE,
W5JBP

And finally this week, the 2007 Dayton Hamvention
Radio Amateur of the Year has some kind words for
a lot of people and some interesting thoughts on
the hobby. Of coarse we are talking about ARRL
President Emeritus Jim Haynie, W5JBP, who
recently spoke one on one with Amateur Radio
Newsline's Mark Abramowicz, NT3V. Mark says that
the former ARRL leader still has his hand on the pulse of Amateur Radio:

--

For Jim Haynie, being recognized by the Dayton
Hamvention is an honor hard to put into words.

"Well, I was flabbergasted to be honest with
you," Haynie says, upon receiving word of his
selection. "And it certainly came as a surprise.
It was not something that was on my mind, anyway.
And, it's quite an honor because Dayton is such a
prestigious gathering of people - to be selected
by one's peers, I mean, it's just very, very touching to me."

Among the accomplishments the awards committee
considered in selecting Haynie for the honor was
his leadership in the fight against Broadband over Power Line Internet
access.

Haynie made many trips to Washington and spent
hours and hours on the phone and traveling to
meetings to face the issue head-on. He says it
was worth it and he's optimistic the BPL threat is beginning to diminish.

"I don't feel it's going to go very far in the
near future," Haynie says. "It may be used for
meter reading and stuff like that, but I just see
technology going much further than just Broadband over Power Line.

"The trips to Washington, of course, served
several purposes. One, of course, was to keep the
League's name in front of the legislators and the
regulators. And, I think that's important for the
League to continue to do and I see that they're doing that.

"But this is something that we've got to stay on
and keep up with the trends in that area. BPL is
the buzz word right now amongst the utilities and
I think the League is doing a good job as to monitoring that."

The awards committee also recognized Haynie for
his promotion of Amateur Radio's role in
emergencies and establishing a relationship with
the newly-created Department of Homeland Security.

"Oh, I've always been interested in what the
amateur community can do as volunteers and as
somebody pointed out we're not first responders,
per se," Haynie says. "But there's a great deal
of contributions that amateur radio can make in any type of disaster.

"It's the fact that, again, we have to use our
skills, our knowledge and our training to do that. And, Homeland
Security is, of course, concerned with some higher levels.

"But, nonetheless, there's a lot of things that
amateur radio can do. And, I encourage people to
take advantage of that and actually participate."

Haynie says he's also pleased that another leader
in the BPL fight, Ed Hare, W1RFI, the American
Radio Relay League's lab manager, is being
recognized by the Dayton awards committee with
its special achievement award. Haynie says the honor is well deserved.

"I think he's overworked and underpaid," Haynie
says. "He's one of the best assets the League has
as far as staff personnel goes and extremely
knowledgeable and well respected in the industry.

"You know he sits on a couple of committees, one
of which is the I-E-E-E committee for broadband
specifications I guess is one of the words I
would use. I'm sure Ed would come up with something a little more
technical."

Haynie, who served two terms as ARRL president,
says things have been relatively quiet since
leaving office. But, he says he still keeps in touch.

"I still talk to Joel Harrison, the new president
and I talk to Dave Sumner occasionally, it's just
keeping up the friendship type thing because if
you work together like we have for so many years,
you just don't turn it off," Haynie says.

"They're very capable of doing what needs to be
done and there's no need for me doing any outside
consulting, if you will. I'm enjoying a well

deserved break, in my own opinion, in that respect.

"I've really enjoyed kicking back and just not
having to travel somewhere almost every weekend.
I'm sure Joel is familiar with that now because
there were some years that I traveled six or
seven weekends in a row and I don't miss that at all."

But Haynie concedes there is one thing he misses about the travel - the people.

"I really enjoyed going to the hamfests, the
conventions, shaking hands, stuff like that.
That's the part I miss more than anything else,
is just being out in the amateur community."

Retire? Not Jim Haynie. He says he's back in
business in the Dallas area and loving what he's doing.

"At this point, I've got some other interests,
it's not hobby related, it's job related," Haynie
says. "I've taken on a project that's got me
totally fascinated in the television field actually.

"I'm working here for a company now as their
general sales manager for motel, hotel, and
hospitals in the television industry. That's been
quite fascinating to me. It's a field I never
thought I'd be involved in and now, all of a sudden, I'm knee deep in it."

And, while Haynie says he's taking a little break
from amateur radio to get settled in his new
position, you can bet he'll be back if the need arises.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, in Philadelphia.

--

Jim Haynie and the other award winners will
receive their honors the weekend of May 18th to
the 20th at the 2007 Dayton Hamvention. Amateur
Radio Newsline will be there to bring you all of
the action on what has become known as ham
radio's show of shows. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the
CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio
Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the
RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's WIA
News, that's all from the Amateur Radio

Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline@arnewsline.org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), P.O. Box 660937, Arcadia, California 91066.

A reminder that the nominating period is now open for the 2007 Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award. With corporate support from Vertex Standard and CQ Magazine, this honor is bestowed once a year to a radio amateur, age 18 or younger, who has devoted himself or herself to the betterment of all through the hobby. More about the award along with nominating forms is on-line at www.yhoty.org Also see page 8 of the March issue of QST Magazine for some great photos of recent winners in an ad sponsored by Vertex Standard.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Jim Davis, W2JKD, saying 73 and we thank you for listening. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) is Copyright 2007. All rights reserved.

466. Re: Being paid while you operate

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-23 17:38:10 UTC
From: Rick <Nospam@reply.in.gp>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.03.23.16.40.24.800116@reply.in.gp>
Source record: 5064

On Fri, 23 Mar 2007 02:29:26 -0400, Phil Kane wrote:

> I think that it's a very clear statement. "In most cases" means just
> what it says. There are exceptions.

Like... just about all of them. I have a hard time coming up with many instances where it's any of the FCC's business whether I talk on the radio on company time, as long as I'm not being paid to talk on the radio. It's between me and my employer, and the FCC rarely has any jurisdiction or enforcement power over company rules and policies.

467. March 22, 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-24 02:04:15 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1174698670.018892.250490@n59g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5065

These are the number of current,
unexpired FCC-issued amateur
radio licenses held by individuals
on the stated dates, and the
percentage of the total number
of active licenses that class contains.

Percentages may not add up to exactly
100.0% due to rounding.

These totals do not include licenses
that have expired but are in the grace
period, nor do they include club, military
and other station-only licenses.

Effective April 15, 2000, FCC no longer issued
new Novice, Technician Plus and Advanced
class licenses, so the numbers of those license
classes have declined steadily since then.

Also since April 15, 2000, FCC has renewed all
existing Technician Plus licenses as Technician.
It is therefore informative to consider the totals of
the two classes, since the Technician class
includes a significant number of Technician Plus
licenses renewed as Technician.

On February 23, 2007, the last Morse Code
test element, the 5 wpm receiving test, was
eliminated as a requirement.

The ARS License Numbers:

As of May 14, 2000:

Novice- 49,329 (7.3%)
Technician - 205,394 (30.4%)
Technician Plus - 128,860 (19.1%)
General - 112,677 (16.7%)
Advanced - 99,782 (14.8%)
Extra - 78,750 (11.7%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 334,254 (49.5%)

Total all classes - 674,792

As of February 22, 2007:

Novice - 22,896 (3.5%)
Technician - 293,508 (44.8%)
Technician Plus - 30,818 (4.7%)
General - 130,138 (19.9%)
Advanced - 69,050 (10.5%)
Extra - 108,270 (16.5%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 324,326 (49.5%)

Total all classes - 654,680

As of March 1, 2007:

Novice - 22,841 (3.5%)
Technician - 293,031 (44.7%)
Technician Plus - 30,566 (4.7%)
General - 130,969 (20.0%)
Advanced - 68,977 (10.5%)
Extra - 108,462 (16.6%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 323,597 (49.4%)

Total all classes - 654,846

As of March 14, 2007:

Novice - 22,665 (3.5%)
Technician - 290,131 (44.3%)
Technician Plus - 30,069 (4.6%)
General - 134,124 (20.5%)
Advanced - 68,752 (10.5%)
Extra - 109,075 (16.7%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 320,200 (48.9%)

Total all classes - 654,816

As of March 22, 2007:

Novice - 22,565 (3.4%)
Technician - 289,520 (44.2%)
Technician Plus - 29,722 (4.5%)
General - 135,235 (20.7%)
Advanced - 68,604 (10.5%)
Extra - 109,230 (16.7%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 319,242 (48.7%)

Total all classes - 654,876

Changes:

>From May 14, 2000, to February 22, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 26,433
Technician - increase of 88,114
Technician Plus - decrease of 98,042

General - increase of 17,461
Advanced - decrease of 30,732
Extra - increase of 29,520

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 9,928

Total all classes - decrease of 20,112

>From May 14, 2000, to March 1, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 26,488
Technician - increase of 87,637
Technician Plus - decrease of 98,294
General - increase of 18,292
Advanced - decrease of 30,805
Extra - increase of 29,712

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 10,657

Total all classes - decrease of 19,946

>From May 14, 2000, to March 14, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 26,664
Technician - increase of 84,737
Technician Plus - decrease of 98,761
General - increase of 21,147
Advanced - decrease of 31,030
Extra - increase of 30,325

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 14,054

Total all classes - decrease of 19,976

>From May 14, 2000, to March 22, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 26,764
Technician - increase of 84,126
Technician Plus - decrease of 99,138
General - increase of 22,558
Advanced - decrease of 31,178
Extra - increase of 30,480

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 15,012

Total all classes - decrease of 19,916

>From February 22, 2007, to March 1, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 55
Technician - decrease of 477
Technician Plus - decrease of 252
General - increase of 831
Advanced - decrease of 73
Extra - increase of 192

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 729

Total all classes - increase of 166

>From February 22, 2007, to March 14, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 231
Technician - decrease of 3,377
Technician Plus - decrease of 749
General - increase of 3,986
Advanced - decrease of 298
Extra - increase of 805

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 4,126

Total all classes - increase of 136

>From February 22, 2007, to March 22, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 331
Technician - decrease of 3,988
Technician Plus - decrease of 1,096
General - increase of 5,097
Advanced - decrease of 446
Extra - increase of 960

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 5,084

Total all classes - increase of 196

73 de Jim, N2EY

468. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-24 05:18:21 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns98FCE49FA9994mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 5066

groupk0hb@earthlink.net wrote in news:1174628469.011228.92910
@l75g2000hse.googlegroups.com:

> Kinda like I'd like to see the amateur bands, open for the explorers
> and visionaries (so long as they're polite to the other children.

I think that the crux *is* just that politeness though, Hans. When the PSK31 segment (as an example) is stomped on by the robot Winlink stations, who is playing politely? Yeah, I guess we can just move, but won't it be fun to try to figure out where? And our next stop can just as easily be disrupted by whatever wideband mode decides to park itself right over top of us. Eventually a survival of the fittest situation occurs, and I suspect that Winlink stations and SSB would come to be the only modes around. And that would be a real tragedy. No DX windows, no areas in which to search those who pursue the same modes as you seems like a recipe for chaos. And I suspect that the Gentlemen's agreements came about for those reasons, not that the people who came up with such things lacked intelligence or vision.

I look at the framework as a guideline of just where I might like to pursue my particular part of this hobby. If it were just a matter of SSB and OOK CW, it would be one thing, but these days there is OOK CW, SSB, RTTY, PSK31, 64, SSTV, Pactor, and on and on. Many modes, and some don't exist very well together. Not all regulation is bad. In fact excessive regulation and no regulation at all produce strikingly similar results.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

469. Rediscovering the hobby.

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-24 07:44:08 UTC
From: Paul Huff <paul.huff@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <m2ircrrzia.fsf@kanga.phuff.dsl.xmission.com>
Source record: 5067

Hey there.

I got my Technician ticket the summer after I graduated from high school, bought a little 2M handie-talkie and had a bit of fun with it, but for any number of reasons, left the hobby behind shortly thereafter. Now, I'm getting notices about my 10 year high school reunion and I'm realizing that it's time to renew my ticket.

Last year when I realized that renewal time was around the corner, I figured I'd start getting ready to upgrade to the General License, and started learning the code. Once I'd gotten my sending down to a pretty good clip, though my receiving still wasn't near to 5wpm, they took that requirement away, and now I'm back to having to study for the exam...

So, here's the point of my post: I'm trying to come back to the hobby after a long absence. I have a limited (read hardly any) budget, and an older handie-talkie. I think I'll need more than just local repeater rag-chewing to get me into it the hobby all the way. Anybody have any suggestions?

Also appreciated would be suggestions on beefing up my technical knowledge. I'm afraid I'm probably not even close to having myself up to the level I was at when I took my Technician test... So, I probably have to start from close to a clean slate.

Thanks,
Paul
KC8IGJ

470. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-24 07:44:45 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1174714353.949870.232670@n76g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5068

On Mar 23, 11:18 pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:

>
> I think that the crux *is* just that politeness though, Hans.
>

Almost any country you want to name, with the notable exception of the USA, hands their hams a set of frequencies and charges them to "play politely". I don't see any evidence that this policy is causing any problems.

Even in our country, one mode is given free reign to use virtually any frequency they chose, and we all seem to get along. One has to wonder "if market-based cooperation works for one mode, why won't it work for the others?"

73, de Hans, K0HB

471. Re: Rediscovering the hobby.

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-24 12:10:50 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <130a59s10l1pu94@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 5069

Paul Huff wrote:

> I got my Technician ticket the summer after I graduated from high
> school, bought a little 2M handie-talkie and had a bit of fun with it,
> but for any number of reasons, left the hobby behind shortly
> thereafter. Now, I'm getting notices about my 10 year high school
> reunion and I'm realizing that it's time to renew my ticket.

Whatever else you do, renew your ticket. It's easy and free. When you're 90 days away from expiration, visit the FCC web site and request a renewal. Don't put it off thinking that you're going to upgrade and then end up with no license at all.

> So, here's the point of my post: I'm trying to come back to the hobby
> after a long absence. I have a limited (read hardly any) budget, and
> an older handie-talkie. I think I'll need more than just local repeater
> rag-chewing to get me into it the hobby all the way. Anybody have any
> suggestions?

Ham radio is really many hobbies rolled into one. The aspects that interest me may not interest you, and that's just fine. I agree that there's much more out there in the hobby than the local repeater, and I think you're on the right track exploring the other aspects of ham radio.

Go to the library and spend a little time reading the ham-radio magazines. I'm not suggesting that you read every article carefully, but more that you use the magazine as a way to see what is happening in the hobby these days and what aspects pique your interest. You might think that trying to work DX using low power is interesting, or digital modes might catch your eye.

There's a lot of current information on the hobby available via the Internet. This Usenet group is an example; as you read what others are interested in you may see things that sound intriguing. There are many other web sites on various topics. Of course, you want to employ the same filters that you would use for any topic that you're researching on the Internet; there's some garbage out there too.

As for low-budget equipment, one place to check is eBay. Usual disclaimers apply, but there are some bargains there. (Just be sure you're really getting a bargain; there are some ripoffs there, too.) I recommend eHam for figuring out what all the model numbers really mean; there's a valuable part of their site that you reach by clicking on "Product Reviews" in the left navigation pane. There are other sources for used equipment, including locals who have upgraded their gear.

> Also appreciated would be suggestions on beefing up my technical
> knowledge. I'm afraid I'm probably not even close to having myself up
> to the level I was at when I took my Technician test... So, I
> probably have to start from close to a clean slate.

Is there a local club in your area? If they have license classes, that's a possible way to beef up your technical knowledge and have a good time. It's always more fun to learn in a group. However, be aware that some of these classes are geared more towards reviewing the specific questions in the exam pools than in actually learning the theory behind the questions.

If you want to actually learn something useful, I'd suggest that finding a knowledgeable local and putting a station on the air would be a great way to accomplish that. Studying the formula for the length of a dipole is one thing; getting out there and building the antenna is an entirely different experience. This may be the best use of that handheld -- if there's an active repeater that you can hit, get on it and meet some of the locals. If you're lucky you'll find someone who is willing to be your elmer.

Good luck, and welcome back. I hope you find a niche in the hobby that interests you; that's what makes the difference between someone who just has a ticket and someone who is actually active in the hobby.

73, Steve KB9X

472. Re: Rediscovering the hobby.

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-24 14:47:21 UTC
From: "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not>
Message-ID: <eu3b3q$v2e$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 5070

Paul Huff wrote:
[snip] I'm trying to come back to the hobby
> after a long absence. I have a limited (read hardly any) budget, and
> an older handie-talkie. I think I'll need more than just local repeater
> rag-chewing to get me into it the hobby all the way. Anybody have any
> suggestions?
>
> Also appreciated would be suggestions on beefing up my technical
> knowledge. I'm afraid I'm probably not even close to having myself up
> to the level I was at when I took my Technician test... So, I
> probably have to start from close to a clean slate.

Paul,

Welcome back!

All hams are on a budget, although some have a _larger_ budget than others ;-). Probably the best way to improve your technical skills while building a station is to trade for or buy some older radio and spend the time to get it on the air: there are many "boatanchor" rigs available for reasonable money, provided you're not looking to start with a KWM-2, and the experience and contacts you'll get in the process will also help to get you up to speed.

First, join a local club and ask around about used rigs. Many hams have equipment they used as novices still on a shelf, including receivers such as Drake 2-A's or such, and although code may not be your mode of choice, you can often add a modulator to a novice CW rig and join the AM renaissance on 75 meters for very short money. If you prefer SSB, there are many older rigs that can be had for reasonable cost, especially from other club members, such as Swan 350's or Heathkit HW-101's.

Ebay is a good source for ideas, but I'd avoid it for purchases until you're more familiar with the boatanchor world - parts availability, rigs to avoid, etc.: for now, buy or trade with people you live next to, and you'll do a lot better.

HTH.

Bill

--
73,

Bill W1AC

(Remove "73" and change top level domain for direct replies)

473. Re: Rediscovering the hobby.

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-24 14:47:36 UTC
From: KH6HZ <kh6hzA@Tarrl.net>
Message-ID: <XxaNh.15005$nh4.13624@newsfe20.lga>
Source record: 5071

"Steve Bonine" <spb@pobox.com> wrote:

> Is there a local club in your area? If they have license classes, that's
> a possible way to beef up your technical knowledge and have a good time.
> It's always more fun to learn in a group. However, be aware that some of
> these classes are geared more towards reviewing the specific questions in
> the exam pools than in actually learning the theory behind the questions.

I definitely 2nd the recommendation of the local club.

In fact, what you might want to do is visit a bunch of local clubs. Some local clubs actually have "ham shacks" which you can operate out of. For example, W1AQ in Rhodyland is one such club.

The nice thing about these types of organizations is you can get a feel for what type of activities in ham radio interests you, without investing a great deal of money in your own equipment, only to discover that aspect of the hobby really isn't "for you". Think of it as a "try before you buy".

Plus, being able to operate out of the club shack gives you time to save up for your own equipment, and not become discouraged over time because you're not able to buy something of your own.

And yes, by all means, renew your license. While your activity in ham radio may come and go over time depending on other demands in life, your ham license is always a 'free' ticket to enjoyment at some point, when you decide to pick it up again. Follow Steve's lead and renew through the FCC web site -- it doesn't cost you anything!

Good luck!

73
kh6hz

474. Re: Extension of PSK segment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-25 00:20:24 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1174781515.921497.308520@b75g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 5072

On Mar 13, 11:01 am, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> What is the process of modifying the gentlemen's agreements?
> Specifically, I would like to explore the idea of adding a new PSK31
> segment or two.
>

It strikes me that we've beat this subject into oblivion without
actually answering Mikes original question.

Actually, the ARRL bandplans (for whatever weight they carry) are
pretty much silent on the topic of PSK31. The mode settled by
convention into a small spot on each band, and the original small
number of players fit nicely into a fairly narrow slot by convention
of usage. Since it's gained in popularity, I think the next logical
step is for the users to start a discussion 'in-band' about annexing
additional nearby territory. I'm not into that mode, but it's my
impression that there's room in most of the data segments for you to
spread out a bit without any particular resistance.

In other words, let the 'market forces' come to bear.

73, de Hans, K0HB

475. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-25 02:48:28 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <nflb035hrumlt44814t96h8d2sa1jpjn74@4ax.com>
Source record: 5073

On Wed, 21 Mar 2007 21:16:00 EDT, N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:

>Depends on the size of the lot. On a lot that's , say, 100
>feet wide, you can't put up a tower more than 50 feet high
>and have its "fall circle" not go over the property line.

As we all (should) know, towers rarely, if ever, fail in "stick fall"
mode where the fall zone radius is equal to the tower height. The
usual fall mode is a buckling collapse along the length of the tower
resulting in a fall radius of about 10-15% of the tower height.

There was a study made of commercial tower failures several decades
ago that showed this, and I've seen this first hand in some of the
broadcast and comm towers affected by the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake
in the San Francisco area.

Whether the local building official is sharp enough to know this is an
exercise left to the applicant....!
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

476. Re: Rediscovering the hobby.

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-25 02:48:50 UTC
From: Larry <noone@home.com>
Message-ID: <Xns98FDD5B1CB75noonehomecom@208.49.80.253>
Source record: 5074

"Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not> wrote in news:eu3b3q$v2e$1
@victor.killfile.org:

> All hams are on a budget, although some have a _larger_ budget than
> others ;-).

PRECISELY why the power limit should be ERP, not 1.5KW into a $25,000, 8-
element, 20 meter yagi at 800'.

Rich hams should be using the same ERP as poor hams....easily measured at
monitoring stations in uV/meter.

Larry
--
Message for Comcrap Internet Customers:
http://tinyurl.com/3ayl9c
Unlimited Service my ass.....(d^:)
.

477. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-25 02:49:06 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <20mb039bomanuatm1vfkq5klg2soths4eu@4ax.com>
Source record: 5075

On Wed, 21 Mar 2007 22:11:47 EDT, "Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net>
wrote:

>Does anyone have information on this? Although the speaker was supposed to
>be an expert, I'd be interested in some independent information on this.

See my earlier post. The study was made by the engineering firm that
designed the TV transmitting antennas on the Empire State Building in
New York City - the name escapes me, though.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

478. Re: Being paid while you operate

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-25 04:01:47 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <pfrb03hkg15t174mb8cmst2i8v2tnm9c1n@4ax.com>
Source record: 5076

On Fri, 23 Mar 2007 08:18:40 EDT, "Newby" <nobody@nowhere.net> wrote:

>> Don't bother -- he clarified it many years ago, in public. This
>> question comes up every so often because folks don't remember the
>> answer.
>>
>> This should be made clear in the first ten minutes of any ham radio
>> training course at any level.
>>
>> No personal offenses intended....<g>

>Since you have the knowledge, why not share it?

"The knowledge" was posted by me and others yesterday.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

479. Re: Being paid while you operate

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-25 04:02:31 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <jkrb035k2gsr31jjo5iq0nolg41s24da8b@4ax.com>
Source record: 5077

On Fri, 23 Mar 2007 10:58:42 EDT, "who_me?" <kw5kw@swbell.net> wrote:

>It was an illustration---an analogy, not meant to be Gospel!
>Not everything should be taken in a 100% wooden, literal sense!

It is well known that I am a communications attorney whose practice involves dealing with the FCC and other regulatory agencies on compliance matters. One takes things in a 100% wooden sense or one does not succeed in that business.

And as I tell my clients - and a lot of them are hams - if you try to get away with something and get caught, how will you explain it? The :dude" defense - some other dude did it - doesn't go in regulatory matters. I prefer to keep my clients from getting into trouble by giving them the straight scoop, so to speak.

As far as railroading goes, it is well known that that's my avocation and I know the operating rules almost as well as I know the FCC rules. If you think that the FCC rules are complex, you ought to see the Federal Railroad Administration rules!
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
ARRL Volunteer Counsel

email: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

480. Re: Being paid while you operate

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-25 04:27:33 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <4dsb03d0819eekht6igje88bub6di0ok9s@4ax.com>
Source record: 5078

On Fri, 23 Mar 2007 13:38:10 EDT, Rick <Nospam@reply.in.gp> wrote:

>On Fri, 23 Mar 2007 02:29:26 -0400, Phil Kane wrote:
>
>> I think that it's a very clear statement. "In most cases" means just
>> what it says. There are exceptions.
>
>Like... just about all of them. I have a hard time coming up with many
>instances where it's any of the FCC's business whether I talk on the radio
>on company time, as long as I'm not being paid to talk on the radio.

Because of international treaties upon which the US is a signatory,
the Amateur Radio Service has specific restrictions on what
communications are prohibited and which are allowed.

You, I, and the FCC all agree that it's not the FCC's business WHEN
you transmit, it's WHAT you are transmitting that counts. The
bottom line is you can't use amateur radio for the benefit of the
employer or if you are being paid to operate, with the exception under
which specific organizations (the ARRL is only one of them) can pay
operators for operating.

> It's between me and my employer, and the FCC rarely has any jurisdiction or
>enforcement power over company rules and policies.

In general you are right, as long as the company rules do not require
you to, or give you permission to, violate communication laws.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
ARRL Volunteer Counsel

email: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

481. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-25 04:27:48 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <0-ednTti0qfna5jbnZ2dnUVZ_tijnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 5079

"Phil Kane" <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote in message
news:20mb039bomanuatm1vfkq5klg2soths4eu@4ax.com...
> On Wed, 21 Mar 2007 22:11:47 EDT, "Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net>
> wrote:
>
>>Does anyone have information on this? Although the speaker was supposed
>>to
>>be an expert, I'd be interested in some independent information on this.
>
> See my earlier post. The study was made by the engineering firm that
> designed the TV transmitting antennas on the Empire State Building in
> New York City - the name escapes me, though.
> --
>
> 73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
>
>>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
> Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon
>
> e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net
>

Very interesting. If you should happen to remember who it was, please let
us know. Or if you happen to think of more tidbits of information that
would help a person find the info that would be great too.

Dee, N8UZE

482. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-25 04:28:07 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns98FDE918B8E57mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 5080

Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote in
news:nflb035hrumlt44814t96h8d2sa1jpjn74@4ax.com:

> There was a study made of commercial tower failures several decades
> ago that showed this, and I've seen this first hand in some of the
> broadcast and comm towers affected by the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake
> in the San Francisco area.
>
> Whether the local building official is sharp enough to know this is an
> exercise left to the applicant....!

The most likely failure scenarios are very true, but there is a
credibility issue in these matters. We can speak of failure modes until we
are blue in the face, but a simple worst case fall radius is easy for non-
engineering types to understand.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

483. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-25 04:28:27 UTC
From: Bryan <bryan.swadenerNOSPAM@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <jN2dnfyheduUZ5jbnZ2dnUVZ_qupnZ2d@giganews.com>
Source record: 5081

Phil Kane wrote:

> As we all (should) know, towers rarely, if ever, fail in "stick fall"
> mode where the fall zone radius is equal to the tower height. The
> usual fall mode is a buckling collapse along the length of the tower
> resulting in a fall radius of about 10-15% of the tower height.

My lot is 100' on the short side. Using that statistic, assuming I placed a tower in the center of my lot, I should be able to get a permit to erect a 333' (50' / 0.15) tower. Somehow, I don't think I have a snowball's chance in Hades of getting a permit for it. Oh well... it was a nice dream! hi

73,
Bryan WA7PRC

484. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-25 12:46:40 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <130crp3cmg0ee1a@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 5082

Mike Coslo wrote:
> Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:
>
>> There was a study made of commercial tower failures several decades
>> ago that showed this, and I've seen this first hand in some of the
>> broadcast and comm towers affected by the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake
>> in the San Francisco area.
>>
>> Whether the local building official is sharp enough to know this is an
>> exercise left to the applicant....!
>
> The most likely failure scenarios are very true, but there is a
> credibility issue in these matters. We can speak of failure modes until we
> are blue in the face, but a simple worst case fall radius is easy for non-
> engineering types to understand.

And all the logic in the world won't help if the local building official insists on using the worst-case scenario or local laws demand it. Frankly, if I was the local building official, I would use the worst-case scenario. The primary responsibility of a building inspector is public safety, and invoking the worst-case scenario seems appropriate in this case.

73, Steve KB9X

485. Re: Ladder line routing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-25 14:24:18 UTC
From: ml <m@di.net>
Message-ID: <m-6449AE.07093825032007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 5083

In article <etup5l$si0$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>,
Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:

> The XYL has expressed her dismay at my ladder line coming down over the
> roof the way it does. I plan on rerouting it this spring.
>
> I plan on routing the line along the roofline, then run it to and
> below
> the soffit. Then into the usual entrance.
>
> What is a good holder for the ladder line - basic windowed plastic
> variety?
>
> But my biggest concern is that metal soffit. I'll be running along
> about 20 feet of that, and I suspect that there will be some effect.
> What is a safe distance from the soffit?
>
>
> - 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

<< google electric fence post standoff's and farm insulators

they have all sorts of really nice plastic standoffs that can work very
well with ladder line and all different sizes

I got a bag of black 5" (just what i needed) musta been 20 of them for
5dollars i drilled a tiney extra hole on the bottom to pass a tie
wrap viola!

hope this helps

486. Re: Rediscovering the hobby.

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-25 15:23:33 UTC
From: xpyttl <xpyttl_NOSPAM@earthling.net>
Message-ID: <%5wNh.5$KN3.0@newsfe03.lga>
Source record: 5084

Amateur radio is an incredibly diverse hobby. The suggestion on reading up is a good one, the suggestion on looking at clubs is a good one, but they really won't give you a very complete view.

Most clubs have some area they gravitate toward. There are many areas of amateur radio that aren't well served by local clubs, either because the activity isn't amenable to the club model, or because a local area just can't support enough amateurs interested in that particular niche.

Many amateurs on a budget are into QRP, and many QRPers are into building. Now, don't get misled into thinking that building stuff is cheaper. Until you have built up a good junk box, it tends to be more expensive. However, the hours of enjoyment might well make it inexpensive on an hours of fun per dollar basis. It won't be cheaper on a watts per dollar basis.

Some have suggested looking for a boatanchor. Personally, I don't enjoy this, and like building, it isn't as cheap as it sounds. *BUT*, if you get to thinking about buying used gear, go to ebay and study the "completed auctions". While I feel a little uncomfortable about buying a used rig sight unseen, the completed auctions section of eBay gives you a clue as to what a particular rig is worth, and what affects its value. I should mention that although I would rather put my hands on a rig before I buy it, I have bought a few things on eBay and have never been burned. There are a few bad actors out there, but generally hams are a likeable lot. Also, don't be afraid to look at new rigs. Many decent used rigs sell for almost as much as new. If there is a huge difference, there is probably a reason. Find someone to talk to about the particular thing that interests you.

Many clubs are into public service. This is another area where you can get a lot of fun for your buck. In this case, typically all you need is an HT. Most clubs that do this are more than able to provide you with any necessary training, and these activities can be a lot of fun.

Most amateurs feel that emergency response is part of their responsibility, although most aren't willing to pay their dues. If you think emergency response is part of your interest, you MUST find your local EC and get involved with your local ARES or RACES group. In this day an age, you must also pass some FEMA courses to be eligible. Hams who show up at a scene with a rig and no training are part of the problem rather than the solution.

Speaking of ARES, your statewide amateur organization needs leaders -- doesn't matter what state you are in. Volunteering your time to make amateur radio better is one of the more enjoyable aspects of the hobby to some, and is also one of the less expensive. Every section has dozens of positions that need to be filled. They range from emcomm positions to public information, to technical coordination to observer. Lots and lots to

be done.

Of course, there are plenty of operating only activities ... rag chewing, DXing, contesting, etc. your Tech license gives you full access to the space above 50 MHz, and there is a lot of territory there for experimentation, if that is what floats your boat.

A lot of hams (at least here locally) thinking of moving beyond VHF seem to feel they need a DC to daylight rig. This is certainly the high priced spread. The rig can often be a minor problem; getting an antenna up in the air that can do a decent job across a wide range of bands can be a bit of a challenge, too. And unless you get into contesting, the reality is that you will only operate on a couple of bands. Single band rigs can be many times less expensive than the fancy rice boxes. Try to understand what sorts of things sound interesting and look at satisfying only those needs if you are on a budget.

Most importantly, though, find some local folks to chat with. This is where a club can be handy. Even if a club is very focused on some particular niche, there will be a few folks with other interests. Find out who they are and knock some talk out of them.

..

487. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-25 15:24:03 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <5-udndSQu6-M5pvbnZ2dnUVZ_tGvnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 5085

"Steve Bonine" <spb@pobox.com> wrote in message
news:130crp3cmg0ee1a@news.supernews.com...
> Mike Coslo wrote:
>> Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:
>>
>>> There was a study made of commercial tower failures several decades
>>> ago that showed this, and I've seen this first hand in some of the
>>> broadcast and comm towers affected by the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake
>>> in the San Francisco area.
>>>
>>> Whether the local building official is sharp enough to know this is an
>>> exercise left to the applicant....!
>>
>> The most likely failure scenarios are very true, but there is a
>> credibility issue in these matters. We can speak of failure modes until
>> we are blue in the face, but a simple worst case fall radius is easy for
>> non-
>> engineering types to understand.
>
> And all the logic in the world won't help if the local building official
> insists on using the worst-case scenario or local laws demand it. Frankly,
> if I was the local building official, I would use the worst-case scenario.
> The primary responsibility of a building inspector is public safety, and
> invoking the worst-case scenario seems appropriate in this case.
>
> 73, Steve KB9X

No it isn't appropriate. There are telephone poles near my house that if they were to fall will destroy my house. My neighbors TREES could do the same. Yet most people do not see these as significant hazards. They are used to seeing them so do not think of them as hazards.

I lived in one place where a tree next to my garage had a serious case of heart rot (hollow top to bottom). The tree was all but dead but the owner would NOT remove it because it was still "alive" (i.e. it had about a dozen leaves on one branch on one side of the tree). I could not find a way to force the owner to get rid of the tree. All I could do was to move my car out of the potential damage area when strong winds came up.

As far as towers go, what is appropriate is that it be required to be erected per the manufacturer's design guidelines.

Dee, N8UZE

488. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-25 16:42:17 UTC
From: KH6HZ <kh6hzA@Tarrl.net>
Message-ID: <zaxNh.43605$_R.35308@newsfe23.lga>
Source record: 5086

"Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> wrote:

> No it isn't appropriate. There are telephone poles near my house that if
> they were to fall will destroy my house. My neighbors TREES could do the
> same. Yet most people do not see these as significant hazards. They are
> used to seeing them so do not think of them as hazards.

Rather than looking at this from the negative, let's look at it as a real business possibility.

How about designing a series of towers that look externally like tree-trunks? Or, developing camoflauge that hams wrap on the outside of their towers which disguise them (the towers, not the hams) as big oak trees?

Then, likewise, we can design a series of multi-element beam antennas which look like tree branches, complete with fake leaves!

The possibilities (and income potential) is endless!

73
kh6hz

489. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-26 00:03:01 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns98FEC03EF79C9mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 5087

"Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> wrote in
news:5-udndSQu6-M5pvbnZ2dnUVZ_tGvnZ2d@comcast.com:

>
> "Steve Bonine" <spb@pobox.com> wrote in message
> news:130crp3cmg0ee1a@news.supernews.com..

<some snippage>

>> And all the logic in the world won't help if the local building
>> official insists on using the worst-case scenario or local laws
>> demand it. Frankly, if I was the local building official, I would use
>> the worst-case scenario. The primary responsibility of a building
>> inspector is public safety, and invoking the worst-case scenario
>> seems appropriate in this case.
>>
>> 73, Steve KB9X
>
> No it isn't appropriate. There are telephone poles near my house that
> if they were to fall will destroy my house. My neighbors TREES could
> do the same. Yet most people do not see these as significant hazards.
> They are used to seeing them so do not think of them as hazards.

Of course. People are used to things like Power poles and even think
nothing of hurtling at each other in automobiles carrying liquids that
are almost explosively flammable. In no way does that make either
actually "safe".

They are not quite so used to radio towers however. People have a
fear of the unknown, especially in thies days of safe rooms in houses,
and burglar alarms in gated communities.

And in these days of safety taken to stupid extremes, and housing
developments that won't allow you to have a clothesline in your back
yard, I'm not about to go complaining about that one little restriction
on a potential tower.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

490. Marine mobil VHF/UHF antennas

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-26 00:03:19 UTC
From: richgr@panix.com
Message-ID: <eu72gc$5t4$1@reader2.panix.com>
Source record: 5088

I want to install a 2m/440 rig on my boat. Does anybody know of a
2m/440 antenna that:

1) Will work without a ground plane? i.e. be a straight fiberglass tube
like the usual VHF marine band antennas.

2) Will mount on the standard marine layover mounting bracket.

--
Rich Greenberg N Ft Myers, FL, USA richgr atsign panix.com + 1 239 543 1353
Eastern time. N6LRT I speak for myself & my dogs only. VM'er since CP-67
Canines:Val, Red, Shasta & Casey (RIP), Red & Zero, Siberians Owner:Chinook-L
Retired at the beach Asst Owner:Sibernet-L

491. Re: Rediscovering the hobby.

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-26 01:39:40 UTC
From: Paul Huff <paul.huff@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <m23b3ssvh0.fsf@kanga.phuff.dsl.xmission.com>
Source record: 5089

Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> writes:

> Whatever else you do, renew your ticket. It's easy and free. When
> you're 90 days away from expiration, visit the FCC web site and
> request a renewal. Don't put it off thinking that you're going to
> upgrade and then end up with no license at all.

This is definitely on the agenda, regardless of what happens. Only a couple of more months and I'll be in the 90 day window :) Here's a quick novice question for you: if I renew and have moved, will they change my call or do I get to keep it?

> Ham radio is really many hobbies rolled into one. The aspects that
> interest me may not interest you, and that's just fine. I agree that
> there's much more out there in the hobby than the local repeater, and
> I think you're on the right track exploring the other aspects of ham
> radio.

That's a good point. I'd never really considered the fact that it was several different hobbies rolled into one before. This point, and some of the other followups have convinced me to start looking a little deeper into some of the various aspects.

> Go to the library and spend a little time reading the ham-radio
> magazines. I'm not suggesting that you read every article carefully,
> but more that you use the magazine as a way to see what is happening
> in the hobby these days and what aspects pique your interest. You
> might think that trying to work DX using low power is interesting, or
> digital modes might catch your eye.
>
> There's a lot of current information on the hobby available via the
> Internet. This Usenet group is an example; as you read what others
> are interested in you may see things that sound intriguing. There are
> many other web sites on various topics. Of course, you want to employ
> the same filters that you would use for any topic that you're
> researching on the Internet; there's some garbage out there too.

Duly noted. I'm associated with a university currently, and I haven't checked out their periodicals for amateur radio stuff yet, actually, so that's a great idea I hadn't thought of. Thanks!

>
> As for low-budget equipment, one place to check is eBay. Usual
> disclaimers apply, but there are some bargains there. (Just be sure
> you're really getting a bargain; there are some ripoffs there, too.)
> I recommend eHam for figuring out what all the model numbers really

> mean; there's a valuable part of their site that you reach by clicking
> on "Product Reviews" in the left navigation pane. There are other
> sources for used equipment, including locals who have upgraded their
> gear.
>
> Is there a local club in your area? If they have license classes,
> that's a possible way to beef up your technical knowledge and have a
> good time. It's always more fun to learn in a group. However, be
> aware that some of these classes are geared more towards reviewing the
> specific questions in the exam pools than in actually learning the
> theory behind the questions.
>
> If you want to actually learn something useful, I'd suggest that
> finding a knowledgeable local and putting a station on the air would
> be a great way to accomplish that. Studying the formula for the
> length of a dipole is one thing; getting out there and building the
> antenna is an entirely different experience. This may be the best use
> of that handheld -- if there's an active repeater that you can hit,
> get on it and meet some of the locals. If you're lucky you'll find
> someone who is willing to be your elmer.

Yeah, I'm a little leary of buying anything used or new at this point, because I just don't know enough about all of the different modes and facets of amateur radio. There were a couple of good elmer type figures available to me when I first got my license, but though at my last job there was an excellent elmer available, I've never spent good quality time with somebody one on one getting to know things about all the various different things that I can do.

> Good luck, and welcome back. I hope you find a niche in the hobby
> that interests you; that's what makes the difference between someone
> who just has a ticket and someone who is actually active in the hobby.
>

Thanks so much for all your advice.
Paul, KC8IGJ

492. Re: Rediscovering the hobby.

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-26 02:11:21 UTC
From: Paul Huff <paul.huff@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <m2wt14rck3.fsf@kanga.phuff.dsl.xmission.com>
Source record: 5090

"KH6HZ" <kh6hzA@Tarrl.net> writes:

> I definitely 2nd the recommendation of the local club.
>
> In fact, what you might want to do is visit a bunch of local clubs. Some
> local clubs actually have "ham shacks" which you can operate out of. For
> example, W1AQ in Rhodyland is one such club.
>
> The nice thing about these types of organizations is you can get a feel for
> what type of activities in ham radio interests you, without investing a
> great deal of money in your own equipment, only to discover that aspect of
> the hobby really isn't "for you". Think of it as a "try before you buy".
>
> Plus, being able to operate out of the club shack gives you time to save up
> for your own equipment, and not become discouraged over time because you're
> not able to buy something of your own.

Thanks for the advice. Yeah, the nearby university where I live has a
club. Dues are cheap, and they have a shack with interesting equipment
in it. It's definitely on my list of things to check into.

> And yes, by all means, renew your license. While your activity in ham radio
> may come and go over time depending on other demands in life, your ham
> license is always a 'free' ticket to enjoyment at some point, when you
> decide to pick it up again. Follow Steve's lead and renew through the FCC
> web site -- it doesn't cost you anything!

Yep, definitely planning on renewing. Thanks again for the tips!

> Good luck!

493. Re: Rediscovering the hobby.

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-26 02:51:25 UTC
From: Paul Huff <paul.huff@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <m2lkhkrb59.fsf@kanga.phuff.dsl.xmission.com>
Source record: 5091

"xpyttl" <xpyttl_NOSPAM@earthling.net> writes:

> Amateur radio is an incredibly diverse hobby. The suggestion on reading up
> is a good one, the suggestion on looking at clubs is a good one, but they
> really won't give you a very complete view.
>
> Most clubs have some area they gravitate toward. There are many areas of
> amateur radio that aren't well served by local clubs, either because the
> activity isn't amenable to the club model, or because a local area just
> can't support enough amateurs interested in that particular niche.
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> Many amateurs on a budget are into QRP, and many QRPers are into building.
> Now, don't get misled into thinking that building stuff is cheaper. Until
> you have built up a good junk box, it tends to be more expensive. However,
> the hours of enjoyment might well make it inexpensive on an hours of fun per
> dollar basis. It won't be cheaper on a watts per dollar basis.

Yeah, a couple of months back I was looking into buying an HF rig to
see if I could have some fun with that, and most of the rigs in my
price range looked like they were QRP oriented. Though I _do_ have a
great assortment of computer parts lying around, I'm not sure many of
them would be useful in building my own rig :)

> Some have suggested looking for a boatanchor. Personally, I don't enjoy
> this, and like building, it isn't as cheap as it sounds. *BUT*, if you get
> to thinking about buying used gear, go to ebay and study the "completed
> auctions". While I feel a little uncomfortable about buying a used rig
> sight unseen, the completed auctions section of eBay gives you a clue as to
> what a particular rig is worth, and what affects its value. I should mention
> that although I would rather put my hands on a rig before I buy it, I have
> bought a few things on eBay and have never been burned. There are a few bad
> actors out there, but generally hams are a likeable lot. Also, don't be
> afraid to look at new rigs. Many decent used rigs sell for almost as much
> as new. If there is a huge difference, there is probably a reason. Find
> someone to talk to about the particular thing that interests you.

Honestly, since I have no idea what I'm really interested in still,
I'm way leary of buying used equipment, particularly over e-bay. I'm
just not sure what I want/need/will use. So I hear you on this one.
"Try before you buy" sounds mighty nice.

> Many clubs are into public service. This is another area where you can get
> a lot of fun for your buck. In this case, typically all you need is an HT.
> Most clubs that do this are more than able to provide you with any necessary
> training, and these activities can be a lot of fun.
>

> Most amateurs feel that emergency response is part of their responsibility,
> although most aren't willing to pay their dues. If you think emergency
> response is part of your interest, you MUST find your local EC and get
> involved with your local ARES or RACES group. In this day an age, you must
> also pass some FEMA courses to be eligible. Hams who show up at a scene
> with a rig and no training are part of the problem rather than the solution.

Due to family circumstances, time is kind of a scarce commodity right
now, too. However, ARES and RACES have sounded appealing to me in the
past. Thanks for the tip on the FEMA courses. I'll have to check
into those, as well.

> Speaking of ARES, your statewide amateur organization needs leaders --
> doesn't matter what state you are in. Volunteering your time to make
> amateur radio better is one of the more enjoyable aspects of the hobby to
> some, and is also one of the less expensive. Every section has dozens of
> positions that need to be filled. They range from emcomm positions to
> public information, to technical coordination to observer. Lots and lots to
> be done.
>
> Of course, there are plenty of operating only activities ... rag chewing,
> DXing, contesting, etc. your Tech license gives you full access to the
> space above 50 MHz, and there is a lot of territory there for
> experimentation, if that is what floats your boat.
>
> A lot of hams (at least here locally) thinking of moving beyond VHF seem to
> feel they need a DC to daylight rig. This is certainly the high priced
> spread. The rig can often be a minor problem; getting an antenna up in the
> air that can do a decent job across a wide range of bands can be a bit of a
> challenge, too. And unless you get into contesting, the reality is that you
> will only operate on a couple of bands. Single band rigs can be many times
> less expensive than the fancy rice boxes. Try to understand what sorts of
> things sound interesting and look at satisfying only those needs if you are
> on a budget.
>
> Most importantly, though, find some local folks to chat with. This is where
> a club can be handy. Even if a club is very focused on some particular
> niche, there will be a few folks with other interests. Find out who they
> are and knock some talk out of them.
>
> ..

Thanks for the tips.

-Paul, KC8IGJ

494. Re: Rediscovering the hobby.

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-26 02:51:44 UTC
From: Paul Huff <paul.huff@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <m2hcs8raym.fsf@kanga.phuff.dsl.xmission.com>
Source record: 4899

"Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not> writes:

> Paul,
>
> Welcome back!
>
> All hams are on a budget, although some have a _larger_ budget than
> others ;-). Probably the best way to improve your technical skills
> while building a station is to trade for or buy some older radio and
> spend the time to get it on the air: there are many "boatanchor" rigs
> available for reasonable money, provided you're not looking to start
> with a KWM-2, and the experience and contacts you'll get in the
> process will also help to get you up to speed.
>
> First, join a local club and ask around about used rigs. Many hams
> have equipment they used as novices still on a shelf, including
> receivers such as Drake 2-A's or such, and although code may not be
> your mode of choice, you can often add a modulator to a novice CW rig
> and join the AM renaissance on 75 meters for very short money. If you
> prefer SSB, there are many older rigs that can be had for reasonable
> cost, especially from other club members, such as Swan 350's or
> Heathkit HW-101's.

Code actually _is_ one of the things that interests me, believe it or
not. And, honestly, like most of the other responses I've gotten have
noted, buying an older rig would probably be the best route for me to
go, in terms of learning my way around again. Thanks for the tip on
Drake 2-A, I'll have to look into those.

> Ebay is a good source for ideas, but I'd avoid it for purchases until
> you're more familiar with the boatanchor world - parts availability,
> rigs to avoid, etc.: for now, buy or trade with people you live next
> to, and you'll do a lot better.
>
> HTH.
>
> Bill

Thanks again for the tips.

495. Re: Rediscovering the hobby.

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-26 02:52:07 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <3KGdnej2iKX-rprbnZ2dnUVZ_rqhnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4900

"Paul Huff" <paul.huff@gmail.com> wrote in message
news:m23b3ssvh0.fsf@kanga.phuff.dsl.xmission.com...
> Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> writes:
>
>> Whatever else you do, renew your ticket. It's easy and free. When
>> you're 90 days away from expiration, visit the FCC web site and
>> request a renewal. Don't put it off thinking that you're going to
>> upgrade and then end up with no license at all.
>
> This is definitely on the agenda, regardless of what happens. Only a
> couple of more months and I'll be in the 90 day window :) Here's a
> quick novice question for you: if I renew and have moved, will they
> change my call or do I get to keep it?
>

You keep your call sign unless you specifically request a change. Keep in mind that if you request a new sequential call sign that Techs and Generals will receive 2x3 calls as there are no longer any 1x3s available for sequential assignment.

By the way, if you don't have an FRN, you need to get one and have it associated with your call. See the Universal Licensing System web page (it's part of the FCC site) on getting one. You should take care of that now. Then you can get a password and renew online. Otherwise you'll have to file paperwork to renew.

Dee, N8UZE

496. Re: Rediscovering the hobby.

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-26 04:05:59 UTC
From: Paul Huff <paul.huff@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <m2d52wr8gr.fsf@kanga.phuff.dsl.xmission.com>
Source record: 4901

"Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> writes:

> You keep your call sign unless you specifically request a change. Keep in
> mind that if you request a new sequential call sign that Techs and Generals
> will receive 2x3 calls as there are no longer any 1x3s available for
> sequential assignment.
>
> By the way, if you don't have an FRN, you need to get one and have it
> associated with your call. See the Universal Licensing System web page
> (it's part of the FCC site) on getting one. You should take care of that
> now. Then you can get a password and renew online. Otherwise you'll have

Great! Thanks for the tip. I just signed up for my FRN, and archived
the info, so a month from now when I can renew. Done and done!

-Paul

497. Re: Rediscovering the hobby.

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-26 12:50:53 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <130ffpn3agb2e65@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 4902

"Dee Flint" wrote:

I recently renewed via the W5YI website. I paid them a modest fee for the service ($8.00). It was painless and easy, and they took care of EVERYthing.

http://www.w5yi.org/page.php?id=87

Howard N7SO

498. Oops!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-26 13:25:25 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <130fha3e43v2g2f@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 4903

Sorry - Dee didn't write that -- *I* did! ;-)

> "Dee Flint" wrote:
>
> I recently renewed via the W5YI website. I paid them a modest fee for the
> service ($8.00). It was painless and easy, and they took care of
> EVERYthing.
>
> http://www.w5yi.org/page.php?id=87
>
> Howard N7SO
>

499. Re: Rediscovering the hobby.

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-26 14:30:57 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <130fm8cilc90pad@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 4904

Paul Huff wrote:
> "Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> writes:

>> By the way, if you don't have an FRN, you need to get one and have it
>> associated with your call. See the Universal Licensing System web page
>> (it's part of the FCC site) on getting one. You should take care of that
>> now. Then you can get a password and renew online.
>
> Great! Thanks for the tip. I just signed up for my FRN, and archived
> the info, so a month from now when I can renew. Done and done!

I would like to encourage people who read this and think, "Oh, that must be complicated" to actually go to the FCC web site, as Dee suggested and Paul did, and register. It's a very simple procedure. This is one of those excruciatingly rare occasions when you really do get something for nothing. (Oh, wait. Taxes. Right. I *am* paying for that FCC web site, after all.)

73, Steve KB9X

500. Re: Rediscovering the hobby.

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-26 15:57:25 UTC
From: Paul Huff <paul.huff@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <m23b3sqbgk.fsf@kanga.phuff.dsl.xmission.com>
Source record: 4905

Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> writes:

> Paul Huff wrote:
>> "Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> writes:
>
>>> By the way, if you don't have an FRN, you need to get one and have
>>> it associated with your call. See the Universal Licensing System
>>> web page (it's part of the FCC site) on getting one. You should
>>> take care of that now. Then you can get a password and renew
>>> online.
>>
>> Great! Thanks for the tip. I just signed up for my FRN, and archived
>> the info, so a month from now when I can renew. Done and done!
>
> I would like to encourage people who read this and think, "Oh, that
> must be complicated" to actually go to the FCC web site, as Dee
> suggested and Paul did, and register. It's a very simple procedure.
> This is one of those excruciatingly rare occasions when you really do
> get something for nothing. (Oh, wait. Taxes. Right. I *am* paying
> for that FCC web site, after all.)
>
> 73, Steve KB9X

Yeah, I can second that. It took me about 30-45 seconds after I found
the link off the arrl.org home page. Just for the permanent record,
here's the address you go to:

http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home

And just follow the instructions there. It took me about 5 minutes
start to finish.

-Paul, KC8IGJ

501. Re: Rediscovering the hobby.

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-26 19:49:34 UTC
From: xpyttl <xpyttl_NOSPAM@earthling.net>
Message-ID: <a0VNh.200$JR7.16@newsfe03.lga>
Source record: 4906

"Paul Huff" <paul.huff@gmail.com> wrote in message
news:m2lkhkrb59.fsf@kanga.phuff.dsl.xmission.com...
> "xpyttl" <xpyttl_NOSPAM@earthling.net> writes:

> Yeah, a couple of months back I was looking into buying an HF rig to
> see if I could have some fun with that, and most of the rigs in my
> price range looked like they were QRP oriented. Though I _do_ have a
> great assortment of computer parts lying around, I'm not sure many of
> them would be useful in building my own rig :)

According to my map, it's just over 3 hours from your QTH to FDIM. Go to http://www.qrparci.org and sign up for the Thursday events. There will be a paper on micros in homebrewing. There will also be a bunch of great papers. The FDIM activities on Thursday are so good you are kind of disappointed when Friday comes around and it's time for Hamvention! If you can't afford to do the whole, four-day gig, don't miss Thursday.

You are pretty close to the two best hamfests around, Dayton in May and Findlay in September. Dayton is kind of a zoo, but there is noplace with so much stuff, and so much opportunity to see stuff. Findlay is far smaller, and far more laid back. It is almost the anti-Dayton. Perhaps for that reason, it is the most enjoyable hamfest. But nothing beats the day before Dayton!

Dee mentioned that you should go ahead and get your FRN. This isn't too hard and you can do it right away. Once you have it, you won't believe how easy it is to renew.

..

502. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-26 22:55:51 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1174948969.555637.49910@d57g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4907

On Mar 25, 7:03 pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
> "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote innews:5-udndSQu6-M5pvbnZ2dnUVZ_tGvnZ2d@comcast.com:

> > "Steve Bonine" <s...@pobox.com> wrote in message
> >news:130crp3cmg0ee1a@news.supernews.com..
>
> >> And all the logic in the world won't help if the local building
> >> official insists on using the worst-case scenario or local laws
> >> demand it. Frankly, if I was the local building official, I would use
> >> the worst-case scenario. The primary responsibility of a building
> >> inspector is public safety, and invoking the worst-case scenario
> >> seems appropriate in this case.

> > No it isn't appropriate. There are telephone poles near my house that
> > if they were to fall will destroy my house. My neighbors TREES could
> > do the same. Yet most people do not see these as significant hazards.
> > They are used to seeing them so do not think of them as hazards.

It's not just familiarity, though. Buildings and utilitity poles
are usually subject to detailed codes regarding their
installation and maintenance. Those codes are based on
extensive experience about what works and what doesn't.

A radio tower is more of a custom installation and requires
special attention.

I agree that using the worst-case fall-circle rule for a
properly-installed radio tower is usually more restrictive
than is needed.

There are situations where the worst-case scenario
applies, IMHO: Field Day and similar temporary installations.
In those cases, where a tower, mast, pole or antenna may fall should
always be considered. Putting a Field Day station
at the base of a temporary tower may look idyllic but is not
a safe practice.

> Of course. People are used to things like Power poles and even think
> nothing of hurtling at each other in automobiles carrying liquids that
> are almost explosively flammable. In no way does that make either
> actually "safe".

There's safety and then there's the *perception* of safety.
Driving/riding in autos is one of the most dangerous things
most people do routinely, based on the death and injury
rates.

> They are not quite so used to radio towers however. People have a
> fear of the unknown, especially in thies days of safe rooms in houses,
> and burglar alarms in gated communities.
>
There's also the Gladys Kravitz effect.

> And in these days of safety taken to stupid extremes, and housing
> developments that won't allow you to have a clothesline in your back
> yard, I'm not about to go complaining about that one little restriction
> on a potential tower.
>
IMHO, that's how restrictions get a foothold.

First it's some little rule that doesn't really seem to make much
difference, even though it's grounded more in
fear than in good engineering.

For example, as Dee points out, the utility poles could fall over and
cause extensive damage, but they're not restricted the way towers are.

Then there's a little expansion of the rule. Maybe it's the fall
circle plus ten percent. Or twenty five percent.

A little here, a little there, and pretty soon you need a property a
couple of hundred feet in every direction to put up a fifty foot
tower.

This may sound absurd, but I'm old enough to remember a
time when, if someone suggested a no-antennas restriction
on houses, they'd have been laughed at because practically
everyone wanted to watch TV, and to do that required a
decent outdoor antenna. Then cable came along and now
they're SOP.

---

btw, even the professionals mess up at times:

http://www.damninteresting.com/?p=500#more-500

http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/buildingbig/wonder/structure/citicorp.html

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Citigroup_Center

73 de Jim, N2EY

503. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-27 02:14:39 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns98FFDE2616FD9mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 4908

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote in
news:1174948969.555637.49910@d57g2000hsg.googlegroups.com:

> On Mar 25, 7:03 pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
> I agree that using the worst-case fall-circle rule for a
> properly-installed radio tower is usually more restrictive
> than is needed.
>
> There are situations where the worst-case scenario
> applies, IMHO: Field Day and similar temporary installations.
> In those cases, where a tower, mast, pole or antenna may fall should
> always be considered. Putting a Field Day station
> at the base of a temporary tower may look idyllic but is not
> a safe practice.

Very true.

>> Of course. People are used to things like Power poles and even think
>> nothing of hurtling at each other in automobiles carrying liquids
>> that are almost explosively flammable. In no way does that make
>> either actually "safe".
>
> There's safety and then there's the *perception* of safety.
> Driving/riding in autos is one of the most dangerous things
> most people do routinely, based on the death and injury
> rates.

Surely. I can't explain the contradictions, but I suppose that those who
practice those contradictions don't give it a second thought. Another one
along the same lines is that people fear for their health from a 60 Hz HV
line several hundred feet from their house, but doin't have a problem
with sticking their head in the near field of a cell phone and talking
for hours a day like that.

>> They are not quite so used to radio towers however. People have a
>> fear of the unknown, especially in thies days of safe rooms in
>> houses, and burglar alarms in gated communities.
>>
> There's also the Gladys Kravitz effect.

Hehe, very true.

>> And in these days of safety taken to stupid extremes, and housing
>> developments that won't allow you to have a clothesline in your back
>> yard, I'm not about to go complaining about that one little
>> restriction on a potential tower.

>>
> IMHO, that's how restrictions get a foothold.
>
> First it's some little rule that doesn't really seem to make much
> difference, even though it's grounded more in
> fear than in good engineering.
>
> For example, as Dee points out, the utility poles could fall over and
> cause extensive damage, but they're not restricted the way towers are.

They not only can, but they do! We see that one all the time.

> Then there's a little expansion of the rule. Maybe it's the fall
> circle plus ten percent. Or twenty five percent.
>
> A little here, a little there, and pretty soon you need a property a
> couple of hundred feet in every direction to put up a fifty foot
> tower.

That's a mighty slippery slope there Jim! 8^)

If I go into a zoning meeting trying to get a waiver to the "restriction" in my neighborhood so that I could put up a tower larger than allowed, I wouldn't get too far with terms such as "very unlikely" and typical failure mode" They are going to "worst case" me in a big way. And I'm not so sure that if I was a zoning officer that I wouldn't do the same. The question I would ask: Is it physically impossible for the tower would fall straight over at the base? If you can get expert evidence that it is impossible, I might consider it, if not, I will advise you to be glad that you are living in a modern village development that allows towers, but you will have to be satisfied with a tower within the prescribed limits.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

504. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-27 02:43:55 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1174963273.015619.127350@b75g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4909

On Mar 26, 9:14 pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote innews:1174948969.555637.49910@d57g2000hsg.googlegroups.com:
>
> > On Mar 25, 7:03?pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
> > > I agree that using the worst-case fall-circle rule for a
> > > properly-installed radio tower is usually more restrictive
> > > than is needed.
>
> > There are situations where the worst-case scenario
> > applies, IMHO: Field Day and similar temporary installations.
> > In those cases, where a tower, mast, pole or antenna may fall should
> > always be considered. Putting a Field Day station
> > at the base of a temporary tower may look idyllic but is not
> > a safe practice.
>
> Very true.

All too common, as well.

> >> Of course. People are used to things like Power poles and even think
> >> nothing of hurtling at each other in automobiles carrying liquids
> >> that are almost explosively flammable. In no way does that make
> >> either actually "safe".
>
> > There's safety and then there's the *perception* of safety.
> > Driving/riding in autos is one of the most dangerous things
> > most people do routinely, based on the death and injury
> > rates.
>
> Surely. I can't explain the contradictions, but I suppose that those who
> practice those contradictions don't give it a second thought.

People tend to be more afraid of the unknown. Cars are known.

> Another one
> along the same lines is that people fear for their health from a 60 Hz HV
> line several hundred feet from their house, but doin't have a problem
> with sticking their head in the near field of a cell phone and talking
> for hours a day like that.

I think a better example is to compare apples to apples:

Some people fear the effects of power-line fields, but not the
fields from their house wiring and appliances - even though the
latter may be much stronger because they're so much closer.

Some people fear the effects of being near cellphone towers,
yet not the effects of using a cellphone whose fields are
stronger because they're closer. Opposition to cell towers has
caused the cellphone folks to install lots of small cells rather
than a few big ones, and to use disguise antennas - including
some that look like trees.

Both are cases of ignorance of such basics as the inverse
square law.

This is not to say that RF and power-line fields have no health
effects at all, just that the real risk factors are often
misunderstood.

> >> ⊠They are not quite so used to radio towers however. People have a
> >> fear of the unknown, especially in thies days of safe rooms in
> >> houses, and burglar alarms in gated communities.
>
> > There's also the Gladys Kravitz effect.
>
> Hehe, very true.

ABNER!
>
> >> ⊠And in these days of safety taken to stupid extremes, and housing
> >> developments that won't allow you to have a clothesline in your back
> >> yard, I'm not about to go complaining about that one little
> >> restriction on a potential tower.
>
> > IMHO, that's how restrictions get a foothold.
>
> > First it's some little rule that doesn't really seem to make much
> > difference, even though it's grounded more in
> > fear than in good engineering.
>
> > For example, as Dee points out, the utility poles could fall over and
> > cause extensive damage, but they're not restricted the way towers are.
>
> ⊠ ⊠ ⊠ ⊠ They not only can, but they do! We see that one all the time.

SO it's familiar....

> > Then there's a little expansion of the rule. Maybe it's the fall
> > circle plus ten percent. Or twenty five percent.
>
> > A little here, a little there, and pretty soon you need a property a
> > couple of hundred feet in every direction to put up a fifty foot
> > tower.
>
> ⊠ ⊠ ⊠ ⊠ That's a mighty slippery slope there Jim! 8^)

If it happens, it must be possible.

> &#65533; &#65533; &#65533; &#65533; If I go into a zoning meeting trying to get a waiver to the
> "restriction" in my neighborhood so that I could put up a tower larger
> than allowed, I wouldn't get too far with terms such as "very unlikely"
> and typical failure mode" They are going to "worst case" me in a big way.

Tell it to Citicorp.

> And I'm not so sure that if I was a zoning officer that I wouldn't do the
> same. The question I would ask: Is it physically impossible for the tower
> would fall straight over at the base?

Solution: Windmill tower.

> If you can get expert evidence that
> it is impossible, I might consider it, if not, I will advise you to be
> glad that you are living in a modern village development that allows
> towers, but you will have to be satisfied with a tower within the
> prescribed limits.
>
What if you had a contractor set a utility pole for use as a tower?

73 de Jim, N2EY

505. Re: Being paid while you operate

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-27 07:59:04 UTC
From: Russ <kw5kw@swbell.net>
Message-ID: <K50Oh.237$5e2.56@newssvr11.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 4910

"Phil Kane" <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote in message
news:jkrb035k2gsr31jjo5iq0nolg41s24da8b@4ax.com...
> On Fri, 23 Mar 2007 10:58:42 EDT, "who_me?" <kw5kw@swbell.net> wrote:
>
>>It was an illustration---an analogy, not meant to be Gospel!
>>Not everything should be taken in a 100% wooden, literal sense!
>
> It is well known that I am a communications attorney whose practice
> involves dealing with the FCC and other regulatory agencies on
> compliance matters. One takes things in a 100% wooden sense or one
> does not succeed in that business.

I could discuss this for a while here and there, but a cement truck driver
could talk on 2m while driving his truck BUT said driver could not use his
radio to talk to the dispatcher about where to deliver his load.

Like I said it's an analogy--an illustration.

I'm glad you're on our side, can you help with self-defense if I accidently
print and loose my other license here in TX?

Russ - KW5KW

>
> And as I tell my clients - and a lot of them are hams - if you try to
> get away with something and get caught, how will you explain it? The
> :dude" defense - some other dude did it - doesn't go in regulatory
> matters. I prefer to keep my clients from getting into trouble by
> giving them the straight scoop, so to speak.
>
> As far as railroading goes, it is well known that that's my avocation
> and I know the operating rules almost as well as I know the FCC rules.
> If you think that the FCC rules are complex, you ought to see the
> Federal Railroad Administration rules!
> --
>
CHL laws are complex as well!
Russ

> 73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
> ARRL Volunteer Counsel
>
> email: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net
>

506. Re: Rediscovering the hobby.

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-27 18:03:38 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <eubjc8psi1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4911

xpyttl wrote:
>
> According to my map, it's just over 3 hours from your QTH to FDIM. Go to
> http://www.qrparci.org and sign up for the Thursday events. There will be a
> paper on micros in homebrewing. There will also be a bunch of great papers.
> The FDIM activities on Thursday are so good you are kind of disappointed
> when Friday comes around and it's time for Hamvention! If you can't afford
> to do the whole, four-day gig, don't miss Thursday.
>
> You are pretty close to the two best hamfests around, Dayton in May and
> Findlay in September. Dayton is kind of a zoo, but there is noplace with so
> much stuff, and so much opportunity to see stuff. Findlay is far smaller,
> and far more laid back. It is almost the anti-Dayton. Perhaps for that
> reason, it is the most enjoyable hamfest. But nothing beats the day before
> Dayton!

Getting on the air on a budget:

Go to a hamfest and pick up one of the older radios. There are some
deals to be had with old hybrid radios. Kenwood made some really nice
ones. There are some old Yaesu hybrids out there also. Of course, if you
get lucky, there are some deals on more modern ones also. I picked up an
Icom IC-745 for 250 dollars at a hamfest.

Next get a tuner. MFJ makes some decent HF tuners, and used are pretty
inexpensive.

Get some ladder line, enough to make it from the shack to wherever your
antenna is going to be.

Put up as much wire as you can. Feed it, and tune it.

My original setup cost me less than 350 dollars to get on the air, and
I had 80-10 meter operation (160 too if I didn't mind poor performance.

Note: If you want to go REALLY cheap, I picked up a couple of the old
single sidebander Heathkits at Dayton last year, mainly to learn about
tube radios. 20 Bucks apiece, and they worked. One band only per radio -
I got 40 and 80 meters.

Dayton is indeed a zoo, but it's a fun zoo.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

507. Re: Upgrade to Extra using 2001 License Manual?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-27 23:14:20 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1175034691.436732.104220@n76g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4912

On Mar 18, 1:24 pm, Rick <Nos...@reply.in.gp> wrote:
> Is the 2001 ARRL Extra Class License Manual still sufficient for taking
> and passing the current (2007) Element 4 written, or should I spend the
> money for a newer license manual?

There have been no changes in radio theory, and very minor rule
changes which affect Extra, so if you understand the material, any
study guide going back to 1990 or so should work just fine,
supplemented by a quick review of Part 97.

73, de Hans, K0HB

508. Re: Being paid while you operate

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-28 00:46:44 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <9gej03h46lv9lj60nbv4m9cstueoaaak45@4ax.com>
Source record: 4913

On Tue, 27 Mar 2007 03:59:04 EDT, "Russ" <kw5kw@swbell.net> wrote:

>I'm glad you're on our side, can you help with self-defense if I accidently
>print and loose my other license here in TX?

Don't know what you mean by "print and loose my other license here in
TX". Does it relate to ham radio?
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

509. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-28 01:25:04 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <7tej03d3bu9hb9rnv7nflbiicugie1nbu4@4ax.com>
Source record: 4914

On Sun, 25 Mar 2007 00:28:07 EDT, Mike Coslo
<mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:

> The most likely failure scenarios are very true, but there is a
>credibility issue in these matters. We can speak of failure modes until we
>are blue in the face, but a simple worst case fall radius is easy for non-
>engineering types to understand.

Yeah but... The building official is SUPPOSED to be an engineering
type!
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

510. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-28 01:25:16 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <u0fj03hr31hb4h67amarc48gs8h057lde9@4ax.com>
Source record: 4915

On Sun, 25 Mar 2007 00:28:27 EDT, "Bryan"
<bryan.swadenerNOSPAM@comcast.net> wrote:

>My lot is 100' on the short side. Using that statistic, assuming I placed a
>tower in the center of my lot, I should be able to get a permit to erect a
>333' (50' / 0.15) tower. Somehow, I don't think I have a snowball's chance
>in Hades of getting a permit for it. Oh well... it was a nice dream! hi

Consider that if it's a guyed tower the top guy wires would have to
extend out a good deal more than 50 feet from the base.

Knowing what it costs to buy and erect and maintain a 333 ft tower --
common for some broadcast stations - do you have a snowball's chance
in Hades to afford it? If so, can I be one of your buddies? <g>

--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

511. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-28 01:25:25 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <2hfj0359b0hap31tn62tsher0s782k3if2@4ax.com>
Source record: 4916

On Sun, 25 Mar 2007 12:42:17 EDT, "KH6HZ" <kh6hzA@Tarrl.net> wrote:

>How about designing a series of towers that look externally like
>tree-trunks? Or, developing camoflauge that hams wrap on the outside of
>their towers which disguise them (the towers, not the hams) as big oak
>trees?
>
>Then, likewise, we can design a series of multi-element beam antennas which
>look like tree branches, complete with fake leaves!

Having dealt with the (in)efficiency of such cell-site "stealth"
antennas, I wouldn't touch them for ham radio purposes with a ten foot
pole!
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

512. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-28 01:25:33 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <s3gj039qg5rprvcjhhktbqp5g9ar2cd7p3@4ax.com>
Source record: 4917

On Mon, 26 Mar 2007 22:43:55 EDT, N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:

>People tend to be more afraid of the unknown. Cars are known.

If I put up a 70 foot tower (the maximum level below which local
authorities cannot regulate in Oregon) it and I will certainly become
known to my neighbors!!
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

513. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-28 03:03:06 UTC
From: Bryan <bryan.swadenerNOSPAM@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <asKdnZcLMZqsSpTbnZ2dnUVZ_smonZ2d@giganews.com>
Source record: 4918

```
Phil Kane wrote:
> Bryan wrote:
>
> >My lot is 100' on the short side. Using that statistic, assuming I
placed a
> >tower in the center of my lot, I should be able to get a permit to erect
a
> >333' (50' / 0.15) tower. Somehow, I don't think I have a snowball's
chance
> >in Hades of getting a permit for it. Oh well... it was a nice dream! hi
>
> Consider that if it's a guyed tower the top guy wires would have to
> extend out a good deal more than 50 feet from the base.
>
> Knowing what it costs to buy and erect and maintain a 333 ft tower --
> common for some broadcast stations - do you have a snowball's chance
> in Hades to afford it? If so, can I be one of your buddies? <g>
>
> --
>
> 73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
>
> >From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
> Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon
>
> e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net
```

Touch... one wisecrack deserves another! ;^)
73,
Bryan WA7PRC

514. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-28 15:56:43 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <eudmkh$t8u$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4919

Phil Kane wrote:
> On Sun, 25 Mar 2007 00:28:07 EDT, Mike Coslo
> <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
>
>> The most likely failure scenarios are very true, but there is a
>> credibility issue in these matters. We can speak of failure modes until we
>> are blue in the face, but a simple worst case fall radius is easy for non-
>> engineering types to understand.
>
> Yeah but... The building official is SUPPOSED to be an engineering
> type!

Supposed to be are the keywords I think, Phil. We always hope the officials have their jobs through competence. I think it's also important to get along with the neighbors, so I would want to convince them of likely safety too. In our case, our one set of neighbors would probably understand, but the others might be a hard sell. All very nice folks, but the one couple has a technical background.

We live in an age where a lot of people get their physics education from Bugs Bunny and Road Runner cartoons. It takes a lot to educate them in how things actually work - especially when their misconceptions are so much more entertaining! ;^)

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

515. Re: Upgrade to Extra using 2001 License Manual?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-28 15:56:54 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <eudnis$ul8$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4920

groupk0hb@earthlink.net wrote:
> On Mar 18, 1:24 pm, Rick <Nos...@reply.in.gp> wrote:
>> Is the 2001 ARRL Extra Class License Manual still sufficient for taking
>> and passing the current (2007) Element 4 written, or should I spend the
>> money for a newer license manual?
>
> There have been no changes in radio theory, and very minor rule
> changes which affect Extra, so if you understand the material, any
> study guide going back to 1990 or so should work just fine,
> supplemented by a quick review of Part 97.

I believe that the questions that might have been different between
than and now aren't being used at the moment to avoid confusion (band
edges come to mind). With the changes over the last six years, the old
book won't be accurate.

Otherwise, there is a lot of similarity in the question pools.

You could also download the pool online and give it a look.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

516. Re: Rediscovering the hobby.

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-28 16:16:20 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <130l55s40cs66f0@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 4921

Michael Coslo wrote:

> Getting on the air on a budget:
>
> Go to a hamfest and pick up one of the older radios. There are some
> deals to be had with old hybrid radios. Kenwood made some really nice
> ones. There are some old Yaesu hybrids out there also. Of course, if you
> get lucky, there are some deals on more modern ones also. I picked up an
> Icom IC-745 for 250 dollars at a hamfest.

Your advice got me to thinking. What are the advantages and disadvantages of buying ham gear at a hamfest, versus buying it on eBay or via the various classified ads?

There's no doubt that going to a hamfest is fun. It's a place to meet people, see equipment (both old and new), and generally have a rich social and learning experience. There's likely to be some interesting gear for sale, especially at the larger events. You can see what you're buying, and you don't have to worry about shipping (or the seller just taking your money and not sending the gear).

But buying via eBay or classified ad has its advantages, too. You can research the features of the rig, using things like the eHam reviews, to be sure that it really meets your needs. If you're willing to wait, there's a more complete selection of equipment, so if you're in the market for something specific you're more likely to find it. You can check recent sales to build an idea of a "fair price".

I'm a bit hesitant to suggest to a new ham that they go to a hamfest and buy equipment. I'm afraid that the equipment-buying experience at a hamfest is too intimidating to a new ham. It requires more knowledge of what's what, and how to size up what's a good deal, than most new hams possess. Now if they have a buddy to help them, that's different.

Which gets us back to the point that several have made in this thread -- the importance of making contact with the local ham community.

73, Steve KB9X

517. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-28 17:15:40 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <56vhueF2bhhilU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4922

"Phil Kane" <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote in message
news:s3gj039qg5rprvcjhhktbqp5g9ar2cd7p3@4ax.com
> On Mon, 26 Mar 2007 22:43:55 EDT, N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
>
> > People tend to be more afraid of the unknown. Cars are
> > known.
>
> If I put up a 70 foot tower (the maximum level below
> which local authorities cannot regulate in Oregon) it and
> I will certainly become known to my neighbors!!

70ft and they can't regulate..?! Wow, things are certainly different your side of the water..! Here in the UK it varies depending on where in the country you are, but where I live we need planning permission from the local authority for anything that raises its head above roof level..! Although there is retrospective permission for anything that has been in place for some time (I believe 5 years but I'm not certain) without complaints. Certainly I've never had any issues about my small VHF/UHF colinear at around 25ft..!

73 Ivor G6URP

518. Re: Upgrade to Extra using 2001 License Manual?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-28 17:16:41 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1175100474.756819.94140@d57g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4923

On Mar 28, 9:56 am, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:

>
> I believe that the questions that might have been different between
> than and now ....
>

If you understand the material, the specifics of the question pool are
immaterial.

73, de Hans, K0HB

519. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-28 17:17:43 UTC
From: Joe Malloy <jmalloy_@hamilton.edu>
Message-ID: <gLednQ8sgOPKAJfbnZ2dnUVZ_sSmnZ2d@hamilton.edu>
Source record: 4924

Phil Kane wrote:
> On Sun, 25 Mar 2007 12:42:17 EDT, "KH6HZ" <kh6hzA@Tarrl.net> wrote:
>
>> How about designing a series of towers that look externally like
>> tree-trunks? Or, developing camoflauge that hams wrap on the outside of
>> their towers which disguise them (the towers, not the hams) as big oak
>> trees?
>>
>> Then, likewise, we can design a series of multi-element beam antennas which
>> look like tree branches, complete with fake leaves!
>
> Having dealt with the (in)efficiency of such cell-site "stealth"
> antennas, I wouldn't touch them for ham radio purposes with a ten foot
> pole!

There's a cellular tower in Bainbridge, NY, I think, visible from along I88 which was objected to until some wise guy (who it was or on which side of the equation was, I don't know) suggested constructing the tower so that it looked like a fir tree. Ok, you say, that's a reasonable compromise -- except they constructed it as a *huge* "pine tree" -- overtowering (if you'll pardon the pun) every other pine tree for a hundred miles around. I don't think they're likely to do that again!

Joe, W2RBA

520. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-28 18:35:12 UTC
From: Bruce in Alaska <bruceg@btpost.net>
Message-ID: <bruceg-453247.10145428032007@netnews.worldnet.att.net>
Source record: 4925

In article <7tej03d3bu9hb9rnv7nflbiicugie1nbu4@4ax.com>,
Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:

>
> Yeah but... The building official is SUPPOSED to be an engineering
> type!
> --
>
> 73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

I'll give you an example of how it works in the REAL World.....

We, (Local Residents) wanted to have the Borough (County) build a
small bridge across a 30 ft wide creek, so that we could connect
two seperate Road Systems, locally. There was a bridge in this
location, built by the Army Corps of Engineers in WWII, that had
decayed, and collapsed 30 years ago, but the abuttments were still
in good shape. The Required Permits to install the new Bridge
were all in place, EXCEPT for the Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game's
Habitat Division, which needed to pass on the permit, because
the creek was a Salmon Spawning System. Now you have to undestand
that this is a nothing project, ($60KUS) on a nothing creek,
(There are literally thousands of similar Creeks in our neighborhood -
Neighborhood = 100 Square Miles) in the middle of NoWhere, Alaska.
Habitat Division was staffed by "Greenie" Fish Biologists with absolutly
NO Knowledge of Civil Engineer, and little pracatical experience outside
the Degreed University Program they came from. It took us Three (3)
Years of "Blood, Sweat, and Tears" to get the last signoff, and it
finally took the President of the Alaska Senate, to hold up the Budget
for ADF&G in Committee, untill they were within 24 Hours of having to
send everyone home, because they couldn't Pay them. The first Official
Act of the, then New Governer, Frank Merkowski, 15 minutes after he was
sworn in, was to eliminate the ADF&G Habitat Division, fire ALL the
Biologists, and transfer the Permitting to the Depatment of Natural
Resources. Two weeks later there was an Ad in the Help Wanted of all the
Alaskan Papers looking for Civil Engineers with PE Stamps, and Fish
Habitat Experience, to work for Alaska's DNR. They hired three, in
short order, and the backlog of 8 years of Permit Applications (500+)
were dealt with in then next 9 months. During the previous 8 Years only
12 permits were issued.

Bruce in alaska
--
add a <2> before @

521. Re: Upgrade to Extra using 2001 License Manual?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-28 19:43:30 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <euecln$s0c$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4926

groupk0hb@earthlink.net wrote:
> On Mar 28, 9:56 am, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>
>> I believe that the questions that might have been different between
>> than and now ....
>>
>
> If you understand the material, the specifics of the question pool are
> immaterial.

You'll probably pass, but you would get some of the band and privilege edges questions wrong if you read the old pool questions and took the new test. Even from the new pools. That's why they took them out temporarily.

A long time ago, when taking a test for my first technician job, there was a question that read:

Q. What is the melting temperature of solder?

There were 4 different answers, all within the range of the various solders Ag/Pb percentages that I was used to. 60/40, 50/50, etc.

Coming from a school where the teachers would throw in a trick question every so often, I circled all 4 answers, and put in a note that all were acceptable melting points, depending on the alloy.

The head Technician called me in with the test results. I aced it except for one question. He explained that 370 F was the correct answer. I explained that that was true for 60/40 solder, but not for other combinations.

He pulled out the test grading sheet, and said "According to this, you're wrong."

Wanting the job, I said "Well, I guess I am wrong!"

Da boss is always right....

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

522. Re: Rediscovering the hobby.

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-28 19:44:22 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <euef7f$oi0$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4927

Steve Bonine wrote:
> Michael Coslo wrote:
>
>> Getting on the air on a budget:
>>
>> Go to a hamfest and pick up one of the older radios. There are
>> some deals to be had with old hybrid radios. Kenwood made some really
>> nice ones. There are some old Yaesu hybrids out there also. Of course,
>> if you get lucky, there are some deals on more modern ones also. I
>> picked up an Icom IC-745 for 250 dollars at a hamfest.
>
> Your advice got me to thinking. What are the advantages and
> disadvantages of buying ham gear at a hamfest, versus buying it on eBay
> or via the various classified ads?

I've had two experiences on Ebay. One buying, and one selling. Both were bad. When buying, the stuff wasn't as advertised, and under selling, the buyer never showed up. Leaving bad feedback isn't much in compensation.

> There's no doubt that going to a hamfest is fun. It's a place to meet
> people, see equipment (both old and new), and generally have a rich
> social and learning experience. There's likely to be some interesting
> gear for sale, especially at the larger events. You can see what you're
> buying, and you don't have to worry about shipping (or the seller just
> taking your money and not sending the gear).

I simply love going to Hamfests. The socializing is fun. Lots of bad food to eat too! Lots of interesting people to watch. If I had one complaint, it is that Hamfests are similar to flea markets in that they are starting earlier and earlier. Dayton is one exception, except for Sunday morning.

> But buying via eBay or classified ad has its advantages, too. You can
> research the features of the rig, using things like the eHam reviews, to
> be sure that it really meets your needs. If you're willing to wait,
> there's a more complete selection of equipment, so if you're in the
> market for something specific you're more likely to find it. You can
> check recent sales to build an idea of a "fair price".

My XYL has a rule that I like. "On presently manufactured radios, if it isn't 50 percent off new, buy new." On older stuff, if you can't see and touch it, let someone else have it. Nothing like that warranty for me.

Collectors will have a different outlook, of course.

Your point about Eham is excellent, Steve. In fact, I would suggest anyone who is interested in getting equipment should browse through their reviews. I've spent more than a few entire evenings at their site. I would note to the prospective buyers that they read the reviews in addition to looking at overall ratings. There are some Hams out there who never met a radio they didn't like! ;^) And a few who are really picky.

> I'm a bit hesitant to suggest to a new ham that they go to a hamfest and
> buy equipment. I'm afraid that the equipment-buying experience at a
> hamfest is too intimidating to a new ham. It requires more knowledge of
> what's what, and how to size up what's a good deal, than most new hams
> possess. Now if they have a buddy to help them, that's different.

Yup, It's always good to have an Elmer with you until you learn the ropes.

The Hamfest also has one experience that I really love - even if some don't - the discussion driving the sale. I just love that give and take with the person selling the equipment. Unfortunately, some sellers don't do this, but when I "lock horns" with a seller that knows how to deal, we both have a great time.

> Which gets us back to the point that several have made in this thread --
> the importance of making contact with the local ham community.

And how!

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

523. Dayton anyone?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-28 19:44:37 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <euefbc$oi0$2@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4928

Any posters heading out to Dayton this year?

I'll be going all three days, and maybe we can arrange an eyeball QSO.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

524. Re: Rediscovering the hobby.

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-28 19:44:47 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <euefg9$oi0$3@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4929

Steve Bonine wrote:

> Which gets us back to the point that several have made in this thread --
> the importance of making contact with the local ham community.

I forgot to mention this in my last post, but Paul, if you were heading
out to Dayton, we could arrange to meet and look at some of that old
equipment if you needed some buying guidance.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

525. Re: Upgrade to Extra using 2001 License Manual?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-28 19:44:58 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1175110232.601311.33900@r56g2000hsd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4930

On Mar 28, 9:16 am, groupk...@earthlink.net wrote:
> On Mar 28, 9:56 am, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>
>
> > I believe that the questions that might have been different between
> > than and now .....
>
> If you understand the material, the specifics of the question pool are
> immaterial.

Having taken all three written elements just a month ago, I have to disagree slightly. The amateur extra element (prepared by the ARRL VEC) had a number of "distracting" questions and correct answers that required some careful study, both before and during the test. I have nothing against that, having seen that thing in many different similar-format written tests before but the theory material by itself may not be enough.

I never saved any QPC pools in the past so I can't compare old versus new. While questions on radio theory were (few) straightforward, I had to review a number of detailed areas concerning space operations and data/packet modes and practices to feel fully confident before taking the tests.

Regulations have changed slightly since a decade ago (from my 1995 five-volume Title 47 set concerning Part 97) but those must, in my opinion, be memorized beforehand. In actual practice there are many versions of bandplans in the form of charts (I like Icom's nicely-colored ones) to use when operating. Actual numbers as used in the tests need memorization to pass them correctly.

73, Len AF6AY

526. Re: Upgrade to Extra using 2001 License Manual?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-28 20:58:24 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1175115209.673350.324660@n59g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4931

On Mar 28, 1:43 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> groupk...@earthlink.net wrote:
> > On Mar 28, 9:56 am, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>
> >> I believe that the questions that might have been different between
> >> than and now ....
>
> > If you understand the material, the specifics of the question pool are
> > immaterial.
>
> You'll probably pass, but you would get some of the band and privilege
> edges questions wrong if you read the old pool questions and took the
> new test.

Which is why I suggested a quick review of Part 97!

73, de Hans, K0HB

527. Re: Rediscovering the hobby.

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-28 21:59:52 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <130lmha3en65780@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 4932

Michael Coslo wrote:
> Steve Bonine wrote:

> I've had two experiences on Ebay. One buying, and one selling. Both were
> bad. When buying, the stuff wasn't as advertised, and under selling, the
> buyer never showed up. Leaving bad feedback isn't much in compensation.

I'm sorry to hear this. I've had perhaps a half dozen experiences with eBay, all buying, and not all fo this was ham gear. I've never been disappointed. I picked up an absolutely gorgeous Vibroplex bug, and the seller packed it such that it could have been delivered by catapult and would have arrived intact.

The moral of the story, I think, is that there are both good and bad experiences to be had any time you buy anything. I've had bad experiences related to buying new stuff, too. There's a lot you can do to reduce the probability of getting burned, but it can never be reduced to zero. The alternative is to never buy anything, and that's no fun either.

> I simply love going to Hamfests. The socializing is fun. Lots of bad
> food to eat too! Lots of interesting people to watch.

You mean the guys who have more radios hanging from various parts of their body than I even own? <grin>

The one thing that depresses me about attending hamfests is observing the aging ham population and the lack of diversity. I can't shake the thought that these events won't be around in another decade because so many of the attendees will be too old to be there.

> My XYL has a rule that I like. "On presently manufactured radios, if
> it isn't 50 percent off new, buy new."

I like that. I continue to be amazed at some of the items that sell on eBay for more money than it would cost to buy them new. Not ham gear so much, but with beekeeping equipment it is truly amazing. I've checked some completed sales and compared prices for known items with the price listed in the current catalog, leaving me just shaking my head.

> On older stuff, if you can't see
> and touch it, let someone else have it. Nothing like that warranty for me.

The warranty is certainly worth a lot, as is the simple fact that the gear is coming directly from the factory and you know it hasn't been abused. But sometimes with the older stuff, seeing doesn't really help that much since it's unlikely you'll actually be able to apply power and

do a smoke test. I'm never enthusiastic about buying a piece of gear at a hamfest (for other than parts) after hearing the seller utter those magic words, "Oh, it works great."

> Your point about Eham is excellent, Steve. In fact, I would suggest
> anyone who is interested in getting equipment should browse through
> their reviews. I've spent more than a few entire evenings at their site.
> I would note to the prospective buyers that they read the reviews in
> addition to looking at overall ratings. There are some Hams out there
> who never met a radio they didn't like! ;^) And a few who are really picky.

Oh, absolutely. The individual reviews are by far the most valuable, but you do have to read with a grain of salt. You have to judge whether the specific piece of equipment might have been a lemon, or perhaps the person who wrote the review was the lemon. And you're right; some people never met a radio that they didn't like. But nothing beats the real-world experience.

> The Hamfest also has one experience that I really love - even if
> some don't - the discussion driving the sale. I just love that give and
> take with the person selling the equipment. Unfortunately, some sellers
> don't do this, but when I "lock horns" with a seller that knows how to
> deal, we both have a great time.

Yep, I understand, having watched my wife enjoy that experience many times, especially in foreign countries. But it's not one that I enjoy. Different strokes for different folks.

One of the options I didn't think about until after I submitted the original article is buying used gear at a commercial ham radio store. If I did that, I would insist on the right to bring back the specific piece of equipment for full credit on another purchase within some period of time, perhaps 90 days. I don't know if the stores do that these days, but it seems reasonable to me, and would provide an advantage to buying the gear through the store as opposed to directly from the owner.

73, Steve KB9X

528. Re: Upgrade to Extra using 2001 License Manual?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-28 22:53:07 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <XImdncvnjbWhe5fbnZ2dnUVZ_uygnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4933

"Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
news:eudnis$ul8$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...
> groupk0hb@earthlink.net wrote:
>> On Mar 18, 1:24 pm, Rick <Nos...@reply.in.gp> wrote:
>>> Is the 2001 ARRL Extra Class License Manual still sufficient for taking
>>> and passing the current (2007) Element 4 written, or should I spend the
>>> money for a newer license manual?
>>
>> There have been no changes in radio theory, and very minor rule
>> changes which affect Extra, so if you understand the material, any
>> study guide going back to 1990 or so should work just fine,
>> supplemented by a quick review of Part 97.
>

A book that old (pre-2000) would also need to be supplemented by the
companion Advanced study guide as the current exam (since 2000) combines
these two groups of material. Back when these were separate, the most
difficult theory questions were on the Advanced exam.

Dee, N8UZE
Dee, N8UZE

529. Re: Upgrade to Extra using 2001 License Manual?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-29 01:31:51 UTC
From: Larry <noone@home.com>
Message-ID: <Xns9901DAABAA5EDnoonehomecom@208.49.80.253>
Source record: 4934

Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in news:eudnis$ul8$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu:

> You could also download the pool online and give it a look.
>
>

QRZ has all the tests, given and graded for you to let you know how your
rote memorization effort to pass the test is coming along:

http://www.qrz.com/p/testing.pl

Larry
--
.

530. Re: Upgrade to Extra using 2001 License Manual?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-29 02:09:27 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns9901DBC3AC7F4mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 4935

Larry <noone@home.com> wrote in
news:Xns9901DAABAA5EDnoonehomecom@208.49.80.253:

> Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in
> news:eudnis$ul8$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu:
>
>> You could also download the pool online and give it a look.
>>
>>
>
> QRZ has all the tests, given and graded for you to let you know how
> your rote memorization effort to pass the test is coming along:
>
> http://www.qrz.com/p/testing.pl

Good link Larry.

Of course, if a person rote memorizes the tests, they might be in for
an umpleasant surprise when the take the real ones - certainly the Extra.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

531. Re: Upgrade to Extra using 2001 License Manual?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-29 06:35:55 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1175147129.391105.94160@l77g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4936

On Mar 28, 6:09 pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
> Larry <n...@home.com> wrote innews:Xns9901DAABAA5EDnoonehomecom@208.49.80.253:
>
> > Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote in
> >news:eudnis$ul8$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu:
>
> >> You could also download the pool online and give it a look.
>
> > QRZ has all the tests, given and graded for you to let you know how
> > your rote memorization effort to pass the test is coming along:
>
> >http://www.qrz.com/p/testing.pl
>
> Good link Larry.
>
> Of course, if a person rote memorizes the tests, they might be in for
> an umpleasant surprise when the take the real ones - certainly the Extra.

Another test practice site is

www.aa9pw.com/radio/java/index.html

By the way, I found no surprises on test element 4 in regard to
memorizing the regulations, especially the bandplans. :-)

73, Len AF6AY

532. Re: RFI from Switched power supply

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-29 06:36:16 UTC
From: "Chuck..." <res1arzb@verizon.net>
Message-ID: <Xns9901EB2C35E15chuckpattenverizonne@130.81.64.196>
Source record: 4937

"Ed Hare, W1RFI" <w1rfi@arrl.org> wrote in news:1173461308.258188.233550
@t69g2000cwt.googlegroups.com:

> Oh, one other point I wanted to make.
>
> Typically, from the house next door, a device that complies with Part
> 15 will be about S7 on HF. If hams know of devices that are
> significantly louder than that, I would like to test them. If you
> can, provide me with a model number and source and/or the unit itself,
> which I can return to you.
>
> Ed Hare, W1RFI@arrl.org
> 225 Main St
> Newington, CT 06111
> Tel: 860-594-0318
>
>
>
>

One of the loudest sources of RFI I ever had was a UPS that almost
oblitereated the AM radio band making it near impossible to tune an old 5-
tube 'all american' style GE receiver. When I localized the source it
quickly became misc. parts never to bother me again. Sorry I can't send it
to you to play with.

cheers,
chuck...

533. Re: Rediscovering the hobby.

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-29 17:40:37 UTC
From: russ <kw5kw@swbell.net>
Message-ID: <460BF8D3.10905@swbell.net>
Source record: 4938

Michael Coslo wrote:

>
> I've had two experiences on Ebay. One buying, and one selling. Both were
> bad. When buying, the stuff wasn't as advertised, and under selling, the
> buyer never showed up. Leaving bad feedback isn't much in compensation.

I've also had a couple of experiences on E-bay, I sold a refrigerator,
was a good experience, and I tried my absolute best to cancel a bid once
with no luck--a very bad experience.

<snip>
>
> My XYL has a rule that I like. "On presently manufactured radios, if
> it isn't 50 percent off new, buy new." On older stuff, if you can't see
> and touch it, let someone else have it. Nothing like that warranty for me.

I grew up on a farm/ranch out side of "classic-smalltown", Texas.
Everything we got we ordered from either Sears or Montgomery Ward;
Shoes, shirts, basic household equipment as well as farm equipment was
all ordered mail-order.

At times we got what we wanted, other times we didn't--even from big
name stores such as Sears or Wards. Then we'd have to box the items
back up and send them back for credit... wait for the credit paperwork
(refund check) to arrive and then re-place the order. This could take
weeks and you're walking around in shoes with holes in them--for instance.

That's when I decided that I wanted to try-on what I buy--be it clothes,
or any sort of equipment. I want to turn it on, twist the knobs and
take it for some sort of test drive.

I try to always buy new, although I've only had one new HF radio since
I've been a ham. I've had new handy's for VHF/UHF and new VHF/UHF
mobiles but only one new HF, the rest have been used, and I'd been much
better off getting new then.

For years I would not even consider getting on HF because each and every
time I went to get on HF my 'used' radio would not work, I'd have to fix it.

I had not been on HF since 2001 and in 2006 I decided to try HF again,
and true to form, I turned on my HF rig and one of the large caps in the
PA decided to explode... and I mean explode.

I turned around and bought a new HF rig the very next day. I made more
contacts in the next week than I'd made in the previous eight years
total. Mainly because I didn't have to work on the radio to make it work.

Working on the radio each time I wanted to tune up took all of the fun
out of radio for me, for I wanted to do on HF what I was able to do on
VHF/UHF; i.e.: talk.

Now, I'm HF active as well as VHF/UHF and I'm really having a good time
on the bands.
>
> Collectors will have a different outlook, of course.

This is what I can agree with, if you're only going to use it to put on
display, then that's what it would be for.

>
> Your point about Eham is excellent, Steve. In fact, I would suggest
> anyone who is interested in getting equipment should browse through
> their reviews. I've spent more than a few entire evenings at their site.
> I would note to the prospective buyers that they read the reviews in
> addition to looking at overall ratings. There are some Hams out there
> who never met a radio they didn't like! ;^) And a few who are really picky.
>

Same here.

Russ - KW5KW

534. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-29 17:41:17 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <c1un03h9d23to50nr9jkcvl5q5rbim5b5d@4ax.com>
Source record: 4939

On Wed, 28 Mar 2007 13:15:40 EDT, "Ivor Jones"
<ivor@despammed.invalid> wrote:

>> If I put up a 70 foot tower (the maximum level below
>> which local authorities cannot regulate in Oregon) it and
>> I will certainly become known to my neighbors!!
>
>70ft and they can't regulate..?! Wow, things are certainly different your
>side of the water..! Here in the UK it varies depending on where in the
>country you are,

As it does here. The Federal requirement is "reasonable accommodation
by the least restrictive means" for heights suitable to conduct the
desired communication. In addition to the Federal standard, the
various states have also enacted nearly-identical statutes (local
authorities and courts are much more comfortable dealing with state or
local requirements as compared to the exact same thing imposed by the
"Great White Father in Washington"! <g>

Oregon is only one of two (I believe) states whose statutes specify a
height up to which "reasonable accommodation" is presumed by operation
of law.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
ARRL Volunteer Counsel

email: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

535. Re: PRB-1 and CC&R's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-29 17:51:11 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <elun03p0ff4ar6bfgno6m36td9i9k5q810@4ax.com>
Source record: 4940

On Wed, 28 Mar 2007 14:35:12 EDT, Bruce in Alaska <bruceg@btpost.net>
wrote:

>Habitat Division was staffed by "Greenie" Fish Biologists with absolutly
>NO Knowledge of Civil Engineer, and little pracatical experience outside
>the Degreed University Program they came from.

In some respects you're preaching to the choir!

My wife just retired (actually took "on call temp" status) as an
electrical utilities and instrumentation engineer with the largest
environmental engineering company in the country, so she (and by
osmosis, I) got to know the "bunny-huggers" up close and personal. In
their specialty they are great. In engineering...that's why she had
a job!

It's no different in my field. A large part of my work with the
Commission was educating the outside professionals (and occasionally
some "inside") in what regulatory practice, and especially GOOD
regulatory practice, was all about.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

536. Re: Call signs for foreign amateurs operating in US

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-29 21:35:33 UTC
From: Jack VK2CJC <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com>
Message-ID: <euhb7l$92l$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 4941

> It was a little different for me because I am a dual citizen
> (Australia and the US). When I inquired they said I couldn't use my
> Australian license in the US, even though I hadn't set foot in the US
> in decades, because I maintained US citizenship, so I had to take US
> tests and have a US callsign when visiting.

That's cos Australia and the US don't have a reciprocal agreement.

I'm dual citizen of Australia and the UK, and I can use my VK call in the UK
for up to 3 months if visiting. Not that I'd want to cos I still got my UK
license :)

I am surprised that the US don't issue temporary visitors licenses though.
Aus and UK do that.
--
Jack VK2CJC / MM0AXL
FISTS# 9666
Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group
http://www.qsl.net/mm0axl/mncarg/index.html

537. Re: Upgrade to Extra using 2001 License Manual?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-30 00:49:09 UTC
From: Larry <noone@home.com>
Message-ID: <Xns9902D3457845Anoonehomecom@208.49.80.253>
Source record: 4942

Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net> wrote in
news:Xns9901DBC3AC7F4mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136:

> Of course, if a person rote memorizes the tests, they might
> be in for
> an umpleasant surprise when the take the real ones - certainly the
> Extra.
>

Is there going to be a followup explanation detailing WHY?

Larry
--
.

538. Re: Call signs for foreign amateurs operating in US

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-30 01:59:07 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5735umF2aq55hU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4943

"Jack VK2CJC" <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com> wrote in
message news:euhb7l$92l$1@victor.killfile.org
> > It was a little different for me because I am a dual
> > citizen (Australia and the US). When I inquired they
> > said I couldn't use my Australian license in the US,
> > even though I hadn't set foot in the US in decades,
> > because I maintained US citizenship, so I had to take
> > US tests and have a US callsign when visiting.
>
> That's cos Australia and the US don't have a reciprocal
> agreement.
> I'm dual citizen of Australia and the UK, and I can use
> my VK call in the UK for up to 3 months if visiting. Not
> that I'd want to cos I still got my UK license :)
>
> I am surprised that the US don't issue temporary visitors
> licenses though. Aus and UK do that.

They used to, I had to get them when I used to visit the US before they
implemented CEPT T/R 61-01. The FCC called them "Alien Permits" which
always made me feel I should have been landing in a flying saucer rather
than a 747..!

73 Ivor G6URP

539. Winradio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-30 01:59:57 UTC
From: Pete <pelem@optonline.net>
Message-ID: <zEZOh.422$xP.235@newsfe12.lga>
Source record: 4944

Just for my information, before I purchase...Has anybody had any experience
with any of the Winradio products?

Thanks in advance....

Pete
Bay Shore,
NY

http://www.winradio.com/

540. Re: Call signs for foreign amateurs operating in US

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-30 03:59:49 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <0b1p035edtijql0i30g3d3r3f3u4bum5ed@4ax.com>
Source record: 4945

On Thu, 29 Mar 2007 17:35:33 EDT, "Jack VK2CJC"
<vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com> wrote:

>That's cos Australia and the US don't have a reciprocal agreement.
>
>I'm dual citizen of Australia and the UK, and I can use my VK call in the UK
>for up to 3 months if visiting. Not that I'd want to cos I still got my UK
>license :)
>
>I am surprised that the US don't issue temporary visitors licenses though.
>Aus and UK do that.

The US does allow non-citizens to operate in the US, either through
treaties such as the CEPT and CINTEL arrangements or through specific
reciprocal agreements.

What he is referring to is that if one is a citizen of the US, one
must get a US license to operate where the US has jurisdiction
regardless of what multiple citizenship or other licenses one holds.

That closed a very big loophole where US citizens would somehow get a
foreign license in a country where the standards for licensing
depended on who you knew and who you could pay off, and then operate
in the US under a reciprocal agreement without ever taking an FCC
license exam.

This restriction is not unusual. Forty years ago when I lived in
Israel they issued me 4X4UQ because I met all the examination
requirements. This was before the reciprocal licensing agreement and
CEPT came into being and one had to have an Israeli license to operate
there. When I returned to the US I had to give up all claims of
Israeli citizenship in order to work for the U S Government (FCC).
Even returning for visits I cannot reactivate or use that call sign
unless I immigrate again and if I do so I cannot use my US call sign
under the CEPT agreement as I can when I am a short-term visitor.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

541. Re: Call signs for foreign amateurs operating in US

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-30 09:07:40 UTC
From: Jack VK2CJC <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com>
Message-ID: <euiek6$3jq$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 4946

> What he is referring to is that if one is a citizen of the US, one
> must get a US license to operate where the US has jurisdiction
> regardless of what multiple citizenship or other licenses one holds.

As a UK citizen, I can use my Australian license in the UK so long as I am visiting for less than 3 months. After that time, the privilege expires and I have to get a UK license. Much the same as driving licenses.

Doesn't the US do the same?

--
Jack VK2CJC / MM0AXL
FISTS# 9666
Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group
http://www.qsl.net/mm0axl/mncarg/index.html

542. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1546 - March 30, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-30 16:46:37 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <E1HXJvC-000373-QL@elasmtp-galgo.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 4947
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1546 - March 30, 2007

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1546 with a release date of Friday, March 30th, 2007 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. The ARRL kind of changes its mind on Regulation by Bandwidth, European hams get interference protection from ultra wideband operations, Scouts world-wide plan to celebrate 50 years of their Jubilee On The Air and our annual April 1st report from roving reporter Pierre Pullinmyleg. All this and more on Amateur Radio NewslineT report number 1546 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

REGULATION BY BANDWIDTH: THE ARRL VS THE BLOGGERS

The ARRL has partially changed its mind on Regulation by Bandwidth. It now suggests confining these changes to 10 meters and above. But even this has not placated the detractors of both the League and the proposed rules change. Amateur Radio Newsline's Mark Abramovich, NT3V. reports:

--

The ARRL says in the wake of the recent changes to the Part 97 Amateur Radio rules, it has revised its regulation by bandwidth proposals to the FCC.

The League says this is being done to avoid some unintended consequences and temper some of the controversy the original petition had aroused.

But bloggers on QRZ dot com and elsewhere in cyberspace seem to consider the revision nothing more than a smoke-screen.

Some look at it as a sellout by the national organization to the proponents of digital communications to the detriment of all others in the hobby.

The bloggers also say that almost any form of digital ham radio will disrupt most or all of the current

communications on all bands and therefore must remain segregated into subbands of its own.

By way of review, back in November 2005 the ARRL filed a Petition for Rule Making dealing with the concept of Regulation by Bandwidth.

RM-11306 requested the FCC replace the current segregation of modes by subbands with a regulatory scheme that would segment bands by necessary bandwidths ranging from 200 Hz to 100 kHz rather than by emission mode.

This proposal immediately brought the wrath of the high-frequency ham radio community.

Through filings to the FCC and by numerous cyberspace web postings, the ham radio community told the ARRL and the FCC that regulation by bandwidth was simply not wanted.

Now the ARRL appears to be capitulating.

At least to the extent where the high frequency bands below 28 Mhz are concerned.

In a statement published in the ARRL Letter, League Executive Vice President Dave Sumner, K1ZZ, said that:

Regulation by bandwidth rather than by mode of emission remains controversial below 28 MHz because of its perceived potential impact on established operating patterns, so these proposals were removed from the list with one narrow exception.

The ARRL now is urging the FCC to adopt what it terms a "subset" of the rules contained in its original petition that largely affects only the amateur bands at 28 MHz and above.

If the FCC adopts the League's revised proposals, the 10, 6 and 2 meter amateur bands would be segmented into subbands allowing maximum emission bandwidths of 200 Hz, 500 Hz, 3.0 kHz 16 kHz or 100 kHz.

The only exception would be for double-sideband, full-carrier AM phone.

This modified proposal is already drawing fire from several factions in ham radio.

First are the proponents of weak signal communications on 6 meters and above.

They fear that the introduction of any form of wideband modes close by weak signal segments will spell disaster.

They contend it will raise the ambient noise floor of the bands, rendering it impossible to detect the minute traces of RF that they are searching for.

As one post on QRZ put it: "Digital 100 khz wide signals thousands of them 100 kHz wide only 175 kHz from the 6 meter calling frequency and 100 kHz from 2 meters and the noise floor will go through the roof."

Also not happy are the operators of FM repeaters on 2 meters.

They point to the already overcrowded conditions in both of the repeater subbands.

They also ask the rhetorical question of how and where can numerous 100 kHz wide digital modes be shoehorned in without degrading the performance of existing analog FM communication?

Most believe that wideband digital and 2 meters simply do not mix. Others do not want them on any band below 1 point 2 Gigahertz.

On the other side are the proponents of digital on the High Frequency bands.

They believe that the ARRL is caving in to pressure brought by current H-F spectrum users.

Some involved in rescue radio operations have already warned that in the near future emergency communications systems used by the agencies that they serve will go to wideband data-based communications systems.

They warn that for ham radio to continue to serve its emergency communications clients, the rules must be changed so that Amateur Radio is fully compatible with that technology.

Another bone of contention is why the ARRL continues to pursue any form of bandwidth-based regulation in the face of across-the-board opposition from the ham community.

Dave Sumner seems to address this in his comments in the ARRL Letter:

Regulation by bandwidth provides a better regulatory framework, not only for the introduction of future digital emissions but for the protection of traditional narrowband modes as well.

Unfortunately for the ARRL, not everyone agrees.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, in Philadelphia.

--

K1ZZ has expressed the hope that the subset of RM-11306 modifications offers an alternative that will make it easier for the FCC to move at least part of the way in that direction. Even so, the analog ham radio world appears to be gearing up for a fight to maintain the status quo. (ARNewsline(tm) with input from numerous sources including ARRL Letter, QRZ.com, eHam.net, VHF Reflector, others.)

**

REGULATION BY BANDWIDTH: AN ARNEWSLINE ON-LINE POLE

So what's your thought about the idea of converting from the current subband system to regulation by bandwidth? To get an idea we have set up a pole on our website at www.arnewsline.org. Just go there, scroll down and watch for the word "Polls" on the left hand side of the page. Then click on the box that is closest to your view.

The nice part about the software we use is that the results are instant. As soon as you cast your vote you will see the result.

And before we get a horde of e-mails from those who need to point out the flaws of electronic polling, we freely admit that this poll is not very scientific. In fact it is easily subject to multiple voting from those with a personal ax to grind for or against regulation by bandwidth.

That said, after a few weeks the cumulative results will at least give the ham radio community an idea on the way the majority feels on this subject. One that can and likely will affect the day to day operation of every radio amateurs across the United States. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

THE BPL FIGHT: SUPPORT NEEDED FOR HR-462

Supporters of congressional measure HR 462 are fearful that the recently announced the IEEE Broadband Over Powerline Standards Project announced last week could hamper efforts to get the measure enacted.

HR-462 is better known as the Emergency Amateur Radio Interference Protection Act of 2007. If passed, it would require a study by the Federal Communications Commission on interference caused by broadband internet transmission over power lines.

The measure is currently before the House Energy and Commerce Committee. Proponents say that the IEEE project

seems to give the aura of respectability to BPL which they feel is not deserved. They believe only legislative pressure can force BPL providers to use non-interfering technology. They also urge all hams to write their political leaders in support of HR-462.

The March issue of QST Magazine has the full background on this bill. (K2IVX)

**

RADIO RULES: EUROPEN HAMS TO BE PROTECTED FROM UWB INTERFERENCE

The European Commission has decided to impose more stringent rules on the use of ultra wide band equipment on frequencies below 6GHz. In essence that protects hams from interference the mode might cause. Jeramy Boot, G4NJH, is in Nottingham in the UK with more:

--

The decision is a victory for a host of amateur radio groups which have been fighting for greater regulation of ultra wide band.

Amateur radio organizations including the Radio Society of Great Britain, the UK Microwave Group, AMSAT-UK, BATC and the Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society have put in a lot of work over the last two years making the case for protection of the amateur bands from ultra wide band devices. The European Commission appears to have listened.

In an official statement published on the web, the Commission said: "The conditions in the 4.2 to 4.8GHz band for ultra-wideband technology should be time limited and be replaced by more restrictive conditions beyond December 2010."

The statement went on to say that in the long term ultra wide band equipment should be restricted to operating above 6GHz.

Jeramy boot, G4NJH

--

A link to the statement can be found on the RSGB website. Its in cyberspace at www.rsgb.org (GB2RS)

**

RESTRUCTURING: THAI HAMS GET CONTEST ONLY PRIVELEGES

E21EIC and others report that the Radio Amateur Society of Thailand has received authorization from that nations telecommunications regulator for Thai operators to operate on 80 and 160 meters during 2007 contest periods. During those periods Thai operators may operate their stations on CW and SSB from 1.800 to 1.825 MHz and 3.500 to 3.536 MHz. Split operation has also been authorized.

Stations in Thailand currently can only operate on 40, 20, 15 and10 meters. They are barred from 30, 17, 12 and 6 meters, however, activity on the WARC bands and 6 meters is sometimes granted with special permission. (OPDX, others)

**

Break 1

From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the VE6YTV repeater serving Langdon, Alberta Canada

(5 sec pause here)

**

RESCUE RADIO: CLUB EXPANDS SKYWARN IN INDIANA WITH CLASS

Amateur radio operators in Monroe County, Indiana have been turning the annual National Weather Service's severe weather spotter training program into a public outreach event. Jack Parker W8ISH has this report.

--

Severe weather spotter training in Monroe county, Indiana has been taken to the next level. Through radio, newspapers and the internet the Bloomington Amateur Radio Club has expanded training to include emergency professionals and the general public. This years Severe Weather Training had over one hundred and thirty people in attendance.

Each year Monroe county hams schedule the class on the first Friday in March. That coincides with the start of Severe Weather Prepardness Week in Indiana.

History has shown Bloomington and Monroe county to be a prime target for tornadoes. Getting the general public, government officials and first responders trained can only add to the number of eyes and ears needed to warn the public of a severe weather outbreak.

This years class was followed up with a series of radio interviews on WHCC radio in Bloomington. Radio

personality and self proclaimed "weather junky" Rick Evans, invited amateur radio storm spotters to talk about their chasing experiences during Severe Weather Week. The interviews aired live during the morning commute. The early bird reports included severe weather safety tips and background on the role amateur radio plays in emergency and public service events.

Reporting for Amateur Radio Newsline, this is Jack Parker W8ISH

--

This years class included 2004 ARRL Educator of the Year award winner Neil Rapp WB9VPG and Indiana State Representative Matt Pierce N9VKU. (KB9WVI)

**

RESCUE RADIO: NPSTC AND ARRL SIGN MOA

The ARRL and the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council have signed a Memorandum of Agreement. As reported on the ARRL's website, under the pact the League's Chief Technology Officer Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, will participate in meetings and serve on committees and working groups. The League also has agreed to provide other expertise, advice and resources to further the goals of the Memorandum of Agreement.

For its part, the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council has agreed to provide a National Support Office. Among other things, it will coordinate its outreach activities and provide national level technical assistance to the public safety telecommunications community.

The National Public Safety Telecommunications Council is a federation of public safety organizations. It serves as a forum for the exchange of ideas and information for effective public safety telecommunications in the US and abroad.

The ARRL is a National Public Safety Telecommunications Council member. The Memorandum of Agreement culminates efforts begun in 2003 to formalize the relationship between the two organizations. The full story is on-line at www.arrl.org (ARRL)

**

ENFORCEMENT: STAY OFF UNTIL YOU RENEW YOUR LICENSE

The FCC has written to a now former ham to tell him that his license has expired and that he must go Q-R-T. That

February 28th note went to Thurland Bristol Jr. Of Orange, Connecticut. In it the FCC says that Bristol's license and K1ACD callsign expired back on July 5th of 2005 and that operation without a valid license could bring with it some severe penalties. As his ticket is within the Commission's two year grace period all he needs to do is to renew it to bring it current once again. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: TO MANY CALLSIGN CHANGES

The FCC wants to know why a Texas ham has filed over two dozen applications that first request and then cancel four specific callsigns. That's the question that they ask of Barney Boone, NO5R in a letter to him dated February 28th.

The note to Boone asserts that May of 2000, he has filed 25 or more applications with the regulatory agency regarding the calls W5JB, AI5L, KC5KJG and KJ5AE that either requested or cancelled one of those calls. The FCC says that 10 of those applications were filed in 2006.

The FCC says that once requested and cancelled, the calls were made unavailable to anyone else for a period of two years. The agency says that this appears to be an abuse of the agency's application process and gave Boone 30 days from receipt of its inquiry letter to respond and explain his actions. He was also told to choose which one of the call signs that he wanted to keep. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: KIT BUILT TRANSMITTERS BRING $7000 NAL

The FCC says that Richard Mann who does business as The Antique Radio Collector in Toledo, Ohio is apparently liable for a $7000 forfeiture. This for allegedly marketing of uncertified AM radio transmitters in repeated violation of the Communications Act and of the Commission's Rules. Amateur Radio Newsline's Jeff Reinhart, AA6JR, reports:

--

On November 15, 2006, the FCC's Spectrum Enforcement Division issued a Letter of Inquiry to Richard Mann and The Antique Radio Collector. This, in response to a complaint alleging that the was marketing fully-assembled S S TRAN model AMT3000 AM transmitters.

In a reply dated November 25, The Antique Radio Collector indicated that it was not aware of a certification authorizing a fully assembled AMT3000 transmitter. The

response indicated that Mann had purchased the transmitters in kit form from a third party and assembled the them in his residence. Mr. Mann advertised the assembled transmitters for sale online at www.oldtimeradio.com and had sold a number of completed units to end users since December 2003.

But the FCC says that buying a banned radio transmitter as a kit and building it expressly to sell it for profit is the sane as marketing a fully factory assembled unit. It says that Section 302(b) of the Communications Act provides that no person shall manufacture, import, sell, offer for sale, or ship devices or home electronic equipment and systems, or use devices, which fail to comply with the agency's regulations. As such it would be Mann's responsibility to obtain FCC certification before offering any units for sale which he did not do.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Jeff Reinhardt, AA6JR, in Los Angeles.

--

Mann and The Antique Radio Collector were given the normal 30 days to pay the fine or to file an appeal. (FCC)

**

HAM RADIO AND SCOUTING: AROUND THE WORLD IN 50 HOURS

Around the World in 50 Hours will be the theme of this years Scouting Jamboree On The Air. JOTA as it is better known, is an annual event in which about 500,000 Scouts and Scout Guides all over the world make contacts with each other by means of Amateur Radio.

The idea of the 50 hour operating schedule is to honor the golden-jubilee of the Jamboree by extending it two hours. One hour for every year that it has existed. As a result, this years 50th JOTA will run from October 19th at 22:00 hours to October 21st at 24:00 hours your local time.

An official start will be given by the World Scout Bureau radio station in Geneva, Switzerland on October 19th at 21:00 h GMT with a transmission in the 20 and 80 meter bands and on Echolink. (WIA, GB2RS, Southgate)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: NEW DIGITAL HAM RADIO REMAILER FORMED

A new cyberspace remailer dedicated exclusively to the emerging world of digital Amateur Radio communications has been formed on Yahoogroups. This reflector will primarily

discuss the use of digital voice and data communication techniques on the VHF and UHF bands. Technology to be addressed will include D-STAR, APCO P25, packet radio including APRS, High Speed Multi Media, Wi-Fi, P-S-K and F-S-K. To join the group just take your web browser to http://groups.yahoo.com/group/illinoisdigitalham/ and follow the sign up instructions. (WB9QZB)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: PAPERS SOLOICITED FOR ARRL AND TAPR DIGITAL CONFERENCE

Technical papers are solicited for presentation at the 26th Annual ARRL and TAPR Digital Communications Conference to be held September 28th to the 30th in Hartford, Connecticut. These papers will also be published in the Conference Proceedings.

Authors need not attend the conference to have their paper included in the Proceedings. Papers will be published exactly as submitted and authors will retain all rights. The submission deadline is July 31, 2007. Please send papers to Maty Weinberg , at the ARRL , 225 Main St , Newington, Connecticut, 06111. Submissions can also go by e-mail to maty@arrl.org (ARRL)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: THE 12th ANNUAL IOTA DINNER IN APRIL

The 12th annual Islands On The Air or IOTA Dinner will be held on Friday, April 27th, in the Birch Room of the Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center in Visalia, California. This, in conjunction with the 58th annual Visalia International DX Convention.

Reservations for this event are not required and attendees will pay as they enter at the door. Admission is free for those wishing only to watch the programs without dining. As usual, seating will be first come, first seated.

For additional information regarding this event, please contact Jim Zimmerman, by e-mail to jimzim1@mindspring.com (Press release)

**

SPECIAL EVENTS: HAMS CELEBRATE THE TITIANIC'S 95th ANNIVERSARY

Ham radio will help to memorialize one of the greatest tragedies ever to happen on the high seas. To commemorate the 95th anniversary of the sinking of the luxury liner

Titanic, radio amateurs worldwide will be mounting an operation originating from the Titanic Museum Attraction in Branson, Missouri. That's where members of the Nixa Amateur Radio Club will be making contacts world-wide using the special event callsign W-Zero-S.

Three stations will operate simultaneously using SSB, and CW. Trhere will also be operation using Echolink. All stations will be manned by operators from a consortium of clubs and non-club members from across Southwest Missouri, as well as licensed visitors from outside the area.

Operations beginn at 8 a.m., Saturday, April 14th, and concluding at 7p.m., Sunday, April 15th. The W-Zero-S call being used which stands for White Star. White Star the name of the company that built the Titanic.A U-K group is also expected to be active during that same time as GB6MGY. That reportedly was the actual call sign of the Titanic. More information is on-line at www.nixahams.net (W7ZVD)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

A WORD OF THANKS FROM THE SUPPORT FUND WITH ANDY JAREMA N6TCQ

Ladies and gentlemen, with a word of thanks to those who contributed to the Newsline Support Fund in April of 2006, here's Amateur Radio Newsline's Support Fund Administrator Andy Jarema, N6TCQ.

--

In the month of April we heard from Regular contributor Benton Bonney, W4PE of Orlando , The Potomac Highlands ARC of Moorefield, WV, The Cookville, TN Repeater Association, W4HPL, monthly contributor Joseph Bartzi, Jr., KC8DKF of Columbus, OH and monthly contributors William Walters, WA2IBM, and Scott Hensley of the Area Communications Team, both in San Jose, CA, and the South Orange Amateur Radio Association

Via PayPal we heard from C Mark Burlingame, KB6TVD of Northlake, IL and Stuart Cole, N5LBZ of Gulfport, MS.

Month in and month out Newsline takes an average of $1000 to put the latest news of Amateur Radio on the air- it doesn't come to us- we have to go get it. With no advertising, we depend on you- our loyal listeners. Our website- arnewsline.org has all the info you need to contribute, including a quick link to PayPal. Or there's our address: Newsline Support Fund, PO Box 660937, Arcadia, CA 91066. That address will be repeated at the end of the newscast. Thanks for your help.

I'm Andy Jarema. N6TCQ.

--

Thank you Andy. (ARNewslineT)

**

RADIO OPPS: PETER THOMAS VE7PT IS NOT A SILENT KEY

If you happen to be a fan of the British comic group Monty Python then the line "I'm not dead yet, I'm just resting" will have a great deal of meaning. And it's also what may be going through the minds of the editorial staff at The Canadian Amateur magazine after it learned that it made a big oops in reporting the departure from life of a Canadian ham. Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, is here with the rest of the story:

--

Well it happened this way. The March/April 2007 issue of The Canadian Amateur carried a listing in the Silent Key column saying that Peter Thomas, VE7PT, had passed on. Only one problem about this for the magazine. It seems that Peter was and is definitely not a Silent Key.

It was all explained in a March 19th special bulletin issued by Radio Amateurs of Canada which publishes The Canadian Amateur. It seems that the mix-up came about when an obituary in local newspapers was spotted for a "Philip Thomas" in which it was stated that his interests included ham. It also listed his callsign as being VE7PT. And dutifully, the information was re-reported by the Canadian Amateur magazine but did not bother to check on the accuracy of the initial report.

Well the good news is that the real VE7PT is very much alive. In fact, the R-A-C release describes him as an active 86 year-old living in British Columbia and a 25 year retiree who still enjoys being active in the hobby. He is a member of the Westcoast Amateur Radio Association, the

Victoria Area Packet Association, and he particularly enjoys training new hams by having them visit his shack. And although VE7PT is no longer sailing the high seas, Peter is an honorary member of the Blue Water Cruising Association. A very active radio amateur indeed.

Radio Amateurs of Canada has apologized to VE7PT and to his many friends and family for the error.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

--

Kind of reminds us of the words of Mark Twain who once sent a telegram to the press all across the United States. This, after an erroneous obituary about him had been published. That cable simply said: "The reports of my death are greatly exaggerated." (RAC, others)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: DONATIONS NEEDED FOR NEW ARISS STATION

The European Space Agency has agreed to an amateur radio station being installed onboard the Columbus module, the new space laboratory that will be attached to the International Space Station at the end of the year. As part of the station a series of antennas developed at Poland's Wroclaw University of Technology will be attached to the panels that protect Columbus's hull from meteorite debris.

The cost of installing the antennas will amount to more than 100,000 Euros which is in the area of $120,000 in U-S dollars. ARISS-Europe is the amateur radio group which is organizing the project. It is calling on radio amateurs around the world with an interest in space communications to provide financial support.

Although work is progressing well on the antennas, money is still needed to build the amateur radio equipment onboard Columbus. You can find out how to donate to the project on the web at www.ariss-eu.org/donations.htm. (ARISS-EU)

**

DX

In DX that's on the air, word that Clive Penna, GM3POI, has become the second ham to achieve 9 band DXCC using only Logbook of The World electronic QSL confirmations. John Sluymer, VE3EJ, in Ontario, Canada was the first.

Also, news that DL9MWG, will be active from Malta as 9H3RT. This, from April 28th through May 11th. Activity will be on the High F requency bands mainly on C-W. Q-S-L via DL9MWG.

PA5CW, will be active portable YB9 from Bali from April 25th to May 10th. No other info provided at this time.

Lastly, keep an ear open for DL2GAC in the Solomon Islands who is once again active as H-44-M-S. Bernhard is expected to be there until April 25th. The "DX Newletter" reports that he is collecting QSLs for his U.S. Counties Award as well as 5 Band Worked All States from there. His activity is mainly on 80, 40 and 20 meters. QSL direct or via the bureau to DL2GAC.

(From various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: HAM RADIO AND FURSUITS - AN APRIL 1st REPORT FROM THE ROAD

And finally this week, a question. What do ham radio, fur and the YouTube website have in common? Well if you said hidden transmitter hunting, you would be pretty much correct. Here's our roving reporter Pierre Pullinmyleg with his annual early April report:

--

Zee Hyena is zee very interesting anna-mil. Zay are moderately large and are native to Africa and India. So, it iz very rare zat you find one on zee streets of a town in zee U-S-A much less one zat likes to go on zee transmitter hunt. But if you go to zee YouTube dot com website you just might run into a ham radio operator dressed in zee Hyena costume who talks about finding zee elusive hidden T: Ok, it is a human in a Hyena suit who is also a ham:

--

KD8AYJ: "My name is Julie Fraedrich, I currently live in Streetboro, Ohio, and my callsign is KD8AYJ."

--

Ah, you are surprized zat it's a young lady zat is wearing zee Hyena costume? Well, if you get to talk with Miss Julie, she will tell you zat zee video was fun to make:

--

KD8AYJ: "At the time, I had just gotten my brand-new new Samsung Mini-DV camera and I just had to have an excuse to

play with it. I put on my Hyena costume because I saw another video on YouTube of a group of people who are actually fox-hunting in animal costumes. I said that this is 'so cool' so I put on my animal costume and I decided to talk about fox hunts."

--

Zats right. Zere really is a convention where hams go to T-hunt dressed up as annna-mals. It is called Anthrocon and Miss Julie sez zat zere are really similarities between making zee annamal costume and being zee ham radio operator. She says zat both are challengzes:

--

KD8AYJ: "Ham radio like animal costuming is a challenge in itself. Some are in ham radio to get that optimal signal. Sometimes you are in it just to see how you can operate ham radio with the very basic or primitive tools in situations such as Field Day."

"I think that I was drawn to animal costuming and to do Amateur Radio in the animal costumes just from the challenge of the two. If you were to look at it from an event diagram perspective, both incorporate challenges. Some people build their own Amateur Radio gear and some people like to build their own animal costumes. I think that people who like to do both -- you know -- fox hunts and animal costumes -- like at Anthrocom, they just have overlapping similarities."

--

And where can you wear ze anna-mal costume and mingle with other radio amateurs?

--

KD8AYJ: "Anthrocon is a convention that features and bases itself on people who come from all over the world to wear their costumes for an (extended) 4 to 5 day weekend. And, of coarse they do have fox-hunts there. They have a mobile fox-hunt and a stationary fox-hunt where people wear their costumes doing -- which is pretty neat and is one of the things that drawed me to make my own animal costume in the first place."

--

A very fun story, no? Yes? And remember zat zee Hyena always has zee last laugh.

On zee road, I am Pierre Pullinmyleg, reporting for zee Amateur Radio Newsline.

--

If you want to see Miss Julie and her Hyena costume that she calls Jixser, just go to www.youtube.com and search for "What happens when you combine fursuits and amateur radio?"

And if you want to hear more about how she got interested in costuming and Amateur Radio, tune into this weeks RAIN Report for part one of an in-depth two part interview with her. Its on line now at www.therainreport.com and on the phone at 773-249-0720.

And oh yes. Happy April 1st.

Story links:
KD8AYJ as Jixser - Part 1:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?vlPMQTQs9RM
KD8AYJ as Jixser - Part 2:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v&#65533;Mv6IEZfpM
KD8AYJ becomes Jixser:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v&#65533;DVkonlpkY

(Story by Pierre Pullinmyleg for ARNewsline(tm))

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio NewslineT. Our e-mail address is newsline@arnewsline.org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline'sT only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio NewslineT, P.O. Box 660937, Arcadia, California 91066.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, saying 73 and we thank you for listening. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) is Copyright 2007. All rights reserved.

543. Re: Winradio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-30 23:40:43 UTC
From: John <jm300b@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <1175295056.432476.27810@y80g2000hsf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4948
Body handling: HTML body converted to readable text

On Mar 29, 9:59 pm, "Pete" wrote:
> Just for my information, before I purchase...Has anybody had any experience
> with any of the Winradio products?
>
> Thanks in advance....
>
> Pete
> Bay Shore,
> NY
>
> http://www.winradio.com/

Hi Pete, I have an G303i/PD and i'm very satisfied with it. Very
versatile and millions of possibilities. Somewhat expensive but under
1000.00$ hard to beat! John

544. Re: Call signs for foreign amateurs operating in US

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-31 00:47:56 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <uo9r03pc9jmc0e4pp1gm01ibuc45bsijkb@4ax.com>
Source record: 4849

On Fri, 30 Mar 2007 05:07:40 EDT, "Jack VK2CJC"
<vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com> wrote:

>As a UK citizen, I can use my Australian license in the UK so long as I am
>visiting for less than 3 months. After that time, the privilege expires and
>I have to get a UK license. Much the same as driving licenses.
>
>Doesn't the US do the same?

There is no requirement to get a US license if one is operating under
a CEPT/CITEL/reciprocity agreement as long as the person is not a US
citizen. If s/he is a US citizen, a US license is required from day
one regardless of any dual citizenship and licensing held.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
ARRL Volunteer Counsel

email: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

545. Re: Winradio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-31 04:20:30 UTC
From: Pete <pelem@optonline.net>
Message-ID: <C4jPh.71$zm5.5@newsfe12.lga>
Source record: 4850
Body handling: HTML body converted to readable text

Would you recommend the PD, John, as I see you have that option......Pete

"John" wrote in message
news:1175295056.432476.27810@y80g2000hsf.googlegroups.com...
> On Mar 29, 9:59 pm, "Pete" wrote:
> > Just for my information, before I purchase...Has anybody had any
experience
> > with any of the Winradio products?
> >
> > Thanks in advance....
> >
> > Pete
> > Bay Shore,
> > NY
> >
> > http://www.winradio.com/
>
> Hi Pete, I have an G303i/PD and i'm very satisfied with it. Very
> versatile and millions of possibilities. Somewhat expensive but under
> 1000.00$ hard to beat! John
>

546. Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-31 06:48:43 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1175317206.980115.47870@b75g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4851

Prior to the cessation of code testing for US amateur radio
license testing, there were a number of speculations on what
would happen in the amateur radio ranks. To see what really
happened I looked at www.handata.com information and selected
the 30-day period prior to 24 January 2007 (or 30 to 60 days
prior to end of code testing) and the 30-day period just after
23 February 2007:

FCC Action Ending 24 January 2007 Ending 24 March
2007

---------------------- --------------------
New Licensees 1,342
2,941
No Longer Licensed 2,101 2,975

Class Changes 985
7,234
Callsign Changes 214
897
All Updates * 16,536
17,418

* Includes Renewals, Address Changes, etc.

30-day Period ending 24 March begins approximately 23 February
2007.
30-day Period ending 24 January begins approximately 24 December
2006.

The number of Updates, primarily Renewals, is about the same for
the
two periods. Expirations are about the same, allowing for the
perterbation of the year-end Holiday of Christmas and New Years
when no or little testing is done. It should be noted that
Expirations
are generally higher than the number of New amateurs entering. One
reason for the lower number of New Licensees in January may (or may
not) have been a "waiting period" between the announcement of the
FCC 06-178 R&O on code test elimination and it taking effect near
the end of February.

Most significant are the Class Changes indicating that major
activity
was Upgrades, a 7.3:1.0 ratio. Callsign Changes were less at about
a 4.2:1.0 ratio. License Class totals show the distribution of

Upgrades a bit better:

License Class As of 24 January
2007 As of 24 March 2007

Technician 310,195 (+870) 307,730 (-3,998)
Technician Plus 41,343 (-840) 39,242 (-1,208)
Novice 29,429 (-243) 28,892 (-291)
General 142,428 (-323) 147,186 (+5,129)
Advanced 76,889 (-335) 76,084 (-475)
Extra 111,423 (+6) 112,231 (+775)
Club 10,313 (+53) 10,402 (+56)
TOTAL 722,020 (-812) 721,767 (-12)

Total less Club 711,707 711,365

Numbers in parentheses indicate the change in class totals from the start of that particular 30-day period.

There is a significant increase in the number of General Class licensees through March and a near similar decline in numbers of Technician Class indicating that many of those new Generals probably came from the Technician Class.

All those in their 2-year Grace Period are included. Since we don't
know if those are just letting their license lay until it expires or are too busy right now or otherwise occupied, I am including them
since the FCC allows them to pick up where they left off if they decide to renew before that Grace Period is up.

73, Len AF6AY

547. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-31 16:02:43 UTC
From: xxx <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-4DB797.10294931032007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 4852

"AF6AY" <LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote:

> Prior to the cessation of code testing for US amateur radio
> license testing, there were a number of speculations on what
> would happen in the amateur radio ranks. To see what really
> happened [...]

Are you sure that you've given it enough time? How many non-hams
know anything about any of this? It will probably be years before the
results are in.

548. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-31 16:57:11 UTC
From: KC5FM/WX5EM/WQDE391 <colstonl@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <1175347692.566794.249470@n76g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4853

On Mar 31, 12:48 am, "AF6AY" <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:

> happened I looked atwww.handata.cominformation and selected

http://www.hamdata.com/

73

Lloyd Colston, KC5FM
http://kc5fm.ld.net

549. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-31 16:57:23 UTC
From: "Dr.Ace" <Ace@WH2T.com>
Message-ID: <6067d$460e8736$4e08793$7791@DIALUPUSA.NET>
Source record: 4854

<N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote in message
news:1173551042.644998.80300@j27g2000cwj.googlegroups.com...
> These are the number of current,
> unexpired FCC-issued amateur
> radio licenses held by individuals
> on the stated dates, and the
> percentage of the total number
> of active licenses that class contains.
>
> ---
>
> 73 de Jim, N2EY
>

The Changing Operating Classes
Over the past year the Technician class has increased at an average rate of
13/day.

The Tech Plus class has decreased at an average rate of 27/day.

The Novice class has decreased at an average rate of 9/day.

The General class has increased at an average rate of 7/day.

The Advanced class has decreased at an average rate of 12/day.

The Extra class has increased at an average rate of 6/day.

Club Stations have increased at an average rate of 1/day.

73, Ace - www.WH2T.com

.

550. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-31 18:58:58 UTC
From: KH6HZ <kh6hzA@Tarrl.net>
Message-ID: <rwwPh.36408$s8.9406@newsfe21.lga>
Source record: 4855

"Dr.Ace" <Ace@WH2T.com> wrote:

> The Changing Operating Classes

> Over the past year the Technician class has increased at an average rate
> of 13/day.

As the de-facto entry-level license in ham radio, I would expect it to increase the most of all the license classes.

> The Tech Plus class has decreased at an average rate of 27/day.
> The Novice class has decreased at an average rate of 9/day.
> The Advanced class has decreased at an average rate of 12/day.

Since the FCC is no longer issuing any of these licenses, it is mathematically impossible for them to "increase" at all. The very best they could do would be to maintain their exact numbers, assuming a 100% renewal rate and a 0% upgrade rate out of these classes into others.

> The General class has increased at an average rate of 7/day.
> The Extra class has increased at an average rate of 6/day.

Or, a combined rate of 13/day, the same daily rate of increase in the Technician class license. An interesting statistical fluke?

73
kh6hz

551. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-31 18:59:47 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1175361326.699906.89060@n76g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4856

On Mar 31, 8:02 am, xxx <x...@yyy.zzz> wrote:
> "AF6AY" <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
> > Prior to the cessation of code testing for US amateur radio
> > license testing, there were a number of speculations on what
> > would happen in the amateur radio ranks. To see what really
> > happened [...]
>
> Are you sure that you've given it enough time? How many non-hams
> know anything about any of this? It will probably be years before the
> results are in.

Yes, an accurate portrayal won't be possible until some time in the future. However, this day is only the end of March and the code test ended on 23 February 2007. I was showing what was thought to be the beginning of a trend, based on the FCC database information as collected - en toto - by third parties. As far as I can see, the FCC database numbers are "what really happened" in the 30-day period following (and including) the day that amateur radio license testing excluded the code test.

Disclaimer: The numbers for the 30-day period ending 24 March will be skewed slightly in (approximately) the first week of code test elimination. That is a result in delay of applicant test results being delivered to the various VEC headquarters, re-checked, then (if VEC approval occurs) being delivered to the FCC. That delay time is unknown but can be speculated as at least a week, perhaps two weeks.

As a benchmark for comparison, I used the 30-day period which began during the start of US year-end holiday time, when the code test was mandatory for General and Amateur Extra license classes. I did not download and save either the publicly-posted Hamdata or ARRL statistics prior to that time on a daily basis. Note that the earlier period can also be "skewed" since the Technician class license has not required a code test since it was first created by the FCC in 1991.

I may be erroneous in the assumption that the end of code testing was a landmark decision of major proportions in United States amateur radio. That news has been a topic of news and conversation of organizations and news and discussion sites about amateur radio for at least two years. For references there are www.qrz.com, www.eham.net,

several equipment classified ad websites, QST, CQ,
Popular Communications magazines, and newsgroups,
all concerning US amateur radio policies and practices.
I am aware that a few radio-interested individuals were not
up-to-date on the cessation of code testing...but, in fairness,
the majority of individuals were cognizant of the end of code
testing and exceptions to that do not adequately eliminate
the majority awareness.

Argument aside on the veracity of information that is
available, there is no real evidence that the end of code
testing resulted in any great tidal-wave of "no coders"
suddenly appearing in US amateur radio. There was a
very evident condition of many already-licensed who
applied for, and got, "upgrades" to General and Amateur
Extra class licenses. I am not approving nor disapproving
of that practice, just showing the result of publicly-
available numeric information gathered and presented in
a format for comparison of two selected time-periods.

I have to apologize to readers for the very un-neat
appearance of my tabulations. Those were done in
fixed-size typeface in Notepad off-line and its
conversion to Google-accepted message format
destroyed a neat columnization of numbers of fixed-
font. If anyone wants the original text of columnization
I will be happy to forward that in private e-mail.

73, Len AF6AY

LenAnderson@ieee.org -or- af6ay@arrl.net
magazines

552. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-31 19:00:06 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1175362097.587881.94180@n59g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4857

On Mar 31, 8:57?am, "Dr.Ace" <A...@WH2T.com> wrote:
> <N...@AOL.COM> wrote in message
>
> news:1173551042.644998.80300@j27g2000cwj.googlegroups.com...
>
> > These are the number of current,
> > unexpired FCC-issued amateur
> > radio licenses held by individuals
> > on the stated dates, and the
> > percentage of the total number
> > of active licenses that class contains.
>
> > ---
>
> > 73 de Jim, N2EY
>
> The Changing Operating Classes
> Over the past year the Technician class has increased at an average rate of
> 13/day.
>
> The Tech Plus class has decreased at an average rate of 27/day.
>
> The Novice class has decreased at an average rate of 9/day.
>
> The General class has increased at an average rate of 7/day.
>
> The Advanced class has decreased at an average rate of 12/day.
>
> The Extra class has increased at an average rate of 6/day.
>
> Club Stations have increased at an average rate of 1/day.
>
> 73, Ace -www.WH2T.com

The above is identical to the home page data shown at
www.hamdata.com and reflects the changing class
numbers one month (plus a few days) after the ending
of US amateur radio license code testing.

In the year prior to cessation of code testing, the no-code-
test Technician class license growth had been in the
vicinity of 28 to 30 per day average...with General and
Amateur Extra class growth at half (or so) the values
shown above. The only conclusion I can draw from that
growth is the upgrading of Technicians to General or

Extra, lessening the "growth" of Technicians due to their class change.

Curiously, there has been a growth of Club licenses granted in the last year. I would have thought that Club licenses were relatively static since the overall licensee totals showed little growth or decline in numbers?

73, Len AF6AY

553. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-03-31 19:00:22 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1175362582.835154.85630@p77g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4858

On Mar 31, 8:57 am, "KC5FM/WX5EM/WQDE391" <colst...@gmail.com> wrote:
> On Mar 31, 12:48 am, "AF6AY" <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
>
> > happened I looked atwww.handata.cominformationand selected
>
> http://www.hamdata.com/
>
> 73
>
> Lloyd Colston, KC5FMhttp://kc5fm.ld.net

My apologies are tendered for an apparent run-together of text by the time my off-line prepared message got into whatever form the message robot uses. I will pay better attention to columnization in the future.

If you desire a copy of the original message (using Courier fixed-font-spacing) I will be happy to send that in private e-mail, either direct or converted to PDF, on a private e-mail inquiry.

73, Len AF6AY

554. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-01 02:22:23 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1175387465.358396.103850@d57g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4859

On Mar 31, 11:57?am, "Dr.Ace" <A...@WH2T.com> wrote:
> <N...@AOL.COM> wrote in message
>
> news:1173551042.644998.80300@j27g2000cwj.googlegroups.com...
>
> > These are the number of current,
> > unexpired FCC-issued amateur
> > radio licenses held by individuals
> > on the stated dates, and the
> > percentage of the total number
> > of active licenses that class contains.
>
> The Changing Operating Classes
> Over the past year the Technician class has increased at an average rate of
> 13/day.
>
> The Tech Plus class has decreased at an average rate of 27/day.
>
> The Novice class has decreased at an average rate of 9/day.
>
> The General class has increased at an average rate of 7/day.
>
> The Advanced class has decreased at an average rate of 12/day.
>
> The Extra class has increased at an average rate of 6/day.
>
> Club Stations have increased at an average rate of 1/day.
>
Ace,

The numbers you posted above are derived from the
hamdata.com website. Nothing wrong with that, of course,
but those numbers include licenses that are expired but
in the grace period.

The numbers I post are current/unexpired licenses. Here's a
comparison of the 361 days between April 2, 2006 and March 29,
2007, using the numbers of current, unexpired licenses
held by individuals on those dates:

(first number is April 2, 2006, second is March 29, 2007
Per-day changes are rounded to the nearest integer)

Novice: 25614 \ 22473 decrease of 3141 (~9 per day)
Technician: 278860 \ 288960 increase of 10100 (~28 per day)

Technician Plus: 40534 \ 29402 decrease of 11132 (~31 per day)
General: 133682 \ 136061 increase of 2379 (~7 per day)
Advanced: 72819 \ 68507 decrease of 4312 (~12 per day)
Extra: 107768 \ 109371 increase of 1603 (~4 per day)

Total all classes: 659107 \ 654774 decrease of 4333 (~12 per day)

73 de Jim, N2EY

555. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-01 02:24:15 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1175389723.461125.309300@p77g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4860

On Mar 31, 1:59 pm, "AF6AY" <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
> On Mar 31, 8:02 am, xxx <x...@yyy.zzz> wrote:
>
> > "AF6AY" <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
> > > > Prior to the cessation of code testing for US amateur radio
> > > > license testing, there were a number of speculations on what
> > > > would happen in the amateur radio ranks. To see what really
> > > > happened [...]
>
> > > Are you sure that you've given it enough time? How many non-hams
> > know anything about any of this? It will probably be years before the
> > results are in.
>
> > Yes, an accurate portrayal won't be possible until some time
> > in the future. However, this day is only the end of March and
> > the code test ended on 23 February 2007. I was showing what
> > was thought to be the beginning of a trend, based on the FCC
> > database information as collected - en toto - by third parties.

Extrapolation from such limited data may or may not
be representative of a trend.

The daily variation of the license totals can exceed the
apparent growth, too. For example, on February 23, 2007
the total number of current FCC-issued amateur license
held by individuals was 654,710. On March 29, 2007,
the total was 654,774, which looks like a growth of 64.

But in between the daily total has fluctuated all over the place. On
March 16, 2007, the total was 655,025, and on
March 19, 2007 the total was 654,094. That's a variation of
931 in just three days! Of course those are extremes, but you can see
how much of a different conclusion could be drawn depending on which
days you choose to compare.

Over time the trend will become clearer, but a month is
a very short baseline.

> > As far as I can see, the FCC database numbers are "what
> > really happened" in the 30-day period following (and including)
> > the day that amateur radio license testing excluded the code
> > test.

They are certainly one indicator. There are others.

IMHO, it is more accurate to use the number of current,
unexpired licenses rather than including those in the grace
period. Renewal is free, easy and can be done several
ways including online. Why would any licensed amateur
with continued interest allow the license to be in the grace
period without renewing?

> &#65533; &#65533;I may be erroneous in the assumption that the
> end of code
> &#65533; &#65533;testing was a landmark decision of major proportions in
> &#65533; &#65533;United States amateur radio. &#65533;

When the debate over Morse Code testing was going
on, "growth" was one of the main reasons given to
remove it. I saw many claims that the number of US
amateurs would continue to shrink unless all Morse
Code testing was eliminated, and that many "otherwise
qualified people" would flood into Amateur Radio if all
code testing were eliminated. So far, that doesn't appear
to be happening.

But it's only been a bit over a month. Perhaps there will be long-term
growth, perhaps not. The numbers will tell the story over time.

73 de Jim, N2EY

556. Best 2M / 440 repeaters to use in the Baltimore/Washington area

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-01 16:48:24 UTC
From: Rick <Nospam@reply.in.gp>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.04.01.14.48.06.663511@reply.in.gp>
Source record: 4861

I'm flying to Baltimore tomorrow morning and driving to Rockville, MD for a daylong series of meetings. I'll have my Kenwood TH-F6A with me. What are the best repeaters (frequencies and PL tones) in Washington and northwest suburbs where I can pass the time while stuck in traffic, and maybe get some help getting around and past the traffic jams?

Thanks...

557. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-01 21:16:24 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1175461319.980608.122940@e65g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4862

> "AF6AY" <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
>
>> Yes, an accurate portrayal won't be possible until some time
>> in the future. However, this day is only the end of March and
>> the code test ended on 23 February 2007. I was showing what
>> was thought to be the beginning of a trend, based on the FCC
>> database information as collected - en toto - by third parties.
>
>Extrapolation from such limited data may or may not
>be representative of a trend.

Please forgive me for not having a working crystal ball. The
figures for April to December 2007 and all of 2008 were not
available to me. :-)

However, some "trends" should be clearly visible:
1. There was a sudden jump of seven times the number of
upgrades in a 30 day period as compared to the 30 day
period two months prior.
2. There was a sudden jump of four times the number of
license class changes in a 30 day period as compared
to the 30 day period two months prior.
3. There was an approximate doubling of the number of NEW
(never before licensed) amateurs in a 30 day period as
compared to the 30 day period two months prior.

>The daily variation of the license totals can exceed the
>apparent growth, too. For example, on February 23, 2007
>the total number of current FCC-issued amateur license
>held by individuals was 654,710. On March 29, 2007,
>the total was 654,774, which looks like a growth of 64.

I specifically used a 30-day period as an averaging scheme
and such averaging over time is quite common in sensing
trends in statistical work. Day-to-day variations DO occur
but a total of actions in a 30-day period do have a smoothing
effect and come closer to an average.

Note that most of the VEC testing schedules are monthly or
bi-weekly.

>IMHO, it is more accurate to use the number of current,
>unexpired licenses rather than including those in the grace
>period. Renewal is free, easy and can be done several
>ways including online. Why would any licensed amateur
>with continued interest allow the license to be in the grace

>period without renewing?

For several possible reasons:
1. Death, natural, suicide, or as the result of (2).
2. Accident or stroke (or similar medical problems) not allowing full use of communications faculties.
3. Spousal or family or friends' disapproval.
4. Extended military or business relocations.
5. Incarceration or arrest (rare).
6. Growing dissatisfaction with amateur activities and/or policies.

Now, item (6) might be debateable, but then observe that your conditional "...with continued interest" implies that no other reasons are valid, including the possibility of growing dissatisfaction. I don't choose to argue that point with you since the rest of your posting appears too confrontational and argumentative.

I merely compared two 30-day periods based on the numbers available to all on www.hamdata.com, a service provided by them and one that is derived from FCC database information which is available to the public. I trust in the veracity of that information since it compares well with other Internet-access sources of statistical information, also derived from the same FCC database. The conclusions I came to were my own observations, not my "opinion" nor of having any preconceived notion of what "might" happen...only that some did speculate on "what would happen" in other discussion venues.

I have PDFs of the downloads I used and will ZIP them up and send them privately via e-mail attachments to anyone having a valid Internet address. That includes a "nice" formatting of my original post. If there are errors between my numbers postings and the www.hamdata.com numbers, I will acknowledge those errors. At this point I don't believe there are any errors in my postings' numerical values.

73, Len AF6AY

558. Re: Winradio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-01 22:43:20 UTC
From: John <jm300b@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <1175463576.620098.144250@y80g2000hsf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4863
Body handling: HTML body converted to readable text

On Mar 31, 12:20 am, "Pete" wrote:
> Would you recommend the PD, John, as I see you have that option......Pete
>
> "John" wrote in message
>
> news:1175295056.432476.27810@y80g2000hsf.googlegroups.com...
>
> > On Mar 29, 9:59 pm, "Pete" wrote:
> > > Just for my information, before I purchase...Has anybody had any
> experience
> > > with any of the Winradio products?
>
> > > Thanks in advance....
>
> > > Pete
> > > Bay Shore,
> > > NY
>
> > >http://www.winradio.com/
>
> > Hi Pete, I have an G303i/PD and i'm very satisfied with it. Very
> > versatile and millions of possibilities. Somewhat expensive but under
> > 1000.00$ hard to beat! John
Pete, having the PD option is like the difference between night and
day... It makes dramatic difference. I use mostly the ISB mode for
pseudo-stereophonic on short-wave; very special...

559. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-02 18:21:39 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <461131ca$0$37558$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 4864

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

In <1175362097.587881.94180@n59g2000hsh.googlegroups.com> "AF6AY" <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
writes:

[...]

> Curiously, there has been a growth of Club licenses
> granted in the last year. I would have thought that Club
> licenses were relatively static since the overall licensee
> totals showed little growth or decline in numbers?

> 73, Len AF6AY

I agree that this is a very non-intuitive result at first glance. One
reasonable explanation would appear to be that there was a lot of
pent-up demand for club licenses from over the relatively long period of
time during which they were not issued, which was from at least 1978 to
1995. The official FCC answer on the subject of club and special (i.e.,
"Vanity") callsigns during that time was that it was too much of an
administrative burden to grant them. The FCC was also using a
relatively inflexible, legacy Honeywell system to track and issue
amateur radio licenses. Those that held licenses during that time,
licenses that were impact-printed on smudgy carbon "burst" forms, might
note that they were only issued one day a week (Thursday, I believe).
Existing club licenses could be renewed, but if they expired and passed
out of their grace period without renewal, they could not be reissued.
I understand that the grandfathered club licenses were tracked by the
FCC manually in an index card catalog.

I can attest personally to the fact that when members of the local
amateur radio and USAF veterans' communities noticed that the FCC was
going to allow club licenses and vanity callsigns again, they jumped at
the chance to recover a couple of them that had expired many years ago.
This included the base MARS/military-recreation station at Offutt Air
Force Base, K0AIR, and the personal Nebraska callsign of General Curtis
LeMay when he was the Commander-in-Chief of Strategic Air Command,
K0GRL. The club that was formed to hold these callsigns, and use them
for special events like Veteran's Day/General LeMay's birthday, has a
home page at:

http://www.sacmarc.org

Other local clubs availed themselves of the opportunity to obtain
special, distinctive callsigns for repeaters, contest stations, to honor
deceased members who made significant contributions to the

hobby/service, and the like. I think that the FCC has struck an appropriate balance between allowing a reasonable number of such club callsigns for legitimate use (such as to identify different stations or operational missions and resources) on one hand, versus discouraging callsign hoarding/banking on the other. I feel that it is appropriate to recover distinctive callsigns to honor deceased amateurs who made significant contributions to the hobby/service, and place them in special trust/usage. As long as it doesn't degrade to the point that huge swaths of desirable callsigns are taken out of use for other amateurs. I recall a "Tank McNamara" comic strip some years back with two team managers looking out over the starting lineup of a baseball game. One says to the other something like, "Maybe we should stop retiring numbers," as all of the players had increasingly lengthy, and tiny, numbers on the backs of their uniforms.

- --
73, Paul W. Schleck, K3FU
pschleck@novia.net
http://www.novia.net/~pschleck/
Finger pschleck@novia.net for PGP Public Key

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v1.4.5 (SunOS)

iD8DBQFGETG/6Pj0az779o4RAiVXAKCrlovWcjUiSM0BoQckrt2/5/CaqQCaA3JD
kJYc9DXgHed2iFvsRPMfKR8=
=4UVM
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----

560. End of BPL controversy?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-02 23:45:27 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1175557363.359894.72230@q75g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4865

This may be the alternative to BPL that even Sumner and Imlay would approve.

Point your browser to ---> http://www.google.com/tisp

73, de Hans, K0HB

561. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-03 17:11:14 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1175620146.956909.115800@l77g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4866

On Apr 2, 10:21 am, Paul W. Schleck <pschl...@oasis.novia.net>" wrote:
> -----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
> Hash: SHA1
>
> In <1175362097.587881.94...@n59g2000hsh.googlegroups.com> "AF6AY" <LenAnder...@ieee.org> writes:
>
> [...]
>
> > > Curiously, there has been a growth of Club licenses
> > > granted in the last year. I would have thought that Club
> > > licenses were relatively static since the overall licensee
> > > totals showed little growth or decline in numbers?
> > > 73, Len AF6AY
>
> I agree that this is a very non-intuitive result at first glance. One
> reasonable explanation would appear to be that there was a lot of
> pent-up demand for club licenses from over the relatively long period of
> time during which they were not issued, which was from at least 1978 to
> 1995. The official FCC answer on the subject of club and special (i.e.,
> "Vanity") callsigns during that time was that it was too much of an
> administrative burden to grant them. The FCC was also using a
> relatively inflexible, legacy Honeywell system to track and issue
> amateur radio licenses. Those that held licenses during that time,
> licenses that were impact-printed on smudgy carbon "burst" forms, might
> note that they were only issued one day a week (Thursday, I believe).
> Existing club licenses could be renewed, but if they expired and passed
> out of their grace period without renewal, they could not be reissued.
> I understand that the grandfathered club licenses were tracked by the
> FCC manually in an index card catalog.

The period between 1995 and 2007 is twelve years.

In that interim there have been a number of abuses of the Vanity
callsign system, most notably by Roy Tucker of southern
California who once had the Tucker family holding 41 callsigns,
all at the same street-city address. That is now down to a mere
twenty or so. :-)

History of the Vanity callsign system noted, the FCC now has a
nice page on its website for applications of Vanity callsigns as
well
as renewals and other administrative changes. The FCC will
immediately accept and process credit card fees for a Vanity
call ($20.80) through another govenment agency link but they

also explain that "it may take weeks to fully process [them]."

73, Len AF6AY

562. Re: March 9 2007 License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-03 18:47:04 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <461293fa$0$37534$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 4867

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

In <1175620146.956909.115800@l77g2000hsb.googlegroups.com> "AF6AY" <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
writes:

>On Apr 2, 10:21 am, Paul W. Schleck <pschl...@oasis.novia.net>" wrote:
>> -----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
>> Hash: SHA1
>>
>> In <1175362097.587881.94...@n59g2000hsh.googlegroups.com> "AF6AY" <LenAnder...@ieee.org> writes:
>>
>> [...]
>>
>> > Curiously, there has been a growth of Club licenses
>> > granted in the last year. I would have thought that Club
>> > licenses were relatively static since the overall licensee
>> > totals showed little growth or decline in numbers?
>> > 73, Len AF6AY
>>
>> I agree that this is a very non-intuitive result at first glance. One
>> reasonable explanation would appear to be that there was a lot of
>> pent-up demand for club licenses from over the relatively long period of
>> time during which they were not issued, which was from at least 1978 to
>> 1995. The official FCC answer on the subject of club and special (i.e.,
>> "Vanity") callsigns during that time was that it was too much of an
>> administrative burden to grant them. The FCC was also using a
>> relatively inflexible, legacy Honeywell system to track and issue
>> amateur radio licenses. Those that held licenses during that time,
>> licenses that were impact-printed on smudgy carbon "burst" forms, might
>> note that they were only issued one day a week (Thursday, I believe).
>> Existing club licenses could be renewed, but if they expired and passed
>> out of their grace period without renewal, they could not be reissued.
>> I understand that the grandfathered club licenses were tracked by the
>> FCC manually in an index card catalog.

> The period between 1995 and 2007 is twelve years.

That's true. So, it's probably not the only explanation, especially if
annual growth of club licenses has been increasing recently. In my
opinion, other plausible explanations based on more recent trends could
include:

- More amateurs being aware of the opportunity to establish club
stations (I know there's been recent debate in many forums regarding

how long it takes word of FCC action to trickle down into the general amateur radio population and become common knowledge. It's probably not twelve years, but it might not be 30 days, either.)

- Fewer bureaucratic hurdles to obtaining amateur radio licenses in general, due to a debugged Universal Licensing System, VEC handling of club licensing applications, and clearer documentation by the FCC, the ARRL, and other entities regarding how to apply for and renew licenses

- An aging amateur radio population that desires to establish more legacies for callsigns held either by clubs or notable individuals

- A fear that another embargo of similar or greater length might happen in the foreseeable future

- A desire to establish club stations for Elmering/recruiting purposes, or to give amateurs of modest means or those under antenna restrictions access to more capable stations at all bands including HF, especially in light of licensing requirement changes

- Or even just clearer and more permissive feedback from the FCC concerning clubs obtaining 1 or more callsigns, both by statement, and by enforcement action, or lack thereof (see link below)

> In that interim there have been a number of abuses of the Vanity
> callsign system, most notably by Roy Tucker of southern
> California who once had the Tucker family holding 41 callsigns,
> all at the same street-city address. That is now down to a mere
> twenty or so. :-)

In addition to flexing some welcome enforcement muscle against obvious abusers like the Tuckers, the FCC was also kind enough to make a clarification of policy about 8 years ago:

http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/99/0709/#hollingsworth

so club license applicants may no longer feel that they would be making themselves the "guinea pig" or "test case."

- --
73, Paul W. Schleck, K3FU
pschleck@novia.net
http://www.novia.net/~pschleck/
Finger pschleck@novia.net for PGP Public Key

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v1.4.5 (SunOS)

iD8DBQFGEpO76Pj0az779o4RAqIfAKCNQ7IAXjzwK1/MzpXD5khtPlYTOACfU+i3
9hGEBlhBUGdWxSJvSxGJMBA=
=fSCn
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----

563. Icom PS125

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-05 18:52:47 UTC
From: J D <blues_guitarist@frontiernet.net>
Message-ID: <aMaRh.6129$B25.3759@news01.roc.ny>
Source record: 4868

A while back I purchased an Icom V8000 with the mars cap conversion (136-174 mHZ) to use as a business band radio. Although the PTT gives me trouble now and then.... I really like the radio and i was thinking of getting one for the house to use as a base.... the Icom PS125 compatable with the V8000?

JD

564. Re: Icom PS125

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-05 21:08:48 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1175807222.105585.233410@b75g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4869

On Apr 5, 12:52 pm, "J D" <blues_guitar...@frontiernet.net> wrote:
> A while back I purchased an Icom V8000 with the mars cap conversion (136-174
> mHZ) to use as a business band radio. Although the PTT gives me trouble now
> and then.... I really like the radio and i was thinking of getting one for
> the house to use as a base.... the Icom PS125 compatable with the V8000?
>
> JD

The Icom V8000 is not legal for use on business band.

73, de Hans, K0HB

565. Re: Any other UK calls out there..?!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-05 21:26:21 UTC
From: charlie <wehatespam@wymsey.co.uk>
Message-ID: <O-edna3DH9qK-4jbRVnyuwA@pipex.net>
Source record: 4870

Ivor Jones wrote:
> Hi All,
>
> Well this group has been up & running for a few weeks now and I still seem
> to be the only one here from the UK..!
>
<SNIP>

Ivor,

Just made it to the table :)

Charlie.

--
2E0WYM
www.wymsey.co.uk

566. Re: Icom PS125

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-06 03:25:39 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1175829557.905381.35930@w1g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4871

>From: groupk...@earthlink.net on Thu, 5 Apr 2007 17:08:48 EDT

>On Apr 5, 12:52 pm, "J D" <blues_guitar...@frontiernet.net> wrote:
>
>> A while back I purchased an Icom V8000 with the mars cap conversion (136-174
>> mHZ) to use as a business band radio. Although the PTT gives me trouble now
>> and then.... I really like the radio and i was thinking of getting one for
>> the house to use as a base.... the Icom PS125 compatable with the V8000?
>
>The Icom V8000 is not legal for use on business band.

The V8000 transmitter will only output on the 2m band. Its
receiver already tunes 136 to 174 MHz, stock.

While the PS-125 outputs 13.8 VDC @ 25 A maximum, the connectors
of that and the V8000 aren't compatible. I got mine at no extra
cost on an Icom deal through end of March, but the normal by-itself
price is $300, too much for my thinking; there's plenty of 13 VDC
@ 25 A regulated supplies out on the market. PS-125 case is styled
to match the Pro line and the smaller mobiles (used at home) and
looks nice.

The V8000 needs only a 15 A maximum 13 VDC supply (1 A on
receive) so a PS-125 would be running cool at home. All current
Icom manuals, brochures, spec. sheets are downloadable at

www.icomamerica.com

73, Len AF6AY

567. Re: Icom PS125

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-06 06:05:34 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1175831292.673175.83340@w1g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4872

On Apr 5, 9:25 pm, "AF6AY" <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:

>On Apr 5, 12:52 pm, "J D" <blues_guitar...@frontiernet.net> wrote:

>> A while back I purchased an Icom V8000 with the mars cap conversion (136-174
>> mHZ) to use as a business band radio. .
>
> The V8000 transmitter will only output on the 2m band. Its
> receiver already tunes 136 to 174 MHz, stock.
>

With the "mars cap conversion" claimed by the author, the V8000 will
both transmit and receive in the range 136 - 174MHz. It's use on
"business band" is then possible, but not legal, without regard to the
power supply selected.

73, de Hans, K0HB

568. Amateur Radio Newsline Report 1547 - April 6, 2007 - prefeed - Final

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-06 13:33:16 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <E1HZk6V-0002yo-ED@elasmtp-scoter.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 4873
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline Report 1547 - April 6, 2007

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1547 with a
release date of Friday, April 6th, 2007 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. The ham radio ban
continues in Iraq, the long awaited Swains Island
Dxpedition is on the air and the fight against
B-P-L continures world-wide. Find out the
details on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number
1547 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

WORLDBEAT: IRAQ HAM RADIO BLACK-OUT CONTINUES

The shut-down of Amateur Radio in Iraq could
continue for a long time. This according to
several reports that quote officials of the Iraq
Amateur Radio Society. Amateur Radio Newsline's
Jeff Reinhardt, AA6JR, has the details:

--

The Iraq Amateur Radio Society says through
Internet postings that it has turned down a
government request to warehouse all ham gear
owned by Iraqi radio amateurs. This is because
its simply to dangerous to go out and collect the equipment.

While Iraq's ham populace may not be radiating
R-F, they are still communicating with
one-another and with the outside. This, world
using Echolink and other V-O-I-P systems over the World Wide Web.

This was confirmed earlier in a posting to the
QRZ dot com website where Iraq Amateur Radio
Society President Diya Sayah, YI1DZ, indicated this would likely be the
case.

Sayah wrote -- and we quote: "Echolink, CQ100,
the Internet, cellphones are still working and we
had several ham radios working now using these
instead of RF." The term "ham radios" in this
case referring to operators not actual gear.

The Iraqi ham radio blackout affects anyone operating an Amateur station from that nation. That includes its citizens, outside contractors and even members of other nations military who are stationed in Iraq.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, Im Jeff reinhardt, AA6JR, in Los Angeles.

--

As previously reported, the Iraqi Ministry of Defense last month ordered that all Iraqi radio amateurs remain off the air until improvements are made in what it terms as that nations overall internal security. Some political observers in the West believe that could take years if not decades to happen. (Various)

**

THE DX WORLD: SWAINS ISLAND IS ON THE AIR

The long awaited N-8-S Swains Island DXpedition is on the air! The first contacts were made at just past 10:00 U-T-C on Wednesday, April 4th with literal pile-ups already reported on 80, 40 and 20 meters.

By the time this newscast goes to air, the 17 member team should be active on all of the High Frequency bands from 160 through 10 meters. They are also carrying moonbounce and weak signal gear for use on on 6 and 2 meters. The primary modes to be used will be SSB and C-W but they will be operating W-S-J-T-65 on 50.375 MHz and 144.375 MHz for their Earth-Moon-Earth operations.

Radio New Zealand International which has been following the Swains Island DX-pedition planning says that in addition to the ham radio aspect of this expedition, the group will be delivering supplies, such as tents, equipment and food items for those living on Swains. Also that the ham radio team will donate an Amateur station and a generator to ensure communication is always available between the isolated atoll and the outside world.

The N-8-S team plans to be on Swains through April 15th. Up to date information on this operation is on line at www.yt1ad.info/n8s

We will have more DX at the end of this weeks newscast. (Various DX remailers, Radio New Zealand International)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: HAM SPACE TOURIST TO LAUNCH APRIL 7

If all goes as planned, space tourist Charles Simonyi KE7KDP, should be on the International Space Station by the time many of you hear this newscast. As we go to AIR, THE Russian Soyuz spacecraft carrying Simonyi is slated for liftoff at 17:30 U-T-C on April 7th.

The launch was to be carried live on both NASA and E-S-A television. Once on board the I-S-S, Simonyi plans to use one of the ARISS stations for contacts with students at four schools as well as possible casual contacts with hams on the ground.

After his stay, KE7KDP will return to Earth with members of the departing Expedition 14 crew. They are being replaced by Expedition 15 which is made up of Russian cosmonauts Fyodor Yurchikhin, RN3FI, and non-ham Oleg Kotov. U-S astronaut Suni Williams, KD5PLB, will remain on the I-S-S. Her tour of duty was scheduled to span portions of Expeditions 14 and 15. (ARISS, Southgate, others)

**

THE BPL WAR: AUSTRALIAN BPL INTERFERENCE VIDEO RELEASED

The fight against interference caused by access B-P-L continues down-under. This with the release of a new 8 minute documentary video dealing with the interference potential of Broadband Over Powerline technology in Australia.

The show is a virtual tour video of the Mt Nelson B-P-L trial area and contains a visual and audible representation of the interference potential of the B-P-L technology deployed in the area. It also contains commentary and background information on B-P-L technology . You can view it on-line at http://reast.asn.au/vk7bplwatch.php#bpltours (WIA News)

**

THE BPL WAR: RSGB OPPOSES BPL SCHEME

The Radio Society of Great Britain is supporting International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 efforts to stop proposals, whereby Broadband over Powerline systems could operate within the High Frequency broadcast bands. This, using a technique called dynamic notching. The RSGB support has been to echo IARU's detailed technical objections; the response can be seen

from the link on the RSGB web site - www,rsgb.org. (GB2RS)

**

Break 1

From the United States of America, We are the
Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin
stations around the world including the WC8OH repeater serving Kettering,
Ohio.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RADIO RULES: THE FCC AND 6.25 kHz NARROWBAND TECHNOLOGY

The Federal Communications Commission has
declined to mandate when the Private Land Mobile
Service will be directed to adopt 6.25 kHz
narrowband spacing between systems, but says that
it will eventually happen. And this could be as
early as 2011 or 2013. And hams in need of more
repeater channels are likely watching to see how
it all pans out. Amateur radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, has more:

--

If you own an Amateur repeater on any of the
bands between 2 meters and 70 centimeters, a
decision by the FCC to force users in the Private
Land Mobile Service to adop 6.25 KHz
inter-station spacing at some yet to be
determined day could eventually impact on ham
radio. This is because the operating standards
used in commercial service usually work
themselves down to ham radio operations over a period of time.

On March 22nd the FCC made public its Third
Report and Order dealing with a mandatory shift
to 6.25 KHz ultra-narreowband technology. The
release says that the agency for now does not
want to establish a specific fixed date for
private land mobile radio systems in the 150 to
174 MHz and 421 to 512 MHz bands to transition to
6.25 kHz. That said, the FCC also says that it
plans to have such a transition take place once
gear is available and certified for sale. And
for that reason, the FCC strongly urges land
mobile licensees to consider migrating directly
to 6.25 kHz rather than first adopting 12.5 kHz
spacing and later making the 6.25 kHz move.

But there are a few caveats. In its announcement, the FCC admitted that 6.25 kHz technology is not mature enough to warrant setting a specific migration schedule. Also, that there are no accepted industry standards for 6.25 kHz, and this could be a problem in regard to interoperability between various users.

But says the the FCC also says that it will expeditiously establish a schedule for transition to 6.25 kHz ultra-narrowband once the technology matures to the point that sufficient equipment is available for testing.

What does this mean to hams? While the FCC is not likely to tell radio amateurs that they have to adopt the same technology, it is all but inevitable that some hams will begin looking at 6.25 kHz for their own future repeater operations. This might be especially true in the crowded urban areas like the North-East and in California where waiting lines exist for new repeaters with some hams in that line for several years.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

--

6.25kHz narrowband will not be seen in the Private Land Mobile Radio for several years, but ham radio experimenters are likely to try it long before then. (Adapted from FCC news release)

**

RESCUE RADIO: CONECTICUT DISTRICT ADOPTS HAM RADIO EMCOMMS

A Connecticut township health district has adopted Amateur Radio as its second line for back-up emergency communications. The March 31st edition of the electronic newspaper Voices.com reports that the Naugatuck Valley Health District has completed the installation of the new ham radio base station, to assist in emergency communications.

The article notes that Al Raymond KB1HLK of Naugatuck and Charlie Betkoski, WB1CML, of Seymour, the NVHD helped to spearhead the successful installation of the station. The gear will used in the event that traditional means of communication, including landline telephone, cell or computer, have failed, or are being stretched thin and not functioning adequately.

Health District leaders say that the organization has been working very closely with its partners in the Connecticut Amateur Radio and Emergency Services to make sure that they have purchased equipment that will stand the test of time, and will be easy to operate for ham radio volunteers. A recent test of the system showed that it could communicate state wide.

The Naugatuck Valley Health District says that it is also close to enacting a memorandum of understanding with Connecticut ARES. One that will solidify the relationship that has been developing between it and the regions Amateur Radio operators over the past several years. (voices.com)

**

RESCUE RADIO: REPORT SAYS CELLPHONES SAFE IN HOSPITALS

A report released on March 9th has concluded that cellular telephone calls made on cell phones do not affect hospital medical devices. But the same researchers say that store anti-theft alarms might make implanted heart devices misbehave. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, reports:

--

According to March issue of Mayo Clinic Proceedings., tests at Rochester, Minnesota hospital showed normal use of cellular telephones caused no noticeable interference with patient care equipment. What came as a surprise was a finding that a portable CD player caused an abnormal electrocardiograph reading when a patient used it near one of the leads of the device.

Most hospitals forbid the use of cell phones. Dr. David Hayes and colleagues said their tests suggest the ban is unmerited.

The researchers tested cellular phones using two different technologies from different carriers, near 192 different medical devices. During 300 tests run over five months, they reported no trouble with the equipment.

But not all communications technology mixes with medical devices. Dr. J. Rod Gimbel of East Tennessee Heart Consultants and Dr. James Cox of the University of Tennessee Medical Center in Knoxville described two cases in which anti-theft devices apparently caused implanted heart devices to malfunction.

Dr. Gimbel says that one of the patients had a pacemaker and she collapsed after pausing in a store doorway. Another had an implantable cardiac defibrillator that shocked him after he stood near an anti-theft unit. Dr. Gimbel adds that simply moving a person with one of these implanted devices away from the anti-theft device may save their lives.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the studio in Los Angeles.

--

Regardless of what this report says, it is important to follow the rules that each individual hospital enforces and displays. And if the sign says to turn off your cellular telephone while on the premises, then its best that you do as asked. That goes for your H-T or any other two-way device as well. (Mayo Clinic Proceedings, Science On-Line)

**

ENFORCEMENT: SIGN YOUR LETTER AND STAY OFF THIS REPEATER

Turning to regulatory news, a New York, ham, previously told by the FCC to stay off of certain repeatesr, has had his written response returned to him by the FCC. This because he failed to sign it.

On February 20th, the FCC wrote to Bruce H. Williams, N2YIH, of Long Island City, ordering that he stay off three New York city area repeaters. This, after Williams allegedly ignored an edict from the systems trustee to not use the machines.

According to the FCC, Williams filed a written response on March 12th but did not sign it. That letter was returned to him on March 27th for his signature. At that time the FCC said that the repeaters he must avoid using are those operating under he call letters WA2ZLB. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: PLEASE QSY YOUR REPEATER

A ham in Puerto Rico who declined to change the operating frequency of his system has been advised to do so by the FCC.

In a letter to Oscar Resto, KP4RF, the FCC notes that he was requested by the Puerto Rico Virgin Islands Volunteer Frequency Coordinators group to move his repeater off of 145.450 MHz because it was mixing with another transmitter and

interfering with a repeater on 145.37 MHz. The
FCC notes that both repeaters involved are
coordinated and that such a move by Resto would
not only cure this problem but another interference problem as well.

The FCC letter notes that the coordination
council has found a new frequency pair for
Resto's system, and advises him that making the
move would be in the best interest of all
concerned. But the FCC also warned KP4RF that
failure to resolve the interference may subject
him to a loss of automatic remote control privileges for his machine. (FCC)

**

RADIO AT ALTITUDE: IN FLIGHT CELLPHONE BAN TO CONTINUE

Don't look for the FCC to change its rules that
currently forbid the use of cellular telephones
while flying. This after the agency acts on
Tuesday, April 3rd to continue its ban on the
in-flight use of these and other wireless devices.

Back on on Tuesday March 20th FCC Chair Kevin
Martin announced that the agency would likely
abandon a proposal that would have lifted the
prohibition. The decision came after the
wireless telecommunications industry indicated in
recent comments to the FCC that mobile phone
calls in planes at altitude would cause massive
interfere with their ground based
networks. While the range of a cellphone is only
a mile or so on the ground, that same unit at
35,000 feet could capture cellular telephone
receivers sites for several hundred miles in all
directions. That said the industry would bog
down a systems ability to handle other calls.

Two agencies claim regulatory jurisdiction over
the issue. The FCC is focused on whether
in-flight calling interferes with ground-based
networks, while the Federal Aviation
Administration considers in-flight safety issues..
(Published news reports)

**

HAM RADIO ON THE WWW: NEW ECHOLINK PUBLICATION

A new and easy to understand introduction to
Echolink has been published on the World Wide
Web. Although intended for the United Kingdom's
MB7IPH-L node the information is equally

applicable to Echolink operation world-wide. The
PDF can be downloaded from
http://www.headcorn.org/echolink/intro.pdf (Southgate)

**

HAM HOLIDAYS: INTERNATIONAL MARCONI DAY - APRIL 28

International Marconi Day will take place on
Saturday 28th April this year. Although the
event is not a contest, participants can qualify
for award certificates by contacting special
stations. These stations must operate on or close
to a site where Guglielmo Marconi carried out
experiments or where Marconi equipment was used
prior to his death in 1937. Further information
can be found at www.gb4imd.org.uk. (Varoious)

**

THE SOCIAL SCENE: QRP FOUR DAYS IN MAY EVENT

Low power operators are being invited to register
for the Four Days in May event. Its being held
on May 17th to 20th in Dayton, Ohio, alongside the 2007 Dayton Hamvention.

Organized by the QRP Amateur Radio Club
International, Four Days in May is the world's
premier QRP convention. This year there will
once again be the usual line-up of expert
speakers including Radio Communications Magaxine
columnist, the Rev. George Dobbs, G3RJV flying in
from the U-K. Other speakers include Lyle
Johnson, KK7P and Wes Hayward, W7ZOI. There will
also be various building and design competitions during the event.

The Four Days in May gala banquet and
prize-giving ceremony will be held on Saturday
evening, May 19th. Full details about the event
can be found on the web at www.qrparci.org/fdim. (Press release)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio
amateur. From the United States of America, We
are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the
world from our only official website at
www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the
volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

A WORD OF THANKS FROM THE SUPPORT FUND WITH ANDY JAREMA N6TCQ

Ladies and gentlemen, with more thanks to those
who contributed to the Newsline Support Fund.
Thjis time going back to May of 2006, here's
Amateur Radio Newsline's Support Fund Administrator Andy Jarema, N6TCQ.

--

In the month of May we heard from monthly
contributor Joseph Bartzi, Jr., KC8DKF of
Columbus, OH., The Peoria, IL Area ARC , monthly
contributor William Walters, WA2IBM, and Scott
Hensley of the Area Communications Team, both in
San Jose and the San Francisco ARC, in memory of member Jim, KK6SD

Via PayPal we heard from Robert Weissman , the
Sulpher Mountain Repeater Association of Santa Paula, CA,
N. Rubin of N3SGD Electronics and Gary Elmer,
representing the KG6DVO repeater of Huntingon Beach, CA.

Month in and month out Newsline gives you the
latest news of Amateur Radio- it doesn't come to
us- we have to go get it. With no advertising, we
depend on you- our loyal listeners. Our website-
arnewsline.org has all the info you need to
contribute, including a quick link to PayPal. Or
there's our address: Newsline Support Fund, PO
Box 660937, Arcadia, CA 91066. That address will
be repeated at the end of the newscast. Thanks for your help.
I'm Andy Jarema. N6TCQ. (Support Fund)

--

Thank you Andy.

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: OSCAR 11 AGAIN HEADED TO ECLIPSE

If you want to use the OSCAR 11 satellite, now is
the time to give uit a try. This is the last
operational period for the Amsat-OSCAR 11 ham
radio satellite before eclipses start on April 20th.

Currently, good, steady signals are being heard
from it on 145.826 MHz. If the satellite behaves
as it did last year, once the eclipses begin, it
is unlikely to be heard for any length of time,
during the eclipse period. These continue until August 23rd.

OSCAR 11 also known as UoSAT-OSCAR 11 or UoSAT-2
is one of those long surviving ham radio

birds. It was launched into orbit way back on
March 1, 1984 on a Thor Delta rocket from
Vandenberg Air Force Base in California. It was
the first ham satellite to carry a digital
store-and-forward communications payload. (AMSAT, G3CWV, ARNewsline(tm))

**

WORLDBEAT - CANADA: NEW CANADIAN SECTION MANAGERS

Radio amateurs of Canada has named Joan Bahnman,
VE5JML, as Saskatchewan Section Manager,
completing the term ending October 31, 2008.
Bahnman has been acting in the position after the
first call for nominations went unanswered by
Saskatchewan hams. In the recent second call she
ran unopposed, thus removing the need for a balloted election.

Meanwhile, Alberta Section Manager Tom Martens,
VE6TRM, was nominated and ran unopposed in that
Section, thereby also alleviating the need for a
balloted election. Tom begins another two-year term on July 1st. (RAC)

**

WORLDBEAT - UK: RSGB MAMES NEW RCVS NATIONAL COORDINATOR

The Radio Society of Great Britain has appointed
Dr Robin Bellerby, GM3ZYE, as its new Radio
communications Voluntary Services National
Coordinator. Dr. Bellerby who resides in the
city of Newton Stewart, has more than forty years
experience of RAYNET and radio services to the
local community behind him. His principal role
is that of the working interface between all
RAYNET groups and the RSGB and to work closely
with the "Network" on all emergency
communications matters. RAYNET is the UK
equivalent of RACES. Dr. Bellerby takes up his post immediately. (GB2RS)

**

WORLDBEAT - NEW ZEALAND: AN NZART CONVENTION DOWN-UNDER

Down-under, the New Zealand Amateur Radio
Transmitters 2007 Conference and Annual General
Meeting will be held June 1st to the 4th . The
venue is the Palmerston North Convention Centre
in the city of Palmerson. Among this years
highlights will be forums by Fred Johnson ZL2AMJ
showing an Introductory Demonstrations in Radio
Technology and local Government Liaison Officer
Mike Newman ZL1BNB on Antennas and the New

Zealand Resource Management Act. More
information is on-line at www.nzart.org.nz/nzart (NZART)

**

ON THE AIR: K5THD CELEBRATES WORLD HEALTH DAY APRIL 7

Special Event station K5THD will be focusing on
World Health Day while operating from the Tulsa
City-County Health Department. K5THD, which is
the . Tulsa Health Department Amateur Radio
Club, will take to the airwaves on Saturday,
April 7th from just after midnight to 23:59 UTC
to celebrate the 2007 outing of this annual
event. Operations will be on . 7.273, 14.273,
21.373 and 28.373 HHz. QSL to the Tulsa Health
Department Amateur Radio Club, 5051 S 129 E Ave, Tulsa, OK 74134.
PSK and SSTV on request. See www.tulsa-health.org/k5thd for more. KC5FM))

**

HAM RADIO AND SCOUTING: THE SCOUTING 100 AWARD

A new international Amateur Radio award has been
launched to mark the centenary of the scouting movement.

Called the Scouting 100 Radio Award it comes in
two forms. One is available only to ham radio
operators while the other to S-W-L's.

To attain this award, it is necessary to accrue
points by contacting or hearing scout or guide
stations during 2007. Contacts or reports with
individual scout or guide stations count for one
point. Special event scout stations are worth
two points. The World Jamboree, the Gilwell Park
station in the U-K and Brownsea Island stations count for five points each.

There are no restrictions on what bands and modes
are used. The award is also available for
Echolink and IRLP mode operators. More is
on-line at www.scouting100award.org. (RSGB)

**

DX

In DX word that an upcoming operation is in need
of a few more good operators. The R-S-G-B News
says that K-5-L-B-U, is organizing a DXpedition
to Botswana, which is scheduled to take place
between July 5th to the 21st. He already has four
operators so far, but would like to find at least
two more to join the team. If you are interested

in making the trip you can contact him at frosty1@pdq.net

And news that DL6UAA will be active as 3B8MM from
Mauritius starting on the 5th April and will be
there for a few weeks. He will operate mostly CW,
but will also give SSTV a try. QSL DL6UAA either direct or via the bureau.

Also, 3D2AG is active as FO5RK portable F-K from
Noumea, New Caledonia. He will be there to the
end of April operating mostly on 40 and 20 meter CW. QSL this one direct
only.

Lastly, listen out for a group of operators from
Antwerp, Belgium to be active as ON4OSA portable
P-A from Schouwen-Duiveland. This through the
14th of April. QSL this one as directed on the air.

(Various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEMS: CALL IT DX DREAMS

And finally this week, the United States is not
the only place where hams have D-X wish
lists. Amateur Radio Newsline's Don Wilbanks is
here with the D-X desires of hams in one European
nation and of those down-under:

--

German radio amateurs are desperate to make
contact with Swain's Island while Australians and
New Zealanders are more keen on QSOing with an
operation from Yemen.. This, according to a pair
of new surveys that have recently been released.

The German DX Foundation has published the
results of a 2006 survey of that nations most
wanted DXCC entities. More than 83 percent of
respondents cited Swain's Island as their most
wanted. This was followed by Scarborough Reef,
Navassa Island, Bouvet Island and Lakshadweep Islands.

Meanwhile, a survey into Oceania's most wanted
list by ZL3AB, revealed that Australian and New
Zealand hams wanted most to make contact with
Yemen. Other locations high up the list for those
living down-under included Navassa, Pagalu I,
Scarborough Reef and Amsterdam and St Paul Island.

--

I guess no matter where in the world you are, you likely have a most wanted D-X list of your very own. (WIA News)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline@arnewsline.org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), P.O. Box 660937, Arcadia, California 91066.

Two reminders before we go. First about our on-line poll regarding ypur position on the concept of Regulation by Bandwidth. To take part, take yourr web browser to www.arnewsline.org. Scroll down and watch for the word "Polls" on the left hand side of the page. Then click on the box that is closest to your view. As soon as you cast your vote you will see the current results.

Also, the nominating season for this years Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award is now open. Any radio amateur age 18 or younger residing in all 50 United States, plus Puerto Rico and all 13 Canadian Provences can qualify. Full details and nominating forms are on our special website at www,yhoty.org. Also see the Vertex-Standard sponsored ad on page 8 of the March issue of QST Magazine.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Burt Hicks, WB6MQV, saying 73 and we thank you for listening. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) is Copyright 2007. All rights reserved.

569. Re: Icom PS125

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-06 17:33:07 UTC
From: xxx <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-DFD9FC.13011306042007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 4874

> With the "mars cap conversion" claimed by the author, the V8000 will
> both transmit and receive in the range 136 - 174MHz. It's use on
> "business band" is then possible, but not legal, without regard to the
> power supply selected.

Is that because the radio lacks some sort of certification or are
you assuming that the original poster lacks a business band license?

570. Re: Icom PS125

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-06 18:38:27 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <ebGdnSd4v5LAGovbnZ2dnUVZ_r-onZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4875

"xxx" <xxx@yyy.zzz> wrote in message
news:xxx-DFD9FC.13011306042007@news.verizon.net...
>> With the "mars cap conversion" claimed by the author, the V8000 will
>> both transmit and receive in the range 136 - 174MHz. It's use on
>> "business band" is then possible, but not legal, without regard to the
>> power supply selected.
>
>
> Is that because the radio lacks some sort of certification or are
> you assuming that the original poster lacks a business band license?
>

Wouldn't the radio have to be type accepted (or whatever it's called) to be
used on the business band?

Dee, N8UZE

571. Re: Icom PS125

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-07 00:41:06 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <57o779F2djs9dU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4876

"Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> wrote in message
news:ebGdnSd4v5LAGovbnZ2dnUVZ_r-onZ2d@comcast.com
> "xxx" <xxx@yyy.zzz> wrote in message
> news:xxx-DFD9FC.13011306042007@news.verizon.net...
> > > With the "mars cap conversion" claimed by the author,
> > > the V8000 will both transmit and receive in the range
> > > 136 - 174MHz. It's use on "business band" is then
> > > possible, but not legal, without regard to the power
> > > supply selected.
> >
> >
> > Is that because the radio lacks some sort of
> > certification or are you assuming that the original
> > poster lacks a business band license?
>
> Wouldn't the radio have to be type accepted (or whatever
> it's called) to be used on the business band?
>
> Dee, N8UZE

I don't know about US legal requirements (FCC..?) but here in the UK it's
a requirement that *ALL* radio transmitting equipment is type approved,
with the sole exception of that used by radio amateurs (and, I believe,
the military, but not sure on that one).

We are exempt because we have passed the necessary examinations to show we
have the technical knowledge to modify transmitting equipment without
causing interference to other users of the radio spectrum.

73 Ivor G6URP

572. Re: Any other UK calls out there..?!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-07 00:41:36 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <57o77bF2djs9dU2@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4877

"charlie" <wehatespam@wymsey.co.uk> wrote in message
news:O-edna3DH9qK-4jbRVnyuwA@pipex.net
> Ivor Jones wrote:
> > Hi All,
> >
> > Well this group has been up & running for a few weeks
> > now and I still seem to be the only one here from the
> > UK..!
> >
> <SNIP>
>
> Ivor,
>
> Just made it to the table :)
>
> Charlie.

Where are you from..? I'm in the West Midlands, just outside Birmingham.

Are you the Charlie I've spoken with before..? Callsign..?

73 Ivor G6URP

573. Re: Icom PS125

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-07 03:59:05 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1175911440.089943.89490@b75g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4878

On Apr 6, 11:33 am, xxx <x...@yyy.zzz> wrote:

> Is that because the radio lacks some sort of certification or are
> you assuming that the original poster lacks a business band license?

Radio transmitters used on business band must be FCC approved
("certificated") for that service. The ICOM in question is not.

73, de Hans, K0HB

574. Re: Icom PS125

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-07 18:25:28 UTC
From: Bruce in Alaska <bruceg@btpost.net>
Message-ID: <bruceg-D745C6.08392407042007@netnews.worldnet.att.net>
Source record: 4879

In article <1175911440.089943.89490@b75g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>,
groupk0hb@earthlink.net wrote:

> On Apr 6, 11:33 am, xxx <x...@yyy.zzz> wrote:
>
>
> > Is that because the radio lacks some sort of certification or are
> > you assuming that the original poster lacks a business band license?
>
> Radio transmitters used on business band must be FCC approved
> ("certificated") for that service. The ICOM in question is not.
>
> 73, de Hans, K0HB
>
>
>

The Phrase in question is "Type Accepted", and ALL Transmitters licensed
under Part 90, 80, 20, and a few others, MUST be Type Accepted by the
FCC, to be marketed, Imported, and sold, in the US. Any person may
modify any piece of equipment they choose, HOWEVER, said modification
MAY void the Type Acceptance for that piece of equipment, and therefor
make it a violation of the Licensing Conditions as specified on the
Station License granted by the FCC.

Bruce in alaska
--
add a <2> before @

575. Re: Any other UK calls out there..?!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-07 18:26:04 UTC
From: charlie <wehatespam@wymsey.co.uk>
Message-ID: <geqdna-i16j4U4rbnZ2dnUVZ8qqlnZ2d@pipex.net>
Source record: 4880

Ivor Jones wrote:
<SNIP>
>
> Where are you from..? I'm in the West Midlands, just outside Birmingham.
>
> Are you the Charlie I've spoken with before..? Callsign..?
>
> 73 Ivor G6URP
>
>

Ivor,

I only got my licence this Thursday (2E0WYM) so it won't have been
me :) I have not been on the air yet as I have been busy
constructing a fan dipole (40m - 10) which is for the loft as I
can't put up external aerials.

73 Charlie

--
2E0WYM
www.wymsey.co.uk

576. Re: Any other UK calls out there..?!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-07 21:07:30 UTC
From: charlie <wehatespam@wymsey.co.uk>
Message-ID: <pK2dnY0SaP4hmIXbnZ2dnUVZ8v6dnZ2d@pipex.net>
Source record: 4881

Ivor,

In answer to your first question: I am in Southampton - on the east
bank of the river with funnel views of the liners :)

Charlie.

--
2E0WYM
www.wymsey.co.uk

577. Re: Icom PS125

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-07 22:21:26 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1175983816.436008.78170@w1g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4882

On Apr 7, 12:25 pm, Bruce in Alaska <bru...@btpost.net> wrote:

>
> The Phrase in question is "Type Accepted",
>

"Type Accepted" (or "Type Acceptance") is an outdated term, replaced
in FCC regs with the term "Certificated".

73, de Hans, K0HB

578. Re: Call signs for foreign amateurs operating in US

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-08 00:02:39 UTC
From: peace@capebyron.com
Message-ID: <1175990004.870405.99340@l77g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4883

It was more an inconvenience really, the US tests were (and probably
still are) easier than the ones in Oz. I supposed I could have
travelled to the US under my Aussie passport and nobody would have
been the wiser, but it would have involved committing perjury about my
dual citizenship, something that would have been hard to sleep with.

The US rules are unbending, if you are a US citizen you must apply for
a US license even if you are only visiting for a fortnight. When I
stayed for a long period they even tried to nick my Aussie drivers
license when I applied for a US one///

On Mar 30, 7:47 pm, Phil Kane <Phil.K...@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:
> On Fri, 30 Mar 2007 05:07:40 EDT, "Jack VK2CJC"
>
> <vk2...@look-me-up-at-qrz.com> wrote:
> >As a UK citizen, I can use my Australian license in the UK so long as I am
> >visiting for less than 3 months. After that time, the privilege expires and
> >I have to get a UK license. Much the same as driving licenses.
>
> >Doesn't the US do the same?
>
> There is no requirement to get a US license if one is operating under
> a CEPT/CITEL/reciprocity agreement as long as the person is not a US
> citizen. If s/he is a US citizen, a US license is required from day
> one regardless of any dual citizenship and licensing held.
> --
>
> 73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
> ARRL Volunteer Counsel
>
> email: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

579. Re: Icom PS125

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-08 01:52:07 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <l0ig139ls6b3ul1odgtplctlv0jt1j7g25@4ax.com>
Source record: 4884

On Sat, 7 Apr 2007 14:25:28 EDT, Bruce in Alaska <bruceg@btpost.net>
wrote:

>The Phrase in question is "Type Accepted", and ALL Transmitters licensed
>under Part 90, 80, 20, and a few others, MUST be Type Accepted by the
>FCC, to be marketed, Imported, and sold, in the US. Any person may
>modify any piece of equipment they choose, HOWEVER, said modification
>MAY void the Type Acceptance for that piece of equipment, and therefor
>make it a violation of the Licensing Conditions as specified on the
>Station License granted by the FCC.

Hey, Bruce, things have changed since the days when we looked for the
FCC Form 452-C on each transmitter (a tag stating the name of the
licensee and the call sign of the station that it was licensed under).
Quite a while back, the FCC changed the level for Land Mobile (and
other services') transmitters from "Type Acceptance" to
"Certification" meaning that the manufacturers need not send the test
data to the FCC and wait for the Type Acceptance to be issued but can
self-test and certify that it meets specs, with test data made
available if there is a question. This was because the industry
complained that it was taking too long to process Type Acceptance
applications, and the Commish' took the easy way out and changed the
level rather than to do what should have been done, namely hire more
examiners to make the process more timely.

Oh, the requirement for the 452-C is gone as well. More
"privatization"....
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

580. QRO 2500DX MOD

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-08 02:02:05 UTC
From: "Dr.Ace" <Ace@WH2T.com>
Message-ID: <eab17$461848df$4e0b13e$14426@DIALUPUSA.NET>
Source record: 4885

Does anyone know how to modify a QRO 2500DX amplifier to work on the 10 meter band ?

Thanks , Ace - WH2T

.

581. Re: Icom PS125

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-08 02:02:19 UTC
From: xxx <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-D16975.20010907042007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 4886

In article <1175983816.436008.78170@w1g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>,

> "Type Accepted" (or "Type Acceptance") is an outdated term, replaced
> in FCC regs with the term "Certificated".

While the term may have been purged from the R&R, I have seen it in the current question pool for commercial licenses. Element 1 has a question (#12) that reads:

Q: "What is a requirement of all marine transmitting apparatus used aboard United States vessels?"

A: "Only equipment that has been type accepted by the FCC for Part 80 operations is authorized."

582. Re: Icom PS125

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-08 08:47:53 UTC
From: J D <blues_guitarist@frontiernet.net>
Message-ID: <CD0Sh.6429$ya1.102@news02.roc.ny>
Source record: 4887

"J D" <blues_guitarist@frontiernet.net> wrote in message
news:aMaRh.6129$B25.3759@news01.roc.ny...
>A while back I purchased an Icom V8000 with the mars cap conversion
>(136-174 mHZ) to use as a business band radio. Although the PTT gives me
>trouble now and then.... I really like the radio and i was thinking of
>getting one for the house to use as a base.... the Icom PS125 compatable
>with the V8000?
>
> JD

Well..... Im not one for ruffling the FCC's feathers..... so I wont
operate on the business band with my Icom V8000 ;-) .....Is there an online
study guide where a person can obtain the information required to get a ham
license?

JD

583. Re: Icom PS125

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-08 12:04:57 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <131hmip7r2gtf84@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 4888

J D wrote:

> Is there an online
> study guide where a person can obtain the information required to get a ham
> license?

Some of these are not online study guides, but instead old fashioned
paper books:
http://www.arrl.org/catalog/lm/
http://www.hamtestonline.com/
https://secure.qrz.com/store/w5yi/index.html
http://www.hamradio-online.com/firstlicense.html

Free practice exams available at:
http://www.eham.net/exams/
http://www.qrz.com/testing.html

You can download the question pools at
http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/pools.html

584. DSP software for PC

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-09 03:10:00 UTC
From: Rick <Nospam@reply.in.gp>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.04.09.03.07.19.240956@reply.in.gp>
Source record: 4889

I'm looking for an audio DSP program that runs on a (fast) PC and provides some of the audio DSP features that something like the MFJ 784B provides.

One would take the audio output from a receiver and feed it in the "line in" port and get DSP'd and filtered audio output from the computer speakers.

Anything like that available?

585. Re: DSP software for PC

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-09 11:20:31 UTC
From: "John F. Morse" <xanadu.bbs@example.net>
Message-ID: <gGjSh.27652$VU4.8611@bgtnsc05-news.ops.worldnet.att.net>
Source record: 4890

Rick wrote:
> I'm looking for an audio DSP program that runs on a (fast) PC and provides
> some of the audio DSP features that something like the MFJ 784B provides.
>
> One would take the audio output from a receiver and feed it in the "line
> in" port and get DSP'd and filtered audio output from the computer
> speakers.
>
> Anything like that available?

Audio DSP program? Yes.

Google is your best friend.

http://www.google.com/search?q=audio+dsp+program

1,690,000 hits.

--
John

No Microsoft products were used in the
preparation or transmission of this message.

586. Re: DSP software for PC

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-09 12:00:49 UTC
From: Rick <Nospam@reply.in.gp>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.04.09.11.41.16.323762@reply.in.gp>
Source record: 4891

On Mon, 09 Apr 2007 07:20:31 -0400, John F. Morse wrote:

> Google is your best friend.
>
> http://www.google.com/search?q=audio+dsp+program
>
> 1,690,000 hits.

Thanks, John.

I meant more in terms of programs that people here may have used and found to be of high quality.

But, I'll wade through some of those 1,690,000 (now 1,940,000) hits and see what I find.

587. Threaded Rod

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-09 13:58:13 UTC
From: KH6HZ <kh6hzA@Tarrl.net>
Message-ID: <oerSh.67000$s8.6767@newsfe21.lga>
Source record: 4892

I'm relocating my tower next month to my new home, and have to pour a new pier footing for the tower.

Does anyone have a good online source for threaded rod?

Specifically, I'm looking for 3 pieces of 1 inch threaded rod, roughly 3' in length.

Local supply sources don't stock anything that large, plus I would question the quality of the rod they sell in terms of the softness of the steel. I want to make sure I get the best quality I can buy up front.

588. Pointers to (or on) block downconverter construction?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-09 14:26:11 UTC
From: Mike Andrews <mikea@mikea.ath.cx>
Message-ID: <evdhjs$ub7$1@puck.litech.org>
Source record: 4893

I've got, and love, an RFSpace Inc. SDR-IQ software-defined receiver. It covers 100 Hz to 30 MHz, and lets me eyeball any 190 KHz (or narrower) chunk all at once, which is rather particularly nice. I'd like to be able to use it on 30 to 60 MHz and higher, which means that I need a downconverter. It seems to me that a suitable downconverter would let me set a switch to choose which 30 MHz band got mixed down to the roughly 0-30 MHz baseband.

I'd like to have this work up through the 70 cm. ham band for sure, and as much higher as I can get. I know that construction techniques change as one gets above HF, and change _radically_ at UHF and above. How hard is this going to be, overall?

The general setup I envision is something rather like

LO
n*30MHz
(n to |
(n+1)) |
* 30 MHz 30 MHz wide V 0 to 30 MHz
input --> bandpass filter --> mixer --> output
to SDR-IQ

Some questions for the (perhaps not older: I'm 60) wiser heads with more design-and-construction experience: is this at all a reasonable thing to do? Does anyone have any ideas on suitable mixers? Am I looking at a disparate-enough set of frequency bands that I will wind up having to use multiple mixers, possibly one per 30 MHz band, or per octave? It is trivially obvious to me that I'll need different antennas.

Is it reasonable to look at using a comb generator which is driven by a 30 MHz reference, so that I just take the appropriate harmonic and amplify it to a power level that suits the mixer I have to use for that particular 30 MHz band? Would it be better, perhaps, to use DDS to generate the LO frequencies I want?

--
Mike Andrews, W5EGO
mikea@mikea.ath.cx
Tired old sysadmin

589. Re: DSP software for PC

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-09 15:29:45 UTC
From: "Dr.Ace" <Ace@WH2T.com>
Message-ID: <440ba$461a5021$4fc4253$1222@DIALUPUSA.NET>
Source record: 4894

"Rick" <Nospam@reply.in.gp> wrote in message
news:pan.2007.04.09.03.07.19.240956@reply.in.gp...
> I'm looking for an audio DSP program that runs on a (fast) PC and provides
> some of the audio DSP features that something like the MFJ 784B provides.
>
> One would take the audio output from a receiver and feed it in the "line
> in" port and get DSP'd and filtered audio output from the computer
> speakers.
>
> Anything like that available?
>

Rick,
Try
DSP Filter
BY
JE3HHT - Makoto Mori
DSP filter for Win95/98/ME/NT/2000 and Soundcard

FREE from
http://mmhamsoft.amateur-radio.ca/index.htm

73, Ace www.WH2T.com

.

590. Re: Dayton anyone?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-09 15:30:23 UTC
From: xpyttl <xpyttl_NOSPAM@earthling.net>
Message-ID: <6BsSh.35$Xq6.23@newsfe12.lga>
Source record: 4895

"Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
news:euefbc$oi0$2@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...
> Any posters heading out to Dayton this year?
>
> I'll be going all three days, and maybe we can arrange an eyeball QSO.

Then you are missing the best part ... Thursday in Fairborn

..

591. Re: Threaded Rod

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-09 15:45:04 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1176133337.959663.190810@o5g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4896

On Apr 9, 7:58 am, "KH6HZ" <kh6...@Tarrl.net> wrote:

>
> Specifically, I'm looking for 3 pieces of 1 inch threaded rod, roughly 3' in
> length.
>

I got mine from "Hilti" --- they often have a 'booth' at Home Depot
stores, and here in town they also have a stand-alone store. These
are the same bolts that are used in the base of street lights, traffic
signals, etc.

73, de Hans, K0HB

592. Re: Icom PS125

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-09 17:57:12 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <6bvk13t18pfr9o05uj61dtphq7p9ocvga5@4ax.com>
Source record: 4897

On Sat, 7 Apr 2007 22:02:19 EDT, xxx <xxx@yyy.zzz> wrote:

>In article <1175983816.436008.78170@w1g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>,
>
>> "Type Accepted" (or "Type Acceptance") is an outdated term, replaced
>> in FCC regs with the term "Certificated".
>
>
> While the term may have been purged from the R&R, I have seen it in
>the current question pool for commercial licenses. Element 1 has a
>question (#12) that reads:
>
>Q: "What is a requirement of all marine transmitting apparatus used
>aboard United States vessels?"
>
>A: "Only equipment that has been type accepted by the FCC for Part 80
>operations is authorized."

Type Acceptance is still required for Marine equipment, as is a
General Radiotelephone Operator License to repair and adjust same.

We were discussing Land Mobile equipment, where the level of equipment
certification was reduced from Type Accepted to Certificated several
years ago, as was deletion of the requirement for a commercial license
to repair or adjust same
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

593. Re: Threaded Rod

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-09 18:01:51 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <1mvk1399dutb48q5s9pfjm8vme4b2re8lm@4ax.com>
Source record: 4898

On Mon, 9 Apr 2007 11:45:04 EDT, groupk0hb@earthlink.net wrote:

>I got mine from "Hilti" --- they often have a 'booth' at Home Depot
>stores, and here in town they also have a stand-alone store. These
>are the same bolts that are used in the base of street lights, traffic
>signals, etc.

Good to know. I've always respected their tools, starting from the
cartridge-driven bolt setters that I used 42 years ago when I put up
my antenna in 4X4-land. (Another story, that one....)
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

594. Re: Threaded Rod

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-09 18:39:48 UTC
From: KH6HZ <kh6hzA@Tarrl.net>
Message-ID: <6GvSh.52000$Ng1.7041@newsfe19.lga>
Source record: 4799

On Mon, 9 Apr 2007 11:45:04 EDT, groupk0hb@earthlink.net wrote:

>I got mine from "Hilti" --- they often have a 'booth' at Home Depot
>stores, and here in town they also have a stand-alone store. These
>are the same bolts that are used in the base of street lights, traffic
>signals, etc.

Hmmm.... doesn't ring a bell at the local home depot stores around here,
unless they're a recent addition... Granted, for the past year or so I've
been going to Lowes rather than the 'pot.

595. Re: Pointers to (or on) block downconverter construction?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-09 18:41:59 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1176143788.804325.76380@e65g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4800

Mike Andrews wrote on Apr 9, 6:26 am:

>I've got, and love, an RFSpace Inc. SDR-IQ software-defined receiver.
>It covers 100 Hz to 30 MHz, and lets me eyeball any 190 KHz (or
>narrower) chunk all at once, which is rather particularly nice. I'd
>like to be able to use it on 30 to 60 MHz and higher, which means that
>I need a downconverter. It seems to me that a suitable downconverter
>would let me set a switch to choose which 30 MHz band got mixed down
>to the roughly 0-30 MHz baseband.
>
>I'd like to have this work up through the 70 cm. ham band for sure,
>and as much higher as I can get. I know that construction techniques
>change as one gets above HF, and change _radically_ at UHF and above.
>How hard is this going to be, overall?

Offhand, NOT hard at all...with the aid of some MiniCircuits
components such as the mixer and perhaps an input low-pass
filters. The down-converter's LO is going to be the bear
if you want frequency accuracy.

>The general setup I envision is something rather like
>
> LO
> n*30MHz
>(n to |
>(n+1)) |
>* 30 MHz 30 MHz wide V 0 to 30 MHz
>input --> bandpass filter --> mixer --> output
> to SDR-IQ

That's the general block diagram of every down-converter. :-)
With perhaps the exception of the "30 MHz wide BPF." Nearly all
wideband spectrum analyzers use a lowpass filter there with the
LO riding ABOVE the input frequency; image will be on the "high
side" and that is blocked-out by the LPF.

>Some questions for the (perhaps not older: I'm 60) wiser heads with
>more design-and-construction experience: is this at all a reasonable
>thing to do?

Absoutely reasonable.

>Does anyone have any ideas on suitable mixers?

I would suggest going to www.minicircuits.com and seeing what they
have...a rather large selection. Those are ready-built in various
basings and all cover an octave or more in both input and LO ports.

MiniCircuits has some nice tutorials on various aspects of Mixers.
Price is reasonable for ready-built components.

>Am I
>looking at a disparate-enough set of frequency bands that I will wind
>up having to use multiple mixers, possibly one per 30 MHz band, or
>per octave?

I would say a single Mixer rated at LF to 1 GHz Input will do the
job. Passive (diode) Mixers are as broadband as their coupling
transformers and diodes allow, something now quite wide in frequency.

>It is trivially obvious to me that I'll need different
>antennas.

Not necessarily. A discone can do nearly a double decade in
frequency range but at a slight loss (1 db or so) less than a
dipole. For more gain and directionality, a log-periodic for
VHF-UHF can be used for an easy decade bandwidth.

>Is it reasonable to look at using a comb generator which is driven by
>a 30 MHz reference, so that I just take the appropriate harmonic and
>amplify it to a power level that suits the mixer I have to use for
>that particular 30 MHz band? Would it be better, perhaps, to use DDS
>to generate the LO frequencies I want?

I would suggest a form of PLL, similar to a TV set-top box converter
for down-converting old UHF channels to VHF. The LO needs to
increment
only in 30 (perhaps 15 for 'havsies') MHz increments. The direct LO
frequency sample can be fed to a prescaler whose output (at a lower
incremental frequency) can be applied to a digital counter whose
output
is phase-frequency compared to a stable reference frequency. The LO
output to the Mixer needs only to be above the minimum specified level
and below a maximum, also specified if a ready-built mixer is used.
At below-1-GHz frequencies you can get away with attenuating the LO
level with a carbon-comp T or H pad figured for the common 50 Ohm
system. MiniCircuits also has VCOs of many kinds in stock and most of
those cover a half to a full octave in electronic tuning range.

Layout of the UHF needs, realistically, only an approximation of the
PCB trace width for "50 Ohm lines" on whatever substrate is used.
For very short trace lengths the "mismatch" isn't noticeable and,
for under-1.2 GHz frequencies, I've used #20 AWG wire without
problem in performance! :-)

In thinking more about it, salvaging an old TV UHF channel converter
might be a better idea, modifying its output to go DC to 30 MHz
instead of stopping at Channel 2; a few for cable TV service go
lower in output frequencies for built-in cable service functions,
depends on the maker of the set-top and the cable service. All
of those seem to operate at 2 MHz increments but use "in-house"

PLL subassemblies, circuit diagrams printed on unobtainium. :-(

Prescalers - as stock items - are now scarce but exist mainly as "house number" special orders. A few dealers have them as old stock left-overs. Nearly all operate up to 900 MHz so their ability to prescale a UHF LO is no problem.

The SDR-IQ is a fairly precision instrument as a spectrum analyzer and it deserves to have a down-converter checked out with good test equipment. Any one of the (now ancient) HP-608 signal generator models can cover up to the 70cm band with known RF output levels. That's another thing to keep in mind.

I hope some of this long text is a help to you.

73, Len AF6AY

596. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-09 22:34:39 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1176155253.602286.326610@n59g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4801

The FCC database derived numbers can be inconclusive, because the "new/
upgrade" numbers are masked by expirations, giving a "net" number.

Here are some interesting numbers compiled by NCVEC just from test/
upgrade-paper numbers are "bare" of the influence of expirations.

These numbers compare the period of Jan 1 to March 25 of this year
(2007) vs. last year (2006)

New Tech (2006) 4685 (2007) 6565 Change = +40%
New/Upgraded Generals (2006) 945 (2007) 7395 Change = +683%
New/Upgraded Extras (2006) 775 (2007) 1910 Change = +146%

73, de Hans, K0HB

597. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-09 23:16:27 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <h86dneQmNIqxVIfbnZ2dnUVZ_oKnnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4802

<groupk0hb@earthlink.net> wrote in message
news:1176155253.602286.326610@n59g2000hsh.googlegroups.com...
> The FCC database derived numbers can be inconclusive, because the "new/
> upgrade" numbers are masked by expirations, giving a "net" number.
>
> Here are some interesting numbers compiled by NCVEC just from test/
> upgrade-paper numbers are "bare" of the influence of expirations.
>
> These numbers compare the period of Jan 1 to March 25 of this year
> (2007) vs. last year (2006)
>
>
> New Tech (2006) 4685 (2007) 6565 Change = +40%
> New/Upgraded Generals (2006) 945 (2007) 7395 Change = +683%
> New/Upgraded Extras (2006) 775 (2007) 1910 Change = +146%
>
> 73, de Hans, K0HB
>

Yet the net number is far more meaningful. It is what tells us if we have growth or not. Many (but not all) proponents said that this would bring growth and, at least so far, it has not. Admittedly the time frame is as yet too short. However, it's also too short to see if this change in new Technicians is sustained or is a momentary blip in the curve.

Dee, N8UZE

598. Re: Threaded Rod

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-09 23:17:47 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1176158647.249251.168390@q75g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4803

On Apr 9, 12:39 pm, "KH6HZ" <kh6...@Tarrl.net> wrote:

>
> Hmmm.... doesn't ring a bell at the local home depot stores around here,
>

Their website lists several stores in your area

http://www.us.hilti.com/holus/modules/stores/stlo_main.jsp?def=1&_region=MA&sel3=22&selection=_region

73, de Hans, K0HB

599. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-10 01:16:08 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1176163387.938008.145810@e65g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4804

On Apr 9, 5:16 pm, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:

>
> Yet the net number is far more meaningful.
>

"Meaningful" is context dependent.

If the context is "compare the number of new/upgraded licenses by
class for the period January 1 through March 25, 2007 with the
corresponding period in 2006", then the "net" number is not meaningful
and would be misleading.

73, de Hans, K0HB

600. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-10 01:16:29 UTC
From: xxx <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-D06C27.20220909042007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 4805

"Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> wrote:
>
> Yet the net number is far more meaningful. It is what tells us if we have
> growth or not. Many (but not all) proponents said that this would bring
> growth and, at least so far, it has not. Admittedly the time frame is as
> yet too short. However, it's also too short to see if this change in new
> Technicians is sustained or is a momentary blip in the curve.

As I see it, the time frame is too short to draw any conclusions of
any sort. Imagine that we were discussing a change to the tax laws that
was intended to increase reinvestment. How many YEARS would you have to
wait before you could say that you had conclusive proof that the policy
had succeeded or failed?
I still believe that the vast majority of persons who have an
interest in electronics, computers, radio and related fields; the
demographic segment from which one would reasonably expect to attract
new hams, knows nothing whatever about any of this. While they probably
read technical publications of some sort, most of them probably read no
publications that are explicitly about amateur radio. I have seen
virtually nothing on this topic in any other media.

601. Re: Threaded Rod

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-10 01:56:06 UTC
From: richgr@panix.com
Message-ID: <eveqfngud1@reader2.panix.com>
Source record: 4806

In article <oerSh.67000$s8.6767@newsfe21.lga>, KH6HZ <kh6hzA@Tarrl.net> wrote:
>I'm relocating my tower next month to my new home, and have to pour a new
>pier footing for the tower.
>
>Does anyone have a good online source for threaded rod?
>
>Specifically, I'm looking for 3 pieces of 1 inch threaded rod, roughly 3' in
>length.

If the Hilti tip doesn't pan out, check with the tower manufacturer.

--
Rich Greenberg N Ft Myers, FL, USA richgr atsign panix.com + 1 239 543 1353
Eastern time. N6LRT I speak for myself & my dogs only. VM'er since CP-67
Canines:Val, Red, Shasta & Casey (RIP), Red & Zero, Siberians Owner:Chinook-L
Retired at the beach Asst Owner:Sibernet-L

602. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-10 02:22:55 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <3rGdnaBxCKV6aYfbnZ2dnUVZ_ternZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4807

"xxx" <xxx@yyy.zzz> wrote in message
news:xxx-D06C27.20220909042007@news.verizon.net...
> "Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> wrote:
>>
>> Yet the net number is far more meaningful. It is what tells us if we
>> have
>> growth or not. Many (but not all) proponents said that this would bring
>> growth and, at least so far, it has not. Admittedly the time frame is as
>> yet too short. However, it's also too short to see if this change in new
>> Technicians is sustained or is a momentary blip in the curve.
>
>
> As I see it, the time frame is too short to draw any conclusions of
> any sort. Imagine that we were discussing a change to the tax laws that
> was intended to increase reinvestment. How many YEARS would you have to
> wait before you could say that you had conclusive proof that the policy
> had succeeded or failed?
> I still believe that the vast majority of persons who have an
> interest in electronics, computers, radio and related fields; the
> demographic segment from which one would reasonably expect to attract
> new hams, knows nothing whatever about any of this. While they probably
> read technical publications of some sort, most of them probably read no
> publications that are explicitly about amateur radio. I have seen
> virtually nothing on this topic in any other media.
>

Which is precisely my point. Changes in requirements don't have any effect
when the potential recruits have no idea that the hobby even exists.

Dee, N8UZE

603. Re: Threaded Rod

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-10 07:22:39 UTC
From: wa5kbq@arrl.org
Message-ID: <kh0m13pp5b3ictqcj1fa6ckfqgt6pfs70t@4ax.com>
Source record: 4808

Try your local power utility salvage. Hardware like that can be had
for metal scrap prices.

On Mon, 9 Apr 2007 09:58:13 EDT, "KH6HZ" <kh6hzA@Tarrl.net> wrote:

>I'm relocating my tower next month to my new home, and have to pour a new
>pier footing for the tower.
>
>Does anyone have a good online source for threaded rod?
>
>Specifically, I'm looking for 3 pieces of 1 inch threaded rod, roughly 3' in
>length.
>
>Local supply sources don't stock anything that large, plus I would question
>the quality of the rod they sell in terms of the softness of the steel. I
>want to make sure I get the best quality I can buy up front.
>

604. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-10 07:22:54 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1176179643.317143.210210@q75g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4809

On Apr 9, 8:22 pm, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:

>
> Changes in requirements don't have any effect
> when the potential recruits have no idea that the hobby even exists.
>

I don't believe that there is any significant percentage of the
general population of the USA who has never heard of ham radio.

I don't believe the "changes in requirements" were intended to grow
ham radio.

I don't even care if ham radio grows or doesn't grow. There are
millions of hams on planet Earth, more than enough to fill my logs on
any mode I choose through at least the next four sunspot cycles.

73, de Hans, K0HB

605. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-10 18:00:46 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <evggqt$10o0$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4810

groupk0hb@earthlink.net wrote:
> On Apr 9, 8:22 pm, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:
>
>> Changes in requirements don't have any effect
>> when the potential recruits have no idea that the hobby even exists.
>>
>
> I don't believe that there is any significant percentage of the
> general population of the USA who has never heard of ham radio.
>
> I don't believe the "changes in requirements" were intended to grow
> ham radio.
>
> I don't even care if ham radio grows or doesn't grow. There are
> millions of hams on planet Earth, more than enough to fill my logs on
> any mode I choose through at least the next four sunspot cycles.

I believe that Hans' percentage numbers are indeed relevant.

In a dynamic area such as ARS license numbers, there is a need to look beyond raw numbers and to determine exactly why the numbers that you are comparing look as they do.

Looking at the numbers in one way, we may wonder at an apparent drop-off. A lot of technicians went way. We need to speculate on why. It would be a basic assumption that they decided that Ham radio was not for them.

Why? Some have speculated that the majority of that drop-off was a change in communication habits, ie. Hams who got their licenses for purposes of "calling home" to check in, or get a grocery list, or the like. Some call that flavor of Ham a "honeydo" Ham. These people are served by Cell phones now.

Others have speculated that the dropoff was due to poor treatment of new Hams.

I don't doubt that there may be examples of the second group, I would surmise that there could be a little bit of both reasons, but am inclined to think it might be a 90/10 in favor of the former.

I have personally seen a surge of new Hams in our area. We've been having a 2 percent growth in our area since *before* the testing change, and assuming that tonights testing is successful, 2 new generals and a Technician will be added to the ranks this evening. Those new guys don't know a thing about what the Honeydo hams were doing ten years ago, and

don't particularly care either. They have become interested in Ham radio, and we've encouraged them every step of the way. We've been selling the sizzle.

One minor disagreement with Hans, though. I don't care if we get some kind of huge growth, in fact, that would be lots of problems to deal with. We need a steady influx of new people to keep the hobby interesting, and to replace the fact that everyone is terminated to ground eventually. 1 percent growth would be desirable in that context, I think.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

606. Re: Icom PS125

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-10 19:18:30 UTC
From: Bruce in Alaska <bruceg@btpost.net>
Message-ID: <bruceg-937426.10565710042007@netnews.worldnet.att.net>
Source record: 4811

In article <6bvk13t18pfr9o05uj61dtphq7p9ocvga5@4ax.com>,
Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:

> On Sat, 7 Apr 2007 22:02:19 EDT, xxx <xxx@yyy.zzz> wrote:
>
> >In article <1175983816.436008.78170@w1g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>,
> >
> >> "Type Accepted" (or "Type Acceptance") is an outdated term, replaced
> >> in FCC regs with the term "Certificated".
> >
> >
> > While the term may have been purged from the R&R, I have seen it in
> >the current question pool for commercial licenses. Element 1 has a
> >question (#12) that reads:
> >
> >Q: "What is a requirement of all marine transmitting apparatus used
> >aboard United States vessels?"
> >
> >A: "Only equipment that has been type accepted by the FCC for Part 80
> >operations is authorized."
>
>
> Type Acceptance is still required for Marine equipment, as is a
> General Radiotelephone Operator License to repair and adjust same.
>
> We were discussing Land Mobile equipment, where the level of equipment
> certification was reduced from Type Accepted to Certificated several
> years ago, as was deletion of the requirement for a commercial license
> to repair or adjust same
> --
>
> 73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
>
> >From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
> Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon
>
> e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net
>

and also for Part 87 Radio equipment. (Aeronautical) This is due to
International Treaties which the USA is signitory....

Bruce in alaska
--
add a <2> before @

607. Re: Threaded Rod

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-10 19:18:48 UTC
From: Bruce in Alaska <bruceg@btpost.net>
Message-ID: <bruceg-36A6DC.11002910042007@netnews.worldnet.att.net>
Source record: 4812

In article <6GvSh.52000$Ng1.7041@newsfe19.lga>,
"KH6HZ" <kh6hzA@Tarrl.net> wrote:

> On Mon, 9 Apr 2007 11:45:04 EDT, groupk0hb@earthlink.net wrote:
>
> >I got mine from "Hilti" --- they often have a 'booth' at Home Depot
> >stores, and here in town they also have a stand-alone store. These
> >are the same bolts that are used in the base of street lights, traffic
> >signals, etc.
>
> Hmmm.... doesn't ring a bell at the local home depot stores around here,
> unless they're a recent addition... Granted, for the past year or so I've
> been going to Lowes rather than the 'pot.
>

You should be asking for "Readi-Rod". Just about ANY Industrial Supply
House will stock it, in various sizes and threads. Graingers, McMater
Karr, ect.....

Bruce in alaska
--
add a <2> before @

608. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-10 21:51:40 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <XLCdnc5xHtVKm4HbnZ2dnUVZ_g-dnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4813

<groupk0hb@earthlink.net> wrote in message
news:1176179643.317143.210210@q75g2000hsh.googlegroups.com...
> On Apr 9, 8:22 pm, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:
>
>>
>> Changes in requirements don't have any effect
>> when the potential recruits have no idea that the hobby even exists.
>>
>
> I don't believe that there is any significant percentage of the
> general population of the USA who has never heard of ham radio.
>

Well I certainly run into a lot of people who don't know about it. They ask
me what my antennas are for and I tell them ham radio. The next question
out of their mouths is "Ham radio, what's that?"

> I don't believe the "changes in requirements" were intended to grow
> ham radio.
>

I don't know if that was the intent or not but some people tried to convince
the rest of us that it was absolutely necessary for amateur radio to grow.

> I don't even care if ham radio grows or doesn't grow. There are
> millions of hams on planet Earth, more than enough to fill my logs on
> any mode I choose through at least the next four sunspot cycles.
>
> 73, de Hans, K0HB

Personally I think there will be ups and downs.

Dee, N8UZE

609. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-10 21:57:33 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <nLmdnaBkIpijIYHbnZ2dnUVZ_u6rnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4814

"Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
news:evggqt$10o0$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...
> groupk0hb@earthlink.net wrote:
>> On Apr 9, 8:22 pm, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:
>>
>>> Changes in requirements don't have any effect
>>> when the potential recruits have no idea that the hobby even exists.
>>>
>>
>> I don't believe that there is any significant percentage of the
>> general population of the USA who has never heard of ham radio.
>>
>> I don't believe the "changes in requirements" were intended to grow
>> ham radio.
>>
>> I don't even care if ham radio grows or doesn't grow. There are
>> millions of hams on planet Earth, more than enough to fill my logs on
>> any mode I choose through at least the next four sunspot cycles.
>
>
> I believe that Hans' percentage numbers are indeed relevant.
>

However, they need to be looked at in context. Just looking solely at the
new licenses and upgrades does not give a complete picture.

> In a dynamic area such as ARS license numbers, there is a need to look
> beyond raw numbers and to determine exactly why the numbers that you are
> comparing look as they do.

Which was precisely the point I attempted to make.

[snip]

>
> One minor disagreement with Hans, though. I don't care if we get some kind
> of huge growth, in fact, that would be lots of problems to deal with. We
> need a steady influx of new people to keep the hobby interesting, and to
> replace the fact that everyone is terminated to ground eventually. 1
> percent growth would be desirable in that context, I think.
>
> - 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

I would like to see it stay at about the same percentage of the general
population as it is now. As the population grows or shrinks, I would expect
our numbers to do the same. However, as you said, we do need the new

recruits as none of us are immortal.

Dee, N8UZE

610. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-10 23:22:50 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1176247336.957812.263670@b75g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4815

On Apr 10, 2:00 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> groupk...@earthlink.net wrote:
> > On Apr 9, 8:22 pm, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:
>
> >> Changes in requirements don't have any effect
> >> when the potential recruits have no idea that the hobby even exists.
>
> > I don't believe that there is any significant percentage of the
> > general population of the USA who has never heard of ham radio.

In my experience, non-hams' knowledge of the
existence of amateur radio is all over the map, from
"never heard of it" to "what do you want to know?"

Most people may have heard of it, but that doesn't mean
they really understand it. For example, I have met people
who thought amateur radio disappeared years ago. Others
think that it requires an elaborate station and the knowledge
of an EE just to get started. Etc.

With significantly less than 1% of US residents holding
amateur radio licenses, it's not unreasonable that lots
of people today would not have heard of amateur radio.

> > I don't believe the "changes in requirements" were intended to grow
> > ham radio.

"Growth" has consistently been one of the main reasons
given for changing the license requirements, by those
who wanted them changed.

> > I don't even care if ham radio grows or doesn't grow. There are
> > millions of hams on planet Earth, more than enough to fill my logs on
> > any mode I choose through at least the next four sunspot cycles.

I think growth is a good thing, as long as it does not come
at the price of quality.
>
> I believe that Hans' percentage numbers are indeed relevant.
>
> In a dynamic area such as ARS license numbers, there is a need to look
> beyond raw numbers and to determine exactly why the numbers that you are
> comparing look as they do.

Agreed.

> ? ? ? ? Looking at the numbers in one way, we may wonder at an apparent
> drop-off. A lot of technicians went way. We need to speculate on why. It
> would be a basic assumption that they decided that Ham radio was not for
> them.

That assumption is incomplete, however.

Some may have decided ham radio was not for them.
Others may have had to put aside ham radio for a time,
because of other responsibilities.

A considerable number may have either died or become
incapacitated enough that amateur radio is no longer an
option for them.
>
> Why? Some have speculated that the majority of that drop-off was a
> change in communication habits, ie. Hams who got their licenses for
> purposes of "calling home" to check in, or get a grocery list, or the
> like. Some call that flavor of Ham a "honeydo" Ham. These people are
> served by Cell phones now.

I know many hams who got licenses in the late 1970s, 1980s and 1990s
for just that reason. Some of them
became interested in other facets of amateur radio, some
did not. Some replaced amateur radio with a cell phone,
some did not.

I don't know if those who replaced amateur radio with a
cell phone make up a majority of those who left, or not.

But I do know this: We're not getting very many new
"honeydew" hams anymore. Not anywhere near what
we were getting before 1995 or so.

> Others have speculated that the dropoff was due to
> poor treatment of new Hams.

> ?I don't doubt that there may be examples of the second group, ?I would
> surmise that there could be a little bit of both reasons, but am
> inclined to think it might be a 90/10 in favor of ?the former.

If not even more so.

> ? ? ? ? I have personally seen a surge of new Hams in our area. We've been
> having a 2 percent growth in our area since *before* the testing change,
> and assuming that tonights testing is successful, 2 new generals and a
> Technician will be added to the ranks this evening. Those new guys don't
> know a thing about what the Honeydo hams were doing ten years ago, and
> don't particularly care either. They have become interested in Ham
> radio, and we've encouraged them every step of the way. We've been
> selling the sizzle.

Exactly! But by the same token, to get those 3 hams, you probably had
to sell the sizzle to quite a large number of

people.

>
> One minor disagreement with Hans, though. I don't care if we get some
> kind of huge growth, in fact, that would be lots of problems to deal
> with. We need a steady influx of new people to keep the hobby
> interesting, and to replace the fact that everyone is terminated to
> ground eventually. 1 percent growth would be desirable in that context,
> I think.

I think that if Amateur Radio is presented in a clear and positive
manner, the growth will take care of itself.

73 de Jim, N2EY

611. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-11 01:10:04 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <461c0494$0$37532$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 4816

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

In <1176179643.317143.210210@q75g2000hsh.googlegroups.com> groupk0hb@earthlink.net writes:

>On Apr 9, 8:22 pm, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:

>>
>> Changes in requirements don't have any effect
>> when the potential recruits have no idea that the hobby even exists.
>>

>I don't believe that there is any significant percentage of the
>general population of the USA who has never heard of ham radio.

I believe that there is a significant difference between "never heard"
of ham radio versus just aren't aware of aspects of ham radio that may
be appealing to them personally. The latter is far more prevalent, and
worrisome, in my opinion. What is the lay perception of ham radio?
Probably the most positive is that of of hard-core techies with antennas
all over their houses and cars (as hard-core techies are the force
behind popular, sometimes useful, things like the space program,
cellular telephones, digital music, HDTV, the Internet, etc.). Being
admired as techie heroes doesn't necessarily mean that a lot of people
want to become such techie heroes themselves, however. The most
negative image would be that of reclusive individuals engaging in an
obscure, possibly obsolete, pastime with no apparent redeeming social
value beyond preserving history and reminiscing about the past.

Over the years, I have observed the following common reactions by the
lay public to ham radio publicity and recruitment:

- Oh, isn't that like CB?

- So, can I set up my own broadcast station and play whatever music I
want?

- My grandfather/uncle/father/brother/cousin was into that many years
ago, is it still around?

- I'm really not deeply technical, is that for me?

- I do consider myself a techie, but would ham radio give me any useful
training or experience beyond what I could already get from
traditional academic or vocational programs?

The editorials linked by Ed Mitchell, KF7VY, in his "last column" below
are at least 8 years old or more, but I think they are still relevant to

the current discussion (though there has been some regulatory relief since he wrote them, especially with regard to digital modes and spread-spectrum):

http://www.hamradio-online.com/1999/oct/lastcolumn.html

>I don't believe the "changes in requirements" were intended to grow
>ham radio.

That does seem to be the main strawman that's been built up by some (not all) who would fight for the status-quo to the bitter end, and appear to want to transfer the blame for lack of growth to others. Would a stagnant service that wasn't shrinking, but wasn't growing, be any better or worse than trying to appropriately embrace change?

>I don't even care if ham radio grows or doesn't grow. There are
>millions of hams on planet Earth, more than enough to fill my logs on
>any mode I choose through at least the next four sunspot cycles.

>73, de Hans, K0HB

Let's hope those sunspot cycles are better than the last few. I can't recall any really good HF propagation since at least the late 1980's, and certainly nowhere near the all-time peak in recorded history that occurred in the 1950's (or so I'm told by my elders).

- --
73, Paul W. Schleck, K3FU
pschleck@novia.net
http://www.novia.net/~pschleck/
Finger pschleck@novia.net for PGP Public Key

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v1.4.5 (SunOS)

iD8DBQFGHARk6Pj0az779o4RAjY/AKCBEHFZ+PL2qUffAGWNbUvBO9/H/gCgtvcR
xHQTZqqUXR7IWCCGY4mcLbU=
=v9/9
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----

612. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-11 01:10:27 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1176241957.687184.190010@d57g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4817

Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote on Tue, 10 Apr 2007 14:00:46 EDT:

Subject: Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

>groupk...@earthlink.net wrote:
>> On Apr 9, 8:22 pm, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:

>>> Changes in requirements don't have any effect
>>> when the potential recruits have no idea that the hobby even exists.
>
>> I don't believe that there is any significant percentage of the
>> general population of the USA who has never heard of ham radio.
>
>> I don't believe the "changes in requirements" were intended to grow
>> ham radio.
>
>> I don't even care if ham radio grows or doesn't grow. There are
>> millions of hams on planet Earth, more than enough to fill my logs on
>> any mode I choose through at least the next four sunspot cycles.
>
> I believe that Hans' percentage numbers are indeed relevant.
>
>In a dynamic area such as ARS license numbers, there is a need to look
>beyond raw numbers and to determine exactly why the numbers that you are
>comparing look as they do.

In general I agree with you Mike. I've had some trouble getting
to the website where Hans got his numbers; www.ncvec.org doesn't
have any page with that information.

Other than that, amateur radio licensee numbers MUST remain "up"
in order to indicate to the government there is a "presence" of
citizens in a sizeable number that deserves attention. There
are many different radio services regulated by the FCC and
amateur radio is a minority among those.

The "why" of license changes can be determined by different raw
database searching than what most "statistics" websites show.
The information exists as to changes in class. Obviously there
has been a large number of recent "upgrades" of Technician to
General. None of us can find any reasons for licensees letting
their licenses lapse, at least from the raw database.

The FCC database may be publicly-downloadable but it is LARGE
at, what, 80 to 90 Megabytes? One needs high-speed Internet
service for reasonable downloading. File size of the database

is not a problem in modern PCs, nor is it difficult to write a
specific sorting routine to extract various categories' data.
Many publicly-accessible websites already do some sorting.

> Why? Some have speculated that the majority of that drop-off was a
>change in communication habits, ie. Hams who got their licenses for
>purposes of "calling home" to check in, or get a grocery list, or the
>like. Some call that flavor of Ham a "honeydo" Ham. These people are
>served by Cell phones now.

Based on my experience in southern California, I took the
"honey-do" license reason as pure speculation on others' part.
What I have seen here in the last decade is: (1). A rapid
growth of cellular in its present compact HT form; (2). a
growth of "technician" type VHF and UHF activity which had
already begun well back before the year 2000 Restructuring.

Caveat: I live in a large urban population area, not unlike
the NYC-LI, Chicago, San Francisco ('Bay Area'), Seattle, etc.
areas. VHF-UHF at LOS paths works well in such areas. But,
there is another part of VHF-UHF radio activity that doesn't
quite have the parallel of HF DX hunting, in-person get-
togethers, spontaneous or planned.

The BBS or Bulletin Board System had a tremendous growth
from the early 1980s to the "ripening" of the Internet in
the later 1990s. Quite a number of those BBSs featured
in-person "gatherings" of a social nature where all could
get to know one another better, not through the scarcity of
few clues presented through a computer screen. That's not
unlike the VHF-UHF large urban amateur situation where the
participants can travel a short distance to some gathering.
There's not the "DX Isolation" of hundreds or thousands of
miles to another continent as is often the case on HF.

There's more activity of radio amateurs above 30 MHz than
what the "HF" amateurs think, especially in larger urban
areas. Those who operate above 30 MHz should never be
thought of or even considered as "second-class" amateurs
of the "shack on a belt" category.

> I have personally seen a surge of new Hams in our area. We've been
>having a 2 percent growth in our area since *before* the testing change,
>and assuming that tonights testing is successful, 2 new generals and a
>Technician will be added to the ranks this evening. Those new guys don't
>know a thing about what the Honeydo hams were doing ten years ago, and
>don't particularly care either. They have become interested in Ham
>radio, and we've encouraged them every step of the way. We've been
>selling the sizzle.

There's a problem with using anecdotal evidence: It is too
limited to apply to the national scene. Changes in licensing

patterns FOR the national area can only be derived from national licensing information. I can say my 91352 ZIP area has 78 hams with over 2/3 of those at Tech or Tech-Plus category but it means little for a national amateur radio condition. Yes, at my test session on 25 Feb 07 over half were there to get or to upgrade from Technician licenses. Doesn't mean much to looking at the overall national scene.

> One minor disagreement with Hans, though. I don't care if we get some
>kind of huge growth, in fact, that would be lots of problems to deal
>with. We need a steady influx of new people to keep the hobby
>interesting, and to replace the fact that everyone is terminated to
>ground eventually. 1 percent growth would be desirable in that context,
>I think.

The national population keeps on growing. Amateur radio licensee numbers have not over the last four years. To keep a "presence" of the hobby requires that licensee numbers at least keep pace with the population increases. The FCC is aware of numbers and serves the national interest, not just amateurs. The FCC must try to accomodate all the radio services as best it can. In general, I see them as doing that.

If the amateur radio licensee numbers are up or at least maintained,
there will be a MARKET of suppliers of amateur radio goods. That's important, not just for ready-made super-deluxe do-everything rigs but also for supplies, of components, of accessories. If the market sees a decline in percentage of the population, then some will drop out or the prices of goods will increase.

The amateur radio market has already dropped some. Advertising sales are down slightly. That was enough to force HR and 73 to quit their independent publications, for CQ to reduce its VHF specialty periodical. QST hangs in there on the basis of enormous support from the ARRL but it is folly to depend on it as the sole source of all US amateur radio information. Radio Shack is mainly a purveyor of consumer electronics goods. There are fewer and fewer "radio parts" stores across the country; most of the old "radio parts" aren't even made now, their makers into other, more profitable electronics goods areas. Without a "presence" in the marketplace, a decline in license numbers could continue a slow market drought.

BTW, as to Dee Flint's other comment in this thread, the "pros" in electronics HAVE been informed of the code test elimination since December, 2006. EDN and Electronic Design, both industry trades of wide distribution, and SPECTRUM, the membership magazine of the IEEE had news of that prior to 23 Feb 07. There were brief mentions of it in various Pentron industry trade news, even the occasional newspaper "filler" story around the country. It wasn't known just to already-licensed radio amateurs

but to a larger segment of the electronics-oriented public.

73, Len AF6AY

613. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-11 02:31:17 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <OqudnTngE5jO1YHbnZ2dnUVZ_ternZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4818

"AF6AY" <LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote in message
news:1176241957.687184.190010@d57g2000hsg.googlegroups.com...

[snip]
>
> BTW, as to Dee Flint's other comment in this thread, the "pros"
> in electronics HAVE been informed of the code test elimination
> since December, 2006. EDN and Electronic Design, both industry
> trades of wide distribution, and SPECTRUM, the membership
> magazine of the IEEE had news of that prior to 23 Feb 07. There
> were brief mentions of it in various Pentron industry trade
> news, even the occasional newspaper "filler" story around the
> country. It wasn't known just to already-licensed radio amateurs
> but to a larger segment of the electronics-oriented public.
>
> 73, Len AF6AY
>

What percentage of the general populace read EDN, Electronic Design, and Spectrum? We can't rely on just one group of people (pros in electronics) to provide stability or even growth. Just because a person is an electronics pro doesn't necessarily mean that amateur radio will tickle their fancy.

What percentage of the newspapers carried those fillers? Not many. Of those, what percentage of people actually read the fillers tucked in here and there in the newspaper?

We need to get the word out among the general populace not just specialty groups.

Dee, N8UZE

614. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-11 08:21:25 UTC
From: Larry <noone@home.com>
Message-ID: <Xns990F16DEA762noonehomecom@208.49.80.253>
Source record: 4819

"Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> wrote in
news:3rGdnaBxCKV6aYfbnZ2dnUVZ_ternZ2d@comcast.com:

> Changes in requirements don't have any effect
> when the potential recruits have no idea that the hobby even exists.
>

I bumped into this post after a couple of hours on Skype with a ham buddy of mine in New Zealand. I was 5-9 for the whole QSO and I don't have an antenna.

Who do we call "potential recruits" under these conditions? What's the point, any more? (Please don't point me to that old BS about emergency comms. I went right through the eye of Hurricane Hugo in Charleston in 1989, talking on Cellular One's AMPS bagphone to worried friends in Ohio as I stood in the street, in the eye, looking up at the stars in a completely destroyed neighborhood.

The system is even better, now, unless, of course, the Illuminati use thermite to take out the building the cellular switch is located in like 9/11 in NYC.

Larry
--
.

615. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-11 08:22:00 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns990F218B22B9mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 4820

"AF6AY" <LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote in
news:1176241957.687184.190010@d57g2000hsg.googlegroups.com:

> In general I agree with you Mike. I've had some trouble getting
> to the website where Hans got his numbers; www.ncvec.org doesn't
> have any page with that information.
>
> Other than that, amateur radio licensee numbers MUST remain "up"
> in order to indicate to the government there is a "presence" of
> citizens in a sizeable number that deserves attention. There
> are many different radio services regulated by the FCC and
> amateur radio is a minority among those.

Agreed. I'm glad someone got that into this conversation. That we
have these allocations at all is a minor miracle. Numerical preservation
is one of the ways that we will keep them, IMO.

>> Why? Some have speculated that the majority of that drop-off
>> was a
>>change in communication habits, ie. Hams who got their licenses for
>>purposes of "calling home" to check in, or get a grocery list, or the
>>like. Some call that flavor of Ham a "honeydo" Ham. These people are
>>served by Cell phones now.
>
> Based on my experience in southern California, I took the
> "honey-do" license reason as pure speculation on others' part.
> What I have seen here in the last decade is: (1). A rapid
> growth of cellular in its present compact HT form; (2). a
> growth of "technician" type VHF and UHF activity which had
> already begun well back before the year 2000 Restructuring.

Yes, most of the reasons given are spectulation, and when that
happens we tend to inject our own personal views into that speculation. I
don't really know the cause of the drop-off, am just making a (hopefully)
intelligent guess. 8^)

>
> Caveat: I live in a large urban population area, not unlike
> the NYC-LI, Chicago, San Francisco ('Bay Area'), Seattle, etc.
> areas. VHF-UHF at LOS paths works well in such areas. But,
> there is another part of VHF-UHF radio activity that doesn't
> quite have the parallel of HF DX hunting, in-person get-
> togethers, spontaneous or planned.

From th etimes that I was out there, that would be VHF nirvana,
tall mountains and fairly flat valleys. I suspect the canyons might be a

little challenging tho'. Back here in PA we have nice mountains, but so many foothills and corduroy valleys that make repeater work a little more challenging. But even that can be overcome with effort and fairly deep pockets. We have a very good local repeater system, with several polling stations on the local mountains that vote on which signal gets to the main repeater. A 300 mw HT cam be used over almost the entire county.

>
> There's more activity of radio amateurs above 30 MHz than
> what the "HF" amateurs think, especially in larger urban
> areas.

We're certainly busy on VHF here. State College is considered the "smallest metropolitan area in the country...8^)

> Those who operate above 30 MHz should never be
> thought of or even considered as "second-class" amateurs
> of the "shack on a belt" category.

Absolutely. I've often thought that there was a natural divide between HF and VHF+. Disregarding 6 meters, which is kind of a mishmash, it can almost be two different hobbies. I gravitate toward HF myself, but there is cool stuff happening at VHF and above. And so what if a Hams hobby is confined to "the repeater" anyhow?

>> I have personally seen a surge of new Hams in our area. We've
>> been
>>having a 2 percent growth in our area since *before* the testing
>>change, and assuming that tonights testing is successful, 2 new
>>generals and a Technician will be added to the ranks this evening.
>>Those new guys don't know a thing about what the Honeydo hams were
>>doing ten years ago, and don't particularly care either. They have
>>become interested in Ham radio, and we've encouraged them every step
>>of the way. We've been selling the sizzle.
>
> There's a problem with using anecdotal evidence: It is too
> limited to apply to the national scene. Changes in licensing
> patterns FOR the national area can only be derived from national
> licensing information. I can say my 91352 ZIP area has 78 hams
> with over 2/3 of those at Tech or Tech-Plus category but it
> means little for a national amateur radio condition. Yes, at
> my test session on 25 Feb 07 over half were there to get or to
> upgrade from Technician licenses. Doesn't mean much to looking
> at the overall national scene.

Our situation is truly a "single data point". My thoughts on that are that we are working hard to prove that with an inclusive atmosphere (critical) and selling that sizzle, we seem to be making it work.

There are so many facets to Ham radio - Experimentation, Olde tyme radio, voice, digital, simple OOK Morse comms. Public service, contesting, DX'ing, homebrewing, SWD radio, Offroading comms, and on and

on. the ARS should almost be selling itself. And the serendipitious finds it's way into the picture too. I never would have thought that I would get into hollow state technology, as I am heavily into the latest technology too. Go figure!

My main point is that with good representatives, Ham radio shouldn't be a hard sell.

> BTW, as to Dee Flint's other comment in this thread, the "pros"
> in electronics HAVE been informed of the code test elimination
> since December, 2006. EDN and Electronic Design, both industry
> trades of wide distribution, and SPECTRUM, the membership
> magazine of the IEEE had news of that prior to 23 Feb 07. There
> were brief mentions of it in various Pentron industry trade
> news, even the occasional newspaper "filler" story around the
> country. It wasn't known just to already-licensed radio amateurs
> but to a larger segment of the electronics-oriented public.

Knowledge that Ham radio "exists" is nice, I suppose. Even better would be that people understand that they might want to get involved.

Just one example might be APRS. Although I find it a little creepy, helicoptering parents might find it interesting to know where their offspring are. I'm pretty convinced that a PSK31 enabled 2 meter "texter" radio would be popular among high schoolers and even older hams. Something like that should have been available some years ago. You could even combine it all into one unit.

This isn't rocket science, just pipe dreaming something that might be an interesting element of the hobby. Who says that we all have to be doing the same thing?

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

616. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-11 08:22:28 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns990F3DF6C6BDmcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 4821

"Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> wrote in
news:OqudnTngE5jO1YHbnZ2dnUVZ_ternZ2d@comcast.com:

> What percentage of the general populace read EDN, Electronic Design,
> and Spectrum? We can't rely on just one group of people (pros in
> electronics) to provide stability or even growth. Just because a
> person is an electronics pro doesn't necessarily mean that amateur
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> Of those, what percentage of people actually read the fillers tucked
> in here and there in the newspaper?
>
> We need to get the word out among the general populace not just
> specialty groups.

Yes, pretty much! We also need to have our hobby in some position
to attract the general populous also. Some of the same type items that I
was writing about with Len.

I take my own situation as an example. I got into Ham radio as a
person who was interested in possible communications support and control
in matters relating to Amateur Astronomy. From there, it blossomed into
HF and to my surprise, some of the old (read hollow state) radios as well
as digital modes.

While we can say "You can communnicate with the world on HF, that
point might be lost on people who can pick up a cell phone and call most
anywhere in the world.

It might take a little while for the fact that we can do that
without any infrastructure to sink in. Once that happens, we got 'em hook
line and sinker.

The important thing is that we have to find something relevant to
the newbie to start with.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

617. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-11 08:23:01 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns990F60FCC181mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 4822

Paul W. Schleck <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>" wrote in
news:461c0494$0$37532$540ea2cf@novia.net:

> I believe that there is a significant difference between "never heard"
> of ham radio versus just aren't aware of aspects of ham radio that may
> be appealing to them personally. The latter is far more prevalent,
> and worrisome, in my opinion. What is the lay perception of ham
> radio? Probably the most positive is that of of hard-core techies with
> antennas all over their houses and cars (as hard-core techies are the
> force behind popular, sometimes useful, things like the space program,
> cellular telephones, digital music, HDTV, the Internet, etc.). Being
> admired as techie heroes doesn't necessarily mean that a lot of people
> want to become such techie heroes themselves, however. The most
> negative image would be that of reclusive individuals engaging in an
> obscure, possibly obsolete, pastime with no apparent redeeming social
> value beyond preserving history and reminiscing about the past.

This rings true for me, Paul.

I've been trying to talk my XYL into getting a license for a bit
now. Unfortunately she is convinced that my approach to the hobby is de
rigeur. She sees my pile of test equipment in the garage, and all the
homebrewing that I do, and has assumed that that is how Hams have to be.
I'm still working on convincing her that you don't have to be an ubergeek
to be a Ham.

It sure would be nice to have someone to talk to in the shack while
I'm in the backyard or on the roof tuning the antennas.... 8^)

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

618. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-11 13:51:26 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <131pjnrng0vgrc8@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 4823

Larry wrote:

> I bumped into this post after a couple of hours on Skype with a ham buddy
> of mine in New Zealand. I was 5-9 for the whole QSO and I don't have an
> antenna.

> Who do we call "potential recruits" under these conditions? What's the
> point, any more? (Please don't point me to that old BS about emergency
> comms. I went right through the eye of Hurricane Hugo in Charleston in
> 1989, talking on Cellular One's AMPS bagphone to worried friends in Ohio as
> I stood in the street, in the eye, looking up at the stars in a completely
> destroyed neighborhood.

If I want to talk to a buddy in New Zealand, I'll pick up the telephone. That does, indeed, provide me with pleasure and the satisfaction of talking with a buddy in New Zealand. If I want to enjoy a different kind of satisfaction, I'll walk into my ham shack and crank up the rig. There, I might also experience the satisfaction of chewing the rag with a buddy, or I might call CQ just to see who responds, or I might see if I can snag that rare DX station, or check into a traffic net, or help with the local Skywarn operations, or perform any number of other tasks. From those I receive satisfaction.

You're right about the fact that if you view ham radio as the ability to have a spoken conversation with another individual, there are better ways to do that. Frankly, that's not the specific aspect of ham radio that interests me; there's not even a microphone hooked up to my HF rig.

Another example: If I want to travel from Chicago to Kenosha, I'll jump in my car or perhaps take the train. If I want the *trip* to be the point, perhaps I'll use a motorboat. If I want to have a different kind of experience and hone a skill that not everyone has, I'll join some friends and race sailboats to Kenosha, enjoying the mental challenge of figuring out what is the best course, rigging, and strategy based on current wind and weather conditions. The fact that the most efficient method of travelling from Chicago to Kenosha is not by sailboat does not diminish the fun of sailing as a hobby.

> The system is even better, now, unless, of course, the Illuminati use
> thermite to take out the building the cellular switch is located in like
> 9/11 in NYC.

You are correct that communications infrastructure grows better and more resilient as more and more money is poured into it. You are wrong that it always survives a disaster.

I'm thrilled that you were able to wander through a hurricane chatting on your cellphone. I can counter that story with the opposite one from Katrina, where communications infrastructure disappeared from large areas for long time periods. I can also tell you that FEMA, the Red Cross, and other organizations are spending large sums of money to prepare mobile equipment to move into place to take care of those interruptions that you don't acknowledge. Ham radio does still have a place in those sorts of events, even if it's not the same role that it might have had a decade ago.

But that's not really the point. The point is that ham radio is a multi-faceted hobby, with many different interest groups. That doesn't mean that it's for everyone, but there's a lot more than chatting with a buddy or supporting emergency communications.

73, Steve KB9X

619. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-11 15:35:03 UTC
From: Cecil Moore <nospam@w5dxp.com>
Message-ID: <ue6Th.2227$Q23.1762@newssvr17.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 4824

Paul W. Schleck wrote:
> Over the years, I have observed the following common reactions by the
> lay public to ham radio publicity and recruitment:
>
> - Oh, isn't that like CB?

I suspect that is the majority opinion among the lay public.
It's hard to explain the difference between a CB operator
and an amateur radio operator using a modified CB rig
on 10m with two inches chopped off the CB antenna. :-)
--
73, Cecil, w5dxp.com

620. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-11 17:46:55 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns990F8B7DB1A1mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 4825

Larry <noone@home.com> wrote in
news:Xns990F16DEA762noonehomecom@208.49.80.253:

> "Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> wrote in
> news:3rGdnaBxCKV6aYfbnZ2dnUVZ_ternZ2d@comcast.com:
>
>> Changes in requirements don't have any effect
>> when the potential recruits have no idea that the hobby even exists.
>>
>
> I bumped into this post after a couple of hours on Skype with a ham
> buddy of mine in New Zealand. I was 5-9 for the whole QSO and I don't
> have an antenna.
>
> Who do we call "potential recruits" under these conditions? What's
> the point, any more? (Please don't point me to that old BS about
> emergency comms.

Respectfully, your perspective on Amateur Radio is a bit narrow. It
isn't just about talking with other people. If all a person wanted to do
was talk, they are much better off picking up the phone. And they were
much better off a long time and on many other comm modes before Skype
came around.

> I went right through the eye of Hurricane Hugo in
> Charleston in 1989, talking on Cellular One's AMPS bagphone to worried
> friends in Ohio as I stood in the street, in the eye, looking up at
> the stars in a completely destroyed neighborhood.

1 data point. We had a snowstorm that took down most of the power
lines in our area a few years back. Everyone tried to call their worried
friends and took the cellular network down almost immediately. If cell
phones were reliable, they wouldn't spend all that money on emergency
comm systems.
If they stay up, that is great. Use 'em if you got 'em. (however
even if there is power, during emergencies they tend to get overloaded)

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

621. Re: DSP software for PC

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-12 09:08:46 UTC
From: Bud <bud@icehouse.net>
Message-ID: <58612eF2dldi7U3@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4826

Rick wrote:
>
> I meant more in terms of programs that people here may have used and found
> to be of high quality.
>
> But, I'll wade through some of those 1,690,000 (now 1,940,000) hits and
> see what I find.

Try freshmeat.net

622. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-12 09:09:40 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1176359595.577334.167360@w1g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4827

"Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote on Tue, 10 Apr 2007
22:31:17 EDT
>"AF6AY" <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote in message

>> BTW, as to Dee Flint's other comment in this thread, the "pros"
>> in electronics HAVE been informed of the code test elimination
>> since December, 2006. EDN and Electronic Design, both industry
>> trades of wide distribution, and SPECTRUM, the membership
>> magazine of the IEEE had news of that prior to 23 Feb 07. There
>
>What percentage of the general populace read EDN, Electronic Design, and
>Spectrum? We can't rely on just one group of people (pros in electronics)
>to provide stability or even growth.

The worldwide membership of the IEEE exceeds the number of licensed
active US radio amateurs. The electronics industry employs
millions in the USA alone. It is BIG.

>Just because a person is an
>electronics pro doesn't necessarily mean that amateur radio will tickle
>their fancy.

That's true and observable in any corporate electronics engineering
environment. But, don't forget that the majority of those IN the
electronics engineering part of the industry got INTO it for the
fascination of the technology. It doesn't take a great deal of
persuasion to get them interested in the hobby aspects of radio
beyond scanners, beyond SWL, beyond WiFi, beyond WLANs. Indeed,
some of them get into robotics, a fun hobby for many...or they get
into audio. My MD General Practitioner is fascinated by speakers
and various ways to couple them for the highest-fi of sound, but
not INTO circuitry itself...despite being able to USE a number
of very high-tech electronic devices in his medical practice.

Those in wholesale and retail merchandising of electronics pay
attention to many phases of the electronics market, trying to
anticipate demand. They will also delete items that do not sell
well or where the local interest groups are too small for them
to make a profit in their business. My wife and I were out today
looking for a particular item of consumer electronics. One place,
a relatively new Best Buy store (built four years ago), was huge.
A mile and a half away is a Fry's Electronics, even bigger. In
observing the entire electronics retail industry for the last half
century, I've never seen any amateur radio outlet that approaches
their size.

>What percentage of the newspapers carried those fillers? Not many.

Perhaps. I can only state that the Los Angeles TIMES has a
circulation of 1.4 million each day. Since more than one
person will read one issue, the number of readers here may
exceed 3 million.

>Of
>those, what percentage of people actually read the fillers tucked in here
>and there in the newspaper?

I have no idea, not being in the journalism field. You might
try asking your own newspaper about that.

>We need to get the word out among the general populace not just specialty
>groups.

I will suggest you observe the Public Relations techniques of
the entertainment industry. They manage to get enormous PR
about entertainers, TV series, motion pictures, etc. Or any
advertising agency willing to talk about it (not that easy).
They KNOW about such things.

The first thing amateur radio MUST do is to LOSE the old, trite
cliche's of a half century ago used to "promote" amateur radio.
Almost all of that just doesn't work in this first decade of the
new millennium. We have one in three Americans with a cell phone.
CB users outnumber licensed radio amateurs by anywhere from 4:1
to 7:1, certainly so and larger on the nation's highways. We
get worldwide video feed from anywhere on the globe for TV news,
the only thing stopping some on late-breaking news is the crowding
of communications satellite transponders. We all were able to see
"videophone" pictures from inside Iraq during the first Gulf War
(a decade and a half ago). We can have VoIP anywhere that the
Internet is, which is sizeable on every continent. We have
wireless auto "keyless entry" locks by the millions in use every
day. We have Wireless LANs available in homes, not just
businesses. We have wireless door bells and the cell phone
"Bluetooth" short-range couplers to a teeny cell phone typified
by the strange growth some ardent users have in one ear. :-)

The general public - to me - doesn't seem to know exactly what
"shortwave" is, even less informed on what "HF" is. They know
about CB because such has been featured as an integral part of
one popular TV series ("Dukes of Hazard"), used in several major
motion pictures ("Convoy" and "Smokey and the Bandit" among the
bigger grossers). The best that can be said for showing amateur
radio is the film "Frequency," a fantasy tale of some kind of
time travel. Note, "Contact" starring Jodie Foster, was much
more science-fiction about first meeting with aliens even
though it had brief showing of amateur radio as part of the
story.

The general public can recognize cell site antennas and towers, can understand that police and fire and other public safety agencies USE radio as part of their work. They KNOW they can choose a satellite relay service for their home TV instead of going to cable; the little dishes are unmistakable. They just don't have an appreciation for a "QRP ham rig that can talk anywhere in the world," especially when that ham rig requires just the right kind of ionospheric conditions to be able to do that. In general, the public seems unaware of shortwave broadcasts since they have plenty of standard AM and FM broadcasting available in every US urban center.

The general public is much more aware of the skylines of many urban neighborhoods interrupted by towers with beam antennas, ungainly wire antennas strung as best a residence plot allows. In general they think them ugly and unsuitable for a residential neighborhood. In general they aren't going to be sold on some tall tale of "those are 'necessary' for homeland defense!" Besides the occasional RFI problem, the general public has a negative opinion of amateur radio in their neighborhood...it is their HOME territory, not a radio center.

Trying to talk up amateur radio to the general public requires being AWARE of what the general public knows, NOT what amateurs or membership organizations want. It isn't publicity to promote ham radio to the general public if all that is done is amateurs high-fiving one another on a "job well done." It isn't "well done" to the public if they reamin insular. Despite being an ARRL member, I cannot (in truth) say that the ARRL has gotten out to the public. If anything, NASA has done that much more on requesting astronauts to get Technician class licenses to talk to various public school groups from space. That's a NASA PR ploy to keep the public aware of NASA activities... and future NASA budgeting to keep the space biz going.

Walter Cronkhite as a narrator of an amateur radio video about amateur radio is fine. But, it can't just be shown to amateur radio clubs. It has to get OUT to the public. At least sell the idea of showing the video as a public service, something the stations are required to do. So what if the showing is in the wee small hours of the morning? SOME showing is better than NONE.

73, Len AF6AY

623. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-12 09:10:15 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1176359693.558326.226840@n76g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4828

Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote on Wed, 11 Apr 2007
04:22:00 EDT

>"AF6AY" <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote in

>> Other than that, amateur radio licensee numbers MUST remain "up"
>> in order to indicate to the government there is a "presence" of
>> citizens in a sizeable number that deserves attention. There
>> are many different radio services regulated by the FCC and
>> amateur radio is a minority among those.
>
> Agreed. I'm glad someone got that into this conversation. That we
>have these allocations at all is a minor miracle. Numerical preservation
>is one of the ways that we will keep them, IMO.

Yes, and proper politicking, too. Example: The model radio-
control channels on 72, 74 MHz. Model hobby organizations and
the model hobby industry fought for that and got them. No way
that model airplanes, boats, cars are "advancing the state of
the art" of vehicles nor is it even a scientific activity. It
is FUN to do. The Academy of Model Aeronautics in Ohio has
a quarter million members and that is only part of total
involved in model hobbies. It CAN be done without all the
high-sounding rhetoric. It is a PEOPLE-involved activity and
the numbers do make a difference.

>> Caveat: I live in a large urban population area, not unlike
>> the NYC-LI, Chicago, San Francisco ('Bay Area'), Seattle, etc.
>> areas. VHF-UHF at LOS paths works well in such areas. But,
>> there is another part of VHF-UHF radio activity that doesn't
>> quite have the parallel of HF DX hunting, in-person get-
>> togethers, spontaneous or planned.
>
> From th etimes that I was out there, that would be VHF nirvana,
>tall mountains and fairly flat valleys. I suspect the canyons might be a
>little challenging tho'. Back here in PA we have nice mountains, but so
>many foothills and corduroy valleys that make repeater work a little more
>challenging. But even that can be overcome with effort and fairly deep
>pockets. We have a very good local repeater system, with several polling
>stations on the local mountains that vote on which signal gets to the
>main repeater. A 300 mw HT cam be used over almost the entire county.

I don't know when you were in southern California area, but the
Condor Net began about 1977...back before microprocessors were
available to the hobbyist. On the "220" band, it uses subaudible
signalling to access any repeater path from just north of the Bay

Area (San Francisco) down south to L.A. and San Diego, over to
Arizona and one link to Nevada. All privately funded, all public
access, over 600 miles of all types of terrain, flat to mountains.

>> Those who operate above 30 MHz should never be
>> thought of or even considered as "second-class" amateurs
>> of the "shack on a belt" category.
>
> Absolutely. I've often thought that there was a natural divide
>between HF and VHF+. Disregarding 6 meters, which is kind of a mishmash,
>it can almost be two different hobbies. I gravitate toward HF myself, but
>there is cool stuff happening at VHF and above. And so what if a Hams
>hobby is confined to "the repeater" anyhow?

There's an unfortunate stereotypical attitude, enforced by
years of publicity since before WW2 that ONLY HF is
"important" since that is where DX happens. HF is easier
to work with than VHF because "lumped" constants are used
to make identification and understanding easier. By the
UHF region it begins to be "distributed" constants, much
harder for the average ham to understand. But, VHF and
above can do some tricks that are physically impossible
for the average ham home owner...even if "DX" is a rarity.

>Our situation is truly a "single data point". My thoughts on that are
>that we are working hard to prove that with an inclusive atmosphere
>(critical) and selling that sizzle, we seem to be making it work.

Whatever works on the local scenes is good. If it works, it works.

> My main point is that with good representatives, Ham radio
>shouldn't be a hard sell.

That is the HARD part! The OLD paradigms, the phrases, the
"new" phrases such as "vital to homeland defense" just don't
work with the general public. It hasn't worked enough so far.

As I remarked to Dee, NASA is doing more for ham radio PR than
the ARRL. Those astronauts who got Tech licenses didn't do so
"for the good of amateur radio." They got them because it was
a job requirement. NASA is doing its own PR since it is
publicly funded through the taxpayer.

> Knowledge that Ham radio "exists" is nice, I suppose. Even better
>would be that people understand that they might want to get involved.

Selling "sizzle" is a first step. Adding the "bacon" aroma
helps a lot. But the sizzle and aroma can NOT remain locked
inside ham club houses. That is NOT proper PR, despite it
making hams in those club houses feeling all good and
emotional.

> This isn't rocket science, just pipe dreaming something that might
>be an interesting element of the hobby. Who says that we all have to be
>doing the same thing?

Ahem...several of the more vocal are dead set on continuing
all the old paradigms, confident that such is the "best" way.
It isn't. The number of NEW licensees arriving on the ham
scene is NOT keeping up with those expirations. It's been in
the statistics for at least three years now and is NOT just a
minor blip in the numbers.

73, Len AF6AY

624. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-12 18:32:33 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <evlqpeseg1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4829

AF6AY wrote:

> Trying to talk up amateur radio to the general public
> requires being AWARE of what the general public knows, NOT
> what amateurs or membership organizations want. It isn't
> publicity to promote ham radio to the general public if all
> that is done is amateurs high-fiving one another on a "job
> well done." It isn't "well done" to the public if they
> reamin insular. Despite being an ARRL member, I cannot
> (in truth) say that the ARRL has gotten out to the public.
> If anything, NASA has done that much more on requesting
> astronauts to get Technician class licenses to talk to
> various public school groups from space. That's a NASA
> PR ploy to keep the public aware of NASA activities...
> and future NASA budgeting to keep the space biz going.

Yup, NASA has gotten a lot more mileage out of the project than the ARS
has.

>
> Walter Cronkhite as a narrator of an amateur radio video
> about amateur radio is fine. But, it can't just be
> shown to amateur radio clubs. It has to get OUT to the
> public. At least sell the idea of showing the video as
> a public service, something the stations are required to
> do. So what if the showing is in the wee small hours of
> the morning? SOME showing is better than NONE.

Another suggestion. most Cable systems have public service channels.
Amateur radio advocates should be able to tap into that.

There is one caveat, and I go into this with a bit of sensitivity here.
In my non-Ham life, I often put together productions that serve as
advertisements. The old adage of putting your best foot forward is
mandatory if you are going to get a message across. We often do not do that.

You don't need - or even want - the smartest Ham on the block. What you
need is an adept communicator. This erudite communicator needs to be
"prettied up" for the prospective audience. Wearing a "Hooters" T-shirt
ain't gonna cut it. I would probably wear a suit and tie (note not a
white shirt and skinny black tie). Maybe lose the jacket after a few
minutes. In similar form, we're trying to attract teenagers, we probably
don't want a kid with a tattoo on his forehead and a safety pin in his lip.

Why don't we want that local uberHam? In many (most?) cases they are
not very good communicators.(note the difference between communicating

and communicator) They are too close to the subject. If we're trying to demonstrate HF comms for the unfamiliar, they don't need a lecture on the third intercept point of whatever transceiver. Sometimes they want to show how smart they are more than try to attract people.. Wanna scare a prospective Ham away? Make them feel like they can do anything if they aren't an engineer.

Focus the message, use a good communicator, and look approachable.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

625. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1548 - April 13, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-13 09:16:40 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <E1HcHsA-0003EN-3S@elasmtp-mealy.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 4830
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline Report 1548 - April 13, 2007

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1548 with a
release date of Friday, April 13th, 2007 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. A space adventurer is
on the air from the International Space Station
and we have the audio. Also, President Bush
honors a California ham for his volunteerism and
the FCC issues a possible record fine is issued
for selling illegal C-B gear. Find out the
details on Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1548 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: SPACE TOURIST ON THE AIR

It cost him an estimated 20 million dollars to
get there, but Space tourist Charles Simonyi,
KE7KDP, is on the air from the International
Space Station Amateur Radio Newsline producer
Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, is in our Los Angeles
newsroom with the audio of some of his first contacts:

--

Simonyi: "November Alpha One Sierra Sierra. CQ, CQ, CQ."

--

As we go to air space tourist Charles Simonyi,
KE7KDP, has only been on the International Space
Station for a few days. No matter because he
seems to have really taken to the idea of talking
to people back on mother Earth using Amateur
Radio and does it like a pro. Take a listen:

--

Simonyi: "Kilo Echo 7 please repeater your
callsign Kilo Echo 7 Mike Henry George this is
Charles. I hear you loud and clear. And a big
73 for you. Thanks for the contact. QRZ.

The Whiskey 6 stand-by. Whiskey 6 Mike Echo
Uniform, my name is Charles and I hear you loud and clear. 73 to you. "

--

One of the first stations contacted by KE7KDP was
Scott Avery, WA6LIE, in Salinas, California.
Avery had his recorder running as KE7KDP sent a
message of thank you to the ham community which
worked with him to get him licensed in time for the flight:

--

Simonyi: "Well I just want to congratulate the
(ham radio) community for the great job that they
are doing in performing their charter. As we
learned about it (in training) and to thank
everybody who helped me to get into the community
and helping me along. It is not easy for me and
I do the best that I can. So, thanks a lot guys,
and I hope I can talk to as many people as possible. Over."

--

We also got the chance to ask Avery what it was
like to talk to Charles Simonyi and relay his message to the ham radio world:

--

Avery: "Being one of the first to talk to
Charles on the International Space Station was
definitely an honor and a surprise. I feel very
lucky to have had this opportunity and I hope
that others enjoy their contacts as much as I
did. Its pretty awesome and a once in a lifetime experience."

--

After they chatted for about a minute, KE7KDP
said 73 to Avery and went on to work station
after station, almost as if he was on a
DX-pedition. In some ways he was and Avery kept
tape rolling until the I-S-S faded from view:

--

Audio of KE7KDP making rapid-fire contacts. Hear
it in the MP3 version of this newscast downloadable from www.arnewsline.org

--

KE7KDP has since gone on to make numerous of
random QSO's using the call sign NA1SS. Most U-S
hams report that they heard him on 145.8 MHz and
made contact by calling him split frequency on
the 144.490 I-S-S uplink channel. The

frequencies used in other parts of the world
vary. Most of the information you need and a
blog by those who have made contact with Simonyi
can be found on-line at www.issfanclub.com

Charles Simonyi will be on board the I-S-S until
April 20th. That's when he returns to Earth with
Expedition 14 crew members of Michael
Lopez-Alegria, KE5GTK, and Mikhail Tyurin, RZ3FT,
both of whom who have been in space since last
September. So until then, keep an ear open for
Charles Simonyi, KE7KDP, operating mainly as NA1SS from space.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill
Pasternak, WA6ITF. I'm at the studio in Los Angeles.

Jim
--

You can follow KE7KDP's space and ham radio
adventure on-line at
www.charlesinspace.com (ARNewsline with audio supplied by WA6LIE)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: PRESIDENT'S VOLUNTEER SERVICE
AWARD PRESENTED TO VICTORVILLE CA HAM

President Bush has recognized a Victorville,
California ham with a volunteer award. Randy
Hatfield, AG6RH, has been presented the
President's Volunteer Service Award in
recognition of his helping 350 others obtain
their amateur radio licenses. Amateur Radio
Newsline's Jeff Reinhardt, AA6JR, has more:

--

The award presentation to Randy Hatfield, AG6RH
by President Bush took place on Wednesday, April
4th. This, during a stopover of Air Force One at
the Southern California Logistics Airport.

According to a White House press release, in
addition to his work in training new radio
amateurs, Hatfield was also honored for more than
500 hours he has volunteered to the city of
Victorville's Emergency Communications Service.

Randy Hatfield is with the City of Victorville
Community Emergency Response Team and the local
Emergency Communication Service. He began
volunteering with the Victorville team about 18

months. His group trains volunteers in basic
response skills such as fire safety, light search
and rescue, disaster preparedness and emergency communications.

In accepting the award Hatfield noted that he
became involved in Amateur Radio and the
Community Emergency Response Team because he
knows the day will come where volunteers will be
needed to support the infrastructure of every
city that might be affected. AG6RH says -- and
we quote: "If you don't have communications, you can't recover."

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Jeff Reinhardt, AA6JR.

--

Hatfield was nominated for the award by his
co-workers. Since March 2002, President Bush has
met with almost 600 individuals around the
country to present similar accolades. (CGC, San Bernardino News, others)

**

RESCUE RADIO: HT SAVES PAIR STRANDED ON N.M. MOUNTAIN

An interesting story with a ham radio twist out
of New Mexico. That's where two men from the
Gulf Coast found themselves stuck overnight on
March 15th in the mountains just East of Albuquerque.

According to news reports, 19 year old Nathan
Gerber and his companion Hunter Welch, 21 of
Corpus Christi, Texas were visiting the
area, The two were attempting to descend from
Sandia Crest but found themselves stuck on a
sheer rock face, unable to proceed down and
confronted with loose rock that stopped them from
retracing their steps back up.

The two were not properly dressed for the
overnight temperatures that occur at 10,000-plus
feet in mid March. The only thing that they had
going for them was a two-way radio. And
according to the news report it was that radio that likely saved their life.

It seems a local radio amateur heard their pleas
for assistance. He in turn alerted the state
police which dispatched a rescue crew.

The two men were plucked from the mountain face
at about 4 a.m. on the 16th . Officials say they
were exhausted but otherwise okay.

No information was provided in the K-Oh-B news
story as to who the ham was that picked up the
rescue call was or what type of radio Gerber and
Welch were carrying. Neither of their name
appear in the FCC database as being licensed
radio amateurs. (KOB TV News, others)

**

RADIO LAW: HFA FILES PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION ON ANTENNA RIGHTS

A small group of antenna rights activists has
petitioned the FCC to reconsider the agency's
denial of their request to override deed
restrictions that preclude Amateur Radio antennas.

Hams for Action filed its initial request back on
July 31st of 2006. In it, the group urged the
FCC to establish reasonable regulation of outdoor
ham antennas by Homeowners' Associations and
other private land use regulators. This, in
place of the total antenna bans which currently
prevail in many neighborhoods across the United States.

Currently the FCC has PRB-1 which precludes
states, cities and other local governments from
banning ham radio antenna installations. It has
no such rule governing land use agreements which
the agency considers to be a private matter between buyers and sellers.

The Hams for Action request was turned down by
the FCC this past February 28th. The group has
now filed its Petition For Reconsideration which
is in effect, an appeal for the 5 FCC
Commissioners to review and reverse the decision of the Commission's staff.

More is on-line at the Hams for Action
website. Its in cyberspace at www.hamsforaction.net (Press release)

**

Break 1

This week from Auckland, New Zealand and from the
United States of America, we are the Amateur
Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around
the world including the W2CNY repeater of the
Central New York Amateur Radio Fellowship serving Syracuse, New York.

(5 sec pause here)

**

ENFORCEMENT: OHIO FIRM FINED $150,000 FOR
ALLEGEDLY MARKETING ILLEGAL 11 METER GRER

Possibly one of the largest fines ever for
selling non certified C-B sets under the guise of
it being ham radio gear has been issued to Ramko
Distributors Inc. of Toledo, Ohio. It's a
massive $150,000 Notice of Apparent Liability for
alleged marketing of 17 models of non-certified
radio transceivers that the FCC say are all
capable of easily being converted to the 11 meter
band. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, has the details

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Back on November 26, 2001, the FCC Enforcement
Bureau's Dallas, Texas Field Office issued a
Citation to Ramko Distributors for allegedly
marketing 41 models of non-certified "10-meter"
CB radio transceivers. The Dallas Office noted
that the Commission had evaluated devices similar
to those in the past and had concluded that the
devices marketed by Ramko were not only Amateur
Radio transceiver but could easily be altered for
use as C-B devices. The Dallas Office further
noted that the Commission has concluded that such
devices fall within the definition of a C-B
transmitter and therefore cannot legally be
imported or marketed in the United States.

The Citation warned Ramko of the possible
consequences of continued marketing of these
devices in violation of the rules, including
monetary forfeitures and criminal sanctions.

On November 30, 2001, Ramko submitted a follow-up
letter to the Citation. The company not only
disputed all of the legal and factual
contentions in the document. It also demanded
that the FCC withdraw the citation within 30 days.

The FCC did not withdraw. In fact it did a
number of follow-ups. By letter dated January
28, 2002, the Dallas Office again explained that
the subject devices were CB transmitters and
warned Ramko to stop marketing the equipment
immediately. But in its response Ramko again
disputed the Citation's conclusions and again
asked the Dallas Office to withdraw the
Citation. In April 2002, Ramko filed a third
letter which asserted that in the absence of a
response to its February letter, it assumed that
the Dallas Office agreed with its position and would withdraw the Citation.

Surprise. Not only did the FCC not withdraw the
citation, it continued to let the matter hang

fire until July 2005 when it acquired a Ramko flyer which advertised substantially the same equipment that was the subject of the 2001 Citation. Because it appeared to the FCC that Ramko may have continued to market CB transmitting devices as Amateur Radio equipment after receiving the 2001 Citation, on April 17, 2006, the Division issued a First Letter of Inquiry to Ramko concerning these units.

On May 22, 2006, Ramko filed a late response to the Letter of Inquiry. In it, Ramko stated that it neither manufactured nor imported the subject devices. But it also failed to provide responses to questions concerning the length of time it marketed each device, the total number of units sold, and the identity of its retailers and distributors.

Instead, the company argued that it only has a two-year document retention policy and that most documents dated before 2004 have probably already been destroyed. Also, that it was unable to conduct a computerized search for the number of units sold before April 1, 2006, when new computer software was installed and that matching customers to products before then would be limited to the existing paper invoices. It also claimed that it is unable match customers with products under the current computer system. Ramko did concede that it sent out catalogs or price lists which were "substantially similar" to the contents of its web page. Further, Ramko admitted that none of the subject devices received Commission authorization prior to marketing.

On July 20, 2006, the Division issued a Second Letter of Inquiry to Ramko. It once again requested that Ramko provide information concerning certain devices that it was marketing as amateur radio equipment. In view of Ramko's statement that it had a two-year document retention policy, the Division directed Ramko to provide the requested information for the most recent two-year period.

On August 23, 2006, Ramko filed a response. In its response, Ramko provided data on the total number of units sold for certain of the subject devices for the five-month period from April 1, 2006, to August 17, 2006. In answer to a question as to whether the subject devices were capable of operating, or of being modified to

operate, on any frequencies beyond the Amateur Radio Service, Ramko stated that "every Amateur radio is capable of being modified to work out of band." Ramko also said that information on how to modify almost every brand of Amateur radio to work out of band is freely available on the Internet."

Subsequently, in September 2006, the FCC observed that Ramko was still advertising several models of 10-meter radios in a flyer on its website. Of these 17 models, 16 models were specifically identified by the FCC in the 2001 Citation as devices that could easily be altered for use as CB devices and therefore could not be lawfully marketed in the United States.

And says the FCC, under Section 503(b)(1)(B) of the Communications Act, any person who is determined by the Commission to have willfully or repeatedly failed to comply with any provision of the Communications Act or any rule, regulation, or order issued by the FCC shall be liable to the United States for a forfeiture penalty. In this case the FCC has set the amount of Ramko's fine at $150,000.

In simpler terms, this is one of the biggest fines ever issued for what amounts to selling illegal C-B radios under the guise of it being ham radio gear. It also may be a sign of things to come to others who sell the same type of easy to convert to 11 meter pseudo ham radio gear.

For the amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, reporting.

--

In case you are wondering, the radio gear in question carry brand names like Conex, Magnum, General models Jackson and Lee and Galaxy. Ramko was given the usual amount of time to pay the fine or to file an appeal. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: UNLICENSED BROADCASTER ORDERED TO PAY $10000

Another unlicensed broadcaster has been dinged for $10,000 by the FCC. This time the recipient of the order to pay is Junior Lahens Charles of Tampa, Florida.

The FCC says that Charles failed to respond to a Notice of Monetary Forfeiture issued to him on February 2nd for operation of an unlicensed radio transmitter. As a result of his ignoring the FCC and based on the information the FCC has before

it, the agency has ordered Charles to pay the
full within 30 days of the orders April 2nd release. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC ACCEPTS HAM LICENSE TICKET FOR CANCELLATION

The FCC has accepted for cancellation the
Technician ticket of a licensee. One who has
been the target of inquiries and warnings from
the Commission's Enforcement Bureau dating back
to 2005. Amateur Radio Newsline's Paul Vinoski,
KR8ZZY, has the rest of the story:

--

The ARRL Letter says that the FCC's Special
Counsel Riley Hollingsworth wrote Brandon Duke,
KC0UWS, on March 6th. This, to confirm receipt
of Duke's Amateur Radio license for cancellation.

Past FCC communications to Duke have cited
information before the commission as well as
Duke's own admission to indicate he had been
operating on 10 and 20 meter frequencies not
available to him as a Technician class
licensee. Also in the past Hollingsworth had
taken Duke to task for allegedly ignoring
requests to stop using certain repeaters in his area.

Back in 2006, an apologetic Duke had pledged in a
letter to Hollingsworth to change his on-the-air
behavior, noting that he'd destroyed an audio CD
containing apparently objectionable material he'd
been accused of airing. He also said he'd
refrain from jamming, interfering and even using any repeaters.

In January of this year Hollingswotrth sent Duke
a "last warning." It was mailed to Duke at a
Colorado address, but came back as undeliverable.
At the time of the license cancellation letter
Duke had a Minnesota address on file with the FCC

For the amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Paul Vinoski, KR8ZZY

--

Duke applied for W0BMD last fall. In his letter,
Hollingswoth noted that his office had forwarded
Duke's license to the Wireless Telecommunications
Bureau for cancellation and for dismissal of his
application for a vanity call sign. (ARRL, FCC)

**

THE BPL FIGHT: VK HAMS RELEASE SECOND BPL INTERFERENCE VIDEO

Hams down-under have released a second BPL video
on DVD and streaming. One that depicts the
interference potential of Broadband Over Powerline Internet access.

The show is a 4 minute virtual tour of the North
Hobart B-P-L trial area. This is an installation
that has been the scene of complaints back to
telecommunications regulator ACMA. The video
contains commentary about the trial, technology,
issues and background information on BPL. The
interference that can be seen on the S-Meter and
heard in the soundtrack remains for most of the video at S9 and above.

This video is similar to the Mt. Nelson tour but
has one disturbing difference. Its on-line at
http://reast.asn.au/vk7bplwatch.php#bpltours (WIA)

**

RADIO RECOGNITION: HAM RADIO WEEK DECLARED IN CONNECTCUT

And Connecticut Governor Jodi Rell has declared
June 17th to the 23rd as Amateur Radio Week in
that state. In the proclamation Governor Rell
noted that the state recognizes and appreciates
the diligence of radio amateurs who serve in
SKYWARN as weather spotters and the efforts of
the many radio amateurs who volunteer their time
in crisis situations. The governor also made
note that Connecticut is the home of the American
Radio Relay League which represents the interests
of radio amateurs and also acts to interest young
people in the sciences by performing as an educational gateway. (ARRL)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: MENDELSOHN TO SPEAK AT QCWA BANQUET

Former ARRL 1st Vice President Steve Mendelsohn,
W2ML, has been tapped as this years speaker at
the Quarter Century Wireless Association's
Hamvention Banquet. Mendelsohn, who is with the
ABC Television Network will talk about the 2003
Superbowl's High Definition TV coverage and the
technology that went into making it happen.

The QCWA Hamvention Banquet will be held at
Alex's Continental Restaurant in the Dayton
suburb of Miamisburg Ohio on Friday, May 18th at
7:30 PM. Advanced reservation required. Send
request to Jerry Ragland, WA8BOB, 409 Park Av. Franklin Ohio, 45005. (QCWA)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the Auckland New Zealand and United States of America, we are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

RADIO BUSINESS: TTI, INC. AND MOUSER ELECTRONICS BOUGHT BY BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY

One of the worlds richest men now owns a company that services the needs of hams who still like to homebrew their own gear. This with word that the Berkshire Hathaway Company headed up by billionaire Warren Buffett has acquired T-T-I Incorporated and its new affiliate Mouser Electronics.

As most listeners are aware, Mouser Electronics, is a component distributor which advertises in most ham radio magazines and is noted as a parts source in most electronic construction articles. The company ships globally to over 280,000 customers in 170 countries from its 432,000 square foot state-of-the art facility in Mansfield, Texas.

Its new parent company, Berkshire Hathaway is located in Omaha, Nebraska. Its core business is insurance, including property and casualty insurance, reinsurance and specialty nonstandard insurance. According to Wikipedia dot com, Berkshire Hathaway averaged a phenomenal 25%+ annual return to its shareholders for the last 25 years while employing large amounts of capital and minimal debt.

Both TTI and Mouser's management will remain in place. This ownership change should be invisible to customers and suppliers.

For more information about Mouser Electronics, please visit www.mouser.com. (VHF Reflector and other published reports)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: ZERO DAY ATTACK ON W.Va. TV STATION

A vulnerability in Microsoft Windows operating system apparently allowed a computer virus to penetrate the computer systems at WSAZ television in Charleston, West Virginia, almost taking the stations news off the air.

It was discovered early Saturday, March
31st just before the 6 a.m. newscast was to go
on the air . Information technology personnel at
WSAZ believe it was a "zero day attack" that
affected some of the station's critical systems
including those dealing with the station's
graphics, closed captioning, and many other
applications that help bring a newscast to air.

The vulnerability was announced on Wednesday,
March 28. According to Microsoft, a "hole" in
certain versions of Microsoft Windows could allow
an attacker to remotely run programs on some
computers if the user accesses certain websites that contain malicious code.

A Zero-day attack is described as a targeted time
threat that exposes computer application
vulnerabilities. Zero-day attacks are considered
extremely dangerous because they take advantage
of computer security holes for which no solution is currently available.

At airtime, Microsoft has not released a patch to
fix this latest vulnerability found in its Windows software. (Science On-Line)

**

WORLDBEAT - CUBA: CONGRESS TO SCRUTINIZE RADIO MARTI

In news from around the world, the Miami Herald
reports that a congressional committee now led by
Representative William Delahunt of Massachusetts
plans oversight hearings into Radio and TV
Mart&#65533;. This, amid allegations of mismanagement of taxpayer money.

The Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee of
the House International Relations Committee will
hold the hearings according to the news
account. Radio and Television Marti are United
States propaganda stations that beam news and
other information to communist dominated Cuba. (Published reports)

**

WORLDBEAT - ISRAEL: GLOBAL QSL UNVEILED
A pair of Israeli hams have teamed up to create
what they call a unique approach to Q-S-L'ing
with real cards over the Internet. Called Global
QSL, it was developed by Azar Hami, 4X6MI and
Paul Gross to permit hams with web access a way
to design and send out QSL's to other hams and SWL's.
It works like this. First you register with
Global QSL. That costs you nothing. Then you
download their graphic editing tool to design
their own QSL cards and upload their finished work to Global QSL's server.

Once the QSL design is in place, users can then
upload the QSO information using either the
standard ADIF format found in most electronic log
programs or, by manually uploading the QSO
information. QSL cards are then printed sorted
and forwarded to the respective QSL bureaus around the world.
More information on Global QSL, how it works and
the cost of printing and mail-out is on-line at www.qlobalqsl.com (Global QSL)
**
DX

In D-X, word that DL6UAA, will be active as 3B8MM
from Mauritius for the next few weeks. He will
operate mostly CW, but will also give SSTV a
try. More information including how to QSL is
on-line at www.dl6uaa.de/indexa.html

And DL9MWG will be active from Malta as
9H3RT. This, from April 18th through May
11th. Activity will be on HF, mainly CW. QSL
this one as directed on the air.

Lastly, PA5CW will be active portable YB9 from
Bali from April 25th to the 10th May. QSL direct via his callbook address.

(Various DX sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: WOK TV

And finally this week, another of those stories
where necessity is the mother of invention. This
one happened down-under in Australia where a new
T-V station wanted to get on the air but did bot
have the cash on hand for a studio to transmitter
link antenna. So instead an engineer turned to a
Chinese cooking utensil for a solution. WIA News
Anchor Graham Kemp, VK4BB, has the rest of the recipe:

--

Ken Jones asked himself "Why pay $20,000 for a
commercial link to run your television station
when a $10 kitchen wok from the Warehouse is just as effective?"

This is exactly how North Otago's newest
television station "45 South"is transmitting its
signal from its studio to the top of Cape Wanbrow, in a bid to keep costs down.

45 South volunteer Ken Jones designed the wok
transmitter in his spare time last year. Along
with friend Murray Bobbette they worked out
mathematical equations to prove the curved metal

face of a wok would have the same effect as a small satellite dish.

"We have spent a lot of time getting it right --
the first time we installed one we had it up a
pole with the handle still on the end of the wok," he said.

"$20,000 for a commercial link was just money we
didn't have, so we bought several woks from The
Warehouse instead which was convenient and cheap."

--

And this story makes us wonder if the station
might decide to hold a celebration cook out using
the rest of the unused woks. We hope they invite us if they do. (WIA News)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the
CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio
Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the
RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A
News, that's all from the Amateur Radio
Newsline&#65533;. Our e-mail address is
newsline@arnewsline.org. More information is
available at Amateur Radio Newsline's&#65533; only
official website located at
www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or
support us at Amateur Radio Newsline&#65533;, P.O. Box
660937, Arcadia, California 91066.

Two reminders before we go. First about our
on-line poll regarding your position on the
concept of Regulation by Bandwidth. To take
part, take your web browser
to www.arnewsline.org. Scroll down and watch for
the word "Polls" on the left hand side of the
page. Then click on the box that is closest to
your view. As soon as you cast your vote you will see the current results.

Also, the nominating season for this years
Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year
Award is now open. Any radio amateur age 18 or
younger residing in all 50 United States, plus
Puerto Rico and all 13 Canadian Provinces can
qualify. Full details and nominating forms are
on our special website at www,yhoty.org. Also
see the Vertex-Standard sponsored ad on page 8
of the March issue of QST Magazine.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I m Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF reporting from Auckland, New Zealand, saying 73 and we thank you for listening. Amateur Radio Newsline is Copyright 2007. All rights reserved.

626. Broadband fixed gain amp

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-13 15:47:55 UTC
From: churd@slowfly.com
Message-ID: <1176478895.818021.150110@q75g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4831

In a old Radio Amatuer's Handbook there was a circuit of a single transistor using a ferrite core transformer to get a broadband fixed gain of 6db or so for an antenna line amp. I've lost the Handbook. Can anyone find it or equivalent and send the info?

Thanks Mr C

627. GB2RS NEWS Sunday 15 April 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-13 20:10:40 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200704131955.l3DJtHD25486@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4832
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

1 GB2RS NEWS Sunday 15 April

The news headlines *

Train the Trainers in the East Midlands * Guidance issued for CW on 5MHz * Maritime officers honoured

The RSGB's Train the Trainers scheme continues to help tutors enhance the standard of their Foundation, Intermediate and Advanced licence courses. Alan Betts, G0HIQ and Brian Reay, G8OSN will be presenting the course, which is free of charge to Instructors. The all day event takes place on Saturday 2 June from 10am at Finningley ARS, located at Sandtoft, near Doncaster. For more information contact RSGB Region 13 Manager Jim Stevenson, G0EJQ, by email to g0ejq@rsgb.org.uk or Region 4 Manager Geoff Dalby, G7GJU, by email to g7gju@rsgb.org.uk. Demand is expected to be high, so it is important to register as soon as possible.

A question has arisen with respect to CW on the 5MHz channels and it has been suggested by the 5MHz Working Group that the edges of Channel FC could be used. The Group suggests that 5.289 or 5.291MHz are used, as CW transmissions on these frequencies should not affect the beacon monitoring and they would be easily monitored by any casual listeners in SSB mode. On either of these frequencies the transmissions would be 500Hz from the FC channel-edge. CW should not go closer to 5.290MHz, as this could upset the beacon monitoring.

The important role played by merchant marine radio officers will be commemorated by a special radio event in April this year. During Radio Maritime Communication Day, merchant navy radio officers will be active on the HF bands between 1200UTC on 14 April and 1200UTC on 15 April. Awards and certificates will be available to amateur who make contact with the merchant navy stations. You can find out more on the web at www.radiomaritimeday.org.

Silcoates School in Wakefield, in association with the RSGB, will host a seminar on amateur radio direction finding on 21 April. The aim of the event is to raise the profile of amateur radio direction finding in the north of England. The seminar will be lead by Bob Titterington, G3ORY, and a team from the RSGB ARDF committee. Amateur radio direction finding is a sport where the object is to seek out up to five hidden transmitters, orienteering style.

Nigel Wears, M0NJW, who set up the amateur radio club at Silcoates school, said: "ARDF activity has really taken off in Europe, and here

is a good chance for people in the north to learn from the best. The day will include class based sessions and videos, as well as a couple of taster sessions in the school grounds. There will also be an opportunity to purchase DF equipment."

The seminar is free but it is vital that people pre-book as there are only a limited number of places available. Application forms are available by emailing nigel@m0njw.co.uk. The organisers suggest that no more than three delegates should come from any one club, in the hope that the information given at the seminar can filter to as many people as possible.

2 International Marconi Day will take place on Saturday 28 April this year. Although the event is not a contest, participants can qualify for award certificates by contacting special stations. These stations must operate on or close to a site where Guglielmo Marconi carried out experiments or where Marconi equipment was used prior to his death in 1937. If you would like to operate one of these special award stations, it is essential that you register the station by emailing webmaster@gb4imd.org.uk prior to the event with full details of the station. Further information can be found on the web at www.gb4imd.org.uk.

The seventh International Museums Weekend special event will take place on 16 and 17 June 2007. Radio amateurs are encouraged to participate in this event by setting up stations in their local museums. Harry, M1BYT, who is organising the event, asks that all those intending to join in should please register their museum via the International Museums Weekend website. He also requests that they send their details to him by e-mail to harry.m1byt@tiscali.co.uk.

The International Amateur Radio Union has announced that the third Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference - or GAREC, as it is more commonly called - will take place on 16 and 17 August 2007 at the Huntsville Hamfest in the US. This will be the first time that the event has been held in the US.

Now the rallies and events for the coming week.

On Sunday 15 April the West London Radio & Electronics Show takes place at Kempton Park racecourse, Sunbury-on-Thames from 10.00. Apart from the usual trade stands, special interest groups, lectures and so forth, the rally will be hosting the new RSGB Top Ham quiz competition. More details on the web at www.radiofairs.co.uk.

On Sunday 15 April the Yeovil QRP Convention takes place at Digby Hall, Hound Street, Sherborne, Dorset. Details from George Davis on 01935 425669 or on the web at www.yeovil-arc.com. On Sunday 22 April the Lough Erne Amateur Radio Show takes place from 12.00 at the Share Centre, Lisnaskea. Details from Alan, GI6PYP, on 0286 635 1108. On Sunday 22 April the Nantwich Bunker Trust surplus sale of military and commercial radio equipment takes place from 10am at The Secret Nuclear

Bunker, French Lane, Nantwich, Cheshire. Details are on the web at www.hackgreen.co.uk. On Sunday 22 April the Andover Radio Amateur Club Spring Boot Sale takes place from 10am at Wildhern Village Hall. Details from Brian, G0KIC, on 01264 357628. More details of these and future events can be found on pages 96 and 97 of the April edition of RadCom. Now for news of special events.

The Scarborough Special Events Group will kick off their 2007 season of special events stations with GB2EXP over the weekend of 28-29 April.

Special event station ON50EU is active until 31 December to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome.

3 Look for special event station OX60AD to be on air throughout April to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the US Air Force and the 56th anniversary of the Defence Treaty between the US and Denmark for the Protection of Greenland. Activity will be on 40, 20, 17, 15 and 10m using CW, SSB and RTTY.

The Flight Refuelling ARS is operating special event station GB2FRA from 7 April to 4 May to commemorate its 25th anniversary. Activity will be on HF, VHF and UHF using CW, SSB and FM.

Special event station OX60AD (OX Sixty AD) will be active on 1-30 April to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the US Air Force base at Thule. Expect activity on 6, 10, 15, 17, 20, 40 and 80m using CW, SSB and digital modes.

Special station EV5IPY is on the air to celebrate the participation of Belarus in the 4th International Polar Year. Operations are conducted under the aegis of the newly born Department of Polar Researches at the Belorussian Geographic Society.

Special callsign, HF40PAZ, will be aired until 30 April and again on 1-30 September, to celebrate the 40th anniversary of club station SP6PAZ.

Special event station GB75PW will be active from various sites and locations until 31 December to mark the anniversary of Practical Wireless magazine.

Francois, F8DVD, has been issued the special callsign TM4IPY to celebrate the beginning of the 4th International Polar Year, and will be active between 1 and 14 April. Activity will be on all bands, SSB and CW. A special QSL card will be available. And now the HF DX news compiled from 425 DX News, the Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin and other sources.

DL9MWG will be active from Malta as 9H3RT from 18 April to 11 May. Activity will be on HF, mainly CW.

PA5CW, will be active portable YB9 from Bali from 25 April to 10 May.

Mart, DL6UAA, will be active as 3B8MM from Mauritius starting on 5 April for a few weeks. He will operate mostly CW, but will also give

SSTV a try.

Bernard, DL2GAC, expects to be active from the Solomon Islands until 25 April.

Tony, 3D2AG, is active mostly on 40 and 20m CW as FK/FO5RK from Noumea, New Caledonia until the end of April.

Kang, DS4DRE, is currently active as DS4DRE/4 from Hong Island until 30 June. Activity will be on 80-10m, CW and SSB Now the contest news.

The RSGB 80m Club Championship data section takes place between 2000-2130UTC on 19 April on the 3.5MHz band. The exchange takes the form of RST and serial number.

Look out for the EU Sprint Contest between 1600 and 1959UTC on 21 April on the 3.5 to 14MHz bands, SSB mode only. The exchange comprises both callsigns, serial number and name.

4 RSGB 1.3 and 2.3GHz Activity takes place on all modes between 1900-22130UTC on 17 April. The exchange is made up of RST, serial number and locator.

The RSGB 1st 50MHz Contest is on the air between 0900-1200UTC on 22 April on all modes. RST, serial number, locator and postcode make up the exchange.

You can find out more about contesting, including a calendar of events and rules, on the HF Contest Committee and VHF Contest Committee websites. Links to these can be found on the RSGB website. Suitable freeware logging programs for RSGB HF and VHF contests are available from a variety of sources - see the links section of the contest committee website. Now the solar factual data for 2 to 8 April, compiled by Neil Clarke, G0CAS.

Two small sunspot groups disappeared on the 3rd. The solar disc then remained spotless for the remainder of the period. Solar activity was very low with no solar flares taking place at all. Solar flux levels were static everyday at 71 units. The 90 day solar flux average on the 8th was 76 units, that's one unit down on last week. X-ray flux levels remained well below the minimum A1 level throughout. Geomagnetic activity started at `active' levels with an Ap index of 24 units on the 2nd. This was the due to a coronal hole. The geomagnetic field then became quiet for the remainder of the period. However, late on the 8th the arrival of yet another coronal hole disturbance took place. The Ap index on the 7th and the 8th was only 3 units. The average was Ap 8 units. The ACE spacecraft saw solar wind speeds decline from 670 kilometres per second on the 2nd to 290 by the 7th. With the arrival of the coronal hole disturbance speeds then increased to 400 kilometres per second late on the 8th. Particle densities were low throughout except for an increase to 48 particles per cubic centimetre during the evening of the 8th. Bz varied between minus 2 and plus 2 nanoTeslas on the quiet days and between minus 5 and plus 13 nanoTeslas late on the

8th.

HF propagation improved by midweek, with all continents workable on 14MHz. The higher bands showed signs of life and there were even some brief afternoon openings to Africa on 28MHz. There were scattered reports of VHF aurora on the 2nd but, as is so often the case, they were confined to high latitudes.

And now the solar forecast. This week seems set to continue with solar activity at very low levels. The solar disc could be spotless on some days. How long will this present minimum phase last? Who knows, but when it does come to an end it will be rather sudden with only a few days notice at best. Solar flux levels are expected to be around the 70 mark for most of the week. For the first half of the week geomagnetic activity is expected to be quiet, however, from around Thursday activity should increase due to a recurring coronal hole. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitudes should be around 18MHz for the south and 15MHz for the north. The darkness hour lows are expected to be about 9MHz. Paths this week to Australia should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success rate of about 19MHz. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success rate will be around 15MHz. The best time to try this path will be between 0900 and 1300 hours UTC.

And that's all from the GB2RS propagation team.

5 Next, the Local News:

Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses

and website links where known.

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your

transmission.]

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST

and EAST ANGLIA On Wednesday 18 April Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk by Jeremy, G3XZG on 'my amateur radio station'. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

On Wednesday 18 April Dover Radio Club is having its AGM. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk.

On Wednesday 18 April Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on DFing by Graham, G0UUS and Steve, G7HEP. Contact Jim, M1JJN for more information.

On Wednesday 18 April Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is having its AGM. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

On Wednesday 18 April Worthing and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on flat panel loudspeakers. Contact Roy, G4GPX, on 01903 753 893.

On Thursday 19 April Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society is running an Intermediate Licence training course from 7pm at Danbury Village Hall. Contact Clive, G1EUC, on 01245 224 577, or on the web at www.g0mwt.org.uk/training. Contact Martyn, G1EFL, on 01245 469 008.

On Thursday 19 April Cray Valley Radio Society is having its AGM. Contact Bob, BRS32525, on 020 8265 7735 after 8pm.

On Thursday 19 April Horndean and District Amateur Radio Club is having a skittles evening at Wickham. Contact Stuart, G0FYX, on 023 9247 2846, or on the web at www.hdarc.co.uk.

On Thursday 19 April Shefford and District Amateur Radio Society is having its spring junk sale. Contact David, G8UOD, on 01234 742 757.

On Thursday 19 April Sutton and Cheam Radio Society is having a talk on the work of the RSGB EMC Committee by Colin Richards, G3YCR. Contact John, G0BWV, on 020 8644 9945, or by email to info@scrs.org.uk.

On Friday 20 April Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is having a radio night and table top sale. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Friday 20 April Radio Amateur Old Timers' Association is having a Get-Together in London Colney from 11am to 4pm. Details from Mavis, G0XBY or Adrian, M0ABY on 01582 833451.

On Friday 20 April Torbay Amateur Radio Society is having an operating night. Contact Dave, G6FSP, by email to g6fsp@tars.org.uk.

6 On Friday 20 April Wey Valley Amateur Radio Group is having a review of GB95MGY activities. Details on the web at www.weyvalleyarg.org.uk.

On Saturday 21 April Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society is attending Sandford Mill Open Day. Contact Martyn, G1EFL, on 01245 469 008.

On Saturday 21 April Dorking and District Radio Society is having its 60th Anniversary Reunion. Contact Mr Blanchard, G3JKV, or look on the web at www.ddrs.org.uk.

On Sunday 22 April Basingstoke Amateur Radio Club is having a foxhunt to find Alan, G8FMH. Contact Frank, M0AEU, by email to barc@2lo.info.

On Sunday 22 April Radio Society of Harrow is having an operating day for GB2DHH at the DeHavilland Heritage Museum, London Colney from10am - 2.30pm.

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST

On Wednesday 18 April Exmouth Amateur Radio Club is looking at its capacitance and inductance meter project. Contact g0uil@eclipse.co.uk.

On Wednesday 18 April South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is having a horticultural evening with Mrs Susan Grace. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282.

On Wednesday 18 April Taunton and District Amateur Radio Club is watching a Dxpedition video. Contact William, G3WNI, on 01823 666 234, or by email to g3wni@btinternet.com.

On Wednesday 18 April Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is having a video night. Contact Tony, G0WMB, by email to tonytsgarc@beeb.net.

On Thursday 19 April Swindon and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on club projects from the past by Deryck, G3YKC. Contact Mike, M5CBS, on 01793 826 465.

On Thursday 19 April Yeovil Amateur Radio Club is having its AGM. Contact Derek, 01935 414 452, or by email to m0wob@tiscali.co.uk.

On Friday 20 April Bournemouth Radio Society is having an illustrated talk on 'a vertical aerial for the 17 metre band by David Wright, G4BKE. Contact John, G0HAT, on 07719 700 771.

On Saturday 21 April Flight Refuelling Amateur Radio Society is running its Foundation training course. Contact Chuck on 01202 881421 for more information.

NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS

On Wednesday 18 April Hinckley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is having an open evening. Contact Sam, M1FJB, on 01158 718 449.

On Wednesday 18 April Telford and District Amateur Radio Society is discussing operating abroad. Contact Mike, G3JKX, on 01952 299 677, or by email to mjstreetg3jkx@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Thursday 19 April Salop Amateur Radio Society is having its first fox hunt. Contact Glenda, G1YJB, on 01939 235 412.

7 On Friday 20 April Coventry Amateur Radio Society is running a 2m direction finding event from 8.00, starting at St Bartholomew's church hall, Brinklow Road, Coventry. Contact John, G8SEQ, on 02476 273 190, or by email to johng8seq@ntlworld.com.

On Friday 20 April Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club I having a talk by Jeff Lashley on amateur radio astronomy. Contact Carl, M0XBE, on 07979 092 447, or on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

On Friday 20 April Melton Mowbray Amateur Radio Society is having an emergency planning meeting with Melton Borough Council. Contact Phil, G4LWB, on phil@croxtonkerr.fsnet.co.uk.

On Sunday 22 April Worcester Radio Amateurs Association is having a talk on portable operation and kite aerials. Request details by email to info@wraa.co.uk.

NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

On Wednesday 18 April Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is having a talk by David Barclay on leaky feeders. Contact Nancy, on 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Wednesday 18 April Mid-Cheshire Amateur Radio Society is preparing the equipment and club stand for Radio Active. Contact Richard, G0JIT, by email to rsa@zetnet.co.uk.

On Wednesday 18 April Wirral and District Amateur Radio Club is meeting at The Ring O'Bells, West Kirby. Contact Tom, G4BKF, on 07050 291 850.

On Friday 20 April South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is having a talk on Heathrow's Terminal 5 construction. Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999.

On Friday 20 April Tynemouth Radio Club is preparing for International Marconi Day. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Saturday 21 April Silcoates School Amateur Radio Club is running its Direction Finding Seminar. Contact Nigel, M0NJW, by email to nigel@m0njw.co.uk.

On Sunday 22 April Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is running its Foundation course. Contact Nancy on 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

NEWS FOR SCOTLAND

On Wednesday 18 April Paisley (YMCA) Amateur Radio Club is having part 3 of its home brew QRP transmitter project. Contact Jim, GM3UWX.

On Thursday 19 April Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is having a construction and on the air evening. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

On Saturday 21 April Cockenzie and Port Seton Amateur Radio Club is having a 10 pin bowling night from 8pm at Megabowl, Kinnaird Park. Contact Bob, GM4UYZ, on 01875 811 723.

On Sunday 22 April Central Scotland FM Group is having its AGM in Bathgate Guide Hall, Mid Street, Bathgate, West Lothian. Details on the web at www.csfmg.com.

8 NEWS FOR WALES On Friday 20 April Blackwood and District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on Marconi and early radio by Glyn, GW0ANA. Contact Robert, MW0CVT.

NEWS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

No news items have been received for Northern Ireland this week. And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast,

prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

628. Re: Threaded Rod

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-14 04:02:21 UTC
From: kelly@dvol.com
Message-ID: <1176519174.842333.286880@q75g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4833

On Apr 9, 9:58 am, "KH6HZ" <kh6...@Tarrl.net> wrote:
> I'm relocating my tower next month to my new home, and have to pour a new
> pier footing for the tower.
>
> Does anyone have a good online source for threaded rod?
>
> Specifically, I'm looking for 3 pieces of 1 inch threaded rod, roughly 3' in
> length.
>
> Local supply sources don't stock anything that large, plus I would question
> the quality of the rod they sell in terms of the softness of the steel. I
> want to make sure I get the best quality I can buy up front.

http://www.mcmaster.com/

Enter "threaded rod" in the "Find Products" search box, hit "Go" and
stand back.

w3rv

629. The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 15 (April 13, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-14 05:15:16 UTC
From: ARRL Letter Mailing List <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <86565479-85D6-4A24-B18B-FD6C5F0E1294@arrl.org>
Source record: 4834
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter
Vol. 26, No. 15
April 13, 2007
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IN THIS EDITION:

* +Youth in the spotlight for World Amateur Radio Day 2007
* +Billionaire space traveler on the air from space
* +Andrea Hartlage, KG4IUM, wins the 2007 William Goldfarb Scholarship
* +FCC invites public comments on two ham radio-related petitions
* +Arizona's chances of ham radio antenna legislation dim
* +President recognizes California radio amateur's volunteer service
* Solar Update
* IN BRIEF:
This weekend on the radio
ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration
+ARRL HQ seeks Assistant Editor
+Swains Island DXpedition logs available
FCC Amateur Radio enforcement correspondence posted
Dayton Hamvention contesting-related activities noted

+Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/>

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==>Delivery problems: First see FAQ
<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/faq.html#nodelivery>, then e-mail
<letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
==>Editorial questions or comments only: Rick Lindquist, N1RL,
<n1rl@arrl.org>
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==>WORLD AMATEUR RADIO DAY 2007 SPOTLIGHTS YOUTH

Wednesday, April 18, is a special day for radio amateurs around the
globe.
That's when the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU)
<http://www.iaru.org> and its member societies representing more than
150
countries around the world celebrate World Amateur Radio Day 2007,
commemorating the founding of the IARU 82 years ago. The theme for this
year's celebration is "Amateur Radio: Allowing youth to connect the
world."
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Despite the Internet and cellular telephones, Amateur Radio continues to attract people worldwide by providing free international communication and friendship. Because it does not rely on, nor need, established telecommunication infrastructure, Amateur Radio can reach every corner of the world -- and even into space!

The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) <http://www.rac.ca/ariss> program offers an opportunity for students to experience the excitement of Amateur Radio by allowing them to converse with ISS crew members about their scientific research, the space station, the human spaceflight program and everyday life in space -- a unique educational experience. With the help of Amateur Radio clubs and individual operators, orbiting astronauts and cosmonauts speak with young people around the world via ham radio, showing schools, teachers, students, parents and communities how Amateur Radio energizes youngsters about science, technology, and learning.

IARU member societies, Amateur Radio satellite organizations and a sizeable contingent of Amateur Radio operators -- including those from clubs at Johnson Space Center, Goddard Space Flight Center and Marshall Space Flight Center -- work behind the scenes to make these educational experiences possible.

Youth programs also are available through Scouting, as many thousands of Scouts in the US and elsewhere get together over the airwaves each year during the third weekend of October for Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/jota.html>. Participating Boy and Girl Scouts and Guides from all over the world speak to each other via Amateur Radio, offering these young people the exciting opportunity to make friends, exchange experiences and share ideas with their peers in other countries, sometimes without leaving home.

Since 1958 when the first JOTA took place, millions of Scouts have met each other through this event. Many JOTA contacts foster pen-pal relationships and links between Scout troops that last for years. Numerous scouts and leaders hold Amateur Radio licenses, while others participate in JOTA at stations provided by local Amateur Radio clubs and individual radio amateurs.

Young radio amateurs also form organizations of their own. One example is
the World Wide Young Contesters (WWYC) <http://www.wwyc.net/>, made up of
radio amateurs under age 30 who enjoy participating in international
contests. Several members of the club qualified to compete in the World
Radiosport Team Championship last July in Brazil.

While radio amateurs have been in the news repeatedly for providing
communication during disasters and emergencies, the lion's share of their
activities remains the excitement and joy of contacting distant and remote
areas of the world, learning directly about each others' regions and lives
and trying different ways to contact other hams in far-flung places. In
addition, some leading engineers and technologists have cited lessons
learned through their practical, hands-on experiences as Amateur Radio
operators for inspiring their career paths.

MK QTC, the Polish Radio Amateurs' Journal, sponsors the international World
Amateur Radio Day Award with the support of PZK, the Polish Amateur Radio
Union -- that country's IARU member society. Radio amateurs qualify for this
award by making at least 10 QSOs on HF or 5 QSOs on VHF between 0000 and
2400 UTC on April 18.

Send a log extract, including a list of QSOs, to The Radio Amateurs' Journal
MK QTC, Suchacz-Zamek - Wielmozy 5b, 82-340 Tolkmicko, POLAND, by June 30.
Include $5 (US) or 5 Euros. Shortwave listeners may obtain this full-color
award by submitting the same numbers of reports.

Since 1925, the IARU has been instrumental in coordinating and representing
Amateur Radio activities around the world. Learn more by visiting the IARU
Web site <http://www.iaru.org>. -- The IARU E-Letter

==>CIVILIAN SPACE TRAVELER ALREADY MAKING HAM RADIO CONTACTS FROM SPACE

After less than a day in space, civilian space traveler Charles Simonyi,
KE7KDP/HA5SIK, was already making contacts with the earthbound ham radio
community from NA1SS. The billionaire software pioneer and aviator arrived
April 10 at the International Space Station with the Expedition 15 crew of
Russian cosmonauts Fyodor Yurchikhin, RN3FI, and Dr Oleg Kotov. The trio
launched two days earlier in a Soyuz spacecraft from Baikonur

Cosmodrome in
Kazakhstan. Ron Hashiro, AH6RH, in Honolulu was among the lucky ones. He tells ARRL that after putting out a blind call, he spoke not only with Simonyi but with Expedition 14/15 Flight Engineer Suni Williams, KD5PLB.

"I mentioned to her that I had listened to her earlier contact with the school in India and it was a thrill to speak with her directly," Hashiro recounted. "She said that Hawaii was her favorite place and had some relatives in Hawaii." Then, Hashiro says, Williams told him someone else was
interested in talking with him, and Simonyi came on a few minutes later.

"I welcomed Charles to ham radio and asked him if he was the author of the
"Hungarian notation" of Windows programming, which he acknowledged," said
Hashiro. He told Simonyi that he was involved in Windows programming more
than 20 years ago, and was glad to meet its creator. Hashiro deemed the occasion "a fabulous and eventful evening."

Flying under contract with the Russian Federal Space Agency, Simonyi also
has been running through a list of four scheduled Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) school contacts, including one with a
school in his native Hungary.

On April 12, Simonyi responded via Amateur Radio to upward of 30 questions
posed by students at Fairborn High School in Ohio, telling them he's enjoying microgravity now that he's become used to it. Simonyi also talked
about why he wanted to go into space.

"I wanted to make a contribution to civilian space flight and assist in space station research, and also to have a fantastic experience," he said.
As to why he flew with Russian cosmonauts and not with NASA, Simonyi said,
"NASA doesn't fly space tourists yet, so the Russians are the only game in
town." Simonyi paid a reported $25 million for his space adventure.

While in space, Simonyi will do some maintenance on the ham radio gear aboard the ISS as well as testing to isolate an antenna problem, and he'll
reprogram the Phase 2 NA1SS transceiver to correct a configuration problem.
He'll also conduct some research before returning home April 20 with the Expedition 14 crew of Michael Lopez-Alegria, KE5GTK, and Mikhail Tyurin, RZ3FT, who have been in space since last September. Williams is

scheduled to
return home this summer on the shuttle Endeavour.

Frequencies in use for ARISS general QSOs: Voice and packet downlink: 145.80
MHz (worldwide); Voice uplink: 144.49 MHz for Regions 2 and 3 (the Americas,
and the Pacific) and 145.20 MHz for Region 1 (Europe, Central Asia and
Africa). All frequencies are subject to Doppler shift.

==>GEORGIA TEENAGED HAM WINS 2007 WILLIAM GOLDFARB SCHOLARSHIP

Seventeen-year-old Andrea Hartlage, KG4IUM, of Grayson, Georgia, is the
winner of the prestigious William R. Goldfarb Memorial Scholarship
for 2007.
The ARRL Foundation Board voted unanimously to name Andrea, who will
graduate from Grayson High School next month with a 96.05 grade point
average. Awarded to one high school senior each year, the Goldfarb
Scholarship enables the recipient to receive a four-year undergraduate
degree in engineering or science or in the medical or business-related
fields. Andrea says she was "excited, honored and a little surprised" to be
this year's Goldfarb Scholarship recipient.

"More important, winning the Goldfarb Scholarship has motivated me to be
even more involved in Amateur Radio and the ARRL," she said this week. "My
desire to live up to the expectations of Mr. Goldfarb gives me all the more
reason to excel in college while remaining as involved as possible in ham
radio. Now, more than ever, I am particularly thankful for all of the hams
who have mentored and, in a sense, helped raise me."

Licensed since 2000 and an Amateur Extra class licensee since 2003, Andrea
is the daughter of Scott (KF4PWI) and Lisa Hartlage. She plans to attend
Georgia Institute of Technology this fall to pursue an undergraduate degree
in aerospace engineering. She hopes to co-op with NASA with a long-term goal
of working for the space agency and perhaps joining the Astronaut Corps. Her
academic plans also include graduate school. She hopes to be active in the
Georgia Amateur Radio Club if her schedule permits.

The fifth Goldfarb Scholarship winner, Andrea, an ARRL Life Member,
continues the tradition of prior recipients, demonstrating superior academic
performance, outstanding leadership and extraordinary Amateur Radio and

community service.

For the past few years, Andrea has been an ARRL contributing editor, responsible for the "Youth @ HamRadio.Fun" Web column <http://www.arrl.org/news/youth/>. ARRL Georgia Section Manager Susan Swiderski, AF4FO, has appointed Andrea as Georgia Assistant Section Manager for Youth. But that's only the tip of the iceberg! She also boasts an impressive resume of Amateur Radio honors and accomplishments.

In 2003, the ARRL Board of Directors honored Andrea by naming her to receive the ARRL Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Award; the following year, she was Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year (YHOTY). Andrea coordinated youth activities and the Youth Lounge for ARRL EXPO at Dayton Hamvention in 2005 and 2006, and also was a forum presenter and participant. She also coordinates youth activities for the Georgia State Convention.

She's active in two Amateur Radio clubs, operating CW and phone on HF during contests whenever she can. Her emergency training includes CPR certification, CERT and SKYWARN training as well as three FEMA courses. Over the past two years, Andrea has logged more than 400 volunteer community service hours. She participates in Simulated Emergency Tests and Field Day.

In addition, she volunteers for the Georgia Teen Institute and as Administrative Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Response Team Leader for Gwinnett County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES). She is a member of her radio club Hamfest Committee and volunteers as a communicator for parades, walks, marathons and other events.

Despite her hectic schedule, she still finds time to prepare her Web column for ARRL and to serve as editor in chief of her school newspaper and on the Youth Leadership Conference Youth Advisory Board. She also has served on the National Association of Teen Institutes Board of Directors and on the Governor's Cooperative Agreement Advisory Committee for Youth Substance Abuse Prevention.

For more information about ARRL scholarships, visit the ARRL Foundation scholarships Web page <http://www.arrlf.org/programs/scholarship>.

==>FCC INVITES "OPPOSITIONS" ON TWO "MORSE PROCEEDING" RECONSIDERATION PETITIONS

The FCC has invited opposition comments ("oppositions") to two petitions for reconsideration filed in the wake of the Commission's Report & Order (R&O) in WT Docket 05-235. That R&O altogether eliminated any Morse code examination element to obtain an Amateur Radio license. One petition calls on the FCC to reinstate the 5 WPM Morse code requirement for Amateur Extra class applicants. The second cites problems with the FCC Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) and seeks to have the Commission reopen the proceeding for an additional round of comments. Oppositions are due April 27 (comments in support of either petition are not welcome). Replies to oppositions - ie, comments on the opposition comments - are due 10 days later. Petitioner Anthony R. Gordon, KG6EQM, of West Covina, California, contends that "significant national security implications" require that the Commission take another look at the issue.

"As a federal government agency during the ongoing War on Terrorism, it is only prudent that the critical skill of Morse code telegraphy be kept as a hedge against unanticipated national security events and for emergency communication requirements, even if the consensus view or technological trend is in the opposite direction at the present time," Gordon said in his petition, filed February 23. He characterized Morse code proficiency as a "core competency" of the Amateur Radio Service.

In its R&O last December 15, the FCC cast aside arguments that Morse ability was advantageous in emergency communication situations. "The Commission previously addressed the essence of this argument and concluded that most emergency communication today is performed using voice, data, or video techniques," the FCC said. Gordon asked the FCC to restore the Element 1 Morse code examination element for Amateur Extra class applicants.

In a second petition the FCC put on public notice earlier this month, Russell D. Ward, W4NI, of Nashville, Tennessee, argued that the FCC "improperly deleted and suppressed comments received by the e-mail system of the FCC, ECFS." Ward said the FCC was "arbitrarily deleting and suppressing public comments" on the basis of the sender's e-mail address - especially if it contained an Amateur Radio call sign - and charged that the

Commission
"is discriminating against radio amateurs."

As a result, he contends, the process of commenting on the FCC Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in WT Docket 05-235 "was flawed," in part because the Commission did not have the advantage of all comments members of
the public may have attempted in vain to post.

Ward's petition, filed February 12, asks the FCC to do one of four things:
Stay WT Docket 05-235, fix the "flawed ECFS," reopen the proceeding for comment or reconsider the "after a valid comment period." The FCC received
more than 3500 public comments in the Morse code proceeding.

Neither Gordon nor Ward addressed the issue of how the FCC should deal with
licensees who qualified for Amateur Extra under the new "no-code" rules that
became effective on February 23.

Both petitions are on the FCC Web site: Gordon's is at
<http://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/prod/ecfs/retrieve.cgi?
native_or_pdf=pdf&id_docume
nt=6518808553>. Ward's is at
<http://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/prod/ecfs/retrieve.cgi?
native_or_pdf=pdf&id_docume
nt=6518808784>.

Interested parties may file oppositions and replies on these petitions for
reconsideration via the Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS)
<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/> and by serving a hard copy on the petitioner
at his current mailing address. Comments supporting one petition or another
are not welcome, however.

Instructions for filing electronic comments are on the ECFS page. Under "ECFS Main Links," click on "Submit a Filing" and type
"05-235" (without the
quotation marks) in the "Proceeding" field, being sure to include the hyphen.

All statements must be specific to one or more arguments in the reconsideration petition with which the person filing disagrees. They should
not simply say, "I oppose this petition." Only individuals who have filed
oppositions may file replies to oppositions.

==>POLITICAL MANEUVER DIMS CHANCES FOR ARIZONA HAM RADIO ANTENNA LEGISLATION

A political maneuver has ended chances that Arizona lawmakers will adopt an Amateur Radio antenna bill that was in play this session. Proponents of "the Emergency Communications Preservation Act," House Bill 2595 (HB 2595) haven't given up, however. They're still trying, as one put it, "to pull a rabbit out of a hat" and have the bill's language attached to another piece of legislation. HB 2595 called on both municipalities and communities governed by deed covenants, conditions and restrictions (CC&Rs) to reasonably accommodate Amateur Radio antennas. It passed the Arizona House on a 56 to 2 vote. An eleventh-hour bid to keep HB 2595 alive failed, however, after Senate Government Committee Chairman Jack Harper (R-4), declined to move the bill forward for consideration, effectively killing it.
During an e-mail exchange with a bill supporter, Harper attempted to explain why he derailed the measure.

"I just cannot allow the radio operaters [sic] to put up 40' towers over the objection of their neighbors," Harper told Dustin Deppe, K7DTD. "They were not open to negotiating the height, so I could not allow the bill to go forward. Jack." April 3 was the cutoff date for bills to be heard this session. Harper has not responded to an ARRL request to explain why he held the bill.

HB 2595 did not specify any particular minimum height beyond saying that homeowners' associations (HOAs) in CC&R-governed communities "shall provide for reasonable heights and dimensions for accommodation of amateur radio station emergency communications antennae and structures."

City of Page Mayor Dan Brown, NA7DB -- perhaps HB 2595's biggest supporter -- and former state representative Ted Downing, W7KEY, are in the forefront of the effort to pull off the magic trick. Brown has advised Arizona radio amateurs not to send "hate mail" to Harper, however. "It's important to educate," he said, not get angry. If the effort isn't successful, he says, bill proponents will return better prepared next session.

Amateur Radio antenna bills in Maryland and Oklahoma also failed to gain approval of lawmakers. In Maryland, essentially identical bills were

under
consideration in both legislative chambers: House Bill 941 (HB 941) and
Senate Bill 68 (SB 68). "Our bill was voted down by the Senate
committee,
and we had it withdrawn from the House committee," ARRL Maryland-DC
Section
Manager Jim Cross, WI3N, told ARRL. "We will introduce it next year."
The
bills would have required local zoning authorities to comply with the
PRB-1
limited federal pre-emption calling on municipalities to "reasonably
accommodate Amateur Radio communication." Their provisions also would
have
applied to homeowners' associations (HOAs) that had not already enacted
antenna restrictions by the time the bill became law.

In Oklahoma, House Bill 1037 (HB 1037) moved out of the General
Government
and Transportation Committee with a "do pass" recommendation, but it
failed
to be placed on the House calendar for a vote. Eddie Manley, K5EMS, who
tracks FCC and governmental actions for the Oklahoma Section, has
told ARRL
the measure is likely dead for this year, although he left open the
"very
remote possibility" that it could be attached to another bill.

In North Carolina, an Amateur Radio antenna bill has been introduced
in the
state Senate this session, and a House bill is "in the works," ARRL
North
Carolina Section Manager Tim Slay, N4IB, told ARRL. "We're hoping to
make
some headway on it this year."

To date, 23 states have adopted PRB-1 legislation. While PRB-1 requires
reasonable accommodation, it does not specify a minimum height below
which
local governments may not regulate. Four states -- Alaska, Wyoming,
Virginia
and Oregon -- have legislation in place that specifies antenna support
structure heights, below which municipalities may not regulate.

==>PRESIDENT RECOGNIZES RADIO AMATEUR'S DEDICATION TO VOLUNTEER SERVICE

President George W. Bush has honored ARRL member Randy Hatfield,
AG6RH, of
Victorville, California, with the President's Volunteer Service Award. A
volunteer with the City of Victorville Community Emergency Response Team
(CERT) and Emergency Communication Service, Hatfield met briefly with
the
president April 4 to receive the award. President Bush honors local

volunteers as he travels throughout the United States. When a call came from
the White House, Hatfield at first thought he was the victim of an April
Fool's Day prank by ECS Coordinator Robert Barton, W7OES, who nominated
Hatfield for the award a few days earlier.

"Friday, March 30, I was contacted by a woman saying she was calling from
the White House, and I was interviewed over the phone," Hatfield recounted.
"I thought Robert was pulling a very elaborate joke!"

A year earlier, Hatfield had volunteered to help Barton rebuild the ham
radio communication group for ECS. "He didn't really know me that well but
decided to give me a shot," Hatfield said of Barton. "I told him I would do
everything I could to assist him in getting ECS going. My condition was that
I not be made a leader of anything. I was to remain in the background."
Barton, in turn, believed Hatfield should be recognized for his successful
efforts.

On April 1, Hatfield got another call from the same White House staff member
telling him he'd won a Presidential Service Award. "I was nice to her and
played along but knew this was a prank," he says. Nonetheless, he went to
the airport meeting place at the appointed hour on April 4 and learned it
was for real.

Hatfield greeted the president as he disembarked from Air Force One.
President Bush shook Hatfield's hand and presented him with an award pin.
Then, they chatted for a few minutes while photos were taken. He'll receive
the official award document and a signed photo of their meeting in a couple
of weeks.

"I'm supposed to be the behind-the-scenes guy," protested Hatfield, who has
logged more than 500 hours of volunteer service over the past 12 months.

The award recognizes his volunteer work with CERT, a Citizen Corps program
that trains volunteers in basic response skills such as fire safety, light
search and rescue and disaster preparedness. In his volunteer work

with ECS,
which uses Amateur Radio volunteers to assist city and county
personnel in
the event of a disaster or emergency, Hatfield has taught ham radio
classes
to community members. Over the years, Hatfield estimates, he's helped
some
350 individuals to get their ham radio tickets.

Hatfield says he and his wife have been active with the Victorville
CERT and
ECS for a little more than a year. The couple had been involved in CERT
previously when they lived in Marysville, Washington.

In his nomination letter, Barton praised Hatfield for inspiring
others by
example to also volunteer their time and receive CERT and Amateur Radio
training.

"His classes provide hands on and practical applications to the
materials
taught," Barton said. "Randy has made service to his community a
priority in
life by volunteering his time and talents," Barton concluded. "He is
always
there when needed to provide support and resources to accomplish any
task
requested."

==>SOLAR UPDATE

Spotmeister Tad "Saved By Zero" Cook, K7RA, Seattle, Washington,
reports: So
far this month we've observed nine days in a row with zero sunspots.
Based
on predicted smoothed sunspot numbers, if this month and the next are
truly
the solar minimum, we should probably see several weeks in a row with no
sunspots.

The prediction for the next period of unsettled geomagnetic
conditions is
for around April 20, with an expected planetary A index of 20. After
that, a
planetary A index of 25 is predicted for April 28. This same forecast
(from
the US Air Force, via NOAA) shows solar flux of 70 until April 16,
when it
rises to 75. This is a small shift, but it may signal the period during
which we could see another sunspot, April 16-27.

Sunspot numbers for April 5 through 11 were 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0 and 0
with, a
mean of 0. The 10.7 cm flux was 70.9, 71, 71.2, 71.1, 69.9, 69.4, and
69.1,
with a mean of 70.4. Estimated planetary A indices were 4, 4, 3, 3,
9, 7 and
4, with a mean of 4.9. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 3, 2, 2,
2, 8,
6 and 3, with a mean of 3.7.

For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL
Technical
Information Service Propagation page
<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>.

==>IN BRIEF:

* This weekend on the radio: The Georgia and Montana QSO parties, the
JIDX
CW Contest, Radio Maritime Day, and the EU Spring Sprint (CW) are the
April
14-15 weekend. The Run for the Bacon QRP Contest is April 16 (UTC).
The 222
MHz Spring Sprint is April 17 The RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship
(data) is
April 19. The NCCC Sprint Ladder is April 20. JUST AHEAD: The TARA
Skirmish
Digital Prefix Contest, the Holyland DX Contest, the ES Open HF
Championship, Kids Roundup, the EU Spring Sprint (SSB), the Michigan and
Ontario QSO parties, the EA-QRP CW Contest, the YU DX Contest, and
the SKCC
Weekend Sprint are the weekend of April 21-22. The 432 MHz Spring
Sprint is
April 25. The NCCC Sprint Ladder is April 27. See the ARRL Contest
Branch
page <http://www.arrl.org/contests/> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar
<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more info.

* ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration:
Registration remains open through Sunday, April 22, for these ARRL
Certification and Continuing Education (CEC) program
<http://www.arrl.org/cce/> online courses beginning on Friday, May 4:
The
ARRL Ham Radio License Course (EC-010), Amateur Radio Emergency
Communications Level 1 (EC-001), Radio Frequency Interference (EC-006),
Antenna Design and Construction (EC-009), Analog Electronics (EC-012)
and
Digital Electronics (EC-013). These courses will also open for
registration
Friday, April 20, for classes beginning Friday, June 1. To learn
more, visit

the CCE Course Listing page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html> or
contact the CCE Department <cce@arrl.org>.

* ARRL HQ seeks Assistant Editor: The ARRL is accepting applications
for the
position of Assistant Editor. The successful candidate for this full-
time
position at ARRL HQ in Newington, Connecticut, will prepare material for
publication in QST, other print publications and the ARRL Web site,
and will
write material for publication. Paid work experience and a college
degree in
a related field preferred. Ham radio license and on-the-air experience
required. Send resume and cover letter to LouAnn Campanello, c/o ARRL
HQ,
225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111, <lcampanello@arrl.org>. ARRL is an
Equal
Opportunity Employer.

* Swains Island DXpedition logs available: The Swains Island N8S
DXpedition
logs now are available online
<http://logsearch.de/index.php?option=com_wrapper&Itemid=73>. As of
week's
end, the N8S crew was approaching 100,000 QSOs, most available via the
online log search engine. In the "Online-Logsearch" window, click
"Search"
and scroll down to N8S (the site provides access to the logs of many
DXpeditions). Click "Search" a second time, and at "Online Log: N8S"
you'll
be prompted to enter your call sign. FYI: The DXpedition reports that
due to
a power failure, QSOs made April 7 between 0856 and 0938 UTC on 17
meters
SSB were lost. YT1AD will handle cards for N8S. The DXpedition is set to
shut down Sunday, April 15.

* FCC Amateur Radio enforcement correspondence posted: The FCC has
posted
new Amateur Radio enforcement correspondence on its "Amateur Radio
Service
Enforcement Actions" page
<http://www.fcc.gov/eb/AmateurActions/Welcome.html>. In mid-March,
the FCC
Enforcement Bureau began publicly posting such correspondence -- with
some
exceptions -- on its own Web site. Special Counsel in the FCC Spectrum
Enforcement Division Riley Hollingsworth sent letters to William F.
Crowell,
W6WBJ, Diamond Springs, CA, and Kevin M. Bednar, K2KMB, Newton, NJ,
on April

3. Direct all questions concerning the Amateur Radio Service Enforcement Actions Web postings via e-mail only to Riley Hollingsworth <fccham@fcc.gov>
in the FCC Spectrum Enforcement Division.

* Dayton Hamvention contesting-related activities noted: Contesters planning
to attend Dayton Hamvention <http://www.hamvention.org> won't want to miss
these activities and social gatherings: Wednesday-Saturday, May 16-19, Contest Super Suite at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, hosted by Contest University
(don't forget the midnight pizza parties Thursday, Friday and Saturday). Thursday, May 17, all day, Contest University
<http://www.contestuniversity.com/> at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Space is limited. Friday, May 18, 2:30-4:45 PM, Antenna Forum, Hara Arena, Room 1,
Tim Duffy, K3LR, moderator/presenter with Dave Leeson, W6NL, James Breakall,
WA3FET, Ted Rappaport, N9NB, and Dean Straw, N6BV, presenters. Saturday, May
19, 11:15 AM-1:45 PM, Contest Forum, Hara Arena, Room 1, Doug Grant, K1DG,
moderator, with Atilano Oms, PY5EG, Randy Thompson, K5ZD, John Laney, K4BAI,
Charlie Wooten, NF4A, Dick Norton, N6AA, Champ Muangamphun, E21EIC, and Tim
Duffy, K3LR, presenters. Saturday, May 19, 15th annual Dayton Contest Dinner
<http://www.contestdinner.com/>, Crowne Plaza Hotel, hosted by the North Coast Contesters. Space is limited. See the Hamvention Web site
<http://hamvention.org/alternate.htm> for more information about alternate
activities. -- The Daily DX <http://www.dailydx.com> via Tim Duffy, K3LR

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Main St, Newington, CT 06111; tel 860-594-0200; fax 860-594-0259;
<http://www.arrl.org>. Joel Harrison, W5ZN, President.

The ARRL Letter offers a weekly e-mail digest of essential and general news
of interest to active radio amateurs. Visit the ARRL Web site
<http://www.arrl.org> for the latest Amateur Radio news and news updates.
The ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/> also offers informative features
and columns. ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/>

is a
weekly "ham radio newscast" compiled and edited from The ARRL Letter.
It's
also available as a podcast from our Web site.

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==>Editorial questions or comments: Rick Lindquist, N1RL, n1rl@arrl.org
==>ARRL News on the Web: <http://www.arrl.org>
==>ARRL Audio News: <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> or call
860-594-0384

==>How to Get The ARRL Letter

The ARRL Letter is available to ARRL members free of charge directly
from
ARRL HQ. To subscribe, unsubscribe or change your address for e-mail
delivery:
ARRL members first must register on the Members Only Web Site
<http://www.arrl.org/members/>. You'll have an opportunity during
registration to sign up for e-mail delivery of The ARRL Letter, W1AW
bulletins, and other material. To change these selections--including
delivery of The ARRL Letter--registered members should click on the
"Member
Data Page" link (in the Members Only box). Click on "Modify membership
data," check or uncheck the appropriate boxes and/or change your e-mail
address if necessary. (Check "Temporarily disable all automatically sent
email" to temporarily stop all e-mail deliveries.) Then, click on
"Submit
modification" to make selections effective. (NOTE: HQ staff members
cannot
change your e-mail delivery address. You must do this yourself via the
Members Only Web Site.)

The ARRL Letter also is available to all, free of charge, from these
sources:

* ARRLWeb <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>. (NOTE: The ARRL Letter
will be
posted each Friday when it is distributed via e-mail.)

* The QTH.net listserver, thanks to volunteers from the Boston
Amateur Radio
Club: Visit Mailing Lists@QTH.Net
<http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/letter-list>. (NOTE: The ARRL
cannot assist subscribers who receive The ARRL Letter via this

listserver.)

630. rec.radio.amateur.moderated Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-15 06:00:05 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines-1-1176616800@panix.com>
Source record: 4835
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info,rec.answers,news.answers

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Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines
Revision: 1.2 2007/02/22 18:15:39
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rram/index.html

Welcome to rec.radio.amateur.moderated! This is a moderated newsgroup
for amateur radio operators and other people having an interest in the
Amateur Radio Service, as defined by national regulations and
international treaties. Following are the posting guidelines for this
newsgroup.

This message includes the following sections:

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter
2. Additional posting guidelines
2.1 Netiquette guidelines
2.2 Posting form requirements
2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files
2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting
2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources
2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability to hold
an amateur radio license
2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling
2.8 Guidelines regarding civility
2.9 Other unacceptable topics

------------------------------------------------------------------------

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter

rec.radio.amateur.moderated is an inclusive on-line community of amateur
radio operators and other people having an interest in the Amateur Radio
Service. Participants are invited to engage in open discussion of
amateur radio issues and exchange information about participating in the
hobby/service, in an atmosphere of civility, friendship, and fun.

Acceptable topics include but, are not necessarily limited to, questions
and discussions about amateur radio licensing, regulations, tips on
various aspects of setting up an amateur radio station, and sharing
operating experiences and insights.

Unacceptable posts include, but are not limited to, buy/sell/trade
posts, posts that are off-topic to the Amateur Radio Service, posts
promoting or defending unlawful activities, etc. Crossposts of regular
discussion articles between rec.radio.amateur.moderated and other
```

discussion newsgroups are not permitted.

Frequently-Asked-Questions lists and other information/bulletin/
announcement postings may be crossposted to rec.radio.info, rec.answers,
and news.answers only with prior approval of the moderators of those
newsgroups. In all such cases, an appropriate "Followup-To" header,
containing only rec.radio.amateur.moderated, will be added by the
moderators if one is not already provided.

Posters are encouraged to state their own views and share their
experiences, but to refrain from making assumptions about the
motivations of other newsgroup participants. Posters are expected to
maintain a basic tone of civility. Prohibited uncivil discourse
includes, but is not limited to, name calling.

Posts containing unsolicited advice questioning the right, worthiness,
suitability and/or readiness of any individual (or members of any group)
to be an amateur radio operator are unacceptable in this newsgroup. If
an individual chooses to post asking for advice on when or whether to
obtain an amateur radio license, or to participate in any type of lawful
activity in the Amateur Radio Service, respondents should be careful to
address their comments only to the original poster and not explicitly
generalize to others in similar situations.

Similarly, posts that arbitrarily declare certain classes of amateur
radio licenses, or certain members of national amateur radio societies
(e.g., American Radio Relay League, Radio Amateurs of Canada, Radio
Society of Great Britain, Wireless Institute of Australia, etc.), to be
more or less worthy than others, are not permitted. Posts that politely
encourage individuals to join their local amateur radio society, or to
upgrade to higher classes of amateur radio license in order to enjoy
greater operating privileges, are permitted, however. Posts that
contain reasoned, civil, and fact-based discussion of the activities and
internal politics of national amateur radio societies are also
permitted.

Buy/Sell/Trade and Commercial Policy:

Posts containing offers to buy, sell, or trade are not permitted on
rec.radio.amateur.moderated. The rec.radio.swap newsgroup was created
for this purpose, and should be used instead. All such articles will be
rejected by the moderators with the advice to re-post to that newsgroup.

Postings that are entirely commercial press releases, advertisements, or
other public relations campaigns will not be permitted. Relatively
unbiased announcements or reviews of new amateur radio-related products
or services may be permitted at the discretion of the moderators. Such
posters are asked to disclose their financial or professional interest,
if any, in such products or services.

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2. Additional Posting Guidelines

2.1 Netiquette guidelines

Participants who are new to Usenet should familiarize themselves with the "netiquette" of Usenet as well as the particular posting guidelines for this group. Several useful posts for "newbies" can be found on the newsgroup news.announce.newusers or on the WWW at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/by-newsgroup/news/news.announce.newusers.html

Particularly helpful articles are:
Welcome to Usenet!
Rules for posting to Usenet
Hints on writing style for Usenet
A Primer on How to Work With the Usenet Community
Emily Postnews Answers Your Questions on Netiquette
Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Usenet

2.2 Posting form requirements

Any article that falls into any of the following categories will be automatically rejected:

A) Articles that contain original text of more than 75 characters per line
B) Crossposted articles to newsgroups not included in these Guidelines
C) Articles that contain more than 400 lines
D) Encoded binary files (except PGP and other short digital signatures)
E) Attachments to posts
F) Articles containing obscene language
G) Articles from individuals who have been suspended or banned from the newsgroup

2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files

Many people close each article they write with a few lines of common text. This may be a cute quip or quote, or may include information about their family, contact information, or disclaimers required by their employer, for example.

Signature files used on rec.radio.amateur.moderated posting must be no longer than 8 lines.

The content of a poster's signature need not be relevant to amateur radio, but it must not violate any of the other posting guidelines. (For example, name-calling that would not be acceptable in the body of a message is also unacceptable in a signature.) Posters may include Uniform Resource Locators (URL's) and business addresses in signature files, provided they comply with all the other guidelines regarding signatures.

2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting

Posts more than 20 lines long that also have more than 75% quoted text will be carefully reviewed by a moderator to determine if that degree of quoting is warranted. Posts with excessive quoted text may be rejected.

Posters must show a reasonable effort to trim the post they are replying to and to include just enough material to establish context. "Me too!" posts are discouraged, and, when posted, must edit the quoted material significantly.

2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources

Unsolicited announcements and pointers to web sites that are strictly commercial press releases, advertisements, or other public relations campaigns, are not permitted. However, a pointer to a website or other external source of information is permitted and encouraged in cases where it is relevant to an existing thread, with appropriate context being given in the post. A URL with no information about what a user should expect to find there will be rejected. A pointer to information that is off-charter for rec.radio.amateur.moderated will be rejected, as will a pointer which itself does not meet the rec.radio.amateur.moderated guidelines (such as a URL containing embedded name-calling).

Moderators are not responsible for verifying the contents of any external information source.

2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability hold an amateur radio license

Identifiable groups and individuals may not be asked/told/etc. not to obtain an amateur radio license, or to only obtain certain classes of amateur radio license. It is not permissible to make statements that a person or members of a specific group "should" not, or should not be allowed to, become an amateur radio operator.

Solicited advice of this type is permissible; however, posters must be careful not to explicitly generalize to others who are in some way "like" the poster asking the question. Stick to the individual asking for advice.

It is acceptable to discuss verified violations, documented in criminal convictions or other government enforcement actions, by a person or members of a specific group.

2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling

Nastiness addressed at a person is considered name-calling. Criticizing a person's *actions* is not, provided that it is done in a civil manner.

Attacks on an action which by their very nature include an accusation against the person's character are not acceptable. For example, "That's a lie" implies an intentional prevarication, and is considered name-calling. Acceptable ways of questioning the truth of a poster's statement include the more tactful "I don't think that's true," "I believe you are mistaken because..." or even simply "That's not true."

"That's not true and you know it" crosses back over into name-calling, however.

2.8 Guidelines regarding civility

By charter, posters are expected to maintain a civil tone in all their postings. The guidelines on name-calling cover part of that requirement, but not all of it.

In general, posters are expected to consider the reputations of other participants, and refrain from making unnecessary accusations or assumptions about the motivations of others. A good rule of thumb is to phrase your comments as your opinion -- "I think..." "It seems to me that..." "This makes me wonder whether..." etc...

Posters are expected to make factual claims, to debate topics openly and in good faith, and to accept honest criticism, all without provocation or prevarication. At least one professional organization, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), has recognized that such fair dealings are necessary components of ethical conduct, and has incorporated them into its Code of Ethics:

http://www.ieee.org/portal/pages/about/whatis/code.html

Though the Amateur Radio Service is not a professional endeavor, the moderators strongly feel that the IEEE Code of Ethics is also a worthwhile set of guiding principles for participants in the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup.

Posters are not required to support the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). However, they are expected to adhere to the spirit of the other parts of the ARRL's "Amateur's Code":

http://www.arrl.org/acode.html

2.9 Other unacceptable topics

Participants are reminded that the charter also prohibits posts promoting or defending unlawful operating practices.

Posts may discuss whether operating practices are unlawful, or engage in reasoned debate over why certain operating practices should or should not be unlawful. Posts may discuss enforcement actions, such as by the Federal Communications Commission in the United States or similar government agencies in other countries, and evidence gathered by parties such as Official Observers in support of complaints about unlawful operation.

Discussions of what practices constitute unlawful operation in the Amateur Radio Service should be limited to *factual* descriptions of the laws in various jurisdictions. Posters' *opinions* as to what practices they consider unlawful are not permitted. In particular, posters are cautioned not to extrapolate their country's laws and regulations to those in other parts of the world, as they may be quite different.

Posts that entirely concern themselves with other radio services or hobbies, such as Citizen's Band, General Mobile Radio Service/Family Radio Service, and Scanner or Shortwave Listening, are considered off-topic to the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup. Newsgroups such as rec.radio.cb, rec.radio.scanner, and/or rec.radio.shortwave may be more appropriate venues for such posts.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-amateur-moderated-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the misc.kids.moderated Posting Guidelines.)

631. WIANEWS for week commencing April 15 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-17 02:40:33 UTC
From: nationalnews@wia.org.au
Message-ID: <200704170151.l3H1pWC07341@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4836
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,aus.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

This is WIANEWS for week commencing April 15 2007

The Port Macquarie News and the Sydney Morning Herald
are reporting how a radio enthusiast helped save two sailors
stranded in wild seas off Newcastle in VK2.

The operation took 19 hours in five-metre high seas and strong
winds after the propeller shaft of Bob Wilson's 14-metre ketch,
sailing from Queensland to Sydney - broke off and jammed against
the rudder, leaving the vessel stranded nearly 200 kilometres
off the coast.

Harold Ralston was in his shed about 6.30am on Good Friday when
his 25-year-old radio, which he bought for $50 on eBay a year ago,
crackled with a plea from Mr Wilson.

"I heard the boat calling for Foster Tuncurry Coastal Patrol,
or anyone who could hear him, and he couldn't get a response,"
said Mr Ralston.

WIA Director Robert Broomhead has spoken with our "Radio Fan".

(Audio recording of interview between VK3KRB and H. Ralston.)

Never one to mis an opportunity, Robert Broomhead VK3KRB has
already forwarded a ham radio info pack to Harold with the
intend of getting Harold to sit an Amateur Radio Examination!

Iran hostages used Morse code in solitary

One of the British seamen held hostage in Iran has told how
they used Morse code to stay in touch with one another while
imprisoned.

Able Seaman Simon Massey revealed they developed a system of
'knocking in and knocking out' during their first week of
solitary confinement.

He said: "It was like keeping a mental register - checking
off the voices of comrades whenever one of them asked for a
toilet break or a cigarette.

"Leading Seaman Chris Coe was next door to my cell. We would
just sit there tapping out code. We'd check up on each other,
say goodnight, and if we went out of the cell, we would give a
little knock when we got back to let each other know we were OK.

"Just knocking with knuckles. Little things like that got us through."

The use of Morse code by prisoners was made famous in the 1962 classic film Birdman Of Alcatraz. It was also used by PoWs in Vietnam.

The 14 men and one woman sailor were seized by Iranian warships on March 23. It took 13 days to secure their release.

John Moyle National Field Day 2007

Well the John Moyle Memorial National field Day contest has been and gone for this year.

It was pretty successful according to reports from people taking part.

'There seemed to be a lot more stations on the bands than previously' has reported one station.

'Lots more stations on the air than I have heard before,' another station has indicated.

Well this level of activity is NOT being reflected in the number of logs submitted.

So maybe there is something missing?

Whatever can it be?

All of those long hours of planning and preparations that you made and agonised over for so long have either worked or not worked as the case maybe.

The car has been cleaned to remove all of the mud, dust and the grass seeds and even the boot has been tidied out for the first time in a while.

The radios, the aerials, the batteries or generators, the tents, chairs, tables, BBQ's and eskies have all been put away again. The aerials have all been dismantled and stored safely and the all important special gizmo that you will need for the next time has been placed in its own 'special place' -
possibly never to be found again.

In fact all of the tasks that you 'promised to do after you have the weekend to 'play radio' have all been done.

So what else is there that is that could be needed?

There are actually a couple of tasks that you still need to complete.

Firstly, find your log, exercise book, notebook, or what ever you used to record the many contacts that reflect the effort you put into this contest.

Secondly, you need to check that the contacts you made are not duplicates and that the log is actually readable by the contest manager.

Finally, you actually need to submit the log.

It can be submitted in any way that actually still works here in Australia. I think that they cancelled the 'carrier pigeon post' a while ago and the post office telegram service has also long gone into the past?

You can however submit it via old fashioned Snail mail (Actually via ordinary postage). A significant number of people have chosen this way. The addresses that can be used are in the contest rules at www.wia.org.au/contests/ and follow the links to the John Moyle.

You can also submit it by one of the newer 'electronic mail' formats.

Simply send an e-mail to: - vk3zux@hotmail.com or to JMFD@wia.org.au

The actual format you send it in can be either a simple text message, or a WORD document or an EXCEL spreadsheet. Please make sure it is readable by a human as we have had several submissions that are probably the working files of VK Contest Log (VKCL) but are unreadable to the contest manager.

So with many options available there is only one problem.

And what is that I hear you ask?

Well all that is required now is to actually get it submitted to arrive before the deadline of the 30th April 2007.

You have not got much more time to actually get it completed. Well there is still one Public Holiday left this month. So take advantage of the time off and go to the effort of actually submitting the log.

You owe it to yourself and of course to those others who have helped you get on air that weekend and enjoy the contest.

So do it now!!!

You cannot put it off any longer as time is fast running out.

Wouldn't it be a shame, for you not to put in a log, and see a log from another station get an award with fewer points than the one that you could put in?

Thanks for listening, now go and do that log NOW.

(Denis Johnstone - Contest Manager)

Results of 2007 Election of Directors

The WIA Returning Officer David Wardlaw VK3ADW announced the results of the 2007 WIA Election for four Directors:

Robert Mark Broomhead 761
Roger Edward Cordukes 334
Edward William De Young 433
Ewan McLeod 775
Michael John Owen 828
Peter Richard Young 554

Therefore the four positions will be filled by Michael Owen, Ewan McLeod, Robert Broomhead and Peter Young.

Because of the long period between the finalisation of the election and the Annual General Meeting, the WIA Board has amended the Postal Ballot for the Election of Directors Regulations to enable the Returning Officer to announce the result of the election for directors before the Annual General Meeting.

Glenden State School ARISS Link-up

Nineteen students from Glenden State School, Glenden Queensland had a successful direct Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) contact with NASA astronaut, flight engineer Sunita Williams the morning of Thursday April 5, 2007.

The direct contact was the culmination of about 9 months of planning. The School applied to participate in the ARISS program in early July of last year and received notification of the upcoming contact only two weeks prior to the event.

Technical preparations for the contact began the Sunday before the event. Shane, VK4KHZ installed his satellite tracking antennae and associated Amateur Radio equipment at the Glenden Recreation Centre, where the event was held.
The entire student population of 230, along with 25 staff members, was present. It is estimated that another 150 others were on hand to hear the contact.

Leading up to the contact, Shane explained to the attentive audience what they were about to observe. Tony, VK5ZAI, the ARISS coordinator for Australia, spoke over a speaker phone and opened the proceedings officially.

Contact with the ISS was made at precisely 8:42am local time, with Sunita Williams coming in loud and clear over Shanes radio. The students managed to get answers to 17 of the 19 questions, taking just over 10 minutes, until the contact ceased. All in the audience were amazed to hear Sunitas voice so clearly and were impressed by her obvious enthusiasm while talking to the students. She has inspired quite a few students to pursue a career as astronauts and to find out more about Amateur Radio!

A local news crew was there to film the event, and two radio interviews with teachers and students were held, one before the contact and one immediately after. Another local radio station was publicising the event for the week prior to the contact.

At the conclusion of the contact it was clear that all in attendance were truly amazed at the Amateur Radio experience they had just witnessed. When the crowd dispersed a lone figure wandered toward the equipment and asked Shane the question..."why do they call this amateur radio, it doesn't look too amateurish to me"

If any listeners are interested in arranging an ARISS contact with their local school please contact Tony, VK5ZAI the Australian Coordinator for ARISS for details.

We thank both Ron VK4FC and Shane VK4KHZ for supplying audio recodings.

BPL INTERFERENCE - THE BATTLE CONTINUES

Full details have now emerged about the latest BPL trial in Queanbeyan, NSW. The trial was announced by Country Energy on the 15th March and is expected to be operational for at least 6 months from May this year. The BPL trial plans to pass 300 households in the Queanbeyan CBD and Jerrabomberra areas, and will provide both access broadband and electricity network management information.

Freshtel will provide an Internet Telephony service to participating customers who, in addition to receiving a modem and access to the broadband service, will receive a free Binatone cordless phone and $30 per month of Freshtel call credit. Country Energy have been "trialling" BPL in Queanbeyan for several years using the older generation 45Mb/s DS2 chipset based Mitsubitishi equipment, producing emission levels measured up to 55dB above the expected ambient noise levels on the 7MHz amateur band. This new trial will use Schneider Electric (Ilevo) equipment using the later generation 200Mb/s chipset, as used in the Mt Beauty BPL trial. Country Energy, which is owned by the NSW State Government, has around 195,000 kilometres of powerlines and 1.4 million power poles, and offers retail electricity in five states and territories. It employs more than 3,900 employees serving more than 870,000 customers.

Detailed maps of the BPL trial areas can be viewed online with the story on the WIA website www.wia.org.au

AROUND VK in 80 Seconds.

VK1

Next CRARC Club meeting - Monday 23rd April

At the next general meeting, will be Keith Malcolm VK1ZKM talking about ITU issues.

Keith is the WIA ITU rep and a very experienced international radio committee person. He is, of course, very active as a

member of the Australian ITU preparatory group that determines
the Australian position in international radio forums.
There are some very complex issues that relate to AR before
the ITU.

VK4

Queensland Digital Group Amateur Radio Information night

The QDG is hosting a Amateur Radio Information night Friday
April 20.

The location is the Volunteer Marine Rescue premises,
Sinbad Street Shorncliffe, a start time of 7:30 PM.

Laurie Pritchard VK4BLE will present the talk with an
emphases on the Foundation Licence and how you can obtain
one with two to three days of study.

All people interested in becoming a Radio Amateur are invited
to hear what Amateur Radio is all about and what it takes to
become licenced.

Further information can be obtained from QDG's information officer
Bill Wilcock VK4ZWJ vk4zwj@qdg.org.au or 3265 3232.

Up to date information can be accessed from the QDG web site
www.qdg.org.au
(Alan VK4YAR)

VK5

>From the Adelaide Hills Amateur Radio Society it's over to
Jim, VK5NB.

The next meeting will be on April the 19th. It will be a
display of member's equipment built over the last 12 months.
The first project for this year will be a two-tone oscillator
kit.Jim Tregellas has given all the details last meeting.
A Pc board will be made available for the kit, more details
soon.

Unfortunately the picnic planned for April has been cancelled.
The date will be re-scheduled in the near future.

If you would like to visit AHARS the club meets at the Belair
Community Hall Belair and that is on the corner of Main Road
and Belair road. The meetings are held every third Thursday
and commence at 7.oo pm.

VK7

STATUS OF N/WEST PROPAGATION BEACONS.

The VK7RAE N/west propagation beacons were finally installed
and commissioned at their new home, the SEA/FM Transmitter Site
located at Don Heads near Devonport, late November 2006.

Unfortunately the 70CM. Beacon on 432.474 caused severe
interference to an Automatic Garage Door Opener at a residence,
located approx. 50 Metres from the transmitter building. The
Door Opener is on a LIPD frequency around 433 Mhz. and
consequently the beacon rendered the garage door opener
completely useless and inoperable by apparent overload and
blocking of the receiver.

It was decided at the time to leave this beacon turned off
until alternative options can be explored.

The 2M. Beacon on 144.474 has worked well since its re
commissioning and receives regular daily reports of being heard
well on the mainland, particularly VK3.

Similarly the 6M. beacon on 50.057 was also received well
in Mainland VK with daily reports. Unfortunately it failed in
late March and is currently being repaired.

The status of all the beacons can be ascertained by amateurs
with APRS facilities. Look for the object VK7RAE BN
and check the comment field. The on / off status of the
beacons is listed for each of the 3 beacons.

Any reception reports or questions can be directed to
NWTARIG email:
nwtarig@spamex.com or Tel. 03 64252923.
(73's Tony VK7AX)

EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO
PRESENTED BY KYLEA VK6FXYL

REAST JOTA/JOTI Foundation Licence Initiative

Gavin, VK7HGO is actively pursuing and idea of raising interest with
the Wellington District Scout leaders to undertake the Foundation
Licence course prior to the 2007 JOTA/JOTI in October.

REAST will be looking at providing a special Scouting/Guiding
Foundation Licence Course to enable this to happen.

This would provide each scout/guide group with an operator per group
and would really make a great amateur radio focus for this year's
JOTA/JOTI.
(Gavin, VK7HGO)

FUTURE EXAMS

Help amateur radio continue to grow

Do you know someone who could be interested in joining our hobby? Then
encourage them to enrol in a Foundation Licence training course.

VK1

Next Foundation Licence course, and Standard / Advanced assessments.

The CRARC will be undertaking another Foundation Licence course on
the weekend 19th & 20th of MAY.

tHEY will also be running Standard and Advanced Licence Examinations
and Assessments on the Saturday (19th May) for those who wish to sit.

If you wish to sit either the examinations, or do the F.L. Course,
please contact Alan Hawes VK1WX via email to education@vk1.wia.ampr.org
or by phone (after hours) to 02 6258 2568. Please note that all monies
are to be paid by May 7th 2007 !

In Victoria - the Ballarat Amateur Radio Group is now taking enrolments
for its weekend training course and licence assessments on the 5th & 6th
of May.
For more information please contact Craig Cook VK3CMC phone 5342 2448 or
email vk3cmc@bigpond.com.au

At Bendigo classes and licence assessments are conducted by Ross Pittard
VK3FCE who can be contacted via email vk3fce@internode.on.net

The Central Goldfields Amateur Radio Club, Maryborough regularly holds
classes. Contact Peter Rafferty VK3CC on 5460 4387 or email
majorca49@hotmail.com

On the Gold Coast and want to talk to the world through their IRLP and
EchoLink systems? Or already licensed and wish to upgrade Foundation
to Standard? Well classes are held at the Nerang Clubhouse of the
GCARS, ring Roy VK4IG on 5539 3530 Exams can be taken at a time
to suit you. As a matter of fact, they are commencing study for upgrade
to Standard and Advanced licences from toorrow, Monday 16th April, 7.00pm
if your wanting to join up, still time we are told.

CONGRATULATIONS - RESULTS

Last Saturday week four candidates attended a training and
examination session and qualified for their Foundation Licence.

Congratulations to Lloyd Jeffrey, Robert Lambe, Ian Parsissons
and James Swan who are now eagerly awaiting their call signs.
Lloyd is the 14 year son of Alan, VK7KAJ.
(Reg, VK7KK, REAST Education Officer and Assessor)

>From VK1WIA this is the National News Service -
Tune in today...Focus on Tomorrow

AMATEUR RADIO - HOME OF THE GOOD GUYS

We all know the devastation that the tsunami caused around the
North Western Provinces of the Solomon Islands.
The island of Simbo felt the full brunt of the tsunami.
The resulting damage has left Simbo Island villagers without
basic needs. Most village homes were utterly destroyed.

The loss of life has also taken its toll, with many families loosing loved ones.

The Eighty Metre Sewing Circle Net, under the guidance of Don Cripps VK7AY, commenced an on air appeal, on Good Friday, to raise much needed funds to assist with the relief efforts on Simbo Island. The generosity of Amateur operators on this net has been overwhelming. To date, over one thousand dollars has been raised.

One of the nets regular operators, Steve Phillips VK3JY, has first hand knowledge of the devastation on Simbo Island. Steves daughter, who is married to a local resident, has conveyed some harrowing stories and that the Island is in desperate need of assistance.

All monies raised during this appeal will be sent direct to Simbo Island. The entire amount will be used to assist local villagers. They are in need of immediate help and the decision on how to best use the appeal funds will be decided locally. It is very comforting to know that all monies raised will go directly to the local residents that are most in need.

The Sewing Circle Net encourages all Australian Amateur Radio operators to get behind the efforts of raising funds for this very worthy cause. The Sewing Circle Net appeal will close in a few days. So, please support the appeal by coming up on the net at 5.00pm local time on 3.590 MHz and pledge a donation.

Don, VK7AY will record your donation and advise of the many donation lodgment options that are available. Alternatively, give Don a telephone call on 03 - 6428 7768. The number again 03 6428 7768.

Make a point of coming up on the net tonight and pledge a donation.

Your contribution will be very welcome.

This is Vince Henderson, VK7VH, for the Sewing Circle Net, saying thanks for listening.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

IRAQI AMATEUR RADIO SHUTDOWN CONTINUES

Iraq Amateur Radio Society (IARS) President Diya Sayah, YI1DZ, says there's no end in sight to a ham radio blackout in his country. As part of the new security plan for Baghdad, the Iraqi Ministry of Defense requested in March that radio amateurs remain off the air until security improves.

Because of a miscommunication, however, word failed to reach the Iraqi Communications and Media Commission, which was still issuing licenses.

Sayah chalks up the open-ended ham radio blackout to a misunderstanding of Amateur Radio on the part of Iraq's defense minister. Working through the

Ministry of Education and Scientific Research, the IARS has attempted -- so far without success -- to explain Amateur Radio to the Ministry of Defense.

"Because it's between ministries, this will take time also," Sayah told ARRL, adding that he was not optimistic about getting an opportunity to discuss the issue anytime soon with Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki.

"Now anyone on the air is a pirate, as everyone is obliged not to use their radios at the present time," he added. He said IARS members continue making contacts using Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) modes such as IRLP, EchoLink and others.

The Ministry of Defense had asked the IARS to store all licensees' ham radio equipment during the shutdown, but Sayah says that's not happening because of the dangerous situation that persists within the capital.

The ham radio shutdown affects members of the military and contractors holding YI9-prefix call signs. It does *not* apply to Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) operations, which use military frequencies.
(arrl letter)

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NEWS FROM ARNEWSLINE

IRAQ HAM RADIO BLACK-OUT CONTINUES

The shut-down of Amateur Radio in Iraq could continue for a long time. This according to several reports that quote officials of the Iraq Amateur Radio Society. Amateur Radio Newsline's Jeff Reinhardt, AA6JR, has the details:

The Iraq Amateur Radio Society says through Internet postings that it has turned down a government request to warehouse all ham gear owned by Iraqi radio amateurs. This is because its simply to dangerous to go out and collect the equipment.

While Iraq's ham populace may not be radiating R-F, they are still communicating with one-another and with the outside. This, world using Echolink and other V-O-I-P systems over the World Wide Web.

This was confirmed earlier in a posting to the QRZ dot com website where Iraq Amateur Radio Society President Diya Sayah, YI1DZ, indicated this would likely be the case.

Sayah wrote -- and we quote: "Echolink, CQ100, the Internet, cellphones are still working and we had several ham radios working now using these instead of RF." The term "ham radios" in this case referring to operators not actual gear.

The Iraqi ham radio blackout affects anyone operating an Amateur station from that nation. That includes its citizens, outside contractors and even members of other nations military who are stationed in Iraq.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, Im Jeff reinhardt, AA6JR, in Los Angeles.

As previously reported, the Iraqi Ministry of Defense last month ordered that all Iraqi radio amateurs remain off the air until improvements are made in what it terms as that nations overall internal security. Some political observers in the West believe that could take years if not decades to happen.

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: OSCAR 11 AGAIN HEADED TO ECLIPSE

If you want to use the OSCAR 11 satellite, now is the time to give uit a try. This is the last operational period for the Amsat-OSCAR 11 ham radio satellite before eclipses start on April 20th.

Currently, good, steady signals are being heard from it on 145.826 MHz. If the satellite behaves as it did last year, once the eclipses begin, it is unlikely to be heard for any length of time, during the eclipse period. These continue until August 23rd.

OSCAR 11 also known as UoSAT-OSCAR 11 or UoSAT-2 is one of those long surviving ham radio birds. It was launched into orbit way back on March 1, 1984 on a Thor Delta rocket from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California. It was the first ham satellite to carry a digital store-and-forward communications payload. (AMSAT, G3CWV, ARNewsline)

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NEWS SOURCED TO THE RSGB NEWS SERVICE AND READ BY G4NJH

Last time-change signal from Rugby

British timekeeping marked the end of an era with the recent switch to summer time.

This was the last time-change signalled from Rugby, in Warwickshire, which has been the source of the time signal since 1927. From 31st March, the 60kHz signal is being broadcast from Anthorn, Cumbria.

Scot wins DXCC award

Clive Penna, GM3POI, has become only the second person in the world to achieve the nine-band DXCC award using only Logbook of The World electronic QSL confirmations.

John Sluymer, VE3EJ, of Ontario, Canada was the first.

World Amateur Radio Day 2007 Award

A new amateur radio award has been launched to commemorate the World Amateur Radio Day celebrated by the International Amateur Radio Union on 18th April each year.

The WARD 2007 Award, as it is called, is the brainchild of the Polish Radio Amateurs' Journal. It is also supported by the Polish Amateur Radio Union. The award is available for either 10 QSOs on

the HF bands or five QSOs on the VHF bands.

All contacts must be made between 00.01 and 24.00 UTC on 18th April 2007. The award is also available to SWLs for the same numbers of reports.

CONTEST COLUMN - D A T E L I N E

2007 VK/TRANSTASMAN CONTEST

80M Phone 12 May 2007
80M CW 26 May 2007
160M Phone 7 July 2007
160M CW 21 July 2007

The Contest Organizer has been in touch and confirms the above dates. It is recommended that you refer to:
http://home.primus.com.au/vktasman for updated rules and operating.
(sourced to nzart)

AUGUST 11/12 Remembrance Day Contest (The RD)
wia.org.au

Trent vk4ti@sampson.net.au says VK4WIA is going Contesting !

"We are on the look out for the very best monoband HF stations in VK4 and VK8 !

Why ? Because the IARU Radiosport competition allows for a Headquarters station to combine all logs into one big score for the event.

Ken Fuller, Secretary of the WIA has organised the use of the Callsign for the VK4 effort . The contest is held the second weekend of July every year and goes for 24 hours.

The modes are SSB and CW and all HF bands are used. That being 160 through ten Metres no WARC. Under the rules the station in this case VK4WIA can have a 160M CW station and a 160M SSB station and these stations can be located anywhere in QLD or the Northern Territory !

So, the vk4 entry could be vk8xx (signing VK4WIA) in Darwin on 10 M vk4fnq(signing VK4WIA) in townsville on 15 etc all these stations would sign the same callsign..and the logs are then combined after the test.

This means if we do this properly we should have 12 separate stations. This is a pretty big task and will take co-rdinating. For example we may need common contest loggers in order to put it all together at the end of the test. It is truly one of the few times that we truly could give the EURO and US stations a run for their money."

So if you would like to be involved or you know someone you could dob in to be involved contact Trent VK4TI email vk4ti@sampson.net.au or phone 0408 497550

SBMS 2GHz and Up World Wide Club Contest
Sponsored by the San Bernardino Microwave Society

For this year, 2007 the contest period runs from 6 a.m. May 12 to 8 p.m. May 13 local time.

This is a club competition in which members tally up their scores and add them with other members' scores to make up a club score.

1. Object

Worldwide groups of amateurs (Clubs) work as many amateur stations in as many different

locations as possible in the world on bands from 2GHz through Light.

2. Date and Contest Period

Second weekend in May. The weekend begins at 6 a.m. local Saturday though 8 p.m. Sunday.

3. Exchange

Six-character Maidenhead Locator; example DM04ww (see April 1994 QST, p. 86 or www.arrl/org/locate/gridinfo.html). Signal report is optional.

4. Miscellaneous

Scheduling contacts is both permissible and encouraged.

Stations are encouraged to operate from more than a single location. A station may be worked again on each band for additional credit after a change of location.

For purposes of the contest, a change of location is defined as a move of at least 16 km (10 miles).

A transmitter used to contact one or more stations may not be used subsequently under any other call during the contest period with the exception for multiple licenses in the same family sharing the same equipment (family rule). The intent of this rule is to prohibit "manufactured" contacts.

5. Scoring

Distance points: The distance in km between stations for each successfully completed QSO. One point per kilometer (eg., 10km is 10 points). QSO points: Count 100 QSO points for each unique call sign worked per band.

In making the distance calculations, a string (or ruler) and map may be used. However, calculations by computer program are preferred. Several such programs are available, including a BASIC program listing in The ARRL World Grid Locator Atlas. For purposes of making calculations, stations are

defined as being located in the center of the 6-character locator sub-square
(most computer programs make this assumption).

6. Multipliers

a.. 2GHz to 10GHz times 1
b.. 24GHz = 2 times
c.. 47GHz = 4 times
d.. 76GHz and up = 8 times

7. Bonus points
100 points bonus may be added for each unique call worked per
band.

1000 points bonus for each band youactivate anf make at least
one contact on

8. Awards

1st place plaque and all club entries will receive a certificate, suitable
for framing.

Send entries no later than 60 days after the contest to be considered.

Submit logs via regular mail only.

Pat Coker, N6RMJ,
40916 179th Street,
Lancaster CA 93535, USA

SPECIAL EVENTS, BEACON AND NET ADVICE
VK's longest continual net;
The Southern Cross DX Net has been running for 43 years, operates
7 days a week - propagation permitting - on a frequency
of 14.238.5MHz at 1215 zulu.

Saturday, April 28 is the 20th International Marconi Day.
Several dozen stations in locations with a link to Marconi
will be operating on the day.

The Hornsby and Districts Amateur Radio Club will be operating VK2IMD,
the only IMD station in Australasia. They hope to be on all HF bands.

VK2IMD commemorates Ernest Fisk receiving the first direct radio message
from Britain to Australia, at Wahroonga in 1918. This message was
sent from Marconi's station in Caernarfon, Wales.

For more information look for the GB4IMD website.
www.gb4imd.org.uk/

For WIA News, this is Julian Sortland, VK2YJS.

NOW ROBERT BROOMHEAD - VK3KRB.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- ARDF
WIA ARDF COORDINATOR VK3WWW Jack vk3www@alphalink.com.au

http://users.mackay.net.au/~ron/
http://www.homingin.com
http://www.ardf.org.au

AusRadio Fox Hunt Report

Paul, VK7FPGB gives a report on last Tuesday night's Ausradio foxhunt in Launceston.

We had a good turn out with 7 people making up 5 teams.

For the first hunt (high power) Jason VK7ZJA was the fox and picked out a very tricky spot in Mowbray behind some buildings. Paul VK7FPGB was the first to find him.

The second hunt saw Paul take the "mini fox" and place it behind a rubbish bin on Talbot Road lookout, Peter was the first to arrive and after him Jason was not far behind both took quite a while to find the fox.

>From my point of view it was one of the best hunts we have had and I am really looking forward to the next one where hopefully we can have a few more people along.

Thanks to everybody who came along.

www.scanningtasmania.org

ARDF Region 3 Championship
The Mongolian Radio Sport's Federation (MRSF) will
be hosting the 7th IARU Region 3 Amateur Radio Direction
Finding (ARDF) Championships, 16 - 21 August 2007,
Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. Details available from www.mrsf.mn
E-mail
contact@mrsf.mn

Hunting the foxes in city T'PURAM:
Buildings turned oak trees and bikes donned the role of horses as a group of amateur radio operators set out fox hunting in the city on Sunday morning. As many as 16 amateur radio hams, embarked on the fox hunting organised by the Kollam Amateur radio league here on Sunday.

The hunters spotting wireless sets and antennas set out from the Secretariat on their mission at 9 am, as ham foxes Nadarajan, Rajendran and Noushad occupied their position at Pulayanarkotta.

After one-and-a-half hours of hunting, hams Thankachan and Rajesh bagged the first prize, winning a cash prize of Rs 1,000 and the ever-rolling C.A.S.Das trophy. Fox hunting is one of the most popular games among hams, said Kollam amateur radio league president K G Nadarajan. We have been conducting fox hunting games for the last 11 years now. More than fun,

this is basically a training programme for new members on how
to track people, especially during disaster.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- FINAL FRONTIER
VK5ZAI is the Australian Co-ordinator for ARISS.

AMSAT-VK UNOFFICIAL HF Net.
2nd Sunday each month.
November through March 0900 UTC 7.068 MHz
April through October 1000 UTC 3.685 MHz

Trevor m5aka tells of a new Amateur Satellite Beginners Article

The March 2007 issue of the RSGB magazine RadCom features a
superb article entitled "Getting Started on Amateur Radio
Satellites" by John Heath G7HIA. It is an excellent introduction
to the exciting world of Amateur Satellite Communications.

The Radio Society of Great Britain and the author have generously
agreed to allow AMSAT-UK to put the PDF of the article on the web
and it can be seen at
www.uk.amsat.org

CLUB NEWS EDITORS NOTE!!!
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WW SIG INTERNET LINKING

IRLP Node 6444 operational

The Townsville IRLP Node 6444 is back online.
TARC IRLP Master Rob VK4RB was able to secure a
broadband Net connection and bring the node back to a
reliable mode of operation on Tuesday April 10th.
The node was out of action for about a month following
the demise of a local and popular ADSL2+ internet service
provider.

Node 6444 interfaces with the VK4RAT UHF Voice Repeater
on 438.225MHz and can be accessed from the cities of
Thuringowa and Townsville and the shires of Burdekin,
Dalrymple and Hinchinbrook plus a generous portion
of waters off the Magnetic Coast.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RADIO SCOUTING
http://www.scouts.com.au
http://www.scout.org/jota
http://www.wiaq.com/nationalnews/jotahead.htm

SCOUT JOTA HF Voice Calling Frequencies
3590, 7090, 14190, 21190, 28590 kHz

14290, 18140, 21360, 24960, 28390 kHz (DX)

This years 50th JOTA will run from October 19th at 22:00 hours to October 21st at 24:00 hours YOUR local time.

An official start will be given by the World Scout Bureau radio station in Geneva, Switzerland on October 19th at 21:00 h UTC with a transmission in the 20 and 80 meter bands.

THE SCOUTING 100 AWARD

A new international Amateur Radio award has been launched to mark the centenary of the scouting movement.

Called the Scouting 100 Radio Award it comes in two forms. One is available only to ham radio operators while the other to S-W-L's.

To attain this award, it is necessary to accrue points by contacting or hearing scout or guide stations during 2007. Contacts or reports with individual scout or guide stations count for one point. Special event scout stations are worth two points. The World Jamboree, the Gilwell Park station in the U-K and Brownsea Island stations count for five points each.

There are no restrictions on what bands and modes are used. The award is also available for Echolink and IRLP mode operators. More is on-line at www.scouting100award.org
(RSGB via ARNEWSLINE)

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RESCUE RADIO

EMERGENCY FREQUENCIES REGION ONE
21.360 - 18.160 - 14.300 - 7.060 - 3.760 MHz.

WICEN talk at Northern Tasmanian Amateur Radio Club

Next meeting will by popular demand be on Tuesday 17th April at Alanvale TAFE. Special presenter will be Roger, VK7ARN and a band of loyal followers giving a presentation on WICEN. This promises to be a great night so come along and meet the WICEN guys from the South and learn all about WICEN. It will be at 7:30pm - Block B - Alanvale TAFE.

A working bee is required to help VK7GC in George Town to re-erect some antennas - contact Allen Burke on 0417 354 410 for details of when and where.
(David VK7YUM, NTARC Secretary)

BB's DIARY ROOM - THE FUTURE, IN AMATEUR RADIO

2007

April 18 World Amateur Radio Day. Theme (2007) "Amateur Radio: Allowing youth to connect the world."

April 28 International Marconi Day
www.gb4imd.org.uk

May 4 - 6 WIA AGM at Parkes
www.wia.org.au

2008

Sept 13 Alarameet 2008 will be held in Ulverstone Tasmania on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th September 2008. Susan VK7LUV for details.

2009
International Telecommunication Union's Telecom World 2009.

SOCIAL SCENE

APRIL 15 An historical display of radio

Australia's largest vintage radio show will occur in Melbourne's south-east later this month.

It's part of the 25th anniversary celebrations of the Historical Radio Society of Australia which has members right around the nation.

The show will include a parade of portable radios, a vintage battery store, some military equipment, advice from the experts, radio films, and a sound lounge playing radio shows of yesteryear.

You can even take along an old radio and have it valued on the spot.

This is all happening on Sunday the 15th of April at the Holmesglen Conference Centre, corner of Warrigal and Batesford Roads, Chadstone. That's a 2 minute walk from Holmesglen rail station.

The public is welcome from 1pm - 4pm, entry for adults $5.
More details check out the website www.ozradios.com

APRIL 22 Centre Victoria RadioFest

All is ready for the Centre Victoria RadioFest on Sunday the 22nd of April at the Kyneton Racecourse.

Midland Amateur Radio Club President, Kevin Crockett VK3CKC says there's a degree of nervous excitement with this new major event is only hours away from opening.

Central Goldfields Amateur Radio Club President, Peter Rafferty VK3CC is convinced the RadioFest will be talked about for years to come.

Enthusiastic volunteers from both clubs will be there to make sure all goes well. So should anyone with an interest in radio communications and electronics.

RadioFest has all major commercial traders. Among the door prizes, Vertex Standard has provided a Yaesu FT857D transceiver. Who will be the lucky winners?

Club Corner, an educational lecture series, come n try sniffer foxhunts,
IOTA DXpedition display and do-it-yourself dipoles.

WICEN emergency communications, the WIA, ALARA, ATV, APRS,
F-Troop Net Live with photo call, historical radio display,
helpful advice for anyone wanting to become a radio amateur and lots more.

Check out the website radiofest.amateurradio.com.au for full details.

See you at the family friendly Centre Victoria RadioFest, Kyneton
racecourse less than an hour from Melbourne, Ballarat and Bendigo, next
Sunday 22nd of April.

I'm Bruce Lees VK3FFF and youre listening to VK1WIA.

MAY 5 - 6
The Clareview Gathering is a yearly event where Radio Amateurs meet
at a spot on the coast between Rockhampton and Mackay to relax, talk
radio, re-establish acquaintances and participate in the world renown
Saturday Night Mega-Auction.
It happens in 2007 during the Long Weekend on the 5th and 6th of May.
For further details contact Don Wilschefski VK4BY of the RADAR Club

MAY 12 MDRC Hamfest

The Moorabbin and District Amateur Radio club are please to announce,
this years Hamfest will be held in the usual location, at the Brentwood
Secondary College, Watsons Rd, Glen Waverly on Saturday 12th May 2006 -
doors opening at 10am. The MDRC Hamfest is proud to be Victoria's
biggest and this year will be no exception with displays and sales of
new or preloved equipment, for anyone interested in Radio Communications
and electronics.
Major door prizes, free tea and coffee, light refreshments and a sausage
sizzle will also be on offer.

Trader table bookings and general enquires can be made be emailing
Graeme Lewis VK3GL (vk3gl@aanet.com.au) or by phoning mobile 0418 289928

MAY 12 - BRISBANE HAMFEST
Brisbane Amateur radio Club is holding "BARCFEST 2007" on Saturday
12th May, venue is the Mount Gravatt Showground Logan Road.
If you wish to book a table information can be found on the club's
website http://qsl.net/vk4ba or you can call LesVK4ZLP on 33437247.
Food will be available at the hall, Starting time is 10am.

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WIANews - we've reported...YOU decide.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to
the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may
lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might
even get a "cheerio call".

Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of the National WIA.

HOP TO SPECIFIC WIANews TOPICS

WIA WEB ZONE, www.wia.org.au

WIANews THANKS OUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS , OUR RELAY OPERATORS ACROSS THE WORLD FOR FORWARDING INFORMATION AND COMMENTS THEIR LISTENERS HAVE PASSED ON TO MAKE WIANews VK'S LEADING WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PROGRAM.

E-mail WIANews WITH VK STORIES.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

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Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of QNEWS for the National WIA.

Thanks to to our dedicated band of broadcast volunteers who utilize their time and equipment in bringing you this weekly broadcast.

The purpose of "WIANews" is to rapidly provide news of interest to active amateurs residing in Australia and the globe.

We strongly encourage membership in the Wireless Institute of Australia and participation in the activities of local clubs.

Opinions expressed in "WIANews" are those of the writers who submit material and do not necessarily reflect those of the rebroadcasters, nor the National WIA.

Material may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, a credit to WIANews wouldn't go astray...

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632. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-17 17:56:13 UTC
From: peace@capebyron.com
Message-ID: <1176832241.026596.68290@y5g2000hsa.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4837

I don't think that we are ever going to see Amateur Radio appeal to the public at large. Fifty years ago it was difficult to phone outside of your state, today I regularly call relatives in India, Iran and Australia for free on Skype. Kids today who regularly chat with other kids from around the globe on myspace will not be impressed with a hard to hear ham contact with North Dakota.

I flew to India on business, turned on my standard US issued mobile/ cell phone in Mumbai airport and received a call from the US long before I cleared customs. The customs agent just shrugged when he saw my phone. Have you ever tried to take ham equipment into India or get an Indian callsign? Just forget it unless you want to pay some serious "facilitation fees."

The appeal of ham radio is almost historical, like being a classic car buff, but it appeals only to certain segments of the population. I doubt that the july 2003 record of hams will ever be broken, what eliminating the code requirement does is hold the line on decline and make it easier for those who want to try the hobby to try it.

633. Anetnna Velocity Factor

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-18 02:08:21 UTC
From: John Doe <hgorden@adelphia.net>
Message-ID: <vfCdnbAvqfvL6LjbnZ2dnUVZ_oqmnZ2d@adelphia.com>
Source record: 4838

Does anybody have a velocity factor chart? I need the information for 13
gauge stranded plastic cover?
TIA
Howard W3CQH

====================================== MODERATOR'S COMMENT:
wh2t - Ace

634. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-18 04:16:53 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <132b55jg3jt9722@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 4839

peace@capebyron.com wrote:

> I don't think that we are ever going to see Amateur Radio appeal to
> the public at large.

It never did. Never will.

> Fifty years ago it was difficult to phone outside of your state,

Even ten years ago, the cost of long distance telephone calls made them "exotic" or "rare". Today, they're not. OK, fine . . . ham radio has never been limited to just the ability to "talk" to people far away.

today I regularly call relatives in India, Iran
> and Australia for free on Skype. Kids today who regularly chat with
> other kids from around the globe on myspace will not be impressed with
> a hard to hear ham contact with North Dakota.

Yep. So what can we find that *will* impress them? The technical challenge of hooking up a computer to a radio? The challenge of being able to use a digital mode using only a wetware modem? [I'm pitching CW here, for those who might miss it.] Satellites? Helping develop new modes of radio communication? The thrill of tossing a CQ out and not knowing who will respond?

I honestly do not know. We need to somehow communicate the fact that "ham radio" is not synonymous with "talking to someone far away" because this generation knows that the way to "talk to someone far away" is to simply open their cell phone.

> The appeal of ham radio is almost historical, like being a classic car
> buff, but it appeals only to certain segments of the population.

I think that the analogy with collecting is flawed, but I can support the "classic" concept. A better analogy for me is sailing. Obviously the best way to get from point A to point B is *not* by using a sailboat, but I think that interest in recreational sailing is doing pretty well.

Ham radio will never appeal to a broad segment of the population. It never has. But the more facets of the hobby we can get in front of the general population, the better chance we have of attracting a few of them into the hobby.

> I doubt that the july 2003 record of hams will ever be broken, what
> eliminating the code requirement does is hold the line on decline and
> make it easier for those who want to try the hobby to try it.

Oddly enough, leisure-time pursuits are cyclical. It's not beyond the realm of possibility that ham radio might "catch on" at some point, at least for a while, especially now that the code requirement is gone.

If it doesn't . . . well, then it doesn't. I'd love to see an influx of younger people into the hobby, but if that doesn't happen, I'll be long dead before it dies completely.

Kind of like Usenet <grin>

635. Re: Anetnna Velocity Factor

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-18 13:25:13 UTC
From: John Doe <hgorden@adelphia.net>
Message-ID: <k-SdnbkSj6uchrvbnZ2dnUVZ_gOdnZ2d@adelphia.com>
Source record: 4840

I have made a indoor/outdoor STEALTH of sorts, a Multiband HF LOOP Antenna, approximately 540ft long (from center connector back around to the other side of the connector). I am using 13 gauge - copper - stranded plastic cover - wire! Does anybody have a velocity factor chart?

At the present time - my MFJ Antenna Analyzer has it resonating at approx 10.5Mhz, and I am trying to get it to resonate at 1.8Mhz (160M).

I need the info to try and figure out how much I need to reduce the overall circumference.

73's

"John Doe" <hgorden@adelphia.net> wrote in message news:vfCdnbAvqfvL6LjbnZ2dnUVZ_oqmnZ2d@adelphia.com...
> Does anybody have a velocity factor chart? I need the information for 13
> gauge stranded plastic cover?
> TIA
> Howard W3CQH
>
>
>
> == MODERATOR'S COMMENT: wh2t - Ace
>

636. Re: Anetnna Velocity Factor

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-18 14:33:22 UTC
From: "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not>
Message-ID: <f058oo$1nm$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 4841

John Doe wrote:

> "John Doe" <hgorden@adelphia.net> wrote in message
> news:vfCdnbAvqfvL6LjbnZ2dnUVZ_oqmnZ2d@adelphia.com...
>> Does anybody have a velocity factor chart? I need the information for 13
>> gauge stranded plastic cover?
>> TIA
>> Howard W3CQH
>>
> I have made a indoor/outdoor STEALTH of sorts, a Multiband HF LOOP Antenna,
> approximately 540ft long (from center connector back around to the other
> side of the connector). I am using 13 gauge - copper - stranded plastic
> cover - wire! Does anybody have a velocity factor chart?
>
> At the present time - my MFJ Antenna Analyzer has it resonating at approx
> 10.5Mhz, and I am trying to get it to resonate at 1.8Mhz (160M).
>
> I need the info to try and figure out how much I need to reduce the overall
> circumference.
>
> 73's

Since you already have 2 wavelengths for 160 meters, I wouldn't worry
about shortening the antenna. If your MFJ analyzer has the capability,
find out the impedances at the intended operating frequencies, and
publish those.

You need to match a reactive load, not cut the antenna: there will
always be some reactance in a multiband antenna like yours.

HTH.

Bill

--
73,

Bill W1AC

(Remove "73" and change top level domain for direct replies)

637. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-18 16:37:03 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f05gclvhg1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4842

peace@capebyron.com wrote:

> I don't think that we are ever going to see Amateur Radio appeal to
> the public at large.

Probably not. Do we want to? Much of what passes "interesting" for the public at large is not interesting to people such as myself. After all, we can only handle so much of "Star Search".

> Fifty years ago it was difficult to phone
> outside of your state, today I regularly call relatives in India, Iran
> and Australia for free on Skype. Kids today who regularly chat with
> other kids from around the globe on myspace will not be impressed with
> a hard to hear ham contact with North Dakota.

The ability to talk to someone across the world through a gargantuan network is everyday stuff now.

The magic is to be able to do it with no more structure that provided by a few components made from essentially refined dirt is the magic part of the whole thing.

If what people want to do is yak at each other, the Telephone is great, and audio chat rooms allow for an internet based talking experience. No thanks.

If however, you enjoy putting a station together, homebrewing and experimentation with the same end in mind, technical acumen accumulation, Emergency comms, or just dealing with a mostly fine group of people, then maybe Amateur Radio is for you.

> I flew to India on business, turned on my standard US issued mobile/
> cell phone in Mumbai airport and received a call from the US long
> before I cleared customs. The customs agent just shrugged when he saw
> my phone. Have you ever tried to take ham equipment into India or get
> an Indian callsign? Just forget it unless you want to pay some
> serious "facilitation fees."

Sounds like a Amateur - unfriendly place. Too bad that!

> The appeal of ham radio is almost historical, like being a classic car
> buff, but it appeals only to certain segments of the population.

Some parts are historical. And the hobby is all the richer for it. I enjoy my modern synthesized, memory laden and DSP aided radios, and I enjoy my old time tube rigs, which have a lot of "cool factor".

Other parts are every bit as modern as the internet. Actually even more so.

> I
> doubt that the july 2003 record of hams will ever be broken, what
> eliminating the code requirement does is hold the line on decline and
> make it easier for those who want to try the hobby to try it.

I think it will at some point. It is up to us to sell the sizzle of Ham
radio to those who might appreciate it.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

638. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-18 17:37:12 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <58n1t1F2i0c7tU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4843

"Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
news:f05gclvhg1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu
> peace@capebyron.com wrote:
>
>
> > I don't think that we are ever going to see Amateur
> > Radio appeal to the public at large.
>
> Probably not. Do we want to? Much of what passes
> "interesting" for the public at large is not interesting
> to people such as myself. After all, we can only handle so much of "Star
> Search".
>
>
> > Fifty years ago it was difficult to phone
> > outside of your state, today I regularly call relatives
> > in India, Iran and Australia for free on Skype. Kids
> > today who regularly chat with other kids from around
> > the globe on myspace will not be impressed with a hard
> > to hear ham contact with North Dakota.

Hey, *I'd* like to be able to talk to someone in North Dakota..! A bit
difficult on 70cm from here though <g>

> The ability to talk to someone across the world through a
> gargantuan network is everyday stuff now.

Even so, I still get stopped in the street if I'm using my 70cm
handportable. Notably the other week by a couple of police officers who
were wondering what I was up to..! (If I were doing something "shifty"
would I be drawing attention to myself by using a UHF radio, or would I be
mumbling into a phone like the other 30 people walking by on the
street..?!)

> The magic is to be able to do it with no more structure
> that provided by a few components made from essentially refined dirt is
> the magic part of the whole thing.
>
> If what people want to do is yak at each other, the
> Telephone is great, and audio chat rooms allow for an
> internet based talking experience. No thanks.

A valid opinion, but there are alternatives. One of my other interests is
old telephones. Most people here will have heard of VoIP (Voice over IP)
telephony. The vast majority of this is run by commercial networks, rather
along the lines of mobile/cellular phone providers, i.e. you pay so much a

month and get a phone number etc.

There is, however, a completely separate network run by and for those who are interested in hooking up their phone systems. Many people around the world, including myself, collect and restore old phones, and some even have complete old electromechanical Strowger-type ex-public exchanges, for example there's a guy I know in Wales who has a complete 1929 exchange up and running in his house..!

Someone thought "wouldn't it be great if we could hook these up and actually use these old phones to actually talk to one another rather than sitting on shelves in a museum type environment" and so the Collector's Network (CNET) http://www.ckts.info was born. There are people from all over the world on it, anyone can call anyone else completely free, and there are several gateways from the PSTN so anyone anywhere can call in and dial someone's old phone somewhere..!

> If however, you enjoy putting a station together,
> homebrewing and experimentation with the same end in
> mind, technical acumen accumulation, Emergency comms, or just dealing
> with a
> mostly fine group of people, then maybe Amateur Radio is for you.

I like talking to people direct, with little or no other infrastructure in the way. Ok I'll chat on the local repeater if I'm mobile, but I prefer to work direct.

> > I flew to India on business, turned on my standard US
> > issued mobile/ cell phone in Mumbai airport and
> > received a call from the US long before I cleared
> > customs. The customs agent just shrugged when he saw
> > my phone. Have you ever tried to take ham equipment
> > into India or get an Indian callsign? Just forget it
> > unless you want to pay some serious "facilitation
> > fees."
>
> Sounds like a Amateur - unfriendly place. Too bad that!
>
>
> > The appeal of ham radio is almost historical, like
> > being a classic car buff, but it appeals only to
> > certain segments of the population.

That applies to almost every hobby, surely..?

> Some parts are historical. And the hobby is all the
> richer for it. I enjoy my modern synthesized, memory laden and DSP aided
> radios, and I enjoy my old time tube rigs, which have a
> lot of "cool factor".
> Other parts are every bit as modern as the internet.
> Actually even more so.

One of my favourite aspects of the hobby was packet radio. I ran a BBS here for 11 years, but it eventually died through sheer lack of interest on the part of the users. I think there were only 2 or 3 regulars left (compared with over 80 in its heyday) at the end. The internet killed it off; why bother with a 2m radio and TNC when you can just send an email or connect to usenet..?

73 Ivor G6URP

639. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-18 22:31:40 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1176934329.648924.6050@y5g2000hsa.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4844

Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote on Wed, 18 Apr 2007 00:16:53 EDT

>p...@capebyron.com wrote:

>> I don't think that we are ever going to see Amateur Radio appeal to
>> the public at large.
>
>It never did. Never will.

I agree. However, I would like to see it publicized a bit
more before the public so that the public gets an all-
around image of amateur radio rather than the stereotypical
one that has been around for half a century.

>> Fifty years ago it was difficult to phone outside of your state,
>
>Even ten years ago, the cost of long distance telephone calls made them
>"exotic" or "rare". Today, they're not. OK, fine . . . ham radio has
>never been limited to just the ability to "talk" to people far away.

I disagree a bit. Having seen advertisements and amateur
radio magazine article contents for a half century, one
of the most prominent features could be summed up in the
phrase "work DX on HF with CW." :-)

Antennas, transceivers seem to have always mentioned "DX,"
"ability to work the 'rare' ones," "a DX-ers dream" and
other assorted wish-fulfillment phrases designed to sell
goods.

>> ... Kids today who regularly chat with
>> other kids from around the globe on myspace will not be impressed with
>> a hard to hear ham contact with North Dakota.
>
>Yep. So what can we find that *will* impress them?

One way might be the amazed surprise that accompanies
actually BUILDING a radio "from scratch" and making it
work. Anyone can, and many do, just buy a radio or
consumer electronics and the vast majority of those work
right out of the box. Building, with one's own hands,
everything, even from a kit, can be a creative
satisfaction to the majority. The Michael's chain of
arts and crafts store became a success at selling
that kind of creativity.

A few activites such as fox-hunting might be appealing
from the fun of transferring a kid's game ("tag, you're
it", etc.) to more useful pursuits of adulthood (besides
chasing the opposite sex that is, a whole different
endeavor). There's an element of competitiveness in that,
albeit mild. Younger people tend towards competitive
events and "joining teams." It's essentially an outdoors
activity, not "nerdish" sitting still in front of computers.

>The technical challenge of hooking up a computer to a radio?

Not quite that simplistic. Writing (developing, really)
a program FOR a radio-computer interface has direct
application which can be very personalized to user
requirements. That can be VERY creative...especially
if the program result can be used by many others.

>Satellites?

No. To a twentysomething of today they have "always had"
communications satellites.

> Helping develop new modes of radio communication?

Not quite. To do the "new" one needs to understand what
is here and available now. We have so much of the "now"
that a beginner would not know all of it.

> The thrill of tossing a CQ out and not knowing who will respond?

Perhaps. A form of that happens on many personal websites
of today...except that users there do not have license call-
signs. With most users being anonymous, others don't really
know who they are. With amateur licensees one will know
after looking such up on a callsign CD or a website such as
QRZ. A following QSL card, even if a week or two late,
will provide confirmation of that contact.

>I honestly do not know. We need to somehow communicate the fact that
>"ham radio" is not synonymous with "talking to someone far away" because
>this generation knows that the way to "talk to someone far away" is to
>simply open their cell phone.

Steve, "your" generation (and even later) are already using
cell phones besides the teen-agers. :-) And they are talking
short-range, medium-range, and long-range on those phones,
even with those strange ear-growths based on Bluetooth.

>I think that the analogy with collecting is flawed, but I can support
>the "classic" concept. A better analogy for me is sailing. Obviously
>the best way to get from point A to point B is *not* by using a
>sailboat, but I think that interest in recreational sailing is doing
>pretty well.

Allow me to draw a communications parallel in analogies.
The BBS (Bulletin Board System) began in earnest shortly
after the first "hefty" (memory larger than 48K bytes)
personal computers appeared, roughly in the decade from
1982 to 1992 (give or take). I was a part of that then
and really got "into" it. BBS-ing attracted tens of
thousands, perhaps hundreds of thousands, not just in the
USA but worldwide...doing what USENET wanted to be before
the Internet became public and carried it. It was a huge
success with many different BBS intersts...social, technical,
work-oriented (especially with writers), special-interest
groups, you name it. Yes, there were the sexual aspects
but those were actually a minority of all the different
BBS groups.

About the same time, also in larger urban centers, "repeater
clubs" started up, perhaps a bit more chummy than the older
ham clubs since the 'VHFers' were less interested in reaching
out to foreign lands as were the older "DXers." They were
primarily social get-together clubs, much the same as the
social BBSs.

The Internet going public in 1991 halted the BBS expansion
as subscribers shifted from BBSs to the 'web. There was
much more to offer on the Internet...BBSs couldn't keep up
much less try to match it. But, the repeater clubs still
exist, at least here in southern California. Some illustrate
their gatherings and picnics on their websites.

>Ham radio will never appeal to a broad segment of the population.

Then I would say that the old, out-dated stereotypical
"we are the heroes of disasters and emergencies" bragging
ought to be put away. The public that has been IN such
events is aware of who helped them and who didn't.

>But the more facets of the hobby we can get in front of the
>general population, the better chance we have of attracting a few of
>them into the hobby.

True enough to me. But, PR smarts are needed for promotion,
those who can "feel the pulse of the public, the market" and
have been successful in doing PR. Marketeers are always in
front of the public, in competition with existing activities
that don't "reach out" enough.

>Oddly enough, leisure-time pursuits are cyclical. It's not beyond the
>realm of possibility that ham radio might "catch on" at some point, at
>least for a while, especially now that the code requirement is gone.

I really doubt that it will catch on now. So far, the trend
shown in stats is for upgrading, not newcomers. I see the
dropping of the code requirement as 12 to 20 years late.
The interest in ham radio is primarily among those who are

already involved in some form of radio or who are well
acquainted with those who are in radio.

>If it doesn't . . . well, then it doesn't.

That's how it can be... :-)

>I'd love to see an influx of
>younger people into the hobby, but if that doesn't happen, I'll be long
>dead before it dies completely.

Well, this whole PUSH to "get the younger people in" might
be more of wishful thinking by old-timers, themselves thinking
that "all young people" were like they of a long time ago.
I hear/see no real push to sustain youngsters once they got a
taste of the activity. SUSTAINING the interest is important
for that adult group to weather all their other responsibilities
(job, family, etc.) to reach old-timer stage and retirement,
along with some cash to spend on expensive radio toys (that
sustains the market for radio goods producers for everyone).

These "younger people" already have a wealth of competitive
ways to communicate at their disposal. Stuff that neither you
nor I nor any old-timer had when we were young. Old-timers
will decry and denigrate "youngsters" current interests (it
happens with every generation) but that is absolutely *NOT*
the way to approach these younger people. They have to be
touched on their level, not the nostalgia of old-timers
exaggerating their own personal experiences of a bygone era.

To get that influx of younger people, they have to be SOLD
on it. Selling is NOT helped by showing off their middle-
aged selves as "role models of excellence." Younger people
will simply reject that. They could care less if a ham has
personally contacted half the world's hams or been IN amateur
radio since the year dot...if they look "old" they've lost
points before they start.

SELLING requires controlled enthusiasm, "controlled" insofar
as touching younger people on their terms, not the salesman's.
Good salespeople are a bit like actors. They have to assume
a ROLE and do it as natural as possible in that role. Those
"actors" won't win awards to take home, but they can win
awards to carry with them inside for a long time.

73, Len AF6AY

640. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-19 01:02:21 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1176943238.586268.264090@y80g2000hsf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4845

On Apr 18, 12:16ï¿½am, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
> p...@capebyron.com wrote:
> > I don't think that we are ever going to see Amateur Radio appeal to
> > the public at large.

> It never did. Never will.

That's true.

> > Fifty years ago it was difficult to phone outside of your state,

> Even ten years ago, the cost of long distance telephone calls made
> them "exotic" or "rare".
> Today, they're not. OK, fine . . . ham radio has
> never been limited to just the ability to "talk" to people far away.

The big attraction is, and always has been, "radio for its own sake",
IMHO. The journey more than the destination.

For most people, how a communication gets somewhere doesn't
matter - they're interested in the content only. For most radio
amateurs,
the method matters greatly.

It's like the difference between riding in an airliner and flying your
own
small aircraft. Both will get you from Point A to Point B, and in fact
the
airliner is almost always less expensive, faster, and easier. But it's
not
the same thing.

> > today I regularly call relatives in India, Iran
> > and Australia for free on Skype. Kids today who regularly chat with
> > other kids from around the globe on myspace will not be impressed
> > with a hard to hear ham contact with North Dakota.

That depends on the kids and how amateur radio is presented.

On Monday, thousands of runners finished the Boston Marathon.
26.22 miles in rainy windy weather. The winner finished in 2 hours
14 minutes and some seconds.

If you just want to get from Hopkinton to Boston, there are lots of
ways
that are easier and faster than running. So why do so many thousands
run the Boston Marathon, and many others?

> Yep. So what can we find that *will* impress them?

It's not about impressing people. It's about finding those who
will be *interested* in "radio for its own sake".

> The technical
> challenge of hooking up a computer to a radio?

Some will be interested in that.

> The challenge of being
> able to use a digital mode using only a wetware modem? [I'm pitching CW
> here, for those who might miss it.]

Some will be interested in that.

> Satellites? Helping develop new
> modes of radio communication? The thrill of tossing a CQ out and not
> knowing who will respond?

Some will be interested in all of those, too.

> I honestly do not know. We need to somehow communicate the fact > that
> "ham radio" is not synonymous with "talking to someone far away"
> because
> this generation knows that the way to "talk to someone far away" is to
> simply open their cell phone.

The main factor is "radio for its own sake". An end in itself, not a
means
to an end. That's the selling point.

Most won't get it. A few will. It is those few we are after.

> > The appeal of ham radio is almost historical, like being a classic car
> > buff, but it appeals only to certain segments of the population.
>
> I think that the analogy with collecting is flawed, but I can support
> the "classic" concept. A better analogy for me is sailing. Obviously
> the best way to get from point A to point B is *not* by using a
> sailboat, but I think that interest in recreational sailing is doing
> pretty well.

Excellent example! Now think about *why* someone would bother
with a sailboat nowadays. It's certainly not about speed, nor ease
of sailing, nor saving money. Sailing requires different skills than
power boating, and arguably more skill and knowledge overall. Yet
the attraction remains. Why?

> Ham radio will never appeal to a broad segment of the population. It
> never has. But the more facets of the hobby we can get in front of the
> general population, the better chance we have of attracting a few of
> them into the hobby.

That's 100% correct. It's also the challenge, because amateur radio
has so many facets and activities that it isn't always easy to quickly

describe.

> > I doubt that the july 2003 record of hams will ever be broken, what
> > eliminating the code requirement does is hold the line on decline and
> > make it easier for those who want to try the hobby to try it.
>
> Oddly enough, leisure-time pursuits are cyclical. It's not beyond the
> realm of possibility that ham radio might "catch on" at some point, at
> least for a while, especially now that the code requirement is gone.

Perhaps. But for that to happen, people have to know amateur radio
exists, and all the things it does. That's hard to put into a 30
second
spot or a sound bite.

As it looks right now, the removal of the last remnants of Morse Code
testing in the USA have not caused any great amount of new growth.
But it's been less than two months - probably too early to tell.

> If it doesn't . . . well, then it doesn't. I'd love to see an influx of
> younger people into the hobby, but if that doesn't happen, I'll be long
> dead before it dies completely.

There *are* younger people coming into amateur radio all the time.
The reason you may not see so many of them, IMHO, is that they
don't have the same situations as in previous generations.

One thing I hear from time to time is that if you look around at a ham
radio club meeting or hamfest, you don't see a lot of young people.
And that's generally true, but not because there aren't a lot of
younger
amateurs.

Most of the "younger people" I know (under the age of, say, 50 or 60)
simply don't get as many large blocks of predictable free time as
their
counterparts of 20, 30, 40, or 50 years ago got. Those in school have
a lot of competing activities, like sports, jobs, homework, etc.
Others
are often dealing with two-career relationships, aging parents,
spouses, ex-spoused, blended families, etc.

The result is that a lot of people have plenty of free time - in small
pieces that happen at odd and uncontrollable intervals. That's one of
the big selling points of computers, email and the internet - it's
ready
when you are, for a minute or an hour.

73 de Jim, N2EY

641. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-19 03:48:29 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <132dk962ar38m34@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 4846

AF6AY wrote:

You'll pardon me for only picking one part of your article to discuss.

> Then I would say that the old, out-dated stereotypical
> "we are the heroes of disasters and emergencies" bragging
> ought to be put away.

While I do agree that some of the material that comes out of disasters is overblown, sometimes people do *earn* the right to brag. When folks put a lot of hours into helping out in disasters they deserve recognition.

Why is it so bad to highlight a positive aspect of the hobby? It's not the *only* aspect of the hobby, but hams still do help in disasters. It's one of the few things that we do that the general public can actually relate to. How do you get the general public excited about the thrill of snagging a rare DX station or working your 100th country or even building a radio? But people relate to cell phones that don't work and hams' ability to communicate in those conditions. The fact that cell phones are more reliable these days and hams' capabilities are not needed as often doesn't diminish the message.

> The public that has been IN such
> events is aware of who helped them and who didn't.

They might have an idea what *agency* helped them. But the public has no particular awareness of the infrastructure that facilitated that help. They might understand that a Red Cross feeding vehicle provided them a meal; they don't understand or care how that crew communicated with their headquarters.

With Katrina, the Red Cross found itself with 200+ shelters and no communications with them. Hams helped. Did the people in the shelters know that? In most cases they did not, as there was no reason for them to care how the communications were accomplished.

Don't get me wrong . . . I'm not saying that every ham needs to participate in emergency communications, or that hams are the major players in every disaster. But in spite of the great strides that have been made in making the communications infrastructure more robust, Mother Nature can still throw a sufficiently hard punch to cause severe disruption, and ham radio operators do still play a role in such situations. If the hobby can benefit from accurate, well-written accounts of those activities, what's wrong with that? It's something good that real people do with their real time and resources, and they should get real recognition for it.

642. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-19 04:39:40 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1176955843.039860.86910@l77g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4847

On Apr 18, 7:48ï¿½pm, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
> AF6AY wrote:
>
> You'll pardon me for only picking one part of your article to discuss.
>
> > Then I would say that the old, out-dated stereotypical
> > "we are the heroes of disasters and emergencies" bragging
> > ought to be put away.
>
> While I do agree that some of the material that comes out of disasters
> is overblown, sometimes people do *earn* the right to brag. When folks
> put a lot of hours into helping out in disasters they deserve recognition.

Oh, I agree with that, no sweat. What I didn't make clear were
all the others who haven't worked an "emergency" at all and
attach themselves to one.

> Why is it so bad to highlight a positive aspect of the hobby? It's not
> the *only* aspect of the hobby, but hams still do help in disasters.

Yes, some hams do help. I'm not saying none do. But, the
average citizen has been seen helping out in emergencies
and disasters, voluntarily, and get little attention for that.
Why should there be more attention paid to someone who
once took a radio test and has some radio gear available?

> > The public that has been IN such
> > events is aware of who helped them and who didn't.
>
> They might have an idea what *agency* helped them. But the public has
> no particular awareness of the infrastructure that facilitated that
> help. They might understand that a Red Cross feeding vehicle provided
> them a meal; they don't understand or care how that crew communicated
> with their headquarters.

During the 17 January 1994 Northridge Earthquake aftermath,
FEMA set up a "true" bulletin board at one center for victims.
Several TV screens showing slow pan-circle shots moving
across handwritten messages from family and friends. Watchers
could get a very strong ID from the handwriting in the message.
That was a lot more ID than some "radiogram" form or a
stranger relaying a message over the phone.

> Don't get me wrong . . . I'm not saying that every ham needs to
> participate in emergency communications, or that hams are the major
> players in every disaster. But in spite of the great strides that have

> been made in making the communications infrastructure more robust,
> Mother Nature can still throw a sufficiently hard punch to cause severe
> disruption, and ham radio operators do still play a role in such
> situations.

IF and only IF the radio amateur's equipment ALSO survives.

Familiarity with only ham equipment doesn't automatically
mean certain items of "robust" ham equipment will survive
anything. I've been there and seen the REAL robust stuff
pass environmental tests. Consumer electronics grade,
such as most ham gear, isn't going to sail through without
damage.

> If the hobby can benefit from accurate, well-written
> accounts of those activities, what's wrong with that?

Of course it can. But, one can also write a news thing
many different ways, arranging words to imply lots of
different things. As a student of wordsmithing, as one
who has gotten pay for writing, and after having read
way too much advertising literature, I can spot most of
those right off. :-(

Look to the ARRL for being masters of the above on
their "Letter" of every week. The ARRL does good as a
membership organization but sometimes they DO "sin
by omission" on news.

News stories have got to get OUT of the insular "news
world" of amateur radio in order to reach the PUBLIC.

73, Len AF6AY

643. Re: Anetnna Velocity Factor

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-19 11:40:04 UTC
From: who knows <noone@nowhere.nohow.notime>
Message-ID: <4627261c$1@dnews.tpgi.com.au>
Source record: 4848

Have you considered the possibility that the MFJ analyser might be telling
less than the truth?

Keith G Malcolm
VK1ZKM
19 Apr 07

"John Doe" <hgorden@adelphia.net> wrote in message
news:k-SdnbkSj6uchrvbnZ2dnUVZ_gOdnZ2d@adelphia.com...
>I have made a indoor/outdoor STEALTH of sorts, a Multiband HF LOOP
>Antenna, approximately 540ft long (from center connector back around to the
>other side of the connector). I am using 13 gauge - copper - stranded
>plastic cover - wire! Does anybody have a velocity factor chart?
>
> At the present time - my MFJ Antenna Analyzer has it resonating at approx
> 10.5Mhz, and I am trying to get it to resonate at 1.8Mhz (160M).
>
> I need the info to try and figure out how much I need to reduce the
> overall circumference.
>
> 73's
>
> "John Doe" <hgorden@adelphia.net> wrote in message
> news:vfCdnbAvqfvL6LjbnZ2dnUVZ_oqmnZ2d@adelphia.com...
>> Does anybody have a velocity factor chart? I need the information for 13
>> gauge stranded plastic cover?
>> TIA
>> Howard W3CQH
>>
>>
>>
>> ====================================== MODERATOR'S COMMENT: wh2t - Ace
>>
>
>

644. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-19 11:41:27 UTC
From: xxx <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-61CC02.05250419042007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 4749

In article <132b55jg3jt9722@news.supernews.com>,
Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> wrote:

> Yep. So what can we find that *will* impress them? The technical
> challenge of hooking up a computer to a radio? The challenge of being
> able to use a digital mode using only a wetware modem? [I'm pitching CW
> here, for those who might miss it.] Satellites? Helping develop new
> modes of radio communication? The thrill of tossing a CQ out and not
> knowing who will respond?
>
> I honestly do not know. We need to somehow communicate the fact that
> "ham radio" is not synonymous with "talking to someone far away" because
> this generation knows that the way to "talk to someone far away" is to
> simply open their cell phone.
[...]

Once upon a time, ham radio was a great source of innovation. I
remember hearing about how this or that essential device that we now
take for granted was invented / improved upon / perfected / etc. by hams
who did that sort of thing as part of their hobby. It has been a very
long time since I last heard that said. Ham radio ceased to be forward
looking and innovative and has devolved into something more akin to
stamp collecting - interesting to practitioners, useless to the world at
large.

Ham radio will not grow until and unless it is seen to provide value
to the larger community. Once, it was considered to be a source of
competitive advantage to the economy by contributing to the
technological base (a post-Sputnik point of view). My guess is that the
FCC was willing to ignore the complaints of the ARRL and the old Morse
code cultists because they (the FCC) see it that way, as well.

645. Re: Anetnna Velocity Factor

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-19 12:39:30 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <1176986353.067497.277750@l77g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4750

On Apr 18, 9:25 am, "John Doe" <hgor...@adelphia.net> wrote:
> I have made a indoor/outdoor STEALTH of sorts, a Multiband HF LOOP Antenna,
> approximately 540ft long (from center connector back around to the other
> side of the connector). I am using 13 gauge - copper - stranded plastic
> cover - wire! Does anybody have a velocity factor chart?
>
> At the present time - my MFJ Antenna Analyzer has it resonating at approx
> 10.5Mhz, and I am trying to get it to resonate at 1.8Mhz (160M).
>
> I need the info to try and figure out how much I need to reduce the overall
> circumference.
>
> 73's
>

It may quite possibly be resonant at more than one frequency. For example, if it is actually resonant at 10.5, it is quite possibly resonant at either 2.1 (i.e. 10.5 divided by 5) or 1.5 (i.e. 10.5 divided by 7). So check in the range of each of these two values with your analyzer to see where you stand.

Dee, N8UZE

646. Re: Anetnna Velocity Factor

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-19 16:10:23 UTC
From: Cecil Moore <nospam@w5dxp.com>
Message-ID: <avMVh.1227$H_.1098@newssvr21.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 4751

John Doe wrote:
> I need the info to try and figure out how much I need to reduce the overall
> circumference.

I asked you for information about your antenna in the other
newsgroup and got no response. We need to know the type
and length of your feedline and the resonant frequency
closest to 1.8 MHz.
--
73, Cecil, w5dxp.com

647. Re: Anetnna Velocity Factor

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-19 16:14:28 UTC
From: Cecil Moore <nospam@w5dxp.com>
Message-ID: <ZyMVh.1228$H_.827@newssvr21.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 4752

Dee Flint wrote:
> It may quite possibly be resonant at more than one frequency. For
> example, if it is actually resonant at 10.5, it is quite possibly
> resonant at either 2.1 (i.e. 10.5 divided by 5) or 1.5 (i.e. 10.5
> divided by 7). So check in the range of each of these two values with
> your analyzer to see where you stand.

Unlike dipoles, loops are resonant on integer multiples
of the fundamental resonant frequency. It is likely to
be resonant near 10.5MHz/6 = 1.75 MHz.
--
73, Cecil, w5dxp.com

648. ARRL Buro Working...

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-20 00:27:57 UTC
From: Dave WB4IUY <support@scootworks.com>
Message-ID: <1177023843.900479.8480@n59g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4753

It's been a while since I posted on the topic. I received a FAT envelope today from the incoming ARRL buro. I don't know what was wrong, but it seems that Dick has it fixed. There were 46 QSL in there, some dating all the way back to 1992! Yipee!

Dave WB4IUY
wb4iuy@teara.org

649. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-20 03:47:36 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1177023159.317193.306470@n59g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4754

xxx <x...@yyy.zzz> wrote on Thu, 19 Apr 2007 07:41:27 EDT:

>Subject: Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

> Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:

>> ... knowing who will respond?
>>
>> I honestly do not know. We need to somehow communicate the fact that
>> "ham radio" is not synonymous with "talking to someone far away" because
>> this generation knows that the way to "talk to someone far away" is to
>> simply open their cell phone.
>
> [...]
>
> Once upon a time, ham radio was a great source of innovation. I
>remember hearing about how this or that essential device that we now
>take for granted was invented / improved upon / perfected / etc. by hams
>who did that sort of thing as part of their hobby. It has been a very
>long time since I last heard that said.

"Once upon a time" is approximately the time period prior to
World War II...the first 44 years of "radio" as a communications
medium. Trying to judge progress in a technology area involving
hobbyists solely by the information contained in hobbyist
publications is inaccurate, if not outright braggadocio by
hobbyists. "Radio" as a communications medium is now 111 years
old. The innovation, invention, and quantum-jumps in increases
of the communications (and radio) arts of the last 67 years have
totally eclipsed those early pioneering days done by everyone
involved with any RF emission activity. Some of the highlights:

1. "Discovery of 'shortwaves' enabling worldwide communications:
Already known by non-hobbyist technologists. Radio amateurs
were forced upwards in frequency use by politics, not
pioneering. It was fortuitous for amateurs, yes, but not
necessarily of their own and objected-to at the time by
amateurs.

2. SSB: Already used in wireline communications by long-distance
telephony providers in the 1920s; use on HF as "carrier" (multi-
channel) service by commercial and government groups in the
1930s.
Single-channel SSB given boost by USAF contracts for such in the
immediate-post-WWII time.

3. Quartz crystal control of frequency: Already known by academics
and other physical standards workers; WWII needs resulted in mass-
production of crystal units reaching a million units per month; synthetic (man-made) quartz crystal growth perfected by industry in the 1950s. Growth techniques helped the semiconductor industry with similar growth of germanium and silicon ingots.

4. VHF FM voice: Pioneering already begun about 1938 by industry to improve Public Safety mobile communications and adopted by military for universal manpack and vehicular radio in WWII; broadcasting use pioneered by Edwin Armstrong in 1930s for broadcasting industry applications, including music.

5. Superheterodyne receivers: Invention of Edwin Armstrong in 1918, led to almost universal use of superheterodyne architecture
in receivers to the present day in all radio services.

6. Quartz and mechanical-torsion-resonator narrow bandpass filters:
Originally developed by telephony industry for "carrier" long-distance wireline and multi-channel RF communications providers; development of "modern filter theory" spurred by this same application plus long-distance frequency-multiplexed microwave radio relay (transcontinental service). Adoption to most radio architectures possible by man-grown quartz crystal blanks (3).

7. "Channelized" (step-increment) frequency control of Rx, Tx:
First wide use in DoD/USAF contracts for post-WWII single-channel SSB, followed shortly thereafter by air carrier and general aviation radionavigation and radio communications.

8. Use of internal ("embedded") microprocessors for general purpose control of function and frequency: Almost simultaneous in both test equipment and various radio communications services beginning about the mid-1970s. Such enabled reduced interior space, number of total components by eliminating mechanical couplings of controls. Adjunct advantage of providing displays of controls settings and mathematical results of some functions heretofore unavailable with older methods.

9. Digital Signal Processing (DSP): Probable first widespread use for submarine and anti-submarine military use, typically SONAR variations. Followed closely by applications to "music synthesizers" and similar (PC sound cards) and consumer electronics and instrumentation displays. This and item (8) made possible by Large Scale Integration of solid-state devices beginning their explosive growth in the mid-1970s.

The preceding items are just a short list of major innovations as they apply to common amateur radio use of today. It does not begin

to cover major innovations in all electronics, including
applications
to medicine and architectural engineering nor the physical
standards
organizations worldwide.

>Ham radio ceased to be forward
>looking and innovative and has devolved into something more akin to
>stamp collecting - interesting to practitioners, useless to the world at
>large.

"Xxx," to paraphrase Hans Brakob, I would "throw that out with
great force."

The activity of amateur radio is basically a hobby, an activity
done primarily for personal enjoyment...worldwide, I might add.
It is a fascinating one, a technically-challenging one, one of
use in communicating with like-minded enthusiasts, local to
worldwide. Hobbies are FUN for their participants. There is
nothing at all "wrong" with having FUN doing anything, whether
stamp collecting, rebuilding classic cars, flying model aircraft
by radio control, or being advisors for Scouts.

Radio amateurs, by and large, are not into amateur radio for the
sake of being inventors, scientific researchers, manufacturers
of radio-electronics devices, or being emergency and disaster
volunteers. They CAN, of course, as can any citizen without an
amateur radio license.

I could cite an equally-long list of "post-Sputnik" innovations
that have appeared in amateur radio use and technology, done by
radio amateurs themselves. Some, if not most, are citizens of
other countries. However, the more widely-used innovations and
inventions has, from the beginning, come from academicians,
engineers and producers in the electronics industry, and
communications providers. The history of all that explosive
growth has been continually documented in hundreds of trade
journals, professional associations, and scientific journals.
It isn't exclusive to appearing in amateur radio interest
publications.

> Ham radio will not grow until and unless it is seen to provide value
>to the larger community. Once, it was considered to be a source of
>competitive advantage to the economy by contributing to the
>technological base (a post-Sputnik point of view).

Please feel free to document all those "advantages to the
economy." I see very few such cases of the last 111 years of
"radio." What I have seen are a number of claims for same
that very conveniently "sin by omission" [of incorrect
attribution to the overall world of radio and electronics]...
something that marketeers know by the simple acronym of "PR."

> My guess is that the
>FCC was willing to ignore the complaints of the ARRL and the old Morse
>code cultists because they (the FCC) see it that way, as well.

I must disagree with that as well. Since the FCC must regulate
ALL United States civil radio RF emissions, they are chartered
to be aware and informed of almost everything in regards to
"radio." They DO that on a technical level, including having an
Office of Engineering and Technology for their own advisement.
The FCC is aware of nearly ALL radio use, not only in the USA
but worldwide (we are globally interconnected in many
communications ways). The FCC also asks for advice on use and
technology and, as chartered by law, input from ALL citizens.
Such "input" is made available to the public at large, freely.

Anyone can fault the FCC for some alleged political bias. That
is frequent and also many-sided. Such is normal in politics,
but it is not per se some "truth." The ARRL ("my" club) is
no more a paragon of truth than any membership organization
and the FCC is not bound to 'obey' the ARRL 'advice' than any
other special-interest group.

The FCC made a decision on a contentious subject in amateur
radio license examinations. The FCC has the final say on who
is licensed and who is not. The public comment period was long
and over 3,700 citizens commented. The FCC took about a year
to reach a decision on the matter, then made it law by legal
means. Let us accept that and go forward.

Len AF6AY

650. Searching for a component source...

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-20 08:58:04 UTC
From: Dave WB4IUY <support@scootworks.com>
Message-ID: <1177042348.695256.275690@q75g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4755

I'm searching for a source/supplier for a component. I'm not looking to buy from someone here, but simply a source for a part for a project. It is a "through-hole" mount pushbutton switch. It needs to be a maintained contact, push-on push-off, SPST, 5a or better rating. The hole diameter needs to be 3/8" (of slightly less), and I'd like it to have a rubber boot on the button to help keep water out.

Any ideas? I've been searching high and low, in digi-key, mcmaster, radio shack, etc...but no luck. Tried every parts book I have... have seen them in the past, but don't remember the company who made them.

Thanks,
Dave WB4IUY

651. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-20 11:22:01 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1177068101.752700.77290@e65g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4756

On Apr 19, 11:47ï¿½pm, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
> xxx <x...@yyy.zzz> wrote on Thu, 19 Apr 2007 07:41:27 EDT:

Due to time limitations, this post will comment on just one of Len's claims:

>   1. "Discovery of 'shortwaves' enabling worldwide communications:
>   Already known by non-hobbyist technologists.

Which ones? And why weren't they *using* those shortwaves before amateurs led the way?

> Radio amateurs
>   were forced upwards in frequency use by politics, not
>   pioneering. It was fortuitous for amateurs, yes, but not
>   necessarily of their own and objected-to at the time by
>   amateurs.

The conventional wisdom of the early professionals in radio was that the longer the wave, the farther it would go along the earth's surface.
The shorter waves were considered useless, or at least unreliable, for long-distance communication, because ionospheric propagation was not known at the time. Long-distance non-amateur radio used waves thousands or tens of thousands of meters long for communications across oceans and beyond. This required enormous antennas and high power levels, all of which were developed for the purpose. The Alexanderson-alternator station SAQ, now a museum that operates a few times per year, is a prime example of the professional state of the art at the time. SAQ operates at 17.2 kHz

After 1912, amateurs were required to use waves no longer than 200 meters. They were further restricted to 1000 watts input, which was very low power by professional long-distance-radio standards.

Most anateurs stayed right at that wavelength, following the professionals' statements that shorter waves were less effective. Some amateurs and non-amateurs conducted experiments at shorter wavelengths but the results were not promising. The radio developments of World War 1 did not materially change the situation.

In those days the "gold standard" of communication was whether the Atlantic Ocean could be crossed. Marconi's claim of transatlantic reception of the single letter "S" was considered a major accomplishment at the time.

In December of 1921, the ARRL sent Paul Godley to the UK to listen for American amateurs on 200 meters. He heard several, and not just coastal stations. But two-way transatlantic communication eluded amateurs on 200 meters.

In November of 1923, documented two-way transatlantic radio communication was achieved on approximately 110 meters by two American and one French amateur, using less than 1000 watts input. This success led to others, with transpacific and antipodal shortwave amateur communications following in short order.

If the effectiveness of shortwave radio was known by nonamateurs, why didn't they use it until after amateurs pointed the way and proved it by their pioneering success?

73 de Jim, N2EY

652. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1549 - April 20, 2007 - Prefeed - Final

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-20 11:43:25 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <E1HepUZ-0004Mt-BP@elasmtp-banded.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 4757
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1549 - April 20, 2007

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1549 with a
release date of Friday, April 20th, 2007 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T.

The space adventure of KE7KDP nears an end as his
QSO total continues to mount. Also, a high seas
rescue radio down-under and the FCC says it only
wants opposition comments on two requests for
reconsideration that ask Morse testing be
restored. We try to sort this one out on Amateur
Radio Newsline report number 1549 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: THE KE7KDP SPACE ADVENTURE DRAWS TO A CLOSE

Dr. Charles Simonyi, KE7KDP, may go down in the
ham radio history books as the most popular space
tourist to ever grace the Amateur Radio
bands. He has been a big hit with everyone with
whom he has held a QSO. Amateur Radio Newsline
producer Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, has been
following the mission from our newsroom in Los Angeles:

--

Space tourist Charles Simonyi, KE7KDP, turned out
to be one of the most active ham radio operators
to visit the International Space Station. Not
only was he involved in several on-orbit
scientific experiments, he also took time to
share his space adventure by ham radio with
school children around the world. One of his
first contacts using the space stations NA1SS ham
gear was April 12th with Fairborn High School in
the city of Fairborn, Ohio. Those students had
some interesting questions for the intrepid space traveler:

--

Actual contact audio - hear it by downloading the
audio version of this newscast at www.arnewsline.org

--

When he wasn't talking to schools, Dr. Simonyi
used his ham radio airtime to give some high
flying DX contacts to radio amateurs on the
ground. This QSO with Dr. Simonyi again
operating as NA1SS took place when he connected
with Zach Schrempp, KM7I. KE7KDP was flying over
Schrempp's home town of Bothell, Washington when the two made contact:

--

KM7I / KE7KDP QSO audio, Hear it by downloading
the audio version of this newscast at www.arnewsline.org

--

A few days later we got to ask KM7I his feelings
about Dr. Simonyi's dedication to ham radio while on-orbit:

--

KM7I: "I think it is great that Dr. Simonyi is
operating the ham radio equipment while on orbit,
both for casual and school contacts. The ARISS
ham radio school contact program is an excellent
experience for many people around the world to
learn more about life in space, and it's great that he is participating in
it."

--

But KM7I was not the only one that Dr. Simonyi
contacted from orbit during that pass. Heres a
condensed version of several other QSO's:

--

Actual contact audio - hear it by downloading the
audio version of this newscast at www.arnewsline.org

--

All in all, it sounds as if Charles Simonyi,
KE7KDP, not only fulfilled his dream of flying in
space but has put space into the hamshack of
anyone who tuned in. And for that a lot of folks here on Earth say thanks.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill
Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the studio in Los Angeles.

--

Depending on when you hear this newscast, Dr.
Simonyi will either be on his way back from his
space adventure or already landed. We say

"welcome home and a job well done. A complete
wrap up on Charles Simonyi's trip to the ISS is
on-line at www.charlesinspace.com (ARNewsline
with audio supplied by KM7I and the ARISS Telebridge Archive)

**

RESCUE RADIO: VK RADIO ENTHUSIAST SAVES TWO IN THE PACIFIC

A radio hobbyist in Australia is credited with
saving the lives of two men battling treacherous
seas. This, during a day-long Good Friday ordeal
in the Pacific Ocean. Roobert Broomhead, VK3KRB, reports::

--

The Port Macquarie News and the Sydney Morning
Herald are reporting how a radio enthusiast
helped save two sailors stranded in wild seas off Newcastle in V-K-2.

Bob Wilson and his friend Mike Ross were sailing
from Queensland to Sydney in when their boats
propeller broke off and jammed against the
rudder. This left the vessel stranded nearly 200
kilometers off the coast with no way for Wilson
and Ross to control its speed or direction.

Enter Harold Ralston. Ralston was out in his
shed about 6.30am on Good Friday when his
25-year-old maritime radio, which he bought for
$50 on eBay a year ago, crackled with a plea from
an operator on a stranded boat:

--

Ralston: "I turned the radios oni¿½I heard the
boat calling for Foster Tuncurry Coastal Patrol,
or anyone who could hear himï¿½he called for 3 or 4 minutes."

--

Ralston is not a ham. In North America he might
best be called a Utility Station monitoring
hobbyist. As a part of his monitoring he listens
to the coastal marine channels. And when he
heard the call for assistance, he knew exactly what to do:

--

Ralston: "No one responded so I replied to
himï¿½.He came back to me straight away and told me
that his predicament and wanted to pass a message
on to Foster Tuncurry Coastal Patrol because he
was overdue. So I took the particulars of what

happened to his boat which was particularly serious in that his propeller shaft had come loose from the gearbox and lodged against the rudder and he did not have any measure of propulsion and he could not steer the boat. So I relayed that to the Foster Tuncurry Coastal Patrol and the Port Macquarie Coastal Patrol and that's what started the ball rolling.

--

Newcastle Water Police responded to the call for help. They soon reached the stricken vessel and began an eight-hour towing mission back to Port Macquarie. The rescue was completed when the two ships reached port at 7am on Easter Saturday. That was about 24 hours after Wilson and Ross put out their call for help that was heard and answered by now rescue radio hero, Harold Ralston.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Robert Broomhead, VK3KRN, of the WIA National News repotting from Australia.

--

The two mariners have called Ralston a hero. Their boat is berthed in port and news reports say that it will stay there until it has been repaired. (WIA News)

**

MORSE: HOSTAGE SAILORS USE CW TO KEEP IN TOUCH

One of the British seamen held hostage in Iran has told how they used Morse code to stay in touch with one another while imprisoned. Felix Scerri, VK4FUQ, reports:

--

Able Seaman Simon Massey revealed they developed a system of 'knocking in and knocking out' during their first week of solitary confinement.

He said: "It was like keeping a mental register - checking off the voices of comrades whenever one of them asked for a toilet break or a cigarette.

"Leading Seaman Chris Coe was next door to my cell. We would just sit here tapping out code. We'd check up on each other, say goodnight, and if we went out of the cell, we would give a little knock when we got back to let each other know we were OK.

"Just knocking with knuckles. Little things like that got us through."

The use of Morse code by prisoners was made famous in the 1962 classic film Birdman Of Alcatraz. It was also used by PoWs in Vietnam.

--

The 14 men and one woman sailor were seized by Iranian warships on March 23rd. It took 13 days to secure their release. (WIA News)

**
Break 1

From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the KA3ZAI simplex bulletin serving Bradenton, Florida.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RESTRUCTURING: FCC INVITES ONLY OPPOSITION COIMMENTS ON TWO MORSE RECONSIDERATION PETITIONS

Back here in the USA, we have one of the strangest stories out of Washington in a long time. It comes from the ARRL Letter which reports that the FCC has invited only opposition comments to two petitions for reconsideration on the Report and Order in WT Docket 05-235. That's the regulatory change that eliminated any Morse code examination to obtain a United States Amateur Radio license.

As expected, there have been several Petitions for Reconsideration filed. One petition calls on the FCC to reinstate the 5 WPM Morse code requirement for Amateur Extra class applicants. The second cites problems with the FCC Electronic Comment Filing System and seeks to have the Commission reopen the proceeding for an additional round of comments.

Now the FCC is essentially saying that communications to the agency in support of either petition is not welcome, Instead, the only folks it wants to hear from are those who oppose the reconsideration efforts. These opposition filings are due at the FCC no later than April 27th with a reply comment date 10 days later. Both petitions are at the FCC website at http://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/prod/ecfs/retrieve.cgi?native_or_pdf=pdf&id_docum
ente18808553
and the other
at

http://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/prod/ecfs/retrieve.cgi?native_or_pdf=pdf&id_docum
ente18808784.
(ARRL Letter)

**

RESCUE RADIO: AMERICAN RED CROSS REFUSES TO
NEGOCIATE ON BACKGROUND CHECKS OF HAMS

The American Red Cross has told the ARRL that it
will not back away from its demand that ham radio
volunteers submit to a background check by a
third party contractor. A check that that could
include a examination of that persons finances.

According to a news item on the ARRL website, a
meeting between the League and Red Cross
officials to discuss the matter lead to am
impasse. One with the Red Cross holding firm to
its position on the right to have its contractor
conduct a background check that could include
personal finance check if it deems it to be
necessary and refusing to modify any aspect of it stance.

In recent days, a growing number of hams have
reconsidered volunteering their services to the
Red Cross because of the potential of having
their personal finances made a part of such a
background check. They say that they are freely
giving of their time to assist the relief agency
and should not be subject to this level of lifestyle scrutiny.

As a result of the American Red Cross
intransigence on the matter the ARRL has
reiterated its earlier recommendation. While not
singling out the American Red Cross by name, the
League suggests that its members carefully review
any consent document that permits a private
organization to conduct a background investigation on that person.

The full story is on-line at League's
website. Its in cyberspace at
www.arrl.org/news/stories/2007/04/16/100/?nc=1 (ARRL)

**

RESCUE RADIO: HAM RADIO NOTED IN SKYWARN ARTICLE

Some really good words about ham radio can be
found in the April 13th issue of NOAA Magazine in
a lengthy story about the Skywarn program.

The piece written by Editor Julie Bedford notes
that for more than 35 years, the Skywarn program

has been helping the National Weather Service gather critical information from the field before, during and even after severe weather events. It also notes that nearly 280,000 trained volunteer storm spotters many of whom are radio amateurs help keep their local communities safe. This, by providing reports of severe and hazardous weather and goes into local training programs conducted by the National Weather service in cooperation with local Amateur Radio clubs.

The complete article is on-line at www.magazine.noaa.gov/stories/mag226.htm. In our opinion, its well worth your time to read. (W7VZD)

**

ENFORCEMENT: DOD COMPLAINS ABOUT INTERFERENCE TO RADAR FROM HAMS

If you own and operate a UHF repeater near Otis Air Force Base in Massachusetts or Beale Air Force Base in California you could eventually be asked to take it off the air by the Department of Defense. This, because it is causing interference to the military's PAVE PAWS radar system that you are likely unaware of. But the ARRL has been made aware of the situation and says it is working with the D-o-D to try to eliminate the interference so that the affected machines can remain in operation. Repeater owner operators in the affected areas should read the complete story on the ARRL website at www.arrl.org (ARRL)

**

ENFORCEMENT: COPPER THEFTS COST FOUR LIVES

Four people have been electrocuted in recent days after trying to steal copper cable that they apparently thought was not in use.

DesignLine.com reports that two New Hampshire men were buried last week after they were electrocuted while taking copper wire from an unoccupied power plant in Tyngsboro, Massachusetts. The bodies were found lying alongside bolt cutters and coils of copper wire. According to law enforcement authorities, the men did not have permission to be on the property.

Their deaths followed the electrocution fatalities in Arkansas of two people attempting to strip copper wire from utility

poles. According to news reports, the price of copper has skyrocketed driven partially by the demand for copper for telecommunications transmission. One report says that the problem has gotten so out of hand that the Arkansas state government has passed three bills that crack down on the theft of scrap metal.

Despite continued upgrades to fiber optic systems, copper is still in heavy use for telecommunications systems, worldwide and the thieves know it. (RF Design, CGC)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: NWS HONORS HAM FOR HIS SKYWARN LINKED REPEATERS

A note of congratulations to Charlie Campbell, KC5EZZ, who has been named to receive the 2007 National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration's 2007 Environmental Hero Award.

Campbell was nominated by the meteorologists at the San Angelo Texas N-W-S office. This, in recognition of the work he has done in linking repeaters to serve the SKYWARN program in his area.

KC5EZZ was scheduled to receive his award on April 24th in Washington D.C.. A few days earlier his friends from the San Angelo National Weather Service office held a Pizza get-together in his honor. (AA5PK)

**

THE SOCIAL SCENE: ARRL 2007 GREAT LAKES DIVISION CONVENTION IN SEPTEMBER

Turning to the ham radio social scene, word that the ARRL 2007 Great Lakes Division Convention will be held on September 22nd at the Sheraton Independence Hotel in Independence, Ohio. Seminars will feature top-name speakers including Bob Heil, K9EID, and Chip Margelli, K7JA, from Heil Sound. There will also be a DX Seminar will be moderated by OPDX Editor Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW, with guests that include Bernie McClenny W3UR of "The Daily DX and Weekly DX" newsletters and John Papay K8YSE of the Swains Island operation. For further information on this one, please visit www.2007gldc.com on the World Wide Web. (E-Mail)

**

THE SOCIAL SCENE: HAMVENTION 2007: "LOCAL CLUBS: THE HEART OF HAM RADIO"

Planners have announced that the theme for the 2007 Dayton Hamvetion is Local Clubs: The Heart of Ham Radio. They say that the Hamvention wants to acknowledge the support that local ham radio clubs around the world provide to their communities and to amateur radio. To that end there are some special plans for clubs at this years Dayton gathering. General Chairman Jim Nies, WX8F, says to keep an eye on www.hamvention.org for the latest developments.

Hamvention 2007 will be held May 18th to the 20th at the Hara Arena in Dayton, Ohio. We hope to see many of you there. (Hamventionï¿½)

**

THE SOCIAL SCENE: EMCOMMERST 2007 IN RENO MAY 4 - 6

And its only a few days until the doors open at Emcommwest 2007. Don Carlson, KQ6FM is in Reno, Nevada, with more:

--

EMCOMMWEST 2007 IS COMING TO THE BIGGEST LITTLE CITY IN THE WORLD, RENO NEVADA MAY 4TH THROUGH THE 6TH. ONCE AGAIN HAMS FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTRY WILL GATHER IN RENO FOR THE ANNUAL ARRL SPECIALTY CONVENTION, BASED ON EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS.

THIS YEAR'S KEYNOTE SPEAKER WILL BE PR GURU AND HELLO CAMPAIGN CREATOR ALLEN PITTS, W1AGP FROM ARRL HQ IN NEWINGTON. ALLEN WILL ALSO DO A FORUM ON BEING AN ARES PIO. OTHER HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE FORUMS ON HOSPITAL SUPPORT, WORKING WITH EOC'S AND FEMA, ICS TRAINING, BUILDING COMM VANS, ATV AND MUCH MORE.

THERE WILL BE VE TESTING, AND A NEW HAM FORUM TO GET THE NEW HAMS STARTED RIGHT. SATURDAY MORNING A HUGE SWAP MEET, AND A SATURDAY NIGHT BANQUET, FEATURING 2 GUEST SPEAKERS ï¿½ HENRY FEINBERG, K2SSQ WHO GAVE ET HIS COMMUNICATOR IN THE MOVIE, AND DENNIS MOCHENBACKER, K7BV, NOTED CONTESTER NOW WITH YAESU RADIO. THERE WILL BE A VENDOR HALL AND LOTS OF DISPLAY COMMUNICATION VEHICLES TOO.

FOR INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION, CHECK THE WEBSITE AT WWW DOT EMCOMMWEST.ORG. OR EMAIL INFO@EMCOMMWEST .ORG.

FOR THE AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE. I'M DON CARLSON, KQ6FM IN RENO.
--

More about Emcommwest is on line at www.emcommwest.org (KQ6FM)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

SCIENCE HISTORY: MORE EINSTEIN LETTERS MADE PUBLIC BY CALTECH

The 10th volume of letters written by or sent to mathematics genius Albert Einstein have been made public under the auspices of the Einstein Papers Project at the California Institute of Technology." The Collected Papers of Albert Einstein - Volume 10" contains letters penned by Einstein between 1909 and 1920.

According to Caltech, the letters discuss many scientific issues, including his association with physicists in Europe and efforts to further confirm his theory of general relativity. But volume 10 also contains letters focusing on personal matters, such as the state of his marriage and his relationship with his sons. He also discusses the challenges he faced with his newly acquired celebrity status.

The volume was published for Caltech by Princeton University Press. For more information, visit www.einstein.caltech.edu on the World-Wide-Web. (Press Release)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: L-ION BATTERIES FOR YOUR CAR

Japan's Mitsubishi Heavy Industries hopes to start mass production of lithium ion batteries for automotive use in 2010. These rechargeable batteries would be sold to auto makers for use in electric and gas-electric hybrid vehicles.

Sanyo Electric which supplies nickel metal hydride batteries to Honda and Ford is also developing the technology. Also getting into the act are electronics conglomerate Hitachi, car battery manufacturer Yuasa Corp and electronic parts maker Murata Manufacturing.

Lithium ion batteries are more compact than nickel metal hydride batteries, contributing to fuel efficiency. But safety concerns such as overheating remain and the technology is still considered too expensive by many. (Power News)

**

OPRERATING EVENTS: THE 2007 SBMS 2 GHZ AND UP CONTEST MAY 12 - 13

On the air, the 2007 San Bernardino Microwave Society 2GHz and Up Club Contest runs from 6 a.m. on May 12 to 8 p.m. May 13 local time. This is a club competition in which members tally up their scores and add them with other members' scores to make up a club score. Logs go via regular mail only to Pat Coker, N6RMJ, 40916 179th Street, Lancaster CA 93535. For more information, rules and past scores see the www.ham-radio.com/sbms (SBMS)

**

OPRERATING EVENTS: ARMAD HAM IT UP FOR THE TROOPS - MAY 26th

The next ARMAD will "Ham It Up For The Troops" operating event takes on May 26, beginning at 9 a.m. Eastern time ARMAD has conducted this special event for the past three years. It's primary purpose is to let those that sacrifice know that we support them. More about ARMAD and the "Ham It Up For The Troops" event is on line at www.armad.net (ARMAD)

**

OPRERATING EVENTS: INTERNATIONAL MARCONI DAY

Several U-K special event stations will be on the air April 28th to celebrate International Marconi Day and hams world-wide are invited to make contact. These stations will operate on or close to sites where Marconi carried out experiments or where Marconi equipment was used prior to his death in 1937.

Although the event is not a contest, participants can qualify for award certificates by contacting certain stations. Further information can be found on the web at www.gb4imd.org.uk. (GB2RS)

**

OPRERATING EVENTS: SUBMARINES ON THE AIR

The weekend of April 28th and 29th is the Submarines-On-The-Air Special Event. There will be many submarine based stations on the air using

SSB and C-W on 80 through 10 meters. A special certificate will be available for working 10 of the boats. See http://w0oog.50megs.com/ for more information. (QRZ.com)

**

DX

In D-X, the Swains Island N-8-S DX-pedition made over 115,000 contacts before going Q-R-T on April 15th. An on-line log check is available at www.yt1ad.info/n8s/log.html where you just put in your call to see if you are verified as having worked the operation. Initial QSL cards for N8S shoyuld be going out in about a month. That same group should be back on the air from Samoa as 5W8AA as you hear this report.

DL9MWG will be active from Malta as 9H3RT from April 18th through to the 11th of May. Activity will be on HF, mainly CW. QSL as directed on the air.

And PA5CW will be active portable YB9 from Bali from April 25th to May 10th . QSL this one to his Callbook address.

DL2GAC expects to be active from the Solomon Islands until the 25th of April. No word on what call sign he will be using or his schedule of operation as of this time

Lastly, DS4DRE, is currently active portable from Hong Island. Word is that he will be there until the 30th of June. Activity is on 80 through 10 meters on CW and SSB. QSL via his Callbook address.

(Above from various DX sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: THE MIT BIOSATELLITE PROGRAM - YOUR NAME IN SPACE

And finally this week, for hams and others who cannot afford the million-dollar price tag attached to space tourism, there is an alternative. Just have your name and call go into orbit. Amateur Radio Newsline's Evi Simons tells us how:

--

Hams will be happy to learn that at least their names and callsigns may be able to travel into space for a much smaller fee than that paid by Charles Simmonyi, KE7KDP. It cost him $25 million dollars to visit the I-S-S, but for the rest of us about $140 is a lot more reasonable. And thanks to a group of

Massachusetts Institute of Technology students working on the design of a small research spacecraft to simulate the gravity found on Mars, about 25,000 of us might be able to go into Earth orbit, at least vicariously.

For the past five years, students from MIT's Mars Gravity Biosatellite Program have worked together with others from around the world to create a satellite to study how Martian gravity will affect mammals. They hope their work will pave the way for future manned missions to Mars where gravity is about one-third that here on Earth. And to help fund the project they are selling space on the bird for personal messages.

The entry price is just $35 for one square centimeter of space. There will be at least 100,000 square centimeters of space available, but in order to make the name legible donors will need to buy at least four. That adds up to a mere $140 which is about the street price of a new 2 meter mobile radio.

If you decide to buy in, your name, call and/or logo will be printed on aluminum panels and attached to the spacecraft. The satellite will launch sometime in 2010 and remain on-orbit for 5 weeks. And after that you will be able to say that at least your name and call made it into space.

I'm Evi Simons in New York City for the Amateur Radio Newsline.

--

The Mars Gravity Biosatellite Program is the largest known student-led spacecraft design agenda, with more than 450 student participants from universities around the world. More about it and how to buy space for your name is on-line at www.marsgravity.org (Science Daily, Science OnLine, others)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline@arnewsline.org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only

official website located at
www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or
support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), P.O. Box
660937, Arcadia, California 91066.

Two reminders before we go. First about our
on-line poll regarding your position on the
concept of Regulation by Bandwidth. To take
part, take your web browser
to www.arnewsline.org. Scroll down and watch for
the word "Polls" on the left hand side of the
page. Then click on the box that is closest to
your view. As soon as you cast your vote you will see the current results.

Also, the nominating season for this years
Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year
Award is now open. Any radio amateur age 18 or
younger residing in all 50 United States, plus
Puerto Rico and all 13 Canadian Provinces can
qualify. Full details and nominating forms are
on our special website at www,yhoty.org. Also
see the Vertex-Standard sponsored ad on page 8
of the March issue of QST Magazine.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the
editors desk, I'm Jeff Clark, K8JAC, saying 73
and we thank you for listening.

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653. Re: Searching for a component source...

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-20 12:53:50 UTC
From: notme <nono@no.org>
Message-ID: <yNudnexbjvn5OrXbnZ2dneKdnZydnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4758

"Dave WB4IUY" <support@scootworks.com> wrote in message
news:1177042348.695256.275690@q75g2000hsh.googlegroups.com...
> I'm searching for a source/supplier for a component. I'm not looking
> to buy from someone here, but simply a source for a part for a
> project. It is a "through-hole" mount pushbutton switch. It needs to
> be a maintained contact, push-on push-off, SPST, 5a or better rating.
> The hole diameter needs to be 3/8" (of slightly less), and I'd like it
> to have a rubber boot on the button to help keep water out.
>
> Any ideas? I've been searching high and low, in digi-key, mcmaster,
> radio shack, etc...but no luck. Tried every parts book I have... have
> seen them in the past, but don't remember the company who made them.
>
> Thanks,
> Dave WB4IUY
>

You could also try Jameco, MCM Electronics or Mouser Electronics.

654. Re: Searching for a component source...

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-20 13:45:37 UTC
From: Henry <noone@nowhere.net>
Message-ID: <fq3Wh.6952$Pq5.4309@bignews6.bellsouth.net>
Source record: 4759

It occurs to me that if you dont want to buy from "someone here" you negated
a source !
Having said that, the marine industry has many sources.....also industrial
distributers such as "Allied"....get an industrial trade publication and
request the bingo cards promoted in the rear sections.

Henry

"Dave WB4IUY" <support@scootworks.com> wrote in message
news:1177042348.695256.275690@q75g2000hsh.googlegroups.com...
> I'm searching for a source/supplier for a component. I'm not looking
> to buy from someone here, but simply a source for a part for a
> project. It is a "through-hole" mount pushbutton switch. It needs to
> be a maintained contact, push-on push-off, SPST, 5a or better rating.
> The hole diameter needs to be 3/8" (of slightly less), and I'd like it
> to have a rubber boot on the button to help keep water out.
>
> Any ideas? I've been searching high and low, in digi-key, mcmaster,
> radio shack, etc...but no luck. Tried every parts book I have... have
> seen them in the past, but don't remember the company who made them.
>
> Thanks,
> Dave WB4IUY
>

655. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-20 15:39:39 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f0al7sqic1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4760

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
> On Apr 19, 11:47 pm, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
>> xxx <x...@yyy.zzz> wrote on Thu, 19 Apr 2007 07:41:27 EDT:

>> 1. "Discovery of 'shortwaves' enabling worldwide communications:
>> Already known by non-hobbyist technologists.
>
> Which ones? And why weren't they *using* those shortwaves before
> amateurs led the way?
>
>> Radio amateurs
>> were forced upwards in frequency use by politics, not
>> pioneering. It was fortuitous for amateurs, yes, but not
>> necessarily of their own and objected-to at the time by
>> amateurs.
>
> The conventional wisdom of the early professionals in radio was that
> the longer the wave, the farther it would go along the earth's
> surface.
> The shorter waves were considered useless, or at least unreliable, for
> long-distance communication, because ionospheric propagation was not
> known at the time. Long-distance non-amateur radio used waves
> thousands or tens of thousands of meters long for communications
> across oceans and beyond. This required enormous antennas and
> high power levels, all of which were developed for the purpose. The
> Alexanderson-alternator station SAQ, now a museum that operates a few
> times per year, is a prime example of the professional state of the
> art at the time. SAQ operates at 17.2 kHz

I think you two are both correct. 8^) It looks like a difference of
basic versus applied knowledge. That the shortwaves and much much higher
frequencies were known is not in doubt. Scientists were doing research
in GHz range frequencies surprisingly early on.

Amateurs were forced to use frequencies that unknown to them or the
best minds of the time (could be both at once) discovered a lot of
unexpected characteristics of those higher frequencies.

I think that we'll find that time and again, restrictions lead to
innovation.

> In November of 1923, documented two-way transatlantic radio
> communication was achieved on approximately 110 meters by
> two American and one French amateur, using less than 1000 watts input.
> This success led to others, with transpacific and antipodal shortwave

> amateur communications following in short order.
>
> If the effectiveness of shortwave radio was known by nonamateurs,
> why didn't they use it until after amateurs pointed the way and proved
> it by their pioneering success?

A combination of ignorance (thinking that the higher frequencies were of no use) and simply "betting on the wrong horse". is the answer AFAIAC.

The Amateurs were confined to that area, and the experimentally inclined did their experiments, and viola, a lot of discoveries and advancements were made. It is a great story, and Hams should be proud of that part of their history.

As a more mature technology today, I wouldn't expect many more earth shaking discoveries from Hams.

What is more likely is technological applications, such as my proposed "texter" radio. A VHF (UHF?) text and voice enabled HT like instrument. Text goes out using PSK31, and voice is traditional FM. Seems like an interesting use of a certain almost unused band we all know and love (loathe?)

While the above is only an example, in fact one that many might consider derivative anyhow , I just offer it as a way that Amateurs might get credit for a bit of innovation.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

656. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-20 18:07:03 UTC
From: KH6HZ <kh6hzA@Tarrl.net>
Message-ID: <CY5Wh.18955$OT4.18710@newsfe19.lga>
Source record: 4761

"xxx" <xxx@yyy.zzz> wrote:

> Once upon a time, ham radio was a great source of innovation. I
> remember hearing about how this or that essential device that we now
> take for granted was invented / improved upon / perfected / etc. by hams
> who did that sort of thing as part of their hobby. It has been a very
> long time since I last heard that said. Ham radio ceased to be forward
> looking and innovative and has devolved into something more akin to
> stamp collecting - interesting to practitioners, useless to the world at
> large.

Yes, well, the world was a very different place 50 years ago.

Neither of my parents were required to sign an employment contract which contains a clause to the effect of "anything you invent, even if its on your own time, we own". Yet, such clauses are routine these days in virtually every employment contract I've signed, or seen.

Perhaps we have the lawyerification of America to partially blame?

I'm not really sure. Maybe people are less altruistic today than they were 30+ years ago. Folks today seem to be less likely to invent something and give it away. Instead, they want to invent it, package it, sell it, and make a living/fortune. Can't say there's anything wrong with that, really, most people today would (I think) do the same thing.

Perhaps the popularity of ham radio is declining not because of anything to do with ham radio itself, but instead simply a matter of the changing society in the world as a whole.

73
kh6hz

657. 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-20 18:26:09 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200704201815.l3KIFoH14073@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4762
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

GB2RS NEWS Sunday 22 April

The news headlines

* RSGB AGM next weekend

* Large turnout at Kempton Rally

* Workshop for newcomers to microwaves

On Saturday 28 April the 80th RSGB AGM takes place at The National Galleries of Scotland, Edinburgh. Following the AGM a celebratory dinner will be held in the nearby Paramount Carlton hotel. Details of the AGM and how to obtain tickets for the dinner have been published in RadCom and on the RSGB website. The Lothians Radio Society will be providing talk-in from 10am to 11.45 on channel V44, 145.550MHz FM. They will also be operating an AM talk-in service on 144.550 MHz. Car parking restrictions are enthusiastically enforced in the vicinity of the AGM venue and you are advised to contact the talk-in stations for guidance on where to park.

Hundreds of radio hams queued patiently in the scorching sun waiting for the doors to open for the Kempton Rally on Sunday 15 April. The Kempton rally was host to the new RSGB Top Ham competition sponsored by Kenwood UK, Martin Lynch and Sons and RadioFairs.

Over 750 question papers were issued, and the first 100 who retuned their papers received a free commemorative mug. The top six people with the highest scores entered a panel-style quiz hosted by Eugene Sully, G0VIQ, from Big Brother. The quiz was televised round the show and via ATV repeater GB3HV to an internet stream. After an intense, closely fought battle, Chris, G4IFX, took the RSGB Top Ham Trophy and first prize of a Kenwood TS 480SAT HF transceiver presented by David Wilkins of Kenwood. The runner up, John, G4IRN, received a Kenwood TM-27IE transceiver.

On Saturday 9 June the Torbay Amateur Television and Microwave Group will be hosting the fifth in a series of workshops being held throughout the UK. The event is suitable for anyone interested in the microwave bands and the workshop is specifically aimed at those who have no experience of these frequencies.

The day will be structured around a series of introductory talks and practical demonstrations of microwave stations and operation. There will be a number of experienced microwave operators present during the day so that all your questions can be answered. It is to be held at the

Abbrook Park Sports and Social Club, Kinsteignton, Newton Abbot, Devon from 10am and it is free of charge. Ken Harper, G0EKH, is managing the event and anyone wishing to attend this workshop should contact him via e-mail to norstech@blueyonder.co.uk or by telephone on 01626 202 925.

A British radio amateur who made contact with Charles Simonyi, KE7KDP, on the International Space Station has been featured on BBC television. Matty Cunningham, MD0MAN, was filmed for a report by Abbey Jones on Northwest Tonight. The report featured amateur radio in a very positive light and can be viewed online. There is also a report on the BBC web site. Links to the video and report can be found on the RSGB web site. The International Space Station operates in the Amateur Satellite segment of 2 metres, on

145.800 MHz. Amateurs are requested to respect the band plan and keep this frequency clear for Space operations.

The International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 will be holding its second EmCom Party on the Air on Sunday 5 May between 1100 and 1500 UTC on the 40, 20 and 15m bands using the designated emergency centres of activity. Participants are drawn from its member societies' HQ stations and emergency communications groups in the region. The aim of the event is to raise the profile of amateur radio emergency communications, test how usable these frequencies are across Region 1 and create practices for international emergency communication between Region 1 member societies and emergency groups such as RAYNET. It is emphasised that this is not a contest but an emergency communications exercise.

The aim for participants is to contact IARU Region 1 HQ station OF3F in Finland and also as many other national HQ and emergency communication group stations as possible using SSB.

More information on the UK involvement in this exercise can be obtained from the RAYNET HF Team website at www.raynet-hf.net.

Amateur radio film Tune In will be screened at 8pm on Monday 23 April at Richmix, 35 to 47 Bethnal Green Road, London. The organisers request you book in advance by emailing info@fourcornersfilm.co.uk.

The Venice, Marcon section of the Italian radio amateur association, ARI, is offering an award to mark the 70th anniversary of the passing away of Guglielmo Marconi. The award is open worldwide for contacting or listening to radio stations of ARI Marcon Members.

To achieve the score for the award at least 20 points are needed. Final results will be published in the ARI Magazine Radio Rivista and on their website www.arimarcon.com.

GB3LEX, the 10GHz beacon located at the Leicestershire repeater group site near Junction 22 of the M1 motorway, became operational on its assigned frequency of 10368.955MHz during the afternoon of 15 April. It beams south and has a beamwidth of 90 degrees. The erp is 0.5W. Reception reports would be welcome to Geoff, G4AFJ, telephone 01455

823344.

Since the beginning of 2005 the German telecommunication authorities have licensed a propagation study experiment on medium wave MF. The first license for an experimental station on 440 kHz plus/minus 100 Hz was issued to Walter, DJ2LF under the callsign DI2AG. In May 2006, Geri, DK8KW got the second license to operate under the callsign DI2BO at his home location in Peine near Hannover, locator JO52BH.

Early in 2007 the experimental radio licenses were extended to a second frequency. Besides 440 kHz also 505.1 kHz plus/minus 100 Hz may now be used. This frequency falls into the frequency range of the experimental radio group with the callsign WD2XSH in the U.S. Also, the Swedish authorities have issued one license for this frequency range. This frequency is also very close to the new amateur radio band 501 to 504 kHz which was issued recently on an experimental basis.

DI2BO currently transmits in QRSS3 interrupted by CW identification. For the time being the beacon will remain permanently on 24/7 on 505.015 kHz. Reception reports are welcome, either via DK8KW or direct. Correct reception reports will be confirmed by a special QSL card.

Now the rallies for the coming week. [Note to newsreaders: as usual, exercise your judgement about reading the Sunday 22 April events].

On Sunday 22 April the Lough Erne amateur radio show takes place from 12 noon at the Share Centre, Lisnaskea. Details from Alan, GI6PYP, on 07771 811484. On Sunday 22 April the Nantwich Bunker Trust surplus electronic and electrical sale takes place from 10am at The Secret Nuclear Bunker, French Lane, Nantwich, Cheshire. On Sunday 22 April the Andover Radio Amateur Club spring boot sale takes place from 10am at Wildhern Village Hall, SP11 0JE. On Sunday 29 April the Aldridge and Barr Beacon Radio Club surplus electronic and electrical sale takes place at Aldridge Community Centre, Middlemoor Lane, Aldridgre. Details from Ted, M1EWH, on 01922 614169. On Sunday 29 April the Radio-Active Show takes place from 10am at the Civic Hall, Nantwich. Details from Roger Reeves, M0ROJ, on 07747 618131, or on the web at www.radioactiveshow.co.uk. More details of these and future events can be found on pages 96 and 97 of the April edition of RadCom.

Now for news of special events. From 25 May to 6 June, Mike Bryant, GW6NLP and Colin Kenton, MW0JNI, will be running a special event station, GB100TT, in association with Scarlett Point amateur radio society, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the TT races. It will be based at Scarlett Point Tower in Castletown. For more information log onto www.qsl.net/wars or www.scarlettpoint.com. The Scarborough special events group will kick off their 2007 season of special events stations with GB2EXP over the weekend of 28-29 April. Special event station ON50EU is active until 31 December to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome. Look for special event station OX60AD to be on air throughout April to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the US Air Force and the 56th anniversary of the Defence Treaty between the US and

Denmark for the Protection of Greenland. Activity will be on 40, 20, 17, 15 and 10m using CW, SSB and RTTY. The Flight Refuelling ARS is operating special event station GB2FRA from 7 April to 4 May to commemorate its 25th anniversary. Activity will be on HF, VHF and UHF using CW, SSB and FM. Special event station OX60AD OX Sixty AD will be active on 1 to 30 April to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the US Air Force base at Thule. Expect activity on 6, 10, 15, 17, 20, 40 and 80m using CW, SSB and digital modes. Special station EV5IPY is on the air to celebrate the participation of Belarus in the 4th International Polar Year. Operations are conducted under the aegis of the newly born Department of Polar Researches at the Belorussian Geographic Society.

Special callsign HF40PAZ, will be aired until 30 April and again on 1-30 September, to celebrate the 40th anniversary of club station SP6PAZ. Special event station GB75PW will be active from various sites and locations until 31 December to mark the anniversary of Practical Wireless magazine. And now the HF DX news compiled from 425 DX News, the Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin and other sources.

Fred, PY2XB will sign VP5/PY2XB from Providenciales Island, NA-002 from April 19 to May 3. Operation will be on the low bands QRO on 16080 and 40m, and WARC bands, 30,17 and 12m. Digital modes including BPSK31 and RTTY will be emphasized. Some unusual islands will be activated for the RSGB IOTA contest in July:

* Proti, Greece, EU-158, will be activated by DL7IO and team.

* Great Bernera, UK, EU-010, will be activated by M0LSB.

* Batz, France, EU-105, will be activated as TM7BA, by F5NCU and F6EHJ.

* Quadra, Canada, NA-091, will be activated by VA7AQ.

* South Marsh (USA), NA-140, will be activated by W3RFA. German Islands and Lighthouses week end takes place from 0000 UTC on 28 April to 2400 UTC on 29 April. Numerous stations will operate from Islands and lighthouses, will be valid for applying to the German Islands Award, GIA, and the German Lighthouses Award, GLA. Operation is on all modes and bands. DL9MWG will be active from Malta as 9H3RT from 18 April to 11 May. Activity will be on HF, mainly CW. PA5CW, will be active portable YB9 from Bali from 25 April to 10 May. Mart, DL6UAA, will be active as 3B8MM from Mauritius starting on 5 April for a few weeks. He will operate mostly CW, but will also give SSTV a try. Bernard, DL2GAC, expects to be active from the Solomon Islands until 25 April. Tony, 3D2AG, is active mostly on 40 and 20m CW as FK/FO5RK from Noumea, New Caledonia until the end of April. Kang, DS4DRE, is currently active as DS4DRE/4 from Hong Island until 30 June. Activity will be on 80-10m, CW and SSB Now the contest news. The RGSB 1st 50MHz contest takes place between 0900 and 1200 on 22 April on the 50MHz band, all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST and SN and Locator and Postcode. The RSGB 50 MHz activity contest takes place between 2000 and 2230 on 24 April on the 50MHz band, all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST

and SN and Locator

The Helvetia Contest takes place between 1300 and 1259 on 28 and 29 April on the 1.8-2.8MHz band, CW, SSB and DIGI modes. The exchange takes the form of RST and SN.

You can find out more about contesting, including a calendar of events and rules, on the HF Contest Committee and VHF Contest Committee websites. Links to these can be found on the RSGB website. Suitable freeware logging programs for RSGB HF and VHF contests are available from a variety of sources - see the links section of the contest committee website. Now the solar factual data for 9 April to 15 April compiled by Neil Clarke, G0CAS.

The solar disc was spotless everyday except for the 14th when a small single spot appeared. This ended a 10 day period with no visible sunspots. Solar activity was once again very low with no solar flares taking place. Solar flux levels varied between 68 and 70 units with the average of 69 units. The 90 day solar flux average on the 15th was 75 units, that's two units down on last week. X-ray flux levels remained below the A1 level everyday. Geomagnetic activity was quiet everyday. The 9th was the most disturbed day with an Ap index of 9 units. This was due to a coronal hole, however, the hole was somewhat smaller and further south than during previous rotations. Therefore, the overall impact was far less intense than expected. The average was Ap 5 units. The ACE spacecraft saw solar wind speeds decline from 540 kilometres per second to 340 by the 14th. Particle densities were low throughout. Bz varied between minus 10 and plus 12 nanoTeslas on the 9th and between minus 1 and plus 3 nanoTeslas on the quiet days. And finally the solar forecast. Sunspots could be visible on some days this week but they should be small and produce no solar flares. Solar activity is expected to continue at very low levels. Solar flux levels should be in the low 70's for most of the week. Geomagnetic activity could be unsettled today due to a small coronal hole. Activity should subside to quiet levels but by next weekend activity could increase again due to another coronal hole. This disturbance could be more substantial than this weekend's disturbance. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitudes should be about 18MHz for the south and 15MHz for the north. The darkness hour lows should be around 9MHz. Paths this week to South America should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success rate of about 24MHz. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success rate will be about 18MHz. The best time to try this path will be between 1300 and 2000 hours UTC. Low geomagnetic activity meant that, despite the very low solar flux levels, HF conditions have been as good as could reasonably be expected at this stage of the cycle. This included openings to the N8S Swains Island DXpedition on 14MHZ, around breakfast time. However, propagation on the higher bands was scattered and brief. Unfortunately, Britain is just too far north to benefit from the transequatorial events at up to 28MHz, which is enjoyed in parts of southern Europe and the United States. As the week ended good tropo was reported at VHF and UHF.

And that's all from the GB2RS propagation team

Next, the Local News:

Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses

and website links where known.

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your

transmission.]

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST

and EAST ANGLIA The GB2RS editorial team would like to apologise for missing details of events from Sunday to Tuesday last week.

On Sunday 22 April Basingstoke Amateur Radio Club is having a Foxhunt to find Alan, G8FMH. Contact Frank, M0AEU, by email to barc@2lo.info.

On Sunday 22 April Radio Society of Harrow is having an operating day for GB2DHH at the DeHavilland Heritage Museum, London Colney, from 10am - 2.30pm.

On Monday 23 April Surrey Radio Contact Club is having a planning meeting for VHF NFD 2007. Contact Ray, G4FFY, on 020 8644 7589.

On Tuesday 24 April Home Counties ATV Club is having a technical talk on RSL broadcast station Suzy Radio by John, G8MNY. Contact Dave, M0SAT, on 07780 708849, m0sat@gb3hv.com.

On Tuesday 24 April Horndean and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk by Peter Rogers on lost, abandoned, and curious churches, chapels and burial grounds. Contact Stuart, G0FYX, on 023 9247 2846, or on the web at www.hdarc.co.uk.

On Tuesday 24 April Newbury and District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on making honey. Contact Kevin, G6FOP, on 01635 826 397, g5xv@ntlworld.com.

On Tuesday 24 April Stevenage and District Amateur Radio Society is operating HF. Contact Neil, M0ARH, on 01438 217 077.

On Wednesday 25 April Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

On Wednesday 25 April Dover Radio Club is having an operating and natter night. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk.

On Wednesday 25 April Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on the SX28 by Steve, G7HEP. Contact Jim, M1JJN.

On Wednesday 25 April Farnborough and District Radio Society is having a skittles evening at the Jolly Farmer, Blacknest. Contact Colin,

M3IHS.

On Wednesday 25 April Havering and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk by Alf Morris on the Bethnal Green WW2 disaster. Contact Dave, 2E0EBV, on 07956 594 514.

On Wednesday 25 April Norfolk Amateur Radio Club Bright Sparks DF 100 First Stage on building your Direction kit/informal. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

On Wednesday 25 April Worthing and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on felons and fingerprints. Contact Roy, G4GPX, on 01903 753 893.

On Thursday 26 April Bittern DX Group is having a final planning meeting for the GB4NSR Centenary Scout Camp Felbrigg Hall. Contact Keith, G0GFQ, on 01263 588 506, keith@g0gfq.com, or on the web at www.bittern-dxers.org.uk.

On Thursday 26 April Reading and District Amateur Radio Club is having an evening visit to Martin Lynch's emporium at Chertsey. Contact Pete, G8FRC, on 01189 695 697.

On Thursday 26 April Shefford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on community radio by Alan Waring of Biggles FM. Contact David, G8UOD, on 01234 742 757.

On Friday 27 April Hilderstone Radio and Electronics Club is setting up and testing its top band DF Rx project. Contact Ken, G3JIX, on 01304 813 175, or by email to mick.howland@btinternet.com.

On Friday 27 April Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is having a lecture by Graham Somerville on noise cancelling equipment". Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Friday 27 April Torbay Amateur Radio Society is having a junk auction night. Contact Dave, G6FSP, by email to g6fsp@tars.org.uk.

On Friday 27 April Wimbledon and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air and having a construction evening. Contact Jim, M0CON, on 020 8874 7456.

On Saturday 28 April Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society is celebrating International Marconi Day at Sandford Mill. Contact Martyn, G1EFL, on 01245 469 008.

On Saturday 28 April Dover Radio Club is running a special event station at South Foreland Lighthouse. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk.

On Saturday 28 April Gorleston Amateur Radio Society is meeting at the Short Blue public house, High Street. Contact David, G3OEP, on QTHR, 01493 662 323.

On Saturday 28 April Hastings Electronics and Radio Club is having its spring auction at William Parker School. Contact Gordon, 01424 431 909, or by email to gordon@gsweet.fsnet.co.uk.

On Saturday 28 April Reading and District Amateur Radio Club is running its Foundation License Course. Contact Harry Hogg for details, g3ngx@radarc.org. Contact Pete, G8FRC, on 01189 695 697.

On Sunday 29 April Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is running its Advanced Licence Course at The White Hall Community Centre. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST

The GB2RS editorial team would like to apologise for missing details of events from Sunday to Tuesday last week. On Wednesday 25 April South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is on the air. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282.

On Wednesday 25 April Taunton and District Amateur Radio Club is operating the club station. Contact William, G3WNI, on 01823 666 234, or by email to g3wni@btinternet.com.

On Wednesday 25 April Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is on the air. Contact Tony, G0WMB, by email to tonytsgarc@beeb.net.

On Friday 27 April Guernsey Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on wire antenna design. Contact Phil, GU0SUP.

On Friday 27 April Jersey Amateur Radio Society is having a build a dipole evening. Contact Phil, MJ0JER, by email to gj3dvc@gj3dvc.org.je.

On Saturday 28 April Cornish Radio Amateur Club is celebrating International Marconi Day. Contact Ian, 01872 561 058.

On Saturday 28 April Flight Refuelling Amateur Radio Society is running its Foundation training. Contact Tony, G3PFM, on 01202 622 262.

On Saturday 28 April Poldhu Amateur Radio Club will be operating GB2GM to celebrate International Marconi Day. Contact Keith, G0WYS, on 01326 574 441.

On Sunday 29 April Bailiwick Of Guernsey Raynet Group will take part in the RAYNET Zone 7 Exercise ICE 4. The Control station will be setting up at Beau Sejour from about 9.30am local time and visitors are most welcome. Contact Mike, GU3WHN.

NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS

The GB2RS editorial team would like to apologise for missing details of events from Sunday to Tuesday last week. On Monday 23 April Gloucester Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is operating HF. Contact Anne, 2E1GKY, on 01452 548478, daytime.

On Monday 23 April Stourbridge and District Amateur Radio Society is having an open shack night. Contact John, M1EJG, on 01562 700 513.

On Tuesday 24 April Derby and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air. Contact Martin, G3SZJ, on 01332 556 875.

On Tuesday 24 April Loughborough and District Amateur Radio Club is on the air. Contact Chris, G1ETZ, on 01509 504 319.

On Tuesday 24 April Mid-Warwickshire Amateur Radio Society is having a direction finding simulation by John, M0JDB. Contact Bernard, M1AUK, on 01926 420 913.

On Tuesday 24 April Worcester Radio Amateurs Association is having its AGM. Request details by email to info@wraa.co.uk.

On Wednesday 25 April Telford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a curry and rice social evening. Contact Mike, G3JKX, on 01952 299 677, or by email to mjstreetg3jkx@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Thursday 26 April Stafford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a hints and kinks evening. Contact Graeme, G4NVH, on 01785 604 534, or by email to graeme.boull@ntlworld.com.

On Friday 27 April Coventry Amateur Radio Society is having an introduction to the society's project . Contact John, G8SEQ, on 02476 273 190, or by email to johng8seq@ntlworld.com.

On Friday 27 April Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is having a quiz night. Contact Carl, M0XBE, on 07979 092 447, or on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

On Sunday 29 April Aldridge and Barr Beacon Amateur Radio Club is having a surplus radio and electrical goods sale at the Aldridge Central Hall. Contact Charles, 01922 636 162.

NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND The GB2RS editorial team would like to apologise for missing details of events from Sunday to Tuesday last week. On Sunday 22 April Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is running its Foundation course. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Monday 23 April Thornton Cleveleys Amateur Radio Society is having an auction. Contact Jack, G4BFH, by email to jack.duddington@btinternet.com.

On Tuesday 24 April Chester and District Radio Society I having a talk on medical electronics and engineering by Dr Tony Fisher, the head of electronics and computers at the University of Liverpool. Details on the web at www.chesterdars.org.uk, or by email from info@chesterdars.org.uk.

On Tuesday 24 April Halifax and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air with G2UG at Rishworth. Contact Brenda, 2E0YKS, by email to wrenuk10@yahoo.com.

On Tuesday 24 April Wakefield and District Amateur Radio Society is having its AGM. Contact Dave, G4CLI, on 07748 221 855, or by email to g4cli@hotmail.co.uk.

On Tuesday 24 April Warrington Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on 60 years of Warrington Amateur Radio Club by Mike, M0AWD. Contact Paul, 01925 268 096, or by email to paulg7odj@btinternet.com.

On Wednesday 25 April Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is on the air. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Wednesday 25 April Hornsea Amateur Radio Club is having a DF Night, fox hunting with G4YTV. Contact Steve, G4GPY, on 01482 860 440, or by email to g4gpy@eddiesplace.karoo.co.uk.

On Wednesday 25 April Mid-Cheshire Amateur Radio Society is radio active planning. Contact Richard, G0JIT, by email to rsa@zetnet.co.uk.

On Wednesday 25 April Wirral and District Amateur Radio Club is having an HF technical night with Neil, G4OAR. Contact Tom, G4BKF, on 07050 291 850.

On Thursday 26 April Eden Valley Radio Society is having its first meeting at its new venue, Penrith Royal British Legion Club, at the bottom of Brunswick Road. Details on the web at www.qsl.net/m5txj/evrs.htm.

On Thursday 26 April North Wakefield Radio Club is having a talk on the work of Raynet by Gerald, G3SDY. Contact Nigel, 0113 253 0558.

On Friday 27 April South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is celebrating Samuel Morse's 216th birthday with G3SVW. Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999.

On Friday 27 April Tynemouth Radio Club is having its AGM. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Saturday 28 April Sands Amateur Radio Contest Group is operating GB2AOS at Sunderland Point in celebration the 200th anniversary of the Abolition of Slavery. A special QSL card is being made for the event which will be available to all contacts and Shortwave Listeners. Contact Kev, by email to g6fke@gb7mbc.net.

On Sunday 29 April Great Lumley Amateur Radio And Electronics Society is running its Foundation course. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Sunday 29 April Mid-Cheshire Amateur Radio Society is running Radio Active 2007 and all members are required to help out. Contact Richard, G0JIT, by email to rsa@zetnet.co.uk.

NEWS FOR SCOTLAND The GB2RS editorial team would like to apologise for missing details of events from Sunday to Tuesday last week. On Sunday 22 April Central Scotland FM Group is having its AGM in Bathgate Guide

Hall, Mid Street, Bathgate, West Lothian. Details on the web at www.csfmg.com.

On Sunday 22 April West Of Scotland Amateur Radio Society is having a talk and demo on electronic mapping techniques for SOTA by Jack, GM4COX. Details on the web at www.wosars.org.

On Monday 23 April Dundee Amateur Radio Club is having a club night. Contact Martin, MM0DUN. On Monday 23 April Lothians Radio Society President is having a talk by RSGB President Angus Annan on Captain Kurt Carlsen, W2ZXM, and the sinking of the Flying Enterprise. After lecture he will field a question and answer session on the RSGB and the way ahead. Contact Toby, MM0TSS, on 07739 742 367, or by email to enquiries@lothiansradiosociety.com, or on the web at www.lothiansradiosociety.com.

On Thursday 26 April Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is having an equipment check and on the air evening. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

NEWS FOR WALES

No news items have been received for Wales this week. NEWS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

No news items have been received for Northern Ireland this week. And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast,

prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

658. GB2RS NEWS Sunday 22 April 2007 (Corrected Subject)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-20 18:35:28 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200704201834.l3KIYIu15240@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4763
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

GB2RS NEWS Sunday 22 April

The news headlines

* RSGB AGM next weekend

* Large turnout at Kempton Rally

* Workshop for newcomers to microwaves

On Saturday 28 April the 80th RSGB AGM takes place at The National Galleries of Scotland, Edinburgh. Following the AGM a celebratory dinner will be held in the nearby Paramount Carlton hotel. Details of the AGM and how to obtain tickets for the dinner have been published in RadCom and on the RSGB website. The Lothians Radio Society will be providing talk-in from 10am to 11.45 on channel V44, 145.550MHz FM. They will also be operating an AM talk-in service on 144.550 MHz. Car parking restrictions are enthusiastically enforced in the vicinity of the AGM venue and you are advised to contact the talk-in stations for guidance on where to park.

Hundreds of radio hams queued patiently in the scorching sun waiting for the doors to open for the Kempton Rally on Sunday 15 April. The Kempton rally was host to the new RSGB Top Ham competition sponsored by Kenwood UK, Martin Lynch and Sons and RadioFairs.

Over 750 question papers were issued, and the first 100 who retuned their papers received a free commemorative mug. The top six people with the highest scores entered a panel-style quiz hosted by Eugene Sully, G0VIQ, from Big Brother. The quiz was televised round the show and via ATV repeater GB3HV to an internet stream. After an intense, closely fought battle, Chris, G4IFX, took the RSGB Top Ham Trophy and first prize of a Kenwood TS 480SAT HF transceiver presented by David Wilkins of Kenwood. The runner up, John, G4IRN, received a Kenwood TM-27IE transceiver.

On Saturday 9 June the Torbay Amateur Television and Microwave Group will be hosting the fifth in a series of workshops being held throughout the UK. The event is suitable for anyone interested in the microwave bands and the workshop is specifically aimed at those who have no experience of these frequencies.

The day will be structured around a series of introductory talks and practical demonstrations of microwave stations and operation. There will be a number of experienced microwave operators present during the day so that all your questions can be answered. It is to be held at the

Abbrook Park Sports and Social Club, Kinsteignton, Newton Abbot, Devon from 10am and it is free of charge. Ken Harper, G0EKH, is managing the event and anyone wishing to attend this workshop should contact him via e-mail to norstech@blueyonder.co.uk or by telephone on 01626 202 925.

A British radio amateur who made contact with Charles Simonyi, KE7KDP, on the International Space Station has been featured on BBC television. Matty Cunningham, MD0MAN, was filmed for a report by Abbey Jones on Northwest Tonight. The report featured amateur radio in a very positive light and can be viewed online. There is also a report on the BBC web site. Links to the video and report can be found on the RSGB web site. The International Space Station operates in the Amateur Satellite segment of 2 metres, on

145.800 MHz. Amateurs are requested to respect the band plan and keep this frequency clear for Space operations.

The International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 will be holding its second EmCom Party on the Air on Sunday 5 May between 1100 and 1500 UTC on the 40, 20 and 15m bands using the designated emergency centres of activity. Participants are drawn from its member societies' HQ stations and emergency communications groups in the region. The aim of the event is to raise the profile of amateur radio emergency communications, test how usable these frequencies are across Region 1 and create practices for international emergency communication between Region 1 member societies and emergency groups such as RAYNET. It is emphasised that this is not a contest but an emergency communications exercise.

The aim for participants is to contact IARU Region 1 HQ station OF3F in Finland and also as many other national HQ and emergency communication group stations as possible using SSB.

More information on the UK involvement in this exercise can be obtained from the RAYNET HF Team website at www.raynet-hf.net.

Amateur radio film Tune In will be screened at 8pm on Monday 23 April at Richmix, 35 to 47 Bethnal Green Road, London. The organisers request you book in advance by emailing info@fourcornersfilm.co.uk.

The Venice, Marcon section of the Italian radio amateur association, ARI, is offering an award to mark the 70th anniversary of the passing away of Guglielmo Marconi. The award is open worldwide for contacting or listening to radio stations of ARI Marcon Members.

To achieve the score for the award at least 20 points are needed. Final results will be published in the ARI Magazine Radio Rivista and on their website www.arimarcon.com.

GB3LEX, the 10GHz beacon located at the Leicestershire repeater group site near Junction 22 of the M1 motorway, became operational on its assigned frequency of 10368.955MHz during the afternoon of 15 April. It beams south and has a beamwidth of 90 degrees. The erp is 0.5W. Reception reports would be welcome to Geoff, G4AFJ, telephone 01455

823344.

Since the beginning of 2005 the German telecommunication authorities have licensed a propagation study experiment on medium wave MF. The first license for an experimental station on 440 kHz plus/minus 100 Hz was issued to Walter, DJ2LF under the callsign DI2AG. In May 2006, Geri, DK8KW got the second license to operate under the callsign DI2BO at his home location in Peine near Hannover, locator JO52BH.

Early in 2007 the experimental radio licenses were extended to a second frequency. Besides 440 kHz also 505.1 kHz plus/minus 100 Hz may now be used. This frequency falls into the frequency range of the experimental radio group with the callsign WD2XSH in the U.S. Also, the Swedish authorities have issued one license for this frequency range. This frequency is also very close to the new amateur radio band 501 to 504 kHz which was issued recently on an experimental basis.

DI2BO currently transmits in QRSS3 interrupted by CW identification. For the time being the beacon will remain permanently on 24/7 on 505.015 kHz. Reception reports are welcome, either via DK8KW or direct. Correct reception reports will be confirmed by a special QSL card.

Now the rallies for the coming week. [Note to newsreaders: as usual, exercise your judgement about reading the Sunday 22 April events].

On Sunday 22 April the Lough Erne amateur radio show takes place from 12 noon at the Share Centre, Lisnaskea. Details from Alan, GI6PYP, on 07771 811484. On Sunday 22 April the Nantwich Bunker Trust surplus electronic and electrical sale takes place from 10am at The Secret Nuclear Bunker, French Lane, Nantwich, Cheshire. On Sunday 22 April the Andover Radio Amateur Club spring boot sale takes place from 10am at Wildhern Village Hall, SP11 0JE. On Sunday 29 April the Aldridge and Barr Beacon Radio Club surplus electronic and electrical sale takes place at Aldridge Community Centre, Middlemoor Lane, Aldridgre. Details from Ted, M1EWH, on 01922 614169. On Sunday 29 April the Radio-Active Show takes place from 10am at the Civic Hall, Nantwich. Details from Roger Reeves, M0ROJ, on 07747 618131, or on the web at www.radioactiveshow.co.uk. More details of these and future events can be found on pages 96 and 97 of the April edition of RadCom.

Now for news of special events. From 25 May to 6 June, Mike Bryant, GW6NLP and Colin Kenton, MW0JNI, will be running a special event station, GB100TT, in association with Scarlett Point amateur radio society, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the TT races. It will be based at Scarlett Point Tower in Castletown. For more information log onto www.qsl.net/wars or www.scarlettpoint.com. The Scarborough special events group will kick off their 2007 season of special events stations with GB2EXP over the weekend of 28-29 April. Special event station ON50EU is active until 31 December to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome. Look for special event station OX60AD to be on air throughout April to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the US Air Force and the 56th anniversary of the Defence Treaty between the US and

Denmark for the Protection of Greenland. Activity will be on 40, 20, 17, 15 and 10m using CW, SSB and RTTY. The Flight Refuelling ARS is operating special event station GB2FRA from 7 April to 4 May to commemorate its 25th anniversary. Activity will be on HF, VHF and UHF using CW, SSB and FM. Special event station OX60AD OX Sixty AD will be active on 1 to 30 April to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the US Air Force base at Thule. Expect activity on 6, 10, 15, 17, 20, 40 and 80m using CW, SSB and digital modes. Special station EV5IPY is on the air to celebrate the participation of Belarus in the 4th International Polar Year. Operations are conducted under the aegis of the newly born Department of Polar Researches at the Belorussian Geographic Society.

Special callsign HF40PAZ, will be aired until 30 April and again on 1-30 September, to celebrate the 40th anniversary of club station SP6PAZ. Special event station GB75PW will be active from various sites and locations until 31 December to mark the anniversary of Practical Wireless magazine. And now the HF DX news compiled from 425 DX News, the Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin and other sources.

Fred, PY2XB will sign VP5/PY2XB from Providenciales Island, NA-002 from April 19 to May 3. Operation will be on the low bands QRO on 16080 and 40m, and WARC bands, 30,17 and 12m. Digital modes including BPSK31 and RTTY will be emphasized. Some unusual islands will be activated for the RSGB IOTA contest in July:

* Proti, Greece, EU-158, will be activated by DL7IO and team.

* Great Bernera, UK, EU-010, will be activated by M0LSB.

* Batz, France, EU-105, will be activated as TM7BA, by F5NCU and F6EHJ.

* Quadra, Canada, NA-091, will be activated by VA7AQ.

* South Marsh (USA), NA-140, will be activated by W3RFA. German Islands and Lighthouses week end takes place from 0000 UTC on 28 April to 2400 UTC on 29 April. Numerous stations will operate from Islands and lighthouses, will be valid for applying to the German Islands Award, GIA, and the German Lighthouses Award, GLA. Operation is on all modes and bands. DL9MWG will be active from Malta as 9H3RT from 18 April to 11 May. Activity will be on HF, mainly CW. PA5CW, will be active portable YB9 from Bali from 25 April to 10 May. Mart, DL6UAA, will be active as 3B8MM from Mauritius starting on 5 April for a few weeks. He will operate mostly CW, but will also give SSTV a try. Bernard, DL2GAC, expects to be active from the Solomon Islands until 25 April. Tony, 3D2AG, is active mostly on 40 and 20m CW as FK/FO5RK from Noumea, New Caledonia until the end of April. Kang, DS4DRE, is currently active as DS4DRE/4 from Hong Island until 30 June. Activity will be on 80-10m, CW and SSB Now the contest news. The RGSB 1st 50MHz contest takes place between 0900 and 1200 on 22 April on the 50MHz band, all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST and SN and Locator and Postcode. The RSGB 50 MHz activity contest takes place between 2000 and 2230 on 24 April on the 50MHz band, all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST

and SN and Locator

The Helvetia Contest takes place between 1300 and 1259 on 28 and 29 April on the 1.8-2.8MHz band, CW, SSB and DIGI modes. The exchange takes the form of RST and SN.

You can find out more about contesting, including a calendar of events and rules, on the HF Contest Committee and VHF Contest Committee websites. Links to these can be found on the RSGB website. Suitable freeware logging programs for RSGB HF and VHF contests are available from a variety of sources - see the links section of the contest committee website. Now the solar factual data for 9 April to 15 April compiled by Neil Clarke, G0CAS.

The solar disc was spotless everyday except for the 14th when a small single spot appeared. This ended a 10 day period with no visible sunspots. Solar activity was once again very low with no solar flares taking place. Solar flux levels varied between 68 and 70 units with the average of 69 units. The 90 day solar flux average on the 15th was 75 units, that's two units down on last week. X-ray flux levels remained below the A1 level everyday. Geomagnetic activity was quiet everyday. The 9th was the most disturbed day with an Ap index of 9 units. This was due to a coronal hole, however, the hole was somewhat smaller and further south than during previous rotations. Therefore, the overall impact was far less intense than expected. The average was Ap 5 units. The ACE spacecraft saw solar wind speeds decline from 540 kilometres per second to 340 by the 14th. Particle densities were low throughout. Bz varied between minus 10 and plus 12 nanoTeslas on the 9th and between minus 1 and plus 3 nanoTeslas on the quiet days. And finally the solar forecast. Sunspots could be visible on some days this week but they should be small and produce no solar flares. Solar activity is expected to continue at very low levels. Solar flux levels should be in the low 70's for most of the week. Geomagnetic activity could be unsettled today due to a small coronal hole. Activity should subside to quiet levels but by next weekend activity could increase again due to another coronal hole. This disturbance could be more substantial than this weekend's disturbance. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitudes should be about 18MHz for the south and 15MHz for the north. The darkness hour lows should be around 9MHz. Paths this week to South America should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success rate of about 24MHz. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success rate will be about 18MHz. The best time to try this path will be between 1300 and 2000 hours UTC. Low geomagnetic activity meant that, despite the very low solar flux levels, HF conditions have been as good as could reasonably be expected at this stage of the cycle. This included openings to the N8S Swains Island DXpedition on 14MHZ, around breakfast time. However, propagation on the higher bands was scattered and brief. Unfortunately, Britain is just too far north to benefit from the transequatorial events at up to 28MHz, which is enjoyed in parts of southern Europe and the United States. As the week ended good tropo was reported at VHF and UHF.

And that's all from the GB2RS propagation team

Next, the Local News:

Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses

and website links where known.

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your

transmission.]

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST

and EAST ANGLIA The GB2RS editorial team would like to apologise for missing details of events from Sunday to Tuesday last week.

On Sunday 22 April Basingstoke Amateur Radio Club is having a Foxhunt to find Alan, G8FMH. Contact Frank, M0AEU, by email to barc@2lo.info.

On Sunday 22 April Radio Society of Harrow is having an operating day for GB2DHH at the DeHavilland Heritage Museum, London Colney, from 10am - 2.30pm.

On Monday 23 April Surrey Radio Contact Club is having a planning meeting for VHF NFD 2007. Contact Ray, G4FFY, on 020 8644 7589.

On Tuesday 24 April Home Counties ATV Club is having a technical talk on RSL broadcast station Suzy Radio by John, G8MNY. Contact Dave, M0SAT, on 07780 708849, m0sat@gb3hv.com.

On Tuesday 24 April Horndean and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk by Peter Rogers on lost, abandoned, and curious churches, chapels and burial grounds. Contact Stuart, G0FYX, on 023 9247 2846, or on the web at www.hdarc.co.uk.

On Tuesday 24 April Newbury and District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on making honey. Contact Kevin, G6FOP, on 01635 826 397, g5xv@ntlworld.com.

On Tuesday 24 April Stevenage and District Amateur Radio Society is operating HF. Contact Neil, M0ARH, on 01438 217 077.

On Wednesday 25 April Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

On Wednesday 25 April Dover Radio Club is having an operating and natter night. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk.

On Wednesday 25 April Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on the SX28 by Steve, G7HEP. Contact Jim, M1JJN.

On Wednesday 25 April Farnborough and District Radio Society is having a skittles evening at the Jolly Farmer, Blacknest. Contact Colin,

M3IHS.

On Wednesday 25 April Havering and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk by Alf Morris on the Bethnal Green WW2 disaster. Contact Dave, 2E0EBV, on 07956 594 514.

On Wednesday 25 April Norfolk Amateur Radio Club Bright Sparks DF 100 First Stage on building your Direction kit/informal. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

On Wednesday 25 April Worthing and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on felons and fingerprints. Contact Roy, G4GPX, on 01903 753 893.

On Thursday 26 April Bittern DX Group is having a final planning meeting for the GB4NSR Centenary Scout Camp Felbrigg Hall. Contact Keith, G0GFQ, on 01263 588 506, keith@g0gfq.com, or on the web at www.bittern-dxers.org.uk.

On Thursday 26 April Reading and District Amateur Radio Club is having an evening visit to Martin Lynch's emporium at Chertsey. Contact Pete, G8FRC, on 01189 695 697.

On Thursday 26 April Shefford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on community radio by Alan Waring of Biggles FM. Contact David, G8UOD, on 01234 742 757.

On Friday 27 April Hilderstone Radio and Electronics Club is setting up and testing its top band DF Rx project. Contact Ken, G3JIX, on 01304 813 175, or by email to mick.howland@btinternet.com.

On Friday 27 April Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is having a lecture by Graham Somerville on noise cancelling equipment". Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Friday 27 April Torbay Amateur Radio Society is having a junk auction night. Contact Dave, G6FSP, by email to g6fsp@tars.org.uk.

On Friday 27 April Wimbledon and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air and having a construction evening. Contact Jim, M0CON, on 020 8874 7456.

On Saturday 28 April Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society is celebrating International Marconi Day at Sandford Mill. Contact Martyn, G1EFL, on 01245 469 008.

On Saturday 28 April Dover Radio Club is running a special event station at South Foreland Lighthouse. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk.

On Saturday 28 April Gorleston Amateur Radio Society is meeting at the Short Blue public house, High Street. Contact David, G3OEP, on QTHR, 01493 662 323.

On Saturday 28 April Hastings Electronics and Radio Club is having its spring auction at William Parker School. Contact Gordon, 01424 431 909, or by email to gordon@gsweet.fsnet.co.uk.

On Saturday 28 April Reading and District Amateur Radio Club is running its Foundation License Course. Contact Harry Hogg for details, g3ngx@radarc.org. Contact Pete, G8FRC, on 01189 695 697.

On Sunday 29 April Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is running its Advanced Licence Course at The White Hall Community Centre. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST

The GB2RS editorial team would like to apologise for missing details of events from Sunday to Tuesday last week. On Wednesday 25 April South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is on the air. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282.

On Wednesday 25 April Taunton and District Amateur Radio Club is operating the club station. Contact William, G3WNI, on 01823 666 234, or by email to g3wni@btinternet.com.

On Wednesday 25 April Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is on the air. Contact Tony, G0WMB, by email to tonytsgarc@beeb.net.

On Friday 27 April Guernsey Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on wire antenna design. Contact Phil, GU0SUP.

On Friday 27 April Jersey Amateur Radio Society is having a build a dipole evening. Contact Phil, MJ0JER, by email to gj3dvc@gj3dvc.org.je.

On Saturday 28 April Cornish Radio Amateur Club is celebrating International Marconi Day. Contact Ian, 01872 561 058.

On Saturday 28 April Flight Refuelling Amateur Radio Society is running its Foundation training. Contact Tony, G3PFM, on 01202 622 262.

On Saturday 28 April Poldhu Amateur Radio Club will be operating GB2GM to celebrate International Marconi Day. Contact Keith, G0WYS, on 01326 574 441.

On Sunday 29 April Bailiwick Of Guernsey Raynet Group will take part in the RAYNET Zone 7 Exercise ICE 4. The Control station will be setting up at Beau Sejour from about 9.30am local time and visitors are most welcome. Contact Mike, GU3WHN.

NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS

The GB2RS editorial team would like to apologise for missing details of events from Sunday to Tuesday last week. On Monday 23 April Gloucester Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is operating HF. Contact Anne, 2E1GKY, on 01452 548478, daytime.

On Monday 23 April Stourbridge and District Amateur Radio Society is having an open shack night. Contact John, M1EJG, on 01562 700 513.

On Tuesday 24 April Derby and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air. Contact Martin, G3SZJ, on 01332 556 875.

On Tuesday 24 April Loughborough and District Amateur Radio Club is on the air. Contact Chris, G1ETZ, on 01509 504 319.

On Tuesday 24 April Mid-Warwickshire Amateur Radio Society is having a direction finding simulation by John, M0JDB. Contact Bernard, M1AUK, on 01926 420 913.

On Tuesday 24 April Worcester Radio Amateurs Association is having its AGM. Request details by email to info@wraa.co.uk.

On Wednesday 25 April Telford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a curry and rice social evening. Contact Mike, G3JKX, on 01952 299 677, or by email to mjstreetg3jkx@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Thursday 26 April Stafford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a hints and kinks evening. Contact Graeme, G4NVH, on 01785 604 534, or by email to graeme.boull@ntlworld.com.

On Friday 27 April Coventry Amateur Radio Society is having an introduction to the society's project . Contact John, G8SEQ, on 02476 273 190, or by email to johng8seq@ntlworld.com.

On Friday 27 April Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is having a quiz night. Contact Carl, M0XBE, on 07979 092 447, or on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

On Sunday 29 April Aldridge and Barr Beacon Amateur Radio Club is having a surplus radio and electrical goods sale at the Aldridge Central Hall. Contact Charles, 01922 636 162.

NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND The GB2RS editorial team would like to apologise for missing details of events from Sunday to Tuesday last week. On Sunday 22 April Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is running its Foundation course. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Monday 23 April Thornton Cleveleys Amateur Radio Society is having an auction. Contact Jack, G4BFH, by email to jack.duddington@btinternet.com.

On Tuesday 24 April Chester and District Radio Society I having a talk on medical electronics and engineering by Dr Tony Fisher, the head of electronics and computers at the University of Liverpool. Details on the web at www.chesterdars.org.uk, or by email from info@chesterdars.org.uk.

On Tuesday 24 April Halifax and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air with G2UG at Rishworth. Contact Brenda, 2E0YKS, by email to wrenuk10@yahoo.com.

On Tuesday 24 April Wakefield and District Amateur Radio Society is having its AGM. Contact Dave, G4CLI, on 07748 221 855, or by email to g4cli@hotmail.co.uk.

On Tuesday 24 April Warrington Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on 60 years of Warrington Amateur Radio Club by Mike, M0AWD. Contact Paul, 01925 268 096, or by email to paulg7odj@btinternet.com.

On Wednesday 25 April Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is on the air. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Wednesday 25 April Hornsea Amateur Radio Club is having a DF Night, fox hunting with G4YTV. Contact Steve, G4GPY, on 01482 860 440, or by email to g4gpy@eddiesplace.karoo.co.uk.

On Wednesday 25 April Mid-Cheshire Amateur Radio Society is radio active planning. Contact Richard, G0JIT, by email to rsa@zetnet.co.uk.

On Wednesday 25 April Wirral and District Amateur Radio Club is having an HF technical night with Neil, G4OAR. Contact Tom, G4BKF, on 07050 291 850.

On Thursday 26 April Eden Valley Radio Society is having its first meeting at its new venue, Penrith Royal British Legion Club, at the bottom of Brunswick Road. Details on the web at www.qsl.net/m5txj/evrs.htm.

On Thursday 26 April North Wakefield Radio Club is having a talk on the work of Raynet by Gerald, G3SDY. Contact Nigel, 0113 253 0558.

On Friday 27 April South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is celebrating Samuel Morse's 216th birthday with G3SVW. Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999.

On Friday 27 April Tynemouth Radio Club is having its AGM. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Saturday 28 April Sands Amateur Radio Contest Group is operating GB2AOS at Sunderland Point in celebration the 200th anniversary of the Abolition of Slavery. A special QSL card is being made for the event which will be available to all contacts and Shortwave Listeners. Contact Kev, by email to g6fke@gb7mbc.net.

On Sunday 29 April Great Lumley Amateur Radio And Electronics Society is running its Foundation course. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Sunday 29 April Mid-Cheshire Amateur Radio Society is running Radio Active 2007 and all members are required to help out. Contact Richard, G0JIT, by email to rsa@zetnet.co.uk.

NEWS FOR SCOTLAND The GB2RS editorial team would like to apologise for missing details of events from Sunday to Tuesday last week. On Sunday 22 April Central Scotland FM Group is having its AGM in Bathgate Guide

Hall, Mid Street, Bathgate, West Lothian. Details on the web at www.csfmg.com.

On Sunday 22 April West Of Scotland Amateur Radio Society is having a talk and demo on electronic mapping techniques for SOTA by Jack, GM4COX. Details on the web at www.wosars.org.

On Monday 23 April Dundee Amateur Radio Club is having a club night. Contact Martin, MM0DUN. On Monday 23 April Lothians Radio Society President is having a talk by RSGB President Angus Annan on Captain Kurt Carlsen, W2ZXM, and the sinking of the Flying Enterprise. After lecture he will field a question and answer session on the RSGB and the way ahead. Contact Toby, MM0TSS, on 07739 742 367, or by email to enquiries@lothiansradiosociety.com, or on the web at www.lothiansradiosociety.com.

On Thursday 26 April Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is having an equipment check and on the air evening. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

NEWS FOR WALES

No news items have been received for Wales this week. NEWS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

No news items have been received for Northern Ireland this week. And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast,

prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

659. Re: Searching for a component source...

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-20 19:03:12 UTC
From: richgr@panix.com
Message-ID: <f0b2at$o9i$1@reader2.panix.com>
Source record: 4764

In article <1177042348.695256.275690@q75g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>,
Dave WB4IUY <support@scootworks.com> wrote:
>I'm searching for a source/supplier for a component. I'm not looking
>to buy from someone here, but simply a source for a part for a
>project. It is a "through-hole" mount pushbutton switch. It needs to
>be a maintained contact, push-on push-off, SPST, 5a or better rating.
>The hole diameter needs to be 3/8" (of slightly less), and I'd like it
>to have a rubber boot on the button to help keep water out.

The first place I would look is a marine supply place. If you are not
in a boating area, check:

http://www.westmarine.com
or
http://www.boatersworld.com

and many others.

Also check an electrical supply house or graybar: http://www.graybar.com

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Rich Greenberg N Ft Myers, FL, USA richgr atsign panix.com + 1 239 543 1353
Eastern time. N6LRT I speak for myself & my dogs only. VM'er since CP-67
Canines:Val, Red, Shasta & Casey (RIP), Red & Zero, Siberians Owner:Chinook-L
Retired at the beach Asst Owner:Sibernet-L

660. Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-20 22:00:34 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1177105498.800186.298520@y80g2000hsf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4765

Are we in danger of being the last generation of hams? (And if we are, what can we do to eliminate that danger?)

First, a disclaimer. I'm into my fifth decade of being a licensed amateur, and figure I'm good for 3 or 4 more sunspot cycles of fun. I love amateur radio.

But I worry sometimes.

Our service will only continue to exist so long as the majority of the worlds national governments believe that we bring value to the public in exchange for the incredibly valuable RF spectrum that is entrusted to our use.

I think if the members of ITU collectively asked "Are the hams of the world doing anything which justifies their generous chunks assigned spectrum?" the honest answer would be "Probably not."

What are we going to do about that?

73, de Hans, K0HB

661. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-20 22:56:21 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1177108945.448470.193430@o5g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4766

Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote on Fri, 20 Apr 2007 11:39:39 EDT

>N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>> On Apr 19, 11:47?pm, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:

>>> ? ?1. ?"Discovery of 'shortwaves' enabling worldwide communications:
>>> ? ? ? Already known by non-hobbyist technologists.
>
>> Which ones? And why weren't they *using* those shortwaves before
>> amateurs led the way?
>
> I think you two are both correct. 8^)

Regardless of the question marks added into my quotation (which I never wrote with leading question marks), I will cite two references which are obtainable:

1. Thomas H. White's early radio history web pages which include many references and references with direct links. [try Searching since Mr. White's website has had different names although his content remains intact and expanded]

2. Hugh G. J. Aitken, "The Continuous Wave, Technology and American Radio, 1900-1932," 1985, Princeton University Press. My soft-cover copy is courtesy of Al Walston, W6MJN. In particular Chapter 5. [University libraries might have this]

There is a lesser-known, harder-to-find overall history of electronics (includes radio) published by McGraw-Hill's bi-weekly subscription periodical Electronics, 17 April 1980, a commemorative Fiftieth Anniversary edition (over 900 pp) which takes an all-inclusive overview of all electronics from before the first demonstration of radio in 1896 up to 1980.

From those three I've come to the conclusion that the forcing of radio amateurs in the USA to "below 200 meters" (above 1.5 MHz) was purely and simply politics of the day. It should be no surprise to know that radio use insofar as frequencies was little more than chaotic before 1920, little more than that during the entirety of the 1920s decade. Broadcasters wanted what we now know as the "AM broadcast band" for their exclusive use. Actually, that was a legitimate desire since broadcasters would serve millions of citizens, not just a few thousands of radio amateurs at the time.

Politics of the times did not stop with broadcasters versus amateurs. For almost two decades the United States Navy

wanted to have regulatory control over all radio use! Marconi desired a monopoly on worldwide radio use, including inroads to control of all United States radio production and services. The latter led a circuitous route to the establishment of the Radio Corporation of America, originally as a sort of "patent controller" or "quasi-repository" about radio in the USA. It was a chaotic decade those 1920s, including many patent fights in courts, and not much standardization in theory, components, use, or services to citizens. See the proposal of President Franklin Roosevelt to Congress to establish the Federal Communications Commission to consolidate radio and telegram regulations of 1933 and 1934, found on the FCC website.

>It looks like a difference of
>basic versus applied knowledge. That the shortwaves and much much higher
>frequencies were known is not in doubt. Scientists were doing research
>in GHz range frequencies surprisingly early on.

Heinrich Hertz did his basic research on radio waves using what now appears to be VHF and UHF. He had no equipment to measure such frequencies to any great precision. Lee de Forest did some early work on transmission lines in an attempt to get "a handle on" the behavior of higher radio waves on them. James Clerk Maxwell postulated some physical laws and equations which are applicable to all radio frequencies today, but he had almost NO "test equipment" other than very simple experimental kluges and brilliantly-applied logic to his "Laws."

The first radar experiments and first working radars worked on VHF-UHF. It took a coordinated, consolidated group, forced by needs of winning WWII at the "Radiation Laboratory" to really get into the GHz frequency region.

> Amateurs were forced to use frequencies that unknown to them or the
>best minds of the time (could be both at once) discovered a lot of
>unexpected characteristics of those higher frequencies.

As I originally wrote, it was fortuitous for radio amateurs to be forced upward in frequency beyond 1.5 MHz. Those documented demonstrations "got the ball rolling" for academicians and researchers to study the ionosphere in detail. With scientific proof, the commercial and government users took to HF in great numbers by the 1930s.

> I think that we'll find that time and again, restrictions lead to
>innovation.

That's too broad a statement. Innovation and invention comes from those individuals who dare to "push the [performance] envelope" of most anything. The Wright Brothers weren't exactly "restricted" in anything but laws of physics concerning aerodynamics...so they built their own "wind tunnel" and got

basic information for themselves. But, could anyone have thought ahead 50 years past their first heavier-than-air flight in a wood-wire-fabric biplane, to trans-sonic speed metal aircraft carrying more than two people?

In comparing "radio sets" of various times, examine the size, weight, function, and features of today's amateur radio transceivers with those of 1957. Or antennas, or test equipment for measuring both. The advancement on both technology and use is hand-in-hand and driven by market forces more than anything. It is all interconnected and one innovation can lead to others. James Burke's "Connections" PBS-TV series is an excellent showing of the interconnection of innovation and invention that can lead to surprising improvement in improbably-related activies.

>> If the effectiveness of shortwave radio was known by nonamateurs,
>> why didn't they use it until after amateurs pointed the way and proved
>> it by their pioneering success?
>
> A combination of ignorance (thinking that the higher frequencies were
>of no use) and simply "betting on the wrong horse". is the answer AFAIAC.

The following is a quote from "Single Sideband, Principles and Circuits" by Pappenfus, Bruene, Shoenike (Collins Radio), McGraw-Hill 1964, paragraph 1-4, page 10:

"Since 1923 when the first r-f transatlantic SSB link was established to England, there has been widespread use of pilot-carrier and suppressed-carrier SSB by communications companies. The severe static that prevailed at low frequency limited the usefulness of the early radio links; but until the installation of a v-f cable, no other communication circuit to Europe approached the day-to-day reliability of the 55-kc ground-wave signal. The frequency range below 500 kc because of its freedom from propagation variation and signal "blackout," has a consistency of received signal desireable in maintaining telephone communication. However a number of disadvantages are present that offset the signal reliability of the l-f range. Disadvantage include high power, and need for large, expensive antennas. The problems of vlf communications links and l-f bands forced the expansion into and the development of radio-communication links in the so-called short-wave bands above the [AM] broadcast band."

Page 234 of the "Collins SSB Book" state that one of the first applications of SSB to the HF bands was by the Netherlands Telegraph Administration in 1934. This was the Netherlands to the Netherlands Antilles (off the coast of South America). [diagram of receiver on page 235]

Note: Commercial and government SSB is basically on the USA telephony model C "carrier" frequency-multiplexed four-voice-bandwidth system using 12 KHz bandspace. Single-channel, 3 KHz bandspace SSB did not see great numbers until the USAF SAC requirements were made after WWII's end. "Pilot carrier" is in reference to a between channel tone frequency deliberately sent as an early AFC.

Commercial and government communications users generally plan for long service life, such service having reliability and with known characteristics. While those may appear conservative, those major players in communications aren't in there for fun or experimentation. They are there for the "long haul," both in distance and in time. Such long-lived expectancy must be based on known information supporting its development.

> The Amateurs were confined to that area, and the experimentally
>inclined did their experiments, and viola, a lot of discoveries and
>advancements were made. It is a great story, and Hams should be proud of
>that part of their history.

It is fine to be proud. However, history is the past.

> As a more mature technology today, I wouldn't expect many more earth
>shaking discoveries from Hams.

I disagree. The state of the art of all communications is continually advancing. Radio development didn't stop prior to WWII nor at any time up to now. For example, look at PSK31 by G3PLX, D-Star by the JARL with support of Japanese industry, APRS utilizing GPS downlink, all examples of post-1980 innovation in amateur radio, done by radio amateurs for radio amateurs.

The first reference I have to "repeaters" in radio (other than specific radio relay sets) is in the TM for the military AN/PRC-6 HT (includes a special cable set for that purpose) printed about 1952. The U.S. military has not used "repeatering" of that kind afterwards but look at the large installation of ham repeaters in the USA of today! Adoption and innovation of existing schemes and technology in other radio services is no crime nor moral flaw. I think that should be rewarded and praised equally well; some of those adoptions/innovations are more complex and intellectual (at least to me) than most of the early radio "pioneering" of pre-WWII times.

With today's evidence of explosive growth in all electronics there is a blurring between "who uses what in where" as to both technology and use of radio. Both seem to circulate in most radio services without regard to who was "first" but rather can "I" [in a radio service] use it? Better yet, can

"I" adapt it for "my" radio service? Maybe, maybe not. It might be worth a try. Falling back on "tried-and-true" methods and holding fast to those seems counterproductive...

73, Len AF6AY

662. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-21 02:45:26 UTC
From: xxx <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-B5C895.19322020042007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 4767

AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote:
> xxx <x...@yyy.zzz> wrote on Thu, 19 Apr 2007 07:41:27 EDT:

> > Once upon a time, ham radio was a great source of innovation. I
> >remember hearing about how this or that essential device that we now
> >take for granted was invented / improved upon / perfected / etc. by hams
> >who did that sort of thing as part of their hobby. It has been a very
> >long time since I last heard that said.
>
> "Once upon a time" is approximately the time period prior to
> World War II...the first 44 years of "radio" as a communications
> medium.

I would have extended that time frame into the 1960's or even the
1970's when moonbounce experiments still made the news.

> Trying to judge progress in a technology area involving
> hobbyists solely by the information contained in hobbyist
> publications is inaccurate, if not outright braggadocio by
> hobbyists.

I'm not sure how you got the idea that I had done that.

> "Radio" as a communications medium is now 111 years
> old. The innovation, invention, and quantum-jumps in increases
> of the communications (and radio) arts of the last 67 years have
> totally eclipsed those early pioneering days done by everyone
> involved with any RF emission activity. Some of the highlights:

[... deleted in the interest of brevity]

Your point is not clear. Are you claiming that since those
technologies originated with other radio services that the
contribution by hams was small or are you claiming that since hams
developed and popularized those technologies that hams' contribution
was large?

[...]
> >Ham radio ceased to be forward
> >looking and innovative and has devolved into something more akin to
> >stamp collecting - interesting to practitioners, useless to the world at
> >large.
>
> "Xxx," to paraphrase Hans Brakob, I would "throw that out with
> great force."
>
> The activity of amateur radio is basically a hobby, an activity

> done primarily for personal enjoyment...worldwide, I might add.
> It is a fascinating one, a technically-challenging one, one of
> use in communicating with like-minded enthusiasts, local to
> worldwide. Hobbies are FUN for their participants. There is
> nothing at all "wrong" with having FUN doing anything, whether
> stamp collecting, rebuilding classic cars, flying model aircraft
> by radio control, or being advisors for Scouts.

> Radio amateurs, by and large, are not into amateur radio for the
> sake of being inventors, scientific researchers, manufacturers
> of radio-electronics devices, or being emergency and disaster
> volunteers. They CAN, of course, as can any citizen without an
> amateur radio license.

If you look at the foundational documents of ham radio (FCC Part
97, current test question pools), it is made quite clear that ham
radio exists for the primary purpose of having trained radio
operators available in case of emergency. Contributing to the
advancement of the radio art comes next. Having an enjoyable hobby is
not even mentioned.

[...]

> > Ham radio will not grow until and unless it is seen to provide value
> >to the larger community. Once, it was considered to be a source of
> >competitive advantage to the economy by contributing to the
> >technological base (a post-Sputnik point of view).
>
> Please feel free to document all those "advantages to the
> economy." I see very few such cases of the last 111 years of
> "radio." What I have seen are a number of claims for same
> that very conveniently "sin by omission" [of incorrect
> attribution to the overall world of radio and electronics]...
> something that marketeers know by the simple acronym of "PR."
>
> > My guess is that the
> >FCC was willing to ignore the complaints of the ARRL and the old Morse
> >code cultists because they (the FCC) see it that way, as well.
>
> I must disagree with that as well. Since the FCC must regulate
> ALL United States civil radio RF emissions, they are chartered
> to be aware and informed of almost everything in regards to
> "radio." They DO that on a technical level, including having an
> Office of Engineering and Technology for their own advisement.
> The FCC is aware of nearly ALL radio use, not only in the USA
> but worldwide (we are globally interconnected in many
> communications ways). The FCC also asks for advice on use and
> technology and, as chartered by law, input from ALL citizens.
> Such "input" is made available to the public at large, freely.
>
> Anyone can fault the FCC for some alleged political bias. That

> is frequent and also many-sided. Such is normal in politics,
> but it is not per se some "truth." The ARRL ("my" club) is
> no more a paragon of truth than any membership organization
> and the FCC is not bound to 'obey' the ARRL 'advice' than any
> other special-interest group.

Nevertheless, they have 'outsourced' most of the administrative overhead of ham radio to the ARRL. If you want to talk about the political aspects of the subject, I recently wondered, after looking at some VE testing schedules, what the presidential candidates would say about a situation where the work of a federal agency is performed by a group of volunteers who work out of church basements. The separation of church and state issue alone would provide a basis for a great deal of debate.

> The FCC made a decision on a contentious subject in amateur
> radio license examinations. The FCC has the final say on who
> is licensed and who is not. The public comment period was long
> and over 3,700 citizens commented. The FCC took about a year
> to reach a decision on the matter, then made it law by legal
> means. Let us accept that and go forward.

Your comments don't follow from mine. I stated that the FCC, in effect, 'overruled' the ARRL and the old hams when it eliminated the code test. The key question is 'WHY did the FCC do that.' I am convinced that the FCC perceived the code requirement as being at the root of ham radio's failure to innovate or provide training to subsequent generations. The FCC killed it in order to end ham radio's decades-long stagnation.

663. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-21 02:45:41 UTC
From: Larry <noone@home.com>
Message-ID: <Xns9918CAB9AD0ABnoonehomecom@208.49.80.253>
Source record: 4768

groupk0hb@earthlink.net wrote in news:1177105498.800186.298520
@y80g2000hsf.googlegroups.com:

> Our service will only continue to exist so long as the majority of the
> worlds national governments believe that we bring value to the public
> in exchange for the incredibly valuable RF spectrum that is entrusted
> to our use.
>
>

That might have been true before 2000, but isn't true today. Some spectrum would be lost to services who are interested in VHF/UHF and above. But, noone wants HF any more, as is self evident by the lack of traffic across HF outside the ham bands. Even the broadcasters, like BBC of all entities, have reduced transmissions drastically across HF and migrated to internet servers. Check out http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio. You can listen to ALL the BBC radio stations from that webpage, live! The internet is really cheap to broadcast to...much cheaper than that monster out in the country with the big Sterba curtains. VOA is dead...RAI is dead...Radio Switzerland is dead. (http://www.eviva.ch/ if you like Swiss accordian music...(c;) Even local Swiss stations, like Radio Berner Oberland (http://www.beo.ch) in Interlaken, Bernese Oberland on beautiful Lake of Thun broadcasts 24/7 to the world.

What amuses me is ARRL and the other lobbies haven't just been inundating ITU for the unused parts of HF. They can alwasy steal them back for WW3, if it lasts over 5 days...which I doubt.

Larry W4CSC
--
.

664. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-21 02:46:15 UTC
From: Larry <noone@home.com>
Message-ID: <Xns9918CB60013D0noonehomecom@208.49.80.253>
Source record: 4769

AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote in news:1177108945.448470.193430
@o5g2000hsb.googlegroups.com:

> There is a lesser-known, harder-to-find overall history of
> electronics (includes radio) published by McGraw-Hill's bi-
> weekly subscription periodical Electronics, 17 April 1980,
> a commemorative Fiftieth Anniversary edition (over 900 pp)
> which takes an all-inclusive overview of all electronics from
> before the first demonstration of radio in 1896 up to 1980.
>
>

Keep a sharp eye out on newsgroup alt.binaries.e-book.technical for these
kinds of books, mostly in pdf format. It is an amazing source of ebooks
on all kinds of neat subjects.

(PS - Best not read the nuclear stuff and reports posted there if you're
"in range". I didn't know there were so MANY Little Chernobyls!)

Larry
--
We're all "in range", you know....
.

665. Re: Searching for a component source...

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-21 02:46:41 UTC
From: Dave WB4IUY <support@scootworks.com>
Message-ID: <1177120360.123758.170890@l77g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4770

On Apr 20, 8:45 am, "Henry" <n...@nowhere.net> wrote:
> It occurs to me that if you dont want to buy from "someone here" you negated
> a source !
> Henry

Thanks for the info, Henry. There's an issue with the rules of this
forum with buying/selling stuff, so I just wanted to make it clear
that I was looking for the source for a part, not trying to start a
swapshop of some sort on this forum.

Thanks,
Dave Wb4IUY

666. The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 16 (Apr 20, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-21 03:55:11 UTC
From: ARRL Letter Mailing List <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <200704210129.l3L1TUJH002884@linux11676.dn.net>
Source record: 4771
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

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***************
The ARRL Letter
Vol. 26, No. 16
April 20, 2007
***************

IN THIS EDITION:

* +League aids effort to mitigate repeater interference to military radars
* +FCC proposes drastic cut in vanity call sign fee
* +Ham radio volunteers tackle foul weather in the Northeast
* +Background investigations topic of ARRL, Red Cross discussion
* +Kids connect with space travelers via ham radio, thanks to ARISS
* +McGan Award deadline is May 25
* Solar Update
* IN BRIEF:
This weekend on the radio
ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration
+Swains Island N8S operation tops 100,000 contacts!
+CubeSats launch successfully!

+Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/>

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==>Delivery problems: First see FAQ
<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/faq.html#nodelivery>, then e-mail
<letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
==>Editorial questions or comments only: Rick Lindquist, N1RL,
<n1rl@arrl.org>
============================================================

==>ARRL AIDING EFFORT TO MITIGATE REPEATER INTERFERENCE TO MILITARY RADARS

The ARRL has been working with the US Department of Defense to develop a
plan to mitigate alleged interference from 70 cm ham radio repeaters to
military radar systems on both coasts. Amateur Radio is secondary to
government users from 420 to 450 MHz and must not interfere with primary
users. Citing an increasing number of interference complaints, the US Air
Force has asked the FCC to order dozens of repeater systems to either
mitigate interference to the "PAVE PAWS" radars or shut down. The Commission
has not yet responded. The situation affects 15 repeaters in the vicinity of
Otis Air Force Base on Cape Cod, Massachusetts, and more than 100 repeaters
within some 140 miles of Beale Air Force Base near Sacramento, California.
ARRL Regulatory Information Specialist Dan Henderson, N1ND, stresses that
the Defense Department acknowledges Amateur Radio's value in disasters and
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emergencies and is being extremely cooperative ï¿½ and a wholesale shutdown of US 70 cm Amateur Radio activity is not in the offing.

"The ARRL Lab is working up calculations on each repeater system the Air Force has identified to determine where interference-mitigation techniques offer a reasonable chance of keeping the repeater on the air," Henderson says. "In order for the amateur community as a whole to succeed in this venture, it is going to require the cooperation of all affected repeater owners."

A US Air Force contractor identified the problematic repeater systems last summer, but the situation didn't become critical until the Air Force contacted the FCC a month ago. ARRL officials met with Defense Department representatives in late March to discuss alleged interference to the PAVE PAWS radar sites. This week Henderson contacted Amateur Radio frequency coordinating organizations in both affected areas ï¿½ the Northern Amateur Relay Council of California (NARCC) and the New England Spectrum Management Council (NESMC).

PAVE PAWS is a missile and satellite detection and tracking system, and its name is a half-acronym. "PAVE" is simply an Air Force program name. "PAWS" stands for "Phased Array Warning System." Although PAVE PAWS has been in existence since the late 1970s, the Cape Cod and Sacramento sites are the only remaining operational facilities in the US.

PAVE PAWS facilities occupy essentially the entire 70 cm band -- one factor that makes mitigation difficult. Feeding upward of 1800 active antenna elements, the broadband radar transmitters emit an average power output of more than 145 kW.

As a "first step" to mitigate the interference, the ARRL is recommending that all affected repeater owners reduce power -- possibly to as little as 5 W effective radiated power (ERP). "We understand the difficulty this may cause to owners and users," Henderson said, "but the alternative to operating with a smaller coverage area may be not operating at all." Amateur Radio stations already must abide by a maximum 50 W PEP power limitation in the areas around both Air Force facilities.

Henderson says the League is still seeking further information on the problem. "Until the Defense Department accepts a mitigation plan, repeater owners should exercise patience," he cautioned. "Once the ARRL Lab has completed its propagation calculations, we will be in a better position to provide advice for specific repeaters on a case-by-case basis."

Contact Dan Henderson, N1ND <n1nd@arrl.org> or 860-594-0236, with specific questions or issues associated with this situation.

==>FCC POISED TO CUT VANITY CALL SIGN FEE BY MORE THAN 40 PERCENT

The FCC has proposed reducing the regulatory fee to obtain or retain an Amateur Radio vanity call sign by more than 40 percent starting later this year. In a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM), "Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2007" in MD Docket 07-81 released April

18, the Commission is proposing to cut the fee from its current $20.80 to $11.70. If ultimately adopted, that would mark the lowest fee in the history of the current vanity call sign program. The FCC proposed to collect nearly $290.3 million in FY 2007 regulatory fees.

"These fees are mandated by Congress and are collected to recover the regulatory costs associated with the Commission's enforcement, policy and rulemaking, user information, and international activities," the FCC said. "Consistent with our established practice, we intend to collect these regulatory fees in the August-September 2007 time frame in order to collect the required amount by the end of the fiscal year." Comments on MD Docket 07-81 are due May 3. Reply comments are due May 11.

The vanity call sign fee has fluctuated over the 11 years of the current vanity call sign program -- from a low of $12 to a high of $50. The FCC says it anticipates some 14,700 Amateur Radio vanity call sign "payment units" or applications during the next fiscal year.

The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign but upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new term. The first vanity call sign licenses issued under the current Amateur Radio vanity call sign program that began in 1996 came up for renewal last year.

Those holding vanity call signs issued prior to 1996 are exempt from having to pay the vanity call sign regulatory fee at renewal, however. That's because Congress did not authorize the FCC to collect regulatory fees until 1993. Such "heritage" vanity call sign holders do not appear as vanity licensees in the FCC Amateur Radio database.

Amateur Radio licensees may file for renewal only within 90 days of their license expiration date. The ARRL VEC will process license renewals for vanity call sign holders for a modest fee. The service is available to ARRL members and nonmembers, although League members pay less. Routine, non-vanity renewals continue to be free for ARRL members. Trustees of club stations with vanity call signs may renew either via the ULS or through a Club Station Call Sign Administrator, such as ARRL VEC.

League members should visit the "ARRL Member Instructions for License Renewals or Changes" page <http://www.arrl.org/fcc/memberlicenseinstructions.html>, while the "Instructions for License Renewals or Changes" page <http://www.arrl.org/fcc/licenseinstructions.html> covers general renewal procedures for nonmembers. There's additional information on the ARRL VEC's "FCC License Renewals and ARRL License Expiration Notices" page <http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/renewals.html>.

License application and renewal information and links to the required forms are available on the ARRL Amateur Application Filing FAQ Web page <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/application-filing-faq.html>. The FCC's forms page <http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html> also offers the required forms.

==>NORTHEAST AMATEUR RADIO VOLUNTEERS AID MASSIVE STORM RESPONSE, RECOVERY

Amateur Radio volunteers have been helping the US Northeast to recover from the effects of a huge and punishing nor'easter that generated high winds and caused extensive flooding in many communities -- rural, urban and coastal. While sunny weather has returned to the region, some ARES volunteers remain active.

"This was a long-duration event that impacted the region for several days," said ARRL Eastern Massachusetts Section Emergency Coordinator Rob Macedo, KD1CY, who's also ARES SKYWARN coordinator for the Taunton National Weather Service office.

New Hampshire Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and Eastern Rockingham County ARES have been backing up landline telephone service, including 911, between Nottingham and the New Hampshire Bureau of Emergency Management. Service was knocked out by flooding at a switching station. Operations could last for several days. Even cell service is affected.

The mountains of northern New England received snow, some of which melted, while most of the rest of the region saw heavy rainfall -- three to six inches on the average with isolated higher amounts in southern and central New England. The result was significant flooding of rivers, streams and urban areas, coupled with mudslides and bridge and road washouts.

Amateur Radio ARES, RACES, SKYWARN and Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) volunteers monitored river levels for authorities. The Nashua, Farmington, Connecticut, Blackstone, Pawtuxet, Piscataquog, Shawsheen, Souhegan and Merrimack rivers were among those overspilling their banks. Homes and businesses had to be evacuated in some communities. Flooding of smaller rivers and streams added to the problem. Along the coast, Amateur Radio volunteers reported widespread minor to moderate flooding across coastal eastern Massachusetts Sunday through Wednesday.

In Nantucket, the ocean claimed one home during high tide, while numerous cars got stuck in coastal flooding, and motorists had to be rescued. A few families had to evacuate during high water.

Winds gusting between 60 and 75 MPH brought down trees and power lines, leaving some 45,000 customers without power in Massachusetts alone. Trees and tree limbs also fell on cars and houses, in some instances causing significant damage.

Macedo reports SKYWARN operations at the Taunton NWS office's WX1BOX, were active for 40 hours straight -- from 8 AM Sunday through midnight Tuesday. SKYWARN provided some 500 to 600 reports of snowfall, rainfall, flooding, wind damage and wind-speed measurements. More than a dozen repeaters served formal and informal SKYWARN gatherings.

At the Massachusetts State EOC, RACES' WC1MA was active from 6 PM Sunday through 7 PM Monday, monitoring not only the storm but the Boston Marathon. The race went on despite the rough weather. Conditions improved by afternoon. More than 200 Amateur Radio volunteers deployed for the Boston Marathon while operations for the nor'easter were under way. Eastern Massachusetts ARES went on standby to support storm operations.

"This was a test of our ability to have a large amount of resources deployed for the large storm as well as for a large event, and things went very well." Macedo said.

Western Massachusetts SEC John Ruggiero, N2YHK, reported some localized ARES activity as a result of the nor'easter. Mutual-aid ARES teams in Western Mass were on alert but not activated.

Shelters opened in Greenfield and Leominster to house flood victims, and ham radio volunteers were on hand to support communication. The Greenfield EOC was open for a time. In Northampton flooding caused some apartment dwellers to evacuate. Some roadways throughout the region were washed out or flooded over.

In Connecticut, ARES went on alert to support the American Red Cross and the Department of Emergency Services and Homeland Security. A SKYWARN net fired up to gather reports of flooding, high water levels, power outages and rainfall totals, reported Hartford-Tolland Counties SKYWARN Coordinator Roger Jeanfaivre, K1PAI.

Connecticut SEC Brian Fernandez, K1BRF, said ARES volunteers staffed emergency management facilities in two of the state's five regions, "largely along the shoreline where there has been flooding in low-lying areas." Some evacuations occurred. ARES volunteers also staffed selected EOCs and, briefly, shelters in affected areas. The Connecticut River reportedly crested on Wednesday.

In Northern New Jersey, DEC George Sabbi, KC2GLG, in Bergen County reports that Bergen Amateur Radio Association volunteers supported communication for a Red Cross shelter in Lodi, which housed some five dozen clients. At one point, the shelter lost its telephone service and power was out. Radio amateurs on site used handhelds to facilitate communication until backup power arrived. SKYWARN volunteers also provided weather observations, as more than seven inches of rain caused the closing of many roads throughout the county.

New York City-Long Island SEC Mike Lisenco, N2YBB, said all ARES members through the section were put on standby Saturday in anticipation of the storm, due to hit around midnight. In New York City, the Red Cross called upon DEC John Healy, KA2ABV, to staff up to nine shelters. The Salvation Army also asked ARES to remain ready. A staff of 30 ARES volunteers was assembled for the first 24-hour period, "with more to come if needed," Healy said.

More than eight inches of rain caused scattered flooding in New York City, but predicted 50 MPH winds never materialized. The danger was over by the next day, and New York City District ARES was able to stand down and secure. ARES teams on Long Island also were prepared in advance on April 14. Most of Long Island was spared the brunt of the storm, however.

==>RED CROSS, ARRL DISCUSS BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS

Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) members volunteering to support Red Cross disaster relief or recovery operations would not have to submit to a

Red Cross background check unless their volunteer stints extended beyond seven days. That was the word from American Red Cross officials, who met recently with ARRL representatives. The ARRL has expressed concerns about the Red Cross's background check policy since first learning of it last year. The League posted its most recent position statement <http://www.arrl.org/announce/ARRL-ARC-bg-check.html> on the topic in March.

ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, and Chief Technology Officer Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, met March 20 at American Red Cross offices in Washington, DC, with two attorneys from the Red Cross General Counsel's office and two management-level staff members from Red Cross Disaster Services. ARRL asked the Red Cross staff if ARRL ARES volunteers would be subject to the American Red Cross background check requirement if they provided communication for more than seven days. The position of the Red Cross is that ARES volunteers would not be permitted to provide communications at an American Red Cross disaster site for more than seven days without submitting to the Red Cross background check procedure.

Discussion then turned to the Red Cross's announcement that it would not conduct credit or mode-of-living checks. The League's stated concern has been that the ARC background investigation consent form states that a consumer report and/or an investigative consumer report -- which includes certain credit checks and mode of living checks -- will be obtained on the volunteer signing the form.

The ARRL team asked if the Red Cross would be willing to modify its consent form to limit the authority granted by the person signing the form to criminal background checks only. The Red Cross representatives did not appear willing to modify the current consent form, however.

The ARRL also suggested alternatives to the Red Cross investigation firm, MyBackgroundCheck.com (MBC).

The Red Cross also appears unwilling to accept background checks conducted by other entities, such as law enforcement organizations. The Red Cross based its reluctance on a requirement to compare the methodologies of MBC with those of alternative background-check providers.

Following the meeting, the ARRL reiterated its recommendation that members carefully review any consent document permitting a private organization to conduct a background investigation on that individual. The current Red Cross background check consent form continues to include permission, without further consent from the volunteer, to conduct a consumer report and/or an investigative consumer report.

The Federal Trade Commission and federal statutes define "investigative consumer reports" to include a mode-of-living check as well as certain credit checks.

While the Red Cross has said it won't routinely pull credit reports on background check applicants, ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, has said that just requiring volunteers to authorize procurement of a credit report "is inconsistent with this assurance."

In the course of the background check application process, prospective volunteers must agree to let MBC obtain a wide range of personal information bearing not just on criminal background and creditworthiness but, MBC says, "character, general reputation [and] personal characteristics." MBC advises, "The nature and scope of this disclosure and authorization is all-encompassing."

The ARRL says it won't suggest which organizations or agencies Amateur Radio volunteers should or should not support, but the League stresses that it does wish to facilitate the provision of volunteer services.

The ARC and the ARRL have a Statement of Understanding (SoU), which is up for review this year.

==>HAM RADIO LETS ISS CREW MEMBERS CONNECT WITH SCHOOLS AROUND THE WORLD

The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program is having a very busy and successful April. So far this month, Amateur Radio has made it possible for youngsters at nine schools in the US, the Netherlands, Australia, Hungary and Russia to speak with the astronauts and cosmonauts aboard the ISS as well as with a civilian guest. On April 12 alone, students at three schools got the chance to talk with those aboard the ISS. Two ARISS school contacts April 17 brought the total to 286 since the first ISS crew came aboard in November 2000. ARISS International Secretary Rosalie White, K1STO, notes that civilian space traveler Charles Simonyi, KE7KDP/HA5SIK, has been spending some of his precious time in space on the air.

"Charles Simonyi is making hams happy by getting on the air at various times from the ISS," she said. "Over his homeland of Hungary, he made QSOs with over 20 ham stations using his Hungarian call sign." Simonyi, who paid the Russian space agency some $25 million for his 10-day space adventure, handled four ARISS school contacts during his stay. He'll return to Earth at week's end. Still ahead in April are ARISS school contacts in Italy, Germany, Illinois and Virginia.

The space station's orbital pattern this month enabled ARISS Earth stations in Australia to serve as a conduit for four of the question-and-answer sessions with ISS crew members, including direct contacts with two schools down under. Verizon Conferencing provided two-way teleconferencing links between the stations and the schools for five so-called "telebridge" contacts.

On April 2, youngsters at St Michaels Primary School in New South Wales, Australia, had 17 questions asked and answered by Expedition 14 Commander Mike Lopez-Alegria, KE5GTK, as some 240 people looked on. The event also attracted a TV crew and reporters from two regional newspapers.

Expedition 14/15 astronaut Suni Williams, KD5PLB, told youngsters at Glenden State School in Queensland, Australia, April 4 that human habitation of the ISS is part of a larger effort to understand what happens to the human body in long-term space flight.

"You guys will be the ones who will be venturing off to other planets," she told the students. She noted that ham radio is "always a fallback plan" if other communication systems go down. The contact culminated some nine months of planning at the school.

On April 10, Lopez-Alegria took the helm at NA1SS to answer questions for youngsters at Delta Researchers School, a human spaceflight project for primary schools in the Netherlands, aimed at using human spaceflight as a theme to integrate science and technology into the curriculum.

ARISS was even able this month to put the space program within the reach of 22 youngsters attending the tiny, remote Salt Creek Primary School in South Australia. Williams answered more than a dozen youngsters' questions on April 12. One wanted to know if she'd ever seen a "black hole" in space.

"Thank God we haven't," Williams quipped. "I don't thing we'd see it for very long at all."

On April 16, Patriots Day in her native Massachusetts, Williams became the first human to run the 26-mile Boston Marathon in space. She finished the race on a specially designed treadmill in 4 hours, 23 minutes, 10 seconds.

Simonyi handled the other two April 12 contacts, speaking with students at Fairborn High School in Ohio and at Puskï¿½s Tivadar Tï¿½vkï¿½zlï¿½si Technikum in Budapest, Hungary. "Fantastic PR both for Charles and for ham radio!" Chris Hildebrand, HG5XA, reported afterward. "I could not meet anyone today who had not heard of Charles and Amateur Radio."

Following the contact, Fairborn teacher Barb Skusa commented on the level of excitement at the school. "It was truly a thrill to be part of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," she told ARISS Mentor Charlie Sufana, AJ9N. "I actually had tears in my eyes."

On April 16 Simonyi spoke via ham radio with students at Redmond High School in Redmond, Washington, the home of Microsoft where he once developed software.

"I think that space is one of the best things that humanity does," he told the high schoolers. "And to participate in it -- just even in a very small way -- I think it's a privilege, and getting young people like you involved in science, that's just a bonus."

The following day, a youngster at Cedar Point Elementary School in Bristow, Virginia, quizzed Simonyi about his job assignment in space. "Well, I'm a tourist, actually, so I don't need to have a job," Simonyi responded, "but I signed up for a number of interesting science experiments to help. For example, measuring the radiation in space."

Also on April 17, Expedition 15 Commander Fyodor Yurchikhin, RN3FI, spoke in Russian with students attending Kursk State Technical University in Russia. Yurchikhin formally assumed command of the ISS that same day. The ISS occupants have managed to work around a busy schedule of crew handover activities to accommodate the ARISS school contacts. Simonyi will accompany Expedition 14's Lopez-Alegria and Russian cosmonaut Mikhail Tyurin, RZ3FT,

when they return to Earth April 21 aboard a Soyuz transporter.

ARISS <http://www.rac.ca/ariss> is an international educational outreach, with US participation by ARRL, AMSAT and NASA.

==>DEADLINE LOOMS FOR MCGAN AWARD NOMINATIONS

The deadline is drawing near to nominate candidates for the prestigious Philip J. McGan Memorial Silver Antenna Award for excellence in Amateur Radio public relations. Throughout the year ARRL Public Information Coordinators, Public Information Officers and other public relations volunteers strive to keep Amateur Radio visible in their communities by publicizing special events, activities and accomplishments.

"Their efforts benefit us all," says ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP. "If you know someone who has achieved public relations success on behalf of Amateur Radio, nominating him or her for the McGan award is the perfect way to say 'thank you'."

The 2007 McGan award will go to a radio amateur who's achieved demonstrable success in Amateur Radio public relations and who best exemplifies the volunteer spirit of the late Philip McGan, WA2MBQ, the first chairman of the ARRL Public Relations Committee.

The McGan Award recognizes public relations activities specifically directed at bringing Amateur Radio to the public's attention -- and most often the media's -- in a positive light. This may include preparing news releases, hosting a radio show or being an active public speaker.

If you know of a ham who has gone "above and beyond" to promote Amateur Radio to the public, consider nominating that person for the 2007 award. Nominations are due by Friday, May 25. Full information is on the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/pio/mcgan/>.

==>SOLAR UPDATE

Solar Fluxmeister Tad "The Spudman" Cook, K7RA, Boise, Idaho, reports: We are on the road in the Gem State this week -- another with few or no sunspots. Most days had zero spots, but from time to time a new sunspot will appear, but only briefly. Expect more of the same conditions, with few or no sunspots. Eventually this year we should reach a point where the only place for solar activity to go is up.

April 20, we may see unsettled geomagnetic activity. Geophysical Institute Prague expects unsettled to active geomagnetic conditions for April 20, unsettled for April 21-22, quiet to unsettled on April 23, and quiet April 24-26. The US Air Force predicts April 28 as the next date for active geomagnetic conditions, with a predicted planetary A index of 25.

Sunspot numbers for April 12 through 18 were 0, 0, 11, 0, 0, 12 and 11, with a mean of 4.9. The 10.7 cm flux was 68.3, 68.3 68.2, 69.3, 69.3, 69.2, and 68.8, with a mean of 68.8. Estimated planetary A indices were 8, 2, 4, 4, 1, 8 and 9, with a mean of 5.1. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 7, 1, 3, 2, 0, 6 and 6, with a mean of 3.6.

For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>.

==>IN BRIEF:

* This weekend on the radio: The TARA Skirmish Digital Prefix Contest, the Holyland DX Contest, the ES Open HF Championship, Kids Roundup, the EU Spring Sprint (SSB), the Michigan and Ontario QSO parties, the EA-QRP CW Contest, the YU DX Contest, and the SKCC Weekend Sprint are the weekend of April 21-22. The 432 MHz Spring Sprint is April 25. The NCCC Sprint Ladder is April 27. JUST AHEAD: The Florida and Nebraska QSO parties, the SP DX RTTY Contest and the Helvetia Contest are the April 28-29 weekend. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests/> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more info.

* ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration: Registration remains open through Sunday, May 6 , for these ARRL Certification and Continuing Education (CEC) program online courses beginning Friday, May 18: Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 2 (EC-002), Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 3 (EC-003R2), Antenna Modeling (EC-004), HF Digital Communications (EC-005), VHF/UHF -- Life Beyond the Repeater (EC-008), and Radio Frequency Propagation (EC-011). These courses will also open for registration Friday, May 4, for classes beginning Friday, June 15. To learn more, visit the CCE Course Listing page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html> or contact the CCE Department <cce@arrl.org>.

* Swains Island N8S operation tops 100,000 contacts! The Swains Island N8S DXpedition team made 117,205 QSOs, The Daily DX reports. That's the fourth highest all-time DXpedition contact total. After shutting down April 15, the crew made it back to American Samoa late the following day. The N8S online logs are available <http://logsearch.de/index.php?option=com_wrapper&Itemid=73>, and the DXpedition is expected to upload its log data to Logbook of the World (LoTW). The first N8S QSL cards will be available in about a month. YT1AD will handle cards for N8S. -- The Daily DX

* CubeSats launch successfully! Four CubeSats containing payloads operating on Amateur Radio frequencies were among several spacecraft launched successfully April 17 at 0645 UTC from Baikonur Cosmodrome, Kazakhstan. A Dnepr rocket deployed seven CubeSats plus seven other satellites from Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Ukraine into Earth orbit, and signals from at least two of the four CubeSats have been copied on Earth. Among the spacecraft was Colombia's first satellite. The CubeSats are: CalPoly's PolySats CP3 and CP4, 436.845 MHz and 437.325 MHz respectively, 1200 bps FM AFSK, AX.25, 1 W, operating under an FCC Part-5 Experimental license; University of Louisiana CAPE-1 435.245 MHz, 9600 bps FM FSK AX.25 and CW telemetry during opposing 30-second intervals, 1 W, call sign K5USL (e-mail telemetry reports <jd.harrist@gmail.com>); Universidad Sergio Arboleda, Colombia, Libertad-1,

437.405 MHz, 1200 bps FM AFSK AX.25, 400 mW, call sign 5K3L. CP4 will transmit a "sensor snapshot" every 2 minutes on 437.325 MHz at 1200bps FSK, AX.25. FSK will require using SSB mode for reception. A 6-second CW preamble precedes this transmission. Keplerian elements for the new ham radio birds and additional information will be posted on Cal Poly's CubeSat Web page <http://www.cubesat.org/>. CalPoly offers a CubeSat "Satellite Contact Form" to report telemetry data received from any satellite <http://cubesat.atl.calpoly.edu/pages/missions/dnepr-launch-2/data-packet-form.php>. -- AMSAT

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The ARRL Letter is published Fridays, 50 times each year, by the American Radio Relay League: ARRL--the National Association For Amateur Radio, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111; tel 860-594-0200; fax 860-594-0259; <http://www.arrl.org>. Joel Harrison, W5ZN, President.

The ARRL Letter offers a weekly e-mail digest of essential and general news of interest to active radio amateurs. Visit the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org> for the latest Amateur Radio news and news updates. The ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/> also offers informative features and columns. ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> is a weekly "ham radio newscast" compiled and edited from The ARRL Letter. It's also available as a podcast from our Web site.

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==>How to Get The ARRL Letter

The ARRL Letter is available to ARRL members free of charge directly from ARRL HQ. To subscribe, unsubscribe or change your address for e-mail delivery:
ARRL members first must register on the Members Only Web Site <http://www.arrl.org/members/>. You'll have an opportunity during registration to sign up for e-mail delivery of The ARRL Letter, W1AW bulletins, and other material. To change these selections--including delivery of The ARRL Letter--registered members should click on the "Member Data Page" link (in the Members Only box). Click on "Modify membership data," check or uncheck the appropriate boxes and/or change your e-mail address if necessary. (Check "Temporarily disable all automatically sent email" to temporarily stop all e-mail deliveries.) Then, click on "Submit modification" to make selections effective. (NOTE: HQ staff members cannot change your e-mail delivery address. You must do this yourself via the Members Only Web Site.)

The ARRL Letter also is available to all, free of charge, from these sources:

* ARRLWeb <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>. (NOTE: The ARRL Letter will be posted each Friday when it is distributed via e-mail.)

* The QTH.net listserver, thanks to volunteers from the Boston Amateur Radio Club: Visit Mailing Lists@QTH.Net <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/letter-list>. (NOTE: The ARRL cannot assist subscribers who receive The ARRL Letter via this listserver.)

667. WIANEWS for week commencing April 22 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-21 04:04:35 UTC
From: nationalnews@wia.org.au
Message-ID: <200704210359.l3L3xFI25562@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4772
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,aus.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

This is WIANEWS for week commencing April 22 2007

Jeff Johnson VK4XJJ mobile (pedestrian) is walking from Port
Augusta to Karumba associated with the Deafblind Association of Australia.

His Brother, VK2FWGJ William, says he has passed Hawker, and is carrying a
Yaesu 817 voice AND CW

He would like to be contacted by "local" radio amateurs.

He listens on 7.050MHz at 5:30 EST and 7.060 MHz at 5:45 EST.

We spoke with our intrepid walker VK4XJJ....

((((((pause for audio))))))

AROUND VK in 80 Seconds with VK6FIVE.

VK1

Next Club meeting - Monday 23rd April
At the next general meeting, Keith Malcolm VK1ZKM talks ITU issues.

VK2
Westlakes will have a display stall at the Lemontree Passage Bushfire
Brigades Fete on Saturday 9th June (Queens Birthday weekend in VK2).
The club is seeking persons prepared to assist in setting up the radio
display etc.. Contact Dianne VK2FDNE.

VK3

6 METER BEACON BACK ON AIR!

The NERG 6 meter beacon on 50.295 MHz is back on air with a 10 watt
horizontally polarised omni-directional CW signal.

The VK3RMH 6&10m beacons provide signals to indicate band openings and for
testing antenna and receivers.

The 6 meter FM repeater on 53.550MHz is operational but requires additional
cavity resonators to improve coverage.

VK3RMH is located near Wattle Glen, approximately 25km North East of
Melbourne at maidenhead grid QF22OH.

Please send reports to vk3rmh nerg.asn.au

VK5

David Clegg, Secretary of the Adelaide Hills Amateur Radio Society is organising to train more assessors. If your club in VK5 has any interested people in doing this training please contact David.

At this stage he is only collecting numbers, venue and cost to be advised, however they expect the course to be held in Adelaide rather than interstate.

David Cleg
8278 8108

VK6

This coming Wednesday should have been the Perth YL Lunch, however, it clashes with ANZAC DAY. So the gals decided to fast forward a day to this Thursday April 26th

The venue is not changing nor the time. 12 midday at the Bayswater hotel Railway Prd, in Bayswater.

Before we leave the YLs Lunch... this month is a very special one. As a long awaited milestone has arrived. David Coouch VK6WT (who many of you will fondly remember, as I do, as our teacher in Radio Theory) is turning 90 years of age.

Never been to the Lunch... Well, make this the excuse to turn up and celebrate with David.

>From the teacher of the last generation, to the current Exam Team, & Neil VK6BDO informs me that:

The WA Amateur Exam Service exam dates this month are closing Tomorrow.

Standard & Advanced exams on, next Saturday the 28th. If you want to sit anything please contact Neil with details of which exams you need to sit by the close of work Monday. That's tomorrow! So maybe catch him, on air, after this evenings broadcast.

Foundation course for May on the 19/20 with an exam on the 26th. Well that's full, so if you want to do the foundation license in WA, get in quick, as the 21st & 22nd of July's course (with exam on the 28th of July) is already one third full.

The next VK6 Exams for Standard and Advanced, if you miss next weeks, are on June 30th. Think ahead, book early! Contact Neil VK6BDO.

Finally, WARG members, look out in your post-box... if you haven't already got your 2007 newsletter... it should arrive on Monday, Tuesday at the latest.

That's it, We're around VK, so now back to our "action central newsroom", In Perth, I'm Mark VK6FIVE.

STILL IN PERTH, AND WITH EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO HERE IS KYLEA VK6FXYL

GENERAL!

VK4 Foundation Class gets good roll up.

A Foundation instruction class was held on Saturday April 14th
in Townsville.

Six students attended with instruction provided by Gavin VK4ZZ,
catering by Rob VK4DRT and Maureen Soter and the audiovisual
equipment and radio shack supplied by Nick VK4RQA.

Most of the students are from a cruising yacht background
and some have already had WICEN experience, most
attempted an Assessment Saturday 21.

We are all looking forward to lots of new callsigns on air
in the near future !

The first of a series of SARL Radio Technology in Action days was
held at the University of KwaZulu-Natal yesterday, Saturday, 21 April.

The programme was packed with interesting presentations and demonstrations
and covered a wide spectrum of interest.

The full programme should still be available at www.sarl.org.za

The SARL RTA was an event for anyone who has an interest in technology,
subjects like "The mystery of the frog's thigh" - the story of the
invention of the battery by Tony Voorveld, to "Cognitive Radio, an
emerging technology that may make more intelligent use of the available
radio spectrum" by Dr Gert-Jan van Rooyen.

Other presentations include "Research in ionospheric radio propagation",
"VSWR - the persistent myths" and, "Why build it?".

A great initiative from the SARL.

FUTURE EXAMS

Adelaide Hills Amateur Radio Society (AHARS) is planning to run two
Foundation licence courses. These will be held at the Aviation Museum,
56 Lipson Street Port Adelaide. Two weekends have been booked, they are:
* August 4th and 5th.
* November 3rd and 4th.

The club will ask a nominal charge of $5 per person, plus costs for any
books.

Interested parties can contact the course convenor, Sasi Nayar on
0417 858 547 to reserve a place.

Help amateur radio continue to grow

Do you know someone who could be interested in joining our hobby? Then
encourage them to enrol in a Foundation Licence training course.

Next Foundation Licence course, and Standard / Advanced assessments .....

The CRARC will be undertaking another Foundation Licence course on
the weekend 19th & 20th of MAY.
Also running Standard and Advanced Licence Examinations
and Assessments on the Saturday (19th May) for those who wish to sit.

If you wish to sit either the examinations, or do the F.L. Course,
please contact Alan Hawes VK1WX via email to education@vk1.wia.ampr.org
or by phone (after hours) to 02 6258 2568. Please note that all monies
are to be paid by May 7th 2007 !

In Victoria - the Ballarat Amateur Radio Group is now taking enrolments
for its weekend training course and licence assessments on the 5th & 6th
of May.
For more information please contact Craig Cook VK3CMC phone 5342 2448 or
email vk3cmc@bigpond.com.au

VK5

Adelaide Hills Amateur Radio Society will run Foundation licence's
at the Aviation Museum, 56 Lipson Street Port Adelaide, 2 weekends
August 4th and 5th then November 3rd and 4th.
Contact the course convenor, Sasi Nayar on 0417 858 547

VK6
Re-Capping advice given earlier today by Mark, VK6FIVE:-
Foundation course for May on the 19/20 with an exam on the 26th.
So if you want to do the foundation license in WA, get in quick,
as the 21st & 22nd of July's course (with exam on the 28th
of July) is already one third full.
The next VK6 Exams for Standard and Advanced, if you miss next weeks,
are on June 30th. Think ahead, book early! Contact Neil VK6BDO.

CONGRATULATIONS - RESULTS

FOUNDATION CALLS and F TROOP NET.
Two F calls have come through in the Lismore area, Andrew VK2FAMA and
Nathan VK2FADE. Nathan has volunteered to take on as NCS of their F Troop
Net, 2000K, Wednesday nights on the Summerland 2m repeaters.

In Brissy, OzGear's first 3 courses have added another eleven FL-qualified
people to the VK4 total so far this year so getting close to 10% of VK4's
total current FL count.

>From VK1WIA this is the National News Service -
Tune in today...Focus on Tomorrow

I'M FELIX VK4FUQ AND FROM THE RSGB, AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE AND OUR OWN
WIA INTERNATIONAL SOURCES, WE LOOK AT THE WORLD SCENE IN AMATEUR RADIO.

Still the most popular!

Radio is still the most dominant form of communication despite major
technological advancements, according to the International Amateur Radio
Union (IARU) on Monday.

"Despite the internet and cellular phones, amateur radio continues to
attract people world-wide by providing free international communications
and friendships -- as it does not need pre-established supporting
infrastructure," said one World President of a Radio Society,
Graham Hartlett, of the South African League.

Amateur Radio Day was celebrated on Monday.

The theme for this year's celebrations:
"Amateur Radio: Allowing the youth to connect the world" was chosen because
most amateur radio programmes were geared towards educating the youth.

Amateur radio clubs had helped astronauts and crew members of the
International Space Station speak with youth around the world while in orbit
via the ARISS programme.

IARU
http://www.jarl.or.jp/iaru-r3/

Chairman of IARU Region 3- Michael Owen VK3KI says the great
challenge facing Region 3 is communicating with its
member societies, and through them, to amateurs generally.

The Directors held a meeting in early December last, at the
JARL Headquarters in Tokyo. "We did this because we were very
conscious of the need to make IARU Region 3 meaningful", said
Michael

We needed to get together, as a very new team, to identify
priorities and tasks.

We saw participation in the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity and
particularly its preparation for WRC-07 as an immediate need.

We saw better communicating what were doing as another need.

We decided to continue the production of this Region 3 Newsletter,
so ably managed by Selva 9V1UV, now the responsibility of
Gopal VU2GMN.

We saw the need to circulate very brief news releases, without
detail, just telling people the sort of things that we are doing.

VK3KI Michael Owen went on to say "Because funds of Region 3 come
from every member of every Region 3 member society, we want them
to know what we are doing.
But all of that is not much good if we don't send our circulars,
our newsletters, our releases, even our requests for information
to the right address, or if we do, we don't have any responses".

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NEWS FROM ARNEWSLINE

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: SPACE TOURIST ON THE AIR

It cost him an estimated 20 million dollars to get there, but Space tourist Charles Simonyi, KE7KDP, is on the air from the International Space Station Amateur Radio Newsline producer Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, is in our Los Angeles newsroom with the audio of some of his first contacts:

Simonyi: "November Alpha One Sierra Sierra. CQ, CQ, CQ."

As we go to air space tourist Charles Simonyi, KE7KDP, has only been on the International Space Station for a few days. No matter because he seems to have really taken to the idea of talking to people back on mother Earth using Amateur Radio and does it like a pro. Take a listen:

Simonyi: "Kilo Echo 7 please repeater your callsign...Kilo Echo 7 Mike Henry George this is Charles. I hear you loud and clear. And a big 73 for you. Thanks for the contact. QRZ.

The Whiskey 6 stand-by. Whiskey 6 Mike Echo Uniform, my name is Charles and I hear you loud and clear. 73 to you. "

One of the first stations contacted by KE7KDP was Scott Avery, WA6LIE, in Salinas, California. Avery had his recorder running as KE7KDP sent a message of thank you to the ham community which worked with him to get him licensed in time for the flight:

Simonyi: "Well I just want to congratulate the (ham radio) community for the great job that they are doing in performing their charter. As we learned about it (in training) and to thank everybody who helped me to get into the community and helping me along. It is not easy for me and I do the best that I can. So, thanks a lot guys, and I hope I can talk to as many people as possible. Over."

We also got the chance to ask Avery what it was like to talk to Charles Simonyi and relay his message to the ham radio world:

Avery: "Being one of the first to talk to Charles on the International Space Station was definitely an honour and a surprise. I feel very lucky to have had this opportunity and I hope that others enjoy their contacts as much as I did. Its pretty awesome and a once in a lifetime experience."

After they chatted for about a minute, KE7KDP said 73 to Avery and went on to work station after station, almost as if he was on a DX-pedition. In some ways he was and Avery kept tape rolling until the I-S-S faded from view:

Audio of KE7KDP making rapid-fire contacts. Hear it in the MP3 version of this newscast downloadable from www.arnewsline.org

RADIO RULES: THE FCC AND 6.25 kHz NARROWBAND TECHNOLOGY

The Federal Communications Commission has declined to mandate when the Private Land Mobile Service will be directed to adopt 6.25 kHz narrowband spacing between systems, but says that it will eventually happen. And this could be as early as 2011 or 2013. And hams in need

of more repeater channels are likely watching to see how it all pans out. Amateur radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, has more:

If you own an Amateur repeater on any of the bands between 2 meters and 70 centimetres, a decision by the FCC to force users in the Private Land Mobile Service to adopt 6.25 KHz inter-station spacing at some yet to be determined day could eventually impact on ham radio. This is because the operating standards used in commercial service usually work themselves down to ham radio operations over a period of time.

The FCC has made public its Third Report and Order dealing with a mandatory shift to 6.25 KHz ultra-narrowband technology.
The release says that the agency for now does not want to establish a specific fixed date for private land mobile radio systems in the 150 to 174 MHz and 421 to 512 MHz bands to transition to 6.25 kHz. That said, the FCC also says that it plans to have such a transition take place once gear is available and certified for sale. And for that reason, the FCC strongly urges land mobile licensees to consider migrating directly to 6.25 kHz rather than first adopting 12.5 kHz spacing and later making the 6.25 kHz move.

But there are a few caveats. In its announcement, the FCC admitted that 6.25 kHz technology is not mature enough to warrant setting a specific migration schedule. Also, that there are no accepted industry standards for 6.25 kHz, and this could be a problem in regard to interoperability between various users.

But says the FCC also says that it will expeditiously establish a schedule for transition to 6.25 kHz ultra-narrowband once the technology matures to the point that sufficient equipment is available for testing.

What does this mean to hams? While the FCC is not likely to tell radio amateurs that they have to adopt the same technology, it is all but inevitable that some hams will begin looking at 6.25 kHz for their own future repeater operations. This might be especially true in the crowded urban areas like the North-East and in California where waiting lines exist for new repeaters with some hams in that line for several years.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

6.25kHz narrowband will not be seen in the Private Land Mobile Radio for several years, but ham radio experimenters are likely to try it long before then.

RESCUE RADIO: REPORT SAYS CELLPHONES SAFE IN HOSPITALS

A report released has concluded that cellular telephone calls made on cell phones do not affect hospital medical devices. But the same researchers say that store anti-theft alarms might make implanted heart devices misbehave. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, reports:

According to the March issue of Mayo Clinic Proceedings., tests at Rochester, Minnesota hospital showed normal use of cellular telephones caused no noticeable interference with patient care equipment. What came as a surprise was a finding that a portable CD player caused an abnormal electrocardiograph reading when a patient used it near one of the leads of the device.

Most hospitals forbid the use of cell phones. Dr. David Hayes and colleagues said their tests suggest the ban is unmerited.

The researchers tested cellular phones using two different technologies from different carriers, near 192 different medical devices. During 300 tests run over five months, they reported no trouble with the equipment.

But not all communications technology mixes with medical devices. Dr. J. Rod Gimbel of East Tennessee Heart Consultants and Dr. James Cox of the University of Tennessee Medical Centre in Knoxville described two cases in which anti-theft devices apparently caused implanted heart devices to malfunction.

Dr. Gimbel says that one of the patients had a pacemaker and she collapsed after pausing in a store doorway. Another had an implantable cardiac defibrillator that shocked him after he stood near an anti-theft unit. Dr. Gimbel adds that simply moving a person with one of these implanted devices away from the anti-theft device may save their lives.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the studio in Los Angeles.

Regardless of what this report says, it is important to follow the rules that each individual hospital enforces and displays. And if the sign says to turn off your cellular telephone while on the premises, then its best that you do as asked. That goes for your H-T or any other two-way device as well.

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NEWS SOURCED TO THE RSGB NEWS SERVICE AND READ BY G4NJH

Beware bogus emails

Listeners are urged to be cautious of emails claiming to be from the "ARRL.net user support team".

The American Radio Relay League has informed GB2RS that these emails are bogus. There is no such entity as the ARRL.net user group, and the emails originate from outside the US.

The bogus emails contain wording like "We have received reports that your e-mail account has been used to send a large amount of unsolicited commercial email messages during this week" and "We recommend you to follow our instructions in order to keep your computer safe."

On no account follow the instructions in the email. Doing so will actually infect your computer with the MyDoom Trojan worm virus. Your computer will then be used to send out spam emails. Users of the ARRL's email forwarding services are thought to be at most risk of receiving the emails.

For further information, visit the ARRL's website at www.arrl.org

International Museums Weekend award

The seventh International Museums Weekend special event will take place on 16th and 17th June 2007.

Radio amateurs are encouraged to participate in this event by setting up stations in their local museums. Harry, M1BYT, who is organising the event, asks that all those intending to join in should please register their museum via the International Museums Weekend website. He also requests that they send their details to him by e-mail to harry.m1byt@tiscali.co.uk

CONTEST COLUMN - D A T E L I N E - ROB VK5MM

MAY 5 - 6

Westlakes CQ Repeater contest.

In past years this event was spread over one week. However to ensure that working amateurs are not disadvantaged this year the contest will start just past the stroke of midnight on the 4th May and continue until midnight on the 6th May.

The aim of the contest is to encourage more use of at times inactive repeaters.

Definitely a fun event and should not be missed.

2007 VK/TRANSTASMAN CONTEST

80M Phone 12 May 2007
80M CW 26 May 2007
160M Phone 7 July 2007
160M CW 21 July 2007

AUGUST 11/12 Remembrance Day Contest (The RD) wia.org.au

SPECIAL EVENTS, BEACON AND NET ADVICE

Saturday, April 28 is the 20th International Marconi Day.
Several dozen stations in locations with a link to Marconi
will be operating on the day.

The Hornsby and Districts Amateur Radio Club will be operating VK2IMD, the only IMD station in Australasia. They hope to be on all HF bands.

VK2IMD commemorates Ernest Fisk receiving the first direct radio message from Britain to Australia, at Wahroonga in 1918. This message was sent from Marconi's station in Caernarfon, Wales.

For more information look for the GB4IMD website.
Link: http://www.gb4imd.org.uk/

MEDIA WATCH

HAVE YOU DONE ANYTHING TO PROMOTE AMATEUR RADIO THIS WEEK?

Westlakes has certainly been trying for among last weeks callbacks to this the WIA news broadcast was their 1,000 call-sign recorded from the weekly casts on their 2 meter morning session.

On behalf of both the WIA and Westlakes I congratulate all those who have called in to date including the 1,000th VK2HDL for assisting in achieving this milestone.

Well done WestlakesARC

2 stations have topped the 2000 check in mark this WIA year, with 2 broadcasts left to tally.

Adelaide's VK5RAD leads the nation with 2534 Melbourne's VK3BWI network comes 2nd with 2127.

Queensland has 4 outlets each in excess of 1000,
Rockhampton 1009
Bundaberg / Gladstone 1252
Sunshine Coast 1018
Brisbane Sunday mornings on VK4RBN 1391

Perth VK6RAP Sunday mornings clocks 1301

In VK7 Hobart 2 meters has 1655 and in the north Launceston has 980 and should tick over into the 1000 this weekend.

The 2 we would have expected to have reached the 1k milestone early in the year are way behind, being VK2 Sydney 2 meters and Gold Coast mornings.

Please note that Ross Anderson VK4AQ located in Innisfail, is the new contributor for the monthly VK4 column in AR. VK4 Hams, please assist by forwarding news items from your area to Ross, so he can compile the bulletin to send to AR.

Ross's contact details are:

Ross Anderson
PO Box 1511
Innisfail
QLD 4860
Phone 07 40617246
Email: vk4aq@bigpond.net.au

Thanks Ross, for assisting with amateur radio in Queensland, and we look forward to seeing your column in AR.

NOW ROBERT BROOMHEAD - VK3KRB.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- FINAL FRONTIER
AMSAT-VK UNOFFICIAL HF Net.
2nd Sunday each month.
April through October 1000 UTC 3.685 MHz

We heard earlier Space Tourist Charles during our international spot, well Friday weeks successful ARISS amateur radio contact with the Space Tourist and students at Fairborn High School in Ohio USA was in no small way thanks to Australia.

No it didn't come "via the Dish" but as Dr. Charles Simonyi and his ISS passed over Australia, contact was through ARISS telebridge station VK4KHZ located at Glenden QLD.

(((((((pause for audio)))))))

This was the first ARISS contact for Charles and he operated like a real pro, answering 29 questions from the students in 10 minutes and 4 seconds, until the ISS disappeared over the horizon.

For information and assistance on how you can get your local school involved in the ARISS program contact Tony VK5ZAI the Australian coordinator of ARISS.
(Shane Lynd VK4KHZ ARISS Telebridge Station).

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- Internet Linking of Repeaters

NERG News report a program called ElseeMore - EchoLink for Blind Operators has been developed by Tony VK3ZTR (tonywakefield.com.au)

This program assists Blind and Visually Impaired amateurs in operating the popular EchoLink Internet linking program.

Normally EchoLink requires the use of the keyboard and mouse, and the ability to read menus and text displays. ElseeMore is simplifying the user interface. Large screen fonts and simplified text displays can be used by partially sighted operators, while voice prompts are use by totally blind operators to navigate through the EchoLink controls.

ElseeMore can be configured by an assistant (either locally or over the Internet) so that the blind operator can easily access pre-set favourite EchoLink nodes.

Tony says the program has been quite popular not only with blind operators but also operators having 20-20 vision, the large font display and speech announcements are great for monitoring operations from across a room!

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RESCUE RADIO

EMERGENCY FREQUENCIES REGION ONE
21.360 - 18.160 - 14.300 - 7.060 - 3.760 MHz.

IARU Region 1 invites the HQ-stations of its member societies and stations of special emergency communication groups to participate in the "Second EmCom party on the Air" on Saturday, May the 5th, 2007 at 11.00 - 15.00 UTC.

The operation will take place on and near the emergency Centre-of-Activity (CoA) frequencies on 40, 20 and 15 meters (+/-QRM).

The objective of the party is to increase the common interest among member societies in emergency communication, test how usable the CoA frequencies are across Region 1, and create practices for international emergency communication between Region 1 member societies and special emergency communication groups.

All traffic during the party will take place in SSB only.

IARU Region 1 HQ station will be OF3F in Finland.

It will be QRV simultaneously on the three CoA frequencies:
7060, 14300 and 21360 kHz +/- QRM.

During first three hours each participating station will try to contact OF3F and also as many other national HQ and special group stations as possible. During the last hour, (14.00 - 15.00 UTC) these stations will contact only OF3F for reporting. The report should be sent only once, on the band on which communication with OH3F is best.

More information including the exchange format is on the news page of www.aren.ie

BB's DIARY ROOM - THE FUTURE, IN AMATEUR RADIO

2007

April 28 International Marconi Day
www.gb4imd.org.uk

May 4 - 6 WIA AGM at Parkes
www.wia.org.au

2008

Sept 13 Alarameet 2008 will be held in Ulverstone Tasmania on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th September 2008. Susan VK7LUV for details.

2009
International Telecommunication Union's Telecom World 2009.

SOCIAL SCENE

APRIL 22 Centre Victoria RadioFest

All is "GO" for the Centre Victoria RadioFest TODAY the 22nd of April at the Kyneton Racecourse.

Check out the website radiofest.amateurradio.com.au for full details.

See you at the family friendly Centre Victoria RadioFest, Kyneton racecourse less than an hour from Melbourne, Ballarat and Bendigo, TODAY.

MAY 5 - 6
The Clareview Gathering is a yearly event where Radio Amateurs meet

at a spot on the coast between Rockhampton and Mackay to relax, talk radio, re-establish acquaintances and participate in the world renown Saturday Night Mega-Auction.
It happens in 2007 during the Long Weekend on the 5th and 6th of May.
For further details contact Don Wilschefski VK4BY of the RADAR Club

MAY 12 MDRC Hamfest

The Moorabbin and District Amateur Radio club are please to announce, this years Hamfest will be held in the usual location, at the Brentwood Secondary College, Watsons Rd, Glen Waverly on Saturday 12th May 2006 - doors opening at 10am. The MDRC Hamfest is proud to be Victoria's biggest and this year will be no exception with displays and sales of new or preloved equipment, for anyone interested in Radio Communications and electronics.
Major door prizes, free tea and coffee, light refreshments and a sausage sizzle will also be on offer.

Trader table bookings and general enquires can be made be emailing Graeme Lewis VK3GL (vk3gl@aanet.com.au) or by phoning mobile 0418 289928

MAY 12 - BRISBANE HAMFEST

Brisbane Amateur radio Club is holding "BARCFEST 2007" on Saturday 12th May, venue is the Mount Gravatt Showground Logan Road.
If you wish to book a table information can be found on the club's website http://qsl.net/vk4ba or you can call Les VK4ZLP on 33437247.
Food will be available at the hall, Starting time is 10am.

July 7+8 - GippsTech

Conference for VHF, UHF & SHF enthusiasts in Australia.
Held at the Gippsland Campus of Monash University in Churchill, about two hours drive east of Melbourne.
www.qsl.net\vk3bez\index.htm

SEPTEMBER 21-23

North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention
Happening in twin cities of Thuringowa and Townsville.

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WIANews - we've reported...YOU decide.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".

Thanks to to our dedicated band of broadcast volunteers who utilize their time and equipment in bringing you this weekly broadcast.

The purpose of "WIANews" is to rapidly provide news of interest to active amateurs residing in Australia and the globe.

We strongly encourage membership in the Wireless Institute of Australia and participation in the activities of local clubs.

Opinions expressed in "WIANews" are those of the writers who submit material and do not necessarily reflect those of the rebroadcasters, nor the National WIA, but are broadcast in the spirit in which they were submitted.

Material may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, a credit to WIANews wouldn't go astray...

Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of the National WIA.

HOP TO SPECIFIC WIANews TOPICS

WIA WEB ZONE, www.wia.org.au

WIANews THANKS OUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS , OUR RELAY OPERATORS ACROSS THE WORLD FOR FORWARDING INFORMATION AND COMMENTS THEIR LISTENERS HAVE PASSED ON TO MAKE WIANews VK'S LEADING WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PROGRAM.

E-mail WIANews WITH VK STORIES.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".

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668. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-21 05:20:11 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1177131719.079457.178720@n59g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4773

groupk...@earthlink.net wrote on Fri, 20 Apr 2007 18:00:34 EDT:

>Are we in danger of being the last generation of hams?

I'd say no. At my test session of 25 Feb 07 there were at
least two teen-agers applying for an amateur radio license.
Given that I was born before the FCC was created, the "last"
generation would be at least three before me... :-)

>(And if we are, what can we do to eliminate that danger?)

What "danger?" I see none. But more on that later.

>First, a disclaimer. I'm into my fifth decade of being a licensed
>amateur, and figure I'm good for 3 or 4 more sunspot cycles of fun. I
>love amateur radio.

Well, I've been a licensed commercial radio operator since
1956 and a licensed radio amateur since 2007. It has, in
between getting a whole new station set up, been fun.

I can't presume to guess how many sun cycles I'll have and
I don't lose sleep over it. So far, I love my wife, but
sincerely doubt I would ever love any radios like that.

>But I worry sometimes.
>
>Our service will only continue to exist so long as the majority of the
>worlds national governments believe that we bring value to the public
>in exchange for the incredibly valuable RF spectrum that is entrusted
>to our use.

I would suggest rewording that to say "bring value to the
citizens [of various nations] in terms of their enjoyment
and well-being" or something like that. I don't see that an
"exchange" of anything is necessary or warranted.

Pulling out the Red Book (NTIA) or the big chart in Part 2,
Title 47 C.F.R. on which radio service gets what in the EM
spectrum, we can find some items for USA citizens that
appear to have no intrinsic value whatsoever:

1. 30 KHz bandspace absolutely license free at 160 - 190 KHz.
Been there a long time in regulations, sees little use.

2. 400 KHz bandspace for CB (40 channels at "11m") for nothing
but Personal Communications. No license required. Heavily
used on highways, all states.

3. 1.6 MHz (!) bandspace at 72 to 73, 75.4 to 76 MHz, 80 channels for nothing but model air and surface radio control. No license required. A very fun hobby.

4. There's more, also regulated by Part 95, Title 47 C.F.R., such as Family Radio Service unlicensed transceivers, but you get the picture, I'm sure.

5. I'm not even counting the RF emitters of very short range such as the Keyless Auto Entry transmitters (millions) or the Bluetooth earpieces (look, ma, no wires to my cellphone), the tens of thousands of Wireless LANs that have invaded residences, the "WiFi" links of Internet to PCs, or other RF emitters that make our lives easier now, replacing hard wired or mechanical functions done previously.

All of the above services to citizens which could be categorized as "unessential" services since they don't immediately secure their absolute safety or insure their well-being. The above are available in nearly all countries although their authorized frequencies may vary due to their adminstrations' regulations. Items (2) through (5) came into being within the last two decades or so.

The model radio control bandspace is only 100 KHz narrower than the worldwide 10m amateur band. Model radio control is pure hobby-amusement and no modeler (that I've heard/seen) makes any claims of supplanting vehicles in case of disaster or emergency, nor is that hobby claimed to be a starting point for any life-long career in using/designing vehicles, boats, or aircraft.

>I think if the members of ITU collectively asked "Are the hams of the
>world doing anything which justifies their generous chunks assigned
>spectrum?" the honest answer would be "Probably not."

I will ask "which chunks in what spectrum?" Hams of the HF persuasion are one group, the "VHF-ers" (and up) are the other. HF has been relatively static in change for at least two decades, and decreased prior to that with many communications services formerly on HF migrating to satellite relay.

The last HF amateur band worldwide use allocation happened in 1979 from the World Administrative Radio Conference and those new bands are dubbed "WARC" for short by hams. 1979 was 28 years ago and there doesn't appear to be any new users begging for HF bandspace. The new "channels" at 60m were assigned by the FCC for amateur use based largely on ARRL lobbying, on the basis of some kind of necessity of equatorial communications for [hurricane] disasters. The lobbying does not, to me at least, seem to take into account what the equatorial nations have done or not done for their communications. Regardless, the added amateur bandspace was just a few slivers.

In the world above 30 MHz it is a whole new ballgame. Demands by business and governments up there are great. Nearly all of the US government's "auction" monies on new service providers come from there. The FCC's HDTV channel frequency reallocation plan has resulted in hundreds of MHz of new bandspace for new radio services, nearly all allocated under auction. Maybe there was some effort of amateurs to secure a little bit of the "700 MHz" vicinity openings for hams but I can't recall seeing any. But, the World Above 30 MHz is largely Line of Sight in use. The only real crowding of those bands occurs in big urban areas. There doesn't seem to be a Big Need for bandspace above 30 MHz for US radio amateurs.

>What are we going to do about that?

Speaking from 54 years from my first HF radio experience to becoming a new amateur nearly two months ago and observing EM spectrum use while working in industry in all the time in between, I would say "don't take yourselves so seriously within your radio service!" Amateur radio is a hobby, a fun hobby. If other countries' hobbyists can enjoy some chunks of EM spectrum just for hobbyist fun, then why can't the USA?

As to this whole claim of being a backup communications provider when the infrasture fails in disasters, I have to say show me in a detailed report where it was essential. Having been required to design electronics for terrible environments, I know that amateur radio equipment isn't going to survive better than the infrastructures' gear. [see May QST for one piece of equipment that didn't survive Katrina...lost with one amateur's entire station]

The Public Safety Radio Services have their radios now and use them every day. NOAA has its weather observation services plus satellite downlinks. Harbor and inland waterways have their radio services and plans for emergencies there. The FAA routinely handles aircraft emergencies every week with the aid of radio. Believe it or not, the telephony infrastructure can come back to life when its subscribers stop all trying to use their switching system all at once; they've had battery backup in central offices for more than half a century. Truckers daily help fellow motorists on highways, sometimes alerted over their CBs. Yes, amateur radio CAN be a help in emergencies just as ALL citizens can be a help, with or without any license for anything.

There hasn't been any need for trained morse code operators for over a decade for any WWII-era "pool" to help the nation. With anything in radio. The miliaries do adequate training of their members, government radio with theirs. I'd say the salient feature of amateur radio is its ability to introduce newcomers to a fascinating technologically-

heavy activity...somethine they can have fun with while learning. For youngsters it MIGHT be a starting point for their eventual working careers. For adults and older folks it can be just fun in itself. There's seemingly some puritanical echoes in the general repeated "reasons" for being IN amateur radio...those leave out the FUN element. I see that as a liability to ham radio promotion, diametrically opposite to being an asset. Is having fun so terrible? Especially having fun while learning a new technology (for newcomers) or new application (for those already experienced)?

Recreation IS, to my mind, an asset for all. It diverts our stresses from making a living, eases tensions, makes a life experience more enjoyable. If that recreation can also increase individuals' intellectual capacity, I say "so much the better!" Maybe I'm biased having been IN the electronics industry so long (sans 'benefit' of ham license) and maybe because I happen to like the fascinating technology enough that I liked most of my work. It has been a great, stimulating trip for me and it is still happening. It could be for others, too, those who look forward instead of backward to what was, a was that will never be again.

73, Len AF6AY

669. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-21 05:20:36 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1177132277.603173.212240@l77g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4774

On Apr 20, 6:46ï¿½pm, Larry <n...@home.com> wrote:
> AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote in news:1177108945.448470.193430
> @o5g2000hsb.googlegroups.com:
>
> > There is a lesser-known, harder-to-find overall history of
> >   electronics (includes radio) published by McGraw-Hill's bi-
> >   weekly subscription periodical Electronics, 17 April 1980,
> >   a commemorative Fiftieth Anniversary edition (over 900 pp)
> >   which takes an all-inclusive overview of all electronics from
> >   before the first demonstration of radio in 1896 up to 1980.
>
> Keep a sharp eye out on newsgroup alt.binaries.e-book.technical for these
> kinds of books, mostly in pdf format. It is an amazing source of ebooks
> on all kinds of neat subjects.

Thanks for the tip.

As a paid subscriber to McGraw-Hill's Electronics, I have
my own copy. I've seen it in a couple of technical libraries
but do not expect anyone to do an Acrobat trick of scanning
all those pages. I mentioned it as an overview of the entire
electronics field and think it did its job very well.

I neglected to mention Aitkins previous history, "The
Syntony of Spark." While it was good, it neglected to
cover as much of the politics of the 1920s in regards to
radio in general...in my opinion, at least.

73, Len AF6AY

670. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-21 13:19:50 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <132k3r14k95q0a9@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 4775

groupk0hb@earthlink.net wrote:

> I think if the members of ITU collectively asked "Are the hams of the
> world doing anything which justifies their generous chunks assigned
> spectrum?" the honest answer would be "Probably not."
>
> What are we going to do about that?

I'm frankly more concerned about the people aspect of this issue than the spectrum issue.

As others in the thread have pointed out, HF spectrum is not particularly valuable these days. I don't think we're in any huge danger of losing those allocations. Even VHF and the lower end of UHF aren't as sought-after as they once were.

The thing that bothers me is the decline in the number of active ham radio operators. Ham radio as a hobby has many aspects, but most of them involve collaboration with other people, either on the air or otherwise. As the number of people declines, the potential for the hobby as a whole declines.

I live in a rural area, so I see this trend more than those of you in densely-populated areas. Our local club is teetering on the edge of extinction, and the people who are involved tend not to be much interested in radio -- they care more about the social aspects of drinking coffee with their buddies. When it's time to mount some kind of local effort, be it Skywarn, Field Day, or even the annual picnic, it's harder and harder to attract a critical mass of people to participate.

I suspect that my view is atypical, but I don't know if it's atypical because it forecasts what's in store for ham radio as a hobby, or atypical because it's not seeing the positive aspects like young people entering the hobby. But the future of the hobby depends on *people*. We could have all the spectrum allocation in the world, but if there's no one there to use it . . .

What are we going to do about it? I ask myself that question regularly and still don't have a good answer. To me, the goal is to recruit young folks into the hobby and to actually involve them so that they're active hams instead of numbers in a listing. When I was a young ham, one of the local high school teachers was an effective recruiter for new hams. But then again, there was an electronics lab in that school, and I doubt that many of those are left. Times have changed, and we need to figure out ways to make ham radio interesting to the new generation. I just don't know what those ways are.

73, Steve KB9X

671. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-21 15:05:02 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1177155801.978464.259690@b75g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4776

```
On Apr 20, 6:56ï¿½pm, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
> Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote on Fri, 20 Apr 2007 11:39:39 EDT
>
> >N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> >> On Apr 19, 11:47?pm, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
> >>> 1. "Discovery of 'shortwaves' enabling worldwide communications:
> >>> Already known by non-hobbyist technologists.
>
> >> Which ones? And why weren't they *using* those shortwaves before
> >> amateurs led the way?
>
> >        I think you two are both correct. 8^)
>
>    Regardless of the question marks added into my quotation (which
>    I never wrote with leading question marks),

The question marks are an artifact of posting through Google
Groups. I did not add them. Sometimes Google Groups adds
them, sometimes not. They have appeared on some other
postings to you by others.

> I will cite two
>    references which are obtainable:
>
>    1.  Thomas H. White's early radio history web pages which include
>    many references and references with direct links.  [try Searching
>    since Mr. White's website has had different names although his
>    content remains intact and expanded]
>
>    2.  Hugh G. J. Aitken, "The Continuous Wave, Technology and
>    American Radio, 1900-1932," 1985, Princeton University Press.
>    My soft-cover copy is courtesy of Al Walston, W6MJN.  In
>    particular Chapter 5.  [University libraries might have this]
>
>    There is a lesser-known, harder-to-find overall history of
>    electronics (includes radio) published by McGraw-Hill's bi-
>    weekly subscription periodical Electronics, 17 April 1980,
>    a commemorative Fiftieth Anniversary edition (over 900 pp)
>    which takes an all-inclusive overview of all electronics from
>    before the first demonstration of radio in 1896 up to 1980.

If the worldwide communications capabilities of 'shortwaves' was
"Already known by non-hobbyist technologists", as you claimed,
why weren't those "non-hobbyist technologists" actually *using*
those wavelengths?
```

Is there any record of non-amateur transatlantic one-way communication on wavelengths of 200 meters or shorter with less than 1000 watts before December of 1921? Any record of two-way transatlantic communication on wavelengths of 200 meters or shorter before November 27, 1923? That's when amateurs achieved those distances.

And they weren't isolated one-time results, either. The Atlantic and Pacific were spanned by amateurs in those years. For example, in the Transatlantic Tests of 1922, over 300 American amateur stations from every US radio district were heard in Europe. In the fall of 1923, over 100 American amateur stations were heard in Australia and/or New Zealand. All on 200 meters or shorter, all with power less than 1000 watts. Where were the "non-hobbyist technologists" when all this was going on?

>
> From those three I've come to the conclusion that the forcing
> of radio amateurs in the USA to "below 200 meters" (above 1.5
> MHz) was purely and simply politics of the day.

Yes, it was politics. Or rather, regulation. In fact, about 1920 there was a proposal to expand the amateur limit *downward* to 275 meters, but early broadcasting put an end to that.

Amateurs were limited to "200 Meters And Down" because the professionals thought those frequencies to be useless for long distance communications. The driving force was to eliminate interference (real or imagined) to commercial operations. That was also the reason for the 1000 watt power limit.

> It should be
> no surprise to know that radio use insofar as frequencies was
> little more than chaotic before 1920, little more than that
> during the entirety of the 1920s decade.

How "chaotic" was it, really? The radio laws of 1912 pushed amateurs to the supposedly-useless short waves. The commercial users were not excluded from those short waves, however.

> Broadcasters wanted
> what we now know as the "AM broadcast band" for their exclusive
> use. Actually, that was a legitimate desire since broadcasters
> would serve millions of citizens, not just a few thousands of
> radio amateurs at the time.

Broadcasting did not really get going until about 1920. Amateurs had been relegated to "200 Meters and Down" in 1912, eight years and a World War earlier.

> Politics of the times did not stop with broadcasters versus
> amateurs.

It was not the broadcasters who pushed amateurs off the longer waves in 1912.

> For almost two decades the United States Navy
>   wanted to have regulatory control over all radio use! Marconi
>   desired a monopoly on worldwide radio use, including inroads
>   to control of all United States radio production and services.
>   The latter led a circuitous route to the establishment of the
>   Radio Corporation of America, originally as a sort of "patent
>   controller" or "quasi-repository" about radio in the USA. It
>   was a chaotic decade those 1920s, including many patent fights
>   in courts, and not much standardization in theory, components,
>   use, or services to citizens. See the proposal of President
>   Franklin Roosevelt to Congress to establish the Federal
>   Communications Commission to consolidate radio and telegram
>   regulations of 1933 and 1934, found on the FCC website.

That's all very interesting, but it has little to do with the fact
that it was
amateurs who pioneered the "shortwaves", not "non-hobbyist
technologists".
>
> >It looks like a difference of
> >basic versus applied knowledge. That the shortwaves and much much higher
> >frequencies were known is not in doubt. Scientists were doing research
> >in GHz range frequencies surprisingly early on.
>
>   Heinrich Hertz did his basic research on radio waves using
>   what now appears to be VHF and UHF. He had no equipment to
>   measure such frequencies to any great precision. Lee de Forest
>   did some early work on transmission lines in an attempt to get
>   "a handle on" the behavior of higher radio waves on them. James
>   Clerk Maxwell postulated some physical laws and equations which
>   are applicable to all radio frequencies today, but he had almost
>   NO "test equipment" other than very simple experimental kluges
>   and brilliantly-applied logic to his "Laws."

But in terms of pioneering the use of those waves for communication,
amateurs were the leading edge.
>
>   The first radar experiments and first working radars worked on
>   VHF-UHF. It took a coordinated, consolidated group, forced by
>   needs of winning WWII at the "Radiation Laboratory" to really
>   get into the GHz frequency region.

Long *after* the 1920s.

> >Amateurs were forced to use frequencies that unknown to them or the
> >best minds of the time (could be both at once) discovered a lot of
> >unexpected characteristics of those higher frequencies.
>
>   As I originally wrote, it was fortuitous for radio amateurs to
>   be forced upward in frequency beyond 1.5 MHz. Those documented
>   demonstrations "got the ball rolling" for academicians and
>   researchers to study the ionosphere in detail. With scientific

>   proof, the commercial and government users took to HF in great
>   numbers by the 1930s.

Amateur use was more than mere demonstrations.

>   In comparing "radio sets" of various times, examine the size,
>   weight, function, and features of today's amateur radio
>   transceivers with those of 1957. Or antennas, or test
>   equipment for measuring both.

The basics of many of them are the same in some cases and very
different in others.

> The advancement on both
>   technology and use is hand-in-hand and driven by market
>   forces more than anything. It is all interconnected and
>   one innovation can lead to others. James Burke's "Connections"
>   PBS-TV series is an excellent showing of the interconnection
>   of innovation and invention that can lead to surprising
>   improvement in improbably-related activies.

Agreed. The transistor, for example, was invented/discovered by Bell
Labs researchers looking to build a switch, not an amplifier.

> >> If the effectiveness of shortwave radio was known by nonamateurs,
> >> why didn't they use it until after amateurs pointed the way and proved
> >> it by their pioneering success?
>
> >   A combination of ignorance (thinking that the higher frequencies were
> >of no use) and simply "betting on the wrong horse". is the answer AFAIAC.
>
>   The following is a quote from "Single Sideband, Principles and
>   Circuits" by Pappenfus, Bruene, Shoenike (Collins Radio), McGraw-
>   Hill 1964, paragraph 1-4, page 10:

The first two of those were well-known amateurs, too.

>   "Since 1923 when the first r-f transatlantic SSB link was
>   established to England, there has been widespread use of pilot-
>   carrier and suppressed-carrier SSB by communications companies.
>   The severe static that prevailed at low frequency limited the
>   usefulness of the early radio links; but until the installation
>   of a v-f cable, no other communication circuit to Europe
>   approached the day-to-day reliability of the 55-kc ground-wave
>   signal. The frequency range below 500 kc because of its
>   freedom from propagation variation and signal "blackout," has
>   a consistency of received signal desireable in maintaining
>   telephone communication. However a number of disadvantages
>   are present that offset the signal reliability of the l-f
>   range. Disadvantage include high power, and need for large,
>   expensive antennas. The problems of vlf communications links
>   and l-f bands forced the expansion into and the development of
>   radio-communication links in the so-called short-wave bands

>   above the [AM] broadcast band."
>
>   Page 234 of the "Collins SSB Book" state that one of the
>   first applications of SSB to the HF bands was by the
>   Netherlands Telegraph Administration in 1934.

That's 11 years after amateurs showed the usefulness of HF for long
distance communications.

There were amateurs using SSB voice in 1934, too. Ray Moore, W6DEI,
and a handful of others were on the amateur bands with SSB
then.

> This was
>   the Netherlands to the Netherlands Antilles (off the coast
>   of South America). [diagram of receiver on page 235]
>
>   Note: Commercial and government SSB is basically on the
>   USA telephony model C "carrier" frequency-multiplexed
>   four-voice-bandwidth system using 12 KHz bandspace.
>   Single-channel, 3 KHz bandspace SSB did not see great
>   numbers until the USAF SAC requirements were made after
>   WWII's end. "Pilot carrier" is in reference to a between
>   channel tone frequency deliberately sent as an early AFC.
>
>   Commercial and government communications users generally
>   plan for long service life, such service having reliability
>   and with known characteristics. While those may appear
>   conservative, those major players in communications aren't
>   in there for fun or experimentation. They are there for
>   the "long haul," both in distance and in time. Such long-
>   lived expectancy must be based on known information
>   supporting its development.

So it took amateurs to discover the usefulness of the shortwaves. That
usefulness wasn't "already known to non-hobbyist technologists".
>
> >The Amateurs were confined to that area, and the experimentally
> >inclined did their experiments, and viola, a lot of discoveries and
> >advancements were made. It is a great story, and Hams should be proud of
> >that part of their history.
>
>   It is fine to be proud. However, history is the past.

It's important to be accurate about the history, though.

> > As a more mature technology today, I wouldn't expect many more earth
> >shaking discoveries from Hams.
>
>   I disagree. The state of the art of all communications is
>   continually advancing. Radio development didn't stop prior
>   to WWII nor at any time up to now. For example, look at

> PSK31 by G3PLX, D-Star by the JARL with support of Japanese
> industry, APRS utilizing GPS downlink, all examples of post-
> 1980 innovation in amateur radio, done by radio amateurs for
> radio amateurs.

So amateurs continue to innovate and discover, even today.

73 de Jim, N2EY

672. Re: The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 16 (Apr 20, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-21 15:08:32 UTC
From: Larry <noone@home.com>
Message-ID: <Xns991965BD3FFE2noonehomecom@208.49.80.253>
Source record: 4777

"ARRL Letter Mailing List" <letter-dlvy@arrl.org> wrote in
news:200704210129.l3L1TUJH002884@linux11676.dn.net:

> Following the meeting, the ARRL reiterated its recommendation that
> members carefully review any consent document permitting a private
> organization to conduct a background investigation on that individual.
> The current Red Cross background check consent form continues to
> include permission, without further consent from the volunteer, to
> conduct a consumer report and/or an investigative consumer report.
>

Now, why would the Red Cross be interested in my credit report and a report
on how and where I live....especially if I'm VOLUNTEERING my time and money
and equipment.....

Larry
--
Are we THAT stupid? Remember them buying fancy telephone systems for the
bureaucrats out of 9-11 donations for families it never got to?
.

673. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-21 15:09:09 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1177167120.516639.25380@b75g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4778

On Apr 21, 2:45 am, Larry <n...@home.com> wrote:
> groupk...@earthlink.net wrote in news:1177105498.800186.298520
> @y80g2000hsf.googlegroups.com:
>
> > Our service will only continue to exist so long as the majority of the
> > worlds national governments believe that we bring value to the public
> > in exchange for the incredibly valuable RF spectrum that is entrusted
> > to our use.
>
> That might have been true before 2000, but isn't true today. Some
> spectrum would be lost to services who are interested in VHF/UHF and
> above. But, noone wants HF any more, as is self evident by the lack of
> traffic across HF outside the ham bands.

MF/HF is only a minor fraction of our allocations. Maybe it's not
vulnerable, or maybe it is, but compared to the massive amount of VHF/
UHF spectrum we could lose, I consider HF an insignificant issue.

So I pose my question again..... "What are we going to do about
that?"

73, de Hans, K0HB

674. SARL News in English 21/4/2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-21 19:16:58 UTC
From: website@sarl.org.za
Message-ID: <C948D56C026A42279A957308A7ED74A3@toron>
Source record: 4779
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 22 APRIL 2007

You are listening to Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. This broadcast can also be heard on Echolink by connecting to ZS6FCS. To listen to a web stream go to www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links. This, and previous bulletins, can be downloaded from the web site of the SARL i.e. www.sarl.org.za. You can also read or download previous bulletins from there and subscribe to receive future bulletins by email.

This transmission is by Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with relays on 3,695, 10,135, 14,235 and 51,400 MHz as well as 438,825 MHz in the Pretoria area. (Other news readers please change to suit).

In the news today:

HELP THE SARL TO UPDATE THE CALLBOOK

NEXT INTECNET TO FEATURE A DISCUSSION ON THE EASTERN CAPE REPEATER NETWORK

SOUTHERN AFRICAN DX SURVEY

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

HELP THE SARL TO UPDATE THE CALLBOOK

A call book is only as good as the correctness of its entries. Members of the SARL are invited to use the advanced facilities to check entries and send updates to the SARL office.

Please check the callbook entries for your areas using the advanced features on www.sarl.org.za. Using this tool, members can call up all the callsigns in a town, or postal code, or even part of a postal code.

For example, if you would like to see all the amateurs in East London, use the "Postal code" search option and type in "52", this will give all the callsigns where the postal code in the QSL information begins with 52. Similarly if one types in "00" it will list all the entries in the postal code area 00 which is Pretoria and surrounding areas.

Using such a list of names and callsigns please help to identify silent keys whom have not been reported to the SARL or ICASA. If you have information about any such person, or a persons who have moved away and no longer have their South African callsigns, please let the SARL office know.

The office fax number is 088 011 675 2793, or you can e-mail the information to Vee Antal at admin@sarl.org.za.

If you are not a member of the SARL you cannot use the advanced facilities, you can however look up your own callsign and supply any corrections by emailing the details to admin@sarl.org.za or faxing it to 088 011 675 2793. May be it is now time that you joined.

Remember the SARL relies on all amateurs to keep the callbook data accurate. When last did you check your callbook entry? The SARL callbook is used by the publishers of international callbooks and web look-up facilities. It is therefore in your own interest to ensure that your information is up to date.

Over and above normal QSL information you'd expect to find in any callbook, did you know that: - You can check to see if a callsign is active on APRS and even see its last reported location, and that of any of their SSIDs? - You can see how many QSO's have been confirmed by this person using the SARL's SA-QSL system? - You can see if you've worked this station before and had a QSO confirmed on SA-QSL? - You can see a photo of this person? - You can see their Grid Locator if they have one listed, and if they do you can also see a Google Earth type map of the area where they live? In the major centers these maps can be zoomed in to the point where you can see the car parked in the driveway. - You can also use this map to pin point your QTH to within a few meters. - You can see if this person is a SARL member and therefore accessible through the league's QSL bureau.

NEXT INTECNET TO FEATURE A DISCUSSION ON THE EASTERN CAPE REPEATER NETWORK

The next INTECNET is on Sunday evening 6 May with Chris Scarr, ZS2AAW, as the guest speaker. Chris will dicuss the concept behind the Eastern Cape Repeater Network which now strecthes as far as Cape Town and Bloemfontein. He will also share some of the new ideas he has for the network.

The President's Net will precede the Intecnet at 19:00. Graham Hartlett will give an update on several suggestions made at the AGM and discuss implememtation strategies discussed at the first council meeting the week before the net. Intecnet follows the President's net at 20:00. Clubs are urged to link their local repeater to the conference network. Send details of the landline to be linked to armi@sarl.org.za.

SARL OFFICE FAX FACILITY

The SARL office is using a fax mail system to receive faxes. This allows for faxes to be distributed to Councillors for their attention.

It is therefore import to send faxes to the full number which is 088 011 675 2793. Please only use this number in the future.

ZR's AND ZU's FAR MORE FORTUNATE THAN THEIR AMERICAN COUNTERPARTS

Technician-class licencees in the USA, who gained extra priveleges on February 23rd of this year, are still not permitted to operate phone (voice) on any frequency below their 10 m band allocation.

In addition to all Amateur Radio operating privileges above 50 MHz, Technicians who never passed a Morse code test now have CW privileges on certain segments of 80, 40 and 15 meters plus new CW, RTTY, data and SSB privileges on certain segments of 10 meters.

Thanks to the input of the SARL and its' members, amateurs in South Africa who hold the equivalent to the USA's technician-class licence, have for the past two years had almost identical priveleges to their ZS-counterparts. Even the newly revamped entry-level ZU class licence has more phone priveleges!

Food for thought while you are mulling over taking the plunge and finally becoming a league member.

COMPETETION NEWS

SOUTHERN AFRICAN DX SURVEY

Which DX entities are most wanted by Southern African radio amateurs? How does the most wanted listing for Southern Africa look? Dennis, ZS4BS, has created a MS Excel spreadsheet containing the 2007 DXCC list and there is place where you can indicate which DXCC entities you need on CW, SSB or digital modes (RTTY, PSK, etc). The spreadsheet is available from Dennis, zs4bs@netactive.co.za or you can download it from the SARL web site at www.sarl.org.za. The closing date for the survey is 30th June 2007.

PEARS DIGITAL AND MICROWAVE COMPETETION

The Port Elizabeth ARS has informed the SARL Contest Manager that they have decided to scrap the PEARS Digital and Microwave contest. For the past two years, there have been no entries.

CLUB NEWS

NEW CLUB

A new club, The Lowveld Radio Amateur Club, was established in Nelspruit, Mpumalanga. The following members were elected to its management committee:

Chairman, Piet Badenhorst, ZS6PJB; Vice chairman, Henri Steyl, ZS6ST; RAE, Helgi Braithwaite, ZS6HB; Repeaters and Technical, Nic Cronje ZS6WW.

The club installed a new TAIT repeater on 145,675 MHz, giving coverage to the Nelspruit, White River and Sabie areas and it also covers part of the N4 main route.

They are also experimenting with APRS, UI VIEW and have an IRLP Node which is continuously running.

Congratulations with the initiative in the Low Veld, and may your club go from strength to strength.

KALAHARI-KAROO CLUB ACTIVITIES

The long weekend from 27 April to 1 May is going to be a very busy time in Division 3. The Kalahari-Karoo Amateur Radio Club reports that the following activities will be happening:

The Landcruiser Club of South Africa (LCCSA) will be gathering at the Boegoeberg Dam. Carel, ZS3OBE, will be operating an educational field station, ZS3FLY, to raise the awareness of amateur radio among the members of the LCCSA and thereby recruit members to write the RAE. Word has it that there are 5 or 6 new ZU amateurs amongst the participants.

The Voortrekkers have a "Vasbyt" camping weekend at the Lohatla Military Training Area. Gerhard, ZS3TG, Dani&#65533;l, ZS3DS, and Piet, ZS3DI, will operate an educational field station to give these youngsters exposure to amateur radio. They will mainly be active on 40, 80 and occasionally 2 m. Their QTH (camp) will be in KG11nv. They will be on air from Saturday 28th until Monday 30th April.

The Adventure Radio Club will be visiting Division 3. They will camp on Verneuk Pan and operate their field station, ZS3ARC.

PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the expected solar activity will be at very low levels. The geomagnetic field is expected to range from unsettled to major storm levels on 28 to 29 April. The expected Effective Sun Spot number for the coming week will be less than 5.

20 and 15 metre will provide best opportunities for DX. There is a possibility of 15 and 20 metre openings towards India from about 06:00 and again at 13:00 CAT. Conditions are going to be challenging towards Australia. From about 15:00, there may be good 10, 15 and 20 m openings towards Europe. Contacts to the USA are going to be very challenging. For the CW and digital enthusiasts it may also be worth monitoring 10 MHz.

Although the predictions may not be too enthusiatic, HF always has the capability to surprise you. You will never know what you are missing unless you switch on your rig, listen and also call CQ.

Please visit www.spaceweather.co.za for further information.

DIARY OF EVENTS

27 April to 1 May - ZS3FLY, with the Land Cruiser Club at Boegeoebergdam, on the air also ZS1 Amateur Radio Club active from Verneukpan; 28 to 30 April - ZS3ARK active with the Voortrekkers at Lohatla; 5 May - Cape Town ARC Flea Market and also the West Rand Radio Club Flea Market; 6 May - President's Net and Intechnet; 30 June - Closing date for updating of SA DX Survey.

SARL News depends on clubs and individuals for news items of importance and interest to radio amateurs. The one and only way to ensure that your contribution will reach the SARL News team, is to place it in www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date. It will be appreciated if you will do it in both Afrikaans and English.

The SARL also invites all listeners to listen to the program Amateur Radio Mirror International this Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 695 kHz. Audio is also streamed on www.zs6mrk.org and on Echolink from ZS6FCS as for this bulletin. A repeat transmission takes place on Mondays at 21:00 on 3 215 kHz. Telkom and Sentech sponsor the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

You have been listening to a news bulletin by the South African Radio League, which was compiled by George, ZS6NE.

A prosperous week to all, 73.

/EX

========== Message Ends ========== To edit or remove your entry from this mailing list go to www.sarl.org.za/members/admin/maildat.asp

675. Welcome to rec.radio.info!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-22 06:00:02 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/welcome-1-1177221601@panix.com>
Source record: 4780
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.scanner,rec.radio.shortwave,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/welcome
Revision: 1.1 2007/02/24 19:44:46
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

*** Welcome to rec.radio.info! ***

Welcome to rec.radio.info, a group that aims to provide a noise-free
source of information and news for the entire rec.radio hierarchy.

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to the group
every month. You are now reading the first article, which explains what
rec.radio.info is, and answers some Frequently Asked Questions. The
second article is titled Posting Guidelines, and you only need to read
it if you want to submit an article to rec.radio.info.

You can skip to the next section of this article by searching for the
next
" -- " string. The sections available are:
- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?
- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?
- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?
- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.
- What type of material is considered inappropriate?
- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to
rec.radio.info?
- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?
- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to
speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

-- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?

The purpose or charter of rec.radio.info is to provide the Usenet
community with a resource for information, news, and facts about any and
all things radio.

All the other rec.radio groups are intended for discussions and general
chit chat about radio. Rec.radio.info will contain informational,
factual articles only. Follow-ups are redirected to an appropriate other
group, and further discussion (if any) will not take place in
rec.radio.info.

In order to ensure that rec.radio.info contains only appropriate
articles, it was decided to create the group as a moderated newsgroup.
```

-- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?

It provides a "tag" for each article to be assembled into a filtered presentation in rec.radio.info (even with cross-posting, only one message, with a unique Message-ID, is propagated across the net). This tag also facilitates a pre-existing method of dropping or canceling the articles locally within the discussion groups if you don't want to see them. This accommodates individuals who want to separate the bulletins from the discussions, discussions from the bulletins, as well as those who are adamant about not reading another newsgroup and wanted to see everything all in one basket.

With the total size of Usenet (in number of newsgroups and total traffic) doubling every year or so, this is no insignificant contribution to reducing information noise and chaos. Making the discussion groups a catch-all, and making extra newsgroups filters on that catch-all, is also the most realistic way to implement such a scheme (It's not intuitively obvious what the charter, contents, and general appropriate topics for each and every newsgroup are. Seeing FAQ's and charter/intro postings in the home newsgroup is beneficial for new readers).

By cross-posting one only is adding a few tens of bytes to each bulletin (to specify the extra group on the Newsgroups line), but are adding the capability for very powerful filtering features available on most news servers, listservers and readers. Your local news guru could probably explain these features in more detail.

In rn, for example, according to Leanne Phillips in her rn kill-file FAQ, add a line of the form:

/Newsgroups:.*[,]rec\.radio\.info/h:j

either in ~/News/KILL (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere) or ~/News/rec/radio/amateur/misc/KILL (if you don't want to see them just in rec.radio.amateur.misc). The latter method means your kill file will only be consulted during rec.radio.amateur.misc (and hence runs more efficiently), and will probably work for most people.

In nn, according to Bill Wohler in his nn FAQ, add a line of the form:

rec.radio.info:!s/:^

in ~/.nn/kill (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere), or put the following lines:

sequence
rec.radio.info
rec.radio.

at the end of ~/.nn/init in order to see all the rec.radio.info bulletins first, then read the remaining rec.radio.* without the bulletins.

-- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?

If you are new to Usenet and are not familiar with the terminology, you might want to read the general introductory articles found in the newsgroup news.announce.newusers. Doing so will make your life on the net much easier, and will probably save you from making silly beginner's mistakes.

If you think that at this moment you are reading an echo, a conference, or a bulletin board, I'd also strongly suggest a trip over to news.announce.newusers.

For the rest of this article, we will assume you have a basic knowledge of Usenet terminology and mechanics.

A moderated group means that any article that needs to be posted to the group has to be accepted by the moderator of the group. Since we need to ensure that followups to an article (discussion) do not show up in the rec.radio.info newsgroup, the `Followup-To:' header line contains a newsgroup that is appropriate for discussions about the specific article.

-- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.

Rec.radio.info is a moderated newsgroup, which means that all articles submitted to the group will have to be approved by the moderator first.

The current moderator of the group is the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team. Submissions to rec.radio.info can be posted, or e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Comments, criticisms, suggestions or questions about the group can be e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

But before you do so, please be sure to check out the "Posting Guidelines" article.

The influence of the moderator should be minimal and of an administrative nature, consisting chiefly of weeding out obviously inappropriate articles, while making sure correct headers etc. are used for the appropriate ones.

-- What type of material is considered inappropriate?

There are three broad categories of articles which will be rejected by the moderator:

1) Requests for information: rec.radio.info is strictly a one-way street. We receive information in our mailbox; we then post it to rec.radio.info. Requests for specific information belong in the normal discussion newsgroups. If your request gets answered, you might consider passing the answer on to rec.radio.info, though. Especially if you can edit it into a informational, rather than a discussion, format.

2) Obvious discussion articles, or articles that appear unsubstantiated.

3) Commercial stuff: a relatively unbiased test of a radio product would be accepted, but any hint of for-profit might be reason for rejection. For three reasons: This is not the purpose of the list, for-profit is a controversial topic, and this list may be passed onto Amateur Packet Radio (where for-profit is prohibited except under certain provisos).

rec.radio.swap may be more deserving of the posting in any matter.

Similarly, copyrighted material generally cannot be used. If it's TRULY worthwhile to the net, We would recommend obtaining permission from the copyright holder. Please note the source, and if permission was given. We reserve the right to make the final decision concerning appropriateness in all situations. In most cases, a brief summary of, or pointer to, the copyrighted information may be all we can allow.

-- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to rec.radio.info?

Google has an excellent web interface to Usenet newsgroups. It is available at:

http://groups.google.com

It supports both reading and posting.

-- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?

Yes. See Google Groups above.

Effectively this means that anything you post to rec.radio.info will be permanently stored, so your work will not be lost.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as time critical.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires co-operation and goodwill to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio hierarchy.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

676. Re: The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 16 (Apr 20, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-22 14:47:09 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <mlsm23de2f7qtd38dt64d33sqsp4nof04m@4ax.com>
Source record: 4781

On Sat, 21 Apr 2007 11:08:32 EDT, Larry <noone@home.com> wrote:

>Now, why would the Red Cross be interested in my credit report and a report
>on how and where I live....especially if I'm VOLUNTEERING my time and money
>and equipment.....

This all sprang from the ARC requiring, in the aftermath of bad
incidents in the Katrina recovery, that anyone handling ARC money or
resources be vetted or bonded. Having served on the ARC California
state communications advisory committee in years past, I have observed
that, just as with many bureaucracies, they take that "if it's needed
for one, it's needed for all" approach to such things.

Having survived many security clearance investigations for both paid
and unpaid positions, it's no big deal for me, but I suspect that they
will back down on this one.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

677. Welcome to rec.radio.info!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-22 15:14:39 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/welcome-1-1177254879@panix.com>
Source record: 4782
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.scanner,rec.radio.shortwave,rec.answers,news.answers

Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/welcome
Revision: 1.1 2007/02/24 19:44:46
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

*** Welcome to rec.radio.info! ***

Welcome to rec.radio.info, a group that aims to provide a noise-free source of information and news for the entire rec.radio hierarchy.

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to the group every month. You are now reading the first article, which explains what rec.radio.info is, and answers some Frequently Asked Questions. The second article is titled Posting Guidelines, and you only need to read it if you want to submit an article to rec.radio.info.

You can skip to the next section of this article by searching for the next
" -- " string. The sections available are:
- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?
- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?
- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?
- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.
- What type of material is considered inappropriate?
- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to rec.radio.info?
- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?
- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

-- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?

The purpose or charter of rec.radio.info is to provide the Usenet community with a resource for information, news, and facts about any and all things radio.

All the other rec.radio groups are intended for discussions and general chit chat about radio. Rec.radio.info will contain informational, factual articles only. Follow-ups are redirected to an appropriate other group, and further discussion (if any) will not take place in rec.radio.info.

In order to ensure that rec.radio.info contains only appropriate articles, it was decided to create the group as a moderated newsgroup.

-- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?

It provides a "tag" for each article to be assembled into a filtered presentation in rec.radio.info (even with cross-posting, only one message, with a unique Message-ID, is propagated across the net). This tag also facilitates a pre-existing method of dropping or canceling the articles locally within the discussion groups if you don't want to see them. This accommodates individuals who want to separate the bulletins from the discussions, discussions from the bulletins, as well as those who are adamant about not reading another newsgroup and wanted to see everything all in one basket.

With the total size of Usenet (in number of newsgroups and total traffic) doubling every year or so, this is no insignificant contribution to reducing information noise and chaos. Making the discussion groups a catch-all, and making extra newsgroups filters on that catch-all, is also the most realistic way to implement such a scheme (It's not intuitively obvious what the charter, contents, and general appropriate topics for each and every newsgroup are. Seeing FAQ's and charter/intro postings in the home newsgroup is beneficial for new readers).

By cross-posting one only is adding a few tens of bytes to each bulletin (to specify the extra group on the Newsgroups line), but are adding the capability for very powerful filtering features available on most news servers, listservers and readers. Your local news guru could probably explain these features in more detail.

In rn, for example, according to Leanne Phillips in her rn kill-file FAQ, add a line of the form:

/Newsgroups:.*[,]rec\.radio\.info/h:j

either in ~/News/KILL (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere) or ~/News/rec/radio/amateur/misc/KILL (if you don't want to see them just in rec.radio.amateur.misc). The latter method means your kill file will only be consulted during rec.radio.amateur.misc (and hence runs more efficiently), and will probably work for most people.

In nn, according to Bill Wohler in his nn FAQ, add a line of the form:

rec.radio.info:!s/:^

in ~/.nn/kill (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere), or put the following lines:

sequence
rec.radio.info
rec.radio.

at the end of ~/.nn/init in order to see all the rec.radio.info bulletins first, then read the remaining rec.radio.* without the bulletins.

-- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?

If you are new to Usenet and are not familiar with the terminology, you might want to read the general introductory articles found in the newsgroup news.announce.newusers. Doing so will make your life on the net much easier, and will probably save you from making silly beginner's mistakes.

If you think that at this moment you are reading an echo, a conference, or a bulletin board, I'd also strongly suggest a trip over to news.announce.newusers.

For the rest of this article, we will assume you have a basic knowledge of Usenet terminology and mechanics.

A moderated group means that any article that needs to be posted to the group has to be accepted by the moderator of the group. Since we need to ensure that followups to an article (discussion) do not show up in the rec.radio.info newsgroup, the `Followup-To:' header line contains a newsgroup that is appropriate for discussions about the specific article.

-- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.

Rec.radio.info is a moderated newsgroup, which means that all articles submitted to the group will have to be approved by the moderator first.

The current moderator of the group is the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team. Submissions to rec.radio.info can be posted, or e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Comments, criticisms, suggestions or questions about the group can be e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

But before you do so, please be sure to check out the "Posting Guidelines" article.

The influence of the moderator should be minimal and of an administrative nature, consisting chiefly of weeding out obviously inappropriate articles, while making sure correct headers etc. are used for the appropriate ones.

-- What type of material is considered inappropriate?

There are three broad categories of articles which will be rejected by the moderator:

1) Requests for information: rec.radio.info is strictly a one-way street. We receive information in our mailbox; we then post it to rec.radio.info. Requests for specific information belong in the normal discussion newsgroups. If your request gets answered, you might consider passing the answer on to rec.radio.info, though. Especially if you can edit it into a informational, rather than a discussion, format.

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rec.radio.swap may be more deserving of the posting in any matter.

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-- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to rec.radio.info?

Google has an excellent web interface to Usenet newsgroups. It is available at:

http://groups.google.com

It supports both reading and posting.

-- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?

Yes. See Google Groups above.

Effectively this means that anything you post to rec.radio.info will be permanently stored, so your work will not be lost.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as time critical.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires co-operation and goodwill to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio hierarchy.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

678. rec.radio.info Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-22 15:23:49 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines-1-1177255429@panix.com>
Source record: 4783
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.scanner,rec.radio.shortwave,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines
Revision: 1.5 2007/03/22 16:30:49
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

*** rec.radio.info - Posting Guidelines and Etiquette ***

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to this group
and to rec.answers/news.answers every month. You are now reading the
second article, which explains how to submit something to
rec.radio.info, and which answers some Frequently Asked Questions about
the submission process. The first article is titled "Welcome to
rec.radio.info", and it might be a good idea to check it out as well.

-- How do I submit something to rec.radio.info?

Two possibilities. You can use your newsreading software to just post
the article to rec.radio.info, as you would do with any other
newsgroup. The difference is that the software recognizes the special
status of rec.radio.info as a moderated group, and will e-mail your
article to us, the moderation team, instead of posting it to the group.

Alternatively, you can mail your article directly to us at the following
address:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Mailing us directly is probably (a wee bit) faster, but using the
transparency offered by the newsreading software is probably more
convenient.

If you have any questions, or wish to deal with some administrivia with
the moderation team, we suggest mailing to the following address:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

-- How soon will I see my article appear?

It depends on how busy we are. Your article reaches us as mail, we have
to read it first, give it the stamp of approval, and finally send it on
to the group. We will attempt to read and decide on all submissions
within 72 hours at the very least, though we will probably be able to
process submissions much faster in actual practice.

The site from which we moderate this newsgroup, "Public Access Internet
and Unix, NYC" (Panix), is directly connected to the Internet, and
```

articles posted at that site should appear at most major news sites, including Google Groups, the same day. The principal delay, therefore, will be the wait in the moderator's submission queue.

If you post a periodic article, and have shown to be trustworthy, we may allow you to post directly if the article is of a timely nature. See the section below on direct posting.

-- Should my article be in a specific format?

No. If it is not totally illegible, we will accept it, and if it does not have a correct subject-line we will correct it with your permission -- that's what a moderator is for.

However.

You could do us a big favor by making sure your article conforms to these simple requirements:

1) The article must present information, not discussion or requests, We will reject the article or require you to change the wording if it is worth it.
2) A good, descriptive Subject line.
3) Always mention what source you got the information from.
4) Don't forget to include a Followup-To header, at least if you don't want further discussion to automatically be forwarded to you, the poster, which is the default if the article is only posted to rec.radio.info.

As we said: if your article is appropriate we will post it even if you don't follow these guidelines, but then don't blame us for not processing it immediately. 'Perfect' articles we can send on with a couple of keystrokes. Stuff that needs minor editing is going to have to wait until we have time to do so.

Please do not waste both our and your time by posting requests, as this is an information only news group.

-- What about crossposting?

If you send something to rec.radio.info, just name any group you'd like to cross-post to in the Newsgroups field. Then, when we approve the article for rec.radio.info it will get automatically cross-posted to any other groups mentioned. This will also override the default Followup-To: poster, replacing it with the groups you cross posted to.

We would prefer if the group be cross-posted to the various discussion groups in the rec.radio.* hierarchy that are appropriate:

rec.radio.amateur.misc Amateur (ham) radio and related matters
rec.radio.amateur.packet Amateur Packet Radio discussions
rec.radio.amateur.policy Amateur Radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.noncomm Non commercial radio discussions
rec.radio.shortwave International broadcasting on the 'HF' bands

rec.radio.cb Citizens Band (27 MHz) discussion
rec.radio.scanner Scanner discussions (unsupported group)

or in one of the moderated groups:

rec.radio.amateur.moderated Amateur radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.broadcasting Discussion of *domestic* radio broadcasting

We will leave it up to the poster to decide which group(s) are appropriate, but reserve the right to add groups if we feel it has broader interest. We will consult with the poster first.

Notes on crossposting:

- rec.radio.broadcasting is also a moderated group. The rec.radio.broadcasting moderator prefers to review all articles himself before posting. Placing rec.radio.broadcasting before rec.radio.info on the Newsgroups line should accomplish this. We will typically abide by the rec.radio.broadcasting moderator's decision whether the article is appropriate for rec.radio.info.

- rec.radio.amateur.moderated is also a moderated group. As the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team manages both rec.radio.amateur.moderated and rec.radio.info, we can manage crossposting and approvals for both newsgroups. The rec.radio.amateur.moderated group does not allow crossposting to other discussion newsgroups, whether moderated or unmoderated. However, we would like to manage rec.radio.info as consistently as possible with how it was done by previous moderators, including the grandfathering of existing regular postings. Therefore, the submitter can choose rec.radio.amateur.moderated or the other unmoderated rec.radio.amateur.* discussion newsgroups for crossposting, but not both.

- Any FAQ or informational posting approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderation team that is also crossposted to any rec.radio.* newsgroup (besides just rec.radio.info) is also automatically pre-approved for rec.radio.info. See below for more information.

If you post to another moderated group, it may be better to make special arrangements with both moderators before posting by contacting us at our administrivia addresses.

In addition, cross-posts do not take up extra space; modern newsreaders can be configured to show you cross-posted articles only once anyway; not everybody reads rec.radio.info; and rec.radio.info was never meant to reduce the volume of the regular discussion newsgroups. But keep in mind that some of the mail gateways may filter out the informational postings (at request of the subscribers) to keep the load down.

You decide.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, can I make arrangements to help speed up delivery by posting directly from my site?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as timely.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires cooperation and good will to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio.* hierarchy.

If you are currently maintaining (or plan to maintain) a radio-related periodic information posting, you may wish to consider crossposting it to rec.answers/news.answers. Postings that are approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderators for this treatment are automatically pre-approved for crossposting to rec.radio.info (as the news.answers requirements are far more rigorous than the requirements this newsgroup ever plans to use). For more information about this option, consult the appropriate information articles and posting guidelines in rec.answers/news.answers.

Realize also, that even if your post is not approved for rec.answers/news.answers, it can still be approved for rec.radio.info. The intention is not so much to get every last bit of radio-related information on rec.answers/news.answers, but rather to provide an alternative avenue of approval (as well as grandfather existing maintainers of radio-related information and spare them additional bureaucratic hurdles). Again, crossposting to either rec.radio.info or rec.answers/news.answers, both, or neither, is at the discretion of the poster (subject to the approval of the moderators). You decide what is most appropriate for your article.

Please remember that as an information maintainer, you are not alone. There are many others on the net who maintain and post periodic information postings, using various intermediate-to-advanced features of Usenet (usually via automated tools). Various degrees of technical support and general hand-holding are available from many Usenet veterans. Send us some E-mail describing your needs to our administrative address below, and we'll try to help, or at least refer you to the right knowledgeable individual(s).

-- And Follow-ups?

If the only newsgroup you have specified is rec.radio.info, then the Followup-To: field will always be set to poster. If you do not want this, you must supply a Followup-To line of your own, and we will honor that one, as long as it is a subset of the original Newsgroups line.

If you specify newsgroups to cross-post to, then the Followup-To field will be set to include all the cross-posted groups, excepting rec.radio.info itself. Again, if you do not wish this behavior, supply your own Followup-To line.

We maintain other standards on the various RFC-1036 (news transport) header lines. For example, if the article is appropriate for passing into the Packet Radio Information Network, we encapsulate the Packet Bulletin Identifier (BID) in the Message-ID: news header line indicating the machine of origin as the ampr.org domain:

Message-ID: <$opa.55.1994@ampr.org>

where the Packet Radio BID, in this example, is `$OPA.55', and it was posted in the year 1994, because some of the Bid numbers are cycled yearly. Hopefully, this can be used as a key to re-introduce the articles for the Packet Radio network. Also, if the article is a repost of an already existing information article in the rec.radio heirarchy, we ensure that the References: header line is linked to that previously posted article. This also helps to tag articles, and may be used for additional filtering if needed.

Since the articles are archived, please use the Summary and Keywords header lines to help one search for your article.

-- Why have I received no reply from you?

We never reject anything in silence, and we make a point of it to answer all our mail. However, E-mail, like a brain cell, can and does get lost, every now and again.

So, if you send us something, and you don't see it appear it rec.radio.info, and you still have not heard from us in reply after say, five days, you can be pretty sure that either your mail never reached us, or that our answer has never reached you. In that case, please try again (We will filter out duplicates).

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

679. Re: The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 16 (Apr 20, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-22 15:39:07 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <132n0c9j5rdkvd5@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 4784

Phil Kane wrote:
> On Sat, 21 Apr 2007 11:08:32 EDT, Larry <noone@home.com> wrote:
>
>> Now, why would the Red Cross be interested in my credit report and a report
>> on how and where I live....especially if I'm VOLUNTEERING my time and money
>> and equipment.....

Actually, the whole gist of the article was that the Red Cross is *not*
interested in your credit report. The issue relates to the wording on
the web site where you give your permission for the background check.
The ARRL insists that you're agreeing to a credit check; the Red Cross
doesn't see it that way. It's an unfortunate situation.

> This all sprang from the ARC requiring, in the aftermath of bad
> incidents in the Katrina recovery, that anyone handling ARC money or
> resources be vetted or bonded.

I'm not sure that "bonded" is the right word to use in this context. As
far as I know, bonding in the technical sense is not involved for
volunteers.

> Having served on the ARC California
> state communications advisory committee in years past, I have observed
> that, just as with many bureaucracies, they take that "if it's needed
> for one, it's needed for all" approach to such things.

Since a national disaster is likely to draw people from a large area, I
support the idea that a general Red-Cross-wide policy is appropriate.
Not that a background check is an infallible way of discouraging the
folks you want to discourage, but if I'm sleeping in an open room with
fifty other disaster volunteers, it makes me feel just a little more
secure if I think that the other people in the room had at least a
cursory screening.

> Having survived many security clearance investigations for both paid
> and unpaid positions, it's no big deal for me, but I suspect that they
> will back down on this one.

I really doubt that they will back down in terms of actual Red Cross
volunteers.

But I was encouraged that the latest information from the ARRL stresses
the fact that hams can help with communications for seven days without a
background check. Other than really significant national disasters,
that policy makes the background check a non issue.

73, Steve KB9X

680. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-22 15:52:02 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1177244280.372542.138590@y80g2000hsf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4785

On Apr 21, 11:09ï¿½am, groupk...@earthlink.net wrote:
> On Apr 21, 2:45 am, Larry <n...@home.com> wrote:
>
> > groupk...@earthlink.net wrote in news:1177105498.800186.298520
> > @y80g2000hsf.googlegroups.com:
>
> > > Our service will only continue to exist so long as the majority of the
> > > worlds national governments believe that we bring value to the public
> > > in exchange for the incredibly valuable RF spectrum that is entrusted
> > > to our use.
>
> > That might have been true before 2000, but isn't true today. Some
> > spectrum would be lost to services who are interested in VHF/UHF and
> > above. But, noone wants HF any more, as is self evident by the lack of
> > traffic across HF outside the ham bands.
>
> MF/HF is only a minor fraction of our allocations.

In terms of how many kHz we have, yes. Except for 6 meters has more
kHz than all of the 9 MF/HF bands plus the channels at 60 meters. Same
for almost every amateur allocation above 30 MHz.

But for some reason those HF/MF bands are considered extremely
desirable by radio amateurs.

>Maybe it's not
> vulnerable, or maybe it is, but compared to the massive amount of VHF/
> UHF spectrum we could lose, I consider HF an insignificant issue.

Which would you rather lose - 1 MHz of the 1296 MHz band, or all of
160, 40, 20, 30 and 17 meter bands? Same amount of bandwidth...

> So I pose my question again..... "What are we going to do about
> that?"

The first thing is to simply *use* that spectrum. The very best
argument for reassignment of spectrum is that the folks who have it
aren't using it. or aren't using much of it. That argument was one
reason we lost 220-222 MHz: the folks who wanted it were able to
convince FCC that we hams could fit all of our 220-222 activities into
222-225.

But you can't force amateurs to operate on certain bands. They can be
encouraged, but not forced. So the question becomes "what will make
the VHF/UHF amateur bands more attractive to hams?"

Perhaps a new generation of near-geosynchronous amateur satellites would attract more activity. Or the deployment of a highspeed linked repeater network. But those things require sizable infrastructure investments by amateurs.

Perhaps, when we speak of those VHF/UHF bands, we're seeing history repeat itself.

In 1912, amateurs were legislated to "200 Meters And Down", meaning they were legislated off what were then considered to be the most-useful wavelengths. After the 1912 laws went into effect, amateurs could get station licenses for any of the 'shortwaves' simply for the asking.

But once those amateurs showed how useful those 'shortwaves' were, others followed, and by 1924 or so amateurs were confined to certain bands. No longer could amateurs simply pick a wave and get a license to use it.

Then in 1927 came the "1929 rules", which significantly narrowed some of the existing bands. 40 meters had been 7000 - 8000 kHz before the 1929 rules, but once they went into effect, the band was 7000 - 7300. 20 meters went from 14000 - 16000 to 14000 - 14400. There were other changes such as requiring stable and clean signals.

Some said that those 1929 rules would strangle amateur radio, and would soon kill it off due to overcrowding and the expense/complexity of a "1929 transmitter". But exactly the opposite happened, because in the years after the 1929 rules, the number of US hams almost tripled and the technology used took great leaps forward.

We hams got our enormous VHF/UHF allocations after WW2, when much of it was considered relatively useless, or at least not as useful as the lower frequencies. That's all changed in the past couple of decades.

Perhaps it's 1929 all over again in some ways.

73 de Jim, N2EY

681. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-22 15:52:32 UTC
From: an old freind <konstans@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <1177256860.607592.231730@b75g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4786

On Apr 20, 6:00 pm, groupk...@earthlink.net wrote:
> Are we in danger of being the last generation of hams? (And if we
> are, what can we do to eliminate that danger?)

in danger? perhaps we are but we have ALWAYS been in such danger

are we likly to lose specturm? almost certainly

are we doomed? not likely

OTOH we certianly could use to be more encouraging of new hams

was at a Hamfest only yesterday the first for my wife as arelitivly
new general and she felt kida out of place and not exactly welcomed
(She is someone that they don't know quite what to make of although
most of the folks in room are more likely to have talked to her on Air
than they haare to have talked to me" and fewer stil of know exactly
what to make of me but those are other stmatters

one thing our clubs and hamfest comittees could do is be a bit more
organized about welcomeing New Hams

682. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-22 18:29:16 UTC
From: an old freind <konstans@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <1177262610.500973.232220@p77g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4787

On Apr 22, 11:52 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> On Apr 21, 11:09?am, groupk...@earthlink.net wrote:
>

> But you can't force amateurs to operate on certain bands. They can be
> encouraged, but not forced. So the question becomes "what will make
> the VHF/UHF amateur bands more attractive to hams?"
>
> Perhaps a new generation of near-geosynchronous amateur satellites
> would attract more activity. Or the deployment of a highspeed linked
> repeater network. But those things require sizable infrastructure
> investments by amateurs.

it would require not money but a Govt foot in the rear to gain Acess
to those orbital spots there is already something of a traffic jam

OTOH one thing that might help is for old hams to learn more about
about how we can in fact in Do such things as EME I ended up giving
going abit about Modern EME and Ms work at our local hamfest (I may
end up riding a circut giving tlaks on the subject in the UP but that
is another thread

683. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-22 21:54:17 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1177277595.328042.37130@y5g2000hsa.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4788

Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote on Sat, 21 Apr 2007 09:19:50 EDT:

>groupk...@earthlink.net wrote:
>> I think if the members of ITU collectively asked "Are the hams of the
>> world doing anything which justifies their generous chunks assigned
>> spectrum?" the honest answer would be "Probably not."
>
>> What are we going to do about that?
>
>I'm frankly more concerned about the people aspect of this issue than
>the spectrum issue.

That's a very valid concern and goes to the core of present-day amateur radio activity.

>As others in the thread have pointed out, HF spectrum is not
>particularly valuable these days. I don't think we're in any huge
>danger of losing those allocations. Even VHF and the lower end of UHF
>aren't as sought-after as they once were.

True enough at the regulatory level.

>The thing that bothers me is the decline in the number of active ham
>radio operators. Ham radio as a hobby has many aspects, but most of
>them involve collaboration with other people, either on the air or
>otherwise. As the number of people declines, the potential for the
>hobby as a whole declines.

Our entire USA society has far more available recreational pursuits now than a half century ago when I was a young adult. That affects every recreational activity, not just amateur radio. It is also quite normal in human society.

On the other hand, the newcomers to amateur radio are, just barely, keeping pace with the number of licensee expirations. That has been going on for four years since the peak of 2003. Further, newcomers have been entering the ham world above 30 MHz, a region quite different from the older, established HF world.

Communication is a common desire in all human groupings. In all forms. In 2004 the US Bureau of the Census reported that one out of three Americans had a cell phone subscription. Not bad for a public service that, 20 years ago, barely had enough users to be worth a poll-taking effort. The Census Bureau also said that one in five American households had some form of Internet access; the Internet went public in 1991, just 16

years ago. Internet access is not possible without some form
of personal computer which, a quarter century ago, were things
only for computer hobbyists. We all have had wired telephone
service all our lives yet that didn't exist two centuries ago.
We have, nearly everywhere, more TV channels for news as well
as entertainment now than the TV Boom times of the 1950s. We
have the CDs for music, video, and personal data such as
photos (instant digital, no going to "have them developed").
We have boom boxes, IPods, and broadcast receivers built into
headsets. We are almost awash with individual information
and entertainment input. :-)

Considering all of the above, I was a bit surprised to see
so many folks younger than I (almost everyone is) in the 20
or so at my amateur radio test session of 25 Feb 07. There
were about 10 more in the beginning but those were doing
adminstrative changes or changing from Tech Plus to Tech,
clearing the room for the actual testing.

>I live in a rural area, so I see this trend more than those of you in
>densely-populated areas. Our local club is teetering on the edge of
>extinction, and the people who are involved tend not to be much
>interested in radio -- they care more about the social aspects of
>drinking coffee with their buddies. When it's time to mount some kind
>of local effort, be it Skywarn, Field Day, or even the annual picnic,
>it's harder and harder to attract a critical mass of people to participate.

That is common in human groupings. Clubs are essentially
fraternal orders, though usually on a smaller scale. Some
were formed for a specific purpose, not necessarily for the
entirety of all amateur radio activities.

Clubs about specific activites will, over time, morph into
reflections of those in the club who wish to lead more than
be enthused about an activity per se. That is normal also.
Depending on the type of leadership, a club may or may not
be "good" for that activity. Unfortunately, quantification
of "good" tends to be subjective to every interpreter of it.

>I suspect that my view is atypical, but I don't know if it's atypical
>because it forecasts what's in store for ham radio as a hobby, or
>atypical because it's not seeing the positive aspects like young people
>entering the hobby. But the future of the hobby depends on *people*.

Absolutely depends on people. My issue with "my" national
organization is that they pay too much attention on extremes,
the long-timers and the newcomers. They almost ignore the
huge demographic grouping in the middle. They have made very
little attempt to recruit membership of the huge license
class (the biggest for years, without doubt) who were
restricted to the spectrum above 30 MHz in the USA. The
continuing emphasis in activities have been on "the bands"

referring to HF, the old ways of the hobby. That went, in my view, from "gentrification" to "stratification." That reflects downward to the local club level.

I'm all for "young people" entering amateur radio. But that is not the only demographic source of newcomers. An objective examination would show that "young people" are the most-influenced by peer pressure and the tremendous entertainment resources available to them now. Largely ignored is the twenty- and thirty-somethings who have started to stabilize in their life experience, have reached an economic level where they can afford a hobby and have some leisure time available.

I've always heard the carbon-copy stories that described teen "discoveries" of radio and that becoming their lifelong passion. It was never in regulations that one had to be a teen-ager to begin in amateur radio, nor any life oath of obeisance to amateur radio had to be sworn. On closer scrutiny, most of those teeners were such 40 to 30 years ago. Times and our society have changed but most such story-tellers seem to be unchanged.

>... To me, the goal is to recruit young
>folks into the hobby and to actually involve them so that they're active
>hams instead of numbers in a listing.

That's an excellent beginning.

A caveat: If they are active, the activity does not have to be activity of the mode of 30 to 50 years ago. Newcomers will find their own way to their own desires of activity...just like old-timers did a long time ago for their desires.

Newcomers are PEOPLE. They are not "recruits" (a la military) who must be indoctrinated almost forcibly into certain ways. While that is almost done in some clubs, it has a negative effect and the newcomers tend to say/think unprintable words to would-be leaders and drop out of the hobby in disgust.

Newcomers to the hobby don't all accept the "territorial imperative" of the long-timer who continually implies "THIS is how WE do it in ham radio." Newcomers can become familiar quickly enough with accepted formality and self-styled "radio cops" aren't needed on the air. Neither should there be a continual expressed bigotry about CB by radio amateurs. CB has been around for 49 years in the USA.

I would say that the amateur radio of now is interesting enough to the generations of now. The statistics seem to bear that out. Those actively engaged in recruiting newcomers need to look around at what is popular to the generations of now in ham radio. That may be the hardest task of all...learning what is new by those who thought

they knew it all.

Clubs as "recruting stations" for ham radio need honest enthusiasm about PEOPLE of all kinds, all ages, be friendly on a people level and not try so hard at "selling" the hobby. Newcomers who've shown up at a club have already expressed enough interest to show up, do not need the "salesmen" types who want to "make a deal" for them.

>I just don't know what those ways are.

There's no sure-fire cure. I'm not sure that there needs to be one. I've suggested a few but examples of good and bad (and indifferent) leadership abound in the various local fraternal orders and other-hobby clubs. As we agree, times have changed. That is not only for amateur radio but other hobby activities as well. We all have to change to stay "with it."

73, Len AF6AY

684. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-23 01:29:22 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1177280807.746654.5320@o5g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4789

N...@AOL.COM wrote on Sun, 22 Apr 2007 11:52:02 EDT:

>On Apr 21, 11:09?am, groupk...@earthlink.net wrote:
>> On Apr 21, 2:45 am, Larry <n...@home.com> wrote:
>> > groupk...@earthlink.net wrote in news:1177105498.800186.298520

>> > > Our service will only continue to exist so long as the majority of the
>> > > worlds national governments believe that we bring value to the public
>> > > in exchange for the incredibly valuable RF spectrum that is entrusted
>> > > to our use.
>
>> > That might have been true before 2000, but isn't true today. ?Some
>> > spectrum would be lost to services who are interested in VHF/UHF and
>> > above. ?But, noone wants HF any more, as is self evident by the lack of
>> > traffic across HF outside the ham bands.

>>Maybe it's not
>> vulnerable, or maybe it is, but compared to the massive amount of VHF/
>> UHF spectrum we could lose, I consider HF an insignificant issue.
>
>Which would you rather lose - 1 MHz of the 1296 MHz band, or all of
>160, 40, 20, 30 and 17 meter bands? Same amount of bandwidth...

Are radio amateurs going to "lose" EM spectrum space? I didn't
know this was so dictated. If amateurs want to keep something in
radio, they have to continually fight for it; just because they
got some allocations once doesn't mean it is forever.

In the last half century, amateur radio worldwide has GAINED
allocations, not lost. Begin with WARC-79 decisions...

>> So I pose my question again..... ?"What are we going to do about
>> that?"
>
>The first thing is to simply *use* that spectrum. The very best
>argument for reassignment of spectrum is that the folks who have it
>aren't using it. or aren't using much of it.

How does "*use*" of line-of-sight get publicized nationally?

The NTIS has a specific EM Survey mobile unit which has been
used to take readings of certain areas of the United States
over an extremely wide range of frequencies. Those surveys are
available to the public and each one is extensive, technically
explicit.

Other than "popular activities" described in amateur radio
interest periodicals, the use of line-of-sight frequencies is
mentioned only in regards to an already-allocated radio
service in trade journals.

>That argument was one
>reason we lost 220-222 MHz: the folks who wanted it were able to
>convince FCC that we hams could fit all of our 220-222 activities into
>222-225.

"220" wasn't the only amateur band in dispute in the last half
century in the USA. The politics of the various disputes can't
be simplistically interpreted. As I recall, not a user of "220"
at the time, the ARRL did not argue effectively enough for its
retention to convince the FCC.

>But you can't force amateurs to operate on certain bands. They can be
>encouraged, but not forced.

Yes, they can be forced. See "200 Meters and down."

>So the question becomes "what will make
>the VHF/UHF amateur bands more attractive to hams?"

I wasn't aware that the ham bands above 30 MHz were not
attractive. Radio equipment manufacturers are continually
supplying radios and advertising VHF-and-up radios, have
been for years. There's obviously a market for them as
witness the continued advertising campaign waged with
high monetary values.

Since the inception of the no-code-test Technician class
license 16 years ago, the vast majority of newcomers in the
USA have entered amateur radio in the "world above 30 MHz."
The Technician class has become - easily - the most numerous
of all US amateur radio classes. No-code-test Technicians
were banned from privileges below 30 MHz in the USA. "Techs"
continue being newcomers despite cessation of morse code
testing in the USA for amateurs.

The migration to VHF and above in amateur radio is not
confined to the USA. JARL and Japanese electronics industry
have developed D-Star specifically for digital modes on
VHF and above. AOR in Japan has one digital voice adapter
for voice-bandwidth radios and another one from Germany has
been described in the April QST issue this year. While US
HF-only hams may shun digital anything on "their" bands, such
is readily useable on VHF and above with no basic changes.

>Perhaps a new generation of near-geosynchronous amateur satellites
>would attract more activity.

Perhaps it would be prudent to take a good look around
at the activity at VHF and above that is going on today?

>Or the deployment of a highspeed linked
>repeater network. But those things require sizable infrastructure
>investments by amateurs.

Is that a necessity? In 1977 I was shown the start of what
would grow into the present-day Condor Net on the "220" band,
operating in three states (CA, NV, AZ) and capable of being
tone-coded-linking from one repeater to any other repeater.
That was without using conventional digital logic or the
ubiquitous microprocessor. Sizeable investment by amateurs?
Yes, but also willingly done. Well done, I might add.

The latest ARRL Repeater Directory shows an enormity of
repeaters ("sizeable infrastructure investments"), most of
them public-access, installed and operated by radio amateurs.
Repeaters have been put into place all over the USA in the
last three decades plus. Even without repeaters, the use
of VHF-UHF and even low microwaves by radio amateurs has
become sizeable in urban areas of the USA.

>We hams got our enormous VHF/UHF allocations after WW2, when much of
>it was considered relatively useless, or at least not as useful as the
>lower frequencies. That's all changed in the past couple of decades.

Not being a licensed radio amateur right after WWII, I was
unaware that "VHF/UHF" was "useless." Edwin Armstrong
pioneered FM broadcasting there in the 1930s. Public safety
radio started the use it in the last 1930s, finding it very
useful compared to the old HF radios a few agencies had.
The US military was already using low VHF in the 1930s and
would continue that with the famed "walkie-talkie" of WWII.
The fledgling TV broadcast industry and their equipment
makers had already standardized on low-VHF frequencies in the
1930s (via the "first" NTSC). The US military switched to
low-VHF FM radios for vehicular operation en masse at the
beginning of WWII...even the USN had its "TBS." Radar, a
savior of tacticians in WWII, had to operate on UHF and
microwaves, was predictably quite successful in that RF
region. Still is.

All of the preceding paragraph took place 7 decades ago,
not a "couple" of them.

>Perhaps it's 1929 all over again in some ways.

Perhaps too many of the HF persuasion are affected with
ennui over their self-imposed limitations of radio use.
I still see an unlimited vista of hope and adventure in
the future. The state of the art of radio-electronics is
constantly advancing. By the looks of things, it isn't
about to stop anytime soon. Change keeps happening.

Those who refuse to change, want their endless youthful discoveries to continue, want to close off amateur activities to what was long ago, will all mourn and wail over "losses." The rest of the world will continue without them, changing things to fit the new people, not the old ones. Those who want something will have to go out and WORK for it, DO something about it, not sit around and grouse about things not being the same. The new people will have earned theirs and the future will be different. I say good for them!

73, Len AF6AY

PS: No "artifacts" were exploited or utilized on this text file upload.

685. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-23 01:31:08 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1177291522.134236.156820@e65g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4790

xxx <x...@yyy.zzz> wrote on Fri, 20 Apr 2007 22:45:26 EDT

> AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
>> xxx <x...@yyy.zzz> wrote on Thu, 19 Apr 2007 07:41:27 EDT:

>> "Once upon a time" is approximately the time period prior to
>> World War II...the first 44 years of "radio" as a communications
>> medium.
>
> I would have extended that time frame into the 1960's or even the
>1970's when moonbounce experiments still made the news.

The first-ever successful moonbounce was done by the U.S.
Army Signal Corps in the forties right after end of WWII.
The Army dubbed that experiment "Project Diana." That
was two decades prior to the 1960s.

My choice of the first 44 years versus the last 67 years
may seem arbitrary but the Second World War was a decided
changeover time in technology of all electronics, including
that small subset of it called radio.

> Your point is not clear. Are you claiming that since those
>technologies originated with other radio services that the
>contribution by hams was small or are you claiming that since hams
>developed and popularized those technologies that hams' contribution
>was large?

I do not claim anything. I summarized the major points of
technology untilized in amateur radio during the last 67
years of radio's existance. In the first 44 years of radio,
radio itself was considered the high-tech application of
electronics. The vacuum tube had some applications in audio
amplification and specialized instruments but "radio" for
one-way or two-way communications was favored. Radio then
was noted by the public as primarily for broadcasting but
the public were also aware of the "ham radio operator" in
this high-tech-of-its-day field.

After WWII, based on the necessities of expanding the
technology needs of war, electronics began spreading far
and wide, using circuits and systems rare or unheard-of
by the public prior to WWII: Television, "high-Fi" music
systems, magnetic tape recording (in the home as well as
in entertainment industry), FM broadcasting as an adjunct
to home music systems, electronic flash units for photo-

graphy, photoelectric systems for security and warning, intercom systems, dictating machines. That was prior to the invention of the transistor and the true start of the solid-state era in electronics.

The transistor, various junction diode types, the integrated circuit, then the large-scale-integrated circuit semiconductor structures' availability can be likened to a megaton explosion of applications and increases in electronics use in our daily lives, from medicine and health, to accounting and automatic control, to all manner of consumer electronics not practically possible prior to WWII. "Radio" per se took a back seat in applications in the whole of the electronics industry's design and development efforts. That's neither good nor bad, simply that the possible number of applications for all electronics taking advantage of solid-state components has been almost overwhelming in quantity and scope. That continues today.

That radio communications equipment design has adopted many techniques and components used in other areas of electronics should not be a detriment. Some non-radio applications "borrowed" from radio design and one even preceded radio use: Frequency-multiplexed multi-channel carrier systems for long-distance wired telephony, also known as Single Sideband. :-)

A microprocessor or microcontroller is entirely digital in operation, yet is applied to analog radio now almost universally. That was not possible prior to 1970, yet amateur radio designs from off-the-shelf today nearly all use them for a large variety of functions, everything from HTs to top-of-the-line HF DX machines down to test equipment. It ENABLES many functions not available prior to WWII designs and its substitutes for old design funcions are superior in operation.

Electronics (including radio) does considerable "cross-pollination" of circuits and subsystems from one specialty area to another. That is good rather than bad. "Radio" has lost its specific nature of exclusivity in structure of all-analog circuits. The vacuum tube is almost obsolete for new radios, surviving only in high-power RF amplifiers for amateur, commercial, and broad-casting use. Even those are getting competition from high-frequency power transistor modular architectures. The cathode-ray tube is going that way, replaced with solid-state LCD, TFT, Plasma flat display screens, not just in television but also in oscillography and small instrumentation plus consumer applications like gas

ranges, microwaves, and lawn sprinkler controllers. About the only area of vacuum tubes not quite (yet) replaced by solid-state are high-sensitivity photo-multipliers and night observation devices. Even those are seeing competition now.

Innovation and invention today depends more on the adaptation of existing components and subsystems and putting them together than outright invention-from-scratch. Even the U.S. Patent Office is aware of that. My single patent grant in 1974 was #3,848,191. GAP Antenna Products got one in 1997 as #5,592,183 (reading from a GAP pamphlet). Nearly 2 million Patents granted in only about 25 years. :-)

Radio per se is not much involved in just trying to get a handle on how the whole thing works. That was needed in its first four decades. Messrs Hartley, Colpitts, and Pierce gave us basic oscillators necessary to start generating RF but later came Butler and others with variations using 3rd, 5th, even 7th overtone crystal controlled oscillators, plus the Varian brothers' Klystron and the original Magnetron (from the UK). Would we have a microwave oven in nearly every kitchen today if the magnetron had not been invented? :-)

BTW, the most-used oscillator circuit of today is based on the CMOS inverter with feedback through a quartz crystal or other resonator. No name associated with it. Every microprocessor has such a clock oscillator, active devices usually built-in.

> If you look at the foundational documents of ham radio (FCC Part
>97, current test question pools), it is made quite clear that ham
>radio exists for the primary purpose of having trained radio
>operators available in case of emergency. Contributing to the
>advancement of the radio art comes next. Having an enjoyable hobby is
>not even mentioned.

I have a 1997 complete 5-volume set of Title 47 Code of Federal Regulations and the current copy of Part 97, Title 47 C.F.R. Nowhere is the word "hobby" written in those regulations. That is de jure. De facto is that amateur radio is, by and large, a hobby radio activity, done for personal reasons and not for monetary compensation. The FCC is aware of that, the ARRL is aware of that, the IARU is aware of that, hundreds of different nation's administrations are aware of that.

I also have a complete set of the current NCVEC Question Pools, obtained from www.ncvec.org directly; such are not found in Part 97...but should be available through any of the many VECs.

It was not clear to me that my amateur radio test taken and passed on 25 February 2007 was for an Amateur Emergency Radio Operator. I was already a General Radiotelephone Operator (Commercial) since taking and passing my First Class Radio-telephone (Commercial) operator license in 1956. Prior to that the United States Army had trained me to operate and maintain radio communications equipment on HF, VHF, UHF, and microwave bands. I've already used my First 'Phone/GROL in other radio services. In various Parts of Title 47 C.F.R., the FCC specifically states that any emergency situation involving safety of life, no license is required to use a radio to seek help. Why would I have gotten an Amateur Radio license to be an emergency operator? I could have joined the Los Angeles Auxilliary Communications Service directly or even the California (state) Auxilliary Communications Service (they don't require any license at all). The test session was in an L.A. ACS station building, formerly a small fire house for the LAFD. I got my Amateur Radio Operator license for use in a personal hobby. That isn't against the law or even unpatriotic.

> Your comments don't follow from mine. I stated that the FCC, in
>effect, 'overruled' the ARRL and the old hams when it eliminated the
>code test. The key question is 'WHY did the FCC do that.' I am
>convinced that the FCC perceived the code requirement as being at the
>root of ham radio's failure to innovate or provide training to
>subsequent generations. The FCC killed it in order to end ham radio's
>decades-long stagnation.

You are welcome to your opinion. Seventeen years ago the FCC answered a public request when it issued a Notice of Proposed Rule Making on the creation of the no-code-test Technician class license. It said then that the Commission did not feel a test for Morse Code skill/comprehension was necessary in its regulatory position of determining whether or not an applicant was worthy of being granted an amateur radio license. A copy is available at www.nocode.org as FCC 90-53. Nine years later in Report and Order 99-412 ('Restructuring') the Commission stated nearly the same when it dropped all Morse Code test rates to 5 words per minute equivalent. By far, the largest and fastest growing U.S. Amateur Radio Service license class has been the no-code-test Technician class. The peak in number of amateur licenses granted occurred in 2003.

I see all of that as public demand, not to "support" amateur radio. From the Communications Act of 1934 to the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (both Laws of Congress) the FCC is obliged to regulate civil communications services of the United States. It is not obliged to support any one radio service over and above any other.

73, Len AF6AY

686. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-23 03:02:22 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1177291891.450456.262470@y80g2000hsf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4791

On Apr 22, 3:52 pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:

>
> Which would you rather lose - 1 MHz of the 1296 MHz band, or all of
> 160, 40, 20, 30 and 17 meter bands? Same amount of bandwidth...
>

That's misdirection, Jim, and ignores the question "What are we going to do about that?"

>
> In 1912, amateurs were legislated to "200 Meters And Down", meaning
> they were legislated off what were then considered to be the most-
> useful wavelengths.
>

So maybe the answer is that the FCC should craft a new challenge of similar magnitude to stimulate the Amateur Radio service to a new golden age, similar to that which followed the 200-meters-and-down challenge.

How about this, for a two step approach?

1) Institute a new "top" license class with a "technical quotient" about 3 times as challenging as the current Extra class license, and keep the question pool secret. Holders of this license could experiment on any amateur frequency (with the usual "no deliberate interference" caveat) with any modulation scheme or information encoding scheme without special authorization or STA.

2) Starting 10 years from the effective date of the R&O, require that the following band segments can only be used with modulation types and information coding schemes which were invented in the previous 15 years. All of 160M. 3550-3600KHz. 3900-4000KHz. 7050-7150KHz. 7250-7300KHz. 14050-14100KHz. 14300-14350KHz. 21050-21100KHZ. 21400-21450KHz. All of 10M. 146-148MHz. 222-225MHz. All bands above 432MHz.

687. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-23 09:57:30 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1177319899.299986.209230@b75g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4792

On Apr 22, 11:02ï¿½pm, groupk...@earthlink.net wrote:
> On Apr 22, 3:52 pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:

> > Which would you rather lose - 1 MHz of the 1296 MHz band, or all of
> > 160, 40, 20, 30 and 17 meter bands? Same amount of bandwidth...
>
> That's misdirection, Jim, and ignores the question "What are we going
> to do about that?"
>
It's not misdirection, Hans. It's a plain and simple question, meant
to focus on the fact that not all kHz are created equal.
>
> > In 1912, amateurs were legislated to "200 Meters And Down", meaning
> > they were legislated off what were then considered to be the most-
> > useful wavelengths.
>
> So maybe the answer is that the FCC should craft a new challenge of
> similar magnitude to stimulate the Amateur Radio service to a new
> golden age, similar to that which followed the 200-meters-and-down
> challenge.

Perhaps.
>
> How about this, for a two step approach?
>
> 1) Institute a new "top" license class with a "technical quotient"
> about 3 times as challenging as the current Extra class license, and
> keep the question pool secret.

I like it! The only problem is, how would the question pool be kept
secret? How could FCC be convinced, after a quarter-century of
published Q&A pools and the VE system, that this new license class
needed a different exam system than all the rest?

> Holders of this license could
> experiment on any amateur frequency (with the usual "no deliberate
> interference" caveat) with any modulation scheme or information
> encoding scheme without special authorization or STA.

The problem I see with that is, who defines 'experiment' or
'deliberate interference'?

I could see the license being used as a way around mode-subband
restrictions, rather than real experimentation.

> 2) Starting 10 years from the effective date of the R&O, require that
> the following band segments can only be used with modulation types and
> information coding schemes which were invented in the previous 15
> years. All of 160M. 3550-3600KHz. 3900-4000KHz. 7050-7150KHz.
> 7250-7300KHz. 14050-14100KHz. 14300-14350KHz. 21050-21100KHZ.
> 21400-21450KHz. All of 10M. 146-148MHz. 222-225MHz. All bands
> above 432MHz.

Which means that 160, 10, 220 and all above 432 would no longer be
available for the use of SSB, DSB, AM, FM, RTTY, AMTOR, PACTOR, SSTV,
TV, PSK31, and CW. Plus considerable segments of the rest of the
amateur bands would lose those modes as well. Not by voluntarily
abandonment of old modes but by law.

I don't think that's a good idea. Just because something isn't brand
new doesn't mean it should be legislated off the air.

73 de Jim, N2EY

688. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-23 10:38:06 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <593eg9F2iol98U1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4793

<N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote in message
news:1177319899.299986.209230@b75g2000hsg.googlegroups.com
> On Apr 22, 11:02?pm, groupk...@earthlink.net wrote:
> > On Apr 22, 3:52 pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:

[snip]

> > So maybe the answer is that the FCC should craft a new
> > challenge of similar magnitude to stimulate the Amateur
> > Radio service to a new golden age, similar to that
> > which followed the 200-meters-and-down challenge.
>
> Perhaps.

Putting my UK hat on, how would anything done by the FCC affect us over
here, or anywhere else in the world for that matter..?

Radio knows no international frontiers and the FCC has no jurisdiction
outside of the US.

73 Ivor G6URP

689. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-23 14:17:05 UTC
From: Jack VK2CJC <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com>
Message-ID: <f0i2lefct1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 4794

> Putting my UK hat on, how would anything done by the FCC affect us over
> here, or anywhere else in the world for that matter..?
>
> Radio knows no international frontiers and the FCC has no jurisdiction
> outside of the US.

I second that remark. There's more to radio than the FCC :o)

--
Jack VK2CJC / MM0AXL
FISTS# 9666
Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group
www.mncarg.org

690. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-23 14:18:53 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <132pdno46j678c4@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 4795

groupk0hb@earthlink.net wrote:

> How about this, for a two step approach? [to the issue of losing spectrum]
>
> 1) Institute a new "top" license class with a "technical quotient"
> about 3 times as challenging as the current Extra class license, and
> keep the question pool secret. Holders of this license could
> experiment on any amateur frequency (with the usual "no deliberate
> interference" caveat) with any modulation scheme or information
> encoding scheme without special authorization or STA.

How many people do you think would obtain this license? I don't see a latent demand out there for authorization to experiment with modes that require special authorization. I'm afraid that the actual result would be only a tiny number of upgrades, which would serve as evidence that the amateur radio service didn't need the spectrum it has now.

> 2) Starting 10 years from the effective date of the R&O, require that
> the following band segments can only be used with modulation types and
> information coding schemes which were invented in the previous 15
> years. All of 160M. 3550-3600KHz. 3900-4000KHz. 7050-7150KHz.
> 7250-7300KHz. 14050-14100KHz. 14300-14350KHz. 21050-21100KHZ.
> 21400-21450KHz. All of 10M. 146-148MHz. 222-225MHz. All bands
> above 432MHz.

I understand your reasoning here -- you're trying to encourage use of new technology via regulation. Again, I'm afraid that it would have the opposite effect in terms of maintaining spectrum allocations -- the FCC would point to the lack of usage and use that as justification to reallocate the spectrum.

Both of these ideas attempt to change behavior of the existing populatiion of amateur radio operators. I think it's more important to focus on ideas that expand the population of licensed operators by attracting new people.

Your focus tends to be showing the regulators that hams are technical innovators, thus they deserve frequency allocations. My focus tends to be increasing the overall population of the users to increase the usage of our allocations, thus justifying them. Both of these techniques work and can be used at the same time.

I really think that the key is communications, or call it public relations or marketing if you wish. It has always struck me as ironic that hams, in a hobby that is basically communications, are generally horrible communicators. We need to motivate existing hams to actually

participate in the hobby, and we need to get the message out to potential new licensees that ham radio is an attractive leisure-time activity for them. Easy for me to say . . . but I've not personally been very successful at actually *doing* anything.

691. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-23 14:40:48 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1177338581.109385.207010@e65g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4796

On Apr 23, 9:57 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:

>
> Which means that 160, 10, 220 and all above 432 would no longer be
> available for the use of SSB, DSB, AM, FM, RTTY, AMTOR, PACTOR, SSTV,
> TV, PSK31, and CW. Plus considerable segments of the rest of the
> amateur bands would lose those modes as well. Not by voluntarily
> abandonment of old modes but by law.
>

Exactly. The point of the exercise is to precipitate a "crisis" or a "challenge" similar to the "200-meters-and-down" event which is widely claimed as the catalyst which launched the "golden age" of amateur radio advancement.

Only this crisis would leave some residual segments for those not inclined to accept the challenge.

73, de Hans, K0HB

692. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-23 17:35:44 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f0ijh7qrk1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4797

KH6HZ wrote:

> Yes, well, the world was a very different place 50 years ago.
>
> Neither of my parents were required to sign an employment contract which
> contains a clause to the effect of "anything you invent, even if its on your
> own time, we own". Yet, such clauses are routine these days in virtually
> every employment contract I've signed, or seen.
>
> Perhaps we have the lawyerification of America to partially blame?

I signed one of those at my first technical job clear back in 1972, and
one for every employer since then. As far as I can tell, all of the
forms are valid forever, and if I invent something profitable enough,
all of my previous employers are going to go after it.

I don't think that we have become more greedy or self serving over the
years. I'm more inclined to think a nostalgia effect is at work.

> I'm not really sure. Maybe people are less altruistic today than they were
> 30+ years ago.

In my field, I find many people writing and giving away software. I
think how much altruism exists depends on a person's outlook.

> Perhaps the popularity of ham radio is declining not because of anything to
> do with ham radio itself, but instead simply a matter of the changing
> society in the world as a whole.

What do you base the thesis of declining popularity on?

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

693. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-23 17:36:03 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1177344078.090307.109000@o5g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4798

>
> I second that remark. There's more to radio than the FCC :o)
>
> --
> Jack VK2CJC / MM0AXL
>

I wholeheartedly agree, Jack, and I didn't mean to imply that FCC had
any jurisdiction outside of the USA.

73, de Hans, K0HB

694. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-23 17:36:28 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1177343958.422385.141420@e65g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4699
Body handling: HTML body converted to readable text

On Apr 23, 10:38 am, "Ivor Jones" wrote:

>
> Putting my UK hat on, how would anything done by the FCC affect us over
> here, or anywhere else in the world for that matter..?
>

It would have no regulatory effect at all outside the jurisdiction of the FCC, and your operations wouldn't be directly affected at all.

However, presuming the idea gained traction, obviously the secondary effect would be that hams in other countries would want to also experiment with any new modes or techniques they heard on the air and would petition their regulators to allow it.

I'm reminded of a "reverse" example of this which happened here in North America awhile back. For several years Canadian amateurs were allowed on-the-air development and use of AX-25 (packet radio) but FCC regulations prohibited W/K hams from participating. Eventually we were able to convince FCC to allow this mode. Thus in this example, the action of the Canadian regulators had an indirect secondary effect of eventually changing the mind of the FCC.

73, de Hans, K0HB

695. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-23 17:36:53 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1177346193.547512.246690@e65g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4700

On Apr 23, 9:57 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:

>The only problem is, how would the question pool be kept
> secret?

At this point in the discussion, I'd certainly consider that a
question which would need to be addressed in the implementation.

> How could FCC be convinced, after a quarter-century of
> published Q&A pools and the VE system, that this new license class
> needed a different exam system than all the rest?

By a well constructed proposal which effectively demonstrates the
benefits of a renewed spirit of experimentation and innovation by
hams.

>
> The problem I see with that is, who defines 'experiment' or
> 'deliberate interference'?
>

Who defines 'deliberate interference' now. K4ZDH comes to mind.

The definition of what would qualify as an experimental mode (not
currently in use) would be a trival administrative exercise.

> I could see the license being used as a way around mode-subband
> restrictions, rather than real experimentation.

Yes, Jim, there will always be some sea-lawyers who will try to
exploit 'cracks' in the regulations.

Obviously my PBI above is not a finished product and does not address
all the potential 'problems' and 'abuse opportunities'. I'd like to
consider it as a starting point for positive discussion. Thank you
for your participation in that spirit.

73, de Hans, K0HB

696. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-23 17:37:41 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f0iq9h$133i$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4701

groupk0hb@earthlink.net wrote:
> On Apr 22, 3:52 pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>
>> Which would you rather lose - 1 MHz of the 1296 MHz band, or all of
>> 160, 40, 20, 30 and 17 meter bands? Same amount of bandwidth...
>>
>
> That's misdirection, Jim, and ignores the question "What are we going
> to do about that?"
>
>> In 1912, amateurs were legislated to "200 Meters And Down", meaning
>> they were legislated off what were then considered to be the most-
>> useful wavelengths.
>>
>
> So maybe the answer is that the FCC should craft a new challenge of
> similar magnitude to stimulate the Amateur Radio service to a new
> golden age, similar to that which followed the 200-meters-and-down
> challenge.

The golden age of Ham radio is the time at which the individual Ham got started. I digress, though.

I don't think that restrictions or challenges are the way to go. The 1912 Hams were not put there as a challenge to get them to innovate. They were put there because the frequencies were not thought to be worth much to anyone.

> How about this, for a two step approach?
>
> 1) Institute a new "top" license class with a "technical quotient"
> about 3 times as challenging as the current Extra class license, and
> keep the question pool secret. Holders of this license could
> experiment on any amateur frequency (with the usual "no deliberate
> interference" caveat) with any modulation scheme or information
> encoding scheme without special authorization or STA.
>
> 2) Starting 10 years from the effective date of the R&O, require that
> the following band segments can only be used with modulation types and
> information coding schemes which were invented in the previous 15
> years. All of 160M.

160 meters has a whole lot of baggage just to set up a station. Lot's of real estate comes to mind, as well as other antenna issues.

3550-3600KHz. 3900-4000KHz. 7050-7150KHz.
> 7250-7300KHz. 14050-14100KHz. 14300-14350KHz. 21050-21100KHZ.
> 21400-21450KHz. All of 10M. 146-148MHz. 222-225MHz. All bands
> above 432MHz.

Way too complex, IMO. And what happens to those 15 y.o. "new" technologies on Year 15 plus one day? The modulation scheme has to find a new place among all the other old school stuff. And tne need for gentlemen's band plans increase (the newer/lesser used modes really like to congregate, since there is a big difference between tuning a band to find ssb or cw signals and trying to find one little PSK signal over a whole band.

One real challenge would be to confine all Ham radio activity to one band! ;^)

Modes are an interesting conundrum. Most Hams want someone to talk, type, or tap to. So the coolest modulation scheme or digital voice mode isn't going to be of much use unless you have someone on the other end doing the same thing.

And to answer your question, we aren't going to be the last generation of Hams, IMO.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

697. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-23 17:45:29 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1177350186.719651.279090@b75g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4702

On Apr 23, 2:18 pm, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:

> My focus tends to be increasing the overall population of the users
> to increase the usage of our allocations, thus justifying them.

I'm not persuaded of the validity of that approach for a couple of
reasons.

1) There's no shortage of hams.

2) In many cases, simple "usage" has not been sufficient to retain an
allocation. Notice for example, television broadcasters (a much more
powerful 'lobby' than ham radio) has already been kicked off channels
70 through 83 and are in the process of being kicked off channels 52
through 69. In the near future television broadcasters will also lose
the heavily occupied VHF channels. If the politically and financially
powerful broadcasting industry could not retain those assignments, how
can hams even pretend to be able to make a case based on "population
of users" who are for the most part avocational users?

73, de Hans, K0HB

698. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-23 17:45:57 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f0irau$1354$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4703

groupk0hb@earthlink.net wrote:
> On Apr 23, 9:57 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>
>> Which means that 160, 10, 220 and all above 432 would no longer be
>> available for the use of SSB, DSB, AM, FM, RTTY, AMTOR, PACTOR, SSTV,
>> TV, PSK31, and CW. Plus considerable segments of the rest of the
>> amateur bands would lose those modes as well. Not by voluntarily
>> abandonment of old modes but by law.
>>
>
> Exactly. The point of the exercise is to precipitate a "crisis" or a
> "challenge" similar to the "200-meters-and-down" event which is widely
> claimed as the catalyst which launched the "golden age" of amateur
> radio advancement.

I assume you are playing devil's advocate here Hans?

An artificial crisis could have some nasty unintended results, IMO. And I don't buy that it was the crisis effect that stimulated innovation for those Hams of days gone by anyway. What they did was discover certain features of HF that were not already known. That isn't to downplay the effort, that is just how things happen. If Hams weren't confined there, someone else probably would have eventually.

If we eliminate everything but new(er) modes from 160 meters, are major discoveries going to come out of it? Not likely. I'm also trying to imagine someone getting fined by th eFCC for using an "old mode" - say a 16 year old one - on 160 meters. Just too complex a schem for my taste.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

699. Re: The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 16 (Apr 20, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-23 18:18:39 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f0iscvqis1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4704

Steve Bonine wrote:
> Phil Kane wrote:
>> On Sat, 21 Apr 2007 11:08:32 EDT, Larry <noone@home.com> wrote:
>>
>>> Now, why would the Red Cross be interested in my credit report and a
>>> report on how and where I live....especially if I'm VOLUNTEERING my
>>> time and money and equipment.....
>
> Actually, the whole gist of the article was that the Red Cross is *not*
> interested in your credit report.

Yet. it's always important to point out that after some incident where a bad egg slips past the "good boy" screening, there will be a hue and cry to make sure that volunteers finances are in order too.

> The issue relates to the wording on
> the web site where you give your permission for the background check.
> The ARRL insists that you're agreeing to a credit check; the Red Cross
> doesn't see it that way. It's an unfortunate situation.

That should be an easy one to answer, and one that all volunteers should know. WHO is doing the background check, and WHAT are they checking? I don't understand how that problem can't be fixed in 10 minutes. If it hasn't been answered, we're almost assured that they are doing both crim and credit. (note in PA, we use the state police bg check - its just crim.)

>> This all sprang from the ARC requiring, in the aftermath of bad
>> incidents in the Katrina recovery, that anyone handling ARC money or
>> resources be vetted or bonded.
>
> I'm not sure that "bonded" is the right word to use in this context. As
> far as I know, bonding in the technical sense is not involved for
> volunteers.

I agree. I simply refused to run around strapped to a grounding pole..... ;^)

>> Having served on the ARC California
>> state communications advisory committee in years past, I have observed
>> that, just as with many bureaucracies, they take that "if it's needed
>> for one, it's needed for all" approach to such things.
>
> Since a national disaster is likely to draw people from a large area, I
> support the idea that a general Red-Cross-wide policy is appropriate.
> Not that a background check is an infallible way of discouraging the

> folks you want to discourage, but if I'm sleeping in an open room with
> fifty other disaster volunteers, it makes me feel just a little more
> secure if I think that the other people in the room had at least a
> cursory screening.

I wouldn't feel too secure there, Steve. Lots of room for bad guys to
slip in. 8^0

>> Having survived many security clearance investigations for both paid
>> and unpaid positions, it's no big deal for me, but I suspect that they
>> will back down on this one.
>
> I really doubt that they will back down in terms of actual Red Cross
> volunteers.
>
> But I was encouraged that the latest information from the ARRL stresses
> the fact that hams can help with communications for seven days without a
> background check. Other than really significant national disasters,
> that policy makes the background check a non issue.

I don't really care in my own case either. But the problem I see is
part of a larger issue. Volunteers are being required to get more and
more training, background checks, and other qualifications just to
perform unpaid work (some of which will now include unloading the trucks
and mopping the floor). All of us have a some point at which we say
"aww, never mind, I think I have something else to do". I lost some good
coaches that way. 8^(

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

700. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-23 18:41:16 UTC
From: KH6HZ <kh6hzA@Tarrl.net>
Message-ID: <G17Xh.8637$2Q1.6851@newsfe16.lga>
Source record: 4705

"Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:

> I don't think that we have become more greedy or self serving over the
> years. I'm more inclined to think a nostalgia effect is at work.

Perhaps. However, as a youth I can recall numerous stories of how Joe Smith was a chemical engineer at some company, and invented Substance X in his garage while piddling around at home.

It is often said that the best job you can have is one that is also a hobby. If ham radio is your hobby, and you work as an electrical engineer by day, can you really "invent" something for ham radio that your employer wouldn't have some type of claim against?

> In my field, I find many people writing and giving away software. I think
> how much altruism exists depends on a person's outlook.

What real altruism exists in software short of Linux-based products?

Granted, there is a large amount of 'shareware' out there, but a sizeable percentage of it is simply crippleware designed to get you to upgrade to the 'commercial' version.

> What do you base the thesis of declining popularity on?

Licensed amateurs as a whole in the US has been declining for 3+ years now.
The rate of growth in Japanese amateurs has been anemic, under 1%, for the past 5+ years.
UK licenses remain fairly consistent with their peak numbers 12 years ago, although short-term trends do see an increase.
Australian licensees have been a 10+% dropoff over the past decade.

All of these observations support a generic claim that interest in ham radio is lessening.

701. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-23 19:19:03 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1177355482.756493.131680@y5g2000hsa.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4706

Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote on Mon, 23 Apr 2007 10:18:53 EDT:

>groupk...@earthlink.net wrote:
>> How about this, for a two step approach? [to the issue of losing spectrum]
>
>> 1) Institute a new "top" license class with a "technical quotient"
>> about 3 times as challenging as the current Extra class license, and
>> keep the question pool secret. Holders of this license could
>> experiment on any amateur frequency (with the usual "no deliberate
>> interference" caveat) with any modulation scheme or information
>> encoding scheme without special authorization or STA.
>
>How many people do you think would obtain this license? I don't see a
>latent demand out there for authorization to experiment with modes that
>require special authorization. I'm afraid that the actual result would
>be only a tiny number of upgrades, which would serve as evidence that
>the amateur radio service didn't need the spectrum it has now.

I suspect that Hans was doing some subtle leg-pulling. :-)

Otherwise I agree with you. There is a very small percentage
of licensed radio amateurs who do actual NEW system-technique
experimentation, despite the publicity that some get. The new
stuff is generally incorporated in a product to be sold.

Does the FCC actually monitor the HF bands, particularly the
ham bands? I have no idea other that two known possibilities:
NTIS EM Survey mobile station; FCC's own remote-operated
monitor stations...which might be all-HF. Amateurs are allocated
only a fraction of the HF spectrum and, to me, it is difficult to
envision the Commission monitoring just the ham bands. I would
say the Commission gets most of its input on use from citizens'
and special-interest groups' written text. I could be wrong.

>Both of these ideas attempt to change behavior of the existing
>populatiion of amateur radio operators. I think it's more important to
>focus on ideas that expand the population of licensed operators by
>attracting new people.

I wholeheartdly agree with that! Numbers of licensees are
rather obvious pointers and the FCC, as grantor of all civil
radio licenses, has that information first-hand. What many
overlook is that the FCC keeps tabs on all RF emitter use;
since they are obligated by law to serve all non-government
users, they have to do a balancing act to seek satisfactory
compromises on regulations, mitigation of interference.

>Your focus tends to be showing the regulators that hams are technical
>innovators, thus they deserve frequency allocations. My focus tends to
>be increasing the overall population of the users to increase the usage
>of our allocations, thus justifying them. Both of these techniques work
>and can be used at the same time.

Steve, I'm going with yours. Hans' idea would make the job
of the VEC much more complex, increase the record-keeping task
at the Commission, and add quite a bit to existing Part 97
regulations. If the Amateur Radio Service got such a specific
"open-door to everything" license class, then it would set a
precedent for all other radio services. An end result would
be a decided loss of regulatory capability by the FCC in regards
to all civil radio users. The old days of user chaos in radio
might come again with that.

New developments have been made under existing regulations. In
actual practice, nearly all of new development of ALL radio is
done without any RF emission (through any antenna), including
reception testing (with/without mixing existing antenna with
new-method signals). That's part of what I did for work. Yes,
the "final test" is "on the air" but the probability of success
prior to that last test is so high it is almost a "sure thing."

>I really think that the key is communications, or call it public
>relations or marketing if you wish. It has always struck me as ironic
>that hams, in a hobby that is basically communications, are generally
>horrible communicators.

My observation for many years, too! :-) For decades, USA ham
radio has gotten news of "radio" from a single source: ARRL
publications. That's good and well-meaning, but a single
source for 700K amateur licensees? Work professionals who are
also licensed amateurs have a wealth of information at their
disposal in trade journals (most of them free) and publications
from other organizations (RSGB, for example) can be had. The
major source of news is still the ARRL. The USA might be
better served with a second source (at least).

> We need to motivate existing hams to actually
>participate in the hobby, and we need to get the message out to
>potential new licensees that ham radio is an attractive leisure-time
>activity for them.

I would suggest getting advice, even outright production,
from documentary film/TV makers. There's two groups of them:
general-coverage "broadcast" market; industry-specific. They
know their craft, can get the message through to viewers'
subconscious. They might not know all about ham radio but
most don't know details of what particular thing they are
producing for promotion. That's irrelevant since the
communication they do is to the viewer's mind, directly,
sometimes subliminally, without any need for radios or radio

operating skills or techniques. Those documentaries have been ever-present in my lifetime so they would appear to "always have been" to most others. Advertising is a sub-genre of that documentary technique, very concentrated effort to influence viewers/listeners with ideas...and those things really WORK. All of us consumers have been influenced by them, like it or not.

Outright production of documentaries might be out of the question due to cost. Those folks are pros, not amateurs, but they KNOW how to do it. The audio-visual impact of their work is STRONG compared to paper mailings. Documentary makers also have an ego as do all connected with "show business." Some might be encouraged to talk about HOW they do their thing, the good techniques, the bad techniques. That might help the planning for an actual film/TV promotion done for less cost. Not my thing but "my town" (L.A.) has a major industry in film/TV production, tens of thousands working in that. I've been acquainted with a few socially.

> Easy for me to say . . . but I've not personally
>been very successful at actually *doing* anything.

I disagree. I think you've DONE something. You've started a ball rolling, you are aware and concerned. You CARE. That's good in my opinion.

73, Len AF6AY

702. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-23 19:54:20 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1177357159.447366.101960@n76g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4707

On Apr 23, 5:45 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:

>
> I assume you are playing devil's advocate here Hans?
>

Not really devils advocate, but certainly you can see that some points are overstated for effect. Hopefully this stimulates some thinking outside the old comfortable paradigms we might hold.

I'll readily admit that some of my details are not well developed, and maybe even "pin in the sky" in many respects. This is intentional to "shock people out of their tradions" and focus on "things we've never done before. Hopefully my wild-eyed thinking gets you all to see past "the way we've done it before". At the same time, I'm not interested in defending the PBI against "problems" and "we've never done it that way" arguments, or pointless attention to incidental details.

73, de Hans, K0HB

703. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-23 20:05:21 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1177358493.486025.266180@y5g2000hsa.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4708

On Apr 23, 5:37 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:

> The 1912 Hams were not put there as a challenge to get
> them to innovate.

That's correct. It wasn't intended as a challenge to strengthen Amateur Radio innovation. Quite the opposite! Hams were banished to those "worthless" (as then considered) wavelengths below 200 meters to get rid of them. Amateur radio was expected to be reduced to oblivion by this move, but in one of those "nasty unintended consequences" you mentioned, Amateur Radio became stronger than ever in consequence.

I'm only suggesting perhaps our service, in order to remain a viable PICON entity, could benefit by another similar (but more deliberate, less dibilitating) challenge. Don't get too hung up in the details, but examine the notion from a higher altitude.

73, de Hans, K0HB

704. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-23 21:36:48 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1177362963.297652.27760@e65g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4709

On Apr 23, 2:18 pm, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:

>
> How many people do you think would obtain this license?
>

Intially, I'm sure it would be a small number. Back in 1963 when I obtained my Extra license, mine was the 48th issued in my district. (Yes, they gave you a numbered certificate!). That was some 12 years after the Extra came available.

But my Extra back then didn't carry any additional privileges, no additional frequencies, no special call letters, nothing but a numbered certificate.

In contrast, the "super-Extra" which I propose would carry with it a reward in the freedom of almost unlimited experimental exploration, and might appeal to that population of latent scientists and communications inventors which we were often reminded of during the run-up to the removal of the Morse exam. I obviously can't 'crystal ball' how large that population is, but the 'opportunity cost' to find out is certainly not prohibitive. Can't see where it would hurt us, and the potential upside is exciting to me.

73, de Hans, K0HB

705. Re: The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 16 (Apr 20, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-24 01:56:57 UTC
From: xxx <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-F075B9.21503523042007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 4710

Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> wrote:

> Actually, the whole gist of the article was that the Red Cross is *not*
> interested in your credit report. The issue relates to the wording on
> the web site where you give your permission for the background check.
> The ARRL insists that you're agreeing to a credit check; the Red Cross
> doesn't see it that way. It's an unfortunate situation.
> [...]

While the Red Cross claims that it won't actually do a
credit/background check, the form very definitely gives them permission
to conduct one. I'm not sure how much weight you want to attach to a
verbal assurance that you won't really be held to a written contract
that you have signed. Further, the Red Cross doesn't conduct the checks
itself; it subcontracts them to a credit agency.

706. Re: The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 16 (Apr 20, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-24 03:46:29 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <132qvc8a1qfs2f5@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 4711

xxx wrote:

> While the Red Cross claims that it won't actually do a
> credit/background check, the form very definitely gives them permission
> to conduct one.

It depends on how you interpret the text on the web site. ARRL makes a good case that the words used do give permission. The Red Cross makes a good case that they do not. I'm disappointed that the two organizations cannot agree on a tiny wording change that would satisfy both of them.

There are two distinct issues related to these background checks -- what the volunteers are agreeing to, and what's actually done. I do acknowledge a problem with the wording on the web site, based on what the ARRL has pointed out. But in terms of what is actually done, logic suggests that doing a credit check costs significantly more money, and the Red Cross is unlikely to pay for that more-detailed check. Thus, I'm pretty confident that the background check that is being done on casual volunteers is very minimal, and doesn't include credit check, just as the Red Cross has indicated in their explanations

> I'm not sure how much weight you want to attach to a
> verbal assurance that you won't really be held to a written contract
> that you have signed.

It's not a verbal assurance. The Red Cross has issued a number of written statements indicating what level of check is done and providing rationale for doing it. This does not, however, negate the issue that the ARRL has pointed out with the wording on the web site.

> Further, the Red Cross doesn't conduct the checks
> itself; it subcontracts them to a credit agency.

No, it subcontracts them to a company that does background checks. This is different from "a credit agency", and is standard procedure in today's world. No corporation does its own background checks; they all depend on companies that specialize in doing that job.

That's not to say that the company they're contracting to couldn't do a credit check, if that was part of the background check that their customer requested.

Here's how I, personally, view this situation.

I am a Red Cross volunteer. The issue of, "I'm an ARES member and just helping out the Red Cross" does not apply to me, personally. I have absolutely no problem with the Red Cross doing a background check on me,

in fact I applaud it. I trust the Red Cross; I better trust them, as they are going to be providing me with transportation, food, lodging, and security. The issue of a background check pales in significance, *for me*, compared with these other aspects.

From the perspective of a ham radio volunteer, you've got two choices. You can trust the Red Cross to do what they say they're going to do and ignore the issues that ARRL has with the wording on the background-check website. Or you can assume that you'll be involved with a specific disaster for less than a week so you won't be subject to a background check. I don't presume to tell you what to do.

73, Steve KB9X

707. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-24 04:11:46 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1177386677.067789.142000@p77g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4712

On Apr 23, 10:41?am, "KH6HZ" <kh6...@Tarrl.net> wrote:
> "Michael Coslo" <m...@psu.edu> wrote:

> > In my field, I find many people writing and giving away software. I think
> > how much altruism exists depends on a person's outlook.
>
> What real altruism exists in software short of Linux-based products?
>
> Granted, there is a large amount of 'shareware' out there, but a sizeable
> percentage of it is simply crippleware designed to get you to upgrade to the
> 'commercial' version.

Go to Linear Technology (the semiconductor company). They
will let anyone download LTSpice, a fully functional, operating
SPICE suite, complete with component library and schematic
drawing function that will automatically create a SPICE netlist.
The manual for it is a separate download, also free to anyone.
Not shareware, not some "crippleware designed to make one
upgrade." A fully working SPICE program, for nothing. Ideal
for amateur radio homebrew projects to check out any
circuit before building it in hardware. LTSpice has been out
for about a year, already has some hobby groups talking
about it, using it, with tips on how to use it for unusual
circuits and applications.

> Licensed amateurs as a whole in the US has been declining for 3+ years now.

Not really any big decline. Newcomers (never before licensed)
are filling in the gaps left by expirations. Check it out on
www.hamdata.com, right on the home page.

> All of these observations support a generic claim that interest in ham radio
> is lessening.

The drop of Ham Radio, 73 magazines happened in between
1990 and about 2003 due to lack of advertising space sales,
particularly among the "Big3" (Yaesu, Icom, Kenwood). Folks
tend to ignore those same Big3 are also engaged in making
radios for businesses and governments. They probably make
more money in that market than in the amateur radio field.

However, in the periodicals that survive there continue to be
new ham radio models being made and advertised, certain
models promoted with extras (such as Icom). Antenna
makers are still "up" and so are the hundreds of smaller
businesses selling peripheral equipment and add-ons. I'd

say that the interest in amateur radio is increasing, not the opposite.

There might even be a trend towards more newcomers entering than ever before, some hints of that already shown in numbers on www.hamdata.com.

73, Len AF6AY

708. Re: The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 16 (Apr 20, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-24 15:42:23 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1177428722.351190.85940@b40g2000prd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4713

On Apr 24, 3:46 am, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:

>
> You can trust the Red Cross to do what they say they're going to do
> and ignore the issues that ARRL has with the wording on the
> background-check website.
>

That works for me.

In my considered view, ARRL needs to spend more resources on ham radio
and less on lawyers.

73, de Hans, K0HB

709. ARRL Sweepstakes QST report

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-24 16:09:57 UTC
From: weaver5511@mypacks.net
Message-ID: <20123973.1177429985394.JavaMail.root@elwamui-polski.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 4714

I've recently returned to active hamming in general and contesting, and subscribing to QST.

In the CW Sweepstakes writeup in the last issue I was disappointed to find that all the line scores, top-ten sidebar, and other features were missing. Is this a new thing? I sure would like to be able to peruse those lists to see how I and others fared in the competition.

73, RDW

710. Re: ARRL Sweepstakes QST report

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-24 16:38:19 UTC
From: Patty.Winter@a.mail.sonic.net
Message-ID: <462e30f3$0$14057$742ec2ed@news.sonic.net>
Source record: 4715

In article <20123973.1177429985394.JavaMail.root@elwamui-polski.atl.sa.earthlink.net>,
<weaver5511@mypacks.net> wrote:
>I've recently returned to active hamming in general and contesting, and
>subscribing to QST.

Welcome back!

>In the CW Sweepstakes writeup in the last issue I was disappointed to
>find that all the line scores, top-ten sidebar, and other features were
>missing. Is this a new thing? I sure would like to be able to peruse
>those lists to see how I and others fared in the competition.

They should mention this in the article, but a lot of information
has been moved to the ARRL website. Start here:

http://www.arrl.org/contests/results/

For example, the line scores for last November's CW Sweepstakes
are on this page:

http://www.arrl.org/contests/results/prscores.html?con_id=112

73,
Patty N6BIS

711. Re: The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 16 (Apr 20, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-25 03:24:50 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns991CEB63042CCmcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 4716

Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> wrote in
news:132qvc8a1qfs2f5@news.supernews.com:

> There are two distinct issues related to these background checks --
> what the volunteers are agreeing to, and what's actually done. I do
> acknowledge a problem with the wording on the web site, based on what
> the ARRL has pointed out. But in terms of what is actually done,
> logic suggests that doing a credit check costs significantly more
> money, and the Red Cross is unlikely to pay for that more-detailed
> check. Thus, I'm pretty confident that the background check that is
> being done on casual volunteers is very minimal, and doesn't include
> credit check, just as the Red Cross has indicated in their
> explanations

The part I don't understand is that if they don't do a credit check, why
do they demand permission to do a credit check?

It isn't unreasonable to have an issue with that.

>> I'm not sure how much weight you want to attach to a
>> verbal assurance that you won't really be held to a written contract
>> that you have signed.
>
> It's not a verbal assurance. The Red Cross has issued a number of
> written statements indicating what level of check is done and
> providing rationale for doing it. This does not, however, negate the
> issue that the ARRL has pointed out with the wording on the web site.

Respectfully, that is strange on their (Red Cross's) part. If they
were "caught" doing a credit check on a volunteer, what would hold
legal sway? Their written assurance that they wouldn't do a credit
check or your signature allowing them to do a credit check?

Even moreso, if a person gave them permission to do a criminal
background check, but not a credit check, would they refuse to allow
them to help because of the volunteer refusing to allow a check that
they don't do?

I think I'm getting a logic headache here! ;^)

It would be so much easier to just eliminate an unused part from
their application. If they don't do it, it shouldn't be there.

> From the perspective of a ham radio volunteer, you've got two
> choices.
> You can trust the Red Cross to do what they say they're going to do
> and ignore the issues that ARRL has with the wording on the

> background-check website. Or you can assume that you'll be involved
> with a specific disaster for less than a week so you won't be subject
> to a background check. I don't presume to tell you what to do.

Of course, that is the bottom line. And here are my thoughts:
I would quite willingly submit to a background criminal check. Its a good idea, and makes sense. There are some people in this world who aren't very nice, and we would be dealing with some pretty helpless victims.

But my financial matters are quite simply none of the Red Cross's business! They don't need to know that.

So my bottom line comes down to two things. Trust and logic.

They don't quite trust me, otherwise they would just ask me if I was a nice guy and if I wouldn't harm anyone, and accept the answer. But it would be pretty credulous on their part to do that, no? So while I have the greatest hopes for them to be 100 percent credible, I would be likewise naive to take the word of people who don't trust me.

And finally, if they don't do it, it is so very strange that we have to give them permission to do something that they don't do. If they can't see the logic of that, they might have some other issues that would make volunteering for them quite interesting.

So my decision if they insist on me approving something that they don't do, is that I'll find something else to do the week of the disaster, with the illogic having equal weight with my belief that they have no business looking into my finances.

I mean if they insist on the credit check release, that is fine. I think that it is also fine that people might suggest they look into some fine tuning, especially if it costs them good people.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

712. April 22, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-25 12:54:17 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1177495887.879380.105340@t39g2000prd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4717

These are the number of current,
unexpired FCC-issued amateur
radio licenses held by individuals
on the stated dates, and the
percentage of the total number
of active licenses that class contains.

Percentages may not add up to exactly
100.0% due to rounding.

These totals do not include licenses
that have expired but are in the grace
period, nor do they include club, military
and other station-only licenses.

Effective April 15, 2000, FCC no longer issued
new Novice, Technician Plus and Advanced
class licenses, so the numbers of those license
classes have declined steadily since then.

Also since April 15, 2000, FCC has renewed all
existing Technician Plus licenses as Technician.
It is therefore informative to consider the totals of
the two classes, since the Technician class
includes a significant number of Technician Plus
licenses renewed as Technician.

On February 23, 2007, the last Morse Code
test element, the 5 wpm receiving test, was
eliminated as a requirement.

The ARS License Numbers:

As of May 14, 2000:

Novice- 49,329 (7.3%)
Technician - 205,394 (30.4%)
Technician Plus - 128,860 (19.1%)
General - 112,677 (16.7%)
Advanced - 99,782 (14.8%)
Extra - 78,750 (11.7%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 334,254 (49.5%)

Total all classes - 674,792

As of February 22, 2007:

Novice - 22,896 (3.5%)
Technician - 293,508 (44.8%)
Technician Plus - 30,818 (4.7%)
General - 130,138 (19.9%)
Advanced - 69,050 (10.5%)
Extra - 108,270 (16.5%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 324,326 (49.5%)

Total all classes - 654,680

As of April 1, 2007:

Novice - 22,447 (3.4%)
Technician - 288,853 (44.1%)
Technician Plus - 29,341 (4.5%)
General - 136,006 (20.8%)
Advanced - 68,478 (10.5%)
Extra - 109,343 (16.7%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 318,194 (48.6%)

Total all classes - 654,468

As of April 15, 2007:

Novice - 22,336 (3.4%)
Technician - 288,248 (44.0%)
Technician Plus - 28,903 (4.4%)
General - 137,583 (21.0%)
Advanced - 68,342 (10.4%)
Extra - 109,675 (16.7%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 317,151 (48.4%)

Total all classes - 655,087

As of April 22, 2007:

Novice - 22,266 (3.4%)
Technician - 287,840 (44.0%)
Technician Plus - 28,629 (4.4%)
General - 137,915 (21.1%)
Advanced - 68,249 (10.4%)
Extra - 109,797 (16.8%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 316,469 (48.3%)

Total all classes - 654,696

Changes:

>From May 14, 2000, to February 22, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 26,433
Technician - increase of 88,114
Technician Plus - decrease of 98,042

General - increase of 17,461
Advanced - decrease of 30,732
Extra - increase of 29,520

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 9,928

Total all classes - decrease of 20,112

>From May 14, 2000, to April 1, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 26,882
Technician - increase of 83,459
Technician Plus - decrease of 99,519
General - increase of 23,329
Advanced - decrease of 31,304
Extra - increase of 30,593

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 16,060

Total all classes - decrease of 20,324

>From May 14, 2000, to April 15, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 26,993
Technician - increase of 82,854
Technician Plus - decrease of 99,957
General - increase of 24,906
Advanced - decrease of 31,440
Extra - increase of 30,925

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 17,103

Total all classes - decrease of 19,705

>From May 14, 2000, to April 22, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 27,063
Technician - increase of 82,446
Technician Plus - decrease of 100,231
General - increase of 25,238
Advanced - decrease of 31,533
Extra - increase of 31,047

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 17,785

Total all classes - decrease of 20,096

>From February 22, 2007, to April 1, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 449
Technician - decrease of 4,655
Technician Plus - decrease of 1,477
General - increase of 5,868
Advanced - decrease of 572
Extra - increase of 1,073

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 6,132

Total all classes - decrease of 212

>From February 22, 2007, to April 15, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 560
Technician - decrease of 5,260
Technician Plus - decrease of 1,915
General - increase of 7,445
Advanced - decrease of 708
Extra - increase of 1,405

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 7,175

Total all classes - increase of 407

>From February 22, 2007, to April 22, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 630
Technician - decrease of 5,668
Technician Plus - decrease of 2,189
General - increase of 7,777
Advanced - decrease of 801
Extra - increase of 1,527

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 7,857

Total all classes - increase of 16

73 de Jim, N2EY

713. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-25 13:35:43 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f0ngg2$14fk$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4718

AF6AY wrote:
> On Apr 23, 10:41?am, "KH6HZ" <kh6...@Tarrl.net> wrote:
>> "Michael Coslo" <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>
>>> In my field, I find many people writing and giving away software. I think
>>> how much altruism exists depends on a person's outlook.
>> What real altruism exists in software short of Linux-based products?
>>
>> Granted, there is a large amount of 'shareware' out there, but a sizeable
>> percentage of it is simply crippleware designed to get you to upgrade to the
>> 'commercial' version.
>
> Go to Linear Technology (the semiconductor company). They
> will let anyone download LTSpice, a fully functional, operating
> SPICE suite, complete with component library and schematic
> drawing function that will automatically create a SPICE netlist.
> The manual for it is a separate download, also free to anyone.
> Not shareware, not some "crippleware designed to make one
> upgrade." A fully working SPICE program, for nothing. Ideal
> for amateur radio homebrew projects to check out any
> circuit before building it in hardware. LTSpice has been out
> for about a year, already has some hobby groups talking
> about it, using it, with tips on how to use it for unusual
> circuits and applications.

On my computers, I use the OpenOffice Suite (mostly WP and their
spreadsheet)

I use Digipan and a whole host of other Ham radio software.

Let's not forget N1MM contest logger.

A number of people produce software for the PAQSO party.

All these things share one thing in common. They are free for the download.

Even programs such as EZNEC, while charging for the full version, have
a perfectly functional demo version with the biggest limitation being
the number of "elements" you can use in it.

If that isn't enough, then 4NEC2 is free.

Altruism does indeed exist.

>> Licensed amateurs as a whole in the US has been declining for 3+ years now.
>
> Not really any big decline. Newcomers (never before licensed)

> are filling in the gaps left by expirations. Check it out on
> www.hamdata.com, right on the home page.

The "big drop-off" is largely being replaced. While we can discuss the
reason that it happened - it did happen. I suspect that we will get to
that earlier level at some point.

Perhaps the old Tech license was a bit of a dead end?

>> All of these observations support a generic claim that interest in ham radio
>> is lessening.
>
> The drop of Ham Radio, 73 magazines happened in between
> 1990 and about 2003 due to lack of advertising space sales,
> particularly among the "Big3" (Yaesu, Icom, Kenwood). Folks
> tend to ignore those same Big3 are also engaged in making
> radios for businesses and governments. They probably make
> more money in that market than in the amateur radio field.
>
> However, in the periodicals that survive there continue to be
> new ham radio models being made and advertised, certain
> models promoted with extras (such as Icom). Antenna
> makers are still "up" and so are the hundreds of smaller
> businesses selling peripheral equipment and add-ons. I'd
> say that the interest in amateur radio is increasing, not the
> opposite.

Agreed. Certainly it is in my area. There are some who would dispute
the success we are having in our area (we are running at a 2+ percent
increase after factoring in attrition for well over a year now) as a
fluke. I might respectfully suggest a new approach. 8^)

> There might even be a trend towards more newcomers
> entering than ever before, some hints of that already shown
> in numbers on www.hamdata.com.

The new hams in our area are good people, and are becoming active and
well mannered hams.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

714. Sixty Days

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-25 17:40:11 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1177522419.919819.195030@c18g2000prb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4719

U.S. License Changes over two 60 Day Periods from www.hamdata.com:

Hamdata information sorted from FCC publicly-available database of 24 April 2007
and [in square brackets] 24 January 2007:

New Licensees 2,730 [1,342]

Expirations 2,314 [2,101]

Class Changes 4,342 [985]

Call Changes 1,130 [214]

All Updates* 15,038 [16,536]

* Renewals, address or name changes, plus other administrative changes.

The number of new licensees have approximately doubled since the advent
of code testing cessation on 23 February 2007 compared to the December
2006 to January 2007 60-day period when code testing was required.

The number of license class changes have approximately quadrupled since
the advent of code testing cessation on 23 February 2007. The number of
callsign changes have almost quintupled.

Expirations are approximately the same. In the last 60 days the number of
new licensees is greater than the number of expirations; for December 2006
and January 2007 the number of new licensees were less than expirations.

The overall losses of all licensees (all classes including Club and Grace
Period) over the previous two years were 11,143 [11.528]. This is
approximately the same, only slight variation due to many factors.

73, Len AF6AY

715. Re: ARRL Sweepstakes QST report

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-25 20:05:50 UTC
From: weaver5511@mypacks.net
Message-ID: <6419562.1177531129091.JavaMail.root@elwamui-milano.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 4720

<patty1@wintertime.com> wrote:

> They should mention this in the article, but a lot
> of information has been moved to the ARRL website.
> Start here:
>
> http://www.arrl.org/contests/results/
>
> For example, the line scores for last November's CW
> Sweepstakes are on this page:
>
> http://www.arrl.org/contests/results/prscores.html?con_id=112

I guess I'd much rather have it in print in my magazine collection, rather than some obscure web page. I see a lot of old standby things like DXCC Award listings have also evaporated. Maybe a bit 'vain', but it always felt good to see my call letters in a national magazine.

73, RDW

716. Ham magazines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-25 20:34:35 UTC
From: weaver5511@mypacks.net
Message-ID: <19513218.1177531964701.JavaMail.root@elwamui-milano.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 4721

I've been "off the air" for a few years playing soldier and am now back and reacquainting myself with ham radio.

I've been able to subscribe to "QST" and "CQ", but can't find "ham Radio magazine", "73 magazine" or "Communications Quarterly" addresses anywhere. Do they still exist? Are there any new magazines other than the above that I should consider, especially technical ones? My interest is mostly antenna designing, receiver designing, and contesting.

73, RDW

717. Re: Ham magazines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-26 00:13:02 UTC
From: Dick Grady AC7EL <rng@richbonnie.com>
Message-ID: <9rqv239l0m24eh1r5cnfffjre8eco76g2g@4ax.com>
Source record: 4722

On Wed, 25 Apr 2007 16:34:35 EDT, weaver5511@mypacks.net wrote:

>I've been "off the air" for a few years playing soldier and am now back and reacquainting myself with ham radio.
>
>I've been able to subscribe to "QST" and "CQ", but can't find "ham Radio magazine", "73 magazine" or "Communications Quarterly" addresses anywhere. Do they still exist? Are there any new magazines other than the above that I should consider, especially technical ones? My interest is mostly antenna designing, receiver designing, and contesting.
>
>73, RDW
>

"73 Magazine" is defunct, stopped publication a couple of years ago. I don't know about the other two.

ARRL publishes two special-purpose magazines: "QEX" for experimenters, and "National Contest Journal" for contest enthusiasts.

CQ publishes "CQ VHF".

The page http://www.arrl.org/pio/handbook/contact.html contains a list of ham-related publications.

73 de Dick, AC7EL

718. Re: Ham magazines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-26 00:13:31 UTC
From: Eskay <siebklaasNO@SPAMhotmail.com>
Message-ID: <1oqqbm2r4y7y2.13jw144u5pl4y.dlg@40tude.net>
Source record: 4723

On Wed, 25 Apr 2007 16:34:35 EDT, weaver5511@mypacks.net wrote:

> I've been "off the air" for a few years playing soldier and am now back and reacquainting myself with ham radio.
>
> I've been able to subscribe to "QST" and "CQ", but can't find "ham Radio magazine", "73 magazine" or "Communications Quarterly" addresses anywhere. Do they still exist? Are there any new magazines other than the above that I should consider, especially technical ones? My interest is mostly antenna designing, receiver designing, and contesting.
>
> 73, RDW

You have been away awhile.
73 mag stopped in 2003 with the last issue being September.
Ham Radio magazine was sold to CQ magazine and was integrated with it.
Communications quarterly was bought by the ARRL which continues to publish
it under the name of QEX magazine.
The pickings have become slim.

73 de VE3JUA

719. Re: Ham magazines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-26 00:48:56 UTC
From: "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not>
Message-ID: <f0or1cdvv1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 4724

weaver5511@mypacks.net wrote:
> I've been "off the air" for a few years playing soldier and am now back and reacquainting myself with ham radio.

Welcome home.

--
73,

Bill W1AC

Danang Joint Customs Detachment, 8 MP GP(CI), 18 MP BDE, USMACV 1971-72

(Remove "73" and change top level domain for direct replies)

720. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-26 04:35:56 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1177561635.782821.104270@t38g2000prd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4725

On Apr 10, 2:22 am, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:

>
> Changes in requirements don't have any effect
> when the potential recruits have no idea that the hobby even exists.
>

I may have to concede that point, Dee.

Here is a recent quote (http://tinyurl.com/29e856) by the CEO of
Radio Shack.

He said: "Even the name 'RadioShack'-can you imagine two less
appealing words placed next to one another?" Day said. "What is that,
some kind of World War II terminology? Are ham radio operators still
around, even? Aren't we in the digital age?"

Yes, from the CEO of Radio Shack!

Oh, well!

73, de Hans, K0HB

721. "Are ham radio operators still around, even?"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-26 07:44:08 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1177564138.922320.192550@r35g2000prh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4726

Radio Shack, once one of the premier suppliers to the tinkerers and experimenters among us, and still a source of the occasional connector, roll of solder, switch, or other item, seems to be having an identiy crisis.

I recently saw, on the "Onion", this quotation reported to be from Mr. Day, their CEO. I sent the email below to them, and will report their response here.

Here's the quote: (Entire article at http://tinyurl.com/29e856)

"What is that, some kind of World War II terminology? Are ham radio operators still around, even? Aren't we in the digital age?"

Dear Mr. Day,

Yes, we are in the digital age, and luckily for you and your company ham radio operators are still around. Something around 650,000 in the USA, and millions more around the world. Many of us still know precisely how many minutes it will take us to get to the nearest Radio Shack store for an electronic part or tool that we need to get our station (probably running a digital mode) back on the air. (Seven minutes from my house.)

Maybe you need to research your market a little more, and the lack of understanding of your company which you bemoan in the "Onion" interview can be reversed.

And, oh-by-the-way, hams talk to each other ..... it's what we do ..... what do you expect we're saying about Radio Shack corporate management about now?

Hans Brakob
Amateur Radio Station K0HB
1620 Weston Lane
Plymouth, MN 55447

722. Re: ARRL Sweepstakes QST report

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-26 09:07:33 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1177578406.773074.243110@r30g2000prh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4727

On Apr 25, 4:05 pm, weaver5...@mypacks.net wrote:
> <pat...@wintertime.com> wrote:
> > They should mention this in the article, but a lot
> > of information has been moved to the ARRL website.
> > Start here:
>
> >http://www.arrl.org/contests/results/
>
> > For example, the line scores for last November's CW
> > Sweepstakes are on this page:
>
> >http://www.arrl.org/contests/results/prscores.html?con_id2
>
> I guess I'd much rather have it in print in my magazine collection, rathe
r than some obscure web page. I see a lot of old standby things like DXC
C Award listings have also evaporated. Maybe a bit 'vain', but it always
felt good to see my call letters in a national magazine.
>
It is my understanding that the move to put most of the info on the
website rather than QST has been driven by three factors:

```
1) Results analysis is easier on the website
2) There are more contests today
3) Complaints from noncontesters about how much QST space was being
used
```

```
73 de Jim, N2EY
```

723. Re: Ham magazines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-26 09:22:12 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1177579300.488729.74960@t38g2000prd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4728

On Apr 25, 4:34 pm, weaver5...@mypacks.net wrote:
> I've been "off the air" for a few years playing soldier
> and am now back and reacquainting myself with ham radio.
>

Welcome back!

> I've been able to subscribe to "QST" and "CQ", but
> can't find "ham Radio magazine", "73 magazine" or
>"Communications Quarterly" addresses anywhere. Do they still exist?

"ham radio" ceased publication years ago.

"Communications Quarterly" was bought by ARRL and made part of another magazine (QEX).

>Are there any new magazines other than the above that I should >consider, especially technical ones? My interest is mostly antenna >designing, rec eiver designing, and contesting.

For contesting, there's "NCJ", the National Contest Journal, published by ARRL.

For experimentation, there's QEX, published by ARRL since 1981.

Info on both at www.arrl.org

73 de Jim, N2EY

724. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-26 10:49:11 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1177582415.752443.129750@n35g2000prd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4729

On Apr 25, 9:35 am, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> AF6AY wrote:
> > On Apr 23, 10:41?am, "KH6HZ" <kh6...@Tarrl.net> wrote:
> >> "Michael Coslo" <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>
> >>> In my field, I find many people writing and giving away software. I t
hink
> >>> how much altruism exists depends on a person's outlook.
> >> What real altruism exists in software short of Linux-based products?
>
> >> Granted, there is a large amount of 'shareware' out there, but a sizea
ble
> >> percentage of it is simply crippleware designed to get you to upgrade
to the
> >> 'commercial' version.
>
> > Go to Linear Technology (the semiconductor company). They
> > will let anyone download LTSpice, a fully functional, operating
> > SPICE suite, complete with component library and schematic
> > drawing function that will automatically create a SPICE netlist.
> > The manual for it is a separate download, also free to anyone.
> > Not shareware, not some "crippleware designed to make one
> > upgrade." A fully working SPICE program, for nothing. Ideal
> > for amateur radio homebrew projects to check out any
> > circuit before building it in hardware. LTSpice has been out
> > for about a year, already has some hobby groups talking
> > about it, using it, with tips on how to use it for unusual
> > circuits and applications.
>
> On my computers, I use the OpenOffice Suite (mostly WP an
d their
> spreadsheet)
>
> I use Digipan and a whole host of other Ham radio softwar
e.
>
> Let's not forget N1MM contest logger.
>
> A number of people produce software for the PAQSO party.

Reg Edwards' (G4FGQ) whole selection of design software

G4FON's Morse Code learning software, to name just one of many

Older versions of Spectrogram, an audio spectrum analyzer software
with many uses in the ham shack.

Several free online Amateur Radio practice test websites
>
> All these things share one thing in common. They
> are free for the download.
>
> Even programs such as EZNEC, while charging for the full
version, have
> a perfectly functional demo version with the biggest limitation being
> the number of "elements" you can use in it.
>
> If that isn't enough, then 4NEC2 is free.
>
> Altruism does indeed exist.
>
> >> Licensed amateurs as a whole in the US has been declining for 3+ years
now.
>
> > Not really any big decline. Newcomers (never before licensed)
> > are filling in the gaps left by expirations. Check it out on
> >www.hamdata.com, right on the home page.
>
> The "big drop-off" is largely being replaced. While we ca
n discuss the
> reason that it happened - it did happen. I suspect that we will get to
> that earlier level at some point.
>
One factor I have not seem mentioned recently is the effect of rules
changes other than license test requirements on the number of hams.

For example, in the USA, the license term was doubled from 5 to 10
years back in 1984, and the 'grace period' doubled from one to two
years. One effect of these changes was that there were no expirations
at all from 1989 to 1994. Another was that the number of totally-
inactive-and-not-coming-back hams still shown on the database was
increased.

Another rules change that effects expirations is the vanity callsign
program. Unlike address changes, upgrades, etc., getting a vanity call
also generates a renewal. This may profoundly affect the distribution
of license expiration dates.

With the license term at ten years and the grace period at two years,
it can take a pretty long time for the actual loss of amateurs to show
up in the totals.

It is also important to know the details of what is included in the
numbers being cited. The raw numbers of licenses listed by
hamdata.com, for example, include both current licenses and those in
the grace period, while other sources do not include grace period
licensees.

> Perhaps the old Tech license was a bit of a dead end?
>
Perhaps. However, if so, it should be noted that only a small
percentage of them have upgraded in the past 60 days.

There is also a fairly large variation in the license totals over
fairly short periods of time. For example, the total number of
current FCC-issued amateur licenses held by individuals was:

654,680 on Feb 22, 2007 (just before rules changed)
654,265 on Mar 5, 2007
654,160 on Mar 13, 2007
654,816 on Mar 14, 2007
655,025 on Mar 16, 2007
654,094 on Mar 19, 2007
655,136 on Apr 6, 2007
655,233 on Apr 12, 2007
654,649 on Apr 16, 2007
654,540 on Apr 24, 2007

Depending on which dates are compared, all sorts of short-term trends
could appear to be happening. For example, from March 13 to April 12
the total grew by 1073 - more than 3 per day! But from April 12 to
April 24, they declined by 693 - more than 5 per day. Of course on a
longer baseline things will even out; the point is that there are
large short-term variations.
>
> >> All of these observations support a generic claim that interest in ham
radio
> >> is lessening.
>
> > The drop of Ham Radio, 73 magazines happened in between
> > 1990 and about 2003 due to lack of advertising space sales,
> > particularly among the "Big3" (Yaesu, Icom, Kenwood). Folks
> > tend to ignore those same Big3 are also engaged in making
> > radios for businesses and governments. They probably make
> > more money in that market than in the amateur radio field.
>
> > However, in the periodicals that survive there continue to be
> > new ham radio models being made and advertised, certain
> > models promoted with extras (such as Icom). Antenna
> > makers are still "up" and so are the hundreds of smaller
> > businesses selling peripheral equipment and add-ons. I'd
> > say that the interest in amateur radio is increasing, not the
> > opposite.
>
> Agreed. Certainly it is in my area. There are some who wo
uld dispute
> the success we are having in our area (we are running at a 2+ percent
> increase after factoring in attrition for well over a year now) as a
> fluke. I might respectfully suggest a new approach. 8^)

"If it happens, it must be possible"
>
> > There might even be a trend towards more newcomers
> > entering than ever before, some hints of that already shown
> > in numbers onwww.hamdata.com.
>
> The new hams in our area are good people, and are becomin
g active and
> well mannered hams.
>
IMHO, that's more important than how many.

Looking back over the past decade or so, I see the following trends:

- The number of US hams grew in the early 1990s but began a slow
decline in the late 1990s.
- The number of US hams grew in the early 2000s (2000-2003, after the
rules changes that went into effect in April 2000) but the growth was
not sustained and began a slow decline in the mid-2003
- The recent changes (Feb 2007) appear to have stopped the decline in
the short term.
- Both the 2000 and 2007 rules changes had the effect of a far greater
number of existing hams upgrading than new hams joining.

73 de Jim, N2EY

725. Re: Ham magazines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-26 14:45:38 UTC
From: The Shadow <Repose@Zilch.com>
Message-ID: <zJ2Yh.182779$115.147677@newsfe10.phx>
Source record: 4730

<weaver5511@mypacks.net> wrote in message
news:19513218.1177531964701.JavaMail.root@elwamui-milano.atl.sa.earthlink.net...
> I've been "off the air" for a few years playing soldier and am now back
> and reacquainting myself with ham radio.
>
> I've been able to subscribe to "QST" and "CQ", but can't find "ham Radio
> magazine", "73 magazine" or "Communications Quarterly" addresses anywhere.
> Do they still exist? Are there any new magazines other than the above
> that I should consider, especially technical ones? My interest is mostly
> antenna designing, receiver designing, and contesting.
>
> 73, RDW
>
In addition to those that responded, there is:
Worldradio URL:
http://www.wr6wr.com/

726. Re: "Are ham radio operators still around, even?"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-26 14:46:19 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1177597112.089024.258650@r30g2000prh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4731

On Apr 26, 7:44 am, groupk...@earthlink.net wrote:

> Maybe you need to research your market a little more.....

Well, gulp, it turns out that clearly >>I<< need to research a little more.

Maybe I was the only person left on planet earth who didn't know that the "Onion" is an online satirical magazine.

I got sucked in good!

My apologies to the good people at Radio Shack, still only seven minutes from my house.

73, de Hans, K0HB

727. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-26 14:46:49 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1177597906.891905.41850@o40g2000prh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4732

On Apr 26, 4:35 am, groupk...@earthlink.net wrote:
> On Apr 10, 2:22 am, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:
>
>
>
> > Changes in requirements don't have any effect
> > when the potential recruits have no idea that the hobby even exists.
>
> I may have to concede that point, Dee.
>

Uhhhhh, well, no, I guess I don't concede the point (GULP)! We may be
the unwitting butt of the Onion joke, but at least even THEY know
about us! We're famous!

Sunnuvagun!

73, de Hans, K0HB

728. Re: "Are ham radio operators still around, even?"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-26 15:00:30 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net>
Message-ID: <59bt3dF2jur0rU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4733

<groupk0hb@earthlink.net> wrote ...
> Well, gulp, it turns out that clearly >>I<< need to research a little
> more.
>
> Maybe I was the only person left on planet earth who didn't know that
> the "Onion" is an online satirical magazine.
>
> I got sucked in good!
>
> My apologies to the good people at Radio Shack, still only seven
> minutes from my house.

Satire or not. I didn't see anything in your quote that I hadn't already seen in the product-mix and store operations over the last several years. You are far more likely to find a plush toy with a broadcast receiver inside, or stick-on plastic jewels for your cell phone than a 22K ohm resistor or a 7404 hex inverter.

But then, my friends convinced me that the movie "This is Spinal Tap" was a real documentary. While I have done a lot of video and audio production of musical performances, my very limited (by choice) experience with rock music acts was nearly identical to the mocumentary. :-)

729. Re: ARRL Sweepstakes QST report

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-26 17:55:56 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1177605108.280755.210700@b40g2000prd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4734

"RDW" has hit on one of my hot buttons here.

N...@AOL.COM wrote:

>
> It is my understanding that the move to put most of the info on the
> website rather than QST has been driven by three factors:
>
> 1) Results analysis is easier on the website
>

I don't care if ARRL puts these things on their website. But I >DO<
care when they remove them from our club newsletter (yes, Virginia,
ARRL is, in the final analysis, a radio club and QST is the club
newsletter. <--- Hold that thought....

> 2) There are more contests today

More than when? I don't recall that ARRL sponsored a new contest in
decades.

> 3) Complaints from noncontesters about how much QST space was being
> used.

[rant]

Here's my cut on that. Editorial policy of a club newsletter
shouldn't be based on complaints, it should be based on FULL coverage
of ALL of the clubs activities. Perhaps the editors of QST agree with
that, perhaps not, but the point is moot because this decision was
driven by the BoD, not the editor.

Will these same complaints "about how much web server space is being
used" cause similar cuts there?

Three of the groups which comprise the core membership of the ARRL
radio club are Contesters, DXers, and the Field Organization. They're
not the only three, maybe not even the top three, but they are
certainly in the top 5 or 6 'interest groups' in the club.

Yet, in recent decisions the BoD has stripped contest line scores,
most DXCC listings, and Section News from our newsletter. I'm sure
that saves some page-count in QST, but it seems false economy to snub
"who brought you to the dance" just because someone(s) complained they
took up space on your dance card.

[/rant]

73, de Hans, K0HB

730. Re: ARRL Sweepstakes QST report

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-26 17:56:17 UTC
From: Patty.Winter@b.mail.sonic.net
Message-ID: <4630d471$0$14101$742ec2ed@news.sonic.net>
Source record: 4735

In article <1177578406.773074.243110@r30g2000prh.googlegroups.com>,
<N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote:
>>
>It is my understanding that the move to put most of the info on the
>website rather than QST has been driven by three factors:
>
>1) Results analysis is easier on the website
>2) There are more contests today
>3) Complaints from noncontesters about how much QST space was being
>used

And, of course, it costs much, much less to add 10 web pages to
cover more contests (or to go into depth on one contest) than it
does to add 10 magazine pages.

Patty

731. Re: Ham magazines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-26 17:57:02 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1177605538.825384.52670@c18g2000prb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4736

On Apr 25, 12:34 pm, weaver5...@mypacks.net wrote:
> I've been "off the air" for a few years playing soldier and am now back a
nd reacquainting myself with ham radio.
>
> I've been able to subscribe to "QST" and "CQ", but can't find "ham >Radio
magazine", "73 magazine" or "Communications Quarterly" >addresses anywhere
. Do they still exist? Are there any new magazines >other than the ab
ove that I should consider, especially technical >ones? My interest is m
ostly antenna designing, receiver designing, and >contesting.

"Ham Radio" magazine stopped publication in 1990, "Ham Radio
Horizons shortly before that. They were sold to CQ Communications.
CQ - for a while - published some remnants from HR called
"Communications Quarterly" (a quarterly periodical).

The first 22 years of publication of "Ham Radio" is available on a
3-disc CD set for $150 from CQ and resold by the ARRL. Stuff
in there is still 'meatier' than in QST and most QEX issues.

"Commquart" merged with QEX a few years ago.

"73" magazine ceased a few years ago. The independent periodicals
(i.e., non-ARRL supported) existed on advertising space sales and the
competition (such as from the newer "Popular Communications")
caused marketeers to go to larger demographic base magazines and
the big-chain ham equipment vendors' catalogs.

73, Len AF6AY

[Former Associate Editor on HR]

732. How Many Of Us Are Hams & OTR Lovers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-26 18:48:27 UTC
From: Pat Cook <pchamster@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <JZudnQ4DIZTAdK3bnZ2dnUVZ_qKqnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4737

Hi everyone:

The reason I ask this question is because I'd like to build a concensus as to how many of us in the OTR (Old Time Radio) community are Hams. Conversely, I'd like to build a consensus as to how many of us in the Ham community are lovers of OTR shows.

The reason behind this is simple. I'd like to consider starting up a loosely-formal net on EchoLink that's devoted to OTR. The premise would be anything related to OTR or radio in general.

As for what would be allowed for non-Ham participation, we could set up a live audio stream (I can do this with no problem) so that people can at least LISTEN to the net, though what I'd like to see happen is the possibility of using Skype as a virtual "phone patch" as it were (There shouldn't be a problem with Third Party traffic rules as far as I can see if they're properly followed).

Problem with this though is whether the EchoLink admins. would consider such an integration to be an acceptable use of the system or not (My bet is that it probably would not). But I'll ask anyway.

I'll also ask this of the EchoLink group as well, but I'd like to hear your thoughts.

Cheers & 73 to all the Hams in the community :D

Pat Cook, KB0OXD
Denver, Colorado
Jeeper One Media - http://www.freewebtown.com/jeeperone/
KB0OXD Cybershack - http://www.qsl.net/kb0oxd/
EchoLink Node No. 19905

733. Re: "Are ham radio operators still around, even?"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-26 19:21:34 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1177615197.387707.256000@o40g2000prh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4738

On Apr 26, 3:00 pm, "Richard Crowley" <rcrow...@xp7rt.net> wrote:

> Satire or not. I didn't see anything in your quote that I hadn't
> already seen in the product-mix and store operations over
> the last several years. You are far more likely to find a plush
> toy with a broadcast receiver inside, or stick-on plastic jewels
> for your cell phone than a 22K ohm resistor or a 7404 hex
> inverter.

In the spirit of fair play and after my ill researched rant, I just examined their online shopping site and found a reasonable assortment of general purpose opamps and other IC's, transistors, and various resistor assortments and smaller single-value resistor packs. I think I'll later take the 15 minutes (7 minutes each direction, plus 1 minute examining stock) and see if this product assortment is duplicated in their brick-and-mortar store.

73, de Hans, K0HB

734. Re: ARRL Sweepstakes QST report

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-26 21:22:42 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1177619293.155572.197100@r30g2000prh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4739

On Apr 26, 5:56 pm, Patty.Win...@b.mail.sonic.net
(pat...@wintertime.com) wrote:

>
> And, of course, it costs much, much less to add 10 web pages to
> cover more contests (or to go into depth on one contest) than it
> does to add 10 magazine pages.
>

If we carry that argument to its logical (but unsupportable)
conclusion, then we should take everything out of QST except the
advertising.

Besides, I'm not lobbying to add 10 magazine pages, but only to retain
the pages we had.

73, de Hans, K0HB

735. Re: "Are ham radio operators still around, even?"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-26 21:23:34 UTC
From: "Rick (W-A-one-R-K-T)" <get.my.email@from.qrz.com>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.04.26.20.45.00.658615@from.qrz.com>
Source record: 4740

On Thu, 26 Apr 2007 15:21:34 -0400, groupk0hb wrote:

> I think
> I'll later take the 15 minutes (7 minutes each direction, plus 1
> minute examining stock) and see if this product assortment is
> duplicated in their brick-and-mortar store.

And therein lies my biggest beef with Radio Shack ... more and more of their merchandise is listed on their website as "web only" and isn't even carried in their stores.

I have written to their corporate HQ many times to complain about this in the most courteous and respectful terms I can muster, and they have completely ignored every single communication.

I often wonder why they bother with their stores anymore.

A faux news service the Onion may be, but they hit the nail right on the head with that article.

736. Re: ARRL Sweepstakes QST report

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-26 21:37:49 UTC
From: Patty.Winter@a.mail.sonic.net
Message-ID: <463119c6$0$14068$742ec2ed@news.sonic.net>
Source record: 4741

In article <1177619293.155572.197100@r30g2000prh.googlegroups.com>,
<groupk0hb@earthlink.net> wrote:
>On Apr 26, 5:56 pm, Patty.Win...@b.mail.sonic.net
>(pat...@wintertime.com) wrote:
>
>> And, of course, it costs much, much less to add 10 web pages to
>> cover more contests (or to go into depth on one contest) than it
>> does to add 10 magazine pages.
>
>If we carry that argument to its logical (but unsupportable)
>conclusion, then we should take everything out of QST except the
>advertising.

Shhhhhh! Don't let them hear you....

>Besides, I'm not lobbying to add 10 magazine pages, but only to retain
>the pages we had.

Many magazines have cut back on their page counts in recent years
to save on printing and mailing costs.

Patty

737. Re: "Are ham radio operators still around, even?"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-27 00:46:56 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13327bd9lpngi2e@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 4742

Rick (W-A-one-R-K-T) wrote:

> And therein lies my biggest beef with Radio Shack ... more and more of
> their merchandise is listed on their website as "web only" and isn't even
> carried in their stores.

I think that's a reflection of what people are buying. Our local Radio Shack relocated recently, and in the process their selection of electronic components decreased. But look at it from the point of view of the person who owns the store . . . they've got a limited amount of floor space, and they need to use it in the best way to maximize profit. If they sell a dozen components a month for a net profit of $10, that large cabinet full of electronic components isn't pulling its weight. Better to replace it with another display of cell phones, boom boxes, MP3 players, or whatever is selling these days.

> I have written to their corporate HQ many times to complain about this in
> the most courteous and respectful terms I can muster, and they have
> completely ignored every single communication.

While there's no excuse for this, I suspect that in today's corporate world it's not that unusual. Paying staff for reading and responding to letters from customers is expensive.

> I often wonder why they bother with their stores anymore.

I'm assuming (with full knowledge of what that word really means) that their stores are still profitable -- just not selling electronic components.

> A faux news service the Onion may be, but they hit the nail right on the
> head with that article.

Frankly, Radio Shack has always been a source that I used only when I needed something *now* and was willing to pay a stiff premium to have it in hand. For me, now that they stock less and less of the stuff that falls into that category, they're less and less useful. But don't forget that we are not their only customer segment, and probably have never been their most profitable one. Markets change and the stores serving those markets have to change too . . . or die . . . or both.

73, Steve KB9X

738. Re: ARRL Sweepstakes QST report

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-27 00:47:22 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1177628296.699383.179420@c18g2000prb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4743

On Apr 26, 9:37 pm, Patty.Win...@a.mail.sonic.net
(pat...@wintertime.com) wrote:

>
> Many magazines have cut back on their page counts in recent years
> to save on printing and mailing costs.
>

The BoD has to quit thinking of QST as a magazine and start treating
it like the club newsletter. That may mean raising club dues to
support a newsletter which serves all the various segments of the club
population.

73, de Hans, K0HB

739. Re: How Many Of Us Are Hams & OTR Lovers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-27 00:48:27 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1177634484.344156.37380@n15g2000prd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4744

On Apr 26, 6:48 pm, "Pat Cook" <pchams...@gmail.com> wrote:

>
> .... what I'd like to see happen is the
> possibility of using Skype as a virtual "phone patch" as it were (There
> shouldn't be a problem with Third Party traffic rules as far as I can see if
> they're properly followed).
>

This would be the equivalent of a virtual "reverse autopatch without a
control operator" and not legal under the current rules.

73, de Hans, K0HB

740. Re: ARRL Sweepstakes QST report

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-27 01:09:19 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1177635585.986747.310130@r30g2000prh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4745

On Apr 26, 1:55 pm, groupk...@earthlink.net wrote:
> "RDW" has hit on one of my hot buttons here.

Mine too.
>
> N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>
> > It is my understanding that the move to put most of the info on the
> > website rather than QST has been driven by three factors:
>
> > 1) Results analysis is easier on the website
>
> I don't care if ARRL puts these things on their website. But I >DO<
> care when they remove them from our club newsletter (yes, Virginia,
> ARRL is, in the final analysis, a radio club and QST is the club
> newsletter. <--- Hold that thought....
>
I agree!

> > 2) There are more contests today
>
> More than when? I don't recall that ARRL sponsored a new contest in
> decades.

When I became a ham back in 1967, ARRL sponsored the following
contests that were reported in QST:

Field Day
SS (CW)
SS (Phone)
DX (CW)
DX (Phone)
VHF SS (4 per year)
Novice Roundup

10 per year

Today, ARRL sponsors:

Field Day
SS (CW)
SS (Phone)
DX (CW)
DX (Phone)
VHF SS (4 per year)
School Club Roundup (2 per year)

UHF Contest
RTTY Roundup
10 Meter Contest
160 Meter Contest
10 GHz & Up Contest
IARU Contest

17 per year

> > 3) Complaints from noncontesters about how much QST space was being
> > used.
>
> [rant]
>
> Here's my cut on that. Editorial policy of a club newsletter
> shouldn't be based on complaints, it should be based on FULL coverage
> of ALL of the clubs activities. Perhaps the editors of QST agree with
> that, perhaps not, but the point is moot because this decision was
> driven by the BoD, not the editor.

All that a complaint amounts to is a form of member input.
Should the BoD ignore member input?
>
> Will these same complaints "about how much web server space is being
> used" cause similar cuts there?

Please don't give the anti-contest folks ideas.

There's still a considerable amount of space devoted to each contest,
and some contests (like FD) get full line scores.

What bothers me about contest coverage in QST is two things:
Lopsidedness and impermanence.

For example, in SS, there's detailed reporting of top scores, who won
what plaque, etc. But the little guy - the rest of the pack, so to
speak - is not recorded. Yet it is the little guys who make the big
scores possible! Seeing one's score - high or low - in QST is one way
to increase participation.

As for permanence, I can look up scores all the way back to the very
first SS and FD simply by pulling the appropriate QST off the shelf.
Those without a library like mine can use the CDs. But for recent
scores, I am dependent on the impermanent website.

It seems to me that it's worth the space to publish all the scores,
even if they are printed very small.

> Three of the groups which comprise the core membership of the ARRL
> radio club are Contesters, DXers, and the Field Organization. They're
> not the only three, maybe not even the top three, but they are
> certainly in the top 5 or 6 'interest groups' in the club.

(DEVIL'S ADVOCATE MODE = ON)

Yes, but how many of them send in a contest log? Say, for SS - 2000
logs out of 125,000 members?

(DEVIL'S ADVOCATE MODE = OFF)

> Yet, in recent decisions the BoD has stripped contest line scores,
> most DXCC listings, and Section News from our newsletter. I'm sure
> that saves some page-count in QST, but it seems false economy to snub
> "who brought you to the dance" just because someone(s) complained they
> took up space on your dance card.
>
> [/rant]

Perhaps the BoD needs to hear some complaints from a different
quarter....

73 de Jim, N2EY

741. Re: "Are ham radio operators still around, even?"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-27 01:20:32 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1177633928.401469.268300@b40g2000prd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4746

groupk...@earthlink.net wrote on Thu, 26 Apr 2007 03:44:08 EDT

>Radio Shack, once one of the premier suppliers to the tinkerers and
>experimenters among us, and still a source of the occasional
>connector, roll of solder, switch, or other item, seems to be having
>an identiy crisis.
>
>I recently saw, on the "Onion", this quotation reported to be from Mr.
>Day, their CEO. I sent the email below to them, and will report their
>response here.
>
>Here's the quote: (Entire article at http://tinyurl.com/29e856)
>
>--------------------------
>"What is that, some kind of World War II terminology? Are
>ham radio operators still around, even? Aren't we in the
>digital age?"
>--------------------------

Pardon me for disagreeing with a moderator, but I don't quite see the necessity for sounding any hue and cry about some alleged statement in an alleged Internet news site. Is the "Onion" a reputable journalistic
organization or just a refined, fancy web log?

As far as I've observed in my limited time of 60 years since first starting to tinker with electronics (including radios), Tandy Radio Shack was primarily a consumer electronics retailer, not necessarily just for tinkerers and experimenters. Radio Shack (without the Tandy prefix) continues today in that same general market area, not the best, not the cheapest, not the one with the most of anything in electronics, consumer or otherwise. They seem to be convenient for the consumer of any kind of consumer electronics.

>Dear Mr. Day,
>
>Yes, we are in the digital age, and luckily for you and your company
>ham radio operators are still around. Something around 650,000 in the
>USA, and millions more around the world. Many of us still know
>precisely how many minutes it will take us to get to the nearest Radio
>Shack store for an electronic part or tool that we need to get our
>station (probably running a digital mode) back on the air. (Seven
>minutes from my house.)

The closest Radio Shack to my house is about a quarter of an hour away in a mini-mall across from a giant Ralphs food market where my

wife and I shop every week. I've never timed it. That Radio Shack used
to be next to the Burbank HRO store (which moved away to a major
street elsewhere in Burbank, a location with now-miserable parking).
There's two other Burbank, CA, Radio Shack outlets, one at a corner
location in downtown Burbank and the other in the three-story indoor
Mall built about 10 years ago. They hang on despite obvious competition
in consumer electronics from Fry's, a huge supermarket of electronics
(over three dozen checkout stations) next to Bob Hope Airport...and the
PC Club on Victory Blvd in a mini-mall with an OSH do-it-yourself chain
store and a Toys R Us store (among several). Burbank has a population
of about 110K folks. If I need some kind of part in a hurry, I would go to
Electronic City, also in Burbank for as long as I lived just across the city
border in L.A., 44 years. There are at least 5 other parts sellers in a 15
mile driving distance for me. Of course, this San Fernando Valley area
has a population of between 1 to 1.5 million in a city that once had a
major industry of aerospace-electronics.

Tandy Radio Shack was once a major player in the personal computer
market with their TRS-80, then the short-lived "Color Computer" or
"CoCo."
It was a major player in home music systems back when "Hi-Fi" was the
popular phrase, before "stereo" as a generic term was in vogue. Radio
Shack still sells those...and cell phones and wired and cordless phones
and a host of other consumer electronics, including a variety of radios.
Broadcast band and scanner radios, mostly. In many consumer electronics
items, they have competition from Office Depot and Office Max. :-)

Back when I first got interested in electronics (1947) the number of places
for "radio parts" were limited to a local store, H&H Electronics on
Kishwaukee Street, one of the partners being Gene Hubbell (ex-W9ERU,
later W7DI and SK in the southwest), or "Allied Radio," the big mail-
order place in Chicago 90 miles away. By 1956 there was one more
store in my home town, smaller than H&H. Mail-order was the way to
go back then in northern Illinois in a city of 80K population.

>Maybe you need to research your market a little more, and the lack of
>understanding of your company which you bemoan in the "Onion"
>interview can be reversed.

Hmmm...one reason why I doubt the veracity of this "Onion" article is that Radio Shack has an obvious presence in the consumer electronics market with periodic newspaper inserts and catalogs issued oftener than annually. I suspect they have long ago identified their market target and have managed to keep going without a significant percentage of sales to radio amateurs. The national population is about 300 million and the total number of amateur licensees is about 0.7 million (active licensees less than that).

>And, oh-by-the-way, hams talk to each other ..... it's what we
>do ..... what do you expect we're saying about Radio Shack corporate
>management about now?

Offhand, I'd say it would be the same disparaging words about them that I've heard often for the last four decades. :-) Despite the once-catchy title of Radio Shack (from ham origin of the 1920s and 1930s), I can't recall any specific push that Tandy or its successors ever made to enter the amateur radio market. AES and HRO plus other regional ham stores have that.

By the way, I don't think I can get some vital component needed to keep my radio "on the air" from the Burbank (or Van Nuys, CA) HRO store. Lots of ready-made boxes, antennas, coax, antenna wire, etc., yes but few switches, resistors, capacitors, or inductors. I don't know what the AES in Las Vegas, NV, has other than the same. [maybe lots of packing popcorn which I got a month ago in a shipment] Las Vegas has many other attractions besides electronics. :-)

>Hans Brakob
>Amateur Radio Station K0HB
>1620 Weston Lane
>Plymouth, MN 55447

Leonard Anderson
Amateur Radio Licensee AF6AY
10048 Lanark Street
Sun Valley, CA 91352

742. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-27 01:25:12 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1177634553.674304.290810@t38g2000prd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4747

Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote on Wed, 25 Apr 2007 09:35:43 EDT
>AF6AY wrote:
>> On Apr 23, 10:41?am, "KH6HZ" <kh6...@Tarrl.net> wrote:
>>> "Michael Coslo" <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>
>>>> In my field, I find many people writing and giving away software. I think
>>>> how much altruism exists depends on a person's outlook.
>>> What real altruism exists in software short of Linux-based products?
>
>>> Granted, there is a large amount of 'shareware' out there, but a sizeable
>>> percentage of it is simply crippleware designed to get you to upgrade to the
>>> 'commercial' version.
>
>> Go to Linear Technology (the semiconductor company). They
>> will let anyone download LTSpice, a fully functional, operating
>> SPICE suite, complete with component library and schematic
>> drawing function that will automatically create a SPICE netlist.
>> The manual for it is a separate download, also free to anyone.
>> Not shareware, not some "crippleware designed to make one
>> upgrade." A fully working SPICE program, for nothing. Ideal
>> for amateur radio homebrew projects to check out any
>> circuit before building it in hardware. LTSpice has been out
>> for about a year, already has some hobby groups talking
>> about it, using it, with tips on how to use it for unusual
>> circuits and applications.
>
> On my computers, I use the OpenOffice Suite (mostly WP and their
>spreadsheet)

I was unaware that WordPerfect had any "reader" or equivalent. :-)
My upgrade from WP 3.1 to WP 8 came about, I think, from some
bean-counter's mistake at a Fry's Electronics sale. For a mere $85
I got the "8" Upgrade plus "Dragon Naturally Speaking" (with nice
little
single-earphone and boom mike headset). One has to keep eyes and
ears and mind open for legitimate bargains...they don't happen often.

> I use Digipan and a whole host of other Ham radio software.
>
> Let's not forget N1MM contest logger.
>
> A number of people produce software for the PAQSO party.
>
> All these things share one thing in common. They are free for the download.

Yes! And there's no need to change/include other Operating Systems
on
a PC!

Linear Technology Corporation isn't all that involved with altruism.
Their
LTSpice was originally configured to simulate their switching power
supply
ICs in order to boost their sales of same. Its first name
was "SwitcherCAD." However, they did change their SPICE "envelope" to
allow drawing-listing-analyzing-simulating any kind of discrete-
component
circuit. Their schematic-drawing and auto-netlist creation is not one
of
intrinsic beauty but it works just as good as those pay-for-everything
SPICE packages. It can be used as an ARRL Radio Designer
replacement or equivalent. At no cost.

>>> Licensed amateurs as a whole in the US has been declining for 3+ years now.
>
>> Not really any big decline. Newcomers (never before licensed)
>> are filling in the gaps left by expirations. Check it out on
>> www.hamdata.com, right on the home page.
>
> The "big drop-off" is largely being replaced. While we can discuss the
>reason that it happened - it did happen. I suspect that we will get to
>that earlier level at some point.
>
> Perhaps the old Tech license was a bit of a dead end?

I don't think so. The "old" Technician class which became "Technician
Plus" in 1991 did serve its purpose in 1990 and before. Of course the
Tech Plus was no longer issued as of 2000, but then neither were
Advanced and Novice.

The Novice class license was conceived, lobbied-for by those who
thought
U.S. Amateur Radio would always have morse code as it epitome of
skills
and all should "do their time" in the "apprenticeship" of old-style
operating
as if amateur radio was a union, guild or special craft occupation.
Of
course it wasn't, despite all the urging and PR to "begin at the
beginning
and work, work, work your way up" by some. :-(

The "old" Tech and the new Tech were specifically banished from HF
until
July of 2003 and the changes to S25 (nearly entire re-write) at
WRC-03.
They served their original purpose well enough, I think, which was to
open a class of license for true experimenters. What really happened

was that the Techs (both kinds) found they could be IN amateur radio
and
it wasn't burdened by all the old morse code requirements (de jure and
de
facto). Even with the antipathy of old-timers ("shack on a belt" type
of
remarks, etc.) the Techs did their own thing on VHF-UHF and found it
as
much or more fun than what they "were supposed to do" on HF.

It should be fairly obvious that Techs (both kinds) made up very, very
close
to half of all licensees in U.S. amateur radio prior to 23 February
2007. It
was the "entry" class for so many and many enjoyed that so much they
didn't all switch to other classes. All that while the original
"entry" class of
Novice licensees were dwindling.

>> However, in the periodicals that survive there continue to be
>> new ham radio models being made and advertised, certain
>> models promoted with extras (such as Icom). Antenna
>> makers are still "up" and so are the hundreds of smaller
>> businesses selling peripheral equipment and add-ons. I'd
>> say that the interest in amateur radio is increasing, not the
>> opposite.
>
> Agreed. Certainly it is in my area. There are some who would dispute
>the success we are having in our area (we are running at a 2+ percent
>increase after factoring in attrition for well over a year now) as a
>fluke. I might respectfully suggest a new approach. 8^)

In the last week I've received new catalogs from AES, HRO, Texas
Towers, MFJ in the mail. It's either a grand conspiracy of marketing
or just a lot of ham goodies being made and sold. :-)

>> There might even be a trend towards more newcomers
>> entering than ever before, some hints of that already shown
>> in numbers on www.hamdata.com.
>
> The new hams in our area are good people, and are becoming active and
>well mannered hams.

I didn't know that new folks were "ill-mannerred." I've heard a lot
of old
folks say they were but, as one of the 'old folk' I have yet to see
that
for myself. :-)

73, Len AF6AY

743. Re: How Many Of Us Are Hams & OTR Lovers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-27 03:21:46 UTC
From: Pat Cook <pchamster@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <6aqdnWXbo8etzqzbnZ2dnUVZ_sapnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4748

Hi everyone:
<groupk0hb@earthlink.net> wrote in message
news:1177634484.344156.37380@n15g2000prd.googlegroups.com...
> On Apr 26, 6:48 pm, "Pat Cook" <pchams...@gmail.com> wrote:
>
>>
>> .... what I'd like to see happen is the
>> possibility of using Skype as a virtual "phone patch" as it were (There
>> shouldn't be a problem with Third Party traffic rules as far as I can see
>> if
>> they're properly followed).
>>
>
> This would be the equivalent of a virtual "reverse autopatch without a
> control operator" and not legal under the current rules.

Ahh....But suppose the Ham was the one who initiated the contact? That
wouldn't be a virtual reverse autopatch. It'd probably be considered the
same as a traditional phone patch akin to what many HF operators use.

But then again if the EchoLink admins won't allow it to take place during
the net, then this discussion is a moot point, now is it. :)

Cheers & 73 :D

Pat Cook, KB0OXD
Denver, Colorado
WEBSITE - http://www.qsl.net/kb0oxd/

====================================== MODERATOR'S COMMENT:
wh2t - Ace

744. Re: How Many Of Us Are Hams & OTR Lovers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-27 03:23:35 UTC
From: "k4rjj@comcast.net" <k4rjj@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <I_2dneeKHaUxyqzbnZ2dnUVZ_vrinZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4649

Go to http://www.sarsradio.com and put this out to the members there.
Lots of hams are members as well.

http://www.sarsradio.com/

745. Re: "Are ham radio operators still around, even?"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-27 03:24:27 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1177639550.489379.114940@n35g2000prd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4650

On Apr 27, 1:20 am, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:

> I can't recall any specific push that Tandy or its successors
> ever made to enter the amateur radio market.

10-15 years ago Radio Shack marketed a modest line of ham radio
transcievers.

The HTX-10 and HTX-100 were small HF rigs, they sold five or six
models of VHF/UHF handhelds, and three or four VHF/UHF "base"
transceivers.

73, de Hans, K0HB

====================================== MODERATOR'S COMMENT:
wh2t - Ace

746. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-27 03:27:56 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns991EE3F2ACA8Fmcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 4651

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote in
news:1177582415.752443.129750@n35g2000prd.googlegroups.com:

>> On my computers, I use the OpenOffice Suite (mostly WP
>> and their spreadsheet)
>>I use Digipan and a whole host of other Ham radio software.
>>Let's not forget N1MM contest logger.
>>A number of people produce software for the PAQSO party.

> Reg Edwards' (G4FGQ) whole selection of design software

Yoiks! I can't believe that I forgot Reg (at least his software) Thanks
for that addition, Jim

> G4FON's Morse Code learning software, to name just one of many
> Older versions of Spectrogram, an audio spectrum analyzer software
> with many uses in the ham shack.
> Several free online Amateur Radio practice test websites

All good additions, Jim

>> All these things share one thing in common. They
>> are free for the download.
>>
>>Even programs such as EZNEC, while charging for the full version, have
>> a perfectly functional demo version with the biggest limitation being
>> the number of "elements" you can use in it.
>>
>> If that isn't enough, then 4NEC2 is free.
>> Altruism does indeed exist.

>> The "big drop-off" is largely being replaced. While we ca
> n discuss the
>> reason that it happened - it did happen. I suspect that we will get
>> to that earlier level at some point.

> One factor I have not seem mentioned recently is the effect of rules
> changes other than license test requirements on the number of hams.
>
> For example, in the USA, the license term was doubled from 5 to 10
> years back in 1984, and the 'grace period' doubled from one to two
> years.

This is truly not an exact science! The licencing qualifications
and expiry conditions have been quite dynamic.

> Another rules change that effects expirations is the vanity callsign
> program. Unlike address changes, upgrades, etc., getting a vanity call
> also generates a renewal. This may profoundly affect the distribution
> of license expiration dates.
>
> With the license term at ten years and the grace period at two years,
> it can take a pretty long time for the actual loss of amateurs to show
> up in the totals.

Indeed. While I would presonally like my license to remain in
effect forever without renewal,(hehe) a shorter renewal cycle would be of
great utility in keeping track of how we are doing in retention of Hams.

> It is also important to know the details of what is included in the
> numbers being cited.

It is a problem with all statistics/numbers.

>> Perhaps the old Tech license was a bit of a dead end?
>>
> Perhaps. However, if so, it should be noted that only a small
> percentage of them have upgraded in the past 60 days.

What I have noticed in my area is that the upgrades from Tech to
General has been mostly been by recently licensed Techs.

> There is also a fairly large variation in the license totals over
> fairly short periods of time. For example, the total number of
> current FCC-issued amateur licenses held by individuals was:

<numbers snipped so the reply gets through....)

> Depending on which dates are compared, all sorts of short-term trends
> could appear to be happening.

Yes. I would venture that there is not much use in trying to pick
up anything from our numbers except from long term statistics (in spite
of my yapping about the success we are having in my area). on a weekly
basis, nothing real can be determined.

>> Agreed. Certainly it is in my area. There are some who wo
> uld dispute
>> the success we are having in our area (we are running at a 2+ percent
>> increase after factoring in attrition for well over a year now) as a
>> fluke. I might respectfully suggest a new approach. 8^)
>
> "If it happens, it must be possible"
>>
>> > There might even be a trend towards more newcomers
>> > entering than ever before, some hints of that already shown
>> > in numbers onwww.hamdata.com.
>>
>> The new hams in our area are good people, and are becoming active and
>> well mannered hams.

>>
> IMHO, that's more important than how many.

When it all boils down, that is what is important. Despite all the concerns voiced by various segemnts of the Amateur community, what we need are good, active people.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

========== MODERATOR'S COMMENT:
wh2t - Ace

747. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-27 03:28:38 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns991EE4777E46Fmcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 4652

AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote in
news:1177634553.674304.290810@t38g2000prd.googlegroups.com:

> Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote on Wed, 25 Apr 2007 09:35:43 EDT
>>On my computers, I use the OpenOffice Suite (mostly WP and
>>their spreadsheet)
>
> I was unaware that WordPerfect had any "reader" or equivalent. :-)

OOps! Word Processing as opposed to Word Perfect. Darned acronyms....
8^)

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

========== MODERATOR'S COMMENT:
wh2t - Ace

748. Re: How Many Of Us Are Hams & OTR Lovers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-27 05:09:59 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1177647026.674750.36700@n35g2000prd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4653

On Apr 27, 3:21 am, "Pat Cook" <pchams...@gmail.com> wrote:

>
> Ahh....But suppose the Ham was the one who initiated the contact? That
> wouldn't be a virtual reverse autopatch. It'd probably be considered the
> same as a traditional phone patch akin to what many HF operators use.
>

It doesn't seem analogous to me, so let me construct a model, so that
I can ask questions about that model.

In a traditional HF phone patch there are two licensed ham stations
involved. Station K1AAA calls station K0BBB in Denver and says
"Please patch me to my girlfriend. Her number is 303-555-1212."

K0BBB now dials up the g/f, connects her to his rig, and controls his
transmitter allowing her to talk (or not talk).

Where in Echolink is the equivalent of K0BBB controlling his
transmitter allowing the third party to speak, or more importantly,
cutting off the third party if they seem to be violating a rule?

73, de Hans, K0HB

749. 432 SPRINT

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-27 07:20:40 UTC
From: John Doe <hgorden@adelphia.net>
Message-ID: <aNudnceISvf0A6zbnZ2dnUVZ_hadnZ2d@adelphia.com>
Source record: 4654

First time in a long time that I had some fun being a rover in a sprint.
Since I have been diagnosed with MDS - I dragged the xyl along just in case
of an emergency. She was bored most of the time.
I was very surprised that I was able to work all of these stations with only
20w and a 2m antenna. The only drawback to the whole operation was the cost
of the petrol!
73's Hope to work you in the 50Mhz Sprint & the June contest.
I think that next time I should start off in the rarer grid first.

Call: W3CQH/R
Club: PVRC
Equip: IC706MKIIg - 20w on 432
ANT: 2m BIG WHEEL - horiz pol

>From FM19 worked 17 Q's & 4 Grds- FN10, FM08, FM18, FM19
>From FM09 worked 6 Q's & 5 Grds- FN00, FN21, FM08, FM09, FM18

Total operating time: 1900 - 2238 LOCAL including driving time.

750. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1550 - April 27, 2007 - Prefeed - Final

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-27 10:36:33 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <E1HhM00-0003Kc-KV@elasmtp-dupuy.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 4655
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1550 - April 27, 2007

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1550 with a
release date of Friday, April 27th, 2007 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. Hams down-under
prepare to face another BPL trial as radio
amateurs in the United States North East respond
as the skies open up. Find out the details on
Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1550 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

THE BPL FIGHT: ANOTHER BPL TRIAL DOWN-UNDER

Another BPL trial has been announced in
Australia. If this one proves out it could grow
into one of the biggest access BPL installations
down-under and be a major problems for that
nations hams. Felix Scerri, VK4FUQ, is in New
South Whales not far from where the test will be run:

--

Full details have now emerged about the latest
BPL trial in Queanbeyan, NSW. The trial was
announced by Country Energy on the 15th March and
is expected to be operational for at least 6 months from May this year.

The BPL trial plans to pass 300 households in the
Queanbeyan CBD and Jerrabomberra areas, and will
provide both access broadband and electricity network management
information.

Freshtel will provide an Internet Telephony
service to participating customers who, in
addition to receiving a modem and access to the
broadband service, will receive a free Binatone
cordless phone and $30 per month of Freshtel call
credit. Country Energy have been "trialling" BPL
in Queanbeyan for several years using the older
generation 45Mb/s DS2 chipset based Mitsubitishi
equipment, producing emission levels
measured up to 55dB above the expected ambient

noise levels on the 7MHz amateur band. This new trial will use Schneider Electric (Ilevo) equipment using the later generation 200Mb/s chipset, as used in the Mt Beauty BPL trial.

Country Energy, which is owned by the NSW State Government, has around 195,000 kilometres of powerlines and 1.4 million power poles, and offers retail electricity in five states and territories. It employs more than 3,900 employees serving more than 870,000 customers.

I'm Felix, VK4FUQ

--

The results of this latest Australian BPL trial hopefully will be known by the end of the year. (WIA News)

**

RESCUE RADIO: THE GREAT NOR'EASTER OF APRIL 2007

The weekend of April 14th were a couple of dark days for the North East. That's when the worst rainstorm in over 100 years hit the tri-state area of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and then worked its way up into New England. And in many cases hams associated with the Amateur Radio Emergency Service were called out as city's and towns prepared to face Mother Natures wrath. No place was the pre planning more apparent that in the New York City and Long Island areas. Mike Lisenco, N2YBB, is the areas Section Emergency Coordinator:

--

Lisenco: "At 8 a.m., New York City ARES was asked to staff 9 shelters. The District Emergency Coordinator for New York City, John Healy, KA2ABV, got in touch with his 5 Emergency Coordinators -- one for each Borough -- and within the city they were able to staff for the next 24 hours the 9 shelters. They actually put together a staff of about 30 people working in shifts throughout the day."

--

As the storm intensified, over 8 inches of rain fell in New York City. As luck would have it, the expected 50 mph wind gusts did not materialize and the danger to the City passed by midnight. At that time, New York City District ARES was able to stand down and secure.

In Nassau County New York the District Emergency Coordinator Jim Mezey, W2KFV. He said that Nassau ARES ramped up for the storm on with a check of its communication systems at the Nassau Red Cross Chapter. Members were asked to double check their equipment and make sure their "Go Bags" were ready. Rain totals were three to five inches in Nassau County and wind speeds estimates were up to 40 mph sustained with higher gusts. There was a good amount of coastal flooding causing roadway damage and many trees came down. There were also scattered power outages but normal communications were not interrupted.

But New Jersey and upstate New York were not as lucky. According to Lisenco, there was some fairly severe damage in those regions:

--

Lisenco: "Unfortunately, New Jersey and some of the counties in upstate New York were hit very hard with flooding. In fact a number of people were displaced in those regions and the (ham radio) operations was ongoing for a number of days."

--

Meantime, the ARRL Letter reports that in Massachusetts winds gusting between 60 and 75 MPH brought down trees and power lines, leaving some 45,000 customers without power. Trees and tree limbs also fell on cars and houses, in some instances causing significant damage.

During the storm, SKYWARN operations at the Taunton Ntional Weather Service office's WX1BOX, were active from 8 AM Sunday through midnight Tuesday. The SKYWARN team provided some 500 to 600 reports of snowfall, rainfall, flooding, wind damage and wind-speed measurements. More than a dozen repeaters served as formal and informal SKYWARN gathering spots.

Meantime, at the Massachusetts State Emergency Operations Center, RACES' was activated from 6 PM Sunday through 7 PM Monday. Mot only were they monitoring the storm but the Boston Marathon as well. That race went on despite the rough weather with over 200 Amateur Radio volunteers deployed to keep it moving along. Even as Eastern Massachusetts ARES went on standby to support storm related operations.

Similar support operations were also reported in portions of Connecticut, New Hampshire and

adjoining states. (NYC ARES, ARRL, ARNewsline(tm))

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: KE7KDP RETURNS TO EARTH

Space tourist Charles Simonyi, KE7KDP, and two members of the Expedition 14 crew have returned to Earth. Dr. Simonyi along with Expedition 14 Commander Michael Lopez-Alegria, KE5GTK, and Flight Engineer Mikhail Tyurin, RZ3FT, landed safely southwest of Karaganda in Kazakhstan at 8:31 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time on Saturday, April 21st.

The world's fifth space tourist paid around $25 million for pre-flight training and his scheduled 14 day stay on the International Space Station. During his time on-orbit he took to the airwaves using the NA1SS station and made numerous individual and school contacts like these:

--

Actual Contact Audio - Hear it in the audio version of this newscast downloadable at www.arnewsline.org

--

The return to Earth of the Expedition 14 crew members was originally scheduled for Friday, April 20th. Inclement weather at the primary landing site meant the date and location had to be changed. This effectively gave KE7KDP a free extra day in space.

After landing, KE7KDP was quoted as saying that it had been a terrific trip and that he felt fine. Russian space chief Anatoly Perminov echoed those remarks by saying that all three of the returning space travelers were feeling well but Dr. Simonyi clearly feels the best of all. Welcome home. (ARNewsline and various published reports.)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: ISS AUTOMATIC PACKET REMAINS IN LIMBO

The automated ham radio packet system on board the International Space Station will remain in a state of limbo for a while longer. The ARISS control team had been hopeful that space tourist Charles Simonyi, KE7KDP, would have been able to restore the Kenwood radio system to full functionality after an accidental reprogramming of the radio occurred near the end of Expedition 13.

To accomplish this, the ARISS team worked with the Simonyi people to get him prepared to perform the Kenwood reprogramming. Unfortunately, a few weeks before the launch it was learned that additional software certification steps were required to allow the reprogramming software to be used on the I-SS computers. This certification was completed only a few days before KE7KDP returned from space. As a result, there was insufficient time for him to complete the restoration.

The ARISS team says that at this point in time, it appears as if a full restoration will require a concerted effort with full cooperation from the Russian and US space agencies. This will likely take several months to accomplish. In the meantime, requests for some investigative analysis by the crew will be made. This will enable the ARISS team to determine if the radio can be partially restored to provide some of the unattended operations that it once provided. (ARISS)

**

BREAK 1

Celebrating our 30th year of service to the worlds Amateur Radio community. From the United States of America, we are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the WB2DRK repeater serving Suffolk county, New York.

(5 sec pause here)

**

REGULATORY NEWS: FCC PROPOSES TO LOWER THE VANITY CALL FEE

Some good news about license fees courtesy of the ARRL. It reports that the FCC has proposed reducing the regulatory fee to obtain or retain an Amateur Radio vanity call sign by more than 40 percent starting later this year.

In a Notice of Proposed Rule Making released April 18th, the Commission is proposing to cut the fee from its current $20.80 to $11.70. If ultimately adopted, that would mark the lowest fee in the history of the current vanity call sign program.

The actual designation of the proposal is titled "Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2007." In it, the FCC proposes to collect a total nearly $290.3 million

in Fiscal Year 2007 from all of its combined regulatory fees. (ARRL)

**

ENFORCEMENT: UNLICENSED TAMPA BROADCASTER FINED $10000

Turning to enforcement news, the FCC has fined Jean-Harry Pierre-Francois $10,000 for operating an unlicensed broadcast transmitter in the Tampa, Florida area. Back on February 13th the Commission's Tampa Office of the Enforcement Bureau issued Pierre-Francois a Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture in the amount of $10,000. Pierre-Francois never filed a response to the N-A-L. The FCC has now affirmed the forfeiture making it a fine that has to be paid within 30 days of the April 23rd release date unless Pierre-Francois decides to file an appeal. (FCC)

**

RESCUE RADIO: IARU EMCOMMS PRESENTATION AVAILABLE ON THE WEB

A report developed by the Regional Conference on Disaster Relief and Management is now available for on-line viewing. The Power Point presentation is from an address given by the IARU Region 1 Emergency Communications Coordinator Seppo Sisatto, OH1VR.

The conference was held April 14th to thr 16th in Alexandria, Egypt. The report is on-line at www.iaru-1.org/Alexandria%20presentation.ppt (IARU Region 1 News via Southgate News)

**

RADIO LAW: COMPANY SUES FCC IN BID TO LEGALIZE SALE OF FREQUENCY JAMMERS

Cell Antenna Corporation, of Florida has filed suit against the FCC claiming rules that prohibit the sale of radio frequency jamming devices to state and local governments impair first responders' ability to fight terrorism. The suit, filed in the US District Court of the Southern District of Florida challenges a law enforced by the Federal Communications Commission to prohibit the use of cellular and radio frequency jamming equipment by state and local governments.

Cell Antenna argues that several sections of the Communications Act of 1934 violate the 14th amendment of the Constitution and conflict with both the public interest and the wishes of

Congress. Additionally, the suit claims that the FCC rules put at risk the lives of first responders and the public in the event of a terrorist attack using a remote controlled improvised explosive device.

In support of its argument, Cell Antenna claims that with increasing regularity, insurgent groups in Iraq and terrorist cells abroad have begun to turn to cellular-triggered explosives as a means of attacking civilian and military targets. The company says that the FCC is responsible for the commercial licensing of radio waves, and should not be responsible for the determination of whether state and local officials can use technology to fight terrorism.

It should be noted that one of Cell Antennas primary products is signal jamming devices that are sold to federal government agencies throughout the world. The complete press release detailing this law suit is on line at http://cellantenna.com/pressreleases/CellAntenna-FCC4.pdf (CGC, Cell Antenna Website)

**

ON THE AIR: HAM RADIO INVITED ON CROSS COUNTRY PATRIOTIC RIDE

A 15-day Patriotic Ride Across America is being planned as part of the May 2007 National Military Appreciation Month. Organizers would like Amateur Radio support for communications along the route.

The 6000 mile round trip ride begins on May 20th in Sacramento, California and goes cross country to Washington D.C. before returning to the California state capital. More information is on-line at www.nmam.org. Just click on the Capital Ride Across America graphic at the top of the page.

Also, as reported last week, the next "Ham It Up For The Troops" operating event takes on May 26, beginning at 9 a.m. Eastern time . Its also a part of National Military Appreciation Month but sponsored by the Amateur Radio Military Appreciation Day organization.

ARMAD as it is better known has conducted this special event for the past three years. It's primary purpose is to let those that sacrifice know that we support them. More about ARMAD and the "Ham It Up For The Troops" event is on line at www.armad.net (ARMAD)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: NEW MANAGING EDITOR AT RADCOM

Some names in the news. First to the United Kingdom where Giles Read, G1MFG, has been named Managing Editor of Radio Communications Magazine. He succeeds Alex Kearns who left the magazine back in January.

Read previously served as Rad Com's Technical Editor. In his new position, G1MFG will be responsible for overall editorial control and technical content of the monthly U-K publication.

The RSGB which publishes Rad Com has also announced that Tracey Treanor has joined the staff. She is taking on the job in bringing to members the most up to date news as well as in-depth features. (GB2RS)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: ASTRONAUT BILL MC ARTHUR TO BE AT HAMVENTION 2007

Back on this side of the Atlantic, the Dayton Hamvention and ARRL have announced that Space shuttle veteran and International Space Station Expedition 12 commander Bill McArthur, KC5ACR, will be attending the 2007 Dayton Hamvention.

McArthur will be the League's guest Hamvention. He will first be the featured speaker during a private ARRL reception on Thursday, May 17th. He will be on hand all day Friday, May 18th to greet and talk with visitors to ARRL EXPO 2007 area at the Hamvention.

Hamvention 2007 takes place May 18th to the 20th at Hara Arena near Dayton, Ohio. More about the event and what's happening this year is on-line at www.hamvention.org. (Dayton Hamvention, ARRL)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: SAARO TURNS 20 IN MAY

And congratulations to the Salem Area Amateur Radio Operators club of Salem, Ohio, which celebrates its 20th anniversary in May. The group describes itself as an association of radio amateurs organized for the promotion of amateur radio communication and experimentation that provides communications during disasters, emergencies and community events.

The club has about 30 members from Salem and the surrounding area. It is usually in attendance at large public functions like parades and works with the Patriotic Society on Memorial Day. The

club has assisted in many emergency operations over the years, and has gained national recognition as a Special Service Club. It's well-known for its 24-foot long red trailer that appears during emergencies and emergency drills throughout the area. (SalemNews.net)

**

BREAK 2

Thirty years and still going. From the United States of America, we are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

RADIO NEEDED: HAM RADIO STILL DOMINANT

Radio in general is still one of the most dominant form of communication despite major technological advancements. This, according to the International Amateur Radio Union.

Commenting, Graham Hartlett, ZS6GJH, of the South African Radio League notes that despite the internet and cellular phones, Amateur Radio continues to attract people world-wide. Hartlet says that it does this by providing free international communications and friendships and because ham radio does not need pre-established supporting infrastructure that all other services do. (SARL)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: ELSEEMORE HELPS BLIND OPS USE ECHOLINK

Australia's NERG News reports a program called ElseeMore - EchoLink for Blind Operators has been developed by Tony Wakefield, VK3ZTR. This program assists Blind and Visually Impaired radio amateurs in operating the popular EchoLink Internet linking program.

Normally EchoLink requires the use of the keyboard and mouse, and the ability to read menus and text displays. ElseeMore is simplifying the user interface. Large screen fonts and simplified text displays can be used by partially sighted operators, while voice prompts are use by totally blind operators to navigate through the

EchoLink controls. Amnd best of all, ElseeMore can be configured by either locally or over the Internet so that the blind operator can easily access pre-set favorite EchoLink nodes.

According to its developer, ElseeMore the program has been quite popular not only with blind operators but also operators having 20-20 vision. They find the large font display and speech announcements are great for monitoring operations from across a room. More is on-line at www.tonywakefield.com.au (WIA News)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: OUT-OF-THIS-WORLD INTERNET ACCESS

The U.S. Department of Defense has named Intelsat General Corp. to proceed with initial testing of what is expected to lead to Internet Routing in Space. In early 2009, a space-hardened Cisco router will be launched into geostationary orbit to support the voice, data and video needs of the armed forces, first responders, and others who need seamless and instant communications. You can read more about it at www.telecomweb.com/tnd/22650.html (CGC)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: AMSAT-NA SPACE SYMPOSIUM IN PITTSBURG OCT 26 - 28

The 2007 AMSAT-NA Space Symposium will be held at the Pittsburgh Airport Marriott Hotel from October 26 through the 28th. This years keynote speaker is Sy Liebergot, a former NASA spaceflight controller and part of the team that guided Apollo 13 back to Earth following the explosion which crippled the spacecraft.

AMSAT is also focusing efforts to attract local middle and high school students to the Saturday sessions by providing special programs. As part of this there will be a fully operational satellite station on site for demonstrations and use.

This years symposium is being hosted by the Wireless Association of South Hills Amateur Radio Club. More information is on-line on the symposium page at www.amsat.org (AMSAT)

**

WORLDBEAT - AUSTRALIA: 6 METER BEACON BACK ON AIR

In nrews from around the worls, word that the Australian 6 meter propagation beacon on 50.295 MHz is back on air. This, with a 10 watt horizontally polarized omni-directional CW signal.

The VK3RMH beacon was established to provide signals to indicate band openings to and across V-K land. It also provides signals necessary for receiver alignment of stations within its local groundwave coverage area. (WIA News)

**

WORLDBEAT - CHINA: THE INTERLOPERS ARE BACK

If you are trying to hold a QSO on the 17 meter band and you are suddenly trampled by two shortwave stations fighting one another then you have been jammed by a pair of broadcasters vying for the minds of the people of China. More accurately, one is trying to express its views to listeners in the Peoples Republic of China while the other is trying to jam it out. No matter as neither the "Sound of Hope" which broadcasts from Taiwan nor the music station jamming it from the city of Hainan are supposed to be on 18.160 MHz nor anywhere in the Amateur exclusive world wide 18 MHz allocation. But they are and its not the first time that either has showed up in an Amateur Radio allocation. And while several nations Intruder Watch operations have logged the stations and complaints have been filed, it remains to be seen if anything can be done to chase the interlopers away. (RN, Listener E-Mail)

**

ON THE AIR: THE IARU REGION 1 EMCOMM PARTY - MAY 5

On the air, word that Region 1 of the International Amateur Radio Union will be sponsoring its second EmCom Party on the Air on Sunday May 5th. The IARU says that this is not a contest but an emergency communications exercise. The aim for participants is to contact I-A-R-U Region 1 headquarters station OF3F in Finland and also as many other national HQ and emergency communication group stations as possible using SSB. The information gathered will give the sponsor a good idea as to range and accessibility of stations in the region.

The event runs from 11.00 to 15.00 UTC on the 40, 20 and 15 meter bands. More information on the exercise can be obtained at www.raynet-hf.net. (GB2RS)

**

DX

In D-X, the international N8S DXpedition to
Swains Island led by Hrane Miloshevic,YT1AD of
Serbia and David Collingham, K3LP of the USA, is
over. Radio Bulgaria reports that racked up a a
record breaking 117,205 QSO's by operating around
the clock on all bands from April 3rd to the
15th. QSL cards is due to start after May
15th. Direct QSL's require a self-addressed
return envelope and proper funds to cover return
postage. Those go to Hrane Miloshevic, YT1AD,
36206 Vitanovac, Serbia. QSL's sent via the bureau require only your card.

On the air, keep your ears open for DL9MWG active
from Malta as 9H3RT through May 11th. Activity
will be on HF mainly using CW. QSL to DL9MWG at his callbook address.

Last but by no means least, word that DS4DRE, is
currently active slash 4 from Hong Island.
Activity will be on 80 to 10 meters on CW and
SSB. He plans to be there until June 30th. QSL as directed on the air.

(Above from various DX news outlets)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: ITS T-HUNT TIME

And finally this week, as the weather warms up,
it's time to think about taking ham radio
outside. Newsline's Joe Moell K0OV tells about
some opportunities for foxhunting fun in the coming months.

--

It's going to be a busy spring and summer for
fans of hidden transmitter hunting. May 12 and
13 is the annual CQ Worldwide Foxhunting
Weekend. You may have heard me call it the
National Foxhunting Weekend before, but the name
has changed because it's become an international
event. Fans of direction-finding contests will
take to the roads and to the forest to track down
hidden transmitters on two meters, and other
bands too, in cars and on foot. Start planning a
Foxhunting Weekend activity for your club. You
can get some ideas by reading about it in the
April and May issues of CQ Magazine.

Then a week later, a very special foxhunting
event takes place at Sinclair Park in Dayton on
the Sunday of Hamvention 2007. This will be the

first ARDF event just for the blind to be held in the USA. It's being put on by the OH-KY-IN Amateur Radio Club, headed up by Dick Arnett WB4SUV and Bob Frey WA6EZV. Anyone who is blind or sight-impaired can participate; no ham radio license is required. How can one walk or run through a park to find radio transmitters without being able to see? Go to OH-KY-IN's special Web site to find out. The URL is www.ardfusa.com

While you're at the Hamvention, be sure to take in the Foxhunt Forum, which will be Saturday at 1145 hours in Room 5 of Hara Arena.

The big finish for 2007 foxhunting activity will be the ARDF Championships of the USA and IARU Region 2, which will be September 14 through 16 in the forest near South Lake Tahoe, California. That's near the Nevada border in the Sierras. The championships are open to anyone of any age, and even if you've never done this sort of thing before, it's a chance to learn from the best. Registration will open soon. Read all about it, and other foxhunting news, at www.homingin.com. Spell HOMINGIN as one word.

From southern California, this is Joe Moell K-zero-Oscar-Vicror for Amateur Radio Newsline.

--

Again, Joes website is www.homingin.com. (K0OV, ARNewsline(tm))

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline@arnewsline.org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), P.O. Box 660937, Arcadia, California 91066.

Two reminders before we go. First about our on-line poll regarding your position on the concept of Regulation by Bandwidth. To take

part, take your web browser
to www.arnewsline.org. Scroll down and watch for
the word "Polls" on the left hand side of the
page. Then click on the box that is closest to
your view. As soon as you cast your vote you will see the current results.

Also, the nominating season for this years
Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year
Award is now open. Any radio amateur age 18 or
younger residing in all 50 United States, plus
Puerto Rico and all 13 Canadian Provinces can
qualify. Full details and nominating forms are
on our special website at www,yhoty.org. Also
see the Vertex-Standard sponsored ad on page 8
of the March issue of QST Magazine.

And this final word. It was 1,550 weeks ago, in
the summer of 1977 that the Amateur Radio
Newsline was born. That was almost 30 years ago
and back then, we called ourselves the Westlink
Radio Network with our very first newscast
dedicated to reporting on repeater
deregulation. That was a hot topic back then and
there have been hundreds if not thousands of hot
topics since. And as we end our third decade of
service and head toward our fourth, we want to
pause for a moment and say thanks to all of you
who have listed to us all these years and who
have given us the financial support so that we can continue.

In reality, you are just as important as any of
us because without you the listener, we would
have no reason to exist. And as we say goodbye
for this week we renew our pledge first made 30
years ago to do our best to bring you the most
timely and up to date information that you need
to be a modern day radio amateur.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the
editors desk, I'm Jim Davis, W2JKD, saying 73
from all of us here at the Amateur Radio Newsline
and we thank you for listening.

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751. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-27 10:36:58 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1177669298.399456.160090@t38g2000prd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4656

On Apr 26, 11:27 pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote innews:1177582415.752443.129750@n35g2000prd.googlegrou
ps.com:

> > Reg Edwards' (G4FGQ) whole selection of design software

> Yoiks! I can't believe that I forgot Reg (at least his software) Thanks
> for that addition, Jim

He's just one example that came to mind. There are lots more.

> > G4FON's Morse Code learning software, to name just one of many
> > Older versions of Spectrogram, an audio spectrum analyzer software
> > with many uses in the ham shack.
> > Several free online Amateur Radio practice test websites
>
> All good additions, Jim
>
Thanks. And they're just a drop in the bucket.

> >> The "big drop-off" is largely being replaced. While we ca
> > n discuss the
> >> reason that it happened - it did happen. I suspect that we will get
> >> to that earlier level at some point.
> > One factor I have not seem mentioned recently is the effect of rules
> > changes other than license test requirements on the number of hams.
>
> > For example, in the USA, the license term was doubled from 5 to 10
> > years back in 1984, and the 'grace period' doubled from one to two
> > years.
>
> This is truly not an exact science! The licencing qualifi
cations
> and expiry conditions have been quite dynamic.

Exactly.
>
> > Another rules change that effects expirations is the vanity callsign
> > program. Unlike address changes, upgrades, etc., getting a vanity call
> > also generates a renewal. This may profoundly affect the distribution
> > of license expiration dates.
>
> > With the license term at ten years and the grace period at two years,
> > it can take a pretty long time for the actual loss of amateurs to show
> > up in the totals.
>

> Indeed. While I would presonally like my license to remai
n in
> effect forever without renewal,(hehe) a shorter renewal cycle would be of
> great utility in keeping track of how we are doing in retention of Hams.

There was a time when you could get a renewal almost any time in the
license term if some other change was happening, like an upgrade or an
address change. From 1967 to 1983, even though the license term was 5
years, I only renewed once, because of all the upgrades and address
changes I made in that time.

> > It is also important to know the details of what is included in the
> > numbers being cited.
>
> It is a problem with all statistics/numbers.

Yes, but too often those making a statement can neglect to note what
is included in their totals.

> What I have noticed in my area is that the upgrades from
Tech to
> General has been mostly been by recently licensed Techs.

That says (to me) that a lot of newer folks are more interestd in
upgrading.

> I would venture that there is not much use in trying to pick
> up anything from our numbers except from long term statistics (in spite
> of my yapping about the success we are having in my area). on a weekly
> basis, nothing real can be determined.

The success in your area is simply one data point you have observed.
You're not saying it's a widespread trend, just that it's what you
have observed.

The day-to-day variations are so large that it will clearly be some
time before a long term trend is clear.

IMHO, what we're really seeing is a whole bunch of trends overlapping
each other.

> >> The new hams in our area are good people, and are becoming active and
> >> well mannered hams.
>
> > IMHO, that's more important than how many.
>
> When it all boils down, that is what is important. Despite all the
> concerns voiced by various segemnts of the Amateur community, what we
> need are good, active people.
>
Agreed.

73 de Jim, N2EY

752. Re: ARRL Sweepstakes QST report

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-27 17:28:31 UTC
From: weaver5511@mypacks.net
Message-ID: <1177685595.468741.95070@b40g2000prd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4657

On Apr 27, 1:09 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote: > On Apr 26, 1:55?pm, groupk...@earthlink.net wrote: > > > "RDW" has hit on one of my hot buttons here. > > Mine too. > > > N...@AOL.COM wrote: > > > Perhaps the BoD needs to hear some complaints from a different > quarter.... > > 73 de Jim, N2EY

I didn't mean to start a fight here, but I have a thought about all of this.

Don't couch your communications to the ARRL as a complaint; couch it in terms of work direction. They are, after all, our hired hands.

73, RDW

753. Re: How Many Of Us Are Hams & OTR Lovers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-27 17:28:50 UTC
From: Pat Cook <pchamster@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <yqudnbk_b5AAkq_bnZ2dnUVZ_gGdnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4658

Hi everyone:

<k4rjj@comcast.net> wrote in message
news:I_2dneeKHaUxyqzbnZ2dnUVZ_vrinZ2d@comcast.com...
>
> Go to http://www.sarsradio.com and put this out to the members there. Lots
> of hams are members as well.

Thanks. :)

Things are FAR from finalized though (The EchoLink crowd still has yet to
weigh in last time I checked), but this will help. :)

Cheers & 73

Pat

754. Re: Ham magazines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-27 17:29:26 UTC
From: weaver5511@mypacks.net
Message-ID: <1177688437.172177.295060@r3g2000prh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4659

On Apr 26, 12:13 am, Dick Grady AC7EL <r...@richbonnie.com> wrote:

> > ARRL publishes two special-purpose magazines: "QEX" for experimenters, and > "National Contest Journal" for contest enthusiasts. > > CQ publishes "CQ VHF". >

Thanks, Dick, (and everyone) for the updates. "QEX" looks good, and I've subscribed. A captain who worked for me in YI-land had shown me a copy, but I'd forgotten about it.

73, RDW

755. Re: ARRL Sweepstakes QST report

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-27 17:29:38 UTC
From: groupk0hb@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1177692646.489570.89580@n15g2000prd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4660

On Apr 27, 1:09 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:

>
> All that a complaint amounts to is a form of member input.
> Should the BoD ignore member input?
>

They seem to be ignoring mine.

>
> There's still a considerable amount of space devoted to each contest,
> and some contests (like FD) get full line scores.
>

They don't call FD a 'contest', they call it 'a readiness exercise'
which escapes the BoD ban on QST-reported line scores.

73, de Hans, K0HB

756. Re: ARRL Sweepstakes QST report

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-27 18:48:56 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f0tff6rim1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4661

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:

> When I became a ham back in 1967, ARRL sponsored the following
> contests that were reported in QST:
>
> Field Day

Ahem! We're not supposed to refer to FD as a contest.... ;^)

>>> 3) Complaints from noncontesters about how much QST space was being
>>> used.
>> [rant]
>>
>> Here's my cut on that. Editorial policy of a club newsletter
>> shouldn't be based on complaints, it should be based on FULL coverage
>> of ALL of the clubs activities. Perhaps the editors of QST agree with
>> that, perhaps not, but the point is moot because this decision was
>> driven by the BoD, not the editor.
>
> All that a complaint amounts to is a form of member input.
> Should the BoD ignore member input?

Not exactly ignoring the input, IMO. In the PAQSO party, I get a lot of advice/complaints/feedback on many issues. If there is a decision to be made, I'll make it, but I'm not ignoring the input of those members that disagreed with my decision.

What is more likely is that there was a convenience or advantage to listening to the membership that complained about the results. Get rid of that part of the printing, and presumably save a few dollars.

>> Will these same complaints "about how much web server space is being
>> used" cause similar cuts there?
>
> Please don't give the anti-contest folks ideas.

The amount of web space is pretty minimal, although I suspec that part of the issue is TIC..

What I want is printing in the magazine, publication on the website, and an Excel file too on the website. My major access would be on the web, but there is nothing like the printed medium for access, and as you note, permanence.

> It seems to me that it's worth the space to publish all the scores,
> even if they are printed very small.

Yup.

>> Three of the groups which comprise the core membership of the ARRL
>> radio club are Contesters, DXers, and the Field Organization. They're
>> not the only three, maybe not even the top three, but they are
>> certainly in the top 5 or 6 'interest groups' in the club.
>
> (DEVIL'S ADVOCATE MODE =N)
>
> Yes, but how many of them send in a contest log? Say, for SS - 2000
> logs out of 125,000 members?

It's a good question, Devil's advocate or not. The answer comes in two parts:
First, how many members do any single activity that QST reports on? Moonbounce, homebrewing, antique radio, you get the point. Yet all those make a nice addition to articles and reports in the magazine.

Second, If 2000 logs were sent in, you can bet there were a lot more participants. In the PAQSO party, I can estimate that there is up to twice as many participant as those who send in their logs. We can get this from call signs that appear in multiple logs, yet don't have a log sent in. It seems to increase the sunspot cycle wanes, and propagation is not as good, so some of the folks think their score is too low to warrant sending in a log.

> (DEVIL'S ADVOCATE MODE =FF)
>
>> Yet, in recent decisions the BoD has stripped contest line scores,
>> most DXCC listings, and Section News from our newsletter. I'm sure
>> that saves some page-count in QST, but it seems false economy to snub
>> "who brought you to the dance" just because someone(s) complained they
>> took up space on your dance card.
>>
>> [/rant]
>
> Perhaps the BoD needs to hear some complaints from a different
> quarter....

Of course.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

757. Re: "Are ham radio operators still around, even?"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-27 18:49:30 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f0tfoi$tr8$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4662

groupk0hb@earthlink.net wrote:
> On Apr 27, 1:20 am, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
>
>> I can't recall any specific push that Tandy or its successors
>> ever made to enter the amateur radio market.
>
> 10-15 years ago Radio Shack marketed a modest line of ham radio
> transcievers.
>
> The HTX-10 and HTX-100 were small HF rigs, they sold five or six
> models of VHF/UHF handhelds, and three or four VHF/UHF "base"
> transceivers.

The RS HTX 252 is a nice simple and small mobile VHF rig that I like to let the new folks use for Public service.

And their 2 meter HT's are classics. Many of our club members still use theirs on a daily basis. They sold approximately 1 gazillion of them. ;^)

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

758. Antenna modeling software

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-27 19:51:42 UTC
From: weaver5511@mypacks.net
Message-ID: <1177701321.628617.56130@c18g2000prb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4663

I've been 'googling' for a MININEC-based antenna modeling program (or programs) and I've decided a guy could get old and grey before he was through looking at all the offerings. I've kind of (based on web page descriptions) compiled a short list of candidates as follows:

MMANA by JH3HHT
EZNEC by W7EL
NEC-Win Pro by Nitanny Scientific

Is anyone here using any of those, especially NEC-Win Plus? Can anyone recommend one that they KNOW is better than the ones on my list? I have $450 budgeted for this but I might consider something a little costlier if it were overwhelmingly better.

73, RDW

759. Re: How Many Of Us Are Hams & OTR Lovers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-27 20:38:44 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1177705651.385610.222560@o40g2000prh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4664

"Pat Cook" <pchams...@gmail.com> wrote on Thu, 26 Apr 2007 14:48:27
EDT

>Hi everyone:
>
>The reason I ask this question is because I'd like to build a concensus as
>to how many of us in the OTR (Old Time Radio) community are Hams.
>Conversely, I'd like to build a consensus as to how many of us in the Ham
>community are lovers of OTR shows.

Well, I think that's nice but it isn't my cuppa. Being older than the
FCC and
having grown up with nothing but radio broadcasting and 78 RPM disc
recordings for electronic entertainment, that OTR program stuff was
just there,
nothing else to compare it to. :-) Thanks anyway.

73, Len AF6AY

760. Re: "Are ham radio operators still around, even?"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-27 20:38:52 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1177705907.951042.287950@r35g2000prh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4665

On Apr 26, 7:24 pm, groupk...@earthlink.net wrote:
> On Apr 27, 1:20 am, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
>
> > I can't recall any specific push that Tandy or its successors
> > ever made to enter the amateur radio market.
>
> 10-15 years ago Radio Shack marketed a modest line of ham radio
> transcievers.
>
> The HTX-10 and HTX-100 were small HF rigs, they sold five or six
> models of VHF/UHF handhelds, and three or four VHF/UHF "base"
> transceivers.

Roger that, Hans. Thanks for the fill-in.

73, Len AF6AY

761. Re: Antenna modeling software

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-27 20:53:07 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1177706324.483938.125300@r30g2000prh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4666

On Apr 27, 11:51 am, weaver5...@mypacks.net wrote:
> I've been 'googling' for a MININEC-based antenna modeling program (or
> programs) and I've decided a guy could get old and grey before he was
> through looking at all the offerings. I've kind of (based on web page
> descriptions) compiled a short list of candidates as follows:
>
> MMANA by JH3HHT
> EZNEC by W7EL
> NEC-Win Pro by Nitanny Scientific
>
> Is anyone here using any of those, especially NEC-Win Plus? Can
> anyone recommend one that they KNOW is better than the ones on my
> list? I have $450 budgeted for this but I might consider something a
> little costlier if it were overwhelmingly better.

I haven't heard of MMANA before but I've used Roy Lewallen's EZNEC
and the trial version of NEC-Win by Nitanny Scientific. The latter
two
are about as overwhelming as one can get, I think. :-)

73, Len AF6AY

762. Re: Antenna modeling software

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-27 20:53:26 UTC
From: Mike Andrews <mikea@mikea.ath.cx>
Message-ID: <f0tn4v$27l$1@puck.litech.org>
Source record: 4667

On Fri, 27 Apr 2007 15:51:42 EDT, weaver5511@mypacks.net wrote in
<1177701321.628617.56130@c18g2000prb.googlegroups.com>:
> I've been 'googling' for a MININEC-based antenna modeling program (or
> programs) and I've decided a guy could get old and grey before he was
> through looking at all the offerings. I've kind of (based on web page
> descriptions) compiled a short list of candidates as follows:

> MMANA by JH3HHT
> EZNEC by W7EL
> NEC-Win Pro by Nitanny Scientific

> Is anyone here using any of those, especially NEC-Win Plus? Can
> anyone recommend one that they KNOW is better than the ones on my
> list? I have $450 budgeted for this but I might consider something a
> little costlier if it were overwhelmingly better.

I use EZNEC+,and quite like it. It lets me do a few things that the
free version won't, such as build helical models easily. The number
of segments per model in the free version is only 20, IIRC, where my
purchased version lets me have either 500 or 1500. The differences in
the results are quite small for every model I've built, whether I use
a large number of segments or a smaller number.

I'd like to hear about MMANA and NEC-Win Pro.

--
Mike Andrews, W5EGO
mikea@mikea.ath.cx
Tired old sysadmin

763. UKW Tools software

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-27 22:38:34 UTC
From: Jack VK2CJC <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com>
Message-ID: <f0ttso$hd0$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 4668

Does anyone have any experience of the path and repeater coverage software
UKW Tools?

How can I save a map with coverage plot into an emailable format?

cheers
Jack VK2CJC / MM0AXL
FISTS# 9666
Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group
www.mncarg.org

764. 2m FM calling practices

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-28 00:56:10 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <59fh2aF2jt4sdU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4669

Hi All,

I don't know about Stateside, but as an active 2m FM operator here in the UK I've noticed an increase in a rather annoying (to me, anyway) practice when calling CQ.

I know the frequencies are different in the bandplans, but here we use 145.5 as an FM calling channel, then once contact is established, move to a working frequency.

Several times recently I've heard people calling CQ and I've been all ready to return the call, but then they say that they will be listening on a totally different channel, presumably the one they used on the previous call.

This is all very well, but how do they know that the frequency they've chosen is free at my end as well as theirs..? If they're anything more than a few miles away, the channel they're listening on might well be busy my end and as a result I wouldn't be able to return the call.

Why does this practice seem to be on the increase..? Is it happening in the US and elsewhere as well, or is it a purely British phenomenon..?

73 Ivor G6URP

765. Re: "Are ham radio operators still around, even?"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-28 00:56:47 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1177719926.200883.115540@h2g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4670

On Apr 27, 12:38 pm, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
> On Apr 26, 7:24?pm, groupk...@earthlink.net wrote:
>
> > On Apr 27, 1:20 am, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:

> Roger that, Hans. Thanks for the fill-in.

I might mention that lots more folks over on e-ham.net got taken
in by the "Onion article." :-) I tried to mention earlier what the
"Onion" website really was, tried to be kind about it.

73, Len AF6AY

766. ARRL Withdraws "Regulation By Bandwidth" (RM-11306)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-28 03:33:03 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1177731149.969877.117360@h2g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4671

>From the ARRL letter and website:

ARRL WITHDRAWS "REGULATION BY BANDWIDTH" PETITION, PLANS TO REFILE

The ARRL has withdrawn its controversial November 2005 Petition for
Rule
Making (RM-11306)
<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/rm-11306/RM-11306-
asFiled.pdf>
calling on the FCC to establish a regulatory regime to segment bands
by
necessary bandwidth rather than by emission mode. The League cited
"widespread misconceptions" surrounding the petition as a primary
reason for
deciding to remove it from FCC consideration. The ARRL left open the
option
of refiling the same or a similar petition in the future, however.

(rest of story at ARRL.org)

73 de Jim, N2EY

767. Re: Antenna modeling software

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-28 03:50:16 UTC
From: ricknj10@hotmail.com
Message-ID: <4632a119.46585406@news.optonline.net>
Source record: 4672

Look into 4NEC2. It is free. I believe to a large extent, the differences in the programs are the way you input antenna parameters and the way the results are displayed but the output is the same because they use the same calculating engine.
4NEC2 come with a bunch of antennas already modeled that you can play with to get familiar with the program. I have made many models of antennas myself, and getting quite a collection of antennas that are of interest to me. I don't know about the other programs but I can tell you that I have spent dozens of hours learning and experimenting with my 4NEC2 and still have a lot to learn but when I finally learned about "cards" (from reading the generic documentation) then things began to make a lot of sense.
It even has 3D displays but I haven't gotten that far yet !!

Rick K2XT

768. The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 17 (Apr 27, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-28 03:51:37 UTC
From: ARRL Letter Mailing List <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <200704280126.l3S1QuJE013120@linux11676.dn.net>
Source record: 4673
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

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***************
The ARRL Letter
Vol. 26, No. 17
April 27, 2007
***************

IN THIS EDITION:

* +League pulls regulation-by-bandwidth petition, plans to refile
* +Ham radio application surge continues
* +League encourages Education and Technology Program donations
* +Amateur Radio takes part in hurricane conference
* +Young radio amateur wins prestigious NSF research fellowship
* +Solar Update
* IN BRIEF:
This weekend on the radio
ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration
Rough seas slowing Scarborough Reef (BS7H) DXpedition team
International Marconi Day event is April 28
+Clandestine broadcaster, jamming station back in Amateur Radio band
ARRL greets radio amateurs, visitors at broadcasters' convention
Hawaii moonbounce a hit
High-altitude balloon to carry Amateur Radio payloads
NEAR-Fest to continue "Hosstraders" tradition in New England
+Satgate System to QRT

+Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/>

==========================================================
==>Delivery problems: First see FAQ
<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/faq.html#nodelivery>, then e-mail
<letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
==>Editorial questions or comments only: Rick Lindquist, N1RL,
<n1rl@arrl.org>
==========================================================

==>ARRL WITHDRAWS "REGULATION BY BANDWIDTH" PETITION, PLANS TO REFILE

The ARRL has withdrawn its controversial November 2005 Petition for Rule
Making (RM-11306)
<http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/rm-11306/RM-11306-asFiled.pdf>
calling on the FCC to establish a regulatory regime to segment bands by
necessary bandwidth rather than by emission mode. The League cited
"widespread misconceptions" surrounding the petition as a primary reason for
deciding to remove it from FCC consideration. The ARRL left open the option
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of refiling the same or a similar petition in the future, however.

"The withdrawal of the petition will permit a full discussion and consideration of options at the July 2007 meeting of the ARRL Board of Directors," said ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN. "The petition then can be recast with a better explanation of its scope and the reasons for the proposed changes."

The ARRL Executive Committee recommended withdrawing the petition when it met by teleconference April 10. The ARRL Board of Directors subsequently okayed the EC's recommendation by mail vote.

The ARRL Board continues to support the concept of regulation by maximum emission bandwidth as a way to facilitate the eventual transition from analog to digital communication modes. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, emphasized that the League seeks a regulatory framework that's "fully compatible with both narrowband and wideband analog emission modes now in common use" on the ham bands.

Sumner expressed the hope that a refiled regulation-by-bandwidth petition would "address -- and hopefully avoid -- widespread misconceptions" about RM-11306, either in its original form or as amended earlier this year. Irrespective of the present controversy over the petition's proposals, he pointed out, the League repeatedly sought comment on its regulation-by-bandwidth concepts before filing its petition with the FCC.

The ARRL first sounded out the Amateur Radio community regarding regulation-by-bandwidth three years ago. A September 2004 "It Seems to Us . . ." QST editorial "Regulation by Bandwidth" followed, explaining the concept and its rationale. Hundreds of subsequent comments from ARRL members and others "helped to bring the issues on which the amateur community was not in agreement into focus."

That led to a second editorial, "Narrowing the Bandwidth Issues," in April 2005 QST, soliciting additional comments on the plan's most contentious points. That drew hundreds more constructive and critical comments, and the ARRL took all input into account in developing a draft petition for the Board's consideration. The ARRL filed the petition in November 2005, and the FCC put it on public notice in January 2006.

In all, the amateur community has posted upward of 1000 comments on RM-11306. While some comments appropriately reflected concerns about the proposed substantial shift in regulatory philosophy, others tended to reflect a lack of understanding of existing rules, of the ARRL's proposals, or both. Some expressed the view that the League was attempting to promote or legitimize particular data modes, such as Winlink.

"The petition, in fact, had nothing specifically to do with Winlink or any other particular data mode," Sumner maintains. "It was, rather, a means of facilitating data experimentation, which is somewhat stifled under the current rules" that apply almost exclusively to analog modes.

A major distraction in the public debate related to automatically controlled data stations, and assertions that adopting the League's petition would permit such facilities to run roughshod over CW and other traditional modes. Sumner says automatic control is not even an essential component of the League's regulation-by-bandwidth proposals, which would leave in place restrictions on automatically controlled stations.

Revisions to RM-11306 the ARRL filed earlier this year to accommodate changes in Part 97 that occurred since November 2005 only seemed to generate additional controversy and lead to further confusion, Sumner concedes. Those revisions would have largely confined regulation by bandwidth to the VHF and UHF bands.

One misunderstanding resulting from an unintentional editorial error in the League's revisions gave rise to concerns that the ARRL's proposed 3 kHz bandwidth limitation for data emissions represented an expansion of the currently permitted maximum bandwidth. Quite the contrary, Sumner explains.

"In fact, 3 kHz bandwidth would have been a new limitation, because the present baud rate limit applies to individual carriers," he said. "Therefore, for emissions such as OFDM [orthogonal frequency-division multiplexing], which use multiple carriers, there is no effective bandwidth limit in the HF bands now." Sumner notes that under current rules, a single OFDM signal could conceivably -- and legally -- occupy an entire HF band.

Harrison assured that the League intends to offer a "far better explanation" of the consequences of regulation by bandwidth before filing a new petition proposing that regulatory concept, "so that the misunderstandings that occurred with respect to RM-11306 do not happen again."

==>APPLICATION SURGE CONTINUES UNDER NEW AMATEUR RULES

It's been just a little more than two months since the FCC dropped the requirement that Amateur Radio applicants pass a Morse code test to earn operating privileges below 30 MHz. While the initial avalanche of applications immediately following February 23, when the no-Morse testing regime went into effect, has abated somewhat, business remains brisk for the ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator staff.

"It's slowing down a little bit, but it's still substantially above what we usually see," observed ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM. She estimated that new Amateur Radio applications were up by 35 percent, while upgrade applications were up by 150 percent over last year's volume.

In a typical pre-February 23 week, Somma said, ARRL VEC would receive paperwork from approximately 115 test sessions. "It's on the order of 150 to 200 sessions per week now!" she exclaimed. Somma and ARRL VEC staffers concurred that applications were roughly evenly split between newcomers and upgraders. She said she's also seen a spike in the number of applications from General and higher class radio amateurs to serve as volunteer examiners.

To satisfy his own curiosity, ARRL member Tommy Gober, N5DUX, compiled some FCC statistics on the number of new Technician, General and Extra licensees

before and after the Morse code requirement was deleted. His numbers show the FCC issued nearly 700 more Amateur Extra, 3625 more General and 454 more Technician licenses in March 2007 than in the same month last year.

Figures from ARRL member and ham radio statistician Joe Speroni, AH0A, indicate the total number of Amateur Extra licensees is up 1649 from March 2006 to March 2007, while the General population grew by 2668. The total number of Technician licensees dropped by 1632 during the same period, however -- and it continues to drop going into April.

Speroni's figures also show that the grand total of Amateur Radio station licenses has declined by more than 12,800 over the past two years -- to 655,048 at the end of March.

The still-heavy volume has stretched the amount of time it takes for an application to proceed from examination session to license grant. "I think we're looking at eight to ten days from the test date," Somma allowed. By and large, those on the waiting end have been patient and understanding, she added.

A staff of seven full-time and three part-time employees handle the "incoming" from Amateur Radio exam sessions across the US and from other sites where US Amateur Radio examinations are administered through ARRL VEC.

There's no light at the end of the tunnel just yet. Somma and her staff are looking ahead to 450 examination sessions registered for May, another 400 in June and 320 apiece during July and August. And summer is "the slow season," she remarked. Another 900 test sessions already are on the calendar for the rest of 2007.

==>ARRL URGES SUPPORT FOR EDUCATION AND TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

The ARRL is encouraging members to invest in Amateur Radio's future generation by supporting the Education and Technology Program (ETP) <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/tbp/>. Begun in 2000 simply as "The Big Project" under the inspiration of then-President (now President Emeritus) Jim Haynie, W5JBP, the ETP has expanded to some 250 participating schools across the US and sponsors free Teachers Institutes each summer for educators. The program is funded solely through contributions. ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH, describes the ETP as the cornerstone of the League's efforts to introduce a new generation to ham radio.

"ARRL is doing lots of great things in education for Amateur Radio, but the ETP is the foundation of our future," Hobart says. "I wish every ARRL member could sit in a classroom as students discover the magic of wireless technology, or sit in on one day of the Teachers Institute as teachers unravel the mysteries of weather, space, robotics and ham radio -- and how they are interwoven -- to open up a whole new world for kids. It's magical and inspiring!"

Mark Spencer, WA8SME, coordinates the ETP. The program provides participating schools with a turnkey Amateur Radio station and a complete wireless technology curriculum at no cost. Many youngsters at ETP grant

schools have obtained Amateur Radio licenses, although that's not a primary program goal. Hobart says hundreds of students and their teachers have become radio amateurs, forming school clubs and getting on the air for such events as the annual School Club Round-Up.

Hobart predicts, recent changes in the requirements to obtain an Amateur Radio license will spark even more interest.

"We are poised to add thousands of new hams to our service -- many of them young people who are just discovering the magic of wireless communication," she said.

Hobart notes the recent appointment of Debra Johnson, K1DMJ, as the League's new Education Services Manager as further evidence of ARRL's commitment to inspiring and educating the generations of radio amateurs yet to come. The ETP will sponsor four Teachers Institutes this year, and contributions help keep this free educational service alive.

"Youngsters who benefit from the generosity of your donations may follow in the footsteps of hams who found a future in electronics, communications, computers and the sciences," she says. "Without the contributions of ARRL members, the Education and Technology Program would not be a reality."

"Contributions by June 30 will place Amateur Radio in more schools and train more teachers in 2007," Hobart says.

Visit the secure ARRL Development Office Web site <https://www.arrl.org/forms/development/donations/education/2007/> to donate. For more information, contact Hobart via e-mail <mhobart@arrl.org> or call 860-594-0397.

==>AMATEUR RADIO PARTICIPATES IN 2007 NATIONAL HURRICANE CONFERENCE

Amateur Radio had a seat at the table during the 29th National Hurricane Conference, April 2-6 in New Orleans. The annual gathering, which serves as "the nation's forum for education and professional training in hurricane preparedness," featured Amateur Radio's role in severe weather situations. More than 2500 government, industry, military, and volunteers attended this year's gathering. The Hurricane Watch Net (HWN), WX4NHC -- the Amateur Radio station at the National Hurricane Center -- and ARRL collaborated to present a training session at the conference on April 3.

"This gave Amateur Radio operators and several representatives of the ARRL Field Organization leadership a chance to discuss their experiences and lessons learned during recent hurricane seasons -- especially Hurricanes Katrina and Rita that affected so much of the Gulf Coast in 2005," said ARRL HQ's Field Organization Team Leader Steve Ewald, WV1X, who moderated the forum.

Among the presenters was Alabama Section Manager Greg Sarratt, W4OZK.

"The Amateur Radio presentations were very successful. Amateurs from several different areas of disaster experience spoke about what Amateur Radio experienced and has done to be better prepared for the next large disaster,"

Sarratt observed. "Attendees listened intently and posed very good questions." He said attendees reviewed ARRL enhancements and the work and recommendations of the National Emergency Response Planning Committee (NERPC).

New Orleans ARRL Emergency Coordinator Joel Colman, NO5FD, explained how their experiences during and after Hurricane Katrina have led to an even better working relationship with the Orleans Parish Fire Department. Amateur Radio operators are now setting up a ham radio station at the fire department's communications facility, and they are offering Amateur Radio license classes for 911 operators and others.

In other presentations:

* Cedric Walker, K5CFW, an ARRL Technical Specialist from New Orleans and active ARES member, discussed the close relationship that has developed between Amateur Radio operators with their communication skills and Flotilla 45 of the US Coast Guard Auxiliary.

* Tom Hammack, W4WLF, a District Emergency Coordinator from Gulfport, presented his first-hand perspective of Amateur Radio emergency support during and after Hurricane Katrina along the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

* Gary Stratton, K5GLS, ARRL Louisiana Section Emergency Coordinator, recounted the stories of those many days and weeks after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and how they have led to several lessons learned with regard to message handling, served agency relationships, and contact with other sections for mutual assistance.

Sarratt assessed the 2007 National Hurricane Conference as a very informative event. "This conference is a must-attend event for all EmComm leadership!" he said.

==>FIRST GOLDFARB SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT WINS RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

ARRL member Ben Schupack, NW7DX, the first-ever recipient of the prestigious ARRL Foundation William R. Goldfarb Memorial Scholarship, has won a $120,000 graduate research fellowship from the National Science Foundation (NSF). The stipend will enable Schupack, a senior at Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington, to undertake three years' of research in Iceland and Greenland. Schupack says that he's planning to take Amateur Radio gear along when he heads into the field.

"My graduate studies will not involve radio directly, but I will continue my involvement on the air, and I anticipate bringing along radio equipment to my proposed field sites in Iceland and Greenland," he told ARRL.

A geology and environmental studies major, Schupack, 22, plans to attend the University of Colorado -- Boulder in the fall, where he will be working within the Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research (INSTAAR). His research will focus on the interaction between volcanic eruptions and Arctic climate variability, and he expects to undertake ice-core and lake-core field work in Iceland and Greenland.

Schupack says he believes Amateur Radio played a role in his getting the NSF award, which typically goes to graduate students. In one application essay, Schupack mentioned his interest in Amateur Radio and the infinite questions that stem from studying Earth sciences. "The atmosphere, geomagnetic variations and solar conditions are among just a few of the many threads that help unravel Earth's history and predict future dynamics," he explained.

He also says his background in electronics and ham radio has come in handy on countless occasions, from installing remote solar panels to measuring battery discharge cycles and interpreting ground-penetrating radar surveys.

In addition to his scholarly endeavors, Schupack is lead trombonist in Whitman's jazz band, and he's a member of the school's award-winning cycling team. Last year Schupack took part in a semester abroad program in tropical marine ecology with the School for Field Studies in the Turks & Caicos Islands.

The Goldfarb award is the result of a generous endowment from the late William Goldfarb, N2ITP. For more information about ARRL scholarships, visit the ARRL Foundation scholarships Web page <http://www.arrlf.org/programs/scholarship>. -- some information from Whitman College

==>SOLAR UPDATE

Solar flash Tad "I Live for the Sun" Cook, K7RA, Seattle, Washington, reports: Sunspots have reappeared over the past few days after six days of nothing. So far in April we've seen 18 days with zero spots, but a large sunspot, Number 953, now is rolling into view. A solar wind stream also is expected to hit Earth, causing a geomagnetic upset on Saturday, April 28.

The Australian Space Forecast Centre predicts quiet-to-unsettled conditions April 27, active-to-minor storm conditions April 28, and active conditions April 29. The US Air Force predicts the planetary A index from April 27 through May 1 at 5, 25, 15, 10 and 8. Similar predictions from Geophysical Institute Prague give us quiet conditions April 27, active April 28, unsettled to active April 29, unsettled April 30, quiet to unsettled May 1, and back to quiet May 2-3.

There's been a lot of news this week regarding the solar minimum and predicted solar maximum. On April 25, a Solar Cycle 24 Prediction Panel consisting of members from NOAA, NASA and other agencies looked at all available predictions, attempted to reach consensus and released a statement <http://www.sec.noaa.gov/SolarCycle/SC24/Statement_01.html>. It looks like the minimum between cycles 23 and 24 may not occur for another year, until March 2008, a year later than recently reported. The accuracy is expected to be plus or minus six months.

Sunspot numbers for April 19 through 25 were 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0 and 14, with a mean of 2. The 10.7 cm flux was 68.3, 68.5 68.7, 68.9, 69.1, 73.2, and 76.5, with a mean of 70.5. Estimated planetary A indices were 6, 3, 2, 10, 18, 4 and 5, with a mean of 6.9. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 4, 2, 2, 8, 10, 5 and 4, with a mean of 5.

For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>.

==>IN BRIEF:

* This weekend on the radio: The Florida and Nebraska QSO parties, the SP DX RTTY Contest and the Helvetia Contest are the April 28-29 weekend. JUST AHEAD: The AGCW QRP/QRP Party is May 1. The NCCC Sprint Ladder is May 4. The New England QSO Party, the MARAC County Hunter Contest (CW), the 10-10 International Spring Contest (CW), the Microwave Spring Sprint, the Seventh Call Area QSO Party, the NA High-Speed Meteor Scatter Spring Rally, the US IPARC Annual Contest (CW and SSB), the Portuguese Navy Day Contest (CW/SSB and PSK31), the Indiana QSO, the ARI International DX Contest, are the weekend of May 5-6. The RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship (SSB) is May 7. The ARS Spartan Sprint is May 8. The SKCC Sprint is May 9. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests/> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more info.

* ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration: Registration remains open through Sunday, May 6 , for these ARRL Certification and Continuing Education (CEC) program online courses beginning Friday, May 18: Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 2 (EC-002), Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 3 (EC-003R2), Antenna Modeling (EC-004), HF Digital Communications (EC-005), VHF/UHF -- Life Beyond the Repeater (EC-008), and Radio Frequency Propagation (EC-011). These courses will also open for registration Friday, May 4, for classes beginning Friday, June 15. To learn more, visit the CCE Course Listing page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html> or contact the CCE Department <cce@arrl.org>.

* Rough seas slowing Scarborough Reef (BS7H) DXpedition team: The Scarborough Reef (BS7H) DXpedition team <http://www.scarboroughreef.com/> will not be hitting the airwaves quite as quickly as expected. Extremely rough seas were slowing the progress of their vessel and now estimates it will arrive on Scarborough Reef Sunday morning local time (UTC = local time minus 8 hours). At 0240 UTC on April 27, the team was located some 240 nautical miles northwest of Scarborough Reef and making less-than-expected progress. The sea has been rough since departure, and there has been no maritime mobile operation. The multinational team from the US, Europe and Asia says on its Web site that it's "poised and prepared to ensure that every DXer gets a chance to make a QSO with this rare entity." Headed by ARRL Pacific Division Director Bob Vallio, W6RGG, the crew left Hong Kong April 25. Under normal conditions, the voyage takes approximately two and a half days. Upon their arrival team members will immediately assemble gear, erect antennas and announce on the Web site when operations commence. The team plans to follow propagation forecasts as closely as possible and concentrate on the bands that should provide the highest productivity to the Americas and to Western Europe. Logs <http://www.scarboroughreef.com/srlog.html> will be available only after the DXpedition concludes and should be uploaded to Logbook of the World

<http://www.arrl.org/lotw> as well.

* International Marconi Day event is April 28: Special event stations will be on the air Saturday, April 28 (UTC), to mark International Marconi Day (IMD) <http://www.gb4imd.org.uk/>, a 24-hour Amateur Radio event comemorating the birth of wireless pioneer Guglielmo Marconi on April 25, 1874. Participants can qualify for awards by making contacts on 160 through 10 meters (CW, SSB and digital) with designated IMD stations operating on or near a site where Marconi carried out experiments or where Marconi equipment was used prior to his death in 1937. The sponsoring Cornish Radio Amateur Club (CRAC) will operate GB4IMD from Pendennis Castle, Falmouth, Cornwall. Additional IMD stations will be on the air from the UK, the US, Canada, South America, Australia and Europe. The IMD Web site has a list of IMD 2007 award stations <http://www.gb4imd.org.uk/awardstns.htm>.

* Clandestine broadcaster, jamming station back in Amateur Radio band: ARRL Monitoring System/Intruder Watch Liaison Chuck Skolaut, K0BOG, confirms reports that a clandestine broadcaster and a jamming station again are competing on 18.160 MHz. The 17-meter band is a worldwide exclusive Amateur Radio allocation. Following up on reports, Skolaut says he's able to hear the "Sound of Hope" broadcast station from Taiwan as well as the so-called "Fire Dragon" jammer, broadcasting music from Hainan, Peoples' Republic of China, at ARRL Headquarters station W1HQ. The Sound of Hope transmits news unfavorable to the PRC, while the Hainan music transmissions attempt to block the transmission, pausing for four minutes each hour, apparently to check the frequency. The result is a mess! Skolaut has received reports about the clandestine broadcaster and music jammer interference from all over the US as well as Europe, Africa and the UK. IARU Monitoring System Region 1 Coordinator Wolf Hadel, DK2OM, in Germany has documented the intruders on 18.160 MHz (and others) on his Web site <http://www.iarums-r1.org/iarums/latest.pdf>.

* ARRL greets radio amateurs, visitors at broadcasters' convention: The ARRL had a presence at the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) Convention, April 14-19 in Las Vegas. The gathering annually attracts more than 100,000 broadcasting and electronic media industry representatives. Las Vegas volunteer Stan Perkins, W7SLP, ARRL Pacific Division Director Bob Vallio, W6RGG, and others from near and far staffed the League's exhibit to inform attendees about Amateur Radio's service to the public. The NAB generously provided space for the League's booth, which attracted hams and non-hams alike. Several visitors expressed an interest in becoming licensed -- or re-licensed. One ham discovered that his license was about to lapse the next day. ARRL representatives directed him to the FCC booth, where his ticket was renewed on the spot. Audio guru Bob Heil, K9EID, of Heil Sound Ltd sponsored the popular Wednesday evening ham radio reception, which featured entertainment, refreshments and an array of great door prizes. While Thursday is usually a slow day, the ARRL booth remained a beehive of activity when the folks from NOAA brought along "Sprockit," an intelligent robot to discuss Amateur Radio and its contribution to SKYWARN and other public service activities, Perkins said. The ARRL thanks all NAB volunteers for contributing their time to make the League's booth a success.

* Hawaii moonbounce a hit: Bruce Clark, K0YW, operating as KH7X from the station of Alex Benton, KH6YY, made the first successful 2.3 GHz EME (Earth-Moon-Earth) contact from Hawaii April 23 (UTC). "This is the first time EME from Hawaii has been worked on this band," reports Ron Hashiro, AH6RH, who assisted in the effort. Clark made contact with well-known VHF/UHF and moonbounce enthusiast Al Ward, W5LUA, in Texas. Hashiro says the Hawaii operation was set up in a tent pitched next to the 12-foot TV receive-only (TVRO) dish used for the antenna, in order to minimize feed line losses. "The CW signal was just above the noise level and sounded 'watery,' as if the speaker were being held underwater," Hashiro reported. "The warbling tone was much worse than Arctic flutter." He said Doppler shift was on the order of 3 kHz. CW was sent at about 10 WPM. K0YW made additional contacts with several other stations on 2.3 GHz as well as on 1.2 GHz EME, Hashiro said. News of Clark's temporary Hawaii moonbounce setup made the April 21 edition of the Honolulu Advertiser <http://the.honoluluadvertiser.com/article/2007/Apr/21/ln/FP704210343.html>. In addition to Benton and Hashiro, others assisting in the moonbounce experiment included KH6ND, KH7U, WH6GS and AH6NF.

* High-altitude balloon to carry Amateur Radio payloads: ARBONET-2, a high-altitude balloon carrying an Amateur Radio payload, is set to launch Saturday, May 5, at 9 AM CDT (1400 UTC), from Red River County Airport in Clarksville, Texas. An unfavorable weather forecast led sponsors to reschedule the launch date from April 28. Using the call sign K5FRC, the "Amateur Radio Balloons over North East Texas" flight will carry a crossband repeater (445.800 MHz up/147.560 MHz down), APRS (144.390 MHz) and a homing and data beacon (145.560 MHz). A 10-meter CW beacon on 28.061 MHz will identify as K5RWK. The ARBONET-2 flight is being dedicated to long-time Amateur Radio high-altitude balloon enthusiast Kim R. Miles, N9IS, who died March 27. He was a prominent member of the Central Indiana Windtrax organization with more than 30 high-altitude balloon flight operations to his credit. A launch net (K5FRC) will commence at 8:30 AM CDT (1130 UTC) and continue until recovery on 7.260 MHz (plus or minus QRM). The flight is expected to last about two hours. The ARBONET team requests reception reports to the ARBONET Web site <http://www.arbonet.net/>. A commemorative QSL card will be available for those submitting reports.

* NEAR-Fest to continue "Hosstraders" tradition in New England: The New England Amateur Radio Festival ("NEAR-Fest") will take place Friday and Saturday, May 4-5, at the Deerfield, New Hampshire, Fairgrounds, Route 43 approximately 15 miles northeast of Manchester. NEAR-Fest will continue the tradition begun years ago by the now-discontinued "Hosstraders Tailgate Swapfest" -- a New England tradition for more than 30 years. NEAR-Fest will take place spring and fall at the original Hosstraders location. Gates open Friday at 9 AM. Tickets are $10 per person ($5 after 3 PM Friday) and $10 per vehicle into the flea market. Commercial vendors will also be on site. There are no sellers' fees or space limitations, and there's ample free parking outside the flea market. There's no charge for camping, but RV hookups (power and water) are $30. Check the NEAR-Fest Web site <http://www.near-fest.com/> for additional information and updates.

* Satgate System to QRT: AMSAT-NA reports that after many years of forwarding packet messages via UO-22, GO-32 and AO-51 the Satgate System will go silent. The total of 35 worldwide stations in the system a few years ago has dwindled due to a lack of traffic, maintenance problems, change of location and operator attrition. The system originated with David Medley, KI6QE, and the driving force over the past several years has been Andrew Sellers, G8TZJ, who's credited with developing software to permit Satgate stations to be fully automated. -- AMSAT News Service

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The ARRL Letter offers a weekly e-mail digest of essential and general news of interest to active radio amateurs. Visit the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org> for the latest Amateur Radio news and news updates. The ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/> also offers informative features and columns. ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> is a weekly "ham radio newscast" compiled and edited from The ARRL Letter. It's also available as a podcast from our Web site.

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ARRL members first must register on the Members Only Web Site <http://www.arrl.org/members/>. You'll have an opportunity during registration to sign up for e-mail delivery of The ARRL Letter, W1AW bulletins, and other material. To change these selections--including delivery of The ARRL Letter--registered members should click on the "Member Data Page" link (in the Members Only box). Click on "Modify membership data," check or uncheck the appropriate boxes and/or change your e-mail address if necessary. (Check "Temporarily disable all automatically sent email" to temporarily stop all e-mail deliveries.) Then, click on "Submit modification" to make selections effective. (NOTE: HQ staff members cannot change your e-mail delivery address. You must do this yourself via the Members Only Web Site.)

The ARRL Letter also is available to all, free of charge, from these sources:

* ARRLWeb <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>. (NOTE: The ARRL Letter will be posted each Friday when it is distributed via e-mail.)

* The QTH.net listserver, thanks to volunteers from the Boston Amateur Radio Club: Visit Mailing Lists@QTH.Net <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/letter-list>. (NOTE: The ARRL cannot assist subscribers who receive The ARRL Letter via this listserver.)

769. Where can a guy buy electronic components?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-28 06:25:54 UTC
From: George <gmwemail-dsp@yahoo.com>
Message-ID: <lrBYh.6054$rO7.3980@newssvr25.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 4674

Used to be that components were readily available in electronics parts stores. Most of these stores have closed now.

Last week I needed to buy an electrolytic capacitor. Los Angeles, population zillions, has no electronics stores anywhere near me. But I found some caps - in a local Radio Shack. Their entire supply of components was in one DRAWER in the back of their store, well out of sight of shoppers. Good thing that I wasn't picky about the value or voltage rating!

Radio Shack sells plenty of computer-related stuff. But where's their RADIO-related stuff?

George K6GW

770. Re: 2m FM calling practices

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-28 10:05:44 UTC
From: Jack VK2CJC <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com>
Message-ID: <f0uptiehp1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 4675

> I don't know about Stateside, but as an active 2m FM operator here in the
> UK I've noticed an increase in a rather annoying (to me, anyway) practice
> when calling CQ.

That practise has been used for many years in the UK. On 27MHz SSB.

It is an effective method on a band which is so busy that establishing a contact long enough to QSY is difficult. But you are quite right, its a poor practise for 2m FM.

But then, where I am the 2m FM simplex frequency is so seldom used that when a contact is made, we don't QSY, in the hope someone else may hear us and join in :o)

--
Jack VK2CJC / MM0AXL
FISTS# 9666
Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group
www.mncarg.org

771. Re: Where can a guy buy electronic components?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-28 10:48:15 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1177757277.120129.276550@e65g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4676

On Apr 28, 2:25 am, "George" <gmwemail-...@yahoo.com> wrote:
> Used to be that components were readily available in electronics parts
> stores. Most of these stores have closed now.

Yup. That's because there wasn't enough demand for parts to keep them open. The demand went away because:

1) Electronics became more reliable and less expensive, so the repair demand went way down
2) Building your own became a niche activity, so the homebrew demand went down
3) Mail order and online suppliers took what was left.

> Last week I needed to buy an electrolytic capacitor. Los Angeles,
> population zillions, has no electronics stores anywhere near me. But I
> found some caps - in a local Radio Shack. Their entire supply of compo
nents
> was in one DRAWER in the back of their store, well out of sight of shoppe
rs.
> Good thing that I wasn't picky about the value or voltage rating!
>
> Radio Shack sells plenty of computer-related stuff. But where's their
> RADIO-related stuff?
>
Digi-Key, Mouser, Allied, Newark, Radio Daze, Play Things Of The Past, Dan's Small Parts, and many more places. All have great websites. Most will send you a free catalog, too.

(insert standard no-connection disclaimer HERE)

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It's not just radio that has undergone such changes.

Last Saturday afternoon I had to deal with a clothes dryer that was making a horrible noise. Turned out it needed a new blower wheel. (Oddly enough, it's a Maytag). Unfortunately, I didn't have one in the spare-parts inventory.

Googled the part number and found an exact replacement online. $13 and change for the part, $4 for shipping. Ordered it online, part arrived on Tuesday, dryer was back in service the same day. Took only a few minutes online to do the whole thing.

I could have searched all over the area for the part, but there was no guarantee I'd find it, nor for a competitive price, because the dryer isn't a current model or even a recent model. And the appliance supply

places are closed Saturday afternoons and Sundays, so the soonest I could have looked was Monday. Even if I found the part, there would be the cost of transportation, sales tax, and time to find and get it.

73 de Jim, N2EY

772. WIANEWS for week commencing April 29 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-28 12:18:45 UTC
From: nationalnews@wia.org.au
Message-ID: <200704281000.I3SA0BQ27402@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4677
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,aus.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

This is WIANEWS for week commencing April 29 2007

The WIA AGM weekend of activities is all set to kick off next weekend the 4th to the 6th of May. Enthusiasm and registrations for each of the weekend events have well and truly outstripping the expectations of the event organizing committee, Phil Wait, Robert Broomhead and WIA secretary Ken Fuller.

It was some weeks ago that we announced on this broadcast that places for both the astronomical society meeting and the telescope tours had reached (and had infact exceeded) capacity. This week as registrations for the Saturday BBQ and AGM dinner are finalised, we take a moment to look at a brand new award, an award which will be presented for the very first time this year at the AGM in Parkes.

It is the Chris Jones Award...

Here's WIA director Robert Broomhead VK3KRB with details..

The award is to honour the memory of Chris Jones VK2DD, who contributed so much to the advancement of amateur radio and the Wireless Institute of Australia and whose unfailing commitment and vision led to the formation of the national Wireless Institute of Australia.

It is to be awarded to radio amateurs who have made an exceptional contribution to amateur radio and the Wireless Institute of Australia and will be presented this year for the very first time at this years AGM in Parkes.

The award will not necessarily be made every year.

The award will be a handsome glass trophy. The Chris Jones Award honours the memory of a man who was dedicated to the advancement of amateur radio and whose commitment and vision led to a new WIA and whose unfailing courtesy and genuine friendliness is fondly remembered by all who knew him.

The first award will be given this year and has been decided by the WIA Board. The recipient will be announced at the Open Forum following the Annual General Meeting in Parkes, New South Wales, on 5 May 2007.

Last week we spoke to our pedestrian mobile station VK4XJJ Jeff who in raising funds and awareness for the deafdumb is walking from Port Augusta in VK5 to Kurrumba in VK4

Well WIA Broadcaster Terry VK4AAT of 160 meter AM fame is just one of many who have worked Jeff VK4XJJ on 7050-7060 at 5:30pm AEST with a 57 signal

into Brisbane from his 5w backpack.

Donations can be sent via the address in this weeks bulletin, so come on let's get behind this great cause

www.dbansw.org.au

GENERAL INTEREST NEWS FROM 'DOWNUNDER'.

Final stage in place to allow a limited evaluation of mobile telephone services on board a commercial aircraft

The Australian Communications and Media Authority has enabled a limited evaluation of GSM mobile phones and GPRS devices on a commercial aircraft.

The evaluation - which is limited to one aircraft for up to 12 months - will be conducted by Qantas. It will be one of the first implementations of this kind of service in the world.

The evaluation will be conducted on one Qantas passenger aircraft operating only on domestic Australian routes. Qantas has decided to commence the evaluation with email and text only, disabling voice services. ACMA and other government bodies will consider the potential for permanent regulatory arrangements for the service once the results of the evaluation are known.

(Media contact: Donald Robertson, ACMA Media Manager)

AMATEUR RADIO - HOME OF THE GOOD GUYS

CHUBB TO THE RESCUE.

Mr. Peter Sellwood, Portable Service Manager for CHUBB Australasia recently advised the NERG that he and CHUBB would donate 4 knapsack style fire extinguishers for N.E.R.G. use, such as when the club members "go bush" for Amateur radio exercise.

They will be available for both the club's and individuals usage.

The knapsack extinguishers will become part of the clubs safety equipment for future field days (just in case their Big Yeller 6kW generator starts a grass fire!).

Good one CHUBB.

BPL INTERFERENCE - THE BATTLE CONTINUES

VK7News SAYS Sceptical N.Y. Utilities Study BPL for Smart Grid Applications

The following summary is drawn from an article by Dinesh Kumar from the internet e-zine "Warren's Washington Internet Daily, Volume 8; Issue 66 on 6 April 2007.

BPL may not see all smooth sailing even when it comes to duty in automated meter reading and remote control of home appliances, judging from filings to the New York Public Service Commission (PSC).

The BPL industry is banking on heightened regulatory focus in Congress and state emphasis on energy conservation and better grid management to get "risk-averse" utilities to adopt the technology to improve grid efficiencies and maintenance. In response to the N.Y. PSC's advanced meter reading order, major power utilities seemed reluctant in filings to commit to BPL as the sole answer, and one rejected BPL because it's still evolving.

Consolidated Edison (ConEd) said it and many utilities are looking at BPL's suitability not only for high-speed Internet but also for electrical distribution asset monitoring, substation video surveillance, automated meter reading and the like. But BPL does have a "high level of uncertainty both in technical and total functionality" in ConEd's distribution grid, it added.

ConEd "eliminated" BPL from its "current business case" after deciding the technology is still developing and the "present costs of this communication infrastructure and the greater costs of BPL-related meters make this technology significantly more costly" than other automated meter methods.

(NYSEG) and Rochester Gas & Electric Corp. said full BPL deployment isn't a "viable communication solution" for their full service territories. But "utility-grade" BPL, which doesn't support streaming video, VoIP and some other services, would be useful and efficient in areas with fibre networks and high meter density, they said in a joint filing. BPL's advantage over wireless technologies is that it allows real-time 2-way communications between meters and the distribution system, it said. It also offers sufficient bandwidth and low latency to allow communications to equipment and appliances for real-time appliance control from a central location.

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BPLandHamRadio/
(Sourced from the BPL and Ham Radio Mailing List)

New radio event scores very well - The Centre Victoria RadioFest at Kyneton held last Sunday set a number of benchmarks for this type of event.

Many favourable comments were received from those who had previously attended amateur radio events and it attracted lots who were out to experience their very first.

No Victorian event had been mounted on such a scale and at large, yet mainly under-cover venue. One comment often heard was that people had smiles on their faces and the social atmosphere was great.

More than 550 attended on the day. In the opinion of the commercial traders it was "Australia's best organised event".

WIA President, Michael Owen VK3KI who helped man the WIA stand, described the RadioFest as "excellent" and congratulated the organisers on a job well done.

The top door prize from Vertex Standard Australia, a Yaesu FT857D transceiver was collected by Kevin Hughes VK3WN after his non-ham XYL Pearl, had the winning ticket.

A full report of the day can be read on the website radiofest.amateurradio.com.au

The Organising Committee, with representatives from Amateur Radio Victoria, Central Goldfields Amateur Radio Club and the Midland Amateur Radio Club, says "thank you" to the volunteers, traders, second-hand sellers, club corner participants, come 'n try activity providers, mini-lecture presenters and the many hundreds that attended and enjoyed the day.

I'm Bruce Lees VK3FFF and you're listening to VK1WIA.

EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO
PRESENTED BY KYLEA VK6FXYL

GENERAL!

Radio and Electronics Association of Southern Tasmania

Intro to Standard Licence Sessions

http://reast.asn.au/events.php#Intro2StandardLicence

A reminder about our "Intro to the Standard Licence" sessions on a Saturday afternoons from 1:00 to 4:00pm in the Domain clubrooms.

These sessions are an introduction to the standard and advanced licences and will be structured into three distinct activities:

1-2pm Operating time - starting with a relaxing time - running the club station VK7OTC on 2metres R2 and 40metres around 7.065MHZ for that rare VK7OTC contact and QSL card. We may even play some digital modes on HF, VHF & UHF.

2-3pm Learning time - white boarding and demonstrating concepts and amateur radio problems that people bring along - eventually we see people bringing along a wish-list of problems, issues, ideas, concepts they would like explained including running through sample exam questions.

3-4pm Chill-out - wind down time, where attendees can do anything relating to amateur radio, continue with questions, playing ATV, operating VK7OTC, construction, testing, etc.

These sessions are there to provide an introduction and de-mystify the standard and advanced licences in preparation for the Standard licence training and assessment sessions that Reg VK7KK and Ian VK7QF are planning.

See you there.
(Ken VK7DY)

FUTURE EXAMS

Help amateur radio continue to grow

Do you know someone who could be interested in joining our hobby? Then encourage them to enrol in a Foundation Licence training course.

Next Foundation Licence course, and Standard / Advanced assessments .....

The CRARC will be undertaking another Foundation Licence course on the weekend 19th & 20th of MAY.
Also running Standard and Advanced Licence Examinations and Assessments on the Saturday (19th May) for those who wish to sit.

If you wish to sit either the examinations, or do the F.L. Course, please contact Alan Hawes VK1WX via email to education@vk1.wia.ampr.org or by phone (after hours) to 02 6258 2568. Please note that all monies are to be paid by May 7th 2007 !

In Victoria - the Ballarat Amateur Radio Group is now taking enrolments for its weekend training course and licence assessments on the 5th & 6th of May.
For more information please contact Craig Cook VK3CMC phone 5342 2448 or email vk3cmc@bigpond.com.au

At Bendigo classes and licence assessments are conducted by Ross Pittard VK3FCE who can be contacted via email vk3fce@internode.on.net

The Central Goldfields Amateur Radio Club, Maryborough regularly holds classes. Contact Peter Rafferty VK3CC on 5460 4387 or email majorca49@hotmail.com

On the Gold Coast and want to talk to the world through their IRLP and EchoLink systems? Or already licensed and wish to upgrade Foundation to Standard? Well classes are held at the Nerang Clubhouse of the GCARS, ring Roy VK4IG on 5539 3530 Exams can be taken at a time to suit you.

TARC WIA Exams Information
Exam sessions are held on demand
with WIA Assessors and assessment packs
available for all 3 levels of licensing.
Contact theTARCinc WIA Exams
Regional Co-ordinator Roger/VK4CD
on mobile 0417 638366 to have
a mutually suitable date and WIA
Assessors assigned to your assessment.

Further information also available at
theTARCinc website ...
http://www.tarc.org.au/tarcexam.htm

Adelaide Hills Amateur Radio Society will run Foundation licence's at the Aviation Museum, 56 Lipson Street Port Adelaide, 2 weekends August 4th and 5th then November 3rd and 4th.
Contact the course convenor, Sasi Nayar on 0417 858 547

VK6
Foundation course for May on the 19/20 with an exam on the 26th.
So if you want to do the foundation license in WA, get in quick,
as the 21st & 22nd of July's course (with exam on the 28th
of July) is already one third full.
The next VK6 Exams for Standard and Advanced, if you miss next weeks,
are on June 30th. Think ahead, book early! Contact Neil VK6BDO.

>From VK1WIA this is the National News Service -
Tune in today...Focus on Tomorrow

AROUND VK in 80 Seconds.

Hello I'm Justin VK7TW and we start in VK2 this week,

To Westlakes where their ARC's AGM happens Saturday 12th May
at 1.30pm in the club Library. Nomination for committee should
be in the hands of the Secretary by Saturday 5th May.
A buffet type finger food spread will follow the meeting.

VK4
The next issue of the Callbook is now being compiled and QTAC has been
requested to forward a listing of the VK4 Repeaters, Beacons & Digis for
inclusion in the 2008 Callbook.

To get the information as accurate & up to date as possible, QTAC would like
you to check out the info listed either in the 2007 Callbook or web site
and if any of the details need amendment, contact
qtac@wia.org.au

VK5
The South East Radio Group annual convention, which incorporates the
Australian Foxhunting Championships, will be held at the Scout Hall in
Mount Gambier SA, on the Queen's Birthday weekend, 9-10 June.
http://serg.mountgambier.org/
(vk5wcc for SERG, Mount Gambier. SA)

VK7
REAST's introduction to the standard and advance licence session on
Saturday afternoons has received some great interest over the last few
weeks. Last week we had 14 people come along to operate the club station,
participate in a question and answer session, white boarding problems and
demystifying the standard and advanced licences. This week we have a
practical PCB session - come along and see how to make a PCB from design
to drilling. See you there.

That's it from Hobart and Justin VK7TW, now back to our "action central
newsroom".

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

IARU
http://www.jarl.or.jp/iaru-r3/

IARU committee for common HAM license systems

The IARU Council is in the process of establishing an IARU exploratory committee for the purpose of investigating ways to progress a commonly adopted amateur license so that radio amateurs of one country are able to operate in another country without the need for a permit being issued by the administration of the country visited. It recognizes the importance of such arrangements for operation to the amateurs of the world and the need for amateurs to travel to other countries for the purpose of carrying out emergency communications.

Suggestions are now being looked at for a suitable person, well versed in the subject to head the committee.

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NEWS FROM ARNEWSLINE

COPPER 'THUGS' - COPPER THEFTS COST FOUR LIVES

Four people have been electrocuted in recent days after trying to steal copper cable that they apparently thought was not in use.

DesignLine.com reports that two New Hampshire men were buried last week after they were electrocuted while taking copper wire from an unoccupied power plant in Tyngsboro, Massachusetts. The bodies were found lying alongside bolt cutters and coils of copper wire. According to law enforcement authorities, the men did not have permission to be on the property.

Their deaths followed the electrocution fatalities in Arkansas of two people attempting to strip copper wire from utility poles. According to news reports, the price of copper has skyrocketed driven partially by the demand for copper for telecommunications transmission. One report says that the problem has gotten so out of hand that the Arkansas state government has passed three bills that crack down on the theft of scrap metal.

Despite continued upgrades to fibre optic systems, copper is still in heavy use for telecommunications systems, worldwide and the thieves know it.

MORE EINSTEIN LETTERS MADE PUBLIC BY CALTECH

The 10th volume of letters written by or sent to mathematics genius Albert Einstein have been made public under the auspices of the Einstein Papers Project at the California Institute of Technology." The Collected Papers of Albert Einstein - Volume 10" contains letters penned by Einstein between 1909 and 1920.

According to Caltech, the letters discuss many scientific issues, including his association with physicists in Europe and efforts to further confirm his theory of general relativity. But volume 10 also contains letters focusing on personal matters, such as the state of his marriage and his relationship with his sons. He also discusses the challenges he faced with his newly acquired celebrity status.

The volume was published for Caltech by Princeton University Press.
For more information, visit www.einstein.caltech.edu on the
World-Wide-Web.

DX

In D-X, the Swains Island N-8-S DX-pedition made over 115,000 contacts
before going Q-R-T on April 15th . An on-line log check is available
at www.yt1ad.info/n8s/log.html where you just put in your call to see
if you are verified as having worked the operation. Initial QSL cards
for N8S should be going out in about a month.

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NEWS SOURCED TO THE RSGB NEWS SERVICE AND READ BY G4NJH FROM GB2RS NEWS

ISS contact from the Isle of Man

A British radio amateur who made contact with Charles Simonyi, KE7KDP, on
the International Space Station has been featured on BBC television.

Matty Cunningham, MD0MAN, was filmed for a report by Abbey Jones on
Northwest Tonight. The report featured amateur radio in a very positive
light and can be viewed online. There is also a report on the BBC web site.
Links to the video and report can be found on the RSGB web site.

ARI Marconi award

The Venice, Marconi section of the Italian radio amateur association, ARI, is
offering an award to mark the 70th anniversary of the passing away of
Guglielmo Marconi.

The award is open worldwide for contacting or listening to radio stations of
ARI Marconi Members.

To achieve the score for the award at least 20 points are needed.
Final results will be published in the ARI Magazine Radio Rivista
www.arimarcon.com.

European MF experiments

Since the beginning of 2005 the German telecommunication authorities have
licensed a propagation study experiment on medium wave MF.

The first license for an experimental station on 440 kHz +/- 100 Hz was
issued to Walter, DJ2LF under the callsign DI2AG.

In May 2006, Geri, DK8KW got the second license to operate under callsign
DI2BO at his home location in Peine near Hannover, locator JO52BH.

Early in 2007 the experimental radio licenses were extended to a second
frequency. Besides 440 kHz also 505.1 kHz +/- 100 Hz may now be used.

This frequency falls into the frequency range of the experimental radio
group with the callsign WD2XSH in the U.S.

Also, the Swedish authorities have issued one license for this frequency range. This frequency is also very close to the new UK amateur radio band 501 to 504 kHz which was issued recently on an experimental basis.

DI2BO currently transmits in QRSS3 interrupted by CW identification.

For the time being the beacon will remain on air continuously on 505.015 kHz.

Reception reports are welcome, either via DK8KW or direct. Correct reception reports will be confirmed by a special QSL card.

Grand plans for new DX country dropped

The Hutt River Province Principality announced two years ago plans to begin short-wave broadcasts and also seek amateur radio DXCC entity status.

Not heard of it? Well this self-proclaimed independent territory on Australia's mainland is located just north of Geraldton, Western Australia and began in 1970.

The Royal Amateur Radio Society was formed as a body to represent the interests of amateur radio on the Hutt River Province. It was full steam ahead seeking United Nations, IARU and ITU recognition.

Special Hotel Five prefix callsigns were being made available to inaugural members of the Royal Amateur Radio Society.

ARRL DXCC rules were being quoted as enabling the Principality to qualify for separate country status. DXers and Contesters were claimed to be eager to operate from Hutt River.

However today it is all but a memory, no mention is made on the Hutt River Province website of the former radio plans.

A source close to the ruler of the Hutt River Province, Prince Leonard, reveals he's gone totally cold on the radio ideas and is now very busy engineering a pyramid in his Principality.

I'm Jim Linton VK3PC and you're listening to VK1WIA.

CONTEST COLUMN - D A T E L I N E

Don't forget the Harry Angel Memorial Sprint - 80m CW & SSB,
Sat April 28th from 8pm for 106 minutes **

MAY 5 - 6 Westlakes CQ Repeater contest.

2007 VK/TRAN TASMAN CONTEST

80M Phone 12 May
80M CW 26 May
160M Phone 7 July
160M CW 21 July

AUGUST 11/12 Remembrance Day Contest (The RD) wia.org.au

CQ CQ CQ CQ VK4OD CALLING RD CONTEST MANAGER

Wanted as soon as possible

Leading up to this years Remembrance Day Contest

I am after any form of Poetry or any document describing serving conditions or personal experience, that was written by a Serving Service Man or Woman during WW2, and was sent home or was found in an old Diary.

Please send to me at vk4od@wia.org.au

SPECIAL EVENTS, BEACON AND NET ADVICE

The seventh International Museums Weekend special event will take place on 16th and 17th June 2007.

D X A C T I V I T Y A N D D A T E S

SOUTHERN AFRICAN DX SURVEY

Which DX entities are most wanted by Southern African radio amateurs? How does the most wanted listing for Southern Africa look? Dennis, ZS4BS, has created a MS Excel spreadsheet containing the 2007 DXCC list and there is place where you can indicate which DXCC entities you need on CW, SSB or digital modes (RTTY, PSK, etc). The spreadsheet is available from Dennis, zs4bs@netactive.co.za or you can download it from the SARL web site at www.sarl.org.za. The closing date for the survey is 30th June 2007.

THE QNEWS WORK BENCH - the nuts and volts report -
(Measure twice - Cut once!)

ANTENNA NEWS

Fractal antenna the size of a rice grain, more has come to light since we first brought news of this many months back.

In press release on 6 March 2007 the Spanish wireless antenna company Fractus released a 2.4GHz fractal antenna that is the size of a grain rice. The following is a summary of the press release.

Fractus, the pioneer developer of fractal antenna technology, has set a new standard for antenna miniaturisation with the launch of its smallest antenna for the ISM 2.4GHz band.

The 3,7mm by 2mm Micro Reach Xtend antenna is the size of a single grain of rice, providing device designers with significantly more available space to enable new multimedia applications or reducing the space needed within devices.

The miniature antenna was designed using Fractus' patented fractal antenna technologies and developed especially for Bluetooth headsets and mobile handsets. It supports all standards working at the 2.4GHz ISM band, including Wi-Fi, and Bluetooth. Using fractal geometry with its extremely economical use of space, Fractus has created a solution that offers the maximum performance-to-space ratio as well as reduced costs.

http://www.fractus.com/main/fractus/news_english/

(Sourced from VK7NEWS)

NOW ROBERT BROOMHEAD - VK3KRB.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- ARDF
WIA ARDF COORDINATOR VK3WWW Jack vk3www@alphalink.com.au
http://users.mackay.net.au/~ron/
http://www.homingin.com
http://www.ardf.org.au

Next AusRadio FoxHunt

Paul VK7FPGB, lets us know via the AusRadio mailing list that the next foxhunt will be on Tuesday 1st of May. Meeting at Park Street Launceston at 7:00pm.

Rodney, VK7HAM will be the high power fox and Jason VK7ZJA will be the micro power fox.

See you there.

www.scanningtasmania.org

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/AusRadio

(Paul, VK7FPGB via the AusRadio mailing list)

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- Light Houses and Amateur Radio
http://illw.net

Be aware of the one and only web address for this group. http://illw.net

Seems an Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society, based in the USA has set up a web site which is almost an exact copy of the official ILLW web site which VK2CE has maintained and have done so for the last seven years.

The annual International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend is, August 18 & 19 and official operating rules and registration are available on web page http://illw.net

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP --- MILITARY

The next Amateur Radio Military Activity Day will be
"Ham It Up For The Troops" this event on May 26.
It's primary purpose is to let those that sacrifice know that we support them.
More about ARMAD and the "Ham It Up For The Troops" event is on line at www.armad.net

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP --- NAVAL

OPERATING EVENTS: SUBMARINES ON THE AIR

This weekend of April 28th and 29th is the Submarines-On-The-Air Special Event. There are many submarine based stations on the air

using SSB and C-W on 80 through 10 meters.
A special certificate will be available for working 10 of the boats.
http://w0oog.50megs.com/ for more information. (arnewsline)

That is our special interest group news, I'm Robert VK3KRB

2007

April 28 International Marconi Day
www.gb4imd.org.uk

May 4 - 6 WIA AGM at Parkes
www.wia.org.au

2008

Sept 13 Alarameet 2008 will be held in Ulverstone Tasmania on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th September 2008. Susan VK7LUV for details.

2009
International Telecommunication Union's Telecom World 2009.

"OVER TO YOU" - FEEDBACK TO THE NEWS ROOM

SOCIAL SCENE

APRIL 29
The D&DARC will be holding a sausage sizzle at The Lions Park, Jandowae TODAY the 29th of April. The gathering will commence at mid-day with a (short) meeting to follow at 2:00 PM. Visitors are very welcome

MAY 5 - 6
The Clareview Gathering is a yearly event where Radio Amateurs meet at a spot on the coast between Rockhampton and Mackay to relax, talk radio, re-establish acquaintances and participate in the world renown Saturday Night Mega-Auction.
It happens in 2007 during the Long Weekend on the 5th and 6th of May.
For further details contact Don Wilschefski VK4BY of the RADAR Club

MAY 12 MDRC Hamfest
The Moorabbin and District Amateur Radio club are please to announce, this years Hamfest will be held in the usual location, at the Brentwood Secondary College, Watsons Rd, Glen Waverly on Saturday 12th May 2006 - doors opening at 10am. The MDRC Hamfest is proud to be Victoria's biggest and this year will be no exception with displays and sales of new or preloved equipment, for anyone interested in Radio Communications and electronics.
Major door prizes, free tea and coffee, light refreshments and a sausage sizzle will also be on offer.

Trader table bookings and general enquires can be made be emailing Graeme Lewis VK3GL (vk3gl@aanet.com.au) or by phoning mobile 0418 289928

MAY 12 - BRISBANE HAMFEST
Brisbane Amateur radio Club is holding "BARCFEST 2007" on Saturday

12th May, venue is the Mount Gravatt Showground Logan Road.
If you wish to book a table information can be found on the club's
website http://qsl.net/vk4ba or you can call Les VK4ZLP on 33437247.
Food will be available at the hall, Starting time is 10am.

JUNE 8 - 11
The Far North and North Queensland Amateur Radio Get Together
(FNNQARG!) will be happening from the 8th to 11th June at
Cardwell Village Beachcomber Motel and Tourist Park.

Demonstrations of ARDF, World Championship
Antenna Wrestling, Navcom Electronics
ICOM Yaesu and Diamond equipment displays,
the famous Sunday Morning Cricket Match plus
much much more will be happening over the weekend.

Amongst the attendees will by Mr Aoki, Managing Director
of ICOM Australia and Mr Yoshi, Managing Director of
Standard Vertex Yaesu Australia. Rumour has it that they
are already practicing for the Sunday Morning Cricket Match
and hope there is a healthy roll up of regional hams to make
up good numbers for the FNQ and NQ teams.

Secure your accommodation now by getting in contact
with Toni or Bruce at -
Cardwell Village Beachcomber Resort and Van Park
1800 005633 07 40668550 fax 07 40668941
43A Marine Parade Cardwell QLD 4849

JUNE 9
Westlakes will have a display stall at the Lemontree Passage Bushfire
Brigades Fete on Saturday 9th June

JUNE 9-10
The South East Radio Group annual convention, which incorporates the
Australian Foxhunting Championships, will be held at the Scout Hall in
Mount Gambier SA, on the Queen's Birthday weekend, 9-10 June 2007.
Further information from:
http://serg.mountgambier.org/

July 7+8 - GippsTech
Conference for VHF, UHF & SHF enthusiasts in Australia.
Held at the Gippsland Campus of Monash University in Churchill, about
two hours drive east of Melbourne.
www.qsl.net\vk3bez\index.htm

SEPTEMBER 21-23
North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention
Happening in twin cities of Thuringowa and Townsville.

REWIND - A LOOK BACK IN HISTORY
(Will McGhie VK6UU is WIA National Historian)

Radio Yesteryear is a group of volunteers dedicated to preserving the history of radio in Australia.

Current project is the history of early A.M. broadcasters from 1920 to 39.

During their research, it quickly became obvious that our early broadcasting industry was actually started by licensed amateur operators with experimental broadcast licenses. In addition, many of these early amateurs became the first engineers, and established most of the early commercial and A.B.C. stations.

Radio Yesteryea seek your cooperation in assisting them with information that you may have on these pioneering amateurs.

As their research is actually on broadcast stations, (bless their lil triodes) they have decided that amateurs

Must have held an Experimental Broadcast License.

Must have broadcast between 200 Khz and 1600 KHz.

Must have broadcast speech and music.

RadioYesterYear are especially keen to obtain a copy of an article entitled "50 Golden Years of Broadcasting in Australia: the Amateur Contribution".

Yours in nostalgia radio,
Bruce carty,
Honorary Chairman,
Radio Yesteryear Inc.,
2 Karoom Street,
Kariong, NSW, 2250.
Ph: 02-43401740.

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WIANews - we've reported...YOU decide.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".

Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of the National WIA.
_H_O_P_ _T_O_ _S_P_E_C_I_F_I_C_ _W_I_A_N_e_w_s_ _T_O_P_I_C_S
==========
_W_I_A_ _W_E_B_ _Z_O_N_E_,_ _w_w_w_._w_i_a_._o_r_g_._a_u
==========
WIANews THANKS OUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS , OUR RELAY OPERATORS ACROSS THE WWOORRLLDD FOR FORWARDING INFORMATION AND COMMENTS THEIR LISTENERS HAVE PASSED ON TO MAKE WIANews VK'S LEADING WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PROGRAM.
_E_-_m_a_i_l_ _W_I_A_N_e_w_s_ _W_I_T_H_ _V_K_ _S_T_O_R_I_E_S_.
Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

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Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of QNEWS for the National WIA.
Thanks to to our dedicated band of broadcast volunteers who utilize their time and equipment in bringing you this weekly broadcast.
The purpose of "WIANews" is to rapidly provide news of interest to active amateurs residing in Australia and the globe.
We ssttrroonnggllyy encourage membership in the Wireless Institute of Australia and participation in the activities of local clubs.
Opinions expressed in "WIANews" are those of the writers who submit material and do not necessarily reflect those of the rebroadcasters, nor the National WIA.
Material may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, a credit to WIANews wouldn't go astray...
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773. Re: Antenna modeling software

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-28 13:59:06 UTC
From: t
Message-ID: <mdIYh.1232$HX7.703@newssvr19.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 4678

It would help to know what you are trying to model.
The various packages have different strengths and weaknesses, and
can get wildly different results sometimes.

MMANA is based on Mini-NEC, is fast, pretty intuitive, and free.
But Mini-NEC has a lot of limitations when modeling some geometries.
Especially, the results of a ground mounted vertical antenna are totally
wrong (not a MMANA issue, but rather a miniNEC limitation). Since
it's free, you can play with it to get a feel for antenna modeling.

4NEC2 is a NEC2 based program. It has some nice user I/O features,
and is free, but the learning curve is (to me) a bit steeper than MMANA.
the NEC2 engine provides better accuracy that miniNEC in some cases.
The NEC2 engine suffers from significant ground-loss modeling issues.
4NEC2 allows using the NEC4 engine. You have to license NEC4 from
Lawrence Livermore Labs, but I think they have a low cost single-user
license now availaible ($250 if I recall correctly). The NEC4 engine is
a big upgrade to NEC2, and handles ground-losses a lot better. You can
model verticals and get something close to the right input impedance.

Many of the NEC2 based programs offer the ability to use NEC4 instead.

A lot of guys like Roy Lewellan's EZNEC software, and it gets consistently
good user feedback reports on the message boards. It's NEC2-based, but
the latest version offers NEC4 option.

<weaver5511@mypacks.net> wrote in message
news:1177701321.628617.56130@c18g2000prb.googlegroups.com...
> I've been 'googling' for a MININEC-based antenna modeling program (or
> programs) and I've decided a guy could get old and grey before he was
> through looking at all the offerings. I've kind of (based on web page
> descriptions) compiled a short list of candidates as follows:
>
> MMANA by JH3HHT
> EZNEC by W7EL
> NEC-Win Pro by Nitanny Scientific
>
> Is anyone here using any of those, especially NEC-Win Plus? Can
> anyone recommend one that they KNOW is better than the ones on my
> list? I have $450 budgeted for this but I might consider something a
> little costlier if it were overwhelmingly better.
>
> 73, RDW
>

774. SARL News in English 28/4/2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-28 15:33:36 UTC
From: website@sarl.org.za
Message-ID: <F4F46EE3EAC84E10BFB5C2FF551EF509@toron>
Source record: 4679
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 29 APRIL 2007

You are listening to Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. This broadcast can also be heard on Echolink by connecting to ZS6FCS. To listen to a web stream go to www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links. This, and previous bulletins, can be downloaded from the web site of the SARL i.e. www.sarl.org.za. You can also read or download previous bulletins from there and subscribe to receive future bulletins by email.

This transmission is by Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with relays on 3,695, 10,135, 14,235 and 51,400 MHz as well as 438,825 MHz in the Pretoria area. (Other news readers please change to suit).

In the news today:

SIEMENS RADIO AMATEUR OF THE YEAR AND COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

EXAMINATION DETAILS AVAILABLE ON THE WEB

PRESIDENT'S NET AND INTECNET ON THE AIR NEXT SUNDAY

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

SIEMENS RADIO AMATEUR OF THE YEAR AND COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

The Board of the South African Amateur Radio Development Trust met last week to review the nominations for the various awards annually sponsored by Siemens.

As over the past few years not many nominations have been received for the Young Radio Amateur of the Year Award, the Board has therefore decided to change the award structure and from this year will present a Radio Amateur of the Year Award for Technical innovation and another award for the promotion and development of Amateur Radio.

The Siemens Radio Amateur of the Year Award for the promotion and development of Amateur Radio will be bestowed on Dave Reece, ZS1DFR, and the award for Technical Innovation will be presented to Hannes

Coetzee, ZS6BZP.

The Siemens Amateur Radio Community Service Award goes this year to Davy Smeda, ZR1FR. The awards will be presented at a gala lunch to be held in Midrand on 15 May 2007. Congratulations to the recipients.

EXAMINATION DETAILS AVAILABLE ON THE WEB

The examination details and examination numbers have been posted on the SARL web at www.sarl.org.za. Click on RAE down the left hand side column on the home page and when the page opens click on Candidate exam numbers. Letters will be mailed to individual candidates within the next few days.

DON'T LET YOU'RE MAIL GET LOST

Have you checked that the SARL has the correct mailing address details for you? Please look up your entry in the online call book on www.sarl.org.za and advise the office of any changes. Please also check that we have your correct email address as most of our correspondence will be sent by email. It is more reliable and less expenses than ordinary post.

The office is currently preparing the membership invoice for the 2007/2008 financial year and we would like to make sure the invoice reaches you in good time.

Changes to your email and postal addresses can be sent to admin@sarl.org.za or faxed to 088 011 675 2793. Please always use the full 13 digits.

PRESIDENT'S NET AND INTECNET ON THE AIR NEXT SUNDAY

The next President's net and Intecnet will be on the air next Sunday evening 6 May 2007. The President's net starts at 19:00 followed by the Intecnet at 20:00. Clubs are invited to apply for a link to the teleconference bridge. Simply send an Email by next Saturday to armi@sarl.org.za with the telephone number and details of the repeater to be connected.

The Intecnet will feature a discussion on the extensive linked repeater network covering the Eastern and Western Cape and parts of the Free State. The guest speaker will be Chris Scarr, ZS2AAW. The network is also the subject of an article in EngineerIT which can be read free online at www.eepublishers.co.za.

SARL OFFICE CLOSED ON 30 APRIL

The SARL office will be closed on Monday 30 April and reopen on Wednesday 2 May.

WHY BELONG TO THE SARL?

This question is so often heard. There are lots of good reasons, here is just one: "Representing amateurs in the legislative, regulatory and

administrative processes that affect us all locally, nationally and internationally".

DIVISION 6 BAND PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

The next meeting of the Division 6 Band Planning Committee will be held at the NARC from 09:00 - 12:00 on Saturday 5th May 2007. All clubs in the region are invited to send a representative.

For further information kindly contact Peter Hers, ZS6PHD, at 083 445 4634 or by email to zs6phd@mweb.co.za.

US COMPANY OFFERS WI-FI-PROOF PAINT

An American company says it has successfully tested wireless-blocking paint. EM-SEC Technologies, in a release (http://emsectechnologies.com/press_releases/press1.php) a few weeks ago, said its "Coating Solution", applied to a test facility, had successfully protected "wireless devices and other electronic equipment".

According to the company, "a one-time application of the coating creates an 'electromagnetic fortress' by preventing airborne hackers from intercepting signals".

EM-SEC reckons this would be useful for corporate offices, boardrooms, server and computer rooms, and R&D labs. It seems that wireless nets can be operated without trouble inside a painted building or room.

Products like this seem bound to find a wide market. Cinemas or theatres might use such tech to cut off mobile phones, avoiding the legal issues around jamming.

COMPETITION NEWS

ZS3 / ZS4 40 METRE SPRINT

On Sunday 6 May 2007, the ZS3/ZS4 40 Metre Sprint will be on the air. This is a fun activity to promote contacts between radio amateurs in the Northern Cape and Free State provinces and radio amateurs in Southern African countries. The Sprint runs from 16:00 to 17:00 CAT with phone, CW and PSK 31 activity. The exchange is RS(T) and province or country abbreviation, e.g. 59EC.

Contacts with stations in the Free State and Northern Cape count two points and a contact with ZS4BFN, ZS4SRK, ZS4B, ZS3ARK and ZS3FLY count five points. The rules can be found in the 2007 SARL Contest Manual and will be posted with HF Happenings during the week.

CLUB NEWS

The Centurion Radio Amateur Club held its AGM last Saturday, 21st April and the following members were elected to the committee:

Chairman - Gawie Basson, ZS6GJJ:

Vice Chairman - Pam Momberg, ZS6APT:

Secretary - Billy Strumpher, ZR6ATC:

Treasurer - Pam Momberg, ZS6APT. Many thanks to the retiring committee members for their services and congratulations and strength to the new committee members.

PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the expected solar activity will continue at very low levels. The geomagnetic field is expected to range from unsettled to minor storm levels on 29 April. The expected Effective Sun Spot number for the coming week will be less than 10.

20 and 15 metre will provide best opportunities for DX. There is a possibility of 15 and 20 metre openings towards India from about 06:00 and again at 13:00 CAT. Conditions are going to be challenging towards Australia. From about 15:00, there may be good 10, 15 and 20 m openings towards Europe. Contacts to the USA are going to be very challenging. For the CW and digital enthusiasts it may also be worth monitoring 10 MHz.

Although the predictions may not be too enthusiatic, HF always has the capability to surprise you. You will never know what you are missing unless you switch on your rig, listen and also call CQ.

Please visit www.spaceweather.co.za for further information.

DIARY OF EVENTS

27 April to 1 May - ZS3FLY, with the Land Cruiser Club at Boegeoebergdam, on the air also ZS1 Amateur Radio Club active from Verneukpan; 28 to 30 April - ZS3ARK active with the Voortrekkers at Lohatla; 5 May - Cape Town ARC Flea Market and also the West Rand Radio Club Flea Market; 6 May - ZS3/ZS4 40 Metre Sprint and President's Net and Intechnet; 15 May - Closing date for applications for Itchen Valley bursaries; 30 June - Closing date for updating of SA DX Survey.

SARL News depends on clubs and individuals for news items of importance and interest to radio amateurs. The one and only way to ensure that your contribution will reach the SARL News team, is to place it in www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date. It will be appreciated if you will do it in both Afrikaans and English.

The SARL also invites all listeners to listen to the program Amateur Radio Mirror International this Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 695 kHz. Audio is also streamed on www.zs6mrk.org and on Echolink from ZS6FCS as for this bulletin. A repeat transmission takes place on Mondays at 21:00 on 3 215 kHz. Telkom and Sentech sponsor the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

You have been listening to a news bulletin by the South African Radio League, which was compiled by George, ZS6NE.

A prosperous week to all, 73.

/EX

====================== Message Ends ====================== To edit or remove your entry from this mailing list go to www.sarl.org.za/members/admin/maildat.asp

775. Re: Where can a guy buy electronic components?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-28 15:34:38 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1177771185.454955.89820@n76g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4680

On Apr 28, 10:48 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:

>The demand went away because:
>
> 1) Electronics became more reliable and less expensive, so the repair
> demand went way down
> 2) Building your own became a niche activity, so the homebrew demand
> went down
> 3) Mail order and online suppliers took what was left.

Add:

4) All the hams have a basement full of defunct Silvertone, Zenith,
and Admiral TV's from which we canabalize parts to repair our new
Gonset, Swan, and Hallicrafter rigs.

73, de Hans, K0HB

776. Re: ARRL Withdraws "Regulation By Bandwidth" (RM-11306)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-28 15:35:06 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1177772211.012119.229460@p77g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4681

On Apr 28, 3:33 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:

>
> ARRL WITHDRAWS "REGULATION BY BANDWIDTH" PETITION,
>

That's expected, I guess, but unfortunate. It was a step in the right direction (if a bit conservative for my blood). Hopefully the next version will be crafted to deny the league-bashers any traction.

73, de Hans, K0HB

777. Re: 2m FM calling practices

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-28 15:36:27 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1177773706.773609.97640@y80g2000hsf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4682
Body handling: HTML body converted to readable text

On Apr 28, 12:56 am, "Ivor Jones" wrote:

> Is it happening in the US and elsewhere as well,
> or is it a purely British phenomenon..?

Here in the colonies our equivalent simplex calling QRG is 146.52. It is largely vacant and in most cases a QSO initiated there stays there as there's hardly ever a queue to use the channel.

As a related issue, K0CKB and I spend a lot of our free time traveling in an RV. When we bought the coach I had a sign-maker cut me a vinyl decal "K0HB & K0CKB 146.52". I have this decal on the rear of the coach at eye-level to a following driver, and we religiously monitor that channel. With over 16,000 miles on the odometer, the majority of it on major highways, so far we've had precisely one station call us.

FM simplex isn't widely used here. In fact 2M itself is pretty vacant --- even in a fairly large metropolitan area like St Paul/Minneapolis you could shoot off a cannon on 2M and not hit anyone most of the time.

73, de Hans, K0HB

778. Re: 2m FM calling practices

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-28 16:19:05 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <raOdnYVGGvJF7q7bnZ2dnUVZ_rSjnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4683

"K&#65533;HB" <groupk0hb@earthlink.net> wrote in message
news:1177773706.773609.97640@y80g2000hsf.googlegroups.com...

[snip]

> As a related issue, K0CKB and I spend a lot of our free time traveling
> in an RV. When we bought the coach I had a sign-maker cut me a vinyl
> decal "K0HB & K0CKB 146.52". I have this decal on the rear of the
> coach at eye-level to a following driver, and we religiously monitor
> that channel. With over 16,000 miles on the odometer, the majority of
> it on major highways, so far we've had precisely one station call us.
>

I and the OM were driving along a freeway on a trip through Virginia and a vehicle passed us that had ham antennas. He stuck his arm out the window and signaled 5 2. So we assumed he meant 146.52, switched to that frequency and had a nice little chit chat.

Dee, N8UZE

779. Re: Where can a guy buy electronic components?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-28 20:53:15 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1177791063.504598.32910@u30g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4684

On Apr 27, 10:25?pm, "George" <gmwemail-...@yahoo.com> wrote:

>Used to be that components were readily available in electronics parts
>stores. Most of these stores have closed now.
>
>Last week I needed to buy an electrolytic capacitor. Los Angeles,
>population zillions, has no electronics stores anywhere near me. But I
>found some caps - in a local Radio Shack.

I've lived in the Greater Los Angeles area since November, 1956. That area is (very roughly) 40 by 80 miles, includes 80+ incorporated cities,
with a population of (very approximately) 8 million. It was a center for
aerospace of the USA with many large electronics corporations. The entertainment industry is now tops with aerospace in second place due to several large corporations moving to other states or just relocating other places in the state.

To live in this area requires transportation, most convenient being a personal car. "L.A." is known for founding the "hot rod" and custom cars activities since the end of WWII. I find it most strange that anyone
involved in any electronics and who lives in L.A. thinking that "radio stores" are just minutes away from wherever they lived; it wasn't that way a half century ago and, strangely, it has improved in that time! We, that is, those who live here, think of distances in driving time, not
driving distance. Within a half hour's driving time, probably 20 minutes
in non-rush traffic, I know of at least a dozen "stores" that sell components for electronics, plus a dozen more distributors that will sell small quantities of components "over-the-counter" or by mail-order.
With FedEx, "the Big Brown Truck" (UPS), USPS, and DHL delivery services available, quick at lowest shipping rates, mail-order over the
Internet is a snap. We get at least two different telephone books plus
some smaller regional area ones for one area code for "Yellow Pages" hunting. I choose mail-order delivery right to my door for convenience.
No problems from CA, NV, WA, NY, RI, MA, MS, OR, AZ, IL, MN distributors/dealers/manufacturers shipping that way.

Those of us who've been in the design engineering work know very well that electronics is no longer, has not been since the start of WWII, just involved in "radio." Components alone have increased in ratings and case types at least two orders of magnitude in a half century, NOT counting SMDs. Electrolytics (capacitors) are now seldom made in the "high voltage" ratings of vacuum tube days; there's no demand for them late into this solid-state electronics era, seldom in the types that were long-ago familiar.

As an example, L.A.-based J. W. Miller once had a broad line of "radio coils" for pre-WWII style (HF or below) radios but now Miller makes plain inductors (lots more than earlier times) for a variety of ordinary uses (and extra-ordinary such as switching supplies). National Radio is essentially no more, and James Millen parts are rare...since WWII there have been hundreds of specialist companies starting up and making all sorts of components and assemblies for bigger electronics companies. What radio-only-interested folks have overlooked is the tremendous impact of the personal computer and microprocessor-enabled electronics plus the ubiquitous IC on the market.

The "micro" has generated a huge CHANGE in most every electronics area, away from just "radio" to everything from IPods to lawn sprinkler controllers to medical bedside monitors to warehouse on-line auditing to running a mail-order dealer (large or small) at an efficient, profit-making rate...including the shipping done by other, similarly-aided firms who all have the convenience of daily order shipment tracking. Every two years We in California have to get a smog check of our cars...done by a "micro" enabled machine...even if the cars themselves have two "micros" within. Newer cars even have RF-linked individual tire pressure monitors! The DMV offices in this state use digital cameras and special-software PCs to generate the license data itself, including the magnetic strip info on all CA license cards.

Getting into radio-electronics as a mildly-interested hobbyist in 1947 I would treasure the Allied catalog and its mail-order capability from far-away Chicago (90 miles 'distant'). There was only ONE small electronics "store" in my town then. That catalog was about 1/4 inch thick, printed on heavy newsprint. On the shelf above my PC is a 2007 Allied Electronics catalog, 2 7/8 inches thick, 2192 pages. Next to that big white-on-red thing is the green Mouser quarterly catalog, only slightly smaller than Allied's. There are parts in both catalogs that just didn't exist in electronics in 1947. I don't have the

DigiKey
"industry" catalog, just the regular one. Jameco's catalog keeps getting bigger, is already bigger than the old Allied. All four have Internet mail-order capability, including stock checking (by computer, naturally) to see if a part is immediately available.

The PC I am using now has an internal clock rate of 1.2 GHz with a RAM access rate of about 100 MHz. That's certainly in "radio" frequencies. The cordless telephone in the other room operates at 2.4 GHz, well above "radio" (HF) into microwaves. I don't know how far up the digital cable TV frequency region is, probably close to 900 MHz since it has more channels available than can possibly be watched by two people. That begins in the HF region (for 'upstream' comms on the cable system). My wife likes to use the little matchbox-size clip-on FM stereo receiver with 1 GB storage for pre-recorded music. FM broadcast is "radio." So is AM BC. My Icom R-70 still works fine despite being two decades old, does "DC" to 30 MHz with precise digital tuning at 10 Hz resolution. It sits next to an Icom IC-746Pro using digital tuning down to 1 Hz resolution plus DSP final IF filtering (all solid-state) with DSP of audio bandwidth separately for Rx and Tx. It can tune "DC" to 2m but transmit ONLY IN [USA} ham bands (160m to 2m). I am debating which HT to get: an Icom 91AD has wonderful features but its control pad is almost too small to operate safely while driving; an older analog (but controlled digitally inside) HT might be better for mobile operation? The same on a vertical antenna for home use on HF, a choice of all-bands models which just didn't exist in "radio" in 1947 or even 1957. Maybe a DC-3GHz HT receiver with scanning capability, continuous tuning just for monitoring; those radios have been on the market for a decade.

>Radio Shack sells plenty of computer-related stuff. But where's their
>RADIO-related stuff?

In most RS stores I see them up front: AM/FM BC receivers from micro to massive, scanners, cordless telephones, radio-controlled toys, even a few CBs (still "radio" at 27 MHz), Bluetooth earsets (UHF but still radio linked to cell phones), and the ubiquitous cellular telephones with a variety of built-in features. All ready-built,
ready-to-use. Convenient for the casual consumer who wants "radio" things. I've never been a fan of Radio Shack and have never depended on them for individual components, even if they had those when the first Tandy RS stores opened up in this area. Well, the local RS to me always has a good supply of watch and calculator dry cells in stock...

"RADIO" has changed. It has evolved. Like it or not, their insides have gone digital in both control and operation...using micro-processors, the same kind of thing that has enabled the PC used to access the Internet. The electronics component market has

grown larger than Jack's beanstalk was high. If We want to stay IN radio we've got to adapt, grow, evolve or at least try to keep up with it all, from "stores" to the big ham-specialty dealers' products. Or, those who don't want to change can stay in HF using old modes with all-analog circuitry in the "radio" of what once was. I chose to progress, indeed had to in order to stay in my chosen career.

I suspect Radio Shack chose that name way back in time when it was unusual, catchy, might have had some identification with the market public. Once they went national, I doubt if they were ever going to lock into HAM Radio Shack products, but some still insist they must. That's irrelevant. There's lots of national chain store names which have also evolved, changed, or were just unusual, that didn't mean they HAD to stay in one particular market area.

Fry's Electronics is pure and simple a consumer electronics chain. The "Fry's" part is made-up, has no meaning in itself. Anyone in the southwestern USA can check out a Fry's to see the HUGE supermarket of electronics available for consumers. I'd say any store with three dozen checkout stands (as in the Burbank, CA, Fry's) qualifies as HUGE. Oddly enough, they DO sell components there, most nicely packaged in clear bags. Also some coax cable. But, no "radio" parts a la 1957 genre of "radio." They sell radios to consumers at (I think, by inspection) prices better than Radio Shack...also test equipment (!) suitable for checking out analog amateur radios of old. One of the huge Fry's stores is a good indicator of today's radio market...or a Best Buy or a Circuit City.

73, Len AF6AY

780. Re: Where can a guy buy electronic components?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-28 22:24:54 UTC
From: The Shadow <Repose@Zilch.com>
Message-ID: <NMOYh.31970$OJ1.24658@newsfe13.phx>
Source record: 4685

Lots of Component Dealers at URL:
http://ac6v.com/components.htm

Lamont

781. Re: How Many Of Us Are Hams & OTR Lovers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-29 14:24:27 UTC
From: craftygal7388 <craftygal@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <1177832551.379292.225900@c35g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4686

Read your FCC Rules and Regs and you will see that any broadcast of
OTR is illegal over Echolink. Sad to say it is just not the right
forum. Best to stick with the regular internet. We're just not
allowed to broadcast anything at all.

Marsha N8FE (ham who loves OTR)

On Apr 26, 2:48 pm, "Pat Cook" <pchams...@gmail.com> wrote:
> The reason behind this is simple. I'd like to consider starting up a
> loosely-formal net on EchoLink that's devoted to OTR. The premise would be
> anything related to OTR or radio in general.
>
> Pat Cook, KB0OXD

782. Re: 2m FM calling practices

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-29 15:46:07 UTC
From: John <jlwsecure-usenet6@yahoo.com>
Message-ID: <Xns99217347083Ejlwsecure@207.115.33.102>
Source record: 4687

"Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> wrote in
news:raOdnYVGGvJF7q7bnZ2dnUVZ_rSjnZ2d@comcast.com:

>
> I and the OM were driving along a freeway on a trip through Virginia
> and a vehicle passed us that had ham antennas. He stuck his arm out
> the window and signaled 5 2. So we assumed he meant 146.52, switched
> to that frequency and had a nice little chit chat.
>
In central Ohio 6.52 has some activity. Typically, QSOs started there,
stay there. There are a few folks who have pre-arranged simplex freqs; but
by and large 6.52 is a calling and chat freq.

783. Re: How Many Of Us Are Hams & OTR Lovers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-29 16:16:38 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <e_GdnUnFzbhVWanbnZ2dnUVZ_gidnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4688

Hi Marsha,

I don't think they are talking about broadcasting OTR. They are talking about a net to discuss things related to OTR. Such a discussion net would be fine.

Dee, N8UZE

"craftygal7388" <craftygal@comcast.net> wrote in message news:1177832551.379292.225900@c35g2000hsg.googlegroups.com...
> Read your FCC Rules and Regs and you will see that any broadcast of
> OTR is illegal over Echolink. Sad to say it is just not the right
> forum. Best to stick with the regular internet. We're just not
> allowed to broadcast anything at all.
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> Marsha N8FE (ham who loves OTR)
>
>
>
> On Apr 26, 2:48 pm, "Pat Cook" <pchams...@gmail.com> wrote:
>> The reason behind this is simple. I'd like to consider starting up a
>> loosely-formal net on EchoLink that's devoted to OTR. The premise would
>> be
>> anything related to OTR or radio in general.
>>
>> Pat Cook, KB0OXD
>
>

784. Re: 2m FM calling practices

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-29 17:16:00 UTC
From: The Shadow <Repose@Zilch.com>
Message-ID: <iy3Zh.9256$Fk2.9135@newsfe08.phx>
Source record: 4689

"John" <jlwsecure-usenet6@yahoo.com> wrote in message
news:Xns99217347083Ejlwsecure@207.115.33.102...
> "Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> wrote in
> news:raOdnYVGGvJF7q7bnZ2dnUVZ_rSjnZ2d@comcast.com:
>
>>
>> I and the OM were driving along a freeway on a trip through Virginia
>> and a vehicle passed us that had ham antennas. He stuck his arm out
>> the window and signaled 5 2. So we assumed he meant 146.52, switched
>> to that frequency and had a nice little chit chat.
>>
> In central Ohio 6.52 has some activity. Typically, QSOs started there,
> stay there. There are a few folks who have pre-arranged simplex freqs;
> but
> by and large 6.52 is a calling and chat freq.
>
While travelling on the road I use the 146.520 MHz (National Simplex Freq)
for contacts and chats.
At the base in San Diego, 146.520 MHz is used as a calling frequency, then
switch to another simplex channel such as 147.555 known as triple nickles.
Another commonly used simplex is 146.550.
All are loaded in my mobile rig and HT's.

In the USA, CQ is not used for VHF/UHF FM. Simply callsign monitoring.
CQ is used for the VHF/UHF SSB mode

Lamont

785. BS7H

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-29 17:16:29 UTC
From: RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net>
Message-ID: <1177863609.844759.131110@c35g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4690

Any of you European guys work him yet? They're about S3 here in
Oregon, but only QSOing EU.

73, RDW

786. Re: 2m FM calling practices

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-29 22:05:54 UTC
From: LVN <gareth.paley@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <gb6dnf2g6JRZZ6nbnZ2dnUVZ8ternZ2d@bt.com>
Source record: 4691

"The Shadow" <Repose@Zilch.com> wrote in message
news:iy3Zh.9256$Fk2.9135@newsfe08.phx...
>
>>
> While travelling on the road I use the 146.520 MHz (National Simplex Freq)
> for contacts and chats.
> At the base in San Diego, 146.520 MHz is used as a calling frequency,
> then switch to another simplex channel such as 147.555 known as triple
> nickles. Another commonly used simplex is 146.550.
> All are loaded in my mobile rig and HT's.
>

around here it's 145.500 - S20 is the calling freq (mobile or otherwise)

HTH

787. Re: How Many Of Us Are Hams & OTR Lovers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-30 02:40:39 UTC
From: Pat Cook <pchamster@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <jp6dnUTXgM671qjbnZ2dnUVZ_uuqnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4692

Hi everyone:

"Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> wrote in message
news:e_GdnUnFzbhVWanbnZ2dnUVZ_gidnZ2d@comcast.com...
> Hi Marsha,
>
> I don't think they are talking about broadcasting OTR. They are talking
> about a net to discuss things related to OTR. Such a discussion net would
> be fine.

Exactly Dee.

Think of it like you would a topical net on HF such as Handi-Hams, QRP or
some other niche topic.

Cheers & 73 :D

Pat Cook, KB0OXD
Denver, Colorado
WEBSITE - http://www.qsl.net/kb0oxd/
**NEW VIDEO SECTION - http://www.qsl.net/kb0oxd/cybershacktv/

788. Re: 2m FM calling practices

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-30 04:26:54 UTC
From: k8mn@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1177907187.162031.31610@l77g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4693

On Apr 29, 5:16 pm, "The Shadow" <Rep...@Zilch.com> wrote:

> In the USA, CQ is not used for VHF/UHF FM. Simply callsign monitoring.
> CQ is used for the VHF/UHF SSB mode
>
> Lamont

In some areas of the U.S, "CQ" is certainly used on VHF/UHF FM. If a
CQ works on 160 through 10 and works on 6m, 2m and 70cm SSB or CW,
pressing the PTT switch and saying, "CQ from K8MN" works fine on VHF
or UHF FM.

Dave K8MN

789. Re: 2m FM calling practices

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-30 12:42:43 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <59ltdqF2ko8vdU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4694

<k8mn@earthlink.net> wrote in message
news:1177907187.162031.31610@l77g2000hsb.googlegroups.com
> On Apr 29, 5:16 pm, "The Shadow" <Rep...@Zilch.com> wrote:
>
> > In the USA, CQ is not used for VHF/UHF FM. Simply
> > callsign monitoring. CQ is used for the VHF/UHF SSB mode
> >
> > Lamont
>
> In some areas of the U.S, "CQ" is certainly used on
> VHF/UHF FM. If a CQ works on 160 through 10 and works on
> 6m, 2m and 70cm SSB or CW, pressing the PTT switch and
> saying, "CQ from K8MN" works fine on VHF or UHF FM.
>
> Dave K8MN

It's most certainly used here and the 2m FM band is heavily used in many places.

"S20" (or "V40" as I suppose we should call it now that 12.5 kHz channels have come into use) is the calling channel, calls are made and established there, *only then* should another channel be checked to see if it's clear *at both ends* before moving there to continue the QSO.

The annoying thing about the practice of announcing that you will be listening on a frequency *other* than the established calling channel is as I said, that the person calling has no idea if the frequency they propose to use is clear where the person who answers the call is. If the person answering is mobile, it's almost certain they won't hear anyone else unless the calling station is very close by.

73 Ivor G6URP

790. GB2RS NEWS Sunday 29 April 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-30 13:26:51 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200704301325.l3UDPCc04083@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4695
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

1 GB2RS NEWS Sunday 29 April

The news headlines

* Radio ham saves sailors

* ISS crew connects with schools

* FCC petitioned to restore Morse tests

An amateur radio operator from Comboyne in Australia answered the calls of two sailors battling treacherous five-metre seas in the Pacific Ocean during Good Friday.

Harold Ralston, 62, has been a radio ham for 30 years and was working in his shed when he heard the cries for help.

Sailors Bob Wilson and Mike Ross struck rough seas 75 nautical miles south east of Port Macquarie. Then were left drifting helplessly when the propeller on the 14m long vessel, Maniunda broke. With no power, no steering and battling against 40 knot winds they were unable to pick up English speaking radio operators. However as Ralston was 600m above sea level he had a greater range. He was 200km away and kept in touch and alerted the rescue authorities.

The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station, ARISS, program has had a very busy and successful April. This month, amateur radio has made it possible for youngsters at nine schools in the US, the Netherlands, Australia, Hungary and Russia to speak with the astronauts and cosmonauts aboard the ISS. On 12 April, students at three schools got the chance to talk with those aboard the ISS. Two ARISS school contacts were made on 17 April and brought the total to 286 since the first ISS crew came aboard in November 2000. ARISS International Secretary Rosalie White, K1STO, commented that it was a very ambitious schedule for the dedicated team of volunteers. She noted that civilian space traveler Charles Simonyi, KE7KDP/HA5SIK, has been spending some of his precious time in space on the air.

Further ARISS contacts are planned for 5 May at around 10.24 and 13.34. The ISS audio, on 145.800MHz FM, should be audible across Europe. The contact will also be relayed via Echolink.

The American communications regulator, the FCC, has received petitions to reverse its recent decision to drop the Morse requirement from amateur radio licences. Petitioner Anthony R. Gordon, KG6EQM, of West Covina, California, contends that significant national security

implications require that the FCC take another look at the issue.

The Swains Island N8S DXpedition team made 117,205 QSOs. This represents the fourth highest alltime DXpedition contact total. After shutting down on April 15, the crew made it back to American Samoa late the following day and soon will begin the operation from Samoa as 5W8AA. The first N8S QSL cards will be available in about a month. YT1AD will handle cards for N8S.

Four CubeSats containing payloads operating on amateur radio frequencies were among several spacecraft launched successfully on 17 April from Baikonur Cosmodrome, Kazakhstan.

The rocket deployed seven CubeSats plus seven other satellites from Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Ukraine into Earth orbit, and signals from the four CubeSats have been copied on Earth. Among the spacecraft was Colombia's first satellite.

2 The Renfrew Amateur Radio Society has received a #3000 award from the All Scotland National Lottery Grant. They are planning to buy two new HF transceivers and two aerials for their special event day, the 100 year scout celebration, Scotland. It is due to take place between 25 and 27 May.

Three clubs in East Anglia, Clacton Radio Club, Felixstowe and District Amateur Radio Club and Harwich Amateur Radio Interest Group have joined forces to operate the GB400AA special event station. The station will commemorate the founding of Jamestown, Virginia 400 years ago when the ships Susan Constant, Godspeed and Discovery arrived in Virginia. They had 102 passengers and founded the first English speaking settlement in North America.

GB400AA will be operated at the Mayflower Museum on the Halfpenny Pier at Harwich where The Harwich Society will have an exhibition showing the local area's connections with the inaugural voyages. The station is planned to operate on 11 to 13 May and 25 to 26 May.

IARU Region 1 invites HQ stations of its member societies and stations of special emergency communication groups to participate in the second EmCom Party On The Air on May 5 at 11.00 to 15.00. The operation will occur on the emergency centre of activity frequencies on 40, 20 and 15 meters. The exercise will test how usable these frequencies are across Region 1. It will also increase interest and find best practice for emergency communications between emergency groups such as RAYNET. It is emphasised that this is not a contest but an emergency communications exercise.

The aim for participants is to contact IARU Region 1 HQ station OF3F in Finland and also as many other national HQ and emergency communication group stations as possible using SSB.

More information on the UK involvement in this exercise can be obtained from the RAYNET HF Team website at www.raynet-hf.net.

Now the rallies and events for the coming week.

[Note to newsreaders: as usual, use your discretion on the 29 April events.] On Sunday 29 April the Radio-Active Show takes place from 10am at the Civic Hall, Nantwich. The show will be opened by RSGB President Angus Annan. On Sunday 29 April a Surplus Electronic And Electrical Sale will take place from 10.30 at Aldridge and Barr Beacon Radio Club, Aldridge Community Centre, Anchor Meadow, Middlemoor Lane, Aldridgre. On Sunday 6 May the DAMBUSTERS HAMFEST takes place from 10.30 at Thorpe Camp Museum, Coninsby. Details form Tony, G3ZPU, on 01507 527835.

Details forthcoming rallies and events are on pages 88 and 89 of the May RadCom. Now for news of special events.

>From 25 May to 6 June, Mike Bryant, GW6NLP and Colin Kenton, MW0JNI, will be running a special event station GB100TT in association with Scarlett Point amateur radio society, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the TT races. It will be based at Scarlett Point Tower in Castletown. For more information log onto www.qsl.net/wars or www.scarlettpoint.com. Special event station ON50EU is active until 31 December to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome.

3 Look for special event station OX60AD to be on air throughout April to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the US Air Force and the 56th anniversary of the Defence Treaty between the US and Denmark for the Protection of Greenland. Activity will be on 40, 20, 17, 15 and 10m using CW, SSB and RTTY. The Flight Refuelling ARS is operating special event station GB2FRA until 4 May to commemorate its 25th anniversary. Activity will be on HF, VHF and UHF using CW, SSB and FM. Special station EV5IPY is on the air to celebrate the participation of Belarus in the 4th International Polar Year. Operations are conducted under the aegis of the newly born Department of Polar Researches at the Belorussian Geographic Society. Special callsign HF40PAZ will be aired until 30 April and again on 1 to 30 September to celebrate the 40th anniversary of club station SP6PAZ.

The Letchworth and Baldock District Scouts, Cubs and Beavers will be operating G0LBS from 9am - 6pm at their Centenary Camp between 4th and 7th May 2007. Operation will be on 20, 40, 80, 160m and 2m. And now the HF DX news compiled from 425 DX News, the Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin and other sources.

Fred, PY2XB will sign VP5/PY2XB from Providenciales Island, NA-002 from April 19 to May 3. Operation will be on the low bands QRO on 160, 80 and 40m, and WARC bands 30, 17 and 12m. Digital modes including BPSK31 and RTTY will be emphasised. Some unusual islands will be activated for the RSGB IOTA contest in July:

* Proti, Greece, EU-158 will be activated by DL7IO and team.

* Great Bernera, UK, EU-010 will be activated by M0LSB.

* Batz, France, EU-105 will be activated as TM7BA, by F5NCU and F6EHJ.

* Quadra, Canada, NA-091 will be activated by VA7AQ.

* South Marsh (USA), NA-140, will be activated by W3RFA. PA5CW, will be active portable YB9 from Bali from 25 April to 10 May. Kang, DS4DRE, is currently active as DS4DRE/4 from Hong Island until 30 June. Activity will be on 80-10m, CW and SSB Len, UR3HR, Sergey, UR7HTX, Max, UR7HTZ, 3D2TZ, Alex, UT5UY, 3D2UY and Alex, UX0LL, 3D2A, will be activating two IOTA groups between late April and early May. Their activity will start from Taveuni Island OC-016, using the callsign 3D2AP, 3D2TZ and 3D2UY between April 27 and May 3. The team will then move to Yanuca Island in the Ringgold Isles Group OC-189 as 3D2RI between 3 and 7 May. QSL cards should be sent direct to home callsign or through the bureau,QSL 3D2UY via UT5UT, 3D2AP via UX0LL and 3D2TZ via UR7HTZ. Due to the high cost of this operation on a remote Pacific Island, the group is asking for sponsorship by various DX organizations and individuals around the world. If you would like to help fund or sponsor their DXpedition, please contact Alex, UT5UY, by e-mail at: ut5uy@ukr.net. Dani, EA4ATI is returning to Dakar, Senegal and will remain there until April 2008. He expects to be active as 6W/EA4ATI and 6W1EA, probably with a beam for 10, 15 and 20 meters, and dipoles for the other bands. QSL direct via homecall.

4 DL9MWG will be active from Malta as 9H3RT from 18 April to 11 May. Activity will be on HF, mainly CW. Kevin, BA4XA, Mary, BA4XYL, Roy, BA4VE, Li, BD4XD, Wang, BD4XW,Chang, BG6IQD and Tiger, BG4VGJ will be active as homecall 4 from Dongxilian Island, AS-135, on 1 to 7 May. They will operate holiday style on or around the usual IOTA frequencies using 100 watts into a 2-element Yagi, vertical and dipole antennas. QSL via home calls. Eduardo, CU2AF will be active as C91AF from Maputo, Mozambique from 27 April to 6 May. He plans to operate for a few hours daily on 80-10 meters SSB, RTTY and PSK31. QSL via home call. CQ5MGP is the special callsign used by the Portuguese Navy amateur radio group, Nucleo de Radioamadores da Armada, CS5NRA, during the Portuguese Navy Day Contest. This year's event will be held on 5 to 6 May. Karen, DL8HK, CW and Alfred, DB1VQ,SSB, will be active as DL0EFA/p from Usedom Island, EU-129, O-13 for the German Islands Award, from 26 April to 1 May. QSL via DK9VB. John, K9EL will be active from St. Martin, NA-105, from 27 April to 6 May and will operate holiday style as FS/K9EL on 10-80 meters mainly CW and SSB. QSL via home call, direct or bureau. Jim, MM0BQI will be active as MM0BQI/p from Shuna Island, EU-008 from 28 April to 5 May. He plans to operate RTTY, CW and SSB on 17-80 meters. QSL via home call, direct or bureau. A group of operators from the Radio Club de Honduras will be active as HQ9L from Little Cay, Bahia Islands (NA-057) on 4 to 6 May. They will operate SSB. CW and digital modes on 160-10 meters. QSL via HR2RCH, direct or bureau. Look for Marconi memorial station IY0TC to be active from Civitavecchia on the 28th for the International Marconi Day. QSL via I0KHP. Fabio, IW1DFU will be active as IA5/IW1DFU from Elba Island, EU-028, on 25-30 April. Expect him to operate mainly CW on 20 and 30 meters. QSL via home call, direct or bureau. Look for JS6RRR/JS6 and JI3DST/JS6 to be active on 160, 80, 40, 17, 15, 12, 10, 6 and 2 meters SSB, CW, RTTY, SSTV and FM) from the Miyako Islands, AS-079, from 27 April to 7 May.

QSL via bureau only. Jim Martin, MM0BQI, will be operating from the island of Shuna, in the Inner Hebrides, NW Scotland, IOTA EU008 and IOSA FL08 from 28 April to 5 May. He will also have a boat available so other island activations may be possible in the local area. Operation will mostly be on 80, 40,30 and 20m, RTTY, SSB and CW. Now the contest news

The RSGB 144 MHz activity and club championship contest takes place between 2000 and 2230 local time on 1 May, on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. The ARI International contest takes place between 2000 on 5 May to 1959 on 6 May on the 1.8 to 28MHz bands CW, SSB, DATA modes. The exchange takes the form of RST and serial number.

5 The RSGB 432 to 248GHz contest takes place between 1400 on 5 May to 1400 on 6 May on the 432MHz to 248GHz bands, on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. The RSGB 432MHz Trophy contest takes place between 1400 to 2200 on 5 May, all modes. RST, serial number and locator form the exchange. The RSGB 10GHz Trophy contest takes place between 1400 to 2200 on 5 May, all modes. The exchange is RST, serial number and locator.

Now the solar factual data for the period from 16 to 22 April, compiled by Neil Clarke, G0CAS.

Solar activity was very low with no solar flares taking place. The solar disc was spotless except for the 17th and the 18th when a small single spot appeared. Solar flux levels remained at 69 units except for the 19th when it declined to 68. The average was 69 units. The 90 day solar flux average on the 22nd was 74 units, that's one unit down on last week. X-ray flux levels remained below the minimum A1 level everyday. Geomagnetic activity was quiet, for example the Ap index was only 1 unit on the 16th. A coronal hole disturbance arrived as forecast on the 22nd when the Ap increased to 10 units. The average was Ap 6 units. The ACE spacecraft saw solar wind speeds decline from 430 kilometres per second to 280 by the 21st. Speeds then increased to 470 kilometres per second during the 22nd. Particle densities were low everyday but increased to 32 particles per cubic centimetre on the 22nd. Bz varied between minus 3 and plus 2 nanoTeslas on the quiet days and between minus 8 and plus 10 nanoTeslas on the 22nd. At HF, 14MHz remains the only really consistent band, with some good evening openings to South-East Asia. Occasional good openings, mainly over southerly paths, occurred on 18 and 21MHz. 24 and 28MHz were patchy at best. Some areas of the UK enjoyed enhanced tropo at VHF and UHF. And finally the solar forecast.

This week solar activity looks set to continue at very low levels. Solar flux levels should be around the 70 mark. Geomagnetic activity is expected to be unsettled today due to a recurring coronal hole. For the rest of the week activity should be mostly quiet. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitudes should be around 18MHz for the south and 15MHz for the north. The darkness hour lows are expected to be about 9MHz.

Paths this week to India should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success rate of around 22MHzs. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success rate will be about 17MHz. The best time to try this path will be between 0800 and 1600 hours UTC. Normally the start of May heralds the start of the sporadic-E season. Openings could take place on 28MHz and 50MHz. It maybe a couple of more weeks yet before openings take place on 144MHz. And that's all for this week from the propagation team.

6 Next, the Local News:

Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses

and website links where known.

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your

transmission.]

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST

and EAST ANGLIA On Sunday 29 April Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is running its Advanced Licence Course. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

On Monday 30 April Basingstoke Amateur Radio Club is having a club night. Contact Frank, M0AEU, by email to barc@2lo.info.

On Monday 30 April Felixstowe and District Amateur Radio Society is having a visit to BBC Norwich or RAF Wattisham with Mark, M5BOP. Contact Paul, G4YQC, by email to paul.whiting@bt.com.

On Tuesday 1 May Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society is having a talk entitled 'microwaves demystified' by John Wood, G4EAT. Contact Martyn, G1EFL, on 01245 469 008.

On Tuesday 1 May Cray Valley Radio Society is taking part in the 2m Club Championship. Contact Bob, BRS32525, on 020 8265 7735 after 8pm.

On Tuesday 1 May Horndean and District Amateur Radio Club is having a social evening. Contact Stuart, G0FYX, on 023 9247 2846, or on the web at www.hdarc.co.uk.

On Tuesday 1 May Stevenage and District Amateur Radio Society is having a project night. Contact Neil, M0ARH, on 01438 217 077.

On Wednesday 2 May Dover Radio Club is having a natter and operating night. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk.

On Wednesday 2 May Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is having a natter and operating night with G3VEF and G8KGI. Contact Jim, M1JJN.

On Wednesday 2 May Newbury and District Amateur Radio Society is discussing antennas. Contact Kevin, G6FOP, on 01635 826 397, g5xv@ntlworld.com.

On Wednesday 2 May Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on multiband antennas by Ted, G3FEW. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

On Wednesday 2 May Worthing and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on surface mount technology by G1ZTN. Contact Roy, G4GPX, on 01903 753 893.

On Thursday 3 May Cray Valley Radio Society is having a talk on Digital Radio Mondiale by G0UKN. Contact Bob, BRS32525, on 020 8265 7735 after 8pm.

On Thursday 3 May Horsham Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on the future of electronics by Mike Underhill, G3LHZ. Details on the web at www.harc.org.uk.

On Thursday 3 May Maidenhead and District Amateur Radio Club is having an informal evening. Contact John, G8RYW, on 01628 628 463, or by email to g8ryw@tesco.net.

7 On Thursday 3 May Shefford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on the ins and outs of radio by Terry, G4OXD. Contact David, G8UOD, on 01234 742 757.

On Friday 4 May Crystal Palace Radio and Electronics Club is having a talk and demonstration of a high voltage Tesla coil by Ian Daniels, G4VTD. Contact Bob, G3OOU, on 01737 552 170.

On Friday 4 May Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is having a quiz night with quiz masters Gavin and Phil. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Friday 4 May Wey Valley Amateur Radio Group is having a talk on laptop radio wizardry for beginners by Derek Stanners, G3HEJ. Details on the web at www.weyvalleyarg.org.uk. NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST

On Sunday 29 April Bailiwick Of Guernsey Raynet Group is taking part in the RAYNET Zone 7 Exercise ICE 4. The Control station will be setting up at Beau Sejour from about 9.30am local time and visitors are most welcome. Contact Mike, GU3WHN.

On Wednesday 2 May Exmouth Amateur Radio Club is having a spring clean of the shack plus an auction bring and buy. Contact g0uil@eclipse.co.uk.

On Wednesday 2 May South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is having a workshop on Morse code with G4YZR. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282.

On Wednesday 2 May Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is on the air. Contact Tony, G0WMB, by email to

tonytsgarc@beeb.net.

On Wednesday 2 May Trowbridge and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on amateur radio and Sumburgh Lighthouse, GB2SLH, with Tony, G0GFL and Nikki, M5YLO. Contact Ian, G0GRI, on 01225 864 698, E/W.

On Thursday 3 May Cornish Radio Amateur Club is having a talk on RAF RF by Wayne Gannon. Contact Ian, 01872 561 058.

On Thursday 3 May Saltash and District Amateur Radio Club is planning the club rally table. Contact Brian, M0BHG, on 01752 844 321.

On Thursday 3 May Swindon and District Amateur Radio Club is having a contest operating workshop with James, M1DST. Contact Mike, M5CBS, on 01793 826 465.

On Thursday 3 May Yeovil Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on aerials by G3MYM. Contact Derek, 01935 414 452, or by email to m0wob@tiscali.co.uk.

On Friday 4 May Bournemouth Radio Society is having a talk entitled Radars 20MHz to 40GHz by Chuck Hobson, G0MDK. Contact John, G0HAT, on 07719 700 771.

On Saturday 5 May Flight Refuelling Amateur Radio Society is running its Foundation training course. Contact Chuck on 01202 881421.

NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS

On Sunday 29 April Aldridge and Barr Beacon Amateur Radio Club is having its 8th annual sale of surplus and radio electrical goods at the Aldridge Central Hall. Contact Charles, 01922 636 162.

8 On Monday 30 April Gloucester Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is having a VHF operating and workshop evening. Contact Anne, 2E1GKY, on 01452 548478, daytime.

On Monday 30 April Stourbridge and District Amateur Radio Society is having an open shack night. Contact John, M1EJG, on 01562 700 513.

On Tuesday 1 May Derby and District Amateur Radio Society is having a May Day junk sale. Contact Martin, G3SZJ, on 01332 556 875.

On Tuesday 1 May Loughborough and District Amateur Radio Club is having a magazine review night. Contact Chris, G1ETZ, on 01509 504 319.

On Tuesday 1 May Wythall Radio Club is taking part in the 2m Club Championship from the shack. Contact Chris, G0EYO, on 07710 412 819, or by email to g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk, or on the web at www.wythallradioclub.co.uk.

On Thursday 3 May Stafford and District Amateur Radio Society is looking at the restored receiver collection of Mike, G8BMP. Contact Graeme, G4NVH, on 01785 604 534, or by email to graeme.boull@ntlworld.com.

On Friday 4 May Cheltenham Amateur Radio Association is having a talk on digital techniques on 20m by Ron, G3SZS and Colin, G3VTS. Contact Pat, G3IKR, on 01386 792 542.

On Friday 4 May Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is on the air on VHF and UHF from 8pm. Contact Carl, M0XBE, on 07979 092 447, or on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

On Saturday 5 May Lincoln Short-Wave Club is operating the special event station GB2CWP from the East Kirkby Aviation Heritage Centre. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

On Sunday 6 May Lincoln Short-Wave Club is visiting the Dambusters Hamfest at Thorpe Camp, Coningsby. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

On Sunday 29 April North Cheshire Radio Club is holding its AGM. All members, past and present, are urged to attend. Details from Gordon Adams, G3LEQ, on 01 565 652652.

On Sunday 29 April Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is running its Foundation Course. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Sunday 29 April Mid-Cheshire Amateur Radio Society is running Radio active 2007 and all members are required to help out. Contact Richard, G0JIT, by email to rsa@zetnet.co.uk.

On Sunday 29 April Macclesfield and District Radio Society is attending the Radio Active Rally. Contact Tom, M1EYP, on 01625 612 916, tommyread@hotmail.com, or on the web at www.gx4mws.com.

On Monday 30 April Macclesfield and District Radio Society is having a talk by RSGB President Angus Annan, MM1CCR. Contact Tom, M1EYP, on 01625 612 916, tommyread@hotmail.com, or on the web at www.gx4mws.com.

On Monday 30 April South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is having its monthly technical forum. Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999.

On Monday 30 April Thornton Cleveleys Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on radio installation in motor vehicles by John, G0JFE. Contact Jack, G4BFH, by email to jack.duddington@btinternet.com.

9 On Tuesday 1 May Chester and District Radio Society is having part two of the talk on green boxes by John Langan. Details on the web at www.chesterdars.org.uk, or by email to info@chesterdars.org.uk.

On Tuesday 1 May Macclesfield and District Radio Society is operating special event station GB5OMR every Monday in May, when the club will be open to the public. Contact Tom, M1EYP, on 01625 612 916, tommyread@hotmail.com, or on the web at www.gx4mws.com.

On Tuesday 1 May Mid-Cheshire Amateur Radio Society is having a post show analysis session and starting planning for next year. Contact

Richard, G0JIT, by email to rsa@zetnet.co.uk.

On Tuesday 1 May Stockport Radio Society is having a presentation and demonstration of railway telegraphy by James France, G3KAF. Contact David, M1ANT, on 0161 456 7832.

On Tuesday 1 May Warrington Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on hobbies by Steve, M1DOT. Contact Paul, on 01925 268 096, or by email to paulg7odj@btinternet.com.

On Wednesday 2 May Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is on the air. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Wednesday 2 May Hornsea Amateur Radio Club is having a surprise from the Chairman. Contact Steve, G4GPY, on 01482 860 440, or by email to g4gpy@eddiesplace.karoo.co.uk.

On Friday 4 May Tynemouth Radio Club is having its International Marconi Day debrief. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Sunday 6 May Ripon and District Amateur Radio Society is starting its Foundation Licence Course 2pm. Contact Andy, M0DCD, on 07835 390 337, m0dcd@raynet-uk.net.

NEWS FOR SCOTLAND

On Tuesday 1 May Dundee Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on the maritime volunteer service by David Kett. Contact Martin, MM0DUN.

On Wednesday 2 May Paisley YMCA Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on the way we were by GM4GZQ. Contact Jim, GM3UWX.

On Thursday 3 May Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is having a junk sale. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

On Friday 4 May Cockenzie and Port Seton Amateur Radio Club is having a club night. Contact Bob, GM4UYZ, on 01875 811 723.

NEWS FOR WALES

On Wednesday 2 May Conwy Valley Amateur Radio Club is having its junk sale. Contact Wynne, GW6PMC, on 01745 855 068.

NEWS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

No news items have been received for Northern Ireland this week. And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast,

prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

791. Re: GB2RS NEWS Sunday 29 April 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-30 14:14:01 UTC
From: Gordon Hudson <hostroute@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <4635ef91$0$643$5a6aecb4@news.aaisp.net.uk>
Source record: 4696
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur

<Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk> wrote in message
news:200704301325.l3UDPCc04083@panix2.panix.com...

> Harold Ralston, 62, has been a radio ham for 30 years and was working
> in his shed when he heard the cries for help.

Was that not in Hancock?

792. Introducing New York Near Space Research (NYNSR)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-30 17:28:32 UTC
From: "Javier Anderson, KC2MFC" <Javanderson@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <1177951945.578299.299570@u30g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4697

The Irvington High School Science Club is announcing the creation of a New High Altitude Balloon group. High Altitude Balloons are Helium filled latex balloons that fly at altitudes higher then 85,000 feet (some make it to over 140,000 ft). Amateur Radio and APRS are both used to track the balloons during the flight and after landing The group will be called "New York Near Space Research" or NYNSR for short and will be conducting flights by late Spring next year in the Lower Hudson River Valley. We are hoping to have a website purchased by the end of this week and have some more information available. We have started a public Google group under the name New York Near Space Research already and you may join if you like.

73 to all,
Javier Anderson, KC2MFC

P.S. the link to our google group is http://groups.google.com/group/NYNSR

793. Re: How Many Of Us Are Hams & OTR Lovers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-04-30 17:50:27 UTC
From: craftygal7388 <craftygal@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <1177955295.248005.3590@n76g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4698

Hi Dee ,

That's a horse of a different color as one of my favorite movies goes... sounds like a nice idea. But I agree that you must have 2 licensed control ops at all times as Hans pointed out. Sounds like you have some more investigating to do. Be interesting to see what you come up with.

Vy 73,

Marsha N8FE

On Apr 29, 10:40 pm, "Pat Cook" <pchams...@gmail.com> wrote:
> Hi everyone:
>
> "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote in message
> > I don't think they are talking about broadcasting OTR. They are talking
> > about a net to discuss things related to OTR. Such a discussion net would be fine.
>
> Exactly Dee.
> Think of it like you would a topical net on HF such as Handi-Hams, QRP or some other niche topic.
>
> Cheers & 73 :D
>
> Pat Cook, KB0OXD
> Denver, Colorado
> WEBSITE -http://www.qsl.net/kb0oxd/
> **NEW VIDEO SECTION -http://www.qsl.net/kb0oxd/cybershacktv/

794. Project suggestions?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-01 00:12:47 UTC
From: RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net>
Message-ID: <1177976041.417616.278390@c35g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4599

I have a couple of ADSP-2181's burning a hole in my junque box. Yes,
I know they're a little slow and 'dated', but they were free and I
thought they'd make a nice platform for a learning project, perhaps an
IIR or FIR SSB filtering scheme.

Any of you done any designs with this, or have any non-proprietary app
notes for this device?

TIA & 73, RDW

795. IRTS Radio News Bulletin, Sunday April 29th 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-01 00:14:21 UTC
From: news at irts dot ie <devnull@panix.com>
Message-ID: <200704302232.I3UMWY412489@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4600
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Irish Radio Transmitters Society
Radio News Bulletin

Sunday April 29th 2007

Jubilee Dinner and AGM

The 75th Jubilee Dinner and AGM of the Society took place over last weekend at the Vienna Woods Hotel in Cork. The Jubilee Dinner was on the Saturday evening and 120 sat down to enjoy a first class meal. Guests at the dinner included Dave Sumner K1ZZ, Secretary of the IARU and CEO of the ARRL, Ole Garpestad LA2RR, President for Region 1 IARU, Dermot Nolan, Director of ComReg and Derek O'Reilly from ComReg, Angus Annan MM1CCR, President of the RSGB, John Breen EI7BV who represented the Minister for Communications, Marine and Natural Resources and Roderick Mooney EI2P a Trustee of the Society and one of the longest standing active call signs in EI being licensed since 1937. After the usual toasts to the President of Ireland, the IRTS and the Guests gifts were exchanged between Dave Sumner K1ZZ, Ole Garpestad LA2RR, Angus Annan MM1CCR and the President Finbarr EI1CS. The President then presented special commemorative badges to the Past Presidents. Of the present nine Past Presidents, eight of them were in attendance at the dinner to receive the presentation. The ninth was attending a family wedding in the UK.

Groups of friends chatted into the wee small hours and it was very evident that the evening was very much enjoyed by the large attendance. After the rally on Sunday the 75th Annual General Meeting of the Society took place at 2.30 p.m. Somewhere between 60 and 70 members attended the meeting, which was addressed by K1ZZ, LA2RR and MM1CCR. The President, Finbarr EI1CS in his address to the meeting referred to the extent of the work being carried out by Committee members and others and he emphasised the wonderful cooperation and assistance that he had received during the year.

The Committee nominations were formally approved by the AGM. At the conclusion of the meeting the Society Awards were presented and we will bring you details of

these next week.

AREN News

AREN had a stand at the recent IRTS AGM rally in Cork on the 22nd of April. There was an exhibit of the Anderson Powerpole system, the PG-40s power manager/charger and the Watts-up meter. A Power-pole crimping service was made available. The new Open tracker 2 was demonstrated along with the SMT version that fits inside the new Alinco DR135Mk2. Also on display was a HF Go-kit which included an FT857D, compact switch mode PSU and an NVIS antenna and tuner all housed in a compact case.

Official AREN bibs and hats were also displayed. Officers John Ronan, Conor ONeill and John Ketch were on hand to discuss activities and queries form visitors to the stand.

---

2 Metre Counties Contest

Thanks to all the participants of the recent 2m counties contest. The turn out was much the same as previous years, with a large turnout from GI stations which shows the wide interest for the contest.

Conditions were variable with QSB causing some problems. Several of the rarer counties were activated, however Co. Sligo is still needed. Please send logs to EI8IU at QTHR or email to "contests at irts dot ie by the 9th of May.

Booklet about Howth Martello Tower

Tony, EI5EM has written a short booklet outlining the history of the Howth Martello Tower, which now houses a vintage wireless museum and also is the home of the Howth Martello Radio Group (EI0MAR). The booklet is an 18-page A4 document and was primarily written for visitors to the tower. However, Tony feels that it might also be of interest to EI experimenters as two famous pioneering experimenters, Marconi and de Forest (inventor of the triode valve) conducted experiments from the tower. The first successful telegraph cable from Great Britain to Ireland came ashore on Balscadden Beach and terminated in the tower in 1854.

EI0MAR was QRV yesterday for Internal Marconi Day and had award station status for the celebration. A report

on the day will follow shortly. If anybody would like a copy of the booklet, Tony will be glad to post it at a nominal charge of 5. Tony's address is in the call-book or email "ei0mar at eircom dot net".

Limerick Radio Club

The next meeting will take place on Thursday the 10th of May at 7 p.m. at Limerick Institute of Technology.

Limerick Radio Club has been invited by the Foynes Flying-Boat Museum to operate a special Amateur Radio Station in conjunction with the commemorative Transatlantic Re-Enactment Flight 1937 from Newfoundland Canada to Foynes Ireland. A special call-sign has been allocated to the station EI-70-FOY. The station will be on the air from the 6th to the 8th of July 2007. On HF the station will operate from 80 to 10 metres. It will also operate on VHF / UHF using the EI70FOY call-sign.

A special QSL card, commemorating the Re-Enactment Flight, will be sent to all stations worked over the three-day event. All QSL cards should be sent to the Clubs QSL Manager Alan Cronin EI8EM at QTHR.

Limerick Radio Club can be contacted at ei4lrc at eircom dot net or at www.qsl.net/ei4lrc.

Tipperary Amateur Radio Group

The next meeting of The Tipperary Amateur Radio Group will take place on Thursday next the 3rd of May at Raheen House Hotel Clonmel at 8 p.m. Any Expermenters wishing to take part in the Galtee Walking Festival on the June bank holiday weekend are more than welcome, Contact any member of the club or call into the meeting, all are welcome.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group

Going forward and starting from Monday the 28th of May, meetings of South Eastern Amateur Radio Group will take place on the last Monday of each month instead of last Wednesdays. The move has been decided in order to facilitate a number of members who are unable to attend on Wednesdays.

The committee meetings will also take place on the first Monday of each month and the next committee

meeting will take place on Monday the 7th of May.

Second EmCom Party on the Air

The Second EmCom party on the Air will take place on Saturday the 5th of May 2007 at 11.00 - 15.00 UTC. The operation will take place on and near the emergency Center-of-Activity (CoA) frequencies on 40, 20 and 15 meters (+/-QRM). The CoA frequencies on 80 and 17 meters will not be used during this event.

The objective of the party is to increase the common interest among member societies in emergency communication, test how usable the CoA frequencies are across Region 1, and create practices for international emergency communication between Region 1 member societies and special emergency communication groups. This is not a contest - it is an emergency communications exercise!

More information including the exchange format is on the news page of www.aren.ie.

Theory Examination

The next Theory Examination for the Experimenters Licence will be held on Thursday the 28th of June next. Places for the examination are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis. In order to reserve a place for the exam, intending candidates should forward the appropriate fee to Se&#65533;n Nolan EI7CD, 12 Little Meadow, Pottery Road Dunlaoghaire, Co. Dublin. The fee is 50 Euro or 25 Euro for full time registered students, those who are retired, are unemployed or have a disability. In addition to the exam centre at the ComReg offices in Dublin, it has now been decided with the agreement of ComReg that an examination should be held on the same date and with the same paper at the Community Centre, Carrigtwohill, Co. Cork. This is to facilitate those at present attending classes for the experimenter licence examination in Cork and Waterford."

The closing date for the examination is the 16th of June and it will be strictly adhered to. Sean EI7CD's address again is 12 Little Meadow, Pottery Road, Dunlaoghaire, Co. Dublin and it can be found in the call book section of the IRTS website at www.irts.ie Sean's e-mail address for further enquiries is "ei7cd at gofree dot indigo dot ie".

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall, EI7IS at QTHR or by phone to 051-853806 or 087-6302026. Items for the radio news can also be faxed to 087 5 6302026. News should be submitted via e-mail to news at irts dot ie for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Friday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sundays bulletin.

796. Re: 2m FM calling practices

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-01 13:20:32 UTC
From: Jack VK2CJC <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com>
Message-ID: <f16pup$4ba$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 4601

> "S20" (or "V40" as I suppose we should call it now that 12.5 kHz channels
> have come into use) is the calling channel,

Hi Ivor

I left the UK just as 12.5 channels were being implemented. Are they being used? Or does everyone still use the old channels but with narrower deviation?

"CQ V40" just doesn't seem to sound right to me :o)

--
Jack VK2CJC / MM0AXL
FISTS# 9666
Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group
www.mncarg.org

797. Re: 2m FM calling practices

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-01 16:06:49 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <59p6mmF2lc2tnU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4602

"Jack VK2CJC" <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com> wrote in
message news:f16pup$4ba$1@victor.killfile.org
> > "S20" (or "V40" as I suppose we should call it now that
> > 12.5 kHz channels have come into use) is the calling
> > channel,
>
> Hi Ivor
>
> I left the UK just as 12.5 channels were being
> implemented. Are they being used? Or does everyone still
> use the old channels but with narrower deviation?

They're not used much, to be honest. Although there are a few simplex
Echolink gateways that use some of them.

> "CQ V40" just doesn't seem to sound right to me :o)

No, you're right, it doesn't, does it..?! ;-)

73 Ivor G6URP

798. Re: GB2RS NEWS Sunday 29 April 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-01 20:29:16 UTC
From: carol mcgee <carolmcgee2@ntlworld.com>
Message-ID: <v5NZh.2802$H4.492a@newsfe2-gui.ntli.net>
Source record: 4603
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur

"Jim GM4DHJ" <jim.gm4dhj@ntlworld.com> wrote in message
news:iTpZh.954$o42.846@newsfe3-win.ntli.net...
>
> "Jim GM4DHJ" <jim.gm4dhj@ntlworld.com> wrote in message
> news:mMoZh.5505$en5.551@newsfe6-win.ntli.net...
>>
>>>
>>> 2 The Renfrew Amateur Radio Society has received a #3000 award from the
>>> All Scotland National Lottery Grant. They are planning to buy two new
>>> HF transceivers and two aerials for their special event day, the 100
>>> year scout celebration, Scotland. It is due to take place between 25
>>> and 27 May.
>>

Fantastic news it's great to see a radio club receiving some well deserved
funds. They deserve it just as much as any other organisation. I may pop
along at the end of May!.....and show them how to use their
new radios.:0).....I know they'll be reading this.
Carol
Carol

799. Kachina 505DSP equivalents

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-02 03:49:12 UTC
From: RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net>
Message-ID: <1178073028.447948.259450@h2g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4604

It's becoming evident that the housing market here is going to force me into a remote HF site for serious contesting and DXing.

What are the current equivalents for the Kachina 505-style rigs? The Flexradio 5000C is intriguing but doesn't seem optimized for remote site use, and the new Ten Tec seems "toy-like". Any other choices?

73 & TIA, RDW

800. Re: Project suggestions?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-02 15:06:27 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1178118232.835289.308800@h2g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4605

On May 1, 12:12 am, RDWeaver <weaver5...@mypacks.net> wrote:

>
> Any of you done any designs with this, or have any non-proprietary app
> notes for this device?
>

Much more than a "learning" project, but have a look at PICASTAR by
G3XJP.

73, de Hans, K0HB

801. Re: Kachina 505DSP equivalents

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-02 17:52:55 UTC
From: an old freind <konstans@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <1178127100.093143.310220@n59g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4606

On May 1, 11:49 pm, RDWeaver <weaver5...@mypacks.net> wrote:
> It's becoming evident that the housing market here is going to force
> me into a remote HF site for serious contesting and DXing.
>
> What are the current equivalents for the Kachina 505-style rigs? The
> Flexradio 5000C is intriguing but doesn't seem optimized for remote
> site use, and the new Ten Tec seems "toy-like". Any other choices?
>
> 73 & TIA, RDW

well not tried it out but the kenwood 2000 and skycomand might be an
option for you

802. Re: Kachina 505DSP equivalents

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-02 19:23:59 UTC
From: RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net>
Message-ID: <1178133107.918727.172350@l77g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4607

On May 2, 5:52 pm, an old freind <konst...@hotmail.com> wrote:

>
> the kenwood 2000 and skycomand might be an
> option for you
>

Control via an HT is a major kludge at best, probably pasted on for
marketing reasons

first> You'd have to be in simplex range. I'm exploring the idea of
putting the HF station about 40 miles distant at a friends place in
the Cascades.

second> Anyone with a compatible HT could hack your control link and
hijack your station.

third> Can you imagine operating in the CQWW contest over an HT
without an interface to your contesting software.

But the PICASTAR that someone mentioned in another thread could fill
the bill if it weren't a roll-ur-own (love to do it, but I don't
have //THAT\\ much time available!)

73, RDW

803. Re: Kachina 505DSP equivalents

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-02 19:52:09 UTC
From: KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <1178134948.728939.134410@y5g2000hsa.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4608

On May 1, 10:49 pm, RDWeaver <weaver5...@mypacks.net> wrote:
> Any other choices?
>

I would think that just about any of the offerings that are remote control capable would be about the same. If you can hook up a computer to it and control the rig it will do.

Folks may argue this rig or that is better but I would propose that it's getting hard to buy junk, if you are buying new. Most of the current manufacturers really don't produce junk, at least when you compare them to other makers rigs in the same price range. (individual experiences will vary.)

Building a remote station like this is going to be a complex task and the Rig you choose is but a small part. It can be successfully done, of course, but this is going to be time consuming and expensive if you don't already have what you need (or know how to build it.) I look forward to hearing how this works out for you because I live in a house blessed with very restrictive CC&Rs, and I'm thinking about this very thing. Only my remote station would likely be in a totally different state... :)

-= bob =-

804. Re: Kachina 505DSP equivalents

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-02 21:48:56 UTC
From: k8mn@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1178142514.791052.239960@y80g2000hsf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4609

On May 2, 3:49 am, RDWeaver <weaver5...@mypacks.net> wrote:
> It's becoming evident that the housing market here is going to force
> me into a remote HF site for serious contesting and DXing.
>
> What are the current equivalents for the Kachina 505-style rigs? The
> Flexradio 5000C is intriguing but doesn't seem optimized for remote
> site use, and the new Ten Tec seems "toy-like". Any other choices?

Either the TT Orion or Orion II might make good candidates. N4PY has
software which might turn the trick.

Dave K8MN

805. Re: Kachina 505DSP equivalents

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-02 23:18:26 UTC
From: RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net>
Message-ID: <1178143015.597052.85330@o5g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4610

On May 2, 7:52 pm, KC4UAI <kc4...@gmail.com> wrote:

>
> I would think that just about any of the offerings that are remote
> control capable would be about the same. If you can hook up a
> computer to it and control the rig it will do.
>

If your needs revolve around casual ragchewing you're probably right.
Heck, my old 1970's Heath SS-9000 might work in that sort of
application.

But those "about the same" mass-market radios wouldn't cut it in a
competitive contesting environment, even if someone is at the front to
ride herd on the hardware controls.

73, RDW

806. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-03 01:52:13 UTC
From: stevenrobeson@yahoo.com
Message-ID: <1178154881.285586.52710@n59g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4611

On Apr 26, 5:49?am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:

> Looking back over the past decade or so, I see the following trends:
>
> - The number of US hams grew in the early 1990s but began a slow
> decline in the late 1990s.
> - The number of US hams grew in the early 2000s (2000-2003, after the
> rules changes that went into effect in April 2000) but the growth was
> not sustained and began a slow decline in the mid-2003
> - The recent changes (Feb 2007) appear to have stopped the decline in
> the short term.
> - Both the 2000 and 2007 rules changes had the effect of a far greater
> number of existing hams upgrading than new hams joining.

Was there really any expectation to the contrary, Jim?

There's not been ten cents worth of promotion of the new
licenure requirements in the non-Amateur press, ie: Pop Science, Pop
Mechanics, etc etc etc...

WE know all albout the changes...No one else does, and even if
the ARRL, CQ, W5YI, etc started the full court press I seriously doubt
we'd see more than that same brief surge as you noteed above....Oh, to
be sure there's going to be a handful of the 11 meter DX crowd that
decides to "go legal", but that's still a very samll percentage.

Nope...I think we're getting all the "influx" now that we will.
I've said it before and here it is again...Amateur Radio does NOT need
"big numbers"...We need to have QUALITY licensees...That means solid
skills and a NON-COMPROMISED question pool like we have today.

73

Steve, K4YZ

807. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-03 03:35:56 UTC
From: stevenrobeson@yahoo.com
Message-ID: <1178157483.553066.296800@q75g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4612

On Apr 21, 12:20 am, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
> groupk...@earthlink.net wrote on Fri, 20 Apr 2007 18:00:34 EDT:
>
> >Are we in danger of being the last generation of hams?
>
> I'd say no. At my test session of 25 Feb 07 there were at
> least two teen-agers applying for an amateur radio license.
> Given that I was born before the FCC was created, the "last"
> generation would be at least three before me... :-)

Perhaps "last era" of Amateurs may have been more appropriate and
descriptive.

> >(And if we are, what can we do to eliminate that danger?)
>
> What "danger?" I see none. But more on that later.
>
> >First, a disclaimer. I'm into my fifth decade of being a licensed
> >amateur, and figure I'm good for 3 or 4 more sunspot cycles of fun. I
> >love amateur radio.
>
> Well, I've been a licensed commercial radio operator since
> 1956 and a licensed radio amateur since 2007. It has, in
> between getting a whole new station set up, been fun.

But has been, nonetheless, NOT Amateur related. Trying to
parallel Amaeur and Commerical HF radio operation is the proverbial
Apples-vs-Oranges argument. No doubt your commercial experience was
rewarding on it's own level.

> >Our service will only continue to exist so long as the majority of the
> >worlds national governments believe that we bring value to the public
> >in exchange for the incredibly valuable RF spectrum that is entrusted
> >to our use.
>
> I would suggest rewording that to say "bring value to the
> citizens [of various nations] in terms of their enjoyment
> and well-being" or something like that. I don't see that an
> "exchange" of anything is necessary or warranted.

But that "exchage" is exactly what's infered, albeit not
mandatory in PART 97.

> Pulling out the Red Book (NTIA) or the big chart in Part 2,
> Title 47 C.F.R. on which radio service gets what in the EM
> spectrum, we can find some items for USA citizens that

> appear to have no intrinsic value whatsoever:
>
> 1. 30 KHz bandspace absolutely license free at 160 - 190 KHz.
> Been there a long time in regulations, sees little use.
>
> 2. 400 KHz bandspace for CB (40 channels at "11m") for nothing
> but Personal Communications. No license required. He
avily
> used on highways, all states.
>
> 3. 1.6 MHz (!) bandspace at 72 to 73, 75.4 to 76 MHz, 80
> channels for nothing but model air and surface radio
> control. No license required. A very fun hobby.
>
> 4. There's more, also regulated by Part 95, Title 47 C.F.R.,
> such as Family Radio Service unlicensed transceivers, but
> you get the picture, I'm sure.
>
> 5. I'm not even counting the RF emitters of very short range
> such as the Keyless Auto Entry transmitters (millions) or
> the Bluetooth earpieces (look, ma, no wires to my cellphon
e),
> the tens of thousands of Wireless LANs that have invaded
> residences, the "WiFi" links of Internet to PCs, or other
> RF emitters that make our lives easier now, replacing hard
> wired or mechanical functions done previously.
>
> All of the above services to citizens which could be categorized
> as "unessential" services since they don't immediately secure
> their absolute safety or insure their well-being. The above are
> available in nearly all countries although their authorized
> frequencies may vary due to their adminstrations' regulations.
> Items (2) through (5) came into being within the last two decades
> or so.
>
> The model radio control bandspace is only 100 KHz narrower than
> the worldwide 10m amateur band. Model radio control is pure
> hobby-amusement and no modeler (that I've heard/seen) makes any
> claims of supplanting vehicles in case of disaster or emergency,
> nor is that hobby claimed to be a starting point for any
> life-long career in using/designing vehicles, boats, or
> aircraft.

All of those allocations you cite are NOT Amateur Radio
allocations albeit they are deceidedly in the public interest to exist
since the public deamnds it.

How is this related to the longevity of the AMATEUR Service?

> >I think if the members of ITU collectively asked "Are the hams of the
> >world doing anything which justifies their generous chunks assigned

> >spectrum?" the honest answer would be "Probably not."
>
> I will ask "which chunks in what spectrum?" Hams of the HF
> persuasion are one group, the "VHF-ers" (and up) are the other.
> HF has been relatively static in change for at least two
> decades, and decreased prior to that with many communications
> services formerly on HF migrating to satellite relay.

I'd say by the international press covering numerous uses of the
Amateur services recently that you're both incorrect.

Also, the the communications that Len refers to as "migrating to
satellite relay" are, once again, NOT Amateur Radio functions.

Snippage.

> >What are we going to do about that?
>
> Speaking from 54 years from my first HF radio experience to
> becoming a new amateur nearly two months ago and observing
> EM spectrum use while working in industry in all the time
> in between, I would say "don't take yourselves so seriously
> within your radio service!" Amateur radio is a hobby, a fun
> hobby. If other countries' hobbyists can enjoy some chunks
> of EM spectrum just for hobbyist fun, then why can't the USA?

For many people Amateur Radio is a hobby.

For others it is a tool to be used for a greater need.

The wide brush applying "hobby" does not fit.

> As to this whole claim of being a backup communications
> provider when the infrasture fails in disasters, I have to
> say show me in a detailed report where it was essential.

The Midwest Floods of 1992. Katrina. Rita. Andrew. Spetember
11th. At least accoriding to the NOAA, The American Red Cross, The
Salvation Army, The Department of Defense, The Department of State,
etc etc etc.

> Having been required to design electronics for terrible
> environments, I know that amateur radio equipment isn't
> going to survive better than the infrastructures' gear.
> [see May QST for one piece of equipment that didn't survive
> Katrina...lost with one amateur's entire station]

ONE Amateur's...Amateur Radio's greatest strength is in its
multiplicty of resources...Every licensee is yet another "facility"
from which to draw upon. No one piece of radio gear is
indestructable.

The COMMERICAL infrastructure's weakness is it's limitied
numbers, complexity of technology and it's cost. AMATEUR Radio's

strengths are just the opposite.

> The Public Safety Radio Services have their radios now and
> use them every day. NOAA has its weather observation
> services plus satellite downlinks.

Funny you mention the NOAA. One of thier "Enviromental Heros"
this past Earth Day was an Amateur licensee (KC5EZZ), and he was
recognized specificallly for his contributions to NOAA with an
extended Amateur Radio net.

> Harbor and inland
> waterways have their radio services and plans for
> emergencies there. The FAA routinely handles aircraft
> emergencies every week with the aid of radio. Believe it
> or not, the telephony infrastructure can come back to life
> when its subscribers stop all trying to use their
> switching system all at once; they've had battery backup in
> central offices for more than half a century. Truckers
> daily help fellow motorists on highways, sometimes alerted
> over their CBs. Yes, amateur radio CAN be a help in
> emergencies just as ALL citizens can be a help, with or
> without any license for anything.
>
> There hasn't been any need for trained morse code operators
> for over a decade for any WWII-era "pool" to help the
> nation. With anything in radio. The miliaries do adequate
> training of their members, government radio with theirs.
> I'd say the salient feature of amateur radio is its ability
> to introduce newcomers to a fascinating technologically-
> heavy activity...somethine they can have fun with while
> learning. For youngsters it MIGHT be a starting point for
> their eventual working careers. For adults and older folks
> it can be just fun in itself. There's seemingly some
> puritanical echoes in the general repeated "reasons" for
> being IN amateur radio...those leave out the FUN element.
> I see that as a liability to ham radio promotion,
> diametrically opposite to being an asset. Is having fun
> so terrible? Especially having fun while learning a new
> technology (for newcomers) or new application (for those
> already experienced)?

Perhaps after you've joined some local Amateur clubs and actually
get an opportunity to exercise the privileges of your newly acquired
license your scope of experience as to what Amateur Radio is, can be,
and has been will be enhanced.

> Recreation IS, to my mind, an asset for all.

It is.

But no where in Part 97 is the word "recreation" used.

That the Amateur Service does provide recreation is a given. But some continue to insist that "recreation" or "hobby use" is ALL that the Amateur Service is required to provide.

Almost 100 years of history has proven differently and even in today's techno-saavy society continues to be so.

> It diverts
> our stresses from making a living, eases tensions, makes
> a life experience more enjoyable. If that recreation can
> also increase individuals' intellectual capacity, I say "so
> much the better!" Maybe I'm biased having been IN the
> electronics industry so long (sans 'benefit' of ham
> license) and maybe because I happen to like the fascinating
> technology enough that I liked most of my work. It has
> been a great, stimulating trip for me and it is still
> happening. It could be for others, too, those who look
> forward instead of backward to what was, a was that will
> never be again.

There's still plenty of time for you to expand the scope of your HF experience, Len. Drop kick that "commercial operator" mode and re-focus on AMATEUR applications for a while! You'll enjoy it!

73

Steve, K4YZ

808. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-03 03:36:41 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1178158867.327229.166380@y80g2000hsf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4613

On May 2, 9:52 pm, stevenrobe...@yahoo.com wrote:
> On Apr 26, 5:49?am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>
> > Looking back over the past decade or so, I see the following trends:
>
> > - The number of US hams grew in the early 1990s but began a slow
> > decline in the late 1990s.
> > - The number of US hams grew in the early 2000s (2000-2003, after the
> > rules changes that went into effect in April 2000) but the growth was
> > not sustained and began a slow decline in the mid-2003
> > - The recent changes (Feb 2007) appear to have stopped the decline in
> > the short term.
> > - Both the 2000 and 2007 rules changes had the effect of a far greater
> > number of existing hams upgrading than new hams joining.
>
> Was there really any expectation to the contrary, Jim?

One of the reasons given by those proposing the changes was to insure
the growth and survival of amateur radio in the 21st century.
>
> There's not been ten cents worth of promotion of the new
> licenure requirements in the non-Amateur press, ie: Pop Science, Pop
> Mechanics, etc etc etc...

Do those mags even exist anymore? What's their circulation?

> WE know all albout the changes...No one else does, and even if
> the ARRL, CQ, W5YI, etc started the full court press I seriously doubt
> we'd see more than that same brief surge as you noteed above....Oh, to
> be sure there's going to be a handful of the 11 meter DX crowd that
> decides to "go legal", but that's still a very samll percentage.

So how do we get the word out?

> Nope...I think we're getting all the "influx" now that we will.
> I've said it before and here it is again...Amateur Radio does NOT need
> "big numbers"...We need to have QUALITY licensees..

Why can't we have both?

> That means solid
> skills and a NON-COMPROMISED question pool like we have today.
>
I'm not sure what you mean by "non-compromised".

If it means a secret test, forget it. The only way we'd ever get secret tests again would be for FCC to take over the process, and they're just not going to do that.

And even if FCC could somehow be convinced to take over the whole test preparation and administration process, somebody could just repeat Dick Bash's tricks of 30+ years ago, and the tests wouldn't stay secret.

The one thing that *can* be done is to make the pools so big that it's easier to learn the material than to learn the test.
Anyone can submit questions to the QPC.

73 de Jim, N2EY.

809. Re: Kachina 505DSP equivalents

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-03 17:02:42 UTC
From: KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <1178211455.603279.259960@y80g2000hsf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4614

On May 2, 6:18 pm, RDWeaver <weaver5...@mypacks.net> wrote:
> But those "about the same" mass-market radios wouldn't cut it in a
> competitive contesting environment, even if someone is at the front to
> ride herd on the hardware controls.
>

Well, if you are into contesting and chasing DX and cannot compromise features, then you are surely going to have to buy the most automated radio you can find and spend a lot of money in the process..

I'd look at the top of the line radios from all the manufactures.. TenTec, Icom, Yaesu, Kenwood etc, and pick the radio that has the most features that you can control from a computer and the best automation software available. You may even need to consider moving to separate receiver/transmitter boxes to get the best receiver performance possible. (Which may put you into the commercial equipment world for receivers and a whole new price class.)

Eventually, the software defined radios (like Flexradio's) may become viable for this purpose, but at last glance they still had sub-par performance compared to the same priced radios in the market, although the automation would be much better. I'd give them a few years more and I'll bet they are going to be very competitive in price and performance and take the likes of the Icom 7800 for a ride unless the major manufacturers step it up.

But that is just the receiver/transmitter equipment of a remote station... There is a LOT more stuff to consider..... Towers, antennas, amps, coax switches, tuners, computers, rotors, transmitter fail safe devices, remote connectivity, security and electrical power come off the top of my head. The radio may be only a small part of the total cost here if you are doing a remote located serious contest station... Big bucks... It might be cheaper to just move.. :)

-= bob =-

810. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-03 19:01:27 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1178216566.257878.318200@n76g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4615

N...@AOL.COM wrote on Wed, 2 May 2007 23:36:41 EDT

>On May 2, 9:52?pm, stevenrobe...@yahoo.com wrote:
>> On Apr 26, 5:49?am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:

>> There's not been ten cents worth of promotion of the new
>> licenure requirements in the non-Amateur press, ie: Pop Science, Pop
>> Mechanics, etc etc etc...
>
>Do those mags even exist anymore? What's their circulation?

Popular Science and Popular Mechanics are both newsstand
periodicals and my barber and my dentist include those in their
waiting area. :-) By scan of their contents, both seem to cover
whatever high-tech is "in" regarding all of science and technology.

At one time in the 1940s and 1950s, Popular Science did have
a few hobby projects concerning radio and home music systems
(of their day), none of them more complicated than using one to
three vacuum tubes. The largest such article that I recall was a
multi-part construction article of a (then) wideband (10 MHz or so)
oscilloscope authored by John Wood Campbell, then Editor in
Chief of Astounding Science Fiction magazine (later "Analog").

>> Nope...I think we're getting all the "influx" now that we will.
>> I've said it before and here it is again...Amateur Radio does NOT need
>> "big numbers"...We need to have QUALITY licensees..
>
>Why can't we have both?

What defines "quality?" That is a popular descriptor yet is not
defined
fully by any of its users.

All who are licensed in a particular radio service should obey the
applicable laws concerning that radio service. As to what they
do within that radio service should be up to the individual. The FCC
gives all licensed U.S. radio amateurs quite a bit of freedom to do
what the individual wants to do. As such, the "quality" aspect would
seem largely subjective on the part of whoever uses that word.

>And even if FCC could somehow be convinced to take over the whole test
>preparation and administration process, somebody could just repeat
>Dick Bash's tricks of 30+ years ago, and the tests wouldn't stay
>secret.

That's a presumption that Mr. Bash was the only one to do "tricks." It belies the hard-cover "Q and A" books that were available as far back as the 1950s. Those "Q and A" books were available on all current classes of FCC tests and a number of state licensing tests for various state licenses.

Point of personal history: I tried to get one for the FCC Commercial license test in 1956, but local bookstores did not have them available. I borrowed the (then format) FCC Regulations loose-leaf binder and memorized as much as possible of the entire set as applied to all. There were fewer radio services then than 51 years later.

>The one thing that *can* be done is to make the pools so big that it's >easier to learn the material than to learn the test.

A popular presumption is that all "just memorize the questions and answers" prior to a test. That is difficult to prove since each applicant's efforts are unique to the individual. Certainly certain regulations must be memorized. However the questions regarding theory and operation depend on the experience and previous knowledge of each individual.

As to the actual number of questions-answers in the pools, the following are hand counts of all three current question pools from a print-out of them made prior to my 25 February 2007 exam:

Technician: 35 questions, Minimum required in pool 350, Actual number in pool 392. Ratio of pool to test questions = 11.20:1

General: 35 questions, Minimum required in pool 350, Actual number in pool 485. Ratio of pool to test questions = 13.86:1

Extra: 50 questions, Minimum required in pool 500, Actual number in pool 802. Ratio of pool to test questions = 16.04:1

All three classes: 120 questions total, Minimum required (total) 1200, Actual number in pool 1679. Ratio of pools to test questions 13.99:1 average.

Note: The above is not a scientific study and the actual count may be
off by a few questions. As it is now (General will change in mid-2007),
the actual pool question quantity is over the minimum regulatory number of ten pool choices per required test question, all classes.

I have been suggesting elsewhere (for several years) that a "cure" for
the presumption that all "just memorize the pool to pass" is to increase the QP size. Very few commented on that elsewhere.
I don't personally believe in that presumption yet it is frequently stated by others elsewhere.

To some degree the increase in QP size that has already been done by the NCVEC Question Pool Committee. Having had a recent exposure to all three class pools in a test environment, I would judge
that the NCVEC QPC has done a good job overall for the current QPs. In review, post-test, I would say that the NCVEC QPC has introduced enough 'distractor' questions to make an applicant pay closer attention to both questions and choice of answers.

Considering the present-day scope of possible activity by licensed radio amateurs in the U.S., the type and kind of questions in a NCVEC QP can have a large variety. Part 97 Title 47 CFR gives licensees that variety. The choice of which questions to include can be difficult under such a situation...especially so when there is random choice of which questions to include within a specific type and kind on any exam.

>Anyone can submit questions to the QPC.

Their website is at www.ncvec.org

73, Len AF6AY

811. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-03 20:52:51 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1178225556.286792.259010@h2g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4616

>From: stevenrobeson@yahoo.com wrote on Wed 2 May 2007 23:35:

On Apr 21, 12:20?am, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:

> There's still plenty of time for you to expand the scope of your
>HF experience, Len. Drop kick that "commercial operator" mode and re-
>focus on AMATEUR applications for a while! You'll enjoy it!

I will politiely ask you to rephrase that paragraph.

I cannot "drop kick" my previous life experience. In granting me
an Amateur Extra license, the FCC has not required that I give up
anything (as in discarding or "drop kicking") insofar as radio...nor
of experience in radio nor of formal training in radio. Further, the
FCC gives all licensees a great deal of freedom of choice in their
class's frequency spectrum and modes of communications. There
is no compelling mandate that any licensee must 'operate' in
according to what certain groups of amateurs say one must.

"Radio" and all of electronics works by the same laws of physics,
regardless of the federal regulations on use made by governments.
The jargon, phrases, type of communication conveyed may vary
between different administrated radio services, but the basic laws
of physics will still apply on RF generation and the way it is
propagated.

The scope, content of my personal activities are of no one's concern,
nor should they be. If I choose to convey my gained experience and
knowledge into amateur radio, that is my concern. Such might help
others with lesser experience and knowledge, not hinder anything.
I don't choose to isolate myself solely into some amateur lifestyle
and there is no specific requirement as to what I 'should' or 'must'
do as an amateur radio licensee other than obey the regulations.

In all electronic communications, telegraphy was first a commercial
activity, wired and by radio later. Single-channel single sideband
was first a commercial activity, first wired (in long-lines service
as
frequency-multiplexed multiple voice channels) then by radio..
Voice communications was first a commercial activity (via
broadcasting, first on AM then on FM). Data communications by
radio was first a commercial activity, wired then by radio (although
called 'teleprinter' before the word 'data' became the vogue). Tele-
vision was first a commercial activity, again via broadcasting. The
various TORs (Teleprinter Over Radio) were all a commercial activity
first. Both direct sequence and frequency-hopping spread spectrum

techniques were first a military, then a commercial activity. All of those have since been adopted for amateur radio use. To "drop kick" the commercial modes would be to remove all modes of communications available to U.S. radio amateurs today...except PSK31, a data mode exclusively innovated-invented-designed by Peter Martinez, G3PLX, solely for amateur radio use.

73, Len AF6AY

812. Re: Kachina 505DSP equivalents

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-04 00:42:52 UTC
From: RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net>
Message-ID: <1178239057.258101.278760@h2g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4617

On May 3, 5:02 pm, KC4UAI <kc4...@gmail.com> wrote:

> But that is just the receiver/transmitter equipment of a remote
> station... There is a LOT more stuff to consider..... Towers,
> antennas, amps, coax switches, tuners, computers, rotors, transmitter
> fail safe devices, remote connectivity, security and electrical power
> come off the top of my head. The radio may be only a small part of the
> total cost here if you are doing a remote located serious contest
> station... Big bucks... It might be cheaper to just move.. :)
>

Without belaboring the obvious, you're correct.

The "cheaper just to move" isn't an option. I am embarking on a second career after serving in the military for 27 years, and the 'perfect position' I've landed in civilian life dictates a general locale for my residence. It is unlikely that I'll find enough real estate to build a good station in that locale, so a remote base style of operation is required if I'm to re-enter my first love in radio, top-ten class contesting and serious DX'ing. I have a good friend on rural acerage in the Cascades who will 'lease' me a fairly large climate controlled space in his basement for a station and will consent to up to four towers to be erected 'in the woods' on the back of his property.

Budget (non-recurring cost) to build this remote station is $37,500 which includes some PE engineering assistance. Space/antenna-farm acerage lease cost $1,000/yr, and low-latency broadband dedicated control link cost TBD.

73, RDW

813. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-04 11:22:32 UTC
From: KH6HZ <kh6hzA@Tarrl.net>
Message-ID: <OXD_h.20262$ZD3.16784@newsfe01.lga>
Source record: 4618

<stevenrobeson@yahoo.com> wrote:

> Nope...I think we're getting all the "influx" now that we will.

The decline in licensing continues unabated.

With the exception of a minor uptick in October '06, the number of licensed amateurs has been in decline since '03
.
Feb 07: 655,477. Mar 07: 655,048 Apr 07: 654,940

Where are the "hoards of technically savvy" people in the wings "just waiting for the code requirement to disappear"?

> I've said it before and here it is again...Amateur Radio does NOT need
> "big numbers"...We need to have QUALITY licensees...That means solid
> skills and a NON-COMPROMISED question pool like we have today.

Exactly. History has proven time and time again that quality, not quantity, is the solution to most problems.

73
kh6hz

814. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1551 - May 4, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-04 18:47:30 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <E1Hk2Am-0004ar-Sx@elasmtp-junco.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 4619
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1551 - May 4, 2007

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1551 with a
release date of Friday, May 4th, 2007 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. The ARRL backs away
from Regulation by Bandwidth but says that it
will be back. Also, researchers say that the
next solar cycle is late and so will be the High
Frequency D-X. Find out the details on Amateur
Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1551 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**
RESTRUCTURING: ARRL RECALLS REGULATION BY BANDWIDTH PETITION

The ARRL has requested that the FCC permit it to
withdraw its "Regulation by Bandwidth" petition
known at the Commission as RM-11306. The ARRL
says it wants time to reassess and re-file but
those who oppose the concept are calling it a
victory over what they see as a misguided attempt
to change the service. Amateur Radio Newsline's
Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, is here with the rest of the story:

--

The bloggers are having a field day. They claim
that they are the ones who forced the ARRL to
withdraw its November 2005 Petition for Rule
Making. One calling on the FCC to establish a
regulatory system that would have done away with
traditional by-mode subbands and brought about a
new regulatory scheme based on the bandwidth of a given signal.

Whether or not it was the web log writers had
anything at all to do with the ARRL decision to
abandon the measure the FCC dubbed as RM-11306
will be forever open to debate. The real
deciding factor was likely the 1000+ comments
filed with the FCC, the majority of which opposed
the idea. And rather than face the possibility
of a wrenching political defeat, the League
wisely chose to walk away from this initial
attempt but has left the door open to try again at some later date.

So what was so wrong with RM-11306? That really depends on where your interest in Amateur Radio lies? For the average ham in the street it really meant nothing more than doing away with the concept of subbands and instituting handshake agreements as to whom would operate where. No longer would there be the traditional band segments dedicated to a given mode or modes like CW and SSB. Instead, anyone could operate anywhere as long as his or her signal did not exceed a specific bandwidth for a particular spectral parcel. This meant that in a given band one might see a legacy mode such as SSB mixed with all sorts of emerging digital modes that have yet to be devised. This change in itself was one that a lot of folks seemed to have a problem understanding or simply opposed because they oppose any sort of change.

Another point of contention was automated digital messaging. Amateurs involved in emergency communications say that this is a must if the hobby is to maintain its status as a support organization to first responders. But opponents fear that permitting unattended operation by more and more automated stations would lead to a massive interference problem all across the High Frequency bands. Whether or not this would have happened can only be theorized on because the ARRL has asked that RM-11306 be withdrawn from consideration from the FCC's agenda and it likely will be if the regulatory agency has not done so already.

In the end, if one looks as the comments filed on this matter with the FCC, one realizes that there are really two schools of thought expressed. A small contingent says that ham radio must march forward into the age of digital communications at all costs. A much larger group appears to wants to maintain the status quo or initiate any change at what can best be described as a snails pace. In the end it looks as if the ARRL leadership after reading the comments from the ham community concluded that RM-11306 simply did not have the support from the ham radio community to make it a viable plan even if the FCC issued a Report and Order agreeing worth it. So it decided to take a step back, reassess what is needed and to try again at some later date. And in its statement withdrawing RM-11306, that's exactly what it has done.

How soon will the ARRL re-file? Only the League knows the answer to that one. But one thing is certain. Whether it's the ARRL some other group or the FCC itself leads the way, the road to regulation by bandwidth is one that the ham radio community is going to have to travel one of these days. The only real question is how soon.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in Los Angeles.

--

By the way, now that the ARRL has decided to withdraw RM-11306, we have decided to close down our web based straw poll as to how many folks are for or against the concept of Regulation by Bandwidth. When we took the poll off line on April 30th, 1138 of you had taken the time to cast your vote. Of these, 694 or 61% favor a shift to Regulation by Bandwidth while 395 or 34.7% oppose the idea. Another 49 or 4.3% responded by noting that you had no idea as to what Regulation by Bandwidth is really all about. (ARNewsline(tm), others)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: KD5PLB TALKS TO SCHOOL KIDS IN GERMANY

Saturday, April 28th is a day that students at the Samuel von Pufendorf School in Floeha, Germany, will long remember. Gathered in the gymnasium, they were there to hear a voice from space. And they would not be disappointed as the voice of astronaut Suni Williams, KD5PLB, operating as NA1SS from the International Space Station rang forth from the speakers:

--

Williams audio - hear it in the MP3 version of this weeks newscast downloadable at www.arnewsline.org

--

As soon as two way contact was established, Williams went to work answering questions posed by students at the school. Here is an edited sample of her responses as supplied by PA2RPJ and PD0RKC with the first questioner interested in knowing whether she watches satellite T-V:

--

Williams audio - hear it in the MP3 version of this weeks newscast downloadable at www.arnewsline.org

--

Soon the questions became a lot more technical
and so did the answers. Here KD5PLB describes
what its like to watch lightning storms on Earth
from her vantage point in space:

--

Williams audio - hear it in the MP3 version of
this weeks newscast downloadable at www.arnewsline.org

--

And it was also a pretty dynamic event for the
students at the Samuel von Pufendorf School to
get to talk to Suni Williams flying overhead on
the I-S-S. One that they are not likely to
forget. (ARNewsline(tm), ARISS with audio by PA2RPJ and PD0RKC)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: SATGATE CLOSES DO TO LACK OF USE

AMSAT's Satgate is going away. After many years
of packet message forwarding via UO-22, GO-32 and
AO-51 the Satgate System will close due to a lack of traffic being handled.

Using Satgate, traffic was automatically accepted
from the terrestrial packet networks and routed
to the satellites. It was then downloaded from
the satellite and routed into another packet
network untouched by human hands.

A total of thirty five worldwide stations were in
the system a few years ago. This has dwindled
due to this lack of traffic, maintenance
problems, change of location of command stations
and users who have become Silent Keys.

Another reason for its going away was not
stated. That being packet messaging being
replaced by electronic mail over the
Internet. That lead to a major loss of interest
in traditional packet by the worlds ham community
with the lone exception of A-P-R-S. More ham
radio space related items later on in this weeks
Amateur Radio Newsline report. (ARNewsline(tm), ANS ,W0SL)

**

Break 1

Celebrating 30 years of service to the world-wide
ham radio community. From the United States of
America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard

on bulletin stations around the world including
the N7CCD repeater serving Seattle, Washington.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RADIO SCIENCE: RESEARCHERS SAY SOLAR MAX DELAYED A YEAR

Good D-X may have to wait a little while
longer. This is because the next 11-year cycle
will most likely not start next March and peak in
late 2011 or mid-2012. This according to a
forecast issued by the NOAA Space Environment
Center in coordination with an international
panel of solar experts all of whom agree that the
cycle will begin up to a year later than
expected. Amateur Radio Newsline's Evi Simons reports:

--

If you have been waiting for improved D X
conditions on the High Frequency bands, you are
going to have to be patient a bit longer. So
says the NOAA Space Environment Center which led
a prediction panel that issued the forecast at
its annual Space Weather Workshop in Boulder, Colorado.

Expected to start last fall, the delayed onset of
Solar Cycle 24 has stymied the panel. It also
left them evenly split on whether a weak or
strong period of solar storms lies ahead, but
neither group predicts a record-breaker.

One disagreement among the current panel members
centers on the importance of magnetic fields
around the sun's poles as the previous cycle
decays. End-cycle polar fields are the bedrock of
the approach predicting a weak Cycle 24. The
strong-cycle forecasters place more importance on
other precursors extending over a several-cycle
history. Another clue will be whether Cycle 24
sunspots appear by mid 2008. If not, the
strong-cycle group might change its forecast.

In the cycle forecast issued Wednesday, April
25th, half of the panel predicts a moderately
strong cycle of 140 sunspots, plus or minus 20,
expected to peak in October 2011. The other half
predicts a moderately weak cycle of 90 sunspots,
plus or minus 10, peaking in August 2012. An
average solar cycle ranges from 75 to 155
sunspots. The late decline of Cycle 23 has helped

shift the panel away from its earlier leaning
toward a strong Cycle 24. Now the group is
evenly split between strong and weak.

The first year after solar minimum, marking the
end of Cycle 23, will provide the information
scientists need to arrive at a consensus. NOAA
and the panel decided to issue their best
estimate now and update the forecast as the cycle
progresses, since NOAA Space Environment Center
customers have been requesting this forecast for more than a year.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Evi Simons, in New York.

--

Scientists have issued solar cycle predictions
only twice before. In 1989, a panel met to
predict Cycle 22, which peaked that same year.
Scientists met again in September of 1996 to
predict Cycle 23 -- six months after the cycle
had begun. Both groups did better at predicting timing than intensity.
(NOAA)

**

RESCUE RADIO: CONGRESS COULD DESIGNATE BROADCASTERS AS FIRST RESPONDERS

U-S Senator Mary Landrieu, of Louisiana says that
she and a colleague plan to introduce
congressional legislation that would recognize
the role of local broadcasters in responding to
disasters on a federal level. Co-sponsored by
Senator Ted Stevens of Alaska, the First Response
Broadcasters Act of 2007 would designate
broadcasters as first responders, and as such,
entitled to federal supplies of "fuel, water and
emergency supplies so that they can remain in
operation in or near a disaster zone. The
Landrieu-Stevens legislation would also direct
FEMA to expedite access to the disaster area by
broadcast engineers to restore transmitters and
other key facilities of a broadcasters
infrastructure. The bill establishes a $10
million Broadcast Disaster Preparedness Matching
Grant Program that could be used to protect,
upgrade or enhance facilities. (RW)

**

RESCUE RADIO: NEW EMCOMMS DATABASE BEING DEVELOPED IN LOS ANGELES

A University of California at Los Angeles center is developing an online database and mapping system for first responders. This, to better address the needs of Los Angeles County's vulnerable populations in the event of a disaster.

The Center for Neighborhood Knowledge at the UCLA School of Public Affairs is using a 500,000 dollar endowment from the state Homeland Security Grants Program to develop the database. It along with maps are being designed for use by the Los Angeles County Office of Emergency Management.

The information will also be used the Los Angeles Mayor's Office, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Los Angeles Police Department, and city and county fire departments. No word if the database will be available to volunteer agencies that utilize radio amateurs as primary communications. (CGC, others)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC SAYS THAT'S NO WAY TO RUN A REPEATER

Turning to enforcement news, the FCC has written to John C. Kimbrough, WR3S, of Murfeesborough, Tennessee, asking why has repeaters operated without apparent control and rebroadcast portions of commercial television programming and music on several dates in March of this year. The FCC told WR3S that this contrary to the FCC Part 97 rules. It also noted that its monitoring found that repeater control operators were failing to properly identify themselves.

The letter to Kimbrough goes on to note that the Commission requires that repeater be under the supervision of a control operator. Also, that it both requires and expects control operators to take whatever steps are necessary to insure that the repeater is in fill compliance with all FCC rules.

WR3S was given 30 days from the date of the FCC's April 12th letter to provide detailed answers to a list of questions asked by the FCC. He was also told that the information he submits will determine what additional action, if any will be taken in this matter by the FCC. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC CANCELS HARTMANN JR ALJ HEARING AND DENIES APPLICATION

The FCC has told a hard to locate ham radio applicant that he will not get a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge and that his license application is denied. This, after Joseph W. Hartmann Jr of Lansing, Michigan, wrote to the judge assigned to the case telling him that he did not have the money to fight the agency's claims of alleged wrong doing.

For a long time the FCC could not communicate with Hartmann, Jr. Correspondence to him was returned unopened and unclaimed. Then Hartmann decided to contact the agency on his own initiative. In several electronic communications to Administrative Law Judge Arthur I. Steinberg, Hartmann Jr. stated that he did not have the resources to obtain legal counsel for a hearing nor have the resources for driving to hearing in Washington.D.C..

By way of background, the FCC had earlier designated Hartmann's license application for a hearing after noting that it had evidence suggesting that he had intentionally submitted fraudulent administrative updates to obtain the privileges associated with the General class license of another radio amateur with a similar name. That ham is Joseph V. Hartman Sr, K3GUX, of Oceanview, Delaware.

The Commission had earlier placed put Hartmann's January 2006 application for an Amateur Radio license on hold. This, while it was looking into why he'd filed numerous requests back in 2005 in attempts to change the name and address of the Delaware Hartman to that of his own.

Other than one being Hartmann Jr. and the other being Hartman Senior, there is also a difference in the spelling of the name. Joseph V. Hartman Sr, K3GUX, is spelled with only one letter "n" while Joseph W. Hartmann Jr. uses two. Its unknown if that's what caught the FCC's eye in this matter, but its likely a good guess. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: ONLY EXTRA CLASS CAN OPERATE THERE

Edib Zildzo, K2AAW, of Roselle, Illinois, has been sent a letter by the FCC. One that asks him to explain why he has been heard operating on frequencies reserved for Extra class license holders when he only holds a General class license.

In its note to Zildzo, the FCC says that it has a copy of documents submitted by him to unnamed

radio organization s where-in K2AAW claims that between February and July of 2006 that he operated at least 200 times on frequencies reserved for Extra class licensees. As such, it says that this raises questions whether or not Zildzo holds the qualifications to continue to hold an Amateur Service license.

Zildzo was asked to respond within 30 days to a series of questions regarding the operation of his station. He too was warned that future punitive action, if any, will depend on the information that he provides. (FCC)

**

ELECTRICAL SAFETY: SIGNS MIGHT HAVE SAVED STUDENTS LIFE

Purdue University says that it will update warning signs at all high-voltage areas, including the one where the body of an electrocuted freshman was found on March 23rd. The school said it will hold an independent review into the circumstances surrounding the death of 19-year-old aviation technology student Wade Steffey who had been missing since January 13th.

Under federal safety law, buildings constructed or renovated after 1981 are required to post signs on doors of rooms containing more than 600 volt circuits. Owen Hall, the dormitory where the Steffey was found was built in 1957.

According to published news reports investigators believe that Steffey probably walked into the room containing the high voltage circuitry. This, after trying several doors to enter the dormitory to retrieve a coat from a friend's room. An autopsy suggested that he died instantly when he made contact with the wiring. (Published reports)

**

INDUSTRY NEWS: ICOM IC-R3 MINI-TV RECEIVER IS AN ENDANGERED SPECIES

The Icom IC-R3, a small handheld receiver with a 2" T-F-T color display has been popular with ATV'ers involved in Emergency Communications for mobile reception of TV pictures may soon go extinct. Icom announced on April 26th that the IC-R3-26, blocked version for the United States market is currently on backorder with the delay is due to the FCC's Part 15.112 rules change.

This ruling states that all TV receivers imported
into the United States, after March 1, 2007, must
be DTV compatible. As the IC-R3 is analog only,
so it will no longer be imported for domestic
sales. When existing stocks are gone, that's all there will ever be. (CGC)

**

HAM RADIO ON THE WEB: THE DAYTON AMATEUR RADIO FORUM

Turning to ham radio on the World-Wide-Web, word
of a new on-line discussion board for hams in the
Dayton Ohio area. Its called the Dayton Amateur
Radio Forum and is in cyberspace and is billed as
a place to discus anything from vintage gear to
the latest operating modes and much more. Its
on-line at www.hamradioboard.proboards56.com/index.cgi (W8JWA)

**

THE SOCIAL SCENE: HAMVENTION 2007 - THE ANNUAL VHF DINNER

This years Dayton VHF Dinner is slated
for Thursday evening, May 17th at 6pm. The
venue is the Shuckin Shack, at 5512 North Main
in Dayton; This is a very casual. Affair where
such things as VHF contesting, gear and antennas will be discussed.

Seating is limited to about 60 and reservations
are required. If you plan to attend please
e-mail Dick Hanson, K5AND, at dick@dkhanson.com to reserve your spot.

Hamvention 2007 takes place May 18th to the 20th
at the Hara Arena in Dayton Ohio. Newsline's Ham
Radio Town Meeting is Saturday, May 19th from
12:45 to 2:45 PM. We hope to see you there. (VHF Reflector)

**

BREAK 2

Thirty years and still here to serve you. From
the United States of America, we are the Amateur
Radio Newsline with links to the world from our
only official website at www.arnewsline.org and
being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

THE CHANGING OF THE GUARD: HOWARD LESTER, W2ODC - SK

One of the grates of the Amateur Radio service
has passed from the scene. This with word that

Howard Lester, W2ODC, passed away on April 16th.

Lester was best known for his work in forming the Upper New York Repeater Coordination Committee after the sudden collapse of the NorthEast Repeater Association in the early 1970's. He was also a member of the Schenectady Amateur Radio Association and heavily involved in the regions emergency communications planning.

In addition to his devotion to Amateur Radio, W2ODC was also an engineer and was credited as one of the inventors of color television during his tenure at RCA. He also devoted many hours helping local, State, and Federal officials solve radio communication problems. This included the Schenectady Police Department and the Schenectady County Emergency Operations Center.

Services for Howard Lester were held at Calvary Episcopal Church in Burnt Hills, New York on Sunday, April 22nd. He is survived by his wife Ruth; sons, Carl, David, Donald and Eric plus eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. (E-mail)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: THE TINY FRACTAL 2.4 GHZ ANTENNA

A new and very tiny Fractal antenna has come to light . In press release dated March 6th, the Spanish wireless antenna company Fractus released a 2.4GHz fractal antenna that is the size of a grain rice.

Fractus, the pioneer developer of fractal antenna technology says that it has set a new standard for antenna miniaturization with the launch of its smallest antenna for the I-S-M 2.4GHz band. The 3.7mm by 2mm Micro Reach Xtend provides device designers with significantly more available space to enable new multimedia applications or reducing the antenna space needed within devices.

The miniature antenna was developed especially for Bluetooth headsets and mobile handsets. It supports all standards working at the 2.4GHz ISM band, including Wi-Fi, and Bluetooth. Now the only problem is to convince Fractus that there's a restricted antenna ham radio market for a full kilowatt 20 meter version that would be about the size of a dime. More information s on line at http://www.fractus.com/main/fractus/news_english/ (New Technology)

**

RADIO IN SPACE: NASA MISSION TO STUDY THE AURORA BOREALIS

NASA has launched five satellites into orbit on a mission to study aurora like the famous Northern Lights. During the mission, the five satellites will observe an estimated 30 substorms in process and radio their findings back to Earth. At the same time, 20 observatories in Alaska and Canada will study the aurora from the ground.

The overall mission of these satellites is to solve the mystery of what causes geomagnetic substorms. Substorms are atmospheric events visible in the Northern Hemisphere as a sudden brightening of the Aurora Borealis that can have an impact on radio propagation. Researchers say that the findings may help protect commercial satellites and humans in space from the impact of particle radiation. Discovering why aurora fluctuate and fade will also provide scientists with important information on how the planet's protective magnetosphere works. (Space OnLine)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: FO-29 GOES QRT

The Fuji-Oscar 29 satellite may have gone silent. Reports received from JE9PEL say that the Japan Amateur Radio League is asking for any received telemetry to be forwarded to them. The e-mail address given is lab@jarl.or.jp. (VHF Reflector)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: INDIA PLANS HAMSAT-2

The secretary of AMSAT India says that organization that planning for a second Indian amateur radio satellite. It will be called Hamsat-2 and AMSAT India is asking for proposals from satellite operators, designers, and international AMSAT organizations. You can send your comments to info@amsat.in. (AMSAT India)

**

WORLDBEAT - UK: GB400AA CELEBRATES FOUNDING OF JAMESTOWN

Three clubs U-K radio clubs are banding together to celebrate the founding of Jamestown. The Clacton Radio Club, Felixstowe and District Amateur Radio Club and Harwich Amateur Radio

Interest Group have joined forces to operate
GB400AA as a special event station.

The station will commemorate the founding of
Jamestown, Virginia 400 years ago. This, when
the ships Susan Constant, Godspeed and Discovery
arrived in that then U-S colony. They carried
102 passengers and founded the first English
speaking settlement in North America.

GB400AA will be operated at the Mayflower Museum
on the Halfpenny Pier at Harwich where the
Harwich Society will have an exhibition showing
the local area's connections with the inaugural
voyages. The station is planned to operate from
May 11th to the 13th and again on May 25th and 26th. (GB2RS)

**
WORLDBEAT- GREECE: NEW 4 METER BEACON ON 70.040 MHZ

A new 4 meter beacon is on the air from Greece on 70.040 MHz..

4 meters, which was once a United Kingdom only
ham radio allocation is gaining favor across
Europe. The latest offering is the new SV1FOUR
beacon operation located in Athens that started operation on April 24th.

SV1DH is the beacon keeper. He reports over the
Four Meter website that the beacon is licensed
for 5 watts output to 5-element yagi antenna
beaming 315 degrees toward the UK.

At the moment SV1FOUR is only running at about 1
watt out and transmits its callsign followed by
several dashes and locator KM27AW in Morse. More
is on-line at www.70mhz.org (Southgate)

**

WORLDBEAT - UK: INTERNATIONAL MUSEUMS WEEKEND

The seventh International Museums Weekend special
event will take place on June 16th and 17th.
M1BYT, who is organising the event, asks that all
those intending to join in should please register
their museum via the International Museums
Weekend website at www.ukradioamateur.co.uk/imw.
Hams world-wide are encouraged to participate in
this event by setting up stations in their local
museums and showing the public the magic and mystery of Amateur Radio.
(GB2RS)

**

WORLDBEAT - ITALY: THE PONETE LIGURE DX MEETING

And the 4th annual Ponente Ligure D X Meeting
will take place in Imperia, Italy on May
19th. Topics covered include DXing, contests,
the Summits On The Air and Islands on the Air
award programs, and much more. Also, further
discussions will be held regarding the proposal
of an Italian team to build a permanent contest
station in Morocco. Award hunters may bring
their QSLs along to have them checked for the
DXCC, WAS or IOTA. More information is on line at
www.ariloano.it and http://www.arimperia.net (Southgate)

**

DX

In DX, word that the long awaited Scarborough
Reef BS7H DXpedition is on the air! At 03:00 UTC
on Wednesday, May 2nd, it was reported that four
operating positions had been built and that
operations are ongoing. Two stations will stay on
20 meters while the other two will search 15, 17, 30 and 40 for openings.

In other DX news, DS4DRE is currently active
stroke 4 from Hong Island. He will be there
until the 30th of June. Activity is on 80 through
10 meters using CW and SSB. QSL to his callbook address.

And EA4ATI is returning to Dakar, Senegal and
will remain there until April of 2008. He
expects to be active as with his own call
portable 6W and also as 6W1EA. Listen for him on
10, 15 and 20 meters using a beam and on other
bands using dipoles. QSL direct to his EA4ATI home call.

Lastly, PA5CW, will be active portable YB9 from
Bali through the 10th of May. QSL this one as directed on the air.

(Above from various DX sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: THE DX ENTITY THAT NEVER WAS

And finally this week the story of the DX entity
that never was -- and likely never will be. Its
another tale from down-under described by Lim Linton, VK3PC:

--

The Hutt River Province Principality announced
two years ago plans to begin short-wave
broadcasts and also seek amateur radio DXCC

entity status. Not heard of it? Well this self-proclaimed independent territory on Australia's mainland is located just north of Geraldton, Western Australia and began in 1970.

The Royal Amateur Radio Society was formed as a body to represent the interests of amateur radio on the Hutt River Province. It was full steam ahead seeking United Nations, IARU and ITU recognition.

Special Hotel Five prefix callsigns were being made available to inaugural members of the Royal Amateur Radio Society.

ARRL DXCC rules were being quoted as enabling the Principality to qualify for separate country status. DXers and contesters were claimed to be eager to operate from Hutt River.

However today it is all but a memory, no mention is made on the Hutt River Province website of the former radio plans.

A source close to the ruler of the Hutt River Province, Prince Leonard, reveals he's gone totally cold on the radio ideas and is now very busy engineering a pyramid in his Principality.

I'm Jim Linton VK3PC.

--

Sounds as if Prince Leonard and ham radio have gone their separate ways. (WIA News)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline@arnewsline.org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), P.O. Box 660937, Arcadia, California 91066.

Two reminders before we go. First we have a new poll for the month of May. This one asks the question now that the Morse exam is part of ham radio history, do you plan to upgrade or remain

the license class you are right now. Of coarse this is unfair to Extra class licensees because they cannot go any higher so this poll kind of leaves them out in the cold, To compensate, we added a third possible answer, but you will have to go to our website at www.arnewsline.org to see what it is.

Also, the nominating season for this years Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award is now open. Any radio amateur age 18 or younger residing in all 50 United States, plus Puerto Rico and all 13 Canadian Provinces can qualify. Full details and nominating forms are on our special website at www.yhoty.org. Also see the Vertex-Standard sponsored ad on page 8 of the March issue of QST Magazine.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Don Willbanks, AE5DW, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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815. WA5KUB live webcam - mobile and from Dayton

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-05 00:17:07 UTC
From: LVN <gareth.paley@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <AL-dnZsqh6LdPqbbnZ2dneKdnZydnZ2d@bt.com>
Source record: 4620

"We will be broadcasting the 3 days of the Hamvention live at
http://wa5kub.com may 18-20th.
We will also be broadcasting our 500 mile drive LIVE to hamvention. Watch us
drive and chat with us and others around the world. We depart on Wednesday,
May 16th at approx 1300 GMT.

The web site is up and running right now (right now it has recorded video of
hamvention) and we will be switching to live soon. "

for more details see:

http://wa5kub.com/

816. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-05 04:02:50 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1178335214.281805.150560@n76g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4621

><stevenrobe...@yahoo.com> wrote:
>> Nope...I think we're getting all the "influx" now that we will.
>
>The decline in licensing continues unabated.
>
>With the exception of a minor uptick in October '06, the number of licensed
>amateurs has been in decline since '03
>.
>Feb 07: 655,477. Mar 07: 655,048 Apr 07: 654,940

I disagree with the above. Based just on the www.hamdata.com info
(as opposed to ARRL "active-only" listings), the number of new
licensees is now above the number of expirations. As of 3 May 07
the New v. Expiration numbers for USA licensees are:

Last 30 days (total): New = 2,742 Expirations = 2,658

Last 60 days (total): New = 6, 417 Expirations = 5.494

Last 90 days (total): New = 8,972 Expirations = 7,767

Compared to the total number of licensees of 2 years prior
(total of 733,147) there are 10,957 fewer licensees as of 3 May 07.
The drop in total licensees is about 1.5% in two years.

By my observation, the trend of newcomers surpassing the
number of expirations in the USA appears to have begun. Yes,
it may be "a statistical anamoly" in numbers but the only way
to prove such a refutation is to jump ahead to 2008 and
produce numbers from then, something not yet within scientific
grasp. :-)

>Where are the "hoards of technically savvy" people in the wings "just
>waiting for the code requirement to disappear"?

I'm not sure that was anything but some convenient scapegoat
phrase (i.e., 'urban myth') used by those desiring the
continuation of the status quo as of the early 1990s.

The hordes of "technically-savvy people" are busily engaged in
a number of very technical avocations in areas like: Personal
computing (both hardware and software), Robotics (of more
tangible appeal to youngsters), Automotive electronics,
Amateur Scientific experimentation, Radio-control, Music
Systems from guitar amplifiers to high-end sound systems,
Home Security Systems, just to name a few. Add to those
Blog maintenance and web-surfing and non-electronic-but-

technically-complex hobbies like genealogy and computer graphics construction (of photos as well as original art) and all of the above is just a tip of the iceberg of interesting and challenging personal activities available to all in the last two decades.

Personal radio communication without the available infra-structure of other personal communications means has been faced with a great deal of competition for everyone's free time. Amateur radio - in and of itself in the old paradigms - hasn't come up with enough attraction to be competitive in the hobby area. Having always been older than the FCC, I can recall that amateur radio was an attractive hobby in the 1950s and 1960s. That was the 'baby boomer' era where youngsters were made aware of "radio" and the ability to talk around the world. But, that high-technology of its time was 50 to 40 years ago and technology of communications has made several quantum jumps in abilities of all to communicate since then. The Internet went public in 1991, just 16 years ago, has now become part and parcel of USA society today.

"Technically-savvy people' are generally engaged in work on savvy technology for a living. They are creating the savvy technology that others will enjoy next year or a few years later. That these "technically-savvy people" want to pursue free-time hobbies on other things than communicating by their own personal radios is not their fault. They have so many possible choices to occupy their free time that few will fall back on half-century-old 'technological' hobbies such as 'radio sport' contesting and/or collecting QSOs.

Given all the actual new technology made available for all to use in hobbies of the last two decades, those alleged "hordes of technically-savvy people" no doubt have taken up other technically-savvy hobbies and discarded the idea of emulating what the old pioneers of radio did long ago. I submit that many just got tired of waiting for the code test to be eliminated from testing and went on to other things.

73, Len AF6AY

817. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-05 04:03:18 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1178335382.102947.136760@l77g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4622

On May 4, 3:22?am, "KH6HZ" <kh6...@Tarrl.net> wrote:
> <stevenrobe...@yahoo.com> wrote:

<snip>

>> I've said it before and here it is again...Amateur Radio does NOT need
>> "big numbers"...We need to have QUALITY licensees...That means solid
>> skills and a NON-COMPROMISED question pool like we have today.
>
>Exactly. History has proven time and time again that quality, not quantity,
>is the solution to most problems.

The word "quality" is both subjective and ambiguous used
above. Amateur radio is not an occupation. It can be an
enjoyable avocation for many in a "technically-savvy"
activity...without the requirement of years of formal education
or the necessity of enduring certain levels of accomplishment
as in a guild, union, or craft trade.

In most administrations of the world, the only requirement is
that all in amateur radio operate according to their regulations.
Disobeying regulations will result in 'firing' an amateur (loss of
license, fines, etc., depending on an administration's laws).
Otherwise, every licensed amateur retains their license for
whatever term an administration lawfully specifies. Their
quality of operating is up to the individual and whatever peer
pressure might ensue within a country.

In the USA I think that "quantity" is important to the health
and welfare of future amateur radio here. Primarily for the
"presence" of so many licensees having an effect on law-
makers' future decisions. Secondarily on the market presence
to insure that equipment and components will be available in
the future.

As to "history proving anything" for "solutions," I submit the
Roman Empire as an example. Roman engineering of its day
was the epitome then, resulting in roads over most of known
Europe, water supply and waste disposal, ships and trade over
all the long reaches of its empire. Historians have written that
the Roman Empire failed from within, not from the quality of
its civil engineering and other innovations for civilization of its
time.

"Radio" as a communications means is only 111 years old.
The radio of now is vastly different from early radio, not just in

technology but also in that elusive word "quality." To attempt pinning some specific era as the baseline for such "quality" is tantamount to trying to nail jelly to a tree... :-)

73, Len AF6AY

818. The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 18 (May 4, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-05 04:08:08 UTC
From: ARRL Letter Mailing List <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <200705050137.l451bHD5002400@linux11676.dn.net>
Source record: 4623
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

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***************
The ARRL Letter
Vol. 26, No. 18
May 4, 2007
***************

IN THIS EDITION:

* +FCC "Smart radio" order good news for ham radio
* +Scarborough Reef DXpedition draws a crowd
* +Space station construction activity will affect ham radio operations
* +FCC ends hearing, denies application in license hijacking case
* +Motorola puts its Access BPL system on back burner
* +ARRL Foundation contribution to boost ham radio in space
* Solar Update
* IN BRIEF:
This weekend on the radio
ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration
+Armed Forces Day Crossband Radio Communications Test Set
AMSAT announces Dayton Hamvention activities
FCC posts Amateur Radio enforcement correspondence
Amateur Radio on display during ITU disaster relief conference
+Texas radio amateur is among 2007 NOAA Environmental Heroes
David A. Rosenthal, N6TST, SK

+Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/>

============================================================
==>Delivery problems: First see FAQ
<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/faq.html#nodelivery>, then e-mail
<letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
==>Editorial questions or comments only: Rick Lindquist, N1RL,
<n1rl@arrl.org>
============================================================

==>ARRL FINDS WELCOME NEWS IN FCC "SMART RADIO" ORDER

In a recent Memorandum Opinion and Order (MO&O)
<http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-07-66A1.pdf> on
cognitive or "smart radio" systems, the FCC has affirmed its favorable
policy toward the regulation of amateur software defined radios (SDRs). A
cognitive radio system is an SDR that can adapt its operating parameters by
interacting with its RF environment. The FCC's April 20 MO&O was in response
to petitions seeking clarification of the Commission's March 2005 Report and
Order (R&O) in ET Docket 03-108. In that proceeding the agency declined to
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adopt any new regulations for cognitive Amateur Radio transceivers or for digital-to-analog (D/A) converters. ARRL Chief Technology Officer Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, says the April MO&O indicates that the FCC intends to treat Amateur Radio SDRs the same as any other Amateur Radio equipment.

"This is welcome news from the FCC as it clarifies the matter of certification of amateur equipment," Rinaldo remarked. "It applies not only to terrestrial amateur equipment but also to amateur satellites, which increasingly are using SDR in their designs."

AMSAT-NA has announced it's revamped the design of its Project Eagle satellite to take maximum advantage of software defined transponder (SDX) technology.

The "cognitive radio" proceeding is emblematic of the FCC's ongoing struggle to address thorny regulatory issues to keep pace with cutting-edge technology. In its 2005 R&O, the FCC concluded that neither software programmable amateur transceivers nor high-speed D/A converters "present any significantly greater risk of interference to authorized radio services" than conventional hardware radios.

April's MO&O was in response to petitions from Marcus Spectrum Solutions (MSS), owned by Mike Marcus, N3JMM, a former FCC staffer and a member of the ARRL Software Defined Radio Technology Working Group, and from Cisco Systems. While the League was satisfied that the FCC's 2005 R&O had exempted Amateur Radio SDRs from its certification requirement, MSS felt the Order was ambiguous and sought further assurances.

In response, the FCC said it "did not intend to impose any new certification requirements for Amateur Radio equipment" in its 2005 R&O, including SDR equipment that may be modified by someone other than the manufacturer. The Commission noted, however, that external RF amplifiers operating below 144 MHz and marketed for amateur use "will continue to require certification before they can be marketed."

MSS also requested a Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making with respect to digital-to-analog (D/A) devices. Marcus predicted that if high-power, high-speed D/A converters with antenna-like connectors ever became readily available, it could bypass the entire FCC equipment certification program and open the door to D/A-equipped computers capable of operating on any frequency. The FCC declined to act on Marcus's request, saying MSS did not "demonstrate any current need for regulation of D/A converters."

The FCC reiterated that it "may revisit the issue of the certification of amateur equipment with software modifiable features in the future, if misuse of such devices results in significant interference to authorized spectrum users."

ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, expressed confidence that it would not prove necessary for the FCC to revisit the issue, however, "as no misuse of amateur SDR technology is anticipated." For the FCC to impose any limitations on amateur SDR equipment "would be contrary to the goals enunciated for the Amateur Radio Service in ï¿½97.1 of the FCC's rules," he

added.

Cisco had asked the FCC to revise its rules to better specify those classes of devices that do not require SDR certification. It also wanted the FCC to establish a policy that software that supports security measures not be made public if doing so could compromise security or enable illegal operation.

In response, the FCC revised ï¿½2.1(c) its rules to state that only radios with software "designed or expected to be modified by a party other than the manufacturer" -- such as downloading from the Internet -- and that would affect frequency range, modulation type, maximum power output or the circumstances under which the transmitter operates legally, would have to be certified as SDRs.

The FCC said it anticipates Commission requests for software source code would be extremely rare. "It would not be burdensome for a manufacturer to request confidentiality for software source code in the event we request it," the Commission added.

==>SCARBOROUGH REEF BS7H OPERATION SHUTTING DOWN THIS WEEKEND

If you haven't already snagged BS7H on Scarborough Reef <http://www.scarboroughreef.com/>, there's precious little time left to put the world's most-wanted DXCC entity into the log. The BS7H DXpedition has announced operation will cease by 0000 UTC on May 6. The Daily DX <http://www.dailydx.com> reports the BS7H team plans to keep two stations on 20 meters around the clock. Earlier this week, Wolf Harranth, OE1WHC, of Documentary Archives Radio Communications in Vienna interviewed BS7H team member James Brooks, 9V1YC, via satellite telephone. Brooks explained that the team has been operating from wooden platforms mounted atop each of the reef's four rocks that are exposed during high tide.

"Basically, we're like little birds perched on a small rock in the middle of the ocean," Brooks told Harranth. "It's a very dangerous reef," he went on to say. "There's lots of hazards. There's rain, there's wind, there's lightning, there's piracy."

The coral is also very sharp, and most of the team members have suffered cuts and scrapes. Changing shifts three times a day has been difficult and time consuming, and Brooks says the individual stations have barely been able to see each other during daylight.

Brooks said the DXpedition team was visited by several fishermen from the Philippines who asked for fuel and water. Visit the Dokufunk Web site <http://www.dokufunk.org/index.php?ID=2094#A2094> and click on the "BS7H Scarborough Reef 2007 -- Interview" link. The interview also is available from the BS7H DXpedition Web site.

The most difficult path from BS7H has been to the US Northeast, although many stations have been successful in the past few days in working the DXpedition on 30, 20 and 17 meters, and signals have been reasonably strong. Not everyone was thrilled with the extremely large pileups, however. On 20 meter SSB, the pileups often extended 50 kHz or more up the band from the

BS7H transmitting frequency and interfered with other activity.

Stations trying to work BS7H should exercise courtesy and make sure they have a clear frequency before transmitting, to avoid interfering with ongoing communications unrelated to the DXpedition.

Judging from anecdotal information, stations in the Eastern US should start listening around 1100 UTC. One station in Florida reported hearing BS7H on 20 meter CW from 1130 until 1630 UTC, The Daily DX reported. Brooks explained to Harranth that Europe, Japan and Oceania are easy to work most any time of the day, however.

The first QSO was made on April 29. As of 1400 on May 2, BS7H was operating four stations from four separate rocks, with two stations dedicated to 20 meters. All stations now are running 800 W, and activity has been on 10 through 40 meters. Substantial QRN on 40 and 30 has prevented the operators from hearing most stateside signals, however.

In part because of high winds, the team by week's end had not launched the helium-filled weather balloon to support an antenna for 80 and 160 meters. On the other bands, BS7H used vertical antennas, taking advantage of the salt water for a ground plane.

==>UPTICK IN ISS CONSTRUCTION TO AFFECT HAM RADIO OPERATIONS FROM SPACE

In a recent Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) <http://www.rac.ca/ariss> progress report, ARISS International Chair Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, addressed some questions regarding ARISS operations and equipment upgrade and repair. Bauer says that with the successful space shuttle return to flight, ISS construction again has shifted into high gear. Delivery and assembly of two new ISS modules now are on the near horizon. But that activity's not without a downside for Amateur Radio activity from the ISS.

"If all goes well, the new European Columbus module and Japanese Kibo module will be installed on the ISS in the next 12 months," Bauer told the ARISS team. "This substantial workload on the crew is impacting ARISS operations directly."

Bauer explained that the launch of any new or replacement ham radio gear or computers to support ARISS operations "has been significantly curtailed due to the extremely limited 'upmass' capability." That's NASA's way of saying the cargo weight limits on construction flights are very tight.

"There are just too many higher priority activities from an international space agency perspective, and frankly we are a lower priority," he continued. "The extra workload on the crew has taken its toll on ARISS -- they have had very little extra time for Amateur Radio activities beyond school contacts."

Bauer concedes that while these developments are "somewhat frustrating" both to the ham radio community at large and to the ARISS International Team, ARISS nonetheless is pleased that space station crew members have "been able

to speak so often with youth groups worldwide, piquing their interest in Amateur Radio, science, technology, engineering and math."

One hoped-for fix during the recent flight of civilian space traveler Charles Simonyi, KE7KDP, was that Simonyi would be able to restore the Kenwood D700 ARISS Phase 2 transceiver to full functionality after it was inadvertently reprogrammed during Expedition 13. That has kept the packet system off the air.

"The ARISS team worked diligently with the Simonyi team to get Charles licensed, trained, and prepared to perform the Kenwood reprogramming," Bauer explained. "Unfortunately, the ARISS team hit a major hurdle a few weeks before Charles's launch."

Bauer said ARISS learned at the eleventh hour that additional software certification would be required to allow Simonyi to reprogram software to be used on the ISS computers.

"Through heroic efforts by the team, final software certification was successfully completed," Bauer reported this week. "Unfortunately, this was completed only a few days before Charles' return from space." As a result, there was not enough time for Simonyi to reprogram the D700.

"This last minute hiccup in software certification was not predictable," Bauer allowed, "so there was no way the ARISS team could have better prepared for Charles' flight."

Bauer says that at this point, it appears that reprogramming the D700 to get it back to its normal ARISS configuration "will require a substantial, concerted effort with full cooperation from our international colleagues and the Russian and US space agencies." This means identifying, purchasing (if necessary), certifying, testing and flying the components necessary to ensure the reprogramming is successful, he pointed out.

Given the challenge of weight restrictions on shuttle payloads devoted to transporting construction materials, Bauer said, the process "will likely take several months to accomplish, as the team will have to begin from square one."

ARISS meanwhile is looking into some partial, temporary workarounds. In the near term, ARISS will request the crew do some investigative analysis of the Phase 2 station. "This will enable the ARISS team to determine if the radio can be partially restored to provide some of the unattended operations that it once provided," Bauer said. "With Charles's successful landing, we have started down this new path."

Despite the setbacks, Bauer vowed that ARISS will continue working aggressively on the issue. "While our plans to have Charles reprogram the radio were thwarted, we were happy that he could speak to so many hams around the world during his short stay, and capture the imagination of students around the globe," he said.

==>FCC TERMINATES HEARING, DENIES APPLICATION IN "HAM LICENSE HIJACKING" CASE

The FCC has terminated with prejudice a hearing proceeding involving a case of apparent ham radio identity theft. The FCC has said its evidence suggests that Joseph W. Hartmann Jr of Lansing, Michigan, "intentionally submitted fraudulent administrative updates" to obtain the privileges associated with the General class license of a Delaware radio amateur with a very similar name. In a Memorandum Opinion and Order (MO&O) released March 23 <http://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/prod/ecfs/retrieve.cgi?native_or_pdf=pdf&id_document=6518915438>, the FCC further ruled to dismiss with prejudice Hartmann's pending new Amateur Radio license application, which he filed after the FCC questioned his attempts to change the Delaware ham's record in the Universal Licensing System (ULS). After several apparently unsuccessful attempts to deliver a Hearing Designation Order (HDO) to Hartmann and even affording him more time to file a written appearance, Hartmann sent Presiding Administrative Law Judge Arthur I. Steinberg three identical e-mail messages.

"Mr Steinberg I am writing you in regards to this letter. I do not have the resources to obtain legal counsel for this hearing nor have the resources for driving to hearing in Washington.D.C," the FCC quoted Hartmann, noting that capitalization, punctuation, spelling and spacing were reproduced as they appeared in Hartmann's e-mails. "is there another way we can please have a phone conference in regards to this matter. please write back with your reply."

Several pieces of Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested to Hartmann came back to the Commission as unclaimed, the FCC recounted in its March MO&O. "Interestingly, neither of the regular First Class Mail envelopes sent to Mr Hartmann's Lansing, Michigan, addresses has been returned," the Commission noted.

The FCC had put Hartmann's January 2006 application for an Amateur Radio license on hold while it was looking into why he'd filed a half-dozen administrative updates during 2005 seeking to change the name and address of Joseph V. Hartman Sr, K3GUX, of Oceanview, Delaware, to his own name and address.

In its March MO&O, the FCC declined to accept Hartmann's e-mails to Judge Steinberg as a proper written appearance, because he did not file in accordance with FCC rules. Consequently the Commission dismissed the hearing proceeding and Hartmann's pending Amateur Radio application with prejudice "for failure to prosecute."

The FCC had scheduled a hearing on Hartmann's January 2006 Amateur Radio license application after deciding that his alleged actions had raised "a substantial and material question of fact as to whether he possesses the requisite character qualifications to be a Commission licensee." In its December 2006 HDO, the Commission said Hartmann's repeated attempts to alter licensee information for the call sign K3GUX from Joseph V. Hartman Sr's name and address to his own name and address also raised "substantial and material questions of fact as to whether Hartmann Jr made false

certifications, misrepresented facts to the Commission, and/or demonstrated a lack of candor."

==>MOTOROLA SUSPENDS POWERLINE LV BPL DEVELOPMENT

Less than two years after announcing its Powerline LV Access BPL product, Motorola has decided to suspend product development and to devote its resources to more promising markets, industry sources say. Motorola reportedly has decided to focus on a product called Powerline MU, which is for use within multiple-unit dwellings. The decision to stop work on its Access BPL product reflects declining interest in residential broadband service delivery among utilities coupled with more immediate demand for in-building BPL systems. Motorola has indicated that it's not scrapping Powerline LV altogether, however.

Powerline LV united Motorola's Canopy wireless broadband Internet platform with enhanced ham band-notching HomePlug technology, drastically reducing BPL interference potential by restricting the application of high-frequency RF to the low-voltage side of the power transformers serving customers' homes, not the medium-voltage wires that line many residential streets. As a result, Powerline LV avoided the system architecture that poses the greatest risk of BPL interference to radio communication -- radiation from the medium-voltage power lines.

ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, expressed appreciation for Motorola's approach to the thorny issue of radio interference from BPL systems. In an effort to minimize interference, particularly to the Amateur Radio bands, Motorola designed its Powerline LV system in close cooperation with the League's technical staff, Sumner noted. A test stand Access BPL system was in operation briefly at ARRL Headquarters. Measurements and subjective listening tests on the ham bands showed that Powerline LV was Amateur Radio-friendly.

"As one would expect from a company with such a distinguished record in the field of radio communication, Motorola acknowledged at the outset the seriousness of the interference problem," he said. "Motorola's system architecture influenced other vendors, raised industry awareness of the interference issue, and demonstrated the value of working with the ARRL to find positive solutions."

==>ARRL FOUNDATION PROVIDES SECOND DONATION TO ARISS COLUMBUS PROJECT

The ARRL Foundation has granted an additional $2000 toward the cost of constructing and installing Amateur Radio antennas and equipment on the International Space Station's Columbus module, set to launch later this year. The ARRL Foundation earlier contributed $5000 to the project.

Columbus will house an additional Amateur Radio station, including the first digital Amateur Radio TV (DATV) station in space as well as a ham radio transponder. Funding to finish and install ham radio antennas on the European Space Agency (ESA)-built laboratory module has been uncertain, however.

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) Vice Chairman Gaston Bertels, ON4WF, says donations from various sources covered a payment of 9000 Euros -- approximately $12,000 -- in March. A second payment is due this fall. Bertels says the IARU Region 1 Executive Committee also donated 2000 Euro to the project.

The antennas have been manufactured and will be tested for acceptance at the European Space Research and Technology Centre (ESTEC) before delivery to Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland, where a silicon dioxide coating will be applied before the antennas are installed on the Columbus module, Bertels explained.

"Their development and manufacturing cost is now nearly covered, but not yet the cost of certification tests," Bertels told ARRL.

Other donations have come from AMSAT-NA and AMSAT-UK, among other organizations, as well as from many individual donors.

The yet-to-be-built Columbus Amateur Radio gear will make it possible for ARISS to establish wideband and video operations for the first time and allow continuous transponder operation.

AMSAT-Belgium has set up a bank account to receive additional donations for the Columbus project. Details are on the ARISS-EU Columbus Web page <http://www.ariss-eu.org/columbus.htm>. Click the "Donate" button in the left column.

==>SOLAR UPDATE

Solar sage Tad "Sunspot Baby" Cook, K7RA, Seattle, Washington, reports: The string of zero sunspot days ended Wednesday, April 25, and -- relative to the bottom of the solar cycle -- sunspot numbers over the past few days have been quite an improvement. Average daily sunspot number jumped from the previous week by 23 points to 25.1, and average solar flux increased over 14 points to 84.8.

This modest increase in sunspot activity may noticeably improve propagation compared to weeks with no sunspots.

For the near term, the US Air Force Space Weather Operation predicts a planetary A index of 5 for May 4-5, 8 for May 6-7 and 5 again for May 8-18, so the expectation is for quiet geomagnetic conditions. Based on the last period of higher geomagnetic activity, April 28-29, the 27.5 day solar rotation probably is what led to a prediction of 25 for the planetary A index on May 25.

Geophysical Institute Prague predicts quiet geomagnetic conditions for May 4, quiet to unsettled on May 5, unsettled May 6-7, and quiet to unsettled again on May 8-9.

Sunspot numbers for April 26 through May 2 were 17, 18, 20, 18, 38, 32 and 33, with a mean of 25.1. The 10.7 cm flux was 80.5, 82.7 84.9, 84.8, 87, 86.3, and 87.4, with a mean of 84.8. Estimated planetary A indices were 6, 16, 26, 23, 20, 8 and 3, with a mean of 14.6. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 4, 10, 20, 16, 13, 5 and 1, with a mean of 9.9.

For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>.

==>IN BRIEF:

* This weekend on the radio: The New England QSO Party, the MARAC County Hunter Contest (CW), the 10-10 International Spring Contest (CW), the Microwave Spring Sprint, the Seventh Call Area QSO Party, the NA High-Speed Meteor Scatter Spring Rally, the US IPARC Annual Contest (CW and SSB), the Portuguese Navy Day Contest (CW/SSB and PSK31), the Indiana QSO Party and the ARI International DX Contest are the weekend of May 5-6. The RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship (SSB) is May 7. The ARS Spartan Sprint is May 8. The SKCC Sprint is May 9. The NCCC Sprint Ladder is May 11. The Military/Amateur Radio Communications Tests to celebrate Armed Forces Day (see below) and the Nevada Mustang Roundup are May 12. The SBMS 2 GHz and Up WW Club Contest, the VK/Trans-Tasman 80-Meter Contest (phone), the CQ-M International DX Contest, the VOLTA WW RTTY Contest, the Mid-Atlantic QSO Party, the FISTS Spring Sprint, the EACW International Contest, the 50 MHz Spring Sprint are the May 12-13 weekend. The RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship (Data) is May 16. The NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint and the QRP Minimal Art Session are May 17. The NCCC Sprint Ladder is May 18. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests/> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more info.

* ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration: Registration remains open through Sunday, May 22, for these ARRL Certification and Continuing Education (CCE) online courses beginning Friday June 1: The ARRL Ham Radio License Course (EC-010), Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 1 (EC-001), Radio Frequency Interference (EC-006), Antenna Design and Construction (EC-009), Analog Electronics (EC-012) and Digital Electronics (EC-013). These courses will also open for registration Friday, May 18, for classes beginning Friday, July 6. To learn more, visit the CCE Course Listing page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html> or contact the CCE Department <cce@arrl.org>.

* Armed Forces Day Crossband Radio Communications Test Set: The US Army, Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard will co-sponsor the annual military/Amateur Radio Communications Tests to celebrate the 57th Armed Forces Day. Although Armed Forces Day falls on Saturday, May 19, the 2007 Armed Forces Day Military/Amateur Crossband Communications Test will take place a week earlier, on Saturday, May 12, to avoid conflicting with the Dayton Hamvention May 18-20. The annual celebration features military station-to-amateur station crossband tests on SSB and copying the Secretary of Defense message via digital modes. Full details on participating stations, times and frequencies are available on the Army MARS Headquarters Web site <http://www.netcom.army.mil/mars/docs/ARMEDFORCESDAYFinal.doc>.

* AMSAT announces Dayton Hamvention activities: AMSAT-NA invites Amateur Radio satellite enthusiasts to its events and activities during Dayton Hamvention 2007 <http://www.hamvention.org>. A pre-Hamvention pizza party

takes place Thursday, May 17, 6:30-10 PM, at Marion's Piazza, 1320 North Fairfield Road. The AMSAT booth will be open Friday, May 18, 9 AM-6 PM, Saturday, May 19, 8 AM-5 PM, and Sunday, May 20, 8 AM-1 PM, Eagle area with operating components, and outdoor satellite demonstrations; the AMSAT Forum is Friday, May 18, 11:15-2 PM in Room 1, Hara Arena; the IMAX movie "Space Station" is Friday, May 18, 5-5:45 PM at the Air Force Museum; the AMSAT/TAPR banquet is Friday, May 18, 6-10 PM, at the Air Force Museum. AMSAT booth volunteers are welcome. Contact Gould Smith, WA4SXM <wa4sxm@amsat.org>, if you can help, indicating the hours you're available. AMSAT needs volunteers for two-hour shifts Friday, Saturday and Sunday as well as volunteers to set up Thursday afternoon and tear down Sunday afternoon. The "AMSAT at the 2007 Dayton Hamvention" Web page <http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/hamvention/Dayton2007.php> has additional information and directions. -- AMSAT News Service

* FCC posts Amateur Radio enforcement correspondence: The FCC has posted new Amateur Radio enforcement correspondence on its "Amateur Radio Service Enforcement Actions" page <http://www.fcc.gov/eb/AmateurActions/Welcome.html>. Special Counsel in the FCC Spectrum Enforcement Division Riley Hollingsworth sent a Warning Notice to Anthony M. Amato, KR4UQ; a Warning Notice and request for station information to Edib Zildzo, K2AAW; and a Warning Notice and request for station information to John C. Kimbrough, WR3S. The FCC also has posted a Memorandum Opinion and Order (MO&O) in the case of Joseph W. Hartmann Jr, and a Forfeiture Order (NoF) to Parker Construction Inc. Direct all questions concerning the Amateur Radio Service Enforcement Actions Web postings via e-mail only to Riley Hollingsworth <fccham@fcc.gov> in the FCC Spectrum Enforcement Division.

* Amateur Radio on display during ITU disaster relief conference: Egypt Amateur Radio Assembly (EARA) <http://www.qsl.net/egyptham> operators attending an International Telecommunication Union (ITU) joint disaster relief and information technology conference in mid-April logged more than 1000 contacts from special event station SU8DRM (QSL via SU1KM). The Regional Joint Conference on Disaster Relief and Management (DRM) -- International Cooperation and Role of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) took place April 14-17 in Alexandria, Egypt. The conference's primary objective was to promote awareness of the important role that Amateur Radio plays in disaster relief communications. In his presentation, "Amateur Radio as a First Aid and a Tool of Emergency Communications," International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Region 1 EmComm Coordinator Seppo Sisï¿½ttï¿½, OH1VR, told the gathering that World Radiocommunication Conference 2007 this fall could serve to augment emergency communication opportunities for the Amateur Radio Service if there are proposals to establish a 300 kHz worldwide Amateur Radio allocation on 40 meters and a worldwide 60-meter band. EARA said the special event operation introduced many conference delegates to Amateur Radio and what it has to offer in disaster relief situations.

* Texas radio amateur is among 2007 NOAA Environmental Heroes: Charlie Campbell, KC5EZZ, of San Angelo, Texas, was among ten 2007 National Oceanic

and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Environmental Heroes. NOAA says Campbell organized a repeater network to transmit "timely severe weather reports from NOAA National Weather Service SKYWARN-trained storm spotters to cover longer distances without degradation." The annual Environmental Hero awards commemorate Earth Day by recognizing individuals and organizations that volunteer their time to help NOAA carry out its mission. Meteorologists at the San Angelo National Weather Service office nominated Campbell for the national award, presented April 20 in Washington, DC. NWS Warning and Coordination Meteorologist Hector Guerrero, KC5BRB, also organized a gathering in San Angelo to recognize Campbell.

* David A. Rosenthal, N6TST, SK: QST author, DXpeditioner and photographer David Rosenthal, N6TST, of Ridgecrest, California, died March 16 after a long illness. He was 58 and an ARRL member. Between 1989 and 2002, Rosenthal contributed to QST on several occasions. He received the February 2006 QST Cover Plaque Award for his article, "Polar Bear Portable." During his military career, Rosenthal served as a combat helicopter pilot and as a photojournalist. During the Vietnam War, he earned two Distinguished Flying crosses and a Purple Heart. He worked for more than 30 years at China Lake Naval Weapons Station. Earlier, he worked an engineer for Hewlett-Packard. He also was a science reporter for CNN and a science correspondent for Radio Nederland. A world traveler, his photographs appeared in several regional and national publications, and he documented his adventures and accomplishments on his Web site <http://www.ridgenet.net/~n6tst>. A memorial service was held in March. Survivors include his wife Donna, KF6ZVE. The family has invited memorial donations to the Wiseman Cancer Research Foundation, 201 S Alvarado St, Suite 321, Los Angeles, CA 90057.

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The ARRL Letter is published Fridays, 50 times each year, by the American Radio Relay League: ARRL--the National Association For Amateur Radio, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111; tel 860-594-0200; fax 860-594-0259; <http://www.arrl.org>. Joel Harrison, W5ZN, President.

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The ARRL Letter also is available to all, free of charge, from these sources:

* ARRLWeb <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>. (NOTE: The ARRL Letter will be posted each Friday when it is distributed via e-mail.)

* The QTH.net listserver, thanks to volunteers from the Boston Amateur Radio Club: Visit Mailing Lists@QTH.Net <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/letter-list>. (NOTE: The ARRL cannot assist subscribers who receive The ARRL Letter via this listserver.)

819. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-05 12:20:29 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1178367013.269329.263360@w5g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4624

On May 4, 7:22 am, "KH6HZ" <kh6...@Tarrl.net> wrote:
> <stevenrobe...@yahoo.com> wrote:
> > Nope...I think we're getting all the "influx" now that we will.
>
> The decline in licensing continues unabated.

Well, maybe. But according to the numbers I've seen and posted in
recent months, the number of current, unexpired FCC-issued amateur
licenses held by individuals seems to have leveled off at around
655,000.

> With the exception of a minor uptick in October '06, the number of licens
ed
> amateurs has been in decline since '03
> .
> Feb 07: 655,477. Mar 07: 655,048 Apr 07: 654,940

The number I have for May 1, 2007 is 655,069. However, it should be
noted that the total number can vary up and down a couple of hundred
in just a few days.

> Where are the "hoards of technically savvy" people in the wings "just
> waiting for the code requirement to disappear"?

There are three possibilities:

1) They don't know the rules changed back in February.

2) They're busy studying for the written test, finding a VE session,
etc.

3) They don't exist.

There's also the idea that one of the purposes of amateur radio is to
create technically-savvy people. That's one reason for the emphasis
on young people. Like a kid who got his first license years before
high school, and the Extra years before college.

> > I've said it before and here it is again...Amateur Radio does NOT need
> > "big numbers"...We need to have QUALITY licensees...That means solid
> > skills and a NON-COMPROMISED question pool like we have today.

> Exactly. History has proven time and time again that quality, not quantit
y,
> is the solution to most problems.

Why can't we have both quality and big numbers?

And just what are "big numbers", anyway?

Back in the late 1940s, all through the 1950s and into the early 1960s, the number of US hams grew from about 60,000 just after VJ-Day to about 250,000 in 1964, even though all hams back then had to pass Morse Code exams and "secret" written tests.

Yet ham radio was far less popular back then than it is today, because the ratio of hams to total US population was much lower then than today.

The 1970s and early 1980s were another period of fast growth, even though the license test requirements had been considerably increased by the "incentive licensing" changes of 1968 and 1969.

73 de Jim, N2EY

820. WIANEWS for week commencing May 6, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-05 12:35:59 UTC
From: nationalnews@wia.org.au
Message-ID: <200705051234.l45CYKS19115@panix2.panix.com>
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This is the first edition of WIANEWS for WIA year four of the "new look
national WIA". ie for week commencing MAY 6 2007

PEDESTRIAN MOBILE

Jeff vk4xjj has now worked a couple more WIA listeners and broadcasters
as he walks from the bottom to the top of Australia.

Tuesday 1st May Jeff had arrived at Wirrealpa Station and he and his
Brother Bill, VK2FWGJ communicated the next night, Wednesday.

Although in the 'middle of Australia' VK4XJJ did manage to somehow attract
some rain, so has been a 'tad' wet from time to time.

Roger VK4BNQ the main relay station for Jeff, at Gympie, manages contact 75%
of the time but a few extra relay stations would be appreciated.
Main information required is latitude and longitude daily to VK4BNQ and
next days direction and destination.

Heading towards Birdsville, the Moomba maybe in two and a half weeks.

Macca (ABC) is interviewing Jeff today Sunday 6th April if things work out.

Jeff tries to be on time air at.....

1715 EST 7.032MHz CW

1720 EST 7.040MHz LSB
1730 EST 7.040MHz LSB ***
1745 EST 7.060MHz LSB

***
An update on Jeff's time on air please.
1730 EST 7.040MHz LSB
It has been crowded at times and confusing with the amount of information.
If necessary he or VK4BNQ can QSY nearby.
(Bill Johnson (VK2FWGJ brother bill))

AMATEUR RADIO - HOME OF THE GOOD GUYS

Home of the Good Guys

Grey Nomads, Campervanners or Motor homers are on the move around Australia
all the time and to keep in touch many of them use HF radio.

A group of them formed the HF Radio Club Incorporated in 1998 and have an
ACMA licensed network of base stations to help out members in need.

Late in April the club held its annual general meeting in Casino New South Wales. Making the best of the opportunity to promote the Foundation Licence was Amateur Radio New South Wales Councillor, Michael Corbin VK2YC.

He says after explaining the licence and making a copy of the Foundation Licence manual available at least six people showed definite interest.

While some were directed to inquire at various radio clubs that run training courses, Michael VK2YC says serious consideration is being given to running a Foundation Licence course and assessment session just before the next AGM of the HF Radio Club.

That club is associated with the Campervan & Motor home Club of Australia which has over 48,000 members making it this country's largest motor homing club in Australia. The potential to recruit new radio amateurs is obvious.

Michael VK2YC is one of a number of radio amateurs in the HF Radio Club who are now sharing their knowledge with the non-hams in the club on how to best operate their radios to maximise the effectiveness of HF communications.
(Jim Linton VK3PC)

Simbo Island Tsunami Appeal Wrap-up

$820.00 was raised by the Sewing Circle net for the people of Simbo Island, this is the total amount received from the generous Amateur Radio fraternity, all monies received have gone to the appeal with any transfer fees and other costs having been paid for by outside donations.

The people of Simbo are overwhelmed that a group of Australians totally unknown to them would be so generous to think of them in their plight!

To all who donated, congratulations on your generosity.

Once again the spirit of Amateur Radio shines again, thanks to all involved.

This week is National Volunteer Week

With more than 700,000 not-for-profit organisations around Australia, Among them are some 150 amateur radio organisations which includes the WIA, WICEN and scout radio groups.

Volunteering is an integral part of the Australian ethos. So what does this mean for you? Well all amateur radio organisations are in need of volunteers whether it be help out with specific tasks, working bees or club activities.

You're a new licensee and a bit reluctant to get involved?. Well if you have something to contribute to the well-being of your chosen organisation the fact that you are a new radio amateur, should not matter.

Volunteers all have to start somewhere and often there will be a friendly long-time volunteer more than willingly to take you under their wings.

And National Volunteer Week is also a time for those who have volunteered in the past to think about doing it again.

There are a number of previous club committee people who have dropped back into the 'comfort zone' of the general membership who still have something to offer, be in a different capacity.

Those with the attitude of ' I did my bit and so now it's something else's turn' are selling themselves short and perhaps depriving their organisation of their knowledge and experience.

I'm Jim Linton VK3PC and you're listening to VK1WIA.

I'm Spud VK8ZWM and it's off to the Country Music Capital of New South Wales for our first item today.

New venue for the Tamworth Radio Club.

The Tamworth Radio Club., now meet on the first Friday each month at the Tamworth / Oxley Scout Hall, that's the hexagonal brick building on the corner of Carthage and Hall Streets, Tamworth, at 7:30 pm.

web site is http://trci.org.au/

VK3

The MAY meeting of the NERG has been cancelled due to building works at the NERG hall.

To make up for this disruption the annual NERG dinner will be held at the nearby Di Riccardos restaurant in Lower Plenty on the regular meeting night, Thursday 10th May, starts 7:00 pm ($30 per person).

Please contact Don Haslam on 0409 024 597 for bookings if you would like to attend. further information on the web site www.nerg.asn.au

VK4

If your in the Brisbane area next Saturday, the day before Mothers day, make it along to the Mount Gravatt Showgrounds for the Brisbane Hamfest ably run by the Brisbane Amateur Radio Club.

VK4 JOHN MOYLE RESULTS

AND OUR WINNERS ARE----

24 HOUR PORTABLE MULTI-OPERATOR VK4WID 2216

24 HOUR PORTABLE SINGLE-OPERATOR VK4TGL 944

6 HOUR PORTABLE MULTI-OPERATOR VK4NRL 204

6 HOUR PORTABLE SINGLE-OPERATOR VK4JAZ 80

24 HOUR HOME STATION VK4FIGA 350 AND AUSTRALIAN WINNER!!

6 HOUR HOME STATION (no vk4 station submitted a log in here)

VK5
This is Bob, VK5NZ with a news item on behalf of the Adelaide Hills Amateur Radio Society.

Our last meeting was a display of member's home made radio equipment.
We had aerials made from articles featured in Amateur Radio Magazine,
Receivers, antenna tuners etc. were also constructed.
It was encouraging to see our members making and using their creations.

We had around 65 members present. Our membership secretary believes if our last 15 renew their membership we will have around 140 members.

Our next meeting will be a talk on the electric car mystery. Many years ago I collected a Zeta car for such a project but lost my way with it.

Our next project, the Tregellas two tone oscillator, will be available soon in kit form.

Our next meeting is at the Belair Community Centre, Main Rd Belair on the 17th of May at 7.30pm. Visitors are always welcome.

Thanks to Jim VK5NB for putting pen to paper ,and keeping us informed.. well via email anyway.

Now back to VK8ZWM

VK8
(AUDIO CONTINUES FROM SPUD VK8ZWM)

That's it, so back to our "action central newsroom". I'm Spud VK8ZWM

EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO

Calling CQ "Become a Radio Amateur"

That is the title of the WIA's new promotional brochure. Its theme is that 'Amateur radio is the fascinating new way to communicate for everyone.'

This colourful 12-panel convenient DL format publication provides information about who are radio amateurs and their multi-faceted world-wide hobby.

It gives snapshots of how it can be enjoyed at home, while caravanning or four wheel driving, during interstate and overseas travel, or while yachting or boating.

The educational benefits of amateur radio are covered with references to it being in schools and increasingly part of organised youth activities.

Australia needs more scientists, engineers and technicians. "Calling CQ" advises that 'developing an interest in amateur radio can lead to a rewarding career in science and technology.'

Home-brewing is not forgotten mention is made that radio amateurs often enjoy the challenges of building or constructing things, such as a simple wire antenna through to software or digital technique applications.

It provides information on how to contact a local radio club to access amateur licence training courses.

"Calling CQ" is an ideal tool for individual radio amateurs or clubs to promote amateur radio.

FUTURE EXAMS

To find out when a club in YOUR area is hosting assessments and/or training in Amateur Radio go to wia.org.au and check out the club pages.

Participating clubs keep this site up to date and post the latest information for all to see.

Also check the text edition of each news edition, where we do keep a secondary listing.

On the audio broadcast we will continue to give new information when it is received, but just in case you miss it one week, you can always access our text

Next Foundation Licence course, and Standard / Advanced assessments .....

The CRARC will be undertaking another Foundation Licence course on the weekend 19th & 20th of MAY.
Also running Standard and Advanced Licence Examinations and Assessments on the Saturday (19th May) for those who wish to sit.

If you wish to sit either the examinations, or do the F.L. Course, please contact Alan Hawes VK1WX via email to education@vk1.wia.ampr.org or by phone (after hours) to 02 6258 2568. Please note that all monies are to be paid by May 7th 2007 !

At Bendigo classes and licence assessments are conducted by Ross Pittard VK3FCE who can be contacted via email vk3fce@internode.on.net

The Central Goldfields Amateur Radio Club, Maryborough regularly holds classes. Contact Peter Rafferty VK3CC on 5460 4387 or email majorca49@hotmail.com

On the Gold Coast and want to talk to the world through their IRLP and EchoLink systems? Or already licensed and wish to upgrade Foundation to Standard? Well classes are held at the Nerang Clubhouse of the GCARS, ring Roy VK4IG on 5539 3530 Exams can be taken at a time to suit you.

TARC WIA Exams Information
Exam sessions are held on demand
with WIA Assessors and assessment packs
available for all 3 levels of licensing.
Contact theTARCinc WIA Exams
Regional Co-ordinator Roger/VK4CD

on mobile 0417 638366 to have
a mutually suitable date and WIA
Assessors assigned to your assessment.
Further information also available at
theTARCinc website ...
http://www.tarc.org.au/tarcexam.htm

VK5

Adelaide Hills Amateur Radio Society will run Foundation licence's
at the Aviation Museum, 56 Lipson Street Port Adelaide, 2 weekends
August 4th and 5th then November 3rd and 4th.
Contact the course convenor, Sasi Nayar on 0417 858 547

VK6
Re-Capping advice given earlier today by Mark, VK6FIVE:-
Foundation course for May on the 19/20 with an exam on the 26th.
So if you want to do the foundation license in WA, get in quick,
as the 21st & 22nd of July's course (with exam on the 28th
of July) is already one third full.
The next VK6 Exams for Standard and Advanced, if you miss next weeks,
are on June 30th. Think ahead, book early! Contact Neil VK6BDO.

CONGRATULATIONS - RESULTS

I'd like to read a lil note in from one of our listeners,
and one of our newer hams, and I quote

"Hi My name is Garry. I passed a foundation assessment on
Wednesday April 11 and have just recently received my call sign
and licence details on the ACMA data base.

For all who have assisted in me finally becoming licensed,
a very big thank you.

I believe I am the first blind candidate through the Wagga Wagga
club and they have made me feel very welcome.

My friend Wayne VK2FWHD vk2fwhd thought VK2F "No See" (VK2FNOC)
would be fitting as it is very true in my case.

Thank you one and all.

(Licence No Licence Category Callsign Licensee
1190386 Foundation VK2FNOC Garry Bootes)

>From VK1WIA this is the National News Service -
Tune in today...Focus on Tomorrow

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Jubilee Dinner and AGM

The 75th Jubilee Dinner and AGM of the Irish Society took place at
the Vienna Woods Hotel in Cork. The Jubilee Dinner was on the Saturday

evening and 120 sat down to enjoy a first class meal.

Guests at the dinner included Dave Sumner K1ZZ, Secretary of the IARU and CEO of the ARRL, Angus Annan MM1CCR, President of the RSGB, and EI2P a Trustee of the Irish Society and one of the longest standing active call signs in EI being licensed since 1937.

AMERICAN RED CROSS REFUSES TO NEGOTIATE ON BACKGROUND CHECKS OF HAMS

The American Red Cross has told the ARRL that it will not back away from its demand that ham radio volunteers submit to a background check by a third party contractor. A check that that could include a examination of that persons finances.

According to a news item on the ARRL website, a meeting between the League and Red Cross officials to discuss the matter lead to am impasse. One with the Red Cross holding firm to its position on the right to have its contractor conduct a background check that could include personal finance check if it deems it to be necessary and refusing to modify any aspect of it stance.

In recent days, a growing number of hams have reconsidered volunteering their services to the Red Cross because of the potential of having their personal finances made a part of such a background check. They say that they are freely giving of their time to assist the relief agency and should not be subject to this level of lifestyle scrutiny.

The full story is on-line at League's website.
www.arrl.org/news/stories/2007/04/16/100/?nc=1

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NEWS FROM ARNEWSLINE

IARU EMCOMMS PRESENTATION AVAILABLE ON THE WEB

A report developed by the Regional Conference on Disaster Relief and Management is now available for on-line viewing. The Power Point presentation is from an address given by the IARU Region 1 Emergency Communications Coordinator Seppo Sisatto, OH1VR.

The conference was held April 14th to thr 16th in Alexandria, Egypt. The report is on-line at www.iaru-1.org/Alexandria%20presentation.ppt

OUT-OF-THIS-WORLD INTERNET ACCESS

The U.S. Department of Defence has named Intelsat General Corp. to proceed with initial testing of what is expected to lead to Internet Routing in Space. In early 2009, a space-hardened Cisco router will be launched into geostationary orbit to support the voice, data and video needs of the armed forces, first responders, and others who need seamless and instant communications. You can read more about it at www.telecomweb.com/tnd/22650.html

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CONTEST COLUMN - D A T E L I N E

MAY 5 - 6 Westlakes CQ Repeater contest.

2007 VK/TRAN TASMAN CONTEST

80M Phone 12 May 2007
80M CW 26 May 2007
160M Phone 7 July 2007
160M CW 21 July 2007

AUGUST 11/12 Remembrance Day Contest (The RD) wia.org.au

Peter 4OD is after any form of Poetry or any document describing serving conditions or personal experience, that was written by a Serving Service Man or Woman during WW2, and was sent home or was found in an old Diary. Please send to vk4od@wia.org.au

7th World HST Championship will take part in Belgrade, Serbia in September 19-23rd.
Visit www.hst2007.org OR contact
DUSAN CEHA YU1EA
Amateur Radio Union of Serbia
Chairman of the E.C. HST 2007
e.mail: hst@hst2007.org
yu1ea@yahoo.com

SPECIAL EVENTS, BEACON AND NET ADVICE

Some time ago we said we would update the progress on the WA Shires award.

Well its finally starting to take off !!

They have started an activity time of 4-30 pm Saturday arvo (and Sunday as well if you have the time) to come up on 40 mtrs 7.075 or 80 mtr , freq to be agreed, and have a go at getting some more shires in the log.

Some are up to 20+ at the moment and others are chasing fast behind.

There are many metro shires still to come up on air so the first 10-20 are relatively easy!

Keith VK6XH would also like people taking part in the HF side of RD contest to give out their shires as well, that would really swell the numbers.
(Keith Bainbridge VK6XH & VK6DXR Northern Corridor Radio Group (VK6ANC))

The seventh International Museums Weekend special event will take place on 16th and 17th June 2007.

THE QNEWS WORK BENCH - the nuts and volts report -
(Measure twice - Cut once!)

L-ION BATTERIES FOR YOUR CAR

Japan's Mitsubishi Heavy Industries hopes to start mass production of lithium ion batteries for automotive use in 2010. These rechargeable batteries would be sold to auto makers for use in electric and gas-electric hybrid vehicles.

Sanyo Electric which supplies nickel metal hydride batteries to Honda and Ford is also developing the technology. Also getting into the act are electronics conglomerate Hitachi, car battery manufacturer Yuasa Corp and electronic parts maker Murata Manufacturing.

Lithium ion batteries are more compact than nickel metal hydride batteries, contributing to fuel efficiency. But safety concerns such as overheating remain and the technology is still considered too expensive by many.
(arnewsline)

MEDIA WATCH

MIT press has come out with a book on HAMs drawing on their vast experience in field of communication technology.

Just 'google' MIT.Press.Ham.Radios.Technical.Culture

A review and brief could be read here:

http://mitpress.mit.edu/catalog/item/default.asp?ttype=2&tid=10967
http://www.wilsoncenter.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=wq.essay&essay_id=216929

Hope it will make interesting reading both for tech and non tech HAMs.
(73 Rahul VU3WJM)

As we start the new WIA year have you advised nationalnews@wia.org.au that your broadcast entry on the web page and tally sheet are still correct?

Next week we start afresh so if you do want your details publicised then let the news team know.

Some more figures in from the year just gone, a total of 80,000 text and RF checkins logged, the highest and most popular VHF outlet is Adelaide's VK5RAD 2 meter Sunday morning broadcast, some 2700 stations.
Highest on MF was VK2's Westlakes with 300 and HF saw VK6DXA's 80 meter Sunday night retransmission with some 600 calling back.

On a state wide look, we see

VK1 with 350
VK8 with 600
VK3 with 4700
VK6 with 5500
VK5 with 5600
VK7 with 5700
VK2 with 6900
VK4 with 9000

(figures rounded out)

WIRELESS WEATHER

Solar Cycle 24 predictions from ARRL

April 25, a Solar Cycle 24 Prediction Panel, consisting
of members from NOAA, NASA and other agencies looked at all
available predictions and attempted to reach a consensus. It looks
like the minimum between cycles 23 and 24 may not occur for another
year, until March 2008, a year later than recently reported. The
accuracy is expected to be plus or minus six months. The peak of
cycle 24 is expected to occur in October 2011 if there is a large
solar cycle, and August 2012 for a small cycle. You can see their
statement at,

www.sec.noaa.gov/SolarCycle/SC24/Statement_01.html

INTRUDER WATCH - ENFORCEMENT ZONE

Region III IARUMS Coordinator B.L.Manohar (Arasu) VU2UR
r3msc_iaru@rediffmail.com

IARU Monitoring System International Coordinator:-
Robert E. Knowles, ZL1BAD.

Len Martinson, ZL1BYA, is Monitoring Service co-ordinator for the NZART.
Lenmart@clear.net.nz

VK National Coordinator VK4DU Glen Dunstan intruders@wia.org.au

VK IARUMS reflector email to subscribe intruders@wia.org.au

VK Coordinators for I.A.R.U.M.S.
VK3TZE Jimmy intruders@wiavic.org.au
VK5EV John
VK7BBW Paul vk7bbw@bigpond.com

IARUMS NETS
Friday 0730 UTC 7.065.5 with VK4CEU David.

Amateur exclusive frequencies where any non-amateur signal is definitely an
intruder, This listing by the late P29KFS, Rick Warnett.

Exclusive amateur only spectrum world wide
7.050 to 7.100
14.000 to 14.250
14.250 to 14.350 No broadcasters
21.000 to 21.450
24.890 to 24.990
28.000 to 29.700

CHINA: THE INTERLOPERS ARE BACK

If you are trying to hold a QSO on the 17 meter band and you are
suddenly trampled by two short-wave stations fighting one another then
you have been jammed by a pair of broadcasters vying for the minds of
the people of China.

More accurately, one is trying to express its views to listeners in the Peoples Republic of China while the other is trying to jam it out.

No matter as neither the "Sound of Hope" which broadcasts from Taiwan nor the music station jamming it from the city of Hainan are supposed to be on 18.160 MHz nor anywhere in the Amateur exclusive world wide 18 MHz allocation.

But they are and its not the first time that either has showed up in an Amateur Radio allocation.

And while several nations Intruder Watch operations have logged the stations and complaints have been filed, it remains to be seen if anything can be done to chase the interlopers away.
(ARNEWSLINE)

NOW ROBERT BROOMHEAD - VK3KRB.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- INTERNET --- THE HAMS DOMAIN

"Just thought I let you know about a new forum created on Sunday just gone. It is a forum for vk hams located at http://adelaide.informe.com/

It is designed for members to post articles and ask for advice on upgrading etc.

My motto (VK5MMM') is keeping the hobby alive and after 24 hours of operation it has attracted 18 members, which tell me it certainly is.

I am need of some moderators or people to submit some advice. I am new to ham radio and would love some people to be available to monitor the forum and screen out anything that are not correct etc.

Morgan (VK5MMM)
0438 887987

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- Internet Linking of Repeaters

WIN SYSTEM LINK RUNNING AGAIN. 146.575

The WIN System is now up and running on 146.575 Mhz in the Summerland region of northern NSW (VK2).

This system runs 24-7, it is located near the Tuckombil tower.
This is connected into about 30 repeaters in the US.
Any questions just call Eric and Kym VK2TRD and VK2FABB

New IRLP Node in Central Highlands

Central Highlands Amateur Radio Club President
Mark Robinson VK4KMR has advised that a new IRLP
node has just been activated in Dysart, Central Queensland.

Node 6037 will shortly give IRLP users complete access to the Central Highlands VHF solar powered linked repeater system sites near Clermont, Blackdown and Springsure as well as UHF repeaters at Rockhampton and Sarina.

Mark VK4KMR also thanks Steven VK4SMW and Rob VK4HW
with help in building the Linux IRLP 6037 Server and setting up
of control programmes and scripts and hopes that this additional
access will help members of the Central Highlands Amateur Radio
Club as well as the wider fraternity of Amateur Radio operators
keep in touch with other club members and events that happen
throughout the year.

Interested to learn more about the Central Highlands Amateur
Radio Club ? A Yahoo group site exists for VK4WCH,
ably administered by Bill VK4XZ and is located at URL
http://au.groups.yahoo.com/group/charc/

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RADIO AMATEUR OLD-TIMERS
http://www.raotc.org.au

OLD TIMERS
Members and friends of the Radio Amateurs Old Timers Club Australia are
reminded that the next news and information broadcast will take place on the
first Monday of the Month.

using the RAOTC callsign of VK3OTN.

10.00 am Victorian time on 7.060 and 3.650 MHz plus 1.843 MHz AM, and
145.700.

On 14.150 MHz at 01.00 UTC beaming north and 02:00 UTC west from Melbourne

For those not yet retired, 8.30 PM Victorian time tune 80 mtrs 3.650 MHz

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RADIO SCOUTING
http://www.scouts.com.au
http://www.scout.org/jota

SCOUT JOTA HF Voice Calling Frequencies
3590, 7090, 14190, 21190, 28590 kHz
14290, 18140, 21360, 24960, 28390 kHz (DX)

This years 50th JOTA will run from October 19th at 22:00
hours to October 21st at 24:00 hours YOUR local time.

An official start will be given by the World Scout Bureau
radio station in Geneva, Switzerland on October 19th at
21:00 h UTC with a transmission in the 20 and 80 meter
bands and on EchoLink.

BB's DIARY ROOM - THE FUTURE, IN AMATEUR RADIO

2007

May 4 - 6 WIA AGM at Parkes
www.wia.org.au

2008

Sept 13 Alarameet 2008 will be held in Ulverstone Tasmania on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th September 2008. Susan VK7LUV for details.

2009
International Telecommunication Union's Telecom World 2009.

SOCIAL SCENE

MAY 5 - 6
The Clareview Gathering is a yearly event where Radio Amateurs meet at a spot on the coast between Rockhampton and Mackay to relax, talk radio, re-establish acquaintances and participate in the world renown Saturday Night Mega-Auction.
It happens in 2007 during the Long Weekend on the 5th and 6th of May.
For further details contact Don Wilschefski VK4BY of the RADAR Club

MAY 12 MDRC Hamfest

The Moorabbin and District Amateur Radio club are please to announce, this years Hamfest will be held in the usual location, at the Brentwood Secondary College, Watsons Rd, Glen Waverly on Saturday 12th May 2006 - doors opening at 10am. The MDRC Hamfest is proud to be Victoria's biggest and this year will be no exception with displays and sales of new or preloved equipment, for anyone interested in Radio Communications and electronics.
Major door prizes, free tea and coffee, light refreshments and a sausage sizzle will also be on offer.

Trader table bookings and general enquires can be made be emailing Graeme Lewis VK3GL (vk3gl@aanet.com.au) or by phoning mobile 0418 289928

MAY 12 - BRISBANE HAMFEST
Brisbane Amateur radio Club is holding "BARCFEST 2007" on Saturday 12th May, venue is the Mount Gravatt Showground Logan Road.
If you wish to book a table information can be found on the club's website http://qsl.net/vk4ba or you can call LesVK4ZLP on 33437247.
Food will be available at the hall, Starting time is 10am.

FNNQARG QUEENS BIRTHDAY WEEKEND 2007
The Far North and North Queensland Amateur Radio Get Together (FNNQARG!) will be happening from the 8th to 11th June at Cardwell Village Beachcomber Motel and Tourist Park.
Demonstrations of ARDF, World Championship
Antenna Wrestling, Navcom Electronics
ICOM Yaesu and Diamond equipment displays,
the famous Sunday Morning Cricket Match plus
much much more will be happening over the weekend.
Amongst the attendees will by Mr Aoki, Managing Director of ICOM Australia and Mr Yoshi, Managing Director of Standard Vertex Yaesu Australia. Rumour has it that they are already practicing for the Sunday Morning Cricket Match and hope there is a healthy roll up of regional hams to make up good numbers for the FNQ and NQ teams.

Secure your accommodation now by getting in contact
with Toni or Bruce at -
Cardwell Village Beachcomber Resort and Van Park
1800 005633 07 40668550 fax 07 40668941
43A Marine Parade Cardwell QLD 4849

JUNE 9
Westlakes will have a display stall at the Lemontree Passage Bushfire
Brigades Fete on Saturday 9th June

JUNE 9-10
The South East Radio Group annual convention, which incorporates the
Australian Foxhunting Championships, will be held at the Scout Hall in
Mount Gambier SA, on the Queen's Birthday weekend, 9-10 June 2007.
Further information from:
http://serg.mountgambier.org/

July 7+8 - GippsTech
Conference for VHF, UHF & SHF enthusiasts in Australia.
Held at the Gippsland Campus of Monash University in Churchill, about
two hours drive east of Melbourne.
www.qsl.net\vk3bez\index.htm

SEPTEMBER 21-23
North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention
Happening in twin cities of Thuringowa and Townsville.

REWIND - A LOOK BACK IN HISTORY
(Will McGhie VK6UU is WIA National Historian)

Rewind, a look back at history

On a recent ABC radio program quiz segment this question was put:
'In what year was Citizens Band Radio legalised in Australia?"

It was 1977, in fact July the 1st of that year after a Federal
Government inquiry that received a large number of submissions
in favour of the move, and intense lobbying by a number of CB radio groups.

Initially CB was 18 channels at 27MHz, requiring operators to have
a government issued callsign, pay an annual licence fee and use
type-approved equipment.

The big plan was that 27MHz, the amateur 11 metre band, was only
to be a temporary allocation and all CBers would move to UHF in five years.

However, 27MHz was retained and expanded in 1982, and the UHF band
continues today.

Gone has the licensing requirement too, with CB radio now covered in
2002 by a fee-free Radiocommunications (Citizen Band Radio Stations)
Class Licence.

So radio amateurs can commemorate the loss of their 11 metre band,
while CB operators can mark the 30th or Pearl anniversary of

legalised CB in Australia.

I'm Jim Linton VK3PC and you're listening to VK1WIA.

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WIANews - we've reported...YOU decide.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to
the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may
lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might
even get a "cheerio call".

Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of the National WIA.
HOP TO SPECIFIC WIANews TOPICS
==========
WIA WEB ZONE, www.wia.org.au
==========
WIANews THANKS OUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS , OUR RELAY OPERATORS ACROSS THE WWOORRLLDD
FOR FORWARDING INFORMATION AND COMMENTS THEIR LISTENERS HAVE PASSED ON TO MAKE
WIANews VK'S LEADING WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PROGRAM.
E-mail WIANews WITH VK STORIES.
Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual
broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au
Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a
quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a
"cheerio call".
Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of QNEWS for the National WIA.
Thanks to to our dedicated band of broadcast volunteers who utilize their time
and equipment in bringing you this weekly broadcast.
The purpose of "WIANews" is to rapidly provide news of interest to active
amateurs residing in Australia and the globe.
We stronglyy encourage membership in the Wireless Institute of Australia and
participation in the activities of local clubs.
Opinions expressed in "WIANews" are those of the writers who submit material
and do not necessarily reflect those of the rebroadcasters, nor the National
WIA.
Material may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, a credit to
WIANews wouldn't go astray...
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821. SARL News in English 5/5/2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-05 16:02:08 UTC
From: website@sarl.org.za
Message-ID: <5DA67E724FFB42EE9A604A92CC4FC3C1@toron>
Source record: 4626
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 6 MAY 2007

You are listening to Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. This broadcast can also be heard on Echolink by connecting to ZS6FCS. To listen to a web stream go to www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links. This, and previous bulletins, can be downloaded from the web site of the SARL i.e. www.sarl.org.za. You can also read or download previous bulletins from there and subscribe to receive future bulletins by email.

This transmission is by Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with relays on 3,695, 10,135, 14,235 and 51,400 MHz as well as 438,825 MHz in the Pretoria area. (Other news readers please change to suit).

SILENT KEY

It is with regret that we have to announce that Willie Steyn, ZS6BCV, passed away on Monday morning 23 April. Our deepest sympathies to his wife Saar, ZS6BVG, daughter Annamarie, ZR6HE, other children, grandchildren, relatives and friends.

In the news today:

CONSTRUCTION COMPETITION REVISED

CALL BOOK ON APRS.

PRESIDENT'S NET AND INTECNET TONIGHT

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

CONSTRUCTION COMPETITION REVISED

The South African Amateur Radio Development Trust has revised the 2007 construction competition to an open competition in which the entrant can decide what he or she would like to design and build.

Enter your idea in as much details as possible. Five entries will be chosen and provided with up to R1000 each to construct the project. The entries must have application in amateur radio. The five projects will compete for one of two FT2800M transceivers sponsored by the Overstay,

the distributors of Yaesu. Visit www.amateurradio.org.za for full details.

CALL BOOK ON APRS.

Recently Dick Stratford, ZS6RO, set up a server on APRS which can be used to obtain Call book information from anywhere in the APRS international network. APRS, the acronym for Automatic Position Reporting System, was developed by Bob Bruninga, WB4APR. The system uses amateur radio to transmit position reports, weather reports, and messages between users.

When querying a local South African callsign, the SARL database is used. When a DX callsign is queried via APRS, the QRZ.COM database is used in real-time. The same databases are used when querying from the packet radio network.

As the SARL Call Book is updated weekly, this database is searched first because its South African content would be more accurate. If the information is not found, a search is then made in real-time at QRZ.COM's database on the Internet.

To use this facility when operating APRS and assuming one is using the APRS program - UI-View, open the window to send a message and in the "TO callsign" field, type ZS6RO-WI ("WI" stands for "WHO IS").

Then in the "MESSAGE" area, type "F Callsign" and Enter. (The Callsign being any Callsign you wish to look up). ("F" stands for "FULL Information"). One can just type the Callsign and a one-line summary of information on that Callsign will be received via APRS.

Instead of a Callsign, one can type "F SARL" for example. This will give the phone number and email address of the South African Radio League. Other country's Radio Amateur Leagues' information can also be retrieved - for example, RSGB, DARC, etc.

To update your personal Call Book information, South African amateurs should send updated information to admin@sarl.org.za.

PRESIDENT'S NET AND INTECNET TONIGHT

Join SARL President Hartlett this evening (Sunday 6 May 2007) for a review and update of the SARL activities and information about the Youth Day event on 16 June 2007. The President's Net starts at 19:00.

The Intecnet follows at 20:00 with Chris Scarr, ZS2AAW, of the Port Elizabeth Amateur Radio Society speaking about the extensive repeater network that serves the Eastern Cape and stretches into the Western Cape and Free State.

Clubs wishing to join the link up should send details to armi@sarl.org.za before noon today.

The President's Net and Intecnet are active on many repeaters and on HF on 3 718 kHz, on 7 082 kHz and 14 320 kHz as well as on the web. Visit www.sarl.org.za and click on ARMI for full details. The presentationcan also be downloaded from the ARMI page through a right click and then selecting 'save target as'.

CLUB NEWS

THE KEMPTON AMATEUR TECHNICAL SOCIETY AGM

The Kempton Amateur Technical Society held their AGM on the 21st of April 2007 and the following members were elected to serve on the committee:

Chairman - Hannes Hanekom, ZS6LW; Vice Chairman - Vivian Dold, ZS6VD; Secretary - Theo Barkhuizen, ZR6TGB; Treasurer - Paul Corneluis, ZS6PJC.

Thank you to the previous committee for their leadership and congratulations to the new committee.

If you would like to know more about the Kempton Amateur Technical Society, visit their website on www.kats.za.net.

ERC FOX HUNT

A Fox hunt will be hosted at the East Rand Radio Club at their club house in Springs at 09:00 on 19 May 2007.

For more information visit www.zs6erb.co.za.

The fox hunt will be followed by an APRS Interest Group Meeting at 14:00 at the club house.

PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the expected solar activity will continue at very low levels. The geomagnetic field is expected to range from unsettled to active levels on 20 May. The expected Effective Sun Spot number for the coming week will be less than 20.

20 m and 15 m will provide best opportunities for DX. There is a possibility of 15 and 20 m openings towards India from about 06:00 and again at 13:00 CAT. Conditions are going to be challenging towards Australia.

>From about 16:00, there may be good 15 and 20 m openings towards Europe. Contacts to the USA are going to be very challenging. For the CW and digital enthusiasts it may also be worth monitoring 10 MHz.

Although the predictions may not be too enthusiastic, HF always has the capability to surprise you as was once again demonstrated with the ZS1 and ZS3 expeditions this past long weekend. You will never know what you are missing unless you switch your rig on, listen and also call CQ.

Please visit www.spaceweather.co.za for further information.

DIARY OF EVENTS

Today: 6 May - ZS3/ZS4 40 Metre Sprint and President's Net and Intechnet; 15 May - Closing date for applications for Itchen Valley bursaries; 19 May - ERC Fox hunt; 16 June - SARL Youth day; 30 June - Closing date for updating of SA DX Survey.

SARL News depends on clubs and individuals for news items of importance and interest to radio amateurs. The one and only way to ensure that your contribution will reach the SARL News team, is to place it in www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date. It will be appreciated if you will do it in both Afrikaans and English.

The SARL also invites all listeners to listen to the program Amateur Radio Mirror International this Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 695 kHz. Audio is also streamed on www.zs6mrk.org and on Echolink from ZS6FCS as for this bulletin. A repeat transmission takes place on Mondays at 21:00 on 3 215 kHz. Telkom and Sentech sponsor the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

You have been listening to a news bulletin by the South African Radio League, which was compiled by Gustav, ZS6BWN.

A prosperous week to all, 73.

/EX

========== Message Ends ========== To edit or remove your entry from this mailing list go to www.sarl.org.za/members/admin/maildat.asp

822. Re: Emergency power alternatives

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-05 16:04:43 UTC
From: crn@NOSPAM.netunix.com
Message-ID: <f1i7c9$4qf$1$8300dec7@news.demon.co.uk>
Source record: 4627

Bill Horne, W1AC <billhorne73@comcast.not> wrote:
> Fellow ham,
>
> A post from LA4RT has made me realize that "Human powered" power
> generation is too narrow a scope for this discussion, so I'm starting a
> new thread.
>
> Let's hear ideas about alternative sources of power for radios: we might
> be unable to find steam-driven units ;-) but there's always more that
> one way to skin a cat.
>

WW2 portable steam chargers are still available, they come in a small
crate which can be airdropped.

http://www.prestonservices.co.uk/generators.htm scroll down to RICARDO
Military Radio Battery Charging Set

These units saw widespread use in remote locations, all you need is some
water and some wood. Not cheap though, they are now a collectors item
selling for around 2500 UK Pounds. (US$ 5000).

823. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-05 17:02:07 UTC
From: stevenrobeson@yahoo.com
Message-ID: <1178369985.278069.74070@o5g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4628

On May 3, 3:52 pm, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
> >From: stevenrobe...@yahoo.com wrote on Wed 2 May 2007 23:35:
>
> On Apr 21, 12:20?am, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
>
> > There's still plenty of time for you to expand the scope of your
> >HF experience, Len. Drop kick that "commercial operator" mode and re-
> >focus on AMATEUR applications for a while! You'll enjoy it!
>
> I will politiely ask you to rephrase that paragraph.

Request refused due to lack of valid reason to do so.

Steve, K4YZ

824. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-05 17:02:29 UTC
From: xxx <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-24B3C1.08592005052007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 4629

"KH6HZ" <kh6hzA@Tarrl.net> wrote:

> [...]
> Where are the "hoards of technically savvy" people in the wings "just
> waiting for the code requirement to disappear"?

Answer: They know nothing whatever about any of this.

When the Internet opened to the public in the early 1990's, there was
a level of media interest that was almost indescribable. Have you made
any attempt to draw the media into this?

825. Re: Line of sight vs. RF in wartime question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-05 17:03:32 UTC
From: crn@NOSPAM.netunix.com
Message-ID: <f1i6lrbbf1$8302bc10@news.demon.co.uk>
Source record: 4630

Wayne Lundberg <Waynelund@worldnet.att.net> wrote:
> Back in the mid 50's on patrol in the Formosa Straights I had daily
> challenges to read code being jammed by the Chinese. I knew then, that only
> Morse code would be a viable means of communication. Even as we, in the
> Navy, were installing the new teletype systems. A single ping of
> interference on the teletype signal would cause an error. Then came Single
> Sideband, and then digital.
>
> What I'm getting at is what I read about the recent battle between Israel
> and the Iranian sponsored terrorists and how they were able to almost
> disrupt communications through jamming techniques, but the Israeli's
> prevailed through the use of line of sight technology.

Virtually all military radiocomms nowadays uses spread spectrum techniques
to avoid jamming and interference.

For voice an SSB frequency hopper is simple and reliable. Digital stuff
tends to use broadband code sequence modulation.

826. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-05 17:04:56 UTC
From: an old freind <konstans@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <1178379985.668227.57570@u30g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4631

On May 3, 4:52 pm, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
> >From: stevenrobe...@yahoo.com wrote on Wed 2 May 2007 23:35:
>
> On Apr 21, 12:20?am, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
>
> > There's still plenty of time for you to expand the scope of your
> >HF experience, Len. Drop kick that "commercial operator" mode and re-
> >focus on AMATEUR applications for a while! You'll enjoy it!
>
> I will politiely ask you to rephrase that paragraph.

some thing Never do change it seems

>
> I cannot "drop kick" my previous life experience. In granting me
> an Amateur Extra license, the FCC has not required that I give up
> anything (as in discarding or "drop kicking") insofar as radio...nor
> of experience in radio nor of formal training in radio. Further, the
> FCC gives all licensees a great deal of freedom of choice in their
> class's frequency spectrum and modes of communications. There
> is no compelling mandate that any licensee must 'operate' in
> according to what certain groups of amateurs say one must.
>
> "Radio" and all of electronics works by the same laws of physics,
> regardless of the federal regulations on use made by governments.

Nor should rop kickyou experence after all if you could achive that
state (which I doubt) would you even have an interest in the ARS? I
doubt it
In your case your professional eperence is what brought you here

In Mine it was lsitening to audio from the YomKippur year and I think
before that the 6 Day war. Our life experences are what makesus who we
are as people and as Hams

"drop kicking" Our experences is form a sucide in a very real sense

But of course you are right Maxwell equation et alldo not change
suddenlyin the Ham bands

I read alternitive history and sometimes in my nightmares wonder what
what following the Conventional wisdom back when we ham were banshihed
to USELES HF would have produced today

I hope and Belive that the ARS has a future

827. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-05 20:54:12 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1178397652.512518.175480@n76g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4632

N...@AOL.COM wrote on Sat, 5 May 2007 08:20:29 EDT

>On May 4, 7:22?am, "KH6HZ" <kh6...@Tarrl.net> wrote:
>> <stevenrobe...@yahoo.com> wrote:

>> > Nope...I think we're getting all the "influx" now that we will.
>
>> The decline in licensing continues unabated.
>
>Well, maybe. But according to the numbers I've seen and posted in
>recent months, the number of current, unexpired FCC-issued amateur
>licenses held by individuals seems to have leveled off at around
>655,000.

One of the reasons I used the www.hamdata.com figures is that there
is no differentiation between "active" and "inactive" in quoting the
New (never before licensed) versus the Expired (very definitely out of
their grace period). That dynamic shows - directly - the
'replacement'
of attrited licensees by newcomers.

>... However, it should be
>noted that the total number can vary up and down a couple of hundred
>in just a few days.

Examining totals over a 30-day or longer period has an averaging
effect of minimizing the statistical anamolies occurring over just a
few days. "Smoothing the curve," so to speak.

>> Where are the "hoards of technically savvy" people in the wings "just
>> waiting for the code requirement to disappear"?
>
>There are three possibilities:
>
>1) They don't know the rules changed back in February.

That seems unlikely considering the FCC announced their decision
on 15 December 2006 and that news was then carried by the ARRL
in all their periodicals, in CQ magazine, in Popular Communications,
on www.qrz.com, on www.eham.net, on newsgroups oriented towards
amateur radio (and including SWL and CB enthusiasts), in major
electronics trade periodicals (EDN and Electronic Design, even
Microwaves & RF, the IEEE Spectrum membership magazine), even
in a few large newspapers. While the 'waiting period' was only
slightly longer than two months before legal activation, there had
been an NPRM and Comment period on it begun nearly a year and

a half prior in Docket 05-235 announced 19 July 2005. That NPRM
and Comments were also publicized by the major amateur radio
news providers in print and on the Internet. Anyone who is at all
concerned or interested in or about amateur radio in the USA is
bound to have found out about it ahead of time.

>2) They're busy studying for the written test, finding a VE session,
>etc.

While the more remote areas of the USA would still be difficult to
access a VEC examination location, those would also represent the
least populous areas. VEC exams exist in the urban centers and
are publicized by the dozen-plus VECs to those interested. In the
Greater Los Angeles area (population roughly 8 million) about half
of the exams scheduled were "walk-in," no advance notice
necessary. In close observation of all the Question Pools issued
by the NCVEC, there were very few questions directly concerning
morse code use that would be affected by FCC 06-178 so there
would be minimal studying any changes wrought by that R&O.

>3) They don't exist.

Or, more likely, the phrase did not exist in the alleged wide use
claimed by some. :-)

A more likely possibility is that there are 'hoards' [sic] of
technically-
savvy people who simply gave up on the old requirements of ham
radio testing and went on to other, newer technology-related hobbies
that were more interesting to them. They just were not interested
in spending their own time on learning a skill they would never use
after passing an amateur radio examination.

73, Len AF6AY

828. Re: Before and After Cessation of Code Testing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-05 20:56:51 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1178397729.238492.114970@y5g2000hsa.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4633

N...@AOL.COM wrote on Sat, 5 May 2007 08:20:29 EDT:

>On May 4, 7:22?am, "KH6HZ" <kh6...@Tarrl.net> wrote:

>And just what are "big numbers", anyway?
>
>Back in the late 1940s, all through the 1950s and into the early
>1960s, the number of US hams grew from about 60,000 just after VJ-Day
>to about 250,000 in 1964, even though all hams back then had to pass
>Morse Code exams and "secret" written tests.

Yes, there was certainly a growth, but a number of factors were not mentioned. Firstly, all amateur radio operation was forbidden during the duration of World War II. Secondly, the wide use of radio for communications by the military during that war was certainly one of exposure to many military members that might have been mildly interested in radio in general at the time. Third, the large numbers of
"war surplus" radio equipment suitable for HF operation was a boon for all interested at the time to become radio active at low cost. I've
witnessed all of that first-hand.

>Yet ham radio was far less popular back then than it is today, because
>the ratio of hams to total US population was much lower then than
>today.

I have to disagree with that for several reasons. Independent amateur radio publications CQ and 73 began a many-decades publishing existance in that period. Several other radio-interest publications began and some pre-WWII publishers restarted in the late 1940s. Publishing of electronics subjects in all areas began in earnest during
the late 1940s and into the 1950s and those have increased up to today.

Electronics in many applications flourished after WWII, even before the invention of the transistor and first appearance of low-priced production devices almost a decade later. With that increase in general electronics production, not to mention the avalanche of TV receivers being made, came an increase in the availability of electronic components through distributors and dealers, most being suitable for "radio" applications. Thousands of small start-up businesses and proto-corporations involved in electronics began during that period; few were directly involved with amateur radio per se since all of the electronics industry was undergoing a rapid

expansion...something that hasn't stopped.

The immediate post-WWII period saw little change in amateur radio technology or operation, the vast majority concerned with HF bands as they were then, that mostly using radiotelegraphy mode. Voice on HF ham bands required double-sideband AM techniques which didn't begin to be replaced by new-fangled SSB until the late 1950s. Data (actually RTTY then) was rare and confined to those who could get surplus teleprinter terminals. Only a few knowledgeable amateur experimenters were engaged in radio above 30 MHz, a part of the spectrum considered almost "other-worldly" by so many HF hams and inhabited only by TV, FM, and radars. :-) The first significant change in worldwide amateur radio came about (in my observation) at WARC-79 and the creation of new HF bands for amateurs. In the USA there was little advancement in amateur radio regulations to keep pace with the growing influence of electronics in all consumer applications and radio for other purposes than broadcast or ham use.

CB on the former 11m ham band slice of HF had a notable growth among U.S. radio producers after 1958. All of the bigger radio makers were involved plus several start-up companies. Less than a decade later came the off-shore produced CB sets at lower prices and the explosion in CB set use on highways began. While there are no easily-obtainable statistics now, estimates of CB set use today outnumbers amateur radio licensees by at least 7:1. With the off-shore production of CB transceivers came the off-shore produced amateur radios having competitive quality and cost.

>The 1970s and early 1980s were another period of fast growth, even
>though the license test requirements had been considerably increased
>by the "incentive licensing" changes of 1968 and 1969.

Not having taken any "incentive licensing era" tests for amateur radio, I can't comment on "requirements being considerably increased." I do note that the time period was one in which the [Japanese] "Big3" of amateur radio designers-producers got started and firmly established their position in the ham market. Hallicrafters
of Chicago dissolved their business, National Radio went to all-government contract work and morphed into other things, Collins Radio dropped out of the amateur market though it is still heavy into commercial and military radios as a division of Rockwell Intl. Heath Company of Benton Harbor, MI, quit most of its fabled kit business and changed owners. Yaesu, Kenwood, Icom rule in the HF-VHF-UHF ham radios off the shelf today. All three plus the smaller off-shore makers offer quality in production and design at competitive prices. I would think that such would have a direct bearing on whether any newcomers would be attracted to amateur radio of today or of the 1980s and 1990s.

However, with such "fast growth" ('fast' being subjective) came the increased demand to eliminate the code test for amateur radio

license exams. Several countries had established "T-hams" who did not test for morse code skill but were restricted to VHF and up. The USA lagged behind those other countries in finally establishing the Technician class (no-code-test) license in 1991. The rest of the radio world was giving up using any morse code modes...if it had ever established it from a radio service's beginning.

In 1970 there was little competition for free time from the Internet (made public 1991), Bulletin Board Systems (as yet a decade away), personal computers (four years away for a beginning, a decade away for the "IBM PC"), less than half of all homes had color TV and most had screens smaller than 23 inches, nothing like the 100 channels for model radio control at 72-74 MHz, few amateur radios on the market for VHF and higher, cellular telephone service just starting (at lower frequencies than L-band), no standardization on Compact Disc recordings (magnetic recordings had begun to compete with vinyl discs), no standard magnetic tape recording system for television recordings, "Pong" was just taking hold as a novelty electronic game in restaurants and lounges (all-digital, first models did not use a microprocessor), TTL digital devices were becoming a market-demand leader for digital electronics, some specialty analog ICs were new and available although most would be out of production in three decades, "auto electronics" consisted of an in-dash AM/FM radio and an ignition system little changed from 1940 designs. Personal radio was limited to 11m CB that was undergoing an explosive growth from inexpensive foreign production and becoming popular with truckers. Electronic music augmentation was just beginning and the first music synthesizers had appeared.

Three decades later there is considerable competition for free time and personal entertainment. One out of three Americans has a cell phone subscription. One out of five American households has some form of Internet access. CDs have replaced all previous formats of music recording and DVDs have replaced former means television recordings. Retail dealers and renters of both have been created. We are in the transition phase of conversion to HDTV which has already shown a superior video and audio service. Most U.S. households have multi-channel television-music service by cable or satellite relay. We've had direct-dial telephone service for two decades to any other same-service telephone in the world. The Internet is firmly established as part of U.S. social fabric and is found on all continents of the world. We have license-free FRS HTs over the counter as pairs for under $100. 11m CB is still with us and still used on highways by the millions. Remote control of models by radio in the 100 channels of license-free bands at 72 and 74 MHz is the standard for modelers, wireless local area network equipment is off-the-shelf for businesses and residences. Cell phone service is available on all major U.S.

highways, even in remote areas (excluding parts of Alaska). We have cordless telephones that operate at 5.6 MHz, using secure digital modulation as well as older 2.4 MHz units with the same features, both a practical impossibility in 1970.

I've not included such things as voice-over-Internet protocol, the ability of modern PCs to typeset a printed page as good as any compositor plus include imagery as part of a finished document. I've not included the (literally) thousands of different games available for PCs. I've not even mentioned that the average under-$1500 over-the-counter PC suite of today having more processing power than any IBM-360 or RCA Spectra 70 mainframe computer of 1970. I've not mentioned that digital electronics and photosensing have changed personal photography from film to electronic form, capable of being "developed" at any PC or added-function stand-alone printer. I've not included the (license-free) radios that open car doors, open garage doors, sound various music when wireless door bells are pushed, activate electrical devices remotely, carry security TV camera signals, or identify products by RF, all using relatively-secure digital codings.

The preceding has been just a summary of the kinds of things which can compete for free time for all Americans, whether they are licensed in the amateur radio service or not. It is that kind of competition that future amateur radio in the USA has to work amongst to attract newcomers. Amateur radio must attract newcomers or it won't survive as a radio service. Amateur radio must change with the times or just disappear as human attrition takes its toll on those who refuse to adapt.

73, Len AF6AY

829. Re: Are we the last generation of hams?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-05 21:02:27 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1178398750.282468.145160@y5g2000hsa.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4634

On May 5, 9:04 am, an old freind <konst...@hotmail.com> wrote:
> On May 3, 4:52 pm, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
>
> > >From: stevenrobe...@yahoo.com wrote on Wed 2 May 2007 23:35:
>
> > On Apr 21, 12:20?am, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
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> > > There's still plenty of time for you to expand the scope of y
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> > >focus on AMATEUR applications for a while! You'll enjoy it!
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> > I will politiely ask you to rephrase that paragraph.
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> some thing Never do change it seems

Let's leave that for another newsgroup to handle.

> > I cannot "drop kick" my previous life experience. In granting me
> > an Amateur Extra license, the FCC has not required that I give up
> > anything (as in discarding or "drop kicking") insofar as radio...nor
> > of experience in radio nor of formal training in radio. Further, the
> > FCC gives all licensees a great deal of freedom of choice in their
> > class's frequency spectrum and modes of communications. There
> > is no compelling mandate that any licensee must 'operate' in
> > according to what certain groups of amateurs say one must.
>
> > "Radio" and all of electronics works by the same laws of physics,
> > regardless of the federal regulations on use made by governments.
>
> Nor should rop kickyou experence after all if you could achive that
> state (which I doubt) would you even have an interest in the ARS? I
> doubt it
> In your case your professional eperence is what brought you here

Actually, military experience "brought me here." :-) That's given
at

http://sujan.hallikainen.org/BroadcastHistory/uploads/My3Years.pdf

My first interest in "radio" came about while flying free-flight model
aircraft in 1947. I'd heard about radio control and wanted to know
more. Of course, there wasn't much technology involved in 1947
for that. :-)

> But of course you are right Maxwell equation et alldo not change
> suddenlyin the Ham bands

James Clerk Maxwell was one of the rare geniuses who came
up with the basic equations defining electromagnetic waves.
"Maxwell's Equations" serve all radio of today...even if some of
the users can't understand what they mean. :-)

> I hope and Belive that the ARS has a future

I'd like to think so, too. But, it must adapt to the times and
technology and not be bound to certain modes and procedures
established in the middle time of its existance.

73, Len AF6AY

830. GB2RS NEWS Sunday 29 April 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-05 21:18:31 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200705052117.l45LH8017668@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4635
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

1 GB2RS NEWS Sunday 29 April

The news headlines

* Radio ham saves sailors

* ISS crew connects with schools

* FCC petitioned to restore Morse tests

An amateur radio operator from Comboyne in Australia answered the calls of two sailors battling treacherous five-metre seas in the Pacific Ocean during Good Friday.

Harold Ralston, 62, has been a radio ham for 30 years and was working in his shed when he heard the cries for help.

Sailors Bob Wilson and Mike Ross struck rough seas 75 nautical miles south east of Port Macquarie. Then were left drifting helplessly when the propeller on the 14m long vessel, Maniunda broke. With no power, no steering and battling against 40 knot winds they were unable to pick up English speaking radio operators. However as Ralston was 600m above sea level he had a greater range. He was 200km away and kept in touch and alerted the rescue authorities.

The Amateur Radio on the International Space Station, ARISS, program has had a very busy and successful April. This month, amateur radio has made it possible for youngsters at nine schools in the US, the Netherlands, Australia, Hungary and Russia to speak with the astronauts and cosmonauts aboard the ISS. On 12 April, students at three schools got the chance to talk with those aboard the ISS. Two ARISS school contacts were made on 17 April and brought the total to 286 since the first ISS crew came aboard in November 2000. ARISS International Secretary Rosalie White, K1STO, commented that it was a very ambitious schedule for the dedicated team of volunteers. She noted that civilian space traveler Charles Simonyi, KE7KDP/HA5SIK, has been spending some of his precious time in space on the air.

Further ARISS contacts are planned for 5 May at around 10.24 and 13.34. The ISS audio, on 145.800MHz FM, should be audible across Europe. The contact will also be relayed via Echolink.

The American communications regulator, the FCC, has received petitions to reverse its recent decision to drop the Morse requirement from amateur radio licences. Petitioner Anthony R. Gordon, KG6EQM, of West Covina, California, contends that significant national security

implications require that the FCC take another look at the issue.

The Swains Island N8S DXpedition team made 117,205 QSOs. This represents the fourth highest alltime DXpedition contact total. After shutting down on April 15, the crew made it back to American Samoa late the following day and soon will begin the operation from Samoa as 5W8AA. The first N8S QSL cards will be available in about a month. YT1AD will handle cards for N8S.

Four CubeSats containing payloads operating on amateur radio frequencies were among several spacecraft launched successfully on 17 April from Baikonur Cosmodrome, Kazakhstan.

The rocket deployed seven CubeSats plus seven other satellites from Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Ukraine into Earth orbit, and signals from the four CubeSats have been copied on Earth. Among the spacecraft was Colombia's first satellite.

2 The Renfrew Amateur Radio Society has received a #3000 award from the All Scotland National Lottery Grant. They are planning to buy two new HF transceivers and two aerials for their special event day, the 100 year scout celebration, Scotland. It is due to take place between 25 and 27 May.

Three clubs in East Anglia, Clacton Radio Club, Felixstowe and District Amateur Radio Club and Harwich Amateur Radio Interest Group have joined forces to operate the GB400AA special event station. The station will commemorate the founding of Jamestown, Virginia 400 years ago when the ships Susan Constant, Godspeed and Discovery arrived in Virginia. They had 102 passengers and founded the first English speaking settlement in North America.

GB400AA will be operated at the Mayflower Museum on the Halfpenny Pier at Harwich where The Harwich Society will have an exhibition showing the local area's connections with the inaugural voyages. The station is planned to operate on 11 to 13 May and 25 to 26 May.

IARU Region 1 invites HQ stations of its member societies and stations of special emergency communication groups to participate in the second EmCom Party On The Air on May 5 at 11.00 to 15.00. The operation will occur on the emergency centre of activity frequencies on 40, 20 and 15 meters. The exercise will test how usable these frequencies are across Region 1. It will also increase interest and find best practice for emergency communications between emergency groups such as RAYNET. It is emphasised that this is not a contest but an emergency communications exercise.

The aim for participants is to contact IARU Region 1 HQ station OF3F in Finland and also as many other national HQ and emergency communication group stations as possible using SSB.

More information on the UK involvement in this exercise can be obtained from the RAYNET HF Team website at www.raynet-hf.net.

Now the rallies and events for the coming week.

[Note to newsreaders: as usual, use your discretion on the 29 April events.] On Sunday 29 April the Radio-Active Show takes place from 10am at the Civic Hall, Nantwich. The show will be opened by RSGB President Angus Annan. On Sunday 29 April a Surplus Electronic And Electrical Sale will take place from 10.30 at Aldridge and Barr Beacon Radio Club, Aldridge Community Centre, Anchor Meadow, Middlemoor Lane, Aldridgre. On Sunday 6 May the DAMBUSTERS HAMFEST takes place from 10.30 at Thorpe Camp Museum, Coninsby. Details form Tony, G3ZPU, on 01507 527835.

Details forthcoming rallies and events are on pages 88 and 89 of the May RadCom. Now for news of special events.

>From 25 May to 6 June, Mike Bryant, GW6NLP and Colin Kenton, MW0JNI, will be running a special event station GB100TT in association with Scarlett Point amateur radio society, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the TT races. It will be based at Scarlett Point Tower in Castletown. For more information log onto www.qsl.net/wars or www.scarlettpoint.com. Special event station ON50EU is active until 31 December to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome.

3 Look for special event station OX60AD to be on air throughout April to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the US Air Force and the 56th anniversary of the Defence Treaty between the US and Denmark for the Protection of Greenland. Activity will be on 40, 20, 17, 15 and 10m using CW, SSB and RTTY. The Flight Refuelling ARS is operating special event station GB2FRA until 4 May to commemorate its 25th anniversary. Activity will be on HF, VHF and UHF using CW, SSB and FM. Special station EV5IPY is on the air to celebrate the participation of Belarus in the 4th International Polar Year. Operations are conducted under the aegis of the newly born Department of Polar Researches at the Belorussian Geographic Society. Special callsign HF40PAZ will be aired until 30 April and again on 1 to 30 September to celebrate the 40th anniversary of club station SP6PAZ.

The Letchworth and Baldock District Scouts, Cubs and Beavers will be operating G0LBS from 9am - 6pm at their Centenary Camp between 4th and 7th May 2007. Operation will be on 20, 40, 80, 160m and 2m. And now the HF DX news compiled from 425 DX News, the Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin and other sources.

Fred, PY2XB will sign VP5/PY2XB from Providenciales Island, NA-002 from April 19 to May 3. Operation will be on the low bands QRO on 160, 80 and 40m, and WARC bands 30, 17 and 12m. Digital modes including BPSK31 and RTTY will be emphasised. Some unusual islands will be activated for the RSGB IOTA contest in July:

* Proti, Greece, EU-158 will be activated by DL7IO and team.

* Great Bernera, UK, EU-010 will be activated by M0LSB.

* Batz, France, EU-105 will be activated as TM7BA, by F5NCU and F6EHJ.

* Quadra, Canada, NA-091 will be activated by VA7AQ.

* South Marsh (USA), NA-140, will be activated by W3RFA. PA5CW, will be active portable YB9 from Bali from 25 April to 10 May. Kang, DS4DRE, is currently active as DS4DRE/4 from Hong Island until 30 June. Activity will be on 80-10m, CW and SSB Len, UR3HR, Sergey, UR7HTX, Max, UR7HTZ, 3D2TZ, Alex, UT5UY, 3D2UY and Alex, UX0LL, 3D2A, will be activating two IOTA groups between late April and early May. Their activity will start from Taveuni Island OC-016, using the callsign 3D2AP, 3D2TZ and 3D2UY between April 27 and May 3. The team will then move to Yanuca Island in the Ringgold Isles Group OC-189 as 3D2RI between 3 and 7 May. QSL cards should be sent direct to home callsign or through the bureau,QSL 3D2UY via UT5UT, 3D2AP via UX0LL and 3D2TZ via UR7HTZ. Due to the high cost of this operation on a remote Pacific Island, the group is asking for sponsorship by various DX organizations and individuals around the world. If you would like to help fund or sponsor their DXpedition, please contact Alex, UT5UY, by e-mail at: ut5uy@ukr.net. Dani, EA4ATI is returning to Dakar, Senegal and will remain there until April 2008. He expects to be active as 6W/EA4ATI and 6W1EA, probably with a beam for 10, 15 and 20 meters, and dipoles for the other bands. QSL direct via homecall.

4 DL9MWG will be active from Malta as 9H3RT from 18 April to 11 May. Activity will be on HF, mainly CW. Kevin, BA4XA, Mary, BA4XYL, Roy, BA4VE, Li, BD4XD, Wang, BD4XW,Chang, BG6IQD and Tiger, BG4VGJ will be active as homecall 4 from Dongxilian Island, AS-135, on 1 to 7 May. They will operate holiday style on or around the usual IOTA frequencies using 100 watts into a 2-element Yagi, vertical and dipole antennas. QSL via home calls. Eduardo, CU2AF will be active as C91AF from Maputo, Mozambique from 27 April to 6 May. He plans to operate for a few hours daily on 80-10 meters SSB, RTTY and PSK31. QSL via home call. CQ5MGP is the special callsign used by the Portuguese Navy amateur radio group, Nucleo de Radioamadores da Armada, CS5NRA, during the Portuguese Navy Day Contest. This year's event will be held on 5 to 6 May. Karen, DL8HK, CW and Alfred, DB1VQ,SSB, will be active as DL0EFA/p from Usedom Island, EU-129, O-13 for the German Islands Award, from 26 April to 1 May. QSL via DK9VB. John, K9EL will be active from St. Martin, NA-105, from 27 April to 6 May and will operate holiday style as FS/K9EL on 10-80 meters mainly CW and SSB. QSL via home call, direct or bureau. Jim, MM0BQI will be active as MM0BQI/p from Shuna Island, EU-008 from 28 April to 5 May. He plans to operate RTTY, CW and SSB on 17-80 meters. QSL via home call, direct or bureau. A group of operators from the Radio Club de Honduras will be active as HQ9L from Little Cay, Bahia Islands (NA-057) on 4 to 6 May. They will operate SSB. CW and digital modes on 160-10 meters. QSL via HR2RCH, direct or bureau. Look for Marconi memorial station IY0TC to be active from Civitavecchia on the 28th for the International Marconi Day. QSL via I0KHP. Fabio, IW1DFU will be active as IA5/IW1DFU from Elba Island, EU-028, on 25-30 April. Expect him to operate mainly CW on 20 and 30 meters. QSL via home call, direct or bureau. Look for JS6RRR/JS6 and JI3DST/JS6 to be active on 160, 80, 40, 17, 15, 12, 10, 6 and 2 meters SSB, CW, RTTY, SSTV and FM) from the Miyako Islands, AS-079, from 27 April to 7 May.

QSL via bureau only. Jim Martin, MM0BQI, will be operating from the island of Shuna, in the Inner Hebrides, NW Scotland, IOTA EU008 and IOSA FL08 from 28 April to 5 May. He will also have a boat available so other island activations may be possible in the local area. Operation will mostly be on 80, 40,30 and 20m, RTTY, SSB and CW. Now the contest news

The RSGB 144 MHz activity and club championship contest takes place between 2000 and 2230 local time on 1 May, on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. The ARI International contest takes place between 2000 on 5 May to 1959 on 6 May on the 1.8 to 28MHz bands CW, SSB, DATA modes. The exchange takes the form of RST and serial number.

5 The RSGB 432 to 248GHz contest takes place between 1400 on 5 May to 1400 on 6 May on the 432MHz to 248GHz bands, on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. The RSGB 432MHz Trophy contest takes place between 1400 to 2200 on 5 May, all modes. RST, serial number and locator form the exchange. The RSGB 10GHz Trophy contest takes place between 1400 to 2200 on 5 May, all modes. The exchange is RST, serial number and locator.

Now the solar factual data for the period from 16 to 22 April, compiled by Neil Clarke, G0CAS.

Solar activity was very low with no solar flares taking place. The solar disc was spotless except for the 17th and the 18th when a small single spot appeared. Solar flux levels remained at 69 units except for the 19th when it declined to 68. The average was 69 units. The 90 day solar flux average on the 22nd was 74 units, that's one unit down on last week. X-ray flux levels remained below the minimum A1 level everyday. Geomagnetic activity was quiet, for example the Ap index was only 1 unit on the 16th. A coronal hole disturbance arrived as forecast on the 22nd when the Ap increased to 10 units. The average was Ap 6 units. The ACE spacecraft saw solar wind speeds decline from 430 kilometres per second to 280 by the 21st. Speeds then increased to 470 kilometres per second during the 22nd. Particle densities were low everyday but increased to 32 particles per cubic centimetre on the 22nd. Bz varied between minus 3 and plus 2 nanoTeslas on the quiet days and between minus 8 and plus 10 nanoTeslas on the 22nd. At HF, 14MHz remains the only really consistent band, with some good evening openings to South-East Asia. Occasional good openings, mainly over southerly paths, occurred on 18 and 21MHz. 24 and 28MHz were patchy at best. Some areas of the UK enjoyed enhanced tropo at VHF and UHF. And finally the solar forecast.

This week solar activity looks set to continue at very low levels. Solar flux levels should be around the 70 mark. Geomagnetic activity is expected to be unsettled today due to a recurring coronal hole. For the rest of the week activity should be mostly quiet. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitudes should be around 18MHz for the south and 15MHz for the north. The darkness hour lows are expected to be about 9MHz.

Paths this week to India should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success rate of around 22MHzs. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success rate will be about 17MHz. The best time to try this path will be between 0800 and 1600 hours UTC. Normally the start of May heralds the start of the sporadic-E season. Openings could take place on 28MHz and 50MHz. It maybe a couple of more weeks yet before openings take place on 144MHz. And that's all for this week from the propagation team.

6 Next, the Local News:

Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses

and website links where known.

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your

transmission.]

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST

and EAST ANGLIA On Sunday 29 April Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is running its Advanced Licence Course. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

On Monday 30 April Basingstoke Amateur Radio Club is having a club night. Contact Frank, M0AEU, by email to barc@2lo.info.

On Monday 30 April Felixstowe and District Amateur Radio Society is having a visit to BBC Norwich or RAF Wattisham with Mark, M5BOP. Contact Paul, G4YQC, by email to paul.whiting@bt.com.

On Tuesday 1 May Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society is having a talk entitled 'microwaves demystified' by John Wood, G4EAT. Contact Martyn, G1EFL, on 01245 469 008.

On Tuesday 1 May Cray Valley Radio Society is taking part in the 2m Club Championship. Contact Bob, BRS32525, on 020 8265 7735 after 8pm.

On Tuesday 1 May Horndean and District Amateur Radio Club is having a social evening. Contact Stuart, G0FYX, on 023 9247 2846, or on the web at www.hdarc.co.uk.

On Tuesday 1 May Stevenage and District Amateur Radio Society is having a project night. Contact Neil, M0ARH, on 01438 217 077.

On Wednesday 2 May Dover Radio Club is having a natter and operating night. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk.

On Wednesday 2 May Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is having a natter and operating night with G3VEF and G8KGI. Contact Jim, M1JJN.

On Wednesday 2 May Newbury and District Amateur Radio Society is discussing antennas. Contact Kevin, G6FOP, on 01635 826 397, g5xv@ntlworld.com.

On Wednesday 2 May Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on multiband antennas by Ted, G3FEW. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

On Wednesday 2 May Worthing and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on surface mount technology by G1ZTN. Contact Roy, G4GPX, on 01903 753 893.

On Thursday 3 May Cray Valley Radio Society is having a talk on Digital Radio Mondiale by G0UKN. Contact Bob, BRS32525, on 020 8265 7735 after 8pm.

On Thursday 3 May Horsham Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on the future of electronics by Mike Underhill, G3LHZ. Details on the web at www.harc.org.uk.

On Thursday 3 May Maidenhead and District Amateur Radio Club is having an informal evening. Contact John, G8RYW, on 01628 628 463, or by email to g8ryw@tesco.net.

7 On Thursday 3 May Shefford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on the ins and outs of radio by Terry, G4OXD. Contact David, G8UOD, on 01234 742 757.

On Friday 4 May Crystal Palace Radio and Electronics Club is having a talk and demonstration of a high voltage Tesla coil by Ian Daniels, G4VTD. Contact Bob, G3OOU, on 01737 552 170.

On Friday 4 May Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is having a quiz night with quiz masters Gavin and Phil. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Friday 4 May Wey Valley Amateur Radio Group is having a talk on laptop radio wizardry for beginners by Derek Stanners, G3HEJ. Details on the web at www.weyvalleyarg.org.uk. NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST

On Sunday 29 April Bailiwick Of Guernsey Raynet Group is taking part in the RAYNET Zone 7 Exercise ICE 4. The Control station will be setting up at Beau Sejour from about 9.30am local time and visitors are most welcome. Contact Mike, GU3WHN.

On Wednesday 2 May Exmouth Amateur Radio Club is having a spring clean of the shack plus an auction bring and buy. Contact g0uil@eclipse.co.uk.

On Wednesday 2 May South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is having a workshop on Morse code with G4YZR. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282.

On Wednesday 2 May Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is on the air. Contact Tony, G0WMB, by email to

tonytsgarc@beeb.net.

On Wednesday 2 May Trowbridge and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on amateur radio and Sumburgh Lighthouse, GB2SLH, with Tony, G0GFL and Nikki, M5YLO. Contact Ian, G0GRI, on 01225 864 698, E/W.

On Thursday 3 May Cornish Radio Amateur Club is having a talk on RAF RF by Wayne Gannon. Contact Ian, 01872 561 058.

On Thursday 3 May Saltash and District Amateur Radio Club is planning the club rally table. Contact Brian, M0BHG, on 01752 844 321.

On Thursday 3 May Swindon and District Amateur Radio Club is having a contest operating workshop with James, M1DST. Contact Mike, M5CBS, on 01793 826 465.

On Thursday 3 May Yeovil Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on aerials by G3MYM. Contact Derek, 01935 414 452, or by email to m0wob@tiscali.co.uk.

On Friday 4 May Bournemouth Radio Society is having a talk entitled Radars 20MHz to 40GHz by Chuck Hobson, G0MDK. Contact John, G0HAT, on 07719 700 771.

On Saturday 5 May Flight Refuelling Amateur Radio Society is running its Foundation training course. Contact Chuck on 01202 881421.

NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS

On Sunday 29 April Aldridge and Barr Beacon Amateur Radio Club is having its 8th annual sale of surplus and radio electrical goods at the Aldridge Central Hall. Contact Charles, 01922 636 162.

8 On Monday 30 April Gloucester Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is having a VHF operating and workshop evening. Contact Anne, 2E1GKY, on 01452 548478, daytime.

On Monday 30 April Stourbridge and District Amateur Radio Society is having an open shack night. Contact John, M1EJG, on 01562 700 513.

On Tuesday 1 May Derby and District Amateur Radio Society is having a May Day junk sale. Contact Martin, G3SZJ, on 01332 556 875.

On Tuesday 1 May Loughborough and District Amateur Radio Club is having a magazine review night. Contact Chris, G1ETZ, on 01509 504 319.

On Tuesday 1 May Wythall Radio Club is taking part in the 2m Club Championship from the shack. Contact Chris, G0EYO, on 07710 412 819, or by email to g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk, or on the web at www.wythallradioclub.co.uk.

On Thursday 3 May Stafford and District Amateur Radio Society is looking at the restored receiver collection of Mike, G8BMP. Contact Graeme, G4NVH, on 01785 604 534, or by email to graeme.boull@ntlworld.com.

On Friday 4 May Cheltenham Amateur Radio Association is having a talk on digital techniques on 20m by Ron, G3SZS and Colin, G3VTS. Contact Pat, G3IKR, on 01386 792 542.

On Friday 4 May Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is on the air on VHF and UHF from 8pm. Contact Carl, M0XBE, on 07979 092 447, or on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

On Saturday 5 May Lincoln Short-Wave Club is operating the special event station GB2CWP from the East Kirkby Aviation Heritage Centre. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

On Sunday 6 May Lincoln Short-Wave Club is visiting the Dambusters Hamfest at Thorpe Camp, Coningsby. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

On Sunday 29 April North Cheshire Radio Club is holding its AGM. All members, past and present, are urged to attend. Details from Gordon Adams, G3LEQ, on 01 565 652652.

On Sunday 29 April Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is running its Foundation Course. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Sunday 29 April Mid-Cheshire Amateur Radio Society is running Radio active 2007 and all members are required to help out. Contact Richard, G0JIT, by email to rsa@zetnet.co.uk.

On Sunday 29 April Macclesfield and District Radio Society is attending the Radio Active Rally. Contact Tom, M1EYP, on 01625 612 916, tommyread@hotmail.com, or on the web at www.gx4mws.com.

On Monday 30 April Macclesfield and District Radio Society is having a talk by RSGB President Angus Annan, MM1CCR. Contact Tom, M1EYP, on 01625 612 916, tommyread@hotmail.com, or on the web at www.gx4mws.com.

On Monday 30 April South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is having its monthly technical forum. Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999.

On Monday 30 April Thornton Cleveleys Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on radio installation in motor vehicles by John, G0JFE. Contact Jack, G4BFH, by email to jack.duddington@btinternet.com.

9 On Tuesday 1 May Chester and District Radio Society is having part two of the talk on green boxes by John Langan. Details on the web at www.chesterdars.org.uk, or by email to info@chesterdars.org.uk.

On Tuesday 1 May Macclesfield and District Radio Society is operating special event station GB5OMR every Monday in May, when the club will be open to the public. Contact Tom, M1EYP, on 01625 612 916, tommyread@hotmail.com, or on the web at www.gx4mws.com.

On Tuesday 1 May Mid-Cheshire Amateur Radio Society is having a post show analysis session and starting planning for next year. Contact

Richard, G0JIT, by email to rsa@zetnet.co.uk.

On Tuesday 1 May Stockport Radio Society is having a presentation and demonstration of railway telegraphy by James France, G3KAF. Contact David, M1ANT, on 0161 456 7832.

On Tuesday 1 May Warrington Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on hobbies by Steve, M1DOT. Contact Paul, on 01925 268 096, or by email to paulg7odj@btinternet.com.

On Wednesday 2 May Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is on the air. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Wednesday 2 May Hornsea Amateur Radio Club is having a surprise from the Chairman. Contact Steve, G4GPY, on 01482 860 440, or by email to g4gpy@eddiesplace.karoo.co.uk.

On Friday 4 May Tynemouth Radio Club is having its International Marconi Day debrief. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Sunday 6 May Ripon and District Amateur Radio Society is starting its Foundation Licence Course 2pm. Contact Andy, M0DCD, on 07835 390 337, m0dcd@raynet-uk.net.

NEWS FOR SCOTLAND

On Tuesday 1 May Dundee Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on the maritime volunteer service by David Kett. Contact Martin, MM0DUN.

On Wednesday 2 May Paisley YMCA Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on the way we were by GM4GZQ. Contact Jim, GM3UWX.

On Thursday 3 May Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is having a junk sale. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

On Friday 4 May Cockenzie and Port Seton Amateur Radio Club is having a club night. Contact Bob, GM4UYZ, on 01875 811 723.

NEWS FOR WALES

On Wednesday 2 May Conwy Valley Amateur Radio Club is having its junk sale. Contact Wynne, GW6PMC, on 01745 855 068.

NEWS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

No news items have been received for Northern Ireland this week. And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast,

prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

831. GB2RS NEWS Sunday 6 May 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-06 00:12:29 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200705060011.l460BbO09840@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4636
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

1 GB2RS NEWS Sunday 6 May

The news headlines

* RSGB creates two Life Vice Presidents at the AGM

* RAYNET service award to G3STG

* Worcester Radio Amateur team up with VMARS

The RSGB held their 80th Annual General Meeting on Saturday 28 April in Edinburgh. The meeting was opened by RSGB President Angus Annan, MM1CCR. Also on the rostrum were RSGB General Manger Peter Kirby, G0TWW, Honorary Company Secretary Rupert Thorogood, G3KKT, and Honorary Treasurer Bob Dingle, G0OCB.

The afternoon was more of an informal session with Board members giving presentations about their portfolios, followed by a question and answer session at the end.

The AGM dinner was held at the Paramount Carlton Hotel. The president was joined by guests of honour Trevor Baylis, OBE, inventor of the clockwork radio, and Practical Wireless editor Rob Mannion, who received an award to celebrate the 75th birthday of PW.

Two Life Vice Presidents were created at the RSGB AGM. David Pratt, G4DMP, and Mike Dixon, G3PFR, were awarded this prestigious honour for their decades of service to amateur radio.

The RSGB Raynet Cup was presented to Geoff Griffiths, G3STG, at the RSGB AGM. Geoff joined RAYNET in 1957 and receives this award in his 50th year of membership, in recognition of his long-standing service to RAYNET. He served as chairman of both the RSGB National RAYNET Committee and the Network's Committee of Management. Geoff commented, "I was surprised and very pleased to receive the RSGB RAYNET Trophy this year. I have enjoyed working for RAYNET for many years."

Many other presentations and awards were made during the AGM. A full report will appear in the June edition of RadCom.

Over the weekend of 19 to 20 May, members of the Worcester Radio Amateurs Association and members of the Vintage Military Amateur Radio Society are teaming up for a special weekend camp just outside the Worcester City boundary.

The weekend camp is a combination of antenna testing, operating vintage military radio equipment and portable operation practice. Many members

of both groups have a wide ranging interest in anything wireless and military, so there will be much to be learnt from the camp.

Members of VMARS are planning on erecting a large Shirley antenna, which has been used by the military for field communications for many years. Many are looking forward to putting this strange antenna to the test.

There will be several military vehicles at the camp for the duration of the weekend, including a couple of Ferret armoured personnel vehicles, a Saracen, a Uni-Mog and a couple of land Rovers, all fully equipped with radio gear. There will also be a very special Bedford MK lorry on site on Saturday only, fully fitted with some rather interesting equipment. Anyone interested in coming along can find more information at www.wraa.co.uk.

2 A new website, www.RadioDXer.co.uk, has been launched to create an online community for UK based amateurs and other radio enthusiasts where they can participate in discussion on anything to do with radio as a hobby.

Graeme Stoker, M0EUK, the man behind the website believes that there are a number of similar American-based forums, but nothing really with a UK focus. He is also trying to foster a community and collaborative spirit, which can hopefully become self-perpetuating in terms of supporting fellow enthusiasts.

RAYNET controllers are requested to confirm or update group data to rcvs@rsgb.org.uk as soon as possible. Details required are Group Controller name, callsign, address, contact phone numbers and e mail address, plus group web site address if there is one. If a group has a deputy controller and/or secretary, then please send their details as well. County and regional controllers (non-Network) are also requested to send their details. Address will be kept confidential, but other data will appear in the 2008 Yearbook and RCVS on-line database.

ALL groups are invited to submit photographs of recent operations/exercises for possible inclusion in the Yearbook and other publications. Please provide information as to group, venue, event, date, etc., with each image. Network Group details will come via the Network database.

NASA has announced that US astronaut Clay Anderson, KD5PLA, will succeed Suni Williams, KD5PLB, as International Space Station Expedition 15 Flight Engineer later this spring. Anderson will arrive aboard the ISS aboard the shuttle Atlantis, set to launch on 8 June. The same shuttle mission will carry Williams back to Earth. Suni Williams has been in space since early December. During her ISS stay, she set a record for spacewalks by a female astronaut, conducting four excursions for a total of 29 hours and 17 minutes. Upon her return, she will have accumulated more time in space than any other woman. She has also logged 20 school contacts so far.

ARISS International Chair Frank Bauer, KA3HDO, has recently addressed some of the questions regarding ARISS operations and equipment upgrade and repair. He says that ISS construction has again shifted into high gear and the delivery and assembly of two new ISS modules is now on the near horizon. But that activity has a downside for amateur radio activity.

Bauer explained that the launch of any new or replacement ham radio gear or computers to support ARISS operations has been significantly curtailed because the cargo weight limits on construction flights are very tight. There are just too many higher priority activities. The extra workload on the crew has taken its toll on ARISS they have had very little extra time for amateur radio activities beyond school contacts. Bauer concedes that while these developments are somewhat frustrating both to the ham radio community at large and to the ARISS International Team, ARISS nonetheless is pleased that space station crew members have been able to speak so often with youth groups worldwide, piquing their interest in Amateur Radio, science, technology, engineering and maths.

Colchester Radio Amateurs are holding a one day Foundation Licence Assessment day on Sunday 24 June. To enrol, or for further information, contact Kevan, 2E0WMG, on 07766543784 or e-mail colchesterradioamateurs@hotmail.co.uk.

An RSGB presentation is being held on 14 May at the Helena Thompson Museum, Workington at 7pm. Regional Manager Kath Wilson, M1CNY, and board member Dave Wilson, M0OBW, are to make a presentation on the RSGB and take part in a question and answer session.

All amateurs are welcome. To attend contact the Deputy Regional Manager, Norman Williams, M0CRM, telephone 01946 692462, or email norman72@btinternet.com.

3 Thirty amateurs from across the north of England congregated at Silcoates School, Wakefield for the first ever ARDF Seminar in the UK. The seminar was hosted by the Silcoates School Radio Club and delivered by members of the RSGB ARDF Committee. The aim of the seminar was to trigger the start of regular ARDF competitions in the north of England. At present the events programme is restricted to the midlands and south of England and there is a `chicken and egg' element in the situation in the north.

The day comprised of three short classroom presentations, hands on sessions with DF receivers for both 144 MHz and 3.5 MHz and two mini DF hunts in the grounds of the school. The attendees were of all ages and there were representatives from two Scout groups and an Air Training Corps wing, to emphasise the attraction that ARDF has to young people. The greatest enthusiasm and competitiveness for the mini DF hunts was apparent amongst the ten young licence holders who participated.

In addition to the practical elements of the day, a small shop was operated offering for sale DF receivers for 3.5 and 144 MHz as well as

receiver kits, plus transmitters for both bands and aerials. A final feedback session saw many questions and a general desire to try to further the development of ARDF in the north of England.

AMSAT-NA reports that after many years of forwarding packet messages via UO-22, GO-32 and AO51, the Satgate System will shut down. The total of 35 worldwide stations in the system a few years ago has dwindled due to a lack of traffic, maintenance problems, change of location and operator attrition. The system originated with David Medley, KI6QE, and the driving force over the past several years has been Andrew Sellers, G8TZJ, who developed software to permit Satgate stations to be fully automated. Meanwhile, an analog transponder of the FO-29 satellite reportedly has shut down, although Earth stations are looking into resurrecting the satellite and invite telemetry reports via e-mail. Ground controllers want to develop a plan to restore the decade-old satellite to operation. Mineo Wakita, JE9PEL, has created a simple decoder program for FO29's CW telemetry downlink, should signals be heard.

A small group of radio hams in Florida have set up a Group on Yahoo, a web based directory that can be accessed by almost any ham. The aim is that the site will be used by visitors to and from the UK and USA for local information, repeaters, simplex, Psk and digital modes, HF frequencies and ham radio related news. For more information log onto groups.yahoo.com/group/k4eez.

Now the rallies and events for the coming week. [Note to newsreaders: as usual, exercise your judgement about reading the Sunday 6 May event].

On Sunday 6 May the Dambusters Hamfest takes place from 10.30 at Thorpe Camp Museum, Coninsby. On Monday 7 May the Dartmoor Radio Rally takes place from 10.30 at Tavistock College, Tavistock. Details from Peter, M1AYI, on 01822 860277. On Sunday 13 May the MARS Rally takes place from 10am at Alderbrook School, Solihull. Details from Norman, G8BHE, on 0121 422 9787, or on the web at www.midamradio.co.uk.

More details of these and future events can be found on pages 88 and 89 of the May edition of RadCom. Now for news of special events.

>From 25 May to 6 June, Mike Bryant, GW6NLP and Colin Kenton, MW0JNI, will be running a special event station GB100TT in association with Scarlett Point amateur radio society, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the TT races. It will be based at Scarlett Point Tower in Castletown. For more information log onto www.qsl.net/wars or www.scarlettpoint.com.

4 Special event station ON50EU is active until 31 December to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome.

Special station EV5IPY is on the air to celebrate the participation of Belarus in the 4th International Polar Year. Operations are conducted under the aegis of the newly born Department of Polar Researches at the

Belorussian Geographic Society.

The Letchworth and Baldock District Scouts, Cubs and Beavers will be operating G0LBS from 9am to 6pm at their Centenary Camp between 4 and 7 May 2007. Operation will be on 20, 40, 80, 160m and 2m. And now the HF DX news compiled from 425 DX News, the Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin and other sources.

The European CW Association, Fraternizing CW Party takes place on the second weekend of May. Operation will be on Saturday 12 May from 1000 to 1200 UTC and Sunday 13 May from 1800 to 2000 UTC. All amateur radio operators and SWLs and will be carried out on the 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 meter bands. After a delayed start due to rough seas, the BS7H DXpedition on Scarborough Reef, the most wanted DXCC entity in the world, now is on the air. The first QSO was made at 1347 UTC 29 April, said a brief announcement on the DXpedition Website.

PA5CW will be active portable from Bali from 25 April to 10 May.

DL9MWG will be active from Malta as 9H3RT until 11 May. Activity will be on HF, mainly CW.

Special station LZ07KM will be active on 1 to 31 May to celebrate St Kiril and Methodius' Day. QSL via LZ1PJ, direct or bureau requests for bureau cards can be sent to lz1pj@qsl.net.

Special event station IR1ALP will be active from Cuneo, Italy on 1 to 31 May. A special postage stamp will be affixed on the cards confirming QSOs made on 12 and 13 May, during the 80th Italian Alpine troops gathering. QSL via QSL via IK1AAS. Information on the relevant award, sponsored by ARI Cuneo, can be found at http://www.qrz.com/callsign/IR1ALP.

Valery, RW3GW, Andrey, RW3AH, Alexander, RA3MR, and Artemiy, UA3MQM, will be active as OX/NA1SA from Kangerlussuaq, Greenland, NA-018, on 4 to 10 May. They plan to operate SSB, CW, RTTY and PSK31 on the HF bands, with an emphasis on the low and WARC bands. On 3 to 11 May the team will operate as OZ/NA1SA from Copenhagen, Denmark. QSL via operator's instructions.

Jurgen, DB5YB will be active as OZ/DB5YB from Bornholm Island, EU 030 on 5 to 18 May. He plans to operate SSB on 20, 17 and 15 metres. QSL via home call.

Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Fenerbahce Sports Club, TA1HZ and TA2RX will operate as TC100FB, QSL via TA1HZ, from Istanbul on 1 to 31 May, and TA1CM will operate as TA100FB QSL via TA1CM on 13 to 27 May from Tekirdag. Now the contest news

The RSGB 80m Club Championship contest takes place between 1900 to 2030 on 7 May on the 80m band, SSB. The exchange takes the form of RST and serial number.

5 The Volty RTTY contest takes place from 1200 on 12 May to 1200 on 13 May on RTTY, using the 3.5 to 28MHz bands. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and CQ Zone.

The CQ M contest takes place between 1200 on 12 May to 1200 on 13 May on CW and SSB. The exchange takes the form of RST and serial number.

The RSGB 432MHz activity evening takes place between 2000 to 2230 local time on 8 May on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. Now the solar factual data for the period from 23 to 29 April, compiled by Neil Clarke, G0CAS.

As forecast several weeks ago, the present spell of solar inactivity came to an abrupt end. However, despite the large size of the sunspot group solar activity only increased to low on the 24th when a single small C class solar flare took place. As the sunspot group rotated into view solar flux levels increased from 69 units on the 23rd to 85 by the 28th. The average was 79. The 90 day solar flux average on the 29th was 74 units, that's the same level as last week. X-ray flux levels increased from below the minimum level to A4.7 units by the 26th. The average was A3.5. That's the first week that the average as been above the minimum level since the end of February. Geomagnetic activity started at quiet levels with an Ap index of only 3 units. The predicted coronal hole arrived on the afternoon of the 27th. The most disturbed day was the 28th with the Ap index at 26 units. The average was Ap 14 units. The ACE spacecraft saw solar wind speeds increase from 400 kilometres per second to 720 by the 29th. Particle densities were low except for the 27th, which increased to 13 particles per cubic centimetre. Bz varied between minus 4 and plus 6 nanoTeslas on the quiet days to minus 9 and plus 8 nanoTeslas on during the disturbance. HF propagation was unexciting, though there were again good openings to the Far East on 14MHz and 24MHz produced contacts with Africa on several days. On the 22nd, GM4CXP reported strong signals from the German beacon DL0IGI, which he heard again weakly on the 23rd. This was the first substantial sporadic-E opening of the new season. As we move into May the chances will improve of contacts at 28 and 50MHz, though it could be a few weeks before they are an everyday occurrence. High latitude VHF aurora was reported on the 27th and 28th. And finally the solar forecast. This week the quiet side of the Sun is expected to be rotating into view. Solar activity could be low at first but decline to very low levels around midweek. Solar flux levels are expected to decline and be around the 70 mark by next weekend. Geomagnetic activity should be quiet for most of the week. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitudes should be about 18MHz for the south and 15MHz for the north. The darkness hour low should be around 10MHz. Paths this week to South Africa should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success rate of about 23MHz. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success rate will be around 17MHz. The best time to try this path will be between 0700 and 1600 hours UTC. Sporadic-E could take place on some days with openings up to 50MHz. Finally, a meeting of space physicists in the United States last week concluded that the next cycle, 24, will not start until March 2008. They were split over

whether it will be an intense cycle, peaking in 2011, or a substantially weaker one reaching maximum in 2012. Even for the best experts long-range forecasting of how the Sun will behave remains an uncertain business. And that's all for this week from the propagation team.

6 Next, the Local News:

Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses

and website links where known.

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your

transmission.]

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST

and EAST ANGLIA On Monday 7 May Braintree and District Amateur Radio Society is planning for the Mills on the Air weekend, and having part 2 of the safety testing evening. Contact John, M5AJB, on 01787 460 947.

On Monday 7 May Cray Valley Radio Society is taking part in the 80m SSB Club Championship. Contact Bob, BRS32525, on 020 8265 7735 after 8pm.

On Monday 7 May Southdown Amateur Radio Society is having a talk entitled "do you remember the Woodpecker?". Contact John, G3DQY, on 0124424319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

On Tuesday 8 May Harwell Amateur Radio Society is having a rig checking session with Mike Stevens, G8CUL. Contact Martyn, G0THY, or by email to g0thy@btinternet.com.

On Tuesday 8 May Stevenage and District Amateur Radio Society is having an HF operating evening. Contact Neil, M0ARH, on 01438 217 077.

On Wednesday 9 May Aylesbury Vale Radio Society is working on the club project, on the air and having a discussion evening. Contact Roger, G3MEH, on 01442 826 651, or by email to roger@g3meh.com.

On Wednesday 9 May Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is having a kit building evening. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

On Wednesday 9 May Dover Radio Club is having three short talks. Geoff, M0GID will explain PSK, Brian, G8ZYZ will speak about amateur satellite operations and Ham Radio Deluxe will be explained by Geoff, M0GID. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk.

On Wednesday 9 May Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is having an initial planning meeting for the Scout's Centenary Camp station. Contact Jim, M1JJN.

On Wednesday 9 May Farnborough and District Radio Society is having a lecture by Derek, G3HEJ, on the History of Marconi's beam stations and the associated SWB transmitters. Contact Colin, M3IHS, for more information.

On Wednesday 9 May Harwich Amateur Radio Interest Group is having a summer events planning night. Contact James, M0ZZO, on 01255 242 746.

On Wednesday 9 May Havering and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on various QSL options. Contact Dave, 2E0EBV, on 07956 594 514.

On Wednesday 9 May Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is having its AGM and initial planning meeting for Barford. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

On Wednesday 9 May South Essex Amateur Radio Society is having a quiz night with Ken, G0BBN. Contact Dave, G4UVJ, on 01268 697 978, or by email to southessex.ARS@btinternet.com.

7 On Wednesday 9 May Worthing and District Amateur Radio Club is planning for Mills Weekend. Contact Roy, G4GPX, on 01903 753 893.

On Thursday 10 May Echelford Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on QRP and homebrew by Hans Summers, G0UPL. Contact John Osborne, G4GSC, on 01784 451898.

On Thursday 10 May Reading and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk by Nick Challacombe, G0LGG, on the Legend of PSK31. Contact Pete, G8FRC, on 01189 695 697.

On Thursday 10 May Shefford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a visit to Henlow Museum. Contact David, G8UOD, on 01234 742 757.

On Friday 11 May Cambridge and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on inexpensive GPS frequency standards by James, G3RUH. Contact David, G8JKV.

On Friday 11 May Loughton and Epping Forest Amateur Radio Society is having a VHF on the air evening. Contact Marc, G0TOC, on 020 8502 1645, or by email to info@lefars.org.uk.

On Friday 11 May Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is having a radio night and preparing for Mills on the air. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Friday 11 May Torbay Amateur Radio Society is operating special event station GB60TR. Contact Dave, G6FSP, by email to g6fsp@tars.org.uk.

On Friday 11 May Wimbledon and District Amateur Radio Society is having a discussion on antennas led by Eric, G0KRT. Contact Jim, M0CON, on 020 8874 7456.

On Saturday 12 May Basingstoke Amateur Radio Club is taking part in Mills on the Air at Longbridge Mill. Contact Frank, M0AEU, by email to

barc@2lo.info.

On Saturday 12 May Cambridge and District Amateur Radio Club is taking part in Mills on the Air from Cattells Windmill, Willingham. Contact David, G8JKV.

On Saturday 12 May Loughton and Epping Forest Amateur Radio Society is operating GB6EHL at Queen Elizabeth's Hunting Lodge, Chingford. Contact Marc, G0TOC, on 020 8502 1645, or by email to info@lefars.org.uk.

On Saturday 12 May Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is taking part in Mills on the Air at Jill Mill, Pyecombe. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Saturday 12 May Radio Amateur Old Timers' Association is having a get-together in Derby. Contact Ian, G4EAN, on 0115 926 2360 or by email to gensec@raota.org.

On Sunday 13 May Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is running its Advanced Licence Course at The White Hall Community Centre from 2.00pm to 6.00pm. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

On Sunday 13 May Felixstowe and District Amateur Radio Society is taking part in National Mills day, operating GB2WTM from Woodbridge Tide Mill. Contact Paul, G4YQC, by email to paul.whiting@bt.com.

8

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST

On Wednesday 9 May South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is having a survey of shack equipment with G7PKJ. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282.

On Wednesday 9 May Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is having a 50MHz Special. Contact Tony, G0WMB, by email to tonytsgarc@beeb.net.

On Thursday 10 May Swindon and District Amateur Radio Club is having a DF contest. Contact Mike, M5CBS, on 01793 826 465.

On Thursday 10 May Yeovil Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on the I-C-O shack by G3ICO. Contact Derek, 01935 414 452, or by email to m0wob@tiscali.co.uk.

On Friday 11 May Jersey Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on how to build a simple vertical antenna. Contact Phil, MJ0JER, by email to gj3dvc@gj3dvc.org.je.

On Saturday 12 May Flight Refuelling Amateur Radio Society is running the Foundation Licence Exam. Contact Tony, G3PFM, on 01202 622 262.

NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS

On Sunday 6 May Lincoln Short-Wave Club is visiting the Dambusters Hamfest. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

On Monday 7 May Gloucester Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is operating from the Escarpment from 3 until 6.30pm, weather permitting. Contact Anne, 2E1GKY, on 01452 548478, daytime.

On Monday 7 May Lincoln Short-Wave Club is operating GB2CWP at the East Kirkby Aviation Heritage Centre. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

On Tuesday 8 May Eagle Radio Group is having a games night versus the Eagle Hotel. Contact Terry, G0SWS, on 07979 733 640.

On Tuesday 8 May Loughborough and District Amateur Radio Club is having the first DF of 2007. Contact Chris, G1ETZ, on 01509 504 319.

On Tuesday 8 May Mid-Warwickshire Amateur Radio Society is having a used equipment and book sale. Contact Bernard, M1AUK, on 01926 420 913.

On Tuesday 8 May Worcester Radio Amateurs Association is having a junk sale. Request details by email to info@wraa.co.uk.

On Wednesday 9 May Lincoln Short-Wave Club is having a 23cm ATV station set up and demo by Bob, G7AVU. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

On Wednesday 9 May Telford and District Amateur Radio Society is having an illustrated talk by G0EYX on transiting the Panama Canal. Contact Mike, G3JKX, on 01952 299 677, or by email to mjstreetg3jkx@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Friday 11 May Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is having an HF night on the air. Contact Carl, M0XBE, on 07979 092 447, or on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

9 On Sunday 13 May Lincoln Short-Wave Club is operating GB0EM at Ellis Mill, Lincoln, as part of the mills on the air programme. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

On Sunday 13 May Stourbridge and District Amateur Radio Society is attending the MARS rally at Solihull. Contact John, M1EJG, on 01562 700 513.

NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

On Sunday 6 May Ripon and District Amateur Radio Society is starting its Foundation Licence course. Contact Andy, M0DCD, on 07835 390 337, or by email to m0dcd@raynet-uk.net.

On Monday 7 May Sheffield Amateur Radio Club is having a practical competition night of making antennas. Contact Trevor, M0TWS.

On Tuesday 8 May Halifax and District Amateur Radio Society is having a members technical evening at Rishworth. Contact Brenda, 2E0YKS, by email to wrenuk10@yahoo.com.

On Tuesday 8 May Macclesfield and District Radio Society is operating GB50MR to celebrate their 50th anniversary. Contact Tom, M1EYP, on 01625 612 916, tommyread@hotmail.com, or on the web at www.gx4mws.com.

On Wednesday 9 May Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is having a talk by Peter Russell on bat detectors. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Wednesday 9 May Hornsea Amateur Radio Club is having an activity night at the Old Bakery. Contact Steve, G4GPY, on 01482 860 440, or by email to g4gpy@eddiesplace.karoo.co.uk.

On Wednesday 9 May Wirral and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on radio data techniques by Richard, G8NDD. Contact Tom, G4BKF, on 07050 291 850.

On Friday 11 May South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is showing a DVD, Bletchley Park Part 2. Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999.

NEWS FOR SCOTLAND

On Tuesday 8 May Dundee Amateur Radio Club is having a club night. Contact Martin, MM0DUN. On Thursday 10 May Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society Club is having an antenna check night. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

On Friday 11 May Cockenzie and Port Seton Amateur Radio Club is having its first 144MHz DF hunt meet at "The Old Ship Inn" car park. Contact Bob, GM4UYZ, on 01875 811 723.

On Friday 11 May West Of Scotland Amateur Radio Society is having a technical forum hosted by Alan, GM4TOQ. Details on the web at www.wosars.org.

On Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 May Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is operating GB2FBM at Finzean Bucket Mill for International Mills Weekend. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

10 NEWS FOR WALES On Monday 7 May St Tybie Amateur Radio Society is having an on the air evening. Contact Eileen, 2W1BPS, on 01550 777 234, eileenm@fsmail.net, or on the web at www.s-t-a-r-s.co.uk.

NEWS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

No news items have been received for Northern Ireland this week. And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast,

prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

832. Re: Line of sight vs. RF in wartime question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-06 00:45:06 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1178412052.689346.114800@e65g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4637

c...@NOSPAM.netunix.com wrote on Sat, 5 May 2007 13:03:32 EDT:
>Wayne Lundberg <Waynel...@worldnet.att.net> wrote:

>> Back in the mid 50's on patrol in the Formosa Straights I had daily
>> challenges to read code being jammed by the Chinese. I knew then, that only
>> Morse code would be a viable means of communication. Even as we, in the
>> Navy, were installing the new teletype systems. A single ping of
>> interference on the teletype signal would cause an error. Then came Single
>> Sideband, and then digital.
>
>> What I'm getting at is what I read about the recent battle between Israel
>> and the Iranian sponsored terrorists and how they were able to almost
>> disrupt communications through jamming techniques, but the Israeli's
>> prevailed through the use of line of sight technology.
>
>Virtually all military radiocomms nowadays uses spread spectrum techniques
>to avoid jamming and interference.
>
>For voice an SSB frequency hopper is simple and reliable. Digital stuff
>tends to use broadband code sequence modulation.

The military aviation band of 225 to 400 MHz uses conventional
AM but stations there can use a variety of voice-frequency
Keyers* for security. Jamming fast-movers tooling at 0.8 Mach
requires enormous RF power to stay within their range, something
not normally done by all sides. :-) There are "Have Quick"
modifications to military avionics but I don't know for sure what is
public data on that.

* capitalized 'Keyer' refers to its nomenclature and does not
have any direct reference to a morse code keyer.

Land forces can use the AN/PRC-104 family manpack HF
radio which has its carrier manually dialed in. The same
Keyers can be used on that SSB voice frequency radio
as with military aviation. Going operational in 1985, the
"104" is essentially QRP and includes an automatic
antenna tuner side-by-side in the pack to optimize the
whip antenna. Mobile and fixed variants use the same
R/T with external power amplifiers for up to 400 W. The
104 family is the first of the IHFR or Improved High
Frequency Radios for the U.S. Army. A replacement is
due to be selected soon. "Green" radio collectors might
want to start looking for surplus 104s by next year...makes
a good HF transceiver for portable work.

Prime use for all land forces is the 30 to 88 MHz band, FM, whether on foot, vehicular or airborne. The keystone in that is the AN/PRC-119 family called SINCGARS (SINgle Channel Ground Air Radio System). The "119" uses digitzed voice (even though sent over FM) in-clear, can be connected to a variety of data terminals for sending-receiving that. The salient feature of SINCGARS is the ability to both frequency-hop and/or "scramble" the digitized voice according to an entered "hopset" done by the operator on a touch-screen on its front panel; it has no direct manual carrier frequency controls, only the touch-screen input. In the FHSS mode the hop rate is ten per second. The SINCGARS family includes mobile, airborne, and fixed variants with RF power amplifiers to boost the manpack R/T Tx output of about 10 W. There are two types of HTs operational which are SINCGARS format compatible and Harris Corporation is making a SINCGARS compatible transceiver for the UK military. The SINCGARS general format has been adopted by NATO members. The PRC-119 went operational in 1989, saw some use in the first Gulf War. A later "SIP" or Sincgars Improvement Program dropped the PRC-119 size and weight in half. As of late 2006 the total number of SINCGARS radio sets hit a milestone of 300,000 units made, the maximum number of radios of one kind made anywhere, any time, most produced by ITT division in Fort Wayne, IN.

SINCGARS requires precise timing and updating to maintain a net contact in full encryption mode. This is initially provided by a TCXO and further precision of time-of-day updated by connection to an AN/PSN-11 HT GPS receiver (older 119s) or by an internal GPS receiver (newer SIP 119s). A nice feature of FHSS mode is that many networks can be operational within the same 30 to 88 MHz band without interference. As to DF-ing techniques in the field, that is extremely difficult even with sophisticated test equipment; the encryption code for voice and data is very robust and cannot be broken in the field for any tactical advantage of "the other side." To effectively jam them over an octave of bandwidth requires enormous amounts of broadband RF power, enough to render "the other side's" communications useless.

Although a few PRC-119 (old version) have been seen on eBay for sale, those are only the cases and chassis frame. Some of the internal ICs are custom with no commercial replacements. It is not promising for "surplus."

Standardization of the JTRS or Joint Tactical Radio System is underway by all U.S. military branches. That uses the entire spectrum from 30 to above 400 MHz, will

be compatible with existing formats and offer the flexibility of software defined radios of extreme versatility.

All of the preceding information is obtainable from public sources.

While I was in the Army not the USN during the early 1950s, (sending RTTY across the Formosa Straits, not myself), the encryption method used with old-style 5-level TTY was robust enough that there is no evidence that any other side was able to break it. It took direct physical capture of the USS Pueblo and its TTY encryption equipment to effect an intercept. While I can't vouch for USN radio equipment of the 1950s, Army fixed-station RTTY circuits used better-than-average demodulators for 850 Hz shift RTTY that could effectively ignore transient noise spikes on receive.

73, Len AF6AY

833. How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-06 01:54:42 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1178416466.392328.291990@p77g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4638

The following are approximate numbers of US amateurs on the stated dates, compared to the US population.

1930: US population 122 million, US hams 18,000, 1 ham per 6778 Americans

1940: US population 131 million, US hams 50,000, 1 ham per 2620 Americans

1950: US population 150 million, US hams 90,000, 1 ham per 1667 Americans

1960: US population 179 million, US hams 230,000, 1 ham per 779 Americans

1970: US population 223 million, US hams 270,000, 1 ham per 825 Americans

1980: US population 227 million, US hams 350,000, 1 ham per 649 Americans

1990: US population 249 million US hams 550,000, 1 ham per 453 Americans

2000: US population 281 million, US hams 683,000, 1 ham per 411 Americans

May 5 2007: US population (estimated) 301,773,107 US hams 655,219, 1 ham per 460 Americans

Except for the 1960s, every decade from the 1930s to the 1990s saw US Amateur Radio growing faster than the US population.

73 de Jim, N2EY

834. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-06 04:12:29 UTC
From: Dick Grady AC7EL <rng@richbonnie.com>
Message-ID: <6ikq335vaai38vtns27ni61f7ceec2thre@4ax.com>
Source record: 4639

On Sat, 5 May 2007 21:54:42 EDT, N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:

>The following are approximate numbers of US amateurs on the stated
>dates, compared to the US population.
>
>1930: US population 122 million, US hams 18,000, 1 ham per 6778
>Americans
>
>1940: US population 131 million, US hams 50,000, 1 ham per 2620
>Americans
>
>1950: US population 150 million, US hams 90,000, 1 ham per 1667
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>1990: US population 249 million US hams 550,000, 1 ham per 453
>Americans
>
>2000: US population 281 million, US hams 683,000, 1 ham per 411
>Americans
>
>May 5 2007: US population (estimated) 301,773,107 US hams 655,219, 1
>ham per 460 Americans
>
>Except for the 1960s, every decade from the 1930s to the 1990s saw US
>Amateur Radio growing faster than the US population.
>
>73 de Jim, N2EY

Some areas of the country have a higher density of hams.
My town (Pahrump, NV) has about 35,000 population and 284 hams, for a ratio
of 1 ham per 123 residents.

Does any other town or city have a higher density?

73 de Dick, AC7EL

835. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-06 13:52:06 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net>
Message-ID: <133rnbncjq2p71@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 4640

"Dick Grady AC7EL" wrote ...
> Some areas of the country have a higher density of hams.
> My town (Pahrump, NV) has about 35,000 population and 284 hams, for a
> ratio
> of 1 ham per 123 residents.
>
> Does any other town or city have a higher density?

Dayton, OH?
(at least at certain times of the year :-)

Richard, KE7GKP

836. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-06 16:06:48 UTC
From: Patty.Winter@b.mail.sonic.net
Message-ID: <463df541$0$14060$742ec2ed@news.sonic.net>
Source record: 4641

In article <6ikq335vaai38vtns27ni61f7ceec2thre@4ax.com>,
Dick Grady AC7EL <rng@richbonnie.com> wrote:
>
>Some areas of the country have a higher density of hams.
>My town (Pahrump, NV) has about 35,000 population and 284 hams, for a ratio
>of 1 ham per 123 residents.
>
>Does any other town or city have a higher density?

Some years ago, I realized that a lot of the people I ran across
in my brief visit to Fairbanks were hams. If someone here has an
easy way to get the number of licensees up there, we can compare
it to the Census Bureau's 2003 estimate of 31,000 people.

Patty N6BIS

--
========================== patty@wintertime.com ==========================
"Here I've been talking with the most intelligent people
in the world, and I never even noticed." --Columbo
==

837. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-06 17:23:28 UTC
From: Dick Grady AC7EL <rng@richbonnie.com>
Message-ID: <0m2s33dfvp39n9etl06l7u79p34be5lr5h@4ax.com>
Source record: 4642

On Sun, 6 May 2007 12:06:48 EDT, Patty.Winter@b.mail.sonic.net
(patty1@wintertime.com) wrote:

>In article <6ikq335vaai38vtns27ni61f7ceec2thre@4ax.com>,
>Dick Grady AC7EL <rng@richbonnie.com> wrote:
>>
>>Some areas of the country have a higher density of hams.
>>My town (Pahrump, NV) has about 35,000 population and 284 hams, for a ratio
>>of 1 ham per 123 residents.
>>
>>Does any other town or city have a higher density?
>
>Some years ago, I realized that a lot of the people I ran across
>in my brief visit to Fairbanks were hams. If someone here has an
>easy way to get the number of licensees up there, we can compare
>it to the Census Bureau's 2003 estimate of 31,000 people.
>

According to the license database at http://www.wm7d.net/fcc_uls/ there are 558
licenses with Fairbanks addresses, including 3 clubs. That leaves 555
individual hams. Dividing 555 into 31,000 computes to 1 ham per 56 residents.
73 de Dick, AC7EL

838. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-06 18:06:13 UTC
From: Patty.Winter@a.mail.sonic.net
Message-ID: <463e1884$0$14132$742ec2ed@news.sonic.net>
Source record: 4643

In article <0m2s33dfvp39n9etl06l7u79p34be5lr5h@4ax.com>,
Dick Grady AC7EL <rng@richbonnie.com> wrote:
>
>According to the license database at http://www.wm7d.net/fcc_uls/ there are 558
>licenses with Fairbanks addresses, including 3 clubs. That leaves 555
>individual hams. Dividing 555 into 31,000 computes to 1 ham per 56 residents.
Thanks, Dick. So it still is a very high percentage.

Patty

839. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-06 19:23:29 UTC
From: The Shadow <Repose@Zilch.com>
Message-ID: <CHp%h.224199$ZA5.80349@newsfe15.phx>
Source record: 4644

"patty1@wintertime.com" <Patty.Winter@b.mail.sonic.net> wrote in message
news:463df541$0$14060$742ec2ed@news.sonic.net...
> In article <6ikq335vaai38vtns27ni61f7ceec2thre@4ax.com>,
> Dick Grady AC7EL <rng@richbonnie.com> wrote:
>>
>>Some areas of the country have a higher density of hams.
>>My town (Pahrump, NV) has about 35,000 population and 284 hams, for a
>>ratio
>>of 1 ham per 123 residents.
>>
>>Does any other town or city have a higher density?
>
> Some years ago, I realized that a lot of the people I ran across
> in my brief visit to Fairbanks were hams. If someone here has an
> easy way to get the number of licensees up there, we can compare
> it to the Census Bureau's 2003 estimate of 31,000 people.
>
>
> Patty N6BIS

Use the FCC site -- it says 693 licenses in Fairbanks AK -- Includes Club
Stations
URL:
http://www.arrl.org/fcc/fcclook.php3?name=&city=Fairbanks&state=AK&zip=&optype=a&listofst=
680

840. IRTS Radio News Bulletin, Sunday May 6th 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-06 23:04:30 UTC
From: news at irts dot ie <devnull@panix.com>
Message-ID: <200705062258.l46MwFq25118@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4645
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Irish Radio Transmitters Society
Radio News Bulletin

Sunday May 6th 2007

Michael Gallagher EI3CK: Silent Key

The Mayo Radio Experimenters Network is sad to announce the passing of Fr. Michael Gallagher, EI3CK after a short illness. Michael was originally from Achill, Co. Mayo and is predeceased by his brother Dennis a former Government Minister.

Fr Michael was ordained on April the 10th 1955 in Carlow Cathedral and was appointed to Ogoja diocese in Nigeria. He was stationed and Lyamoyong where he was involved in the building of St. Brendan's school. He also worked in Nkalagu and while stationed there he contracted TB meningitis and was invalided home to Ireland in 1966. After two years of treatment and convalescence Michael took up a position in St Peters in the Glasgow archdiocese and ministered there from October 1968 to March 1969. He then moved to the diocese of Motherwell in Scotland and served in St Brides parish Cambuslang and St Leonards in East Kilbride. From there he went to St Davids parish, Airdire where he served from 1984 until his retirement in September 2004. He held the UK callsign GM3AHB.

Fr. Michael joined the Mayo Radio Experimenters Network in the late 1990s shortly after the club was formed. He was a regular attendee at meetings and club events and will be sadly missed by his large circle of friends. His death brings to two, the number of members of the Mayo REN to pass on in the last few months. Don Gibbons EI5IA, passed away in November 2006.

Michael is survived by his sisters Mary and Sr. Kathleen, by his brothers Eoin, Brendan and Terry and by his sisters-in-law Maureen, Diane, Joan and Mary.

Our deepest sympathy to his family and friends. May he rest in peace.

Date Announced for Mayo Rally 2007

Rally Director Padraic Baynes, EI9JA, told the May meeting of the club that the date of November 18 had been set for the 2007 Rally. The venue, the Belmont Hotel, Knock, remains same as other years and full details will be announced later.

Emcomm party on the air

The second IARU Emcomm party on the air took place on Saturday last the 5th of May. Three AREN stations using callsigns from the EI0RENE sequence were on the air. Band conditions on 7, 14 and 21 MHz were good and the weather ideal for the portable operations. Logs are being studied at present and a report will be posted on the AREN Website.

Galtee Walking Festival

There are just 4 weeks to go to the 2 days of activity in the Galtees on the Saturday and Sunday of the June Bank Holiday weekend. John Ronan EI7IG is event Coordinator and hes is being assisted by John EI2JB and other members of the Tipperary Amateur radio Group. Preparations are at an advanced stage but there are still radio positions to be filled on Saturday and on Sunday. Newcomers are welcome and training will be provided by AREN each morning. Please contact John EI7IG on 086 8167310 or John EI2JB at QTHR

Ladies Mini Marathon

The 2007 Flora Ladies Mini Marathon takes place on Bank Holiday Monday the 4th of June at 3.00 pm. It starts from Fitzwilliam Square, and finishes in Stephens Green Dublin 2. Sadly this years event will happen without the familiar voice of Donnchadh OShea who traditionally operated the net control station. This years public service event will be dedicated to his memory. The co-ordinator for the event again this year will be George Adjaye who may be contacted by phone on 086 2586103 or Fax 01 4908546 or email george_adjayeg at dcu.ie.

Comeragh Cycle Race

There are just 8 weeks to go to the national under 23 road racing championship in Waterford on the 1st of July. Richie EI9HR is event Co-ordinator and he is

being assisted by John EI8JA. This years race, though run over essentially the same route as last year will be on a greater scale with over 160 riders taking part. The Civil Defence have come on board this year to help with marshalling and RTE will be filming the event. AREN will provide the communications for safe traffic management and accident reporting. There will be more radio reporting points and mobile stations than last year so more radio operators are required. Again newcomers are welcome and training will be provided on the morning of the race. This is an excellent opportunity for operators to put their radio skills to good use in a very enjoyable and rewarding way for the benefit of the Community. All operators irrespective of experience are welcome.

Please contact Richie on mobile 085-1465465 or evenings on 051-854315. You can also contact Richie by e-mail at "ei9hr at yahoo dot com".

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2 Metre Counties Contest

Thanks to all the participants of the recent 2 metre counties contest. If you or your club participated, please send logs to EI8IU at QTHR or email to "contests at irts dot ie by the 9th of May.

International Marconi Day

On the recent International Marconi Day, EI0MAR operated from the Radio Museum in the Martello tower in Howth as a special award station. As befits the event and the location, most contacts were on CW. There were many visitors in the afternoon. The good weather brought a lot of people out and Howth was buzzing. Tony (EI5EM), Joe (EI4FV), Eamonn (EI2CHB), Mike (EI2DJ) Conor (EI5GAB) and Joe (EI4JA) attended.

Tony (EI5EM) handed over an Elecraft KX-1 transceiver and audio amplifier that he had built to Joe Deery, EI4JA. Joe is a blind operator and the KX-1 has a nice optional feature that relays whatever appears on the screen to the operator in CW. As Joe is an avid CW operator this is of great assistance to him.

Mid Ulster Amateur Radio Club (GI3CFW)

The Mid Ulster Amateur Radio Club Rally will take place on Sunday the 20th of May 2007 at the Discovery Centre, Oxford Island, Lough Neagh, Lurgan. Doors open at

mid-day and talk-in is on 145.525 MHz.

Limerick Radio Club

The next meeting will take place on Thursday the 10th of May at 7 p.m. at Limerick Institute of Technology.

Limerick Radio Club has been invited by the Foynes Flying-Boat Museum to operate a special Amateur Radio Station in conjunction with the commemorative Transatlantic Re-Enactment Flight 1937 from Newfoundland Canada to Foynes Ireland. A special call-sign has been allocated to the station EI-70-FOY. The station will be on the air from the 6th to the 8th of July 2007. On HF the station will operate from 80 to 10 metres. It will also operate on VHF / UHF using the EI70FOY call-sign.

A special QSL card, commemorating the Re-Enactment Flight, will be sent to all stations worked over the three-day event. All QSL cards should be sent to the Clubs QSL Manager Alan Cronin EI8EM at QTHR.

Limerick Radio Club can be contacted at ei4lrc at eircom dot net or at www.qsl.net/ei4lrc.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group

Going forward and starting from Monday the 28th of May, meetings of South Eastern Amateur Radio Group will take place on the last Monday of each month instead of last Wednesdays. The move has been decided in order to facilitate a number of members who are unable to attend on Wednesdays.

The committee meetings will also take place on the first Monday of each month and the next committee meeting will take place on Monday the 7th of May.

Theory Examination

The next Theory Examination for the Experimenters Licence will be held on Thursday the 28th of June next. Places for the examination are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis. In order to reserve a place for the exam, intending candidates should forward the appropriate fee to Se&#65533;n Nolan EI7CD, 12 Little Meadow, Pottery Road Dunlaoghaire, Co. Dublin. The fee is 50 Euro or 25 Euro for full time registered students, those who are

retired, are unemployed or have a disability. In addition to the exam centre at the ComReg offices in Dublin, it has now been decided with the agreement of ComReg that an examination should be held on the same date and with the same paper at the Community Centre, Carrigtwohill, Co. Cork. This is to facilitate those at present attending classes for the experimenter licence examination in Cork and Waterford."

The closing date for the examination is the 16th of June and it will be strictly adhered to. Sean EI7CD's address again is 12 Little Meadow, Pottery Road, Dunlaoghaire, Co. Dublin and it can be found in the call book section of the IRTS website at www.irts.ie Sean's e-mail address for further enquiries is "ei7cd at gofree dot indigo dot ie".

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall, EI7IS at QTHR or by phone to 051-853806 or 087-6302026. Items for the radio news can also be faxed to 087 5 6302026. News should be submitted via e-mail to news at irts dot ie for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Friday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sundays bulletin.

841. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-06 23:14:04 UTC
From: RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net>
Message-ID: <1178493223.641395.35130@e65g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4646

On May 6, 4:06 pm, Patty.Win...@b.mail.sonic.net
(pat...@wintertime.com) wrote:

> Some years ago, I realized that a lot of the people I ran across
> in my brief visit to Fairbanks were hams. If someone here has an
> easy way to get the number of licensees up there, we can compare
> it to the Census Bureau's 2003 estimate of 31,000 people.

If you look at the numbers on a "by state" basis, Alaska has the
largest per-capita density of hams, at about 4.8 hams per thousand.
New York and Louisiana are least dense with about 1.4 hams per
thousand.

The Northwest seems for some reason to be popular for hams. My home
state of Oregon has 3.6 hams per thousand, and all the other W7 states
except Arizona have over 3 hams per thousand, while the national
average is significanly lower at 2.1 hams per thousand.

73, RDW

842. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-07 00:07:42 UTC
From: George <gmwemail-dsp@yahoo.com>
Message-ID: <g3u%h.7515$rO7.1102@newssvr25.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 4647

I'm totally surprised. I was under the impression that ham radio had declined in popularity over the decades!

George K6GW

<N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote in message news:1178416466.392328.291990@p77g2000hsh.googlegroups.com...
> The following are approximate numbers of US amateurs on the stated
> dates, compared to the US population.
>
> 1930: US population 122 million, US hams 18,000, 1 ham per 6778
> Americans
>
> 1940: US population 131 million, US hams 50,000, 1 ham per 2620
> Americans
>
> 1950: US population 150 million, US hams 90,000, 1 ham per 1667
> Americans
>
> 1960: US population 179 million, US hams 230,000, 1 ham per 779
> Americans
>
> 1970: US population 223 million, US hams 270,000, 1 ham per 825
> Americans
>
> 1980: US population 227 million, US hams 350,000, 1 ham per 649
> Americans
>
> 1990: US population 249 million US hams 550,000, 1 ham per 453
> Americans
>
> 2000: US population 281 million, US hams 683,000, 1 ham per 411
> Americans
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> May 5 2007: US population (estimated) 301,773,107 US hams 655,219, 1
> ham per 460 Americans
>
> Except for the 1960s, every decade from the 1930s to the 1990s saw US
> Amateur Radio growing faster than the US population.
>
> 73 de Jim, N2EY
>

843. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-07 00:39:01 UTC
From: Dick Grady AC7EL <rng@richbonnie.com>
Message-ID: <mvrs33pl0dta519am8k80ji13pknmckt8e@4ax.com>
Source record: 4648

We've had a ground-swell of interest in Ham radio here in Pahrump, NV. A lot of people heard of ham radio due to the publicity it got during Hurricane Katrina. Last December, in conjunction with the local LDS church (Mormons), we held a one-day "ham cram" session: Study the Technician questions in the morning, followed by an exam session in the afternoon. We had 14 students/candidates, and 13 passed. Two weeks ago, one of them got his General. Several of them have joined our local ARES/RACES unit and repeater club.

The LDS church preaches self-sufficiency and not depending on government to ride out a crisis. Each family must keep a couple of weeks worth of food and water stored in their house. Ham radio fits in with their self-help philosophy.

Three weeks ago, I talked to a ham-to-be in Las Vegas. He said that his Bishop asked him to get a ham license. I asked, "Are you LDS?" and he replied "Yes." BTW, he passed the exam.

Two weeks ago, at the license exam session which I run, we had 10 candidates, where we usually have one or two. Most of these were going for upgrades to General. Last year, we had several sessions with zero candidates. The publicity from Katrina, plus the dropping of the code requirement, has re-invigorated ham radio.

Dick, AC7EL

On Sun, 6 May 2007 20:07:42 EDT, "George" <gmwemail-dsp@yahoo.com> wrote:

>I'm totally surprised. I was under the impression that ham radio had
>declined in popularity over the decades!
>
>George K6GW
>
>
><N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote in message
>news:1178416466.392328.291990@p77g2000hsh.googlegroups.com...
>> The following are approximate numbers of US amateurs on the stated
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>> 1930: US population 122 million, US hams 18,000, 1 ham per 6778
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>> 1950: US population 150 million, US hams 90,000, 1 ham per 1667
>> Americans
>>

>> 1960: US population 179 million, US hams 230,000, 1 ham per 779
>> Americans
>>
>> 1970: US population 223 million, US hams 270,000, 1 ham per 825
>> Americans
>>
>> 1980: US population 227 million, US hams 350,000, 1 ham per 649
>> Americans
>>
>> 1990: US population 249 million US hams 550,000, 1 ham per 453
>> Americans
>>
>> 2000: US population 281 million, US hams 683,000, 1 ham per 411
>> Americans
>>
>> May 5 2007: US population (estimated) 301,773,107 US hams 655,219, 1
>> ham per 460 Americans
>>
>> Except for the 1960s, every decade from the 1930s to the 1990s saw US
>> Amateur Radio growing faster than the US population.
>>
>> 73 de Jim, N2EY
>>

844. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-07 02:08:30 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1178503689.133942.317500@p77g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4549

On May 6, 8:07 pm, "George" <gmwemail-...@yahoo.com> wrote:
> I'm totally surprised. I was under the impression that ham radio had
> declined in popularity over the decades!

The numbers say otherwise. And they have for many years.

Note that the 1930s, which were dominated by the Great Depression, saw an enormous rise in the number of US hams and the popularity of amateur radio. Yet the 1960s, a time of prosperity, saw almost no growth and an actual decline in popularity.

Some might blame the 1960s numbers on "incentive licensing", but those changes didn't go into effect until very late in that decade (November 1968). And the growth came back in the 1970s and 1980s, when those changes had their greatest effect.

73 de Jim, N2EY

845. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-07 03:44:27 UTC
From: RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net>
Message-ID: <1178506036.101861.258620@n59g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4550

On May 7, 2:08 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> On May 6, 8:07?pm, "George" <gmwemail-...@yahoo.com> wrote:
>
> > I'm totally surprised. I was under the impression that ham radio had
> > declined in popularity over the decades!
>
> The numbers say otherwise. And they have for many years.
>

> 1990: US population 249 million US hams 550,000, 1 ham per 453
> Americans

> 2000: US population 281 million, US hams 683,000, 1 ham per 411
> Americans

> May 5 2007: US population (estimated) 301,773,107 US hams 655,219, 1
> ham per 460 Americans

But something apparently has gone horribly wrong. Your numbers
indicate that in the past 7 years we have lost all the gains of the
90's and are apparently sliding backwards into the 1980's hams-per-
Americans ratios.

?? RDW

846. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-07 03:44:49 UTC
From: "Rick (W-A-one-R-K-T)" <get.my.email@from.qrz.com>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.05.07.02.57.10.25807@from.qrz.com>
Source record: 4551

On Sun, 06 May 2007 12:06:48 -0400, patty1@wintertime.com wrote:

> Some years ago, I realized that a lot of the people I ran across
> in my brief visit to Fairbanks were hams. If someone here has an
> easy way to get the number of licensees up there, we can compare
> it to the Census Bureau's 2003 estimate of 31,000 people.

QRZ.com says that there are "more than 500" hams in Fairbanks. It
wouldn't give me an exact number and would only display the first 300.

847. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-07 05:11:57 UTC
From: Patty.Winter@b.mail.sonic.net
Message-ID: <463ea2b7$0$14138$742ec2ed@news.sonic.net>
Source record: 4552

In article <mvrs33pl0dta519am8k80ji13pknmckt8e@4ax.com>,
Dick Grady AC7EL <rng@richbonnie.com> wrote:
>We've had a ground-swell of interest in Ham radio here in Pahrump, NV. A lot of
>people heard of ham radio due to the publicity it got during Hurricane Katrina.

I imagine that having a nationally syndicated talkshow host who's also
a ham doesn't hurt, either, right? I don't listen to Bell's show, but
I used to have a neighbor who chatted with Bell and other hams after
the show was over, and I got the impression that he mentioned amateur
radio on his show quite often. So does he talk it up around town, too?

Patty

848. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-07 10:46:33 UTC
From: crn@NOSPAM.netunix.com
Message-ID: <f1mud7kv1$8300dec7@news.demon.co.uk>
Source record: 4553

RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net> wrote:
>
> But something apparently has gone horribly wrong. Your numbers
> indicate that in the past 7 years we have lost all the gains of the
> 90's and are apparently sliding backwards into the 1980's hams-per-
> Americans ratios.

This is to be expected, the big intake of the 1950s is now dying off.

--
g4jci

849. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-07 12:12:02 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1178534835.540607.102430@u30g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4554

On May 6, 11:44 pm, RDWeaver <weaver5...@mypacks.net> wrote:
> On May 7, 2:08 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>
> > On May 6, 8:07?pm, "George" <gmwemail-...@yahoo.com> wrote:
>
> > > I'm totally surprised. I was under the impression that ham radio h
ad
> > > declined in popularity over the decades!
>
> > The numbers say otherwise. And they have for many years.
>
> > 1990: US population 249 million US hams 550,000, 1 ham per 453
> > Americans
> > 2000: US population 281 million, US hams 683,000, 1 ham per 411
> > Americans
> > May 5 2007: US population (estimated) 301,773,107 US hams 655,219, 1
> > ham per 460 Americans
>
> But something apparently has gone horribly wrong. Your numbers
> indicate that in the past 7 years we have lost all the gains of the
> 90's and are apparently sliding backwards into the 1980's hams-per-
> Americans ratios.
>
> ??

Not just 'my' numbers but any reliable numbers you look at.

What has happened in the past 7 years is this:

>From 2000 to 2003, the number of US hams rose, but since 2003 the numbers have been slowly declining, as expirations exceeded new licenses.The recent rules changes seem to have stopped the decline in numbers but they are only a few months old.

We can speculate on what's going on, but it's only speculation. So here are some speculations:

1) In 1984 the FCC doubled the license term from 5 to 10 years. Which meant that from 1989 to 1994 there were no US amateur license expirations at all. That period is long gone now.

2) There are three basic reasons to become a ham: First, to legally operate 2-way radios as an end in itself, second, to do technical things with 2-way radios that aren't allowed in other radio services, and third, to use low-cost electronic communication.

The first two reasons are pretty much unchanged. But the third has changed radically in the past 10-20 years or so. Email, the internet, cell phones and many other options have made amateur radio just one of many ways that people can use low-cost electronic communication.

For example, back in the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s, we experienced a steady stream of new hams who wanted to use the various repeater/ autopatch systems in this area for personal noncommercial communications, particularly while mobile. Whole families would show up at classes and VE sessions, and the repeaters were busy with their activities. The term 'honeydo hams' entered the jargon. Some of them became interested in other facets of amateur radio, some did not. Nothing wrong with that, either way.

Then came inexpensive cell phones. They went from being a luxury to a near-necessity in a decade or so. Inexpensive, long distance mobile communications went from something unusual and exotic to ubiquitous - and we lost that source of new hams. Very few people get amateur radio licenses today in order to coordinate who is picking up the dry cleaning on the way home and who has soccer practice carpool. In the 1980s it was common.

3) The percentage of residences with antenna restrictions keeps rising. In many areas you have to look really hard to find an affordable newer home where you can put up something as innocuous as a G5RV or a vertical.

4) The nature of free time has changed for many Americans. It's not that people don't have free time, it's that their free time is less predictable and comes in odd chunks. Many American families are juggling two careers, child and elder care, and the expectation of being available most of the time. Activities that requires solid pieces of time, like amateur radio, aren't going to be as popular in such an environment.

There are lots more, but I'm out of time!

73 de Jim, N2EY

850. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-07 13:25:53 UTC
From: Dick Grady AC7EL <rng@richbonnie.com>
Message-ID: <ps9u339vkei41e9g2uc0612fl6bsp749jb@4ax.com>
Source record: 4555

On Mon, 7 May 2007 01:11:57 EDT, Patty.Winter@b.mail.sonic.net
(patty1@wintertime.com) wrote:

>In article <mvrs33pl0dta519am8k80ji13pknmckt8e@4ax.com>,
>Dick Grady AC7EL <rng@richbonnie.com> wrote:
>>We've had a ground-swell of interest in Ham radio here in Pahrump, NV. A lot of
>>people heard of ham radio due to the publicity it got during Hurricane Katrina.
>
>I imagine that having a nationally syndicated talkshow host who's also
>a ham doesn't hurt, either, right? I don't listen to Bell's show, but
>I used to have a neighbor who chatted with Bell and other hams after
>the show was over, and I got the impression that he mentioned amateur
>radio on his show quite often. So does he talk it up around town, too?

Actually, Bell is quite reclusive. He doesn't belong to any of the ham
organizations in town. I've lived here since 1999, and I only saw him once, at
a gas station, and have never spoken to him.

73 de Dick, AC7EL

851. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-07 22:45:50 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Ma6dnclkSZeFOKLbnZ2dnUVZ_r-onZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4556

"RDWeaver" <weaver5511@mypacks.net> wrote in message
news:1178506036.101861.258620@n59g2000hsh.googlegroups.com...
> On May 7, 2:08 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>> On May 6, 8:07?pm, "George" <gmwemail-...@yahoo.com> wrote:
>>
>> > I'm totally surprised. I was under the impression that ham radio had
>> > declined in popularity over the decades!
>>
>> The numbers say otherwise. And they have for many years.
>>
>
>> 1990: US population 249 million US hams 550,000, 1 ham per 453
>> Americans
>
>> 2000: US population 281 million, US hams 683,000, 1 ham per 411
>> Americans
>
>> May 5 2007: US population (estimated) 301,773,107 US hams 655,219, 1
>> ham per 460 Americans
>
>
> But something apparently has gone horribly wrong. Your numbers
> indicate that in the past 7 years we have lost all the gains of the
> 90's and are apparently sliding backwards into the 1980's hams-per-
> Americans ratios.
>

Does it really mean something has gone horribly wrong? An activity like ham radio is going to have its ups and downs. It will ebb and flow. These variations can last several years so are hard to evaluate.

Ham radio can't expect to forever increase as a percentage of the population as there is only going to be a certain percentage interested no matter how diligently one "sells" it.

Dee, N8UZE
>
>
>
>

852. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-08 01:39:11 UTC
From: RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net>
Message-ID: <1178588336.381655.48340@e51g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4557

On May 7, 10:45 pm, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:

> An activity like ham radio is going to have its ups and downs.
> It will ebb and flow. These variations can last several years
> so are hard to evaluate.
>
> Dee, N8UZE

According to the figures that the OP posted here and in other threads (no reason to doubt them) ham radio has had steady "ups" with no "downs" to a high in 2003. Then in just the past 4 years (2003-2007) the number of "hams/1000 population" has fallen to BELOW the ratio of 1990. In other words, after //many\\ UNBROKEN DECADES of rising popularity, in just //4 years since 2003\\ we have shed the gains of the previous 13 years and continue to head south. Calling that "ebb and flow" is, in my opinion, a bad case of 'whistling past the grave yard'.

The fellow in another thread talking about the 'last generation' may be onto something.

73, RDW

853. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-08 02:38:07 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1178587784.670845.26270@e51g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4558

N...@AOL.COM wrote on Mon, 7 May 2007 08:12:02 EDT:

>On May 6, 11:44?pm, RDWeaver <weaver5...@mypacks.net> wrote:

>For example, back in the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s, we experienced a
>steady stream of new hams who wanted to use the various repeater/
>autopatch systems in this area for personal noncommercial
>communications, particularly while mobile. Whole families would show
>up at classes and VE sessions, and the repeaters were busy with their
>activities. The term 'honeydo hams' entered the jargon.

I didn't know the term "honey-do ham" existed until seeing in
these newsgroups. :-) In knowing many licensed radio
amateurs in the southwestern USA, their spouses and/or
offspring got licenses for the purpose of amateur radio
participation, not for picking up dry cleaning or coordinating
soccer practice carpools. While it has been common for
some spouses to call the other spouse to pick up something
on the way home, that has been routinely done by the POTS
here from 1960 to the present time. <shrug>

>3) The percentage of residences with antenna restrictions keeps
>rising. In many areas you have to look really hard to find an
>affordable newer home where you can put up something as innocuous as a
>G5RV or a vertical.

I keep hearing about all that "trouble" and have yet to see it
around here in existing neighborhoods of the eastern San
Fernando Valley area of L.A. (SFV population about 1.5
million). The average home residence plot is 1/4 to 1/3 acre
in the majority; in the majority of those with antennas other
than K-band TV satellite service are the CB and scanner
antennas. The off-center-fed dipole (G5RV type) is more
noticeable than a CB or external scanner antenna or TV dish.
A beam antenna, even one that can be lowered to near
ground level will stick out like a sore thumb in a neighborhood
which doesn't have anyone else with such a structure.

Yes, I know such residential areas exist, but I say those are
still in the minority among the millions of residence units in
the USA.

In the common residence without any restrictions on large,
ungainly structures, hams have to face the very real
problem of some neighbors simply not tolerating
uncommon, highly-visible structures such as ham

antennas. Amateur radio is simply not their thing and
they consider their home as a home, not a small-scale
radio station. To get along with neighbors, hams have to
"sell" themselves to neighbors and completely damp any
indignation that neighbors don't like the idea of (to them)
ungly structures in the air next door. There's no way that
one can legislate away bad feeling that neighbors may
have about ugly (to them) ham antennas; it is their
neighborhood also.

>4) The nature of free time has changed for many Americans. It's not
>that people don't have free time, it's that their free time is less
>predictable and comes in odd chunks. Many American families are
>juggling two careers, child and elder care, and the expectation of
>being available most of the time. Activities that requires solid
>pieces of time, like amateur radio, aren't going to be as popular in
>such an environment.

Being always older than the FCC, I just can't accept the above
excuse for "times changing." Every year for the last 50 or so
I've heard variations on that rationalization and every time it
has appeared always applied the "current generation." :-)
No generation owns that excuse nor has it "earned" it.

In every year I've observed human society in this country for
the last half century or so, those that wanted to do what they
wanted made the time. The motion picture industry made its
big business push during the Great Depression...when folks
didn't have much income. They wanted to be entertained,
didn't have TV, few had radios to listen to the a-borning
broadcast networks. Elder-care homes were not close to as
numerous as they are now and families were stuck with
providing for their aging relatives with no extra financial help,
no Medi-Care or (in CA) Medi-Cal. Wives kept up the homes
and took care of the children (if there were any) while
husbands worked (if they had jobs...28% didn't have steady
work at the peak of the Great Depression). Somehow most
survived that ordeal as they had for centuries past. Most of
my high school class of 1951 managed to show up at our
2001 Reunion even though some had to travel 1 to 2 thousand
miles to do so. Most of us looked like we could make it to
our 60th Reunion in 2011. :-)

Amateur radio is really a niche activity in American society
when viewed in the entirety of all activities available. Of course,
the downside of that same society is a divorce rate that has
continually increased since the end of WWII...which is oddly
(but not so much so) coincident with the fantastic rise in
availability of mass media advertising plus the escapist fare
of TV and motion picture entertainment. I won't bother to
mention the increased new-home foreclosures or the rising

debt from easy credit card spending. ["credit cards" didn't exist a half century ago] Like it or not, advertising space sales make it possible for amateur radio publications to exist even if just to break even for membership organizations. Those ads are bought by producers of goods and services for the amateur radio market, producers hoping to sell things even to those who already have radios and some services. Everyone needs to honestly ask themselves a number of questions:

Do you really HAVE to trade up to a new, bigger home in order for more antenna space? Do you really HAVE to get a new transceiver to replace the one you've used for ten years? Do you HAVE to spend all that time on the hobby at the expense of time with family and friends? If you have a spouse, does she/he HAVE to work to help support your hobby? Do you HAVE to use ham radio to communicate with others or can you possibly use another form of communications?

Those questions are all individual. Insert any hobby's name in those questions, same thing there. Amateur radio is a voluntary activity, not a basic necessity of life. The USA as a nation won't collapse if a ham misses a contest or can't make a Field Day "readiness exercise." Let's put it all into a proper perspective of viewing amateur radio as a whole, not just from an individual-experience viewpoint.

73, Len AF6AY

854. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-08 04:13:50 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1178597604.822346.184120@e51g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4559

On May 5, 5:54?pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> The following are approximate numbers of US amateurs on the stated
> dates, compared to the US population.

A yearly US ham census was posted on KB6NU's ham blog
on 27 December 2006, from KB9UMT. It goes from 1925
to 1965 in 5-year increments, then 1-year increments from
there to 2003. See:

http://kb6nu.com/ham-census/

73, Len AF6AY

855. Professional HF Work?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-08 07:15:51 UTC
From: BNB Sound <jon@bnbsound.com>
Message-ID: <1178599461.693178.265950@e65g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4560

I've been an amateur operator for a little over a year now and one of my favorite parts of the hobby is soaking up stories from previous decades. One of the things I'm curious about is professional HF work. I've heard it mentioned in passing that when the early trans-Atlantic cables went down they would shift to HF circuits as available to try and pick up the slack.

So, what else is out there. I know the military has always been heavily invested in radio gear, but what else was (and is?) there? I'd love to hear from anyone who ever brought home a paycheck for working the airwaves.

Jon
KC2PNF

856. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-08 11:36:37 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <r-adnYt0vs9Axt3bnZ2dnUVZ_sOknZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4561

"AF6AY" <LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote in message
news:1178587784.670845.26270@e51g2000hsg.googlegroups.com...
> N...@AOL.COM wrote on Mon, 7 May 2007 08:12:02 EDT:
>
>>On May 6, 11:44?pm, RDWeaver <weaver5...@mypacks.net> wrote:
>
>>For example, back in the 1970s, 1980s and 1990s, we experienced a
>>steady stream of new hams who wanted to use the various repeater/
>>autopatch systems in this area for personal noncommercial
>>communications, particularly while mobile. Whole families would show
>>up at classes and VE sessions, and the repeaters were busy with their
>>activities. The term 'honeydo hams' entered the jargon.
>
> I didn't know the term "honey-do ham" existed until seeing in
> these newsgroups. :-) In knowing many licensed radio
> amateurs in the southwestern USA, their spouses and/or
> offspring got licenses for the purpose of amateur radio
> participation, not for picking up dry cleaning or coordinating
> soccer practice carpools. While it has been common for
> some spouses to call the other spouse to pick up something
> on the way home, that has been routinely done by the POTS
> here from 1960 to the present time. <shrug>
>

When I licensed back in 1992, the majority of the people in the class and at the various test sessions as I went up the ladder were these "honey-do" hams and the family group communications types. This type of use was heavily promoted to non-hams by hams of the day. I heard a lot of chit chat on the repeaters, including discussions on errands etc, between family members as they traveled around town. While there is no issue with this, the downside was that many became inactive as they got cell phones. Only a few seemed to carry forward into other areas of ham radio activity.

Dee, N8UZE

857. Re: Professional HF Work?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-08 13:21:06 UTC
From: RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net>
Message-ID: <1178630362.641487.122370@u30g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4562

On May 8, 7:15 am, BNB Sound <j...@bnbsound.com> wrote:

>
> So, what else is out there.
>

Commercial shipping and aviation, press (AP, UPI, Reuters, etc.),
weather stations, outback schools in Austrailia and Canada, shortwave
broadcasters, rural telephone systems (an HF radio link existed into a
South Dakota Indian reservation into the 1970's), government
communications in large countries such as China and Russia, public
marine telephone, and more. Pick up a copy of a "SWL Directory" and
you'll be amazed!

73, RDW

858. Re: Professional HF Work?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-08 15:11:15 UTC
From: Mike Andrews <mikea@mikea.ath.cx>
Message-ID: <f1q1me$lb5$1@puck.litech.org>
Source record: 4563

On Tue, 8 May 2007 03:15:51 EDT, BNB Sound <jon@bnbsound.com> wrote in
<1178599461.693178.265950@e65g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>:
> I've been an amateur operator for a little over a year now and one of
> my favorite parts of the hobby is soaking up stories from previous
> decades. One of the things I'm curious about is professional HF work.
> I've heard it mentioned in passing that when the early trans-Atlantic
> cables went down they would shift to HF circuits as available to try
> and pick up the slack.

> So, what else is out there. I know the military has always been
> heavily invested in radio gear, but what else was (and is?) there? I'd
> love to hear from anyone who ever brought home a paycheck for working
> the airwaves.

When I was stationed at Camp Drake, Japan, some time after Len left,
we were still using HF circuits to ship data (60 Baud TTY, 2400 Baud
"high speed data", and other stuff slower than 2400 Baud) to various
places around the world. I was there 2 years, starting in Jan '68. The
TX and RX sites were in Kashiwa and Owada, though I can't remember
which was which.

We also used HF circuits at Osan AB, ROK, and some other places where
I was stationed. Never a hint of Morse, though; it was all TTY and
synchronous data.

You do know about the Coastie CW op's pages at
<http://www.radiomarine.org/tales.html>? These are gripping, and in
one case I found them hair-raising.

I, too, would love to hear from non-military, non-amateur HF users.

--
Mike Andrews, W5EGO
mikea@mikea.ath.cx
Tired old sysadmin

859. Re: Professional HF Work?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-09 15:07:10 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1178665410.265880.309060@u30g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4564

"Mike Andrews" <m...@mikea.ath.cx> wrote on Tue, 8 May 2007 11:11:15
EDT:

>On Tue, 8 May 2007 03:15:51 EDT, BNB Sound <j...@bnbsound.com> wrote

>> I've been an amateur operator for a little over a year now and one of
>> my favorite parts of the hobby is soaking up stories from previous
>> decades. One of the things I'm curious about is professional HF work.
>> I've heard it mentioned in passing that when the early trans-Atlantic
>> cables went down they would shift to HF circuits as available to try
>> and pick up the slack.
>> So, what else is out there. I know the military has always been
>> heavily invested in radio gear, but what else was (and is?) there? I'd
>> love to hear from anyone who ever brought home a paycheck for working
>> the airwaves.
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>When I was stationed at Camp Drake, Japan, some time after Len left,
>we were still using HF circuits to ship data (60 Baud TTY, 2400 Baud
>"high speed data", and other stuff slower than 2400 Baud) to various
>places around the world. I was there 2 years, starting in Jan '68. The
>TX and RX sites were in Kashiwa and Owada, though I can't remember
>which was which.

Kashiwa was the transmitter site built on an old WWII airfield with
about two square miles of mostly wire antennas (lots of rhombics),
NE of Tokyo. Owada (for Camp Owada) originally was a shared
USA-USAF receiver site with maybe twice the antenna field size
scattered over numerous small farms NNW of Tokyo. Army built
most of it and control was transferred to USAF in 1963. In 1978
nearly everything was given back to the Japanese government.
Parts of "Owada" receiving site was still active a decade later but
under control of the US Intelligence Agencies as an intercept site.
[no public info on such work :-)]

>We also used HF circuits at Osan AB, ROK, and some other places where
>I was stationed. Never a hint of Morse, though; it was all TTY and
>synchronous data.

True. Even during WWII the teleprinter was the majority
communications medium for the military, regardless of the stories
that have circulated on morse code use from that War. The center
for Army worldwide communications was Fort Detrick, MD, or radio
callsign WAR (Washington Army Radio). :-) There were separate
transmitter (Woodbridge, VA) and receiver (La Plata, MD) sites with
the control center at Ft. Detrick being primarily a TTY tape relay
unit feeding the Pentagon and 70-odd TTY trunk circuits to major

communications centers worldwide. Tape relay folks used the
network identifier rather than radio callsign. WAR had "RUEP" at
Fort Detrick while Far East Command HQ in Tokyo had "RUAP."
[TTY node IDs always began with "R" but I never found out why...]

TTY was much preferred for several reasons: It was fast, 60 or
100 words per minute with electromechanical terminals; it would
have a printed record at both Tx and Rx relay nodes; it could be
on punched paper tape with printing, ideal for human relaying to
other terminals; it could be encrypted-decrypted on-line or off-line,
vital during hostile times such as the Cold War. Note: The USA
rolling-key encryption system used from WWII until the capture
of the USS Pueblo was never known to have been broken by any
foreign intelligence service. TTYs never needed bathroom breaks,
were "fed" only when paper and ribbons reached their end, and
could work 24 hours a day. The USA, USN, and USAF operated
their parts of the Defense Communications System 24/7...and
there were trade-offs between all branches on the HF circuits,
each branch helping the other out of local problem situations.

Between the end of WWII and towards the beginning of the
1980s the worldwide military radio communications networks
were immense, larger than the combined resources of all USA
civilian radio communications networks. The Army's networks
in Europe, primarily Germany, are illustrated on the excellent
historical site (1945 to 1989) www.usarmygermany.com by
Walter Elkins. In the Far East of 1962 the Signal Corps had

http://sujan.hallikainen.org/BroadcastHistory/uploads/AlphabetSoup.pdf

By 1970 the US military had a better overall organization and
new kinds of equipment. Troposcatter (on low microwaves) was
replacing short-haul (under 400 miles) HF radio circuits. LOS
microwave links were replacing more and more land wire circuits.
AUTOVON (automatic voice) and AUTODIN (automatic digital)
circuits came into being, integrated with civilian communications
infrastructure. By 1980 the military satellites were beginning to
take over the really long-haul HF circuits, offering huge bandwidth
capability and thus very fast throughput. Add to that the buried
and underwater fiber-optic cables of civilian companies leasing
space to the government and military, available throughputs into
the GigaBit region. HF radio was relegated to a standby/back-up
role where it remains to this day. Radiation-hardened comm sats
are the medium of choice for the US military now.

The Defense Switched Network (DSN) was formed out of the old
AUTOVON and AUTODIN with the Internet protocols and became
the "government's own Internet" with the added capability of very
robust encryption and the ability to tie in directly with the existing
communications infrastructure or be used directly with comm sats.
That eliminated the old HF torn-tape message system and
subsequent delays of manual relaying of p-tape. In addition, all

DSN nodes can be alerted with "Flash" priority warnings or
messages, all at the same time, something not possible with the
older HF relay system.

>You do know about the Coastie CW op's pages at
><http://www.radiomarine.org/tales.html>? These are gripping, and in
>one case I found them hair-raising.
>
>I, too, would love to hear from non-military, non-amateur HF users.

One could go to the more affluent private boat owners who do
deep-water sailing. They use HF SSB away from harbors. Not
much radio-related "hair raising" stuff there, except maybe
what is shown on "CSI: Miami." :-)

The first chapter of the "Collins Sideband Book" by Pappenfus,
Bruene, and Schoenike shows an AT&T SSB map with direct
and switched links to worldwide locations, circa 1960. I count
about 122 stations on that map worldwide. Considering that each
commercial SSB circuit of the time could carry two voice and
eight TTY channels simultaneously, that's fairly large. On the
other hand the service was 24/7 and rather routine, not much
emotion-raising (except to the users of such services).

HF use today, other than amateur, CB, and government, is
relegated to maritime radio on deep water routes (SSB voice
and data), air carrier long-route-over-water communications
(SSB voice), BC (AM and digital voice-music), some comms
services that haven't upgraded to sats or fiber-optics, and
RF ID stations in stores. It's a changed radio world
compared to a half century ago.

73, Len AF6AY

860. Re: Professional HF Work?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-09 17:02:45 UTC
From: an old freind <konstans@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <1178726357.967857.184140@l77g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4565

On May 9, 11:07 am, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
> "Mike Andrews" <m...@mikea.ath.cx> wrote on Tue, 8 May 2007 11:11:15
> EDT:
>
>
>
>
>
> >On Tue, 8 May 2007 03:15:51 EDT, BNB Sound <j...@bnbsound.com> wrote

> The first chapter of the "Collins Sideband Book" by Pappenfus,
> Bruene, and Schoenike shows an AT&T SSB map with direct
> and switched links to worldwide locations, circa 1960. I count
> about 122 stations on that map worldwide. Considering that each
> commercial SSB circuit of the time could carry two voice and
> eight TTY channels simultaneously, that's fairly large. On the
> other hand the service was 24/7 and rather routine, not much
> emotion-raising (except to the users of such services).
>
does much if any of this survive to your knowledge?

861. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-09 18:05:37 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1178733900.044332.312800@w5g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4566

On May 8, 3:36 am, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:
> "AF6AY" <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote in message

> When I licensed back in 1992, the majority of the people in the class and
at
> the various test sessions as I went up the ladder were these "honey-do" h
ams
> and the family group communications types. This type of use was heavily
> promoted to non-hams by hams of the day. I heard a lot of chit chat o
n the
> repeaters, including discussions on errands etc, between family members as
> they traveled around town. While there is no issue with this, the down
side
> was that many became inactive as they got cell phones. Only a few seem
ed to
> carry forward into other areas of ham radio activity.

Well, I was curious about that, wondering if it was some kind of
local or regional thing. Here in the populous southwestern corner
of the USA there didn't seem to be too much of that. In the
Greater Los Angeles area (population roughly 8 million and spread
out over a large area), the LOS repeaters were carrying lots of
club activities with those clubs involved in amateur radio doings
rather than the "honey-do" kind of thing.

73, Len AF6AY

862. RAC Canada Day Contest

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-09 19:08:30 UTC
From: RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net>
Message-ID: <1178737629.608309.67600@y80g2000hsf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4567

For the first time in the history of Radio Amateurs of Canada, plans
are underway for the RAC ARES/NTS to be on the air simultaneously in
every Section of the RAC Field Organization using their respective
official RAC call sign. This "first" will take place during the annual
RAC Canada Day Contest on July 1, 2007, and RAC Field Services members
are invited to participate. For further information see the May/June
issue of The Canadian Amateur magazine or contact your Section
Manager.

Sent by the RAC Bulletins from RACHQ mailing list robot.
Send comments to: rachq@rac.ca
For more information about the email robot, please visit:
http://rac.eton.ca/racbullemail.htm

863. Re: Professional HF Work?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-09 19:23:30 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1178733339.187588.231670@q75g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4568

On May 9, 9:02 am, an old freind <konst...@hotmail.com> wrote:
> On May 9, 11:07 am, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
> > "Mike Andrews" <m...@mikea.ath.cx> wrote on Tue, 8 May 2007 11:11:15
> > EDT:
>
> > >On Tue, 8 May 2007 03:15:51 EDT, BNB Sound <j...@bnbsound.com> wrote
> > The first chapter of the "Collins Sideband Book" by Pappenfus,
> > Bruene, and Schoenike shows an AT&T SSB map with direct
> > and switched links to worldwide locations, circa 1960. I count
> > about 122 stations on that map worldwide. Considering that each
> > commercial SSB circuit of the time could carry two voice and
> > eight TTY channels simultaneously, that's fairly large. On the
> > other hand the service was 24/7 and rather routine, not much
> > emotion-raising (except to the users of such services).
>
> does much if any of this survive to your knowledge?

Not a great deal of it is publicized so it is hard to say. Most of
the government and military HF stations have changed from
massive terminals to much smaller ones for specific agencies.
Those can be seen in websites carrying SHARES information.
The government conversion to ALE techniques has changed
the nature of stations' operations and reduced the need for
large stations with fixed wire antennas.

The commercial communications world has gone over to
(largely) fiber-optic, extremely broadband carriers for
thousands of voice circuits, hundreds of data circuits, and
dozens of video-audio circuits on one routing...plus the
communications satellite transponder relay services. Note:
at present - and for several years - all the available slots in
the geosynchronous orbit have been filled by commsats.
Note: Much of the underwater cable service has been or
will be soon replaced by "pumped" (self-amplifying) fiber-
optic cable.

Communications such as ARINC stations for relaying HF
from air carriers on long routes still exist in the same number.
So do the private-boat, commercial boat HF relay services.
The availability of HF communications for small stations in
commercial work has caused a shift from reliance on the
bigger mass-communications carriers to individual company
stations.

Yes, one can still hear "other" radio signals outside of the ham bands. There still exist the strange hum-roar of 12 KHz commercial SSB here and there on HF but those are far less numerous than they were three to four decades ago. There's lots more 'new' sounds of all the various TORs that "others" use on HF and, once in a while, a rare CW signal. :-)

Thousands of old HF stations for non-ham use have been closed down worldwide and equipment dismantled or just junked. Some of the USA transcontinental microwave (FM) long-distance relay system are still in use and up (visible to anyone driving cross-country) but fiber-optics and very high-speed digital time-multiplexed carrier services carry much of the long-distance telephone signals if not relayed via commsats. Such is longer-lived and more reliable.

It's difficult for many to reconcile the changes that have happened in communications in just a half century but that's how it went down. On a more consumer-oriented basis, the broadcasting industry is generally wondering what will become of all those old analog TV transmitters after the transition to HDTV in the USA. There's no easy answer for that, either.

73, Len AF6AY

864. [DXNL] DXNL 1518 (May 9, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-09 21:11:25 UTC
From: RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net>
Message-ID: <1178745041.995857.72640@y5g2000hsa.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4569

DXNL 1518 - May 9, 2007
DX Newsletter

a free and weekly service of
DARC Committee "DX and HF contesting"
(http://www.darcdxhf.de)

editor: Helmut Schlaffer, DL7MAE
(e-mail: dxnl@dxhf.darc.de)

translation by: Bob, DL7VOA
(e-mail: dl7voa@darc.de)

BS7 - SCARBOROUGH REEF, AS-116
BS7H went QRT after nearly 45.000 QSOs on May 6 around 0000 UTC. They were able to put up even a fourth station, the pile-ups were tremendous
and the demand was still huge when they finished. Though the 2007 BS7H activity was not able to satisfy everyone's needs at least their wish to do so should be acknowledged highly. They kept running two stations simultaneously in CW and SSB on 20m all the time and the other two stations were taking care of all other bands. Using a wider listening spectrum increased the chances of the little pistols - as long as they stuck to the HAM rules. Many people hoping for a RTTY QSO with BS7H were disappointed, impossible from Europe. Many HAMs were disturbing others in a very annoying way which probably is a late result of the liberalization of the license exams? A few years ago 45.000 QSOs would have been a great effort (and it still is) but the HAM spirit back then
was much bigger!

D2 - ANGOLA
Steve,SO5AS, has been in Angola lately and received his license D2AS. He is planning his next stay (date not known yet) now with his amateur radio equipment. More information will be published later.

KH0 - NORTHERN MARIANAS, OC-086 / KH2 - GUAM, OC-026
Toshi,JP1IOF, will be QRV as KH0WW from Saipan (OC-086) from May 10-13.
His next stop will be Guam (OC-026) from where he will hit the airwaves
as WH7P/KH2 until May 15. He will run 500 watts in CW/SSB on all bands.
QSLs via his homecall JP1IOF, direct or via bureau.

ST - SUDAN
On Apr 17 Slavko,S57DX, shut his logs with more than 18.000 QSOs as ST2R in 14 weeks. All QSOs (most of them on the lowbands) were made with 100 watts and a simple wire antenna. The QSLs are at the printer already and their mailing will start soon. All those who enclosed old IRCs or no postage at all will receive their QSL via the bureau.

TF - ICELAND, EU-168
Jeff,TF4/G4ELZ/p, and Steve,TF4/G4EDG/p, plan to show up from Flatey Island (EU-168) from May 17-23. Operation will take place mainly
in CW on 80-17m with 100 watts and wires. QSLs direct to G4ELZ or LotW.

TI - COSTA RICA
TI6/K9KEJ and TI6/K5YG will be QRV in SSB on 40m/20m from the jungle on
the east coast of Costa Rica starting on May 15.

VP9 - BERMUDA ISLANDS, NA-005
VP9KF will be the callsign of Paul,G4BKI, from May 15 until Jun 5. Paul will work in CW only on all bands and also plans to take part in the CQ WPX Contest. Please send your QSLs direct to his US address: Paul Evans, 6809 River Rd, Tampa, FL 33615, USA.

4K - AZERBAIJAN
Several members of the 4K7Z radio club in Baku are working as 4KP7Z and 4K1V until May 14 to celebrate the victory in WW2. QSL via UA3FDX.

4W - EAST TIMOR, OC-148
Geoff,VK3ZGW, is working in the capital Dili and showed up on the bands as 4W6AAD. The length of his stay is not known. QSL via VK3ZGW.

9N - NEPAL
Nob,JA2AAU, Yoshi,JA2AIC, and Iku,JA2ATE, will be QRV from the Nepalese
capital Kathmandu from May 10-15. 9N7AU (via JA2AAU),9N7IC (via JA2AIC)
and 9N7TE (via JA2ATE) will work in SSB/CW/RTTY/PSK31 on 40-10m.
If you like to send your QSLs direct please use following addresses:
JA2AAU, No-boru Kanno, Shikata 1785-61, Kitanagoya, 481-0004 Japan;
JA2ATE, Seiji Morishima, Tonomachi 1-8, Ichinomiya, 491-0848 Japan;
JA2AIC,Yoshiyasu Iwata,Minamiaoki 30,Sotowarida,Kisogawa,493-0007 Japan

9U - BURUNDI
9U0VB is now the call of Vlad,UA4WHX, who is travelling through Africa for months now. Nobody knows where and when he will go next.

UNITED KINGDOM/USA, SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS
The first permanent settlement of the British in America was founded in Jamestown, Virginia, 400 years ago. Special event stations will honour this historic event in both countries:
GB400AA (AA stands for "Anniversary of America") is QRV from May 11-13

and during the WPX CW Contest. QSL via G0SBW.
Their website is: http://www.gb400aa.net

W4J is a special event station operated in the US by the "Williamsburg Area ARC" (QSL via KU4FP) from May 4-25. K4J will be used by the "Dominion DX Group" from May 11-13. QSL via KS4RX. Find more info at: http://www.arrlva.us/arrlva/va400/va400_index.html

FINLAND, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
The "Eurovision Song Contest" will take place in Helsinki on May 12. The special event station OH2EURO with the two YLs Annika,OH2HSJ, and Anne,OH2YL, will be QRV on all bands during this event from May 11-13. They will work mainly in SSB and a little CW. QSL via bureau to OH2HSJ.

FRANCE, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
The special event station TM1VDM celebrates the 100th birthday of the author Maxence Van der Meersch from May 14-28. QSL via bureau to F6KTN.

RUSSIA, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
RP3YGA/p is working in CW/SSB/digital modes on 10-160m from May 9-13 (including the CQ-MIR-Contest). They are remembering the Russian pilots
who left their lives in WW2. Unfortunately QSL only direct via MM0DFV.

US POSTAGE RATES INCREASED
All those who prefer enclosing US stamps to their direct QSLs have to be aware of the new postage rates in the United States. Starting on May 14 an international standard envelope will cost 90 US Cent.

LINKS
The official exclusive interview with James Brooks,9V1YC, of BS7H on Scarborough Reef can be downloaded from http://dokufunk.org. The first interview from the start of the DXpedition had to be put off the web for security reasons and is now back online.

The 2007 EUCW 160m results can be downloaded from:
http://www.uft.net/articles.php?lng=fr&pg=411

Current SOTA activities (Summits On The Air) are announced at:
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/activations.php or
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/spots.php

UPCOMING CONTESTS

May 12/13: Alessandro Volta DX Contest and CQ-MIR-Contest

IOTA collected by Fredy,DE0MST (e-mail: iota@dxhf.darc.de)

Island activities:
AF-019, I, Lampedusa Island: Giuseppe,IG9/I2AZ, is working with QRP in

CW
on 3560, 7030, 14060, 21060 and 28060 kHz from May 5-21.

AS-026, AS-060, AS-081, AS-085, HL, several: Jean-Pierre,F5AHO, member
of
the German IOTA/LH chapter will stay in South Korea from May 12-20 and
plans follwoing activies during that time:
HL5/F5AHO, Kadok-Do, AS-081,
HL4/F5AHO, Cholla-Namdo Prov.Grp., AS-060,
HL4/F5AHO, Soan Islands, AS-085,
HL4/F5AHO, Cheju-Do, AS-026. All QSLs via his homecall F5AHO (b/d).

EU-032, F, Aix Island: Jean-Philippe,F4EEK, Eric,F5LOW, Laurent,F5MNK,
Fabrice,F5NBQ, and Bertrand,F6HKA, will sign TM0A from Ile d'Aix from
May 12-19. They will work with three stations in CW/SSB/digi modes
mainly on the lowbands. QSLs direct or via bureau to F5OIU.

EU-043, SM, North Koster Island: Nine Swedish OMs will sign 8S6KOS in
SSB
on 80/40/20m from May 11-13. QSL via bureau to SM6YOU or via LotW.

EU-110, 9A, Brijuni Island: 9A/IK4ALM, 9A/IK4XCL, 9A/IZ4DYQ, 9A/IZ4HVM
will be QRV in CW and SSB from May 11-13.

EU-123, GM, Inchcolm Island: Michael,GM0PHW/p, will be QRV again from
here
on 10/15/20/40m offering a new chance to work this island on May
11/12.
Michael prefers confirming his QSL cards direct but also via bureau.
For more details check out: http://www.hamcall.co.uk

NA-183, XE3, Guerrero State Group: A few Mexican HAMs plan to become
active
as 4A3IH from Roqueta Island from May 14-19 and after that also from
Ixtapa Island from May 21-26. QSLs for both activities via IT9EJW.
More information can be found at: http://www.mdxc.org/4a3ih

Lighthouse activities:
UE1CDX/p and/or RZ1CXO/p will be the callsign of an activity from the
Ustinskiy Lighthouse (ARLHS ERU-143, RLHA RLE-072) on May 12.
QSL via RN1CW, direct or via bureau.

Bandspots of the last 7 days

160m
HV0A 1.840 2147Z via IK0FVC (d) (L)

40m
BS7H 7.004 1640Z via KU9C (d)
JD1BMH 7.015 1750Z via JG7PSJ (B)
OX/NA1SA 7.002 2155Z

30m
BS7H 10.105 2053Z via KU9C (d)
J88DR 10.107 2200Z via G3TBK (B)

20m
BS7H 14.185 1420Z via KU9C (d)
E51JD 14.210 0650Z (d) QRZ.com
HC2SL 14.260 0515Z via EA5KB (B)
HZ1SK 14.182 1930Z via IZ8CLM (B)
HZ1ZH 14.191 1945Z via EA7FTR (B)
7Z1CQ 14.240 0508Z (d) QRZ.com

17m
BS7H 18.073 1723Z via KU9C (d)
BS7H 18.145 0830Z via KU9C (d)
VP5/PY2XB 18.069 1943Z via PT7WA (B)
XU7TZG 18.145 1735Z via ON7PP (d)
7Z1UG 18.079 1805Z (L) or via DG1XG (B)
9M6XRO 18.134 1755Z via M5AAV (B)
9V1DE 18.142 1743Z (B)
9V1RH 18.116 1643Z
9V1RJ 18.138 1635Z (B)

15m
VU2DSI 21.280 1420Z
VU2XO 21.220 1421Z
9U0VB 21.240 1425Z via UA4WHX (B)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager

Preview

DATE CALL DXNL

07Sep-24Sep 3B7C 1511
05Apr- 3B8MM 1513
May/Juni 3D2AG/Rot. 1516
29Aug-2007 3XM6JR 1484
14May-26May 4A3IH 1518 *
-14May 4KP7Z 1818 *
-Apr/08 5H0RS 1515
-Apr/08 6W/EA4ATI 1515
May 2007 6W (IZ2DPX) 1517
-20May 8J49JARL 1501
01Apr-09Sep 8N3IAAF 1513
04May-18May 9H3EZ/9H3RZ 1514
29Apr-11May 9H3RT 1516
2007 9N7JO 1501
10May-15May 9N (JA's) 1518 *
NOW 9U0VB 1518 *

-Apr/09 A52VE 1512
-Nov A61TX 1496
23Mar-10Jun C6AGN 1511
-Feb/08 DP0GVN 1496
Apr -May E51QMA..(NC) 1516
2007/2008 EI100S(I) 1501
05May-13May EN62EN 1517
-May FT5XP 1512
11May-13May GB400AA/K4J 1518 *
11May-12May GM0PHW/p 1518 *
12May-20May HL/F5AHO 1518 *

May IR1ALP 1517
2006 -2008 J28JA 1484/1485
NOW J59OFM 1501
10May-13May KH0WW 1518 *
May LZ07KM 1517
-Jun OD5/CT1EFS 1515
11May-13May OH2EURO 1518 *
-30Jul OX3PG 1501
04May-10May OX/NA1SA 1517
25Apr-10May PA5CW/YB9 1516
08May-14May PJ2/KC2PZ 1517

09May-13May RP3YGA/p 1518 *
01May-10May SN0MKK 1517
13May-27May TA100FB 1517
May TC100FB 1517
17May-23May TF4/G4's 1518 *
15May- TI6 (W's) 1518 *
NOW -2008 TL8QC 1459
14May-28May TM1VDM 1518 *
NOW -Sep TU2/F5LDY 1486

29Apr-09May V31PA 1517
Jan -Dec VI3SAA 1499
May -Aug VP6TD 1517
15May-05Jun VP9KF 1518 *
Apr -Jul VQ9JC 1512
04May-25May W4J 1518 *
13May-15May WH7P/KH2 1518 *
-Sep ZD9BCB 1500

* = new
.. = and other calls

QSL information

AN9JCC via EA9CE
AO5AUB via EA5URV
AO5CSW via EC5CSW (B)
AO5GKT via EA5GKT
AO5TS via EA5TS

CQ0ODX via CT2GZE (B)
DL0KQ5KS via DJ3AS (B)
DR400PG via DM3ZF
EA8NA via W1NA
ED7URR via EA7DA
EM50ARDF via US0VA
EN62EN via UR4EYN (B)
EN62NW via UT4NW
EO62R via UR4RZZ
GB3ANG via GM4ZUK (B)
GB4MHS via G4FON
GB400AA via G0SBW (B)
GB6GW via GW0TKX
GB6MD via GM4FDM (d)
GB0CCE via GW0ANA (B)
GB0SOA via MW3JZV (B)
GW1AKT via GW0MOW (B)
GW1EAX/p via G1EAX (B)
GW1JEV (d) or eQSL
GW3NYY via G3NYY (B)
GW3VKL via GW0ANA (B)
GW3VQO via G3VQO (B)
GW4FRX (d) or eQSL
GW6CSY via G6CSY (B, eQSL)
GW6JSO (d)
GW7VJR via G7VJR (L) (B)
GW7X via G3SQX (B)
GW8K via GW0ANA (B)
2C0TKX via GW0TKX
9M2CP via 9V1CP

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = Logbook of the World (LotW)

QSLs direct: J5UAR (via GDXF QSL service), KL7HBK, YW0DX (via IT9DAA),
YX5IOTA (SA-044, IT9DAA), 3C0M (EA5BYP), 9U0X (via DJ6SI)

QSLs via LotW: HV0A

All those who still need a QSL of the KH2W/KP1 DXpedition to Navassa
back
in March/April 1993 may be lucky again. JH4RHF who was one of the OPs
and
also QSL manager of this activity still has some logs and QSLs.
Paul,DK8SR,
received his QSL direct within two days via the address:
Jun Tanaka, JH4RHF/OE1ZKC, PO Box 1200, A-1400 Vienna, Austria.

Many thanks for contributing to this issue of the DXNL are going to:
Carl Smith (QRZ DX), 425DXNews, OPDX Bulletin, DF6EX (for WINQSL),

DJ5AV, DK8JB, DK8SR, DL1SBF, DL7VOA, F5NQL, GM0PHW, IT9EJW, OE1WHC,
OH2HSJ, SWL Norbert Maybaum, W1AW and others.

The German PDF version can be found on the DARC homepage at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/bulls/dxmb/2007/dxmb1518.pdf

_____
Subscribe or unsubscribe to the DXNL mailing list yourself at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedxms.htm

865. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-09 23:52:18 UTC
From: "Rick (W-A-one-R-K-T)" <get.my.email@from.qrz.com>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.05.09.22.08.02.361327@from.qrz.com>
Source record: 4570

On Mon, 07 May 2007 22:38:07 -0400, AF6AY wrote:

> I didn't know the term "honey-do ham" existed until seeing in
> these newsgroups. :-)

In 44 years and a half dozen call signs I have to say I've never heard the term either.

I'm wondering if it is something that was invented on the Internet, sort of like the current popular practice of capitalizing HAM as though it were some kind of an acronym.

866. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-10 00:50:19 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1178758185.851486.141880@p77g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4571

On May 7, 9:39 pm, RDWeaver <weaver5...@mypacks.net> wrote:
> On May 7, 10:45 pm, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:
>
> > An activity like ham radio is going to have its ups and downs.
> > It will ebb and flow. These variations can last several years
> > so are hard to evaluate.
>
> > Dee, N8UZE
>
> According to the figures that the OP posted here and in other threads
> (no reason to doubt them) ham radio has had steady "ups" with no
> "downs" to a high in 2003.

Not exactly.

In the mid 1960s the growth stalled while the US population grew
rapidly. The percentage of the population that were hams went *down*
during the decade of the 1960s.

Compare 1960 to 1970 in terms of hams-per-1000 and see.

If you look at the annual numbers from 1965 to 1975 the total went
down some years and up others.

> Then in just the past 4 years (2003-2007)
> the number of "hams/1000 population" has fallen to BELOW the ratio of
> 1990.

Yup. Think about *why* that would happen, even though the license
requirements were reduced in 2000 and again in 2007.

>In other words, after //many\\ UNBROKEN DECADES of rising
> popularity, in just //4 years since 2003\\ we have shed the gains of
> the previous 13 years and continue to head south.

Not really. The 1960s were a down decade. That means 3 decades of
rising popularity (1970s/1980s/1990s)

> Calling that "ebb
> and flow" is, in my opinion, a bad case of 'whistling past the grave
> yard'.

Well, what do you think is really happening?

> The fellow in another thread talking about the 'last generation' may
> be onto something.
>

One thing that has changed greatly in my 40 years as a ham is the age of a typical newcomer. I'm not saying that's good or bad, just that it happened.

In the 1960s, when I became a ham, and well into the 1970s, most of the newcomers I encountered were teenagers or twentysomethings.

But as the 70s went on, more and more new amateurs were in their 30s, 40s, and older.

In particular, during those decades I saw more and more people taking up amateur radio as a retirement or empty-nest activity.

There were still plenty of teenagers and even preteens becoming hams then - and still are. But the percentages shifted.

When I was a new ham in 1967, it was a safe bet that if I met an amateur who was 10 or more years older, that amateur had been a ham longer than me. But by 1980 I often encountered hams who were older than me but hadn't been licensed nearly as long.

One of the great things about amateur radio is that it's about as close to a life-long activity as you can get, and people of almost all ages can become hams. But as more and more people are first-licensed later in life, their time as amateurs grows shorter, and the turnover increases.

That's just one factor of many. The change in license term, changes in the typical American family, changes in where people live and work, and many other factors all combine to change the numbers.

In a previous post I wrote of the "honeydew hams" (which may be an East Coast term) who got licenses for personal-communications purposes in the days before cell phones were inexpensive and ubiquitous. Whatever you call them, there were lots of 'em entering ham radio 30, 20, even 15 years ago. Today there are almost none - cell phones do the job 99% of the time.

Plenty of other examples.

None of that means amateur radio is dying or that we are the last generation. Rather it means amateur radio is changing - as it always has. Most of the reason to become a ham today is because someone is interested in 'radio for its own sake' - an end in itself, not a means to another end.

73 de Jim, N2EY

867. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-10 01:58:01 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <uuednbl9dLCa4d_bnZ2dnUVZ_uejnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4572

"Rick (W-A-one-R-K-T)" <get.my.email@from.qrz.com> wrote in message
news:pan.2007.05.09.22.08.02.361327@from.qrz.com...
> On Mon, 07 May 2007 22:38:07 -0400, AF6AY wrote:
>
>> I didn't know the term "honey-do ham" existed until seeing in
>> these newsgroups. :-)
>
> In 44 years and a half dozen call signs I have to say I've never heard the
> term either.
>
> I'm wondering if it is something that was invented on the Internet, sort
> of like the current popular practice of capitalizing HAM as though it were
> some kind of an acronym.
>

I heard it first in 1992. The internet was not a significant factor then.

Dee, N8UZE

868. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-10 02:30:44 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1178763773.022756.303650@y5g2000hsa.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4573

On May 8, 2:38 am, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:

>
> I didn't know the term "honey-do ham" existed until seeing in
> these newsgroups.
>

It was a term usually used in a pejorative manner to imply that the licensees (often married couples) didn't get their licenses for the 'right' reasons and weren't 'real' Amateurs. My spouse got her license in that era (early 90's) and even though she is a General and we collaborate in many 'real' amateur activies like contesting (see our two Divisional multi-op Championships in SS CW Iin 03 and 06 at K0RT), one of our local 'influential' hams recently commented that she got into Amateur Radio 'as one of those honey-do hams'.

73, de Hans, K0HB

869. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-10 09:46:18 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1178790341.802845.79670@h2g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4574

On May 9, 10:30 pm, K HB <groupk...@earthlink.net> wrote:

> It was a term usually used in a pejorative manner to imply that the
> licensees (often married couples) didn't get their licenses for the
> 'right' reasons and weren't 'real' Amateurs.

Then it's a regional thing, because here in EPA, and in other areas
where I've heard the term used, I never heard
it used in a pejorative manner. It was simply a descriptive,
similar to "DX'er" or "contester" or "ragchewer".

> My spouse got her
> license in that era (early 90's) and even though she is a General and
> we collaborate in many 'real' amateur activies like contesting (see
> our two Divisional multi-op Championships in SS CW Iin 03 and 06 at
> K0RT), one of our local 'influential' hams recently commented that she
> got into Amateur Radio 'as one of those honey-do hams'.
>
Well, people say all sorts of things, true or not.....

Besides, it's common for amateurs to get their license for
one reason or set of reasons but then branch out into other
areas.

Word meanings sometimes change over time. Like the word "handle"....

73 de Jim, N2EY

870. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-10 12:01:08 UTC
From: George <gmwemail-dsp@yahoo.com>
Message-ID: <TBy0i.7623$2v1.1547@newssvr14.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 4575

Interesting. I've been wondering about the same things!

I was licensed around the same time as you ('63, I think it was) and I also had never heard of the "honey-do" term before seeing it here. Same thing with capitalizing HAM.

My excuse is that I've been inactive for years so I haven't kept up.

73, George K6GW

"Rick (W-A-one-R-K-T)" <get.my.email@from.qrz.com> wrote in message news:pan.2007.05.09.22.08.02.361327@from.qrz.com...
> On Mon, 07 May 2007 22:38:07 -0400, AF6AY wrote:
>
>> I didn't know the term "honey-do ham" existed until seeing in
>> these newsgroups. :-)
>
> In 44 years and a half dozen call signs I have to say I've never heard the
> term either.
>
> I'm wondering if it is something that was invented on the Internet, sort
> of like the current popular practice of capitalizing HAM as though it were
> some kind of an acronym.
>

871. Re: Professional HF Work?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-10 12:01:27 UTC
From: Gordon Hudson <hostroute@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <4642d838$0$646$5a6aecb4@news.aaisp.net.uk>
Source record: 4576

"BNB Sound" <jon@bnbsound.com> wrote in message
news:1178599461.693178.265950@e65g2000hsc.googlegroups.com...
> I've been an amateur operator for a little over a year now and one of
> my favorite parts of the hobby is soaking up stories from previous
> decades. One of the things I'm curious about is professional HF work.
> I've heard it mentioned in passing that when the early trans-Atlantic
> cables went down they would shift to HF circuits as available to try
> and pick up the slack.
>
> So, what else is out there. I know the military has always been
> heavily invested in radio gear, but what else was (and is?) there? I'd
> love to hear from anyone who ever brought home a paycheck for working
> the airwaves.

My great uncle was a professional morse operator originally in the RAF but
then as a civilian on weather research aircraft that monitored clouds and
weather for weather forecasting. He used to send the reports to the ground
via HF.
Then he did some time with the civilian search and rescue service manning a
base station which was also on HF (coordinating the rescue helicopters and
aircraft).

872. Bandwidth of a top band dipole?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-10 12:01:42 UTC
From: Gordon Hudson <hostroute@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <4642d8e8$0$637$5a6aecb4@news.aaisp.net.uk>
Source record: 4577

Never having had a 160m dipole I don't know what sort of bandwidth to
expect.
Does anyone have any direct experience of a single band 160m dipole?

I just measured the garden at 60m long but taking into account the width I
could bend in a full size dipole without it getting too silly looking.
Maybe just need to bend back five metres on each end.

873. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-10 12:26:49 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5agfp1F2nksfgU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4578

<N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote in message
news:1178790341.802845.79670@h2g2000hsg.googlegroups.com

[snip]

> Word meanings sometimes change over time. Like the word
> "handle"....

Now that one really *does* irritate me. A handle is for opening a door. I
have a *name*, ok..?!

73 Ivor G6URP

874. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-10 14:26:23 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1178804723.857227.148590@o5g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4579
Body handling: HTML body converted to readable text

On May 10, 12:26 pm, "Ivor Jones" wrote:

>
> Now that one really *does* irritate me. A handle is for opening a door. I
> have a *name*, ok..?!
>

Must be an individual preference thing. I've been licensed almost 50
years, and have been saying "The handle here is Hans" all that time.
Learned it from my elders way-back-when and old habits are hard to
break I guess.

73, de Hans, K0HB

875. Re: Bandwidth of a top band dipole?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-10 14:26:32 UTC
From: Fabian Kurz <usenet@fkurz.net>
Message-ID: <5agmv5F2nvrpkU1@mid.dfncis.de>
Source record: 4580

Gordon Hudson wrote:
> Never having had a 160m dipole I don't know what sort of
> bandwidth to expect. Does anyone have any direct experience of
> a single band 160m dipole?
>
> I just measured the garden at 60m long but taking into account
> the width I could bend in a full size dipole without it getting
> too silly looking. Maybe just need to bend back five metres on
> each end.

The bandwidth mainly depends on the height and the wire diameter
of the dipole. Some examples, a quick simulation with MMANA:
(The bandwidth is the SWR < 2 bandwidth, with reference to the
impedance at resonance. Note that it is very low at low dipole
heights. For example at 10m height and resonance, the input
impedance of the dipole is about 8 Ohms only. The given bandwidth
assumes that you somehow match that to your transmitter.)

Straight 160m Dipole over average ground, no losses, SWR<2 BW in kHz

height
diam 10m 15m 20m
1mm 9 23 37
2mm 10 24 40
4mm 11 25 43
8mm 12 27 46

This sounds pretty narrow, now the same with copper wire:

height
diam 10m 15m 20m
1mm 17 29 44
4mm 14 28 46

This first surprised me: The bandwidth of the 1mm diameter dipole
is higher than the 4mm diameter dipole. Only at a height of 20m,
the thicker dipole has a better bandwidth. The reason is, that
the low dipoles with a low radiation resistance have mich higher
currents on them, and by P = I^2*R, the copper losses are higher
for the thinner wire. More losses = less Q = more bandwidth.

(The above measurements don't take into account that the
resonance frequency varied with the height and the diameter of
the dipole. All BW figures with respect to resonance frequency.)

So, as you see, there is not one easy answer to your question...

73,
--
Fabian Kurz, DJ1YFK * Dresden, Germany * http://fkurz.net/
Online Log: http://dl0tud.tu-dresden.de/~dj1yfk/log.html

876. Re: Professional HF Work?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-10 14:51:41 UTC
From: Henry <noone@nowhere.net>
Message-ID: <5FF0i.81$O9.65@bignews7.bellsouth.net>
Source record: 4581

both the United States eastern missle test range and western missle test range have modern HF sites that are operated by civilian contracters. Computer Sciences Raytheon operates the eastern test range.

Henry

877. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-10 15:37:38 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5agq2mF2p0t68U1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4582
Body handling: HTML body converted to readable text

"K&#65533;HB" wrote in message
news:1178804723.857227.148590@o5g2000hsb.googlegroups.com
> On May 10, 12:26 pm, "Ivor Jones"
> wrote:
>
>
> > >
> > > Now that one really *does* irritate me. A handle is for
> > > opening a door. I have a *name*, ok..?!
> > >
>
> Must be an individual preference thing. I've been
> licensed almost 50 years, and have been saying "The
> handle here is Hans" all that time. Learned it from my
> elders way-back-when and old habits are hard to break I
> guess.
>
> 73, de Hans, K0HB

Ok Hans, I can understand that, but just out of curiosity, *why* do you say "handle" instead of "name" - it's not at all obvious to me.

Perhaps you don't know, tell me..! For my part, I don't know why it irritates me, it just does..! But then I don't know why for a lot of things..! Someone once asked me why I always put two dots before an exclamation or a question mark, I don't know why, I just do ;-)

73 Ivor G6URP

878. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-10 15:38:14 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1178810795.198045.169890@p77g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4583

On May 10, 9:46 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:

>
> Word meanings sometimes change over time. Like the word "handle"....
>

The meaning of that word hasn't changed. In amateur radio usage it is still generally accepted to mean "name". In popular CB usage it is used to denote a pseudonym or aptronym, but even that usage is commonly found in amateur radio. For example, an MD might use the aptronym "Doc", or my old friend W3UBM (sk) who used the aptronym "Sparky" --- he was a radio officer in the merchant marine.

A rose by any other handle would smell as sweet.

73, de Hans, K0HB

879. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-10 17:41:58 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1178818493.778323.8340@y5g2000hsa.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4584
Body handling: HTML body converted to readable text

On May 10, 3:37 pm, "Ivor Jones" wrote:

>
> Ok Hans, I can understand that, but just out of curiosity, *why* do you
> say "handle" instead of "name" - it's not at all obvious to me.
>

Probably mostly from ingrained habit. When I got into amateur radio
as a teen it was what "the oldtimers" did, and newcomers wanting
nothing more than to be perceived as "insiders", adopt the mannerisms
of those they heard on the air.

Many vocations and avocations have a "lingo" which, while it may
strike outsiders as "quaint" or "affected", identifies you to your
peers as "one of them".

73, de Hans

(For another example, why do we say "73" on phone, when it was
originally meant as Morse shorthand for some long flowery phrase like
"All the very best wishes, fair winds, following seas, and I hope you
get lucky with the fair maid who is the object of your humble but
earnest desire.")

880. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-10 18:11:41 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1178820604.775051.220350@e65g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4585
Body handling: HTML body converted to readable text

On May 10, 7:37 am, "Ivor Jones" wrote:
> "K HB" wrote in message
>
> news:1178804723.857227.148590@o5g2000hsb.googlegroups.com
>
>
>
>
>
> > On May 10, 12:26 pm, "Ivor Jones"
> > wrote:
>
> > > Now that one really *does* irritate me. A handle is for
> > > opening a door. I have a *name*, ok..?!
>
> > Must be an individual preference thing. I've been
> > licensed almost 50 years, and have been saying "The
> > handle here is Hans" all that time. Learned it from my
> > elders way-back-when and old habits are hard to break I
> > guess.
>
> > 73, de Hans, K0HB
>
> Ok Hans, I can understand that, but just out of curiosity, *why* do you
> say "handle" instead of "name" - it's not at all obvious to me.

Handle: Some etymologists trace that back to the Old West
of the USA prior to 1900 as "cowboy talk" or "rancher talk."
Some of you easterners just don't appreciate the old west. :-)

> Perhaps you don't know, tell me..! For my part, I don't know why it
> irritates me, it just does..! But then I don't know why for a lot of
> things..! Someone once asked me why I always put two dots before an
> exclamation or a question mark, I don't know why, I just do ;-)

I once had a wonderful sports car, a 1953 Austin-Healey. Naturally
the trunk (as we say it) was called a "boot." The hood (as we say
it, particularly the hinged cover over the engine) was called a
"bonnet" in the owner's manual. In old motor cars the engine
compartment did indeed resemble a pre-1900 woman's bonnet.
By the end of WWII cars were a lot more streamlined and the
"bonnet" didn't even look like a woman's hat. :-)

BTW, that Healey's aluminum body made a great mobile
ground plane for my CB. [just to keep this on radio subjects]

73, Len AF6AY

>
> 73 Ivor G6URP- Hide quoted text -
>
> - Show quoted text -

881. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-10 18:20:32 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1178821206.268207.239400@w5g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4586
Body handling: HTML body converted to readable text

On May 10, 9:41 am, K HB wrote:
> On May 10, 3:37 pm, "Ivor Jones" wrote:
>
> > Ok Hans, I can understand that, but just out of curiosity, *why* do you
> > say "handle" instead of "name" - it's not at all obvious to me.
>
> Probably mostly from ingrained habit. When I got into amateur radio
> as a teen it was what "the oldtimers" did, and newcomers wanting
> nothing more than to be perceived as "insiders", adopt the mannerisms
> of those they heard on the air.
>
> Many vocations and avocations have a "lingo" which, while it may
> strike outsiders as "quaint" or "affected", identifies you to your
> peers as "one of them".
>
> (For another example, why do we say "73" on phone, when it was
> originally meant as Morse shorthand for some long flowery phrase like
> "All the very best wishes, fair winds, following seas, and I hope you
> get lucky with the fair maid who is the object of your humble but
> earnest desire.")

Why is the (supposed) laugh on voice expressed as "HI HI."
And in a flat voice at that? :-) I've heard that all over HF
along with flat, emotionless voice expressions. Do radio
waves blank out emotions? :-)

Why do some "sign" messages with the "de" before a call sign?
The message originator on newsgroups is already identified in
the message header as to whom it is from. Questions,
questions. :-)

73, Len AF6AY

882. Re: Bandwidth of a top band dipole?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-10 18:28:55 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1178821715.490096.291770@y80g2000hsf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4587

On May 10, 6:26 am, Fabian Kurz <use...@fkurz.net> wrote:
> Gordon Hudson wrote:
> > Never having had a 160m dipole I don't know what sort of
> > bandwidth to expect. Does anyone have any direct experience of
> > a single band 160m dipole?
>
> > I just measured the garden at 60m long but taking into account
> > the width I could bend in a full size dipole without it getting
> > too silly looking. Maybe just need to bend back five metres on
> > each end.
>
> The bandwidth mainly depends on the height and the wire diameter
> of the dipole. Some examples, a quick simulation with MMANA:
> (The bandwidth is the SWR < 2 bandwidth, with reference to the
> impedance at resonance. Note that it is very low at low dipole
> heights. For example at 10m height and resonance, the input
> impedance of the dipole is about 8 Ohms only. The given bandwidth
> assumes that you somehow match that to your transmitter.)
>
> Straight 160m Dipole over average ground, no losses, SWR<2 BW in kHz
>
> height
> diam 10m 15m 20m
> 1mm 9 23 37
> 2mm 10 24 40
> 4mm 11 25 43
> 8mm 12 27 46
>
> This sounds pretty narrow, now the same with copper wire:
>
> height
> diam 10m 15m 20m
> 1mm 17 29 44
> 4mm 14 28 46
>
> This first surprised me: The bandwidth of the 1mm diameter dipole
> is higher than the 4mm diameter dipole. Only at a height of 20m,
> the thicker dipole has a better bandwidth. The reason is, that
> the low dipoles with a low radiation resistance have mich higher
> currents on them, and by P = I^2*R, the copper losses are higher
> for the thinner wire. More losses = less Q = more bandwidth.
>
> (The above measurements don't take into account that the

> resonance frequency varied with the height and the diameter of
> the dipole. All BW figures with respect to resonance frequency.)
>
> So, as you see, there is not one easy answer to your question...
>
> 73,
> --
> Fabian Kurz, DJ1YFK * Dresden, Germany *http://fkurz.net/
> Online Log:http://dl0tud.tu-dresden.de/~dj1yfk/log.html

Just as a quick, rough comparison, the bandwidth of a lower-
frequency dipole is the inverse of the ratio of higher frequency
to lower frequency. Not absolutely accurate but close enough.

73, Len AF6AY

883. Re: Bandwidth of a top band dipole?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-10 19:22:15 UTC
From: Gordon Hudson <hostroute@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <464368f7$0$639$5a6aecb4@news.aaisp.net.uk>
Source record: 4588

"AF6AY" <LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote in message
news:1178821715.490096.291770@y80g2000hsf.googlegroups.com...
On May 10, 6:26?am, Fabian Kurz <use...@fkurz.net> wrote:
> Gordon Hudson wrote:
> > Never having had a 160m dipole I don't know what sort of
> > bandwidth to expect. Does anyone have any direct experience of
> > a single band 160m dipole?
>
> > I just measured the garden at 60m long but taking into account
> > the width I could bend in a full size dipole without it getting
> > too silly looking. Maybe just need to bend back five metres on
> > each end.
>
> The bandwidth mainly depends on the height and the wire diameter
> of the dipole. Some examples, a quick simulation with MMANA:
> (The bandwidth is the SWR < 2 bandwidth, with reference to the
> impedance at resonance. Note that it is very low at low dipole
> heights. For example at 10m height and resonance, the input
> impedance of the dipole is about 8 Ohms only. The given bandwidth
> assumes that you somehow match that to your transmitter.)
>
> Straight 160m Dipole over average ground, no losses, SWR<2 BW in kHz
>
> height
> diam 10m 15m 20m
> 1mm 9 23 37
> 2mm 10 24 40
> 4mm 11 25 43
> 8mm 12 27 46
>
> This sounds pretty narrow, now the same with copper wire:
>
> height
> diam 10m 15m 20m
> 1mm 17 29 44
> 4mm 14 28 46
>
> This first surprised me: The bandwidth of the 1mm diameter dipole
> is higher than the 4mm diameter dipole. Only at a height of 20m,
> the thicker dipole has a better bandwidth. The reason is, that
> the low dipoles with a low radiation resistance have mich higher
> currents on them, and by P =^2*R, the copper losses are higher
> for the thinner wire. More losses =ess Q =ore bandwidth.
>

> (The above measurements don't take into account that the
> resonance frequency varied with the height and the diameter of
> the dipole. All BW figures with respect to resonance frequency.)
>
> So, as you see, there is not one easy answer to your question...
>
> 73,
> --
> Fabian Kurz, DJ1YFK * Dresden, Germany *http://fkurz.net/
> Online Log:http://dl0tud.tu-dresden.de/~dj1yfk/log.html

Just as a quick, rough comparison, the bandwidth of a lower-
frequency dipole is the inverse of the ratio of higher frequency
to lower frequency. Not absolutely accurate but close enough.

73, Len AF6AY

Thanks both,
I suspected it would be quite narrow.

Gordon
GM4SVM

884. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-10 21:07:20 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f20143$io0$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4589
Body handling: HTML body converted to readable text

Kï¿½HB wrote:
> On May 10, 3:37 pm, "Ivor Jones" wrote:
>
>> Ok Hans, I can understand that, but just out of curiosity, *why* do you
>> say "handle" instead of "name" - it's not at all obvious to me.
>>
>
> Probably mostly from ingrained habit. When I got into amateur radio
> as a teen it was what "the oldtimers" did, and newcomers wanting
> nothing more than to be perceived as "insiders", adopt the mannerisms
> of those they heard on the air.
>
> Many vocations and avocations have a "lingo" which, while it may
> strike outsiders as "quaint" or "affected", identifies you to your
> peers as "one of them".
>
> 73, de Hans
>
> (For another example, why do we say "73" on phone, when it was
> originally meant as Morse shorthand for some long flowery phrase like
> "All the very best wishes, fair winds, following seas, and I hope you
> get lucky with the fair maid who is the object of your humble but
> earnest desire.")

If I might respectfully offer a little perspective for us all....

Not everyone speaks as we do. There are different customs in different
areas.

I for one cringe every time that I hear someone speaking "HI HI" on
phone. To my way of thinking, if something is funny, I will laugh.

However, I realize that my personal dislike of that particular phrase
is MY problem, not the person who is saying the words that irritate me.

So unless the other person's words are obscene or suggestive, I'll just
avoid imposing my opinions on them.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

885. 10 meters Activity

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 03:15:22 UTC
From: JDP <k4jdp@bellsouth.net>
Message-ID: <iFQ0i.135$nh.105@bignews3.bellsouth.net>
Source record: 4590

Not since the ARRL Contest this year have a heard one signal and then it was just a few from 6 & 7 land and few from South America. Is anyone hearing anything on 10 meters or is everyone just not QRV?

73's
K4JDP

886. Re: 10 meters Activity

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 04:15:06 UTC
From: BNB Sound <jon@bnbsound.com>
Message-ID: <1178855820.761772.136870@p77g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4591

On May 10, 11:15 pm, "JDP" <k...@bellsouth.net> wrote:
> Not since the ARRL Contest this year have a heard one signal and then it was
> just a few from 6 & 7 land and few from South America. Is anyone hearing
> anything on 10 meters or is everyone just not QRV?
>
> 73's
> K4JDP

We're at the absolute bottom of the trough for the solar minimum lately. Several weeks went by recently with hardly a single sunspot. I read an article recently on the ARRL site that said on contest days, hams are injecting enough energy into the ionosphere to get some propagation going. You're likely going to have to wait a little longer for natural openings on 10 meters, or just be standing by on the next big contest day.

73
Jon
KC2PNF

887. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 07:32:23 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1178857625.707508.9660@u30g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4592

On May 10, 6:20 pm, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:

>
> Why is the (supposed) laugh on voice expressed as "HI HI."
>

For the same reason that hams give "59" signal reports instead of saying "you're loud and clear", for the same reason that they say "73" instead of "best wishes", and for the same reason that they say "QSL" instead of "I got that". These, and "hi hi", are carryovers of CW "shorthand" and have survived as a natural sort of "insiders lingo". As a newer ham you may find them unnatural or awkward to use, and the good news is that everyone will still be happy to snag your prefix in WPX, even if you don't say TKS ES GL OM HI HI..

73, de Hans, K0HB

888. Re: 2m FM calling practices

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 07:33:20 UTC
From: nospam@w6yx.stanford.edu
Message-ID: <f20tq4$a7b$1@news.Stanford.EDU>
Source record: 4593

In article <1177907187.162031.31610@l77g2000hsb.googlegroups.com> k8mn@earthlink.net writes:
>On Apr 29, 5:16 pm, "The Shadow" <Rep...@Zilch.com> wrote:
>
>> In the USA, CQ is not used for VHF/UHF FM. Simply callsign monitoring.
>> CQ is used for the VHF/UHF SSB mode
>>
>> Lamont
>
>In some areas of the U.S, "CQ" is certainly used on VHF/UHF FM. If a
>CQ works on 160 through 10 and works on 6m, 2m and 70cm SSB or CW,
>pressing the PTT switch and saying, "CQ from K8MN" works fine on VHF
>or UHF FM.
>
>Dave K8MN

It seems that "monitoring" has fallen out of favor, at least with folks I know. If you want to talk to someone, you might say something like:

"Anyone around? <callsign>"

or even actually call CQ.

"Monitoring" tells me you are listening, but does not imply that you are actively soliciting a contact, just that your radio is on.

Alan
wa6azp

889. Re: 10 meters Activity

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 10:24:45 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <xrSdnVS7nu3P2dnbnZ2dnUVZ_g-dnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4594

"JDP" <k4jdp@bellsouth.net> wrote in message
news:iFQ0i.135$nh.105@bignews3.bellsouth.net...
> Not since the ARRL Contest this year have a heard one signal and then it
> was just a few from 6 & 7 land and few from South America. Is anyone
> hearing anything on 10 meters or is everyone just not QRV?
>
> 73's
> K4JDP
>

There's been some activity the last couple of evenings my OM tells me.
Probably some sporadic E propagation. I heard it Wednesday but last night I
was teaching a class.

Dee, N8UZE

890. Amateur Radio Newsline Report 1552 - May 11, 2007 Final

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 11:17:05 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <E1HmS3O-00009p-6V@elasmtp-scoter.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 4595
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1552 - May 11, 2007

NOTICE TO LIST SUBSCRIBERS: Due to our staff
being away next week at the Dayton Hamvention,
the mailout of the script print version of
Newscast 1553 via this mailing list will be
delayed until about 3 a.m. EDT on Monday, May
21. Those in need of the print edition before
that will be able to obtain it from our website at www.arnewsline.org.

Thank you
ARNewsline, Inc.

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1552 with a
release date of Friday, April May 11th, 2007 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. Ham radio aids
residents of a Kansas town destroyed by a killer
tornado, Motorola leaves the Access B-P-L
business and some big news about the Roy Neal,
K6DUE, Amateur Radio Mentoring Program. Find out
the details on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report
number 1552 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RESCUE RADIO: HAMS ON THE SCENE AFTER GREENSBERG TORNADO

Ham radio is once again a communications
lifeline. This, after an strong tornado tore
apart the town of Greensburg, Kansas on Friday
night, May 4th. Fred Vobbe, W8HDU, reports:

--

The storm has been classified by the National
Weather Service as an F-5 which is the most
severe on the Enhanced Fujita Scale. The twister
cut a 22 mile long track that was one-point-seven
miles wide. Winds were estimated at 205 miles
per hour. Authorities say about 95 percent of
Greensburg was destroyed and at least 8 people lost their lives.

According to news reports, all wire-line and cellular telephone communications into the southwestern Kansas town of 1500 was destroyed by the twister. A group of ham radio operators identified as being from the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service were sent into the area early on Saturday May 5th to set up an emergency communications network. Media stories did not identify the hams by name but did praise their efforts while noting that they were entering an area of total devastation. A later report posted to the ARRL website said the team was under the direction of District 6 Emergency Coordinator Godfrey Flax, KC0AUH.

What they found when they arrived was an area of total devastation. More than 90 percent of Greensburg was destroyed or heavily damaged. Most buildings were blown off their foundations and blown away. The ARRL says that other hams involved in disaster relief were monitoring 3.920 MHz early Saturday morning in case there was a need for them to act.

Meantime President Bush has declared all Kiowa County, Kansas, a major disaster area, making federal aid available to residents affected by the storm.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Fred Vobbe, W8HDU, reporting from Lima, Ohio.

--

The last tornado of that strength was in Oklahoma City on May 3, 1999. That twister killed 36 people and left several hundred without homes. (ARNewsline(tm), ARRL, others)

**

THE BPL FIGHT: MOTOROLA SUSPENDS POWERLINE LV BPL DEVELOPMENT

Less than two years after announcing its Powerline LV Access B-P-L product, Motorola has decided to suspend development and to devote its resources to more promising markets. Motorola reportedly has decided to focus on a product called Powerline MU, which is for use within multiple-unit dwellings.

According to the ARRL Letter, the decision to stop work on its Access BPL product reflects declining interest in residential broadband service delivery among utilities. This, coupled with the more immediate demand for in-building BPL systems would provide Motorola a more lucrative market.

Powerline LV united Motorola's Canopy wireless broadband Internet platform with enhanced ham band-notching HomePlug technology, drastically reducing BPL interference potential. This, by restricting the application of high-frequency RF to the low-voltage side of the power transformers serving customers' homes, not the medium-voltage wires that line many residential streets. As a result, Powerline LV avoided the system architecture that poses the greatest risk of BPL interference to radio communication -- radiation from the medium-voltage power lines. Measurements and subjective listening tests on the ham bands showed that Powerline LV was Amateur Radio-friendly.

Powerline LV was developed by Motorola researcher Richard Illman, AH6EZ of St. Charles, Illinois. As a result he was selected for the Dayton Hamvention 2006 Technical Excellence Award. (ARRL)

**

HAM RADIOS DIGITAL FUTURE: IRA FIELDS DIGITAL MIGRATION PLAN FOR REPEATERS

The Illinois Repeater Association now has a proposed digital repeater plan. Titled "The Digital Migration - A Proposed Path," the strategy was developed by Robert Shepard, KA9FLX, who serves as the organizations Technical Committee Chairman.

Shepard indicates that the plan was crafted so as to serve the needs of tomorrows digital relay systems in such a way as to minimize impact on to existing analog systems. It also takes into account how to integrate digital systems into the existing analog environment, utilize spectrum efficiently and plan for the future. In other words, nobody will be displaced when and if its implemented. Rather, its goal is to make it possible for analog and digital to share opectrum with minimal impact on one another.

This is believed to be the very first analog to digital repeater bandplan developed anywhere in the world. Shepard has posted it on the Illinois Repeater Associations website as both a .pdf file as well as a full Power Point presentation. You can find it on-line at www.ira.net. (Via e-mail)

**

HAM RADIOS DIGITAL FUTURE: NEW VERSION OF WSJT RELEASED

Still with digital ram radio news, word that a new version of WSJT program designated version 5.9.7 has been developed by Joe Taylor K1JT. This new rendition contains 8 updates from the latest past release version that appear to make the program a bit more friendly to use.

For those not aware, WSJT is a computer program for VHF and UHF communication using state of the art digital techniques. It can decode fraction-of-a-second signals reflected from ionized meteor trails, as well as steady signals more than 10 dB weaker than those required for conventional C-W. One of its operating modes is particularly well optimized for amateur Earth-Moon-Earth communications.

WSJT is open source software licensed under the GNU General Public License and is free for any ham to use. You can download it at: http://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/K1JT/WSJT597.EXE (VHF Reflector)

**

ENFORCEMENT: STOP USING THAT ANTENNA

A northern California resident has been issued an Official Citation by the FCC. This, for using one of those self oscillating Weingard amplified TV antennas that we have reported on in the past.

The FCC claims that an investigation by the Enforcement Bureau's San Francisco Office revealed that on April 3, 2007, one William Cooley of Yuba City, California operated a defective Winegard antenna, which caused interference to the licensee of station KZF952.

The San Francisco Office says that it received the complaint of interference on several frequencies used by the Sutter County Sheriff Department communications system. On April 3rd, an FCC investigator confirmed that a radio signal was drifting around 459.28 MHz was coming from a Winegard antenna mounted to a motor home parked in the side yard of Cooley's Yuba City residence. The agent conducted an on-off test of the antenna's power supply to verify the source of interference.

The FCC citation to Cooley notes that these Winegard antenna amplifiers have been the source of radio frequency interference in a number of cases. As a result of this interference, Winegard has agreed to replace the defective units at no charge.

Cooley was advised to contact Weingard to make
the exchange. He was also requested to send the
defective antenna to the FCC for inspection. (FCC)

**

Break 1

From the United States of America, We are the
Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin
stations around the world including the NS9RC
repeater serving Highland Park, Illinois.

(5 sec pause here)

**
HAM RADIO EDUCATION: QCWA TO CO SPONSOR ROY
NEAL, K6DUE, AMATEUR RADIO MENTORING PROGRAM

The Roy Neal, K6DUE, Amateur Radio Mentoring
Program is expanding with the potential of up to
10,000 new teachers. This as the Quarter Century
Wireless Association's Board of Directors votes
to have that organization become a co-sponsor of
the three year old post licensing educational
program created by Amateur Radio Newsline. David
Black, KB4KCH, is at our South-East bureau with the details:

--

In a joint statement issued by the leadership of
Quarter Century Wireless Association and that of
the Amateur Radio Newsline, the two have
announced that QCWA has become a co-sponsor of
the Newsline created Roy Neal, K6DUE, Amateur
Radio Mentoring Program. This is a post-licensing
educational service created by Amateur Radio
Newsline in January 2004 and designed to pair new
hams with veteran amateurs in hopes that some of
the established ham operator skills can be passed down to new generations.

The program is loosely based on a similar program
created by Broadway choreographer and performer
Ann Reinking through her own educational
foundation, the Broadway Theater Project. This
is a Florida based training program connecting
students with seasoned theater professionals. If we may quote Ms. Reinking:

"Its sort of an un-written law or rule in the
world of dance that you pass on what you know.
This particular craft is at its best when its
passed from one person's hands to the next."

According to ARNewsline Producer Bill Pasternak,
WA6ITF, what Ann Reinking says about "dance"

applies equally to the world of Amateur Radio:

--

Pasternak: That's true and maybe more so for all
of us... That's because, for decades the
knowledge and tradition of our hobby/service was
passed down from seasoned operators to newcomers,
one on one. I know that's how I got my start
thanks to the late K2IXN at his TV repair store back in Brooklyn."

--

According to Pasternak, the success of the
program has been such that the number of people
seeking post licensing assistance has risen far
faster than the number of available mentors. This
has meant long delays for some who have placed
requests. The addition of the member base of the
QCWA makes available close to 10,000 highly
skilled radio amateurs as potential mentors, each
with a minimum of twenty-five years of experience in the hobby.

--

"This is a good deal for all of Amateur Radio,"
says Q-C-W-A President John B. Johnston, W3BE.

--

Johnston, a retired career FCC employee and
Dayton Radio Amateur of the Year award winner
believes that it is important to keep ham radio
traditions alive. He says that we in the QCWA
are the elder statesmen and stateswomen of
Amateur Radio. That they are the people who have
spent a sizeable chunk of our lives learning the
artistry that goes with being a radio amateur. We
know how a radio works. We know how an antenna
works. He says that most of all they know that
Amateur Radio can only survive if it passes its
combined knowledge on to the next generation of radio amateurs.

Under the agreement, ARNewsline(tm) will continue to
solicit those looking for assistance and maintain
the database that matches those desiring
assistance with a mentor willing to assist.
Willing members of the QCWA will be asked to
register by e-mail to mentor@arnewsline.org
stating their name, call, location, contact
information and area of expertise. As request for
assistance are received the person asking will be
referred to the person closest to him/her who

holds the qualifications and knowledge to assist. John Johnston believes this to be a program that all in QCWA should be a part of:

QCWA President Johnston says that:

--

"This is a chance for each of us to leave our own personal legacy within ham radio. If we do so, we assure the service of another generation of skilled and caring operators who will be a true asset to the service. I urge all of you to sign on."

--

Two large pools of Amateurs are needed to make mentoring work. First, there must be a group of volunteers who have a skill and are willing to share their time. The second group is made up of the large number of beginners who want to learn.

Newsline and QCWA are now seeking applicants for both groups. To sign up, send an e-mail mentor@arnewsline.org. Tell us your name, call letters, address with zipcode, phone number, when we can call and whether you want to be a student or a mentor. Again, that e-mail address is mentor@arnewsline.org and I'm David Black, KB4KCH, at the South-East Bureau in Birmingham, Alabama.

--

The project's namesake, Roy Neal, K6DUE, was himself a prominent mentor. Aside from being the dean of aerospace commentators for the Nation Broadcasting Company, K6DUE is generally credited with bringing manned Amateur Radio into space. This by convincing NASA to let astronaut hams take their gear on shuttle flights and to the International Space Station through the SAREX and ARISS educational programs. He also produced a half dozen ham radio educational videos dealing with Amateur Radio and manned ham radio on-orbit. More about the Roy Neal, K6DUE, Amateur Radio Mentoring Program is on-line at www.arnrewsline.org (ARNewsline(tm))
**

RESCUE RADIO: A NEW GENERATOR FOR EMCOMMS

Hutchinson, Minnesota Crow River Area Amateur Radio Club of has acquired a portable generator

from Cummins Power Generation of
Minneapolis. The generator, valued at almost
$3,000, will be modified to support emergency
communications by local Amateur Radio operators
in times of disaster and to assist in McLeod
County Skywarn operations. The first full
demonstration of how the generator will be
integrated into the club's emergency
communications capability will take place Field
Day weekend June 23 and 24 at the Hutchinson
Municipal Airport. (Hutchinson-Leader)

**

RADIO SAFETY: LOWER YOUR POWER PLEASE

A Seattle radio station has lowered its transmit
power after it was discovered that its new
location was a possible safety hazard to a near-by oil refinery.

After losing its lease on a transmitter site on
Harbor Island, KKOL AM which is operated by Salem
Communications spent several years broadcasting
from a ship moored off-shore with a low-power
signal that hindered its reach across the
region. Eventually it found a new site and had
signed a 10-year lease with the Port of Tacoma.

Late last year it announced it had gone to full
power. That prompted U.S. Oil & Refining Co. to
file a complaint with the FCC claiming that
KKOL's transmitter has created a series of
problems at its refinery less than a mile
away. Of particular concern, U.S. Oil claims
that an electrical charge produced by the
transmitter creates a safety hazard at the
refinery's docks when crude oil is unloaded from
tankers. The Coast Guard has also weighed in,
calling for the FCC to order KKOL to change
operations to eliminate the risk of a spark causing an explosion.

Salem, which operates its Seattle stations as
Inspiration Media proposed lowering its power to
47,000 watts at times when U.S. Oil is unloading
oil tanker ships. The FCC in turn asked that
KKOL operate at 25,000 watts during the day and
47,000 at night until the issue is
resolved. Late word is that Salem said it has
voluntarily complied with that request. (CGC, SEATTLE POST)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: NY HAMS HONORED FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

Members of New Yorks' Oswego County Emergency Communicators were recently honored by the Oswego County Legislature's Public Safety and Emergency Services Committee and County Emergency Management Office staff. This, when Emergency Management Director Patricia Egan presented the first-ever RACES Service Award to Brien Mathews, KA2AON.

Mathews is Oswego County's Skywarn coordinator. He has also been a member of the Oswego County Emergency Communicators group since 1980. Public Safety Committee chair Tom Bullard, District 14, and vice chairman Milferd Potter, District 2, joined Egan in congratulating Mathews and presented a certificate of appreciation to RACES Radio Officer John Darling, K2QQY. (Palladium-Times.com)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: G3STG AWARDED RSGB RAYNET CUP

The Radio Society of Great Britain's Raynet Cup has been presented to Geoff Griffiths, G3STG. Griffiths joined United Kingdom emergency communications service in 1957 and received the award in recognition of his long-standing service to RAYNET. In his 50 years working with the group he has served as chairman of both the RSGB National RAYNET Committee and the Network's Committee of Management. (GB2RS)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

COMMUNICATIONS RESEARCH: NYC SUBWAY RIDERS PERIL HEARING

Riding the New York City subway system can adversely affect your long term hearing. That's the just of a new report by researchers who have been looking at hearing loss among those who use the rapid transit system to get around the city.

In a new survey of noise levels throughout the system, researchers at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health found that exposure to noise levels in subways have the potential to exceed recommended guidelines of the World Health Organization and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. According to the research, as little as 30 minutes of exposure to decibel levels measured in the New York City transit system per day has the potential to result in hearing loss.

The findings were published in the September issue of the Journal of Urban Health. This is a publication of the New York Academy of Medicine. (Journal of Urban Health)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: KD5PLA TO REPLACE KD5PLB ON THE ISS

NASA has announced that astronaut Clay Anderson, KD5PLA, will succeed Suni Williams, KD5PLB, as International Space Station Expedition 15 Flight Engineer later this spring. According to NASA News, Anderson will arrive aboard the ISS aboard the shuttle Atlantis which is set to launch on 8th June. The same shuttle mission will carry Williams back to Earth.

Suni Williams has been in space since early December. During her ISS stay, she set a record for spacewalks by a female astronaut, conducting four excursions for a total of 29 hours and 17 minutes. Upon her return, she will have accumulated more time in space than any other woman. She has also logged numerous school contacts during her on-orbit stay. (ARISS)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: SSETI-ESO LAUNCH DELAYED A YEAR

The launch date for SSeti ESEO, a European Space Agency led student satellite project intended for geostationary transfer orbit has been delayed by approximately one year. It had originally been hoped that this satellite would be a secondary payload on Ariane launch in late November of 2008 but it now seems that opportunity will not be available. (ANS)

**

RADIO IN SPACE: EU RADIO FROM SPACE

An advanced in-car multimedia system that could use recycled television satellites coming to the end of their working lives has been unveiled in Europe.

The prototype system was developed by the
European Space Agency. It is Said to offer
high-quality radio, video and data. If
commercialized, the system would offer the first
in-car satellite radio service available to Europeans. (Southgate)

**

WORLDBEAT - IRELAND: ON THE AIR CELEBRATING FLIGHT

Irelands Limerick Radio Club has been invited by
the Foynes Flying Boat Museum to operate a
special Amateur Radio Station. This, in
conjunction with the commemorative Transatlantic
Re-Enactment Flight 1937 from Newfoundland Canada to Foynes Ireland.

The special event callsign has been issued to the
club to operate as EI70FOY. The station will be
on the air from the July 6th to the 8th. On the
High Frequency bands operation will be on 80
through 10 meters. EI70FOY will also operate on VHF / UHF as well.

A special QSL card, commemorating the flight
reenactment will be sent to all stations worked
over the three-day event. All inbound QSL cards
should be sent to the Club's QSL Manager Alan
Cronin E-I-8-E-M at his callbook address. More
is on-line at www.qsl.net/ei4lrc. (IRTS)

**

DX

In D-X, A52SW will be on the air from Thimpu,
Bhutan, from May 17th to the 22nd. The operator
is Steve Herman, W7VOA who will be on 80 through
6 meters using CW, SSB and, possibly, PSK, as
well as 10-meter FM. Steve is a news
correspondent based in India covering South
Asia. He says this will be the first of numerous
trips he plans to make to Bhutan over the next several years as
A52SW. The QSL manager for A52SW will be K2AU.

Also, word that DB5YB will be active as portable
OZ from Bornholm Island, through the 18th
May. He plans to operate SSB on 20, 17 and 15 meters. QSL via his home
call.

And Special event station IR1ALP will be active
from Cuneo, Italy through May 31st. A special
postage stamp will be affixed on the cards
confirming QSOs made on 12th and 13th May, during
the 80th Italian Alpine troops gathering. QSL via QSL via IK1AAS.

Also, special event station ON50EU is active
until December 31st. This, to celebrate the 50th
anniversary of the Treaty of Rome. QSL as directed on the air.

Lastly, some DX from space. WA7IRW says that he
will be operating from the British Virgin Islands
as VP2V and WA7IRW through May 18th. He expects
to try AO-51 ops typically in the afternoon
and evening hours passes using an FT857 and an
aArrow antenna from the sail boat. QSL direct to WA7IRW.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: CB DOWN UNDER

And finally this week, we all know the story of
how Class D, C-B at 27 MHz in the United States
was created from the old 11 meter ham band. But
other nations have their story of how C-B came
about and in some cases the tale is very
similar. Only the timeline differs. Jim Linton, VK3PC, reports:

--

Rewind, a look back at history

On a recent ABC radio program quiz segment this
question was put: 'In what year was Citizens Band
Radio legalized in Australia?"

It was 1977, in fact July the 1st of that year
after a Federal Government inquiry that received
a large number of submissions in favor of the
move, and intense lobbying by a number of CB radio groups.

Initially CB was 18 channels at 27MHz, requiring
operators to have a government issued callsign,
pay an annual license fee and use type-approved equipment.

The big plan was that 27MHz, the amateur 11 meter
band, was only to be a temporary allocation and
all CB'ers would move to UHF in five years.

However, 27MHz was retained and expanded in 1982,
and the UHF band continues today. Gone has the
licensing requirement too, with CB radio now
covered in 2002 by a fee-free Radiocommunications
Citizen Band Radio Stations Class License.

So radio amateurs can commemorate the loss of
their 11 meter band, while CB operators can mark
the 30th or Pearl anniversary of legalized CB in Australia.

I'm Jim Linton VK3PC for the Amateur Radio Newsline.

--

Sounds like a rather familiar story, but this
time that's a big 10-4 from down-under. (WIA News)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the
CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio
Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the
RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A
News, that's all from the Amateur Radio
Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is
newsline@arnewsline.org. More information is
available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only
official website located at
www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or
support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), P.O. Box
660937, Arcadia, California 91066.

Two reminders before we go. First we have a new
poll for the month of May. This one asks the
question now that the Morse exam is part of ham
radio history, do you plan to upgrade or remain
the license class you are right now. Of coarse
this is unfair to Extra class licensees because
they cannot go any higher so this poll kind of
leaves them out in the cold. To compensate, we
added a third possible answer, but you will have
to go to our website at www.arnewsline.org to see what it is.

Also, the nominating season for this years
Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year
Award closes on May 30th. That's less than 3
weeks away. Any nominations received after that
date will not qualify for this years award program.

The Young Ham of the Year Award is open to any
radio amateur age 18 or younger residing in all
50 United States, plus Puerto Rico and all 13
Canadian Provinces can qualify. Full details and
nominating forms are on our special website at
www,yhoty.org. Also see the Vertex-Standard
sponsored ad on page 8 of the March issue of QST Magazine.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the
editors desk, I'm Jim Damron, N8TMW and I'm Jeff
Clark, K8JAC, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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891. Re: 10 meters Activity

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 11:22:02 UTC
From: an old freind <konstans@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <1178875565.528944.244280@u30g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4596

On May 10, 11:15 pm, "JDP" <k...@bellsouth.net> wrote:
> Not since the ARRL Contest this year have a heard one signal and then it was
> just a few from 6 & 7 land and few from South America. Is anyone hearing
> anything on 10 meters or is everyone just not QRV?
>
> 73's
> K4JDP

couple was hearing Centrral america but got stomped on trying to call
it by station with more and more southernly locatioon but I heard
quitely at times

I don't spend much time on 10 right now due to the sunsptots mostly
hang out with some loca freind and keep an eye on the DX cluster

892. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 11:23:03 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5aj1h0F2op3irU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4597

"K�HB" <groupk0hb@earthlink.net> wrote in message
news:1178857625.707508.9660@u30g2000hsc.googlegroups.com
> On May 10, 6:20 pm, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
>
> >
> > Why is the (supposed) laugh on voice expressed as "HI
> > HI."
> >
>
> For the same reason that hams give "59" signal reports
> instead of saying "you're loud and clear", for the same
> reason that they say "73" instead of "best wishes", and
> for the same reason that they say "QSL" instead of "I got
> that". These, and "hi hi", are carryovers of CW
> "shorthand" and have survived as a natural sort of
> "insiders lingo". As a newer ham you may find them
> unnatural or awkward to use, and the good news is that
> everyone will still be happy to snag your prefix in WPX,
> even if you don't say TKS ES GL OM HI HI..
>
> 73, de Hans, K0HB

The CW shorthand I can understand, but why "handle"..?!

73 Ivor G6URP

893. The term "Elmer"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 12:43:46 UTC
From: LA4RT Jon Kåre Hellan <dev@null.com>
Message-ID: <1mwszfd1xu.fsf@persaunet.uninett.no>
Source record: 4598

How old is the term "Elmer"?

I was licensed in 1973 or 74, and remained active until abt. 1980. I can't remember the term "Elmer" from then. This was in Norway, of course, but I did read QST and the ARRL books. The first mention of "Elmer" I can remember was on the internet - slashdot.org - in the nineties. (I didn't find my way back into radio until 2004.)

Did I just miss "Elmer" in the seventies, or is the term more recent?

73
LA4RT Jon

894. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 12:44:11 UTC
From: LVN <gareth.paley@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <cdidnZAg8K6F-dnbRVnygQA@bt.com>
Source record: 4499

"Ivor Jones" <ivor@despammed.invalid> wrote in message
news:5aj1h0F2op3irU1@mid.individual.net...
>
> The CW shorthand I can understand, but why "handle"..?!
>
Handle means someone's name, has done since the early 1800.

This is the quote usually cited:

http://www.answers.com/topic/handle-to-one-s-name

895. Re: 2m FM calling practices

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 13:05:38 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net>
Message-ID: <1348qgnd0rvhuc1@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 4500

"Alan" wrote ...
> It seems that "monitoring" has fallen out of favor, at least with
> folks I know. If you want to talk to someone, you might say something
> like:
>
> "Anyone around? <callsign>"
>
> or even actually call CQ.
>
> "Monitoring" tells me you are listening, but does not imply that you
> are actively soliciting a contact, just that your radio is on.

"Monitoring..." seems to be the most prevalent method
that I am hearing on the popular repeaters here in the
PDX area.

KE7GKP

896. Re: The term "Elmer"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 13:39:03 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <1348r53detmie9d@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 4501

"LA4RT Jon K�re Hellan" wrote

> How old is the term "Elmer"?

Much older than you think. I was licensed in '63 and I had an Elmer, who I think was known as such back then. I think the term goes way back before that.

Howard N7SO (I think...) ;-)

897. Re: The term "Elmer"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 13:40:46 UTC
From: LVN <gareth.paley@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <APudndFgSMw8-NnbnZ2dnUVZ8vudnZ2d@bt.com>
Source record: 4502

"LA4RT Jon K�re Hellan" <dev@null.com> wrote in message
news:1mwszfd1xu.fsf@persaunet.uninett.no...
> How old is the term "Elmer"?
>
> I was licensed in 1973 or 74, and remained active until abt. 1980. I
> can't remember the term "Elmer" from then. This was in Norway, of
> course, but I did read QST and the ARRL books. The first mention of
> "Elmer" I can remember was on the internet - slashdot.org - in the
> nineties. (I didn't find my way back into radio until 2004.)
>

see: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elmer

The term "Elmer"--meaning someone who provides personal guidance and assistance to would-be hams--first appeared in QST in a March 1971 "How's DX" column by Rod Newkirk, W9BRD (now also VA3ZBB).

898. Re: The term "Elmer"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 13:41:04 UTC
From: The Shadow <Repose@Zilch.com>
Message-ID: <qFZ0i.229646$ZA5.192723@newsfe15.phx>
Source record: 4503

"LA4RT Jon Ki¿½re Hellan" <dev@null.com> wrote in message
news:1mwszfd1xu.fsf@persaunet.uninett.no...
> How old is the term "Elmer"?
>
> I was licensed in 1973 or 74, and remained active until abt. 1980. I
> can't remember the term "Elmer" from then. This was in Norway, of
> course, but I did read QST and the ARRL books. The first mention of
> "Elmer" I can remember was on the internet - slashdot.org - in the
> nineties. (I didn't find my way back into radio until 2004.)
>
> Did I just miss "Elmer" in the seventies, or is the term more recent?
>
> 73
> LA4RT Jon
>
>From the internet a few years ago, this was reported.
""From Norm K1AA " The term "Elmer" was invented in the early 1970s (1971
, I
think) by Rod Newkirk, W9BRD" W9BRD was a radio dispatcher with the Illin
ois
State Police. One of his co-workers was Elmer "Bud" Frohardt, W9GFF, now
W9DY. I've only met W9BRD once, but I've known W9DY since 1968. Bud was v
ery
well known locally for his involvement with the RAMS (Radio Amateur
Megacycle Society) radio club, and he was always helping newcomers to the

hobby. So when Rod Newkirk started writing about Elmer in the "How's DX"
column in QST, he was writing about his friend Bud. I saw Bud quite recen
tly
and asked him to re-confirm my recollection that he was the inspiration f
or
Elmer, and he did." From From Norm K1AA

Lamont

899. Re: 2m FM calling practices

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 13:41:31 UTC
From: The Shadow <Repose@Zilch.com>
Message-ID: <nVZ0i.263971$g24.169842@newsfe12.phx>
Source record: 4504

"Alan" <nospam@w6yx.stanford.edu> wrote in message
news:f20tq4$a7b$1@news.Stanford.EDU...
> In article <1177907187.162031.31610@l77g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
> k8mn@earthlink.net writes:
>>On Apr 29, 5:16 pm, "The Shadow" <Rep...@Zilch.com> wrote:
>>
>>> In the USA, CQ is not used for VHF/UHF FM. Simply callsign monitoring.
>>> CQ is used for the VHF/UHF SSB mode
>>>
>>> Lamont
>>
>>In some areas of the U.S, "CQ" is certainly used on VHF/UHF FM. If a
>>CQ works on 160 through 10 and works on 6m, 2m and 70cm SSB or CW,
>>pressing the PTT switch and saying, "CQ from K8MN" works fine on VHF
>>or UHF FM.
>>
>>Dave K8MN
>
> It seems that "monitoring" has fallen out of favor, at least with
> folks I know. If you want to talk to someone, you might say something
> like:
>
> "Anyone around? <callsign>"
>
> or even actually call CQ.
>
> "Monitoring" tells me you are listening, but does not imply that you
> are actively soliciting a contact, just that your radio is on.
>
>
> Alan
> wa6azp
>

I refer you to the ARRL Page at URL:
http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/pdf/repeater1.pdf

It sez"
"Making your first transmission on a repeater is as simple as signing your
call. If the repeater is quiet, just say "N1GZO" or "N1GZO listening" -- to
attract someone's attention."

Further it states "

"Don't call CQ to initiate a conversation on a repeater. It takes longer to complete a CQ than to transmit your call sign. (In some areas, a solitary "CQ" is permissible.) Efficient communication is the goal. You are not on HF, trying to attract the attention of someone who is casually tuning across the band. In the FM mode, stations are either monitoring their favorite frequency or not."

At one time "monitoring " was for control operators, but now a days in So Calif, you will here "Listening" or "Monitoring" Calling CQ on a repeater will get you 10 guys replying "We don't use CQ on repeaters" and a big argument about it. Travelling across country, the same protocol is generally used IMHO.

Lamont

900. Re: Origin of "Handle" for name

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 13:42:39 UTC
From: The Shadow <Repose@Zilch.com>
Message-ID: <Y8_0i.78979$Fk2.30196@newsfe08.phx>
Source record: 4505

"Ivor Jones" <ivor@despammed.invalid> wrote in message
news:5aj1h0F2op3irU1@mid.individual.net...
> "Kï¿½HB" <groupk0hb@earthlink.net> wrote in message
> news:1178857625.707508.9660@u30g2000hsc.googlegroups.com
>> On May 10, 6:20 pm, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
>>
>> >
>> > Why is the (supposed) laugh on voice expressed as "HI
>> > HI."
>> >
>>
>> For the same reason that hams give "59" signal reports
>> instead of saying "you're loud and clear", for the same
>> reason that they say "73" instead of "best wishes", and
>> for the same reason that they say "QSL" instead of "I got
>> that". These, and "hi hi", are carryovers of CW
>> "shorthand" and have survived as a natural sort of
>> "insiders lingo". As a newer ham you may find them
>> unnatural or awkward to use, and the good news is that
>> everyone will still be happy to snag your prefix in WPX,
>> even if you don't say TKS ES GL OM HI HI..
>>
>> 73, de Hans, K0HB
>
> The CW shorthand I can understand, but why "handle"..?!
>
> 73 Ivor G6URP
>
>
For what it worth - from URL:
http://www.dummies.com/WileyCDA/DummiesArticle/id-3232,subcat-HOBBIES.htm
l

"The term handle is an old slang term for name that goes back to the cowb
oys
of the Old West. Telegraphers picked it up and the ham radio operators go
t
it from them. CB operators copied the hams, and there you have it."

I have heard several old time hams give this explanation

Lamont

901. Re: Origin of Hi Hi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 13:43:09 UTC
From: The Shadow <Repose@Zilch.com>
Message-ID: <Ui_0i.78980$Fk2.49022@newsfe08.phx>
Source record: 4506

> On May 10, 6:20 pm, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
>
>>
>> Why is the (supposed) laugh on voice expressed as "HI HI."

It is the telegraphic laugh.
"hi hi" is the Morse equivalent of a laugh as in Morse it sounds like someone chuckling ("hehhehhehheh hehheh"). That is ditditditdit dit it --- or dot dot dot dot dot dot. You really have to listen to it sent in Morse to appreciate its laugh like sound. It is most commonly used in CW (Morse Code), but has carried over to voice as well. Many CW expressions have carried over to voice -- such as 73 (Best Regards) and 88 (love and Kisses), etc. The origin probably dates back before radio to the telegraph days. And since Hams used Morse long before voice became practical-- the sound of the Morse characters HI HI was used to resemble a laugh sound. In some sense it is equivalent of a smiley. It's onomatopoeic -- that is the naming of a thing or action by a vocal imitation of the sound associated with it (as buzz, hiss) The definitive answer might be found in the "Dodge's The Telegraph Instructor Manual" circa 1850 to 1900..So that is my best guess -- based on what old time telegraphers have told me.

Another use of HI HI is sending a greeting to a fellow Ham when vehicles pass -- four short horn beeps followed by two short horn beeps. Since many Hams have Ham License plates -- a fellow Ham is easily spotted as well as the seeing the mobile antennas.

Lamont

902. Re: The term "Elmer"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 14:14:23 UTC
From: Alan WA4SCA <APBIDDLE@UNITED.NET>
Message-ID: <d1u843djt9s8o01k0385uc9mech7lcl2lq@4ax.com>
Source record: 4507

Jon,

An interesting discussion here:

http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/club/mentor/

I was licensed in 1964, and neither had an Elmer, nor recall that term being in use at the time when I finally located a radio club. Of course, it may well have been in use elsewhere.

--
Alan
WA4SCA

903. Re: 2m FM calling practices

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 15:40:06 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1178896583.442869.189770@n59g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4508

On May 11, 1:41 pm, "The Shadow" <Rep...@Zilch.com> wrote:

> Calling CQ on a repeater will get you 10 guys replying "We
> don't use CQ on repeaters" and a big argument about it.

These 'radio cops' exist on all bands, not just repeaters. I once wrote a parody/satire humor piece about them, too funny to be posted here, but you can view a copy at http://lists.contesting.com/_cq-contest/2005-12/msg00393.html

73, de Hans, K0HB

904. Re: The term "Elmer"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 15:40:35 UTC
From: George <gmwemail-dsp@yahoo.com>
Message-ID: <1%%0i.17511$YL5.15637@newssvr29.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 4509

I was also licensed in the early 60s and I remember the term "Elmer" being in common use back then.

George, K6GW

"LA4RT Jon K&#65533;re Hellan" <dev@null.com> wrote in message news:1mwszfd1xu.fsf@persaunet.uninett.no...
> How old is the term "Elmer"?
>
> I was licensed in 1973 or 74, and remained active until abt. 1980. I
> can't remember the term "Elmer" from then. This was in Norway, of
> course, but I did read QST and the ARRL books. The first mention of
> "Elmer" I can remember was on the internet - slashdot.org - in the
> nineties. (I didn't find my way back into radio until 2004.)
>
> Did I just miss "Elmer" in the seventies, or is the term more recent?
>
> 73
> LA4RT Jon
>

905. Re: 2m FM calling practices

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 19:01:42 UTC
From: John <jlwsecure-usenet6@yahoo.com>
Message-ID: <Xns992D8A82B438jlwsecure@207.115.17.102>
Source record: 4510

K�HB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net> wrote in
news:1178896583.442869.189770@n59g2000hsh.googlegroups.com:

```
> On May 11, 1:41 pm, "The Shadow" <Rep...@Zilch.com> wrote:
>
>> Calling CQ on a repeater will get you 10 guys replying "We
>> don't use CQ on repeaters" and a big argument about it.
>
> These 'radio cops' exist on all bands, not just repeaters. I once
> wrote a parody/satire humor piece about them, too funny to be posted
> here, but you can view a copy at
> http://lists.contesting.com/_cq-contest/2005-12/msg00393.html
>
```

Around my area, pretty much everything goes... (what's legal anyway). The repeater users are all pretty laid back folks with a lot of tolerance. All the "repeater cops" pretty much left 2 meters some time ago.

906. Re: 2m FM calling practices

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 19:44:28 UTC
From: RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net>
Message-ID: <1178912645.639380.134680@u30g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4511

On May 11, 3:40 pm, Kï¿½HB <groupk...@earthlink.net> wrote:

> but you can view a copy at http://lists.contesting.com/_cq-contest/2005-1
2/msg00393.html

Cute!

73, RDW

907. Re: 2m FM calling practices

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 20:29:37 UTC
From: RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net>
Message-ID: <1178912315.244869.311630@n59g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4512

On May 11, 7:01 pm, John <jlwsecure-usen...@yahoo.com> wrote:

>
> Around my area, pretty much everything goes... (what's legal anyway).
>

As long as it's legal, that ought to be the test.

What ever happened to the old FCC Official Observer program? These were licensed volunteers (hams just like you and me) who passed some screening exam, and then cruised the bands looking for problems. As I recall they had no 'police' power but could issue you a 'friendly reminder', backed up by "chapter and verse" if you were afoul of the rules. This reminder didn't go on any record, but was intended to take a load off the FCC monitoring stations. I suppose that 'frequent offenders' were referred upstairs, but I never heard of it.

73, RDW

908. Re: Professional HF Work?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 20:29:58 UTC
From: Henry <noone@nowhere.net>
Message-ID: <DD31i.438$nh.359@bignews3.bellsouth.net>
Source record: 4513

Sir/Mam,

I have brought home the "paycheck" for just under 30 years.....mostly x-band SatCom.

An electrical engineer by profession, I have also been heavily envolved wit HF, meteror burst, line of sight et al.

The jjobs are out there....most all are Government...US "and" others....almost all require security clearances.

check federal employment registers...."civil service".....etc. !

Henry

909. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 20:30:59 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1178913007.599482.196510@l77g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4514

K?HB wrote on Fri 11 May 2007 03:32:

>On May 10, 6:20 pm, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:

>> Why is the (supposed) laugh on voice expressed as "HI HI."
>
>For the same reason that hams give "59" signal reports instead of
>saying "you're loud and clear", for the same reason that they say
>"73" instead of "best wishes", and for the same reason that they say
>"QSL" instead of "I got that".

I disagree a bit there, having listened to lots of voice
"conversations" and compared them to in-person conversations
without radios. The majority of amateur radio activity is done
solo by a ham using voice, CW, RTTY, data, etc. As such,
many just don't have the direct personal coupling to others
unless they are personal friends. A result of that is the flat,
rather emotionless speech patterns one can hear. They seem
to be talking to other radios, not other human beings.

Other radios don't laugh or cry or express emotions. People do
that. Some people in amateur radio want to emulate the
professionals and assume that pros talk only in flat, emotion-
less manner. That's not always the case when you get beyond
the "data reporting" communications kind of things on
commercial radio. Ahem, I've already been "chewed out" by
an unidentified Radio Kop on HF for daring to express some
slight emotion in my voice. <shrug>

There seems to be a difference in speech patterns in ham bands
above 30 MHz versus those below. The VHF and up folk tend to
sound more human and have been heard to actually express a
tiny bit of emotion! :-) Maybe that's just here in the southwest;
I haven't taken any scanner with me on cross-country (2K mile)
auto trips in the USA.

>These, and "hi hi", are carryovers of
>CW "shorthand" and have survived as a natural sort of "insiders
>lingo".

Yes, yes, I think I know some of that... :-) I've already adapted
to several kinds of different radio service lingo. My only difficulty
on any of those was at around 2000 feet in a two-place single
engine aircraft with the (bad alternate) instructor hollering in my
right ear on flying the aircraft properly. "Clik, clik," the pilot's
"roger" using the PTT switch...which I "wasn't supposed to know"

according to the instructor. :-)

>As a newer ham you may find them unnatural or awkward to
>use, and the good news is that everyone will still be happy to snag
>your prefix in WPX, even if you don't say TKS ES GL OM HI HI..

TNX, FB OM and roger that. :-) When I figure out how to
pronounce those capitalized letters, I'll use them. HI HI. :-)

Regards, Len AF6AY

910. Offline --- Boundary waters fire

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 20:45:56 UTC
From: K0HB <k-zero-hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <380-220075511203736125@earthlink.net>
Source record: 4515

I'll be offline for several days, heading up to assist with the BWCA fire effort.

http://wcco.com/slideshows/local_slideshow_130131924/view?slide=0

73, de Hans, K0HB

--
><{{{{*> http://www.home.earthlink.net/~k0hb

--- StripMime Report -- processed MIME parts ---
multipart/alternative
text/plain (text body -- kept)
text/html
---

911. Re: 2m FM calling practices

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 21:57:24 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5ak41iF224cj0U1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4516

"The Shadow" <Repose@Zilch.com> wrote in message
news:nVZ0i.263971$g24.169842@newsfe12.phx

[snip]

> I refer you to the ARRL Page at URL:
> http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/pdf/repeater1.pdf
>
> It sez"
> "Making your first transmission on a repeater is as
> simple as signing your call. If the repeater is quiet,
> just say "N1GZO" or "N1GZO listening" -- to attract
> someone's attention."
> Further it states "
>
> "Don't call CQ to initiate a conversation on a repeater.
> It takes longer to complete a CQ than to transmit your
> call sign. (In some areas, a solitary "CQ" is
> permissible.) Efficient communication is the goal. You
> are not on HF, trying to attract the attention of someone
> who is casually tuning across the band. In the FM mode,
> stations are either monitoring their favorite frequency
> or not."
> At one time "monitoring " was for control operators, but
> now a days in So Calif, you will here "Listening" or
> "Monitoring" Calling CQ on a repeater will get you 10
> guys replying "We don't use CQ on repeaters" and a big
> argument about it. Travelling across country, the same
> protocol is generally used IMHO.

Similar thing here. In the UK, it's generally frowned on to call CQ on a repeater, but you often hear new licensees doing it. I usually just say something like "G6URP listening GB3xx" (repeater calls all start GB3 here).

73 Ivor G6URP

912. Re: 2m FM calling practices

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 23:25:39 UTC
From: Jack VK2CJC <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com>
Message-ID: <f22pgr$7sa$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 4517

> Similar thing here. In the UK, it's generally frowned on to call CQ on a
> repeater, but you often hear new licensees doing it. I usually just say
> something like "G6URP listening GB3xx"

I do the same.

I think this whole "anti-CQ on repeaters" movement came from the days where repeaters were a new and strange phenomenon. And possibly some used their 80m and 40m CQ calling techniques. You know what I mean- "CQ CQ CQ CQ CQ, this is ????? CQ CQ CQ etc etc blah blah". Now doing THAT on a repeater would annoy the life out of everyone so must be discouraged. And this has developed into an intolerance to hearing the letters C and Q together.

After all, what's the difference between.

VK2CJC listening for any calls.
and
VK2CJC calling CQ.

Keep it short. Keep it clear. And who cares what terminology is used :o)

913. Re: 2m FM calling practices

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 23:25:56 UTC
From: LVN <gareth.paley@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <3LudnWB0AcOid9nbnZ2dnUVZ8q6unZ2d@bt.com>
Source record: 4518

"Ivor Jones" <ivor@despammed.invalid> wrote in message
news:5ak41iF224cj0U1@mid.individual.net...
> "The Shadow" <Repose@Zilch.com> wrote in message
> news:nVZ0i.263971$g24.169842@newsfe12.phx
>

>
> Similar thing here. In the UK, it's generally frowned on to call CQ on a
> repeater,

I have to disagree. What's wrong with calling CQ GB3xx??

>but you often hear new licensees doing it. I usually just say something
>like "G6URP listening GB3xx" (repeater calls all start GB3 here).
>
> 73 Ivor G6URP
>

G6URP listening GB3xx

CQ G6URP on GB3xx

???

what exactly is the difference Ivor???????

"Hello CQ 2. Hello CQ 2 metres. This is M0WWS listening GB3BT and 'by for
any calls" is my usual patter. Care to tell me what exactly is wrong with
this Ivor?

10-10 (till we do it again) de G1LVN
--
My Call is M0WWS. I had an accident,
and I woke up in uk.radio.amateur.
Am I mad, in a coma, or back in time?
---

914. Re: 10 meters Activity

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-11 23:51:06 UTC
From: kc5fm <lloyd.colston@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <1178926553.363648.26870@h2g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4519

On May 11, 6:22 am, an old freind <konst...@hotmail.com> wrote:

> I don't spend much time on 10 right now due to the sunsptots mostly
> hang out with some loca freind and keep an eye on the DX cluster

Check the DX cluster. Sunspots may be down but 10 is really open.
http://www.dxwatch.com/dxsd1.php?f=717

I am working stations around the Nation, mostly 3, 4, 8, 9 land, well
into the evening hours. Check the 10-10 web site for local nets and
check in. Listen for me on 29.6 FM or 28.385 QRP calling channel.

73

Lloyd Colston, KC5FM
Trustee for WX5EM (http://wx5em.us)
http://www.navymars.org MARS Station
SHARES Station http://www.ncs.gov/faq.html#shares
Ten-Ten #10231 http://www.ten-ten.org
http://www.carf.net #294

915. Re: 2m FM calling practices

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-12 00:20:41 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5akcofF2oshdhU2@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4520

"LVN" <gareth.paley@gmail.com> wrote in message
news:3LudnWB0AcOid9nbnZ2dnUVZ8q6unZ2d@bt.com
> "Ivor Jones" <ivor@despammed.invalid> wrote in message
> news:5ak41iF224cj0U1@mid.individual.net...
> > "The Shadow" <Repose@Zilch.com> wrote in message
> > news:nVZ0i.263971$g24.169842@newsfe12.phx

[snip]

> > Similar thing here. In the UK, it's generally frowned
> > on to call CQ on a repeater,
>
> I have to disagree. What's wrong with calling CQ GB3xx??

If that were all they did, nothing.

> > but you often hear new licensees doing it. I usually
> > just say something like "G6URP listening GB3xx"
> > (repeater calls all start GB3 here).

> G6URP listening GB3xx
>
> CQ G6URP on GB3xx
>
> ???
>
> what exactly is the difference Ivor???????

In *that*, nothing. But it rarely works out like that..!

> "Hello CQ 2. Hello CQ 2 metres. This is M0WWS listening
> GB3BT and 'by for any calls" is my usual patter. Care to
> tell me what exactly is wrong with this Ivor?

Absolutely nothing. But *nobody* around here ever calls CQ like that. They
usually go:

CQ CQ CQ CQ CQ CQ CQ CQ CQ
CQ CQ CQ CQ de G6URP G6URP G6URP
CQ CQ CQ DE G6URP G6URP located in Birmingham, central England

repeated six times over without pausing for breath..!!!

(Note *I* never do that, I just used my own call as an example, ok..?!)

73 Ivor G6URP

916. Re: 2m FM calling practices

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-12 00:21:27 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5akcodF2oshdhU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4521

"Jack VK2CJC" <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com> wrote in
message news:f22pgr$7sa$1@victor.killfile.org

[snip]

> I think this whole "anti-CQ on repeaters" movement came
> from the days where repeaters were a new and strange
> phenomenon. And possibly some used their 80m and 40m CQ
> calling techniques. You know what I mean- "CQ CQ CQ CQ
> CQ, this is ????? CQ CQ CQ etc etc blah blah". Now doing
> THAT on a repeater would annoy the life out of everyone
> so must be discouraged. And this has developed into an
> intolerance to hearing the letters C and Q together.
> After all, what's the difference between.
>
> VK2CJC listening for any calls.
> and
> VK2CJC calling CQ.

If only it were so simple..! See below.

> Keep it short. Keep it clear. And who cares what
> terminology is used :o)

You've answered the question. Keep it short. Just announcing that you're
listening on a repeater takes a few seconds. Many CQ calls can take a full
30 seconds or more..! Well the ones I hear can, anyway..!

73 Ivor G6URP

917. Re: The term "Elmer"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-12 03:27:25 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <134ad0jgcagqv10@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 4522

LVN wrote:

> The term "Elmer"--meaning someone who provides personal guidance and
> assistance to would-be hams--first appeared in QST in a March 1971 "How's
> DX" column by Rod Newkirk, W9BRD (now also VA3ZBB).

The fact that it first appeared in QST in 1971 doesn't mean it wasn't used before then. The fact that W9BRD picked the name "Elmer" in his QST text "Too frequently one hears a sad story in this little nutshell: 'Oh, I almost got a ticket, too, but Elmer, W9XYZ, moved away and I kind of lost interest.'" may indicate that "Elmer" was already in common use. After all, "Elmer" isn't a very common name that would have sprung to his mind.

I *think* that "Elmer" was a term that I used when I was first licensed in the 60's . . . but maybe I am remembering the 70's instead of the 60's.

73, Steve KB9X

918. Re: Professional HF Work?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-12 03:43:41 UTC
From: BNB Sound <jon@bnbsound.com>
Message-ID: <1178933217.692978.172450@l77g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4523

This is all great stuff. I read every page of the stories from the Coast Guard. Every ham has favorite experiences on the air. Does anyone have any favorite experiences from working on the air?

73,
Thanks and keep 'em coming,
KC2PNF
Jon

919. OO

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-12 03:44:54 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <134ac7ms6rk5j33@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 4524

RDWeaver wrote:

> What ever happened to the old FCC Official Observer program? These
> were licensed volunteers (hams just like you and me) who passed some
> screening exam, and then cruised the bands looking for problems. As I
> recall they had no 'police' power but could issue you a 'friendly
> reminder', backed up by "chapter and verse" if you were afoul of the
> rules. This reminder didn't go on any record, but was intended to
> take a load off the FCC monitoring stations. I suppose that 'frequent
> offenders' were referred upstairs, but I never heard of it.

Although it's referred to as the "Amateur Auxillary of the FCC", the OO program is primarily an ARRL field appointment, and it's still alive and well. See http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/org/am_aux.html and http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/org/oo.html

I received my share of OO citations back in the 60's. They helped me understand the wonders of harmonics of the 80-meter novice band and how well they propagated.

I think that the OO contingent has also been used to help document recent malicious interference situations, but they're hams like you and me, not FCC employees. An analogy is Skywarn . . . spotters are trained and treated differently than the general public, but they're not official NWS employees.

920. Re: The term "Elmer"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-12 04:09:47 UTC
From: "Dr.Ace" <Ace@WH2T.com>
Message-ID: <b42bf$46453ba9$4fc40e0$15043@DIALUPUSA.NET>
Source record: 4525

"LA4RT Jon K�re Hellan" <dev@null.com> wrote in message
news:1mwszfd1xu.fsf@persaunet.uninett.no...
> How old is the term "Elmer"?
>
> I was licensed in 1973 or 74, and remained active until abt. 1980. I
> can't remember the term "Elmer" from then. This was in Norway, of
> course, but I did read QST and the ARRL books. The first mention of
> "Elmer" I can remember was on the internet - slashdot.org - in the
> nineties. (I didn't find my way back into radio until 2004.)
>
> Did I just miss "Elmer" in the seventies, or is the term more recent?
>
> 73
> LA4RT Jon
>

My "Elmer" W9MZ at that time, began to school me in Amateur Radio in 1975
while I was 16 years old . I remember referring to Bill as my Elmer .
Ace - WH2T

.

921. Re: 2m FM calling practices

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-12 08:46:55 UTC
From: "Dr.Ace" <Ace@WH2T.com>
Message-ID: <84ba1$4645424b$4fc40e0$15176@DIALUPUSA.NET>
Source record: 4526

"RDWeaver" <weaver5511@mypacks.net> wrote in message
news:1178912315.244869.311630@n59g2000hsh.googlegroups.com...
> On May 11, 7:01 pm, John <jlwsecure-usen...@yahoo.com> wrote:
>
>>
>> Around my area, pretty much everything goes... (what's legal anyway).
>>
>
> As long as it's legal, that ought to be the test.
>
> What ever happened to the old FCC Official Observer program? These
> were licensed volunteers (hams just like you and me) who passed some
> screening exam, and then cruised the bands looking for problems. As I
> recall they had no 'police' power but could issue you a 'friendly
> reminder', backed up by "chapter and verse" if you were afoul of the
> rules. This reminder didn't go on any record, but was intended to
> take a load off the FCC monitoring stations. I suppose that 'frequent
> offenders' were referred upstairs, but I never heard of it.
>
> 73, RDW
>

My appointment as an Official Observer in the FCC Field Operations
Bureau Amateur Auxiliary was in March 1989. At that time to become an
Official Observer you must have held a Technician class or higher license
for at least 5 years and pass a rigorous test of FCC part 97 rules
questions. After being appointed the ARRL provided me with a free copy of
"The FCC Rule Book".
If an OO notice didn't get the desired result the next step was a "Heavy
Duty" notice from a FCC monitoring station. That would usually get the job
done.
73, Ace - WH2T

.

922. Re: Professional HF Work?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-12 08:47:18 UTC
From: "Dr.Ace" <Ace@WH2T.com>
Message-ID: <2921a$46454e74$4fc61ba$15422@DIALUPUSA.NET>
Source record: 4527

"BNB Sound" <jon@bnbsound.com> wrote in message
news:1178599461.693178.265950@e65g2000hsc.googlegroups.com...
> So, what else is out there. I know the military has always been
> heavily invested in radio gear, but what else was (and is?) there?
> Jon
> KC2PNF
>

AT&T High Seas Radiotelephone Service could be used by any ship with high-frequency single side band radiotelephone service. Worldwide in scope, the service provided two-way voice communication between ships on the high seas and telephones on land, at sea or in the air.

While I was employed at A.T.&T. I was given a tour of their international operating center in Pittsburg PA in the early 1990's. Being a ham I most enjoyed watching the operators at the High Seas Bureau taking calls from and to ships at sea.

Staffed 24-hours a day, 365-days per year, AT&T operators at Pittsburg PA provided mainland telephone connection to ships at sea. In many circumstances, operators handled distress calls. The operations staff was trained for all emergency situations and alerted the Coast Guard of pending crises.

AT&T High Seas Radiotelephone Facility - was the only facility of its kind in the world, provided lifesaving, two way voice radio-telephone service communication between ships at sea, or aircraft, and telephones on land, sea, or in the air.

WOO was the radio call sign of the now-defunct AT&T High Seas Service. The radiotelephone transmitter station was in Ocean Gate, NJ (39°55'38?N, 74°06'55?W) and the receiver station was in Navesink, New Jersey, USA.

Before satellite communication systems were widely available, the only way ships at sea had to communicate with the rest of the world was via HF SSB connections to land stations.

The AT&T high seas service consisted of WOO Ocean Gate, New Jersey and her sister stations WOM Pennsuco, Florida (Miami, Florida) and KMI Dixon, California (Point Reyes, California). A vessel at sea would make radio contact with one of those stations, and the operator would patch the radio connection though to a telephone call made over the PSTN. The charges were typically settled by making the landline connection a collect call. Larger vessels maintained accounts with AT&T.

In the years prior to regular telephone service being available in Mexican towns such as La Paz, Cabo San Lucas and Puerto Vallarta, KMI provided

service to certain hotels and resorts in those locations. Sometimes a hotel would register a land based transmitter as a yacht, and give it a fictitious name in order to provide phone service to their customers.

AT&T shut down all three stations on November 9, 1999. It is believed that the only remaining commercial sources of high seas high frequency radiotelephone service are WLO in Mobile, Alabama and KLB in Seattle, Washington. AT&T now uses "Mobile Satellite Services".

To use the High Seas Radiotelephone Service, each ship's radio officer would select a channel to call one of AT&T's Coast Stations. A technician at the Coast Station will then pass the call to an AT&T operator in Pittsburg PA . The person at sea would tell the operator the number he or she was trying to reach and the call was connected. People on land would call 1-800-Sea-Call and tell the operator in Pittsburg PA the name and callsign of the vessel they wanted to call.

Ace - WH2T

.

923. Re: The term "Elmer"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-12 10:59:44 UTC
From: LVN <gareth.paley@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <0L6dnYWs9uzgAdjbRVnyuQA@bt.com>
Source record: 4528

"Steve Bonine" <spb@pobox.com> wrote in message
news:134ad0jgcagqv10@news.supernews.com...
> LVN wrote:
>
>> The term "Elmer"--meaning someone who provides personal guidance and
>> assistance to would-be hams--first appeared in QST in a March 1971 "How's
>> DX" column by Rod Newkirk, W9BRD (now also VA3ZBB).
>
> The fact that it first appeared in QST in 1971 doesn't mean it wasn't used
> before then. The fact that W9BRD picked the name "Elmer" in his QST text
> "Too frequently one hears a sad story in this little nutshell: 'Oh, I
> almost got a ticket, too, but Elmer, W9XYZ, moved away and I kind of lost
> interest.'" may indicate that "Elmer" was already in common use. After
> all, "Elmer" isn't a very common name that would have sprung to his mind.
>
> I *think* that "Elmer" was a term that I used when I was first licensed in
> the 60's . . . but maybe I am remembering the 70's instead of the 60's.

Alright then Elmer is an English surname derived from "the Old English
aethel (noble) and maer (famous). It was first adopted as a given name in
the 19th Century, most popularly in the United States".

Noble and Famous sounds about right.

--
10-10 (till we do it again) de G1LVN
--
My Call is M0WWS. I had an accident,
and I woke up in uk.radio.amateur.
Am I mad, in a coma, or back in time?
---

924. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-12 13:18:45 UTC
From: "Rick (W-A-one-R-K-T)" <get.my.email@from.qrz.com>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.05.12.12.21.34.694531@from.qrz.com>
Source record: 4529

On Thu, 10 May 2007 08:26:49 -0400, Ivor Jones wrote:

>> Word meanings sometimes change over time. Like the word
>> "handle"....
>
> Now that one really *does* irritate me. A handle is for opening a door. I
> have a *name*, ok..?!

Good morning, Ivor.

What in the world is the benefit of getting irritated over something as
innocuous as that?

I have to say that if that's the worst thing I have to get irritated
about, I am a very lucky man indeed.

925. Re: The term "Elmer"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-12 13:19:50 UTC
From: "Rick (W-A-one-R-K-T)" <get.my.email@from.qrz.com>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.05.12.12.40.19.844823@from.qrz.com>
Source record: 4530

On Fri, 11 May 2007 09:39:03 -0400, Howard Lester wrote:

> Much older than you think. I was licensed in '63 and I had an Elmer, who I
> think was known as such back then. I think the term goes way back before
> that.

Yes, WAY back before that.

I was also first licensed in 1963, and "Elmer" was a popular and
often-used term at the time. My elmer was my father, now a silent key,
who was first licensed in 1921, and he often spoke of HIS elmer from those
days. Whether the actual term "elmer" was used in 1921 I obviously can't
say from first hand experience, but I am QUITE certain that the term dates
back at least to the 50's or 40's.

926. The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 19 (May 11, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-12 13:21:48 UTC
From: ARRL Letter Mailing List <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <200705120409.l4C49tQP009307@linux11676.dn.net>
Source record: 4531
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

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***************
The ARRL Letter
Vol. 26, No. 19
May 11, 2007
***************

IN THIS EDITION:

* +ARRL EXPO 2007 at Dayton Hamventionï¿½ just days away
* +Devastating tornado brings out the best in Amateur Radio volunteers
* +Amateur Radio volunteers cooperate in maritime rescue
* +Ham radio contacts make life in space up close and personal for students
* +Three states seeking ham radio antenna legislation
* +Senior News Editor Rick Lindquist, N1RL, announces retirement
* Solar Update
* IN BRIEF:
This weekend on the radio
ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration
ARRL HQ seeks Assistant Editor
+AMSAT 2007 Space Symposium and General Meeting set
Steven Pituch, W2MY, wins April QST Cover Plaque Award
ARRL congratulates centenarian member
JARL operating award checking available at Hamvention

+Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/>

==========================================================
==>Delivery problems: First see FAQ
<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/faq.html#nodelivery>, then e-mail
<letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
==>Editorial questions or comments only: Rick Lindquist, N1RL,
<n1rl@arrl.org>
==========================================================
NOTE: Because of Dayton Hamvention, the Friday, May 18, editions of The ARRL
Letter and ARRL Audio News will distribute one day earlier. The "Solar
Update" will be available on the ARRL Web site on May 18.
==========================================================

==>ARRL EXPO 2007 AT DAYTON HAMVENTIONï¿½ TO SHOWCASE LEAGUE, HAM RADIO

In less than a week, all eyes in the Amateur Radio community -- well, most
of them, anyway -- will be on Dayton, Ohio. The 56th Dayton Hamventionï¿½
<http://www.hamvention.org> gets under way Friday, May 18, at Hara Arena and
continues through Sunday, May 20. ARRL EXPO will return for a third year in
the Ballarena Hall, showcasing the League's activities and membership
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services as well as topics of interest to the Amateur Radio community. ARRL Sales and Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, says ARRL EXPO is akin to taking the entire organization to Dayton.

"Attending ARRL EXPO is a great way to become familiar with many of the programs, services, staff and volunteers that comprise ARRL," Inderbitzen said. "Besides having a fun time, many hams use the opportunity to learn more about the ARRL and about Amateur Radio."

On Friday, May 18, International Space Station Expedition 12 Commander Bill McArthur, KC5ACR -- the most active ham-astronaut ever to live aboard the space station and the first to work all states from space -- will be the League's honored guest. McArthur will be on hand at the ARRL EXPO area to meet and greet visitors.

A veteran of four spaceflights and spacewalks, McArthur also established a yet-to-be surpassed milestone of 37 ARISS school contacts. In addition, he put 130 DXCC entities into the NA1SS log. He and Expedition 12 Flight Engineer Valery Tokarev released SuitSat-1 into orbit.

Live presentations -- mini forums -- on the ARRL Stage at ARRL EXPO 2007 will offer plenty of opportunities to enhance and extend your knowledge of various facets of Amateur Radio. Presentations will take place every half hour. Topics this year will run the gamut from ARRL's Logbook of the World (LoTW) to HF digital voice techniques and protocols, radio frequency interference, broadband over power line (BPL), going mobile, clubs, ham radio instruction techniques, Amateur Radio rules and regulations, contesting, public relations, good operating practices and more.

McArthur will take the ARRL Stage to discuss his six-month duty tour aboard the ISS, among other things telling how he managed to rack up more than 1800 VHF and UHF contacts from space. He'll also be featured during the Ham Radio Aboard the International Space Station Forum, Friday, 10:15 AM, in Room 3.

ARRL staff members and officers also will take part in Hamvention forums throughout the weekend. The ARRL Membership Forum takes place Saturday at noon in Room 2. The complete ARRL Exhibit & Activities Guide is available on the ARRL EXPO 2007 Web site <http://www.arrl.org/announce/nc/2007/2007-ARRL-EXPO-Exhibit-Activities-Guide.pdf>.

The popular ARRL Passport scavenger hunt will be back again this year, with an expanded list of possible prizes. Passports are limited to the first 5000 visitors. Also returning is the ARRL Internet Cafï¿½, which will feature free wireless Internet access.

Of course, ARRL EXPO 2007 at Dayton Hamvention will feature a huge retail area where the League's most popular products and publications will be on sale. While there, visitors can renew their League memberships or join for the first time.

Younger hams and prospective hams will find lots to do. Seventeen-year-old Goldfarb Scholarship winner and youth editor Andrea Hartlage, KG4IUM, will

head the team organizing youth activities and hosting the Youth Lounge, as well as the third annual ARRL Dayton Youth Dinner on Saturday evening. Come to the Youth Lounge for the free snacks, stay for the fun activities and to just hang out.

In August, ARRL EXPO 2007 will return during the League's National Convention, held in conjunction with the Huntsville Hamfest in Alabama <http://www.arrl.org/announce/nc/2007/huntsville.html>. Preparations are in high gear for this year's national, August 18-19, at Huntsville's Von Braun Center.

==>AMATEUR RADIO VOLUNTEERS SERVE THOSE DISRUPTED BY KANSAS TWISTERS

Amateur Radio volunteers responded after an EF5 magnitude tornado with winds exceeding 200 MPH swept through southwestern Kansas over the May 5-6 weekend, essentially wiping out the town of Greensburg. The town, population 1500, lost its hospital, schools, churches and all of its business and infrastructure. A National Weather Service meteorologist called the tornado "one of the most destructive tornadoes in the last 10 years."

A team of Amateur Radio volunteers entered the area Saturday morning and began setting up communication, according to District 6 Emergency Coordinator Godfrey Flax, KC0AUH. District 5 Emergency Coordinator Robert Hanke, WG0Q, activated ARES in Pratt, Stafford, Reno and Barton Counties. Hams deployed to Greensburg and Haviland, and net control operations were established in Pratt.

According to ARRL Kansas Section Manager Ron Cowan, KB0DTI, repeaters that remained on the air were some distance from the affected area. He and other hams were monitoring 3.920 MHz Saturday in case there was HF.

The Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN) was conducting logistical nets at 9 AM, 3 PM and 9 PM each day on 3.920 MHz, and HF and 2 meter operations were been established in Haviland. Kansas and Western Missouri SATERN Coordinator June Jeffers, KB0WEQ, says SATERN members will be utilized in Kiowa County to support Salvation Army canteens and the service center in Haviland.

Twelve people died as a result of the severe weather, 10 of them from Greensburg, which is located some 45 miles east of Dodge City in Kiowa County.

The entire town evacuated Friday night, and more than 400 people took refuge in shelters in Haviland and Pratt. The Salvation Army dispatched canteen units from Dodge City and Hutchinson. A shelter was also opened in Mullinville. On Sunday night, the Red Cross requested radio operators to provide communications between the hospital in Pratt and the shelter in Haviland.

President Bush declared Kiowa County a major disaster area, making federal aid available to people and communities affected by the storm. "Our hearts are heavy for the loss of life in Greensburg, Kansas," the president said Sunday. "It's going to take a long time for the community to recover."

==>HAM RADIO INSTRUMENTAL IN PACIFIC MARITIME RESCUE

Amateur Radio played a critical role May 4 and 5 in rescuing two people from a foundering sailboat that had been en route to Colombia. Members of the Maritime Mobile Service Net (MMSN) and Intercontinental Net on 14.300 MHz were involved in getting the man and woman aboard the 35-foot s/v Sailabout to safety after they ran into trouble some 700 nautical miles southwest of the Galapagos Islands in the South Pacific.

The couple, identified as Gunnar Hansen and Grethe Haraldsen, both Norwegian nationals and neither an amateur licensee, put out a Mayday call on the Intercon/MMSN 14.300 MHz frequency the morning of May 4 after Sailabout sustained damage to its bow -- possibly as a result of losing a forestay, which helps to keep the mast upright -- and started taking on water. Thanks to its efficient pumps, the sailboat remained afloat.

The main concern was for the mast, which supported the antenna for the vessel's HF radio. Fortunately, it remained standing. The conversation on the MMSN reportedly was widely monitored by others in the sailing and cruising communities. The Sailabout had only recently been equipped with an HF SSB transceiver.

According to an account Assistant MMSN Manager Tom Job, VE3II, posted on the net's Web site <http://www.mmsn.org/events/sailabout.html>, handling the incident involved multiple stations and relays to contend with problematic propagation. Sonny Sides, N5OTB, on s/v Valentina, and Doug Reinthal, W7DUG, relayed the Sailabout's Mayday on 14.300 MHz to Intercon Net Control Station Wes Mullenax, KI0A, in Texas. Because of poor propagation, however, KI0A had rough copy on the vessel's signal, so he turned the frequency over to Fletcher Henderson, KA4BPR, in Alabama. Another report credits Ernie Polack, 6Y5RP, in Jamaica with intercepting the Mayday and assisting via intermittent radio contacts and relays during the first few hours of the event to get information to the Coast Guard. Compounding the urgency of the situation were six to eight-foot seas and winds of 16 to 18 knots.

Amateur Radio relays alerted the US Coast Guard at Alameda, California, to the Sailabout's predicament. At the Coast Guard's request, relayed via ham radio, Hansen set off the vessel's Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB). Job says Henderson -- assisted by several other stations -- passed critical information to the Coast Guard. The Coast Guard contacted and attempted to divert two vessels to the Sailabout's assistance, although only one, m/v Belnor -- a Norwegian freighter -- eventually reached the distressed vessel.

Another boat, s/v Damarri, reported some 50 miles distant, learned of the situation. MMSN says Sailabout was able to get under way and changed its course toward Damarri, which was sailing into the weather in an effort to rendezvous with Sailabout. Once on scene, the Damarri's crew kept watch through the night from a safe distance to avoid collision in the rough seas but did not attempt to take Hansen and Haraldsen aboard. At the time, the distressed vessel was contending with 14-foot seas and 25-knot winds. When outside radio contact essentially became impossible, the MMSN secured for the night.

The m/v Belnor arrived the next morning and took the couple aboard, while Damarri's crew confirmed the rescue via radio. The couple was reported to be in good health and spirits but had to abandon their vessel. The Belnor was believed headed for Panama.

Throughout the ordeal, various Amateur Radio stations -- some of which simply stood by if needed -- made themselves available to update the Coast Guard, which never had direct contact with Sailabout.

SOURCES: MMSN/Intercon Net; Jack Richards, W4QVA; SailboatOwners.com, Aftenposten, S/V Sailabout Web site

==>YOUNGSTERS IN EUROPE, US GET FRONT-ROW SEATS TO SPACE VIA HAM RADIO

Now part of the ISS Expedition 15 crew, US astronaut Suni Williams, KD5PLB, has continued her run of successful Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) school contacts. In late April, she enlightened youngsters in Italy, Germany, Virginia and Illinois about what it's like to live aboard the ISS. Williams has been in space since December and is scheduled to return home next month via the space shuttle that will bring her replacement. During the first of two ham radio conversations on April 23 with students at the Scuola Europea Varese in Varese, Italy, Williams allowed that she's growing tired of space meals.

"They were tasty for the first couple of months, but now it's getting a little bit old, because the menu sort of repeats," Williams responded. "It's about a 10-day cycle, and then you start eating the same things over and over again, so I try to be creative and mix new things with each other."

Shane Lynd, VK4KHZ, served as the Earth station for the event. Students at the school spent about three months learning about the ISS. An audience of about 300 looked on during the contact, which attracted media coverage from newspapers and television. Verizon Conferencing provided a teleconferencing link between Australia and Italy.

A few hours later, youngsters at Kingston Elementary School in Virginia Beach, Virginia, spoke with Williams during a direct VHF contact between NA1SS and control op Ed Williams, KN4KL. Thirteen Kingston third through fifth graders participated, while the rest of the school's nearly 600 students watched via closed-circuit TV. Julia, whose father had graduated from the US Naval Academy with Suni Williams, wanted to know how long it took to prepare for a space walk.

"Well, it takes a little while," Williams explained. "It's sort of like when you're going diving. We're going to breathe 100 percent oxygen, and so we have to make sure that we get all the nitrogen out of our system. So that's the longest preparation time, and then we have to get the spacesuits ready." She said it typically takes four to five hours before the astronauts are ready to open the hatch and go out into space.

Members of the Virginia Beach Amateur Radio Club (VBARC) provided the ground station and support for the ARISS event, which was the subject of a newspaper article in the Virginian Pilot. (The ARRL Virginia Section Web site <http://aresva.org/arrlva/news/20070428.ariss_va_beach.html> has a copy

of the article and additional information.)

Two days later, about a dozen youngsters attending Christian Life Elementary School in Rockford, Illinois, had their "day in space." Youngsters there chatted with Williams at the helm of NA1SS via Earth station control operator Shari Harlan, N9SH. Williams told one questioner that she believes the next step for the human spaceflight program is to return to the moon.

"We've got a lot that we can learn from living in a different type of gravity environment if we want to explore further, potentially go out to Mars or some other part of the universe," she said. "If we're only at the moon, we'll have only a small delay in communication -- maybe a two-second delay -- and we need to learn how to work autonomously without always [having] the help of the ground. It would be nice to have a moon base to see how that would work and see if we can still survive there."

Upward of 1000 students looked on during the ARISS QSO, and audio and video were fed live to a local Amateur TV repeater.

On April 28, Williams fielded more questions from students at the Samuel von Pufendorf Gymnasium, a middle and high school of some 675 students in Floeha, Germany. The direct contact was between NA1SS and the school's Amateur Radio club station DL0GYM, with Harald Schoenwitz, DL2HSC, as the control operator. All of the students who took part in the event had obtained their Amateur Radio licenses in advance of the contact.

Williams told the students she wished the ISS had Internet access. "It really would be helpful," she remarked. She noted the crew does have access to e-mail, however. She also said that the crew can see the northern lights from above, and on one occasion, an aurora occurred during a space walk. "It was a little creepy to see the green lights flashing," she said.

About 50 people plus news media looked on as the approximately 10-minute contact progressed flawlessly. Five newspapers, three radio stations and the regional TV channel reported on the event. The von Pufendorf contact was the 290th since the ARISS program began coordinating ham radio events for schools when the first space station crew came aboard in November 2000.

ARISS is an international educational outreach with US participation by ARRL, AMSAT and NASA.

==>THREE STATES SET SIGHTS ON AMATEUR RADIO ANTENNA LEGISLATION

North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Oklahoma have -- or soon will have -- Amateur Radio antenna legislation in play. Radio amateurs in all three states are hoping to have the essence of the limited federal preemption known as PRB-1 <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/PRB-1_Pkg/prb-1.pdf> incorporated into their states' statutes. The North Carolina bill, H 1340, is on the fastest track at this point. The measure was reported favorably out of the House Ways and Means Committee on May 3, and unanimously approved by the full House on May 8. ARRL North Carolina Section Manager Tim Slay, N4IB, says the bill has been referred to the Senate.

"Thanks to all of you who contacted your state representative," Slay said. "None of us imagined this would happen so quickly! We will need you to make the same great effort to build support with your state Senator as soon as a number is assigned for the companion bill."

Slay also expressed appreciation to the bill's sponsor Rep Danny McComas (R-New Hanover) and to former Wilmington Mayor Hamilton "Ham" Hicks, KB4BR, for shepherding the bill through the House "with overwhelming success."

H 1340 calls on municipalities to require ordinances based on health, safety, or aesthetic considerations regulating placement, screening or height of Amateur Radio antennas or antenna support structures "must reasonably accommodate Amateur Radio communications and must represent the minimum practicable regulation necessary to accomplish the purpose" of the city or county. In addition, the measure would establish a minimum regulatory height of 90 feet "unless the restriction is necessary to achieve a clearly defined health, safety, or aesthetic objective" of the city or county.

Elsewhere ARRL Eastern Pennsylvania Section Manager Eric Olena, WB3FPL, has alerted members in his section to a pending piece of legislation in the works for that state. At this point, the measure has not been introduced. Radio amateurs are hoping their proposal may be integrated into an update of municipal codes now under way in the General Assembly. The proposed bill would restrict municipalities from adopting "an ordinance, regulation or plan or take any other action that precludes Amateur Service communications" or that fails to comply with PRB-1.

Meanwhile, radio amateurs in Oklahoma are still trying to get PRB-1 language on the books in that state. House Bill 1037 (HB 1037) moved out of the General Government and Transportation Committee with a "do pass" recommendation, but it failed to make the House calendar for a vote.

ARRL Oklahoma SM John Thomason, WB5SYT, tells ARRL that the language of HB 1037 has been attached to a Senate Bill, SB 426, which involves municipal annexations. SB 426 now is in a conference committee for action, and Thomason says one of the committee members is a radio amateur. Eddie Manley, K5EMS, who tracks FCC and governmental actions for the Oklahoma Section, has suggested that Oklahoma radio amateurs contact the authors of both the House and Senate bills as well as members of the conference committee considering SB 426.

To date, 23 states <http://www.arrl.org/field/regulations/statutes.htm> have adopted PRB-1 legislation. While PRB-1 requires reasonable accommodation, it does not specify a minimum height below which local governments may not regulate. Four states -- Alaska, Wyoming, Virginia and Oregon -- have legislation in place that specifies antenna support structure heights, below which municipalities may not regulate.

==>ARRL SENIOR NEWS EDITOR RICK LINDQUIST, N1RL, TO RETIRE

ARRL Senior News Editor Rick Lindquist, N1RL, will retire from the Headquarters staff on Friday, June 1. Assistant Editor Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, has been named ARRL News Editor, effective May 1. Lindquist, who

turns 62 this month, came to the League from The Roanoke Times in Southwest Virginia 12 years ago. He began his Headquarters tenure as QST "Product Review" editor while juggling News Bureau duties on the side. A couple of years later, he shifted to covering Amateur Radio news fulltime as part of the League's initiative to feature news and features on its Web site.

"It's been a great ride, and -- thanks to the great folks on staff -- I've learned a lot, but it's time to throttle back, shift into the slow lane and coast a bit," said Lindquist, who lives with his wife Jean Collier, N1MJC, in Feeding Hills, Massachusetts. "For starters, I hope to get on the air more frequently and attend to our somewhat neglected clock collection."

A radio amateur for 49 years, he's also is a mobile CW, contesting, vintage radio and boating enthusiast.

During his time at League Headquarters, Lindquist has prepared and edited the "Happenings" news column for QST plus most of the news items and announcements appearing on the ARRL Web site. In addition, he has compiled and edited The ARRL Letter. The former radio and TV broadcaster also has voiced, edited and produced ARRL Audio News, a Web/podcast he launched in 1997, and he has edited the Web site youth, QRP, "The Amateur Amateur" and the Amateur Radio Direction Finding columns.

ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B, said it's been his privilege to work with Lindquist. "Rick has been our news editor and reporter through many of the major events in Amateur Radio, including 9/11, Katrina, and the elimination of the Morse code requirement," Kramer noted. "He has been the print and audio voice of the ARRL both during these events and he has reported them accurately, incisively and engagingly."

Added ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ: "Rick's newspaper experience, writing talent and longtime Amateur Radio involvement combine to give him a great ability to grasp what's important and communicate it to readers. We're fortunate that we will be able to continue to call on him."

After June 1, Lindquist will continue his association with the ARRL as a freelance writer/editor. He will also take over from Keane as Managing Editor of National Contest Journal (NCJ).

An ARRL Life Member, Keane joined the Headquarters staff a little over a year ago, arriving at the ARRL by way of Texas, California and Chile. She and her husband, Michael, K1MK, live in Watertown, Connecticut, and she has served as Public Information Coordinator for the Section. Keane passed her General class exam earlier this year.

A graduate of Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas (hence the call sign!), Keane majored in journalism, history and English, with a minor in photography. She has previously led political campaigns in Connecticut, worked for the Boy Scouts of America and headed up the news department for her local newspaper.

At ARRL Headquarters, Keane prepares and edits feature articles for the ARRL Web site, including "Surfin'," as well as for QST and for NCJ. She also has

been serving as Managing Editor for NCJ and is a contributor to ARRL Audio News, which she'll be taking over on a regular basis.

A mother of two, Keane is a member and chapter officer of the Order of the Eastern Star. She enjoys reading and needlepoint.

"I am honored that I was chosen to fill Rick's shoes," Keane remarked. "His help and the guidance of the editorial staff here definitely will make a challenging job easier."

==>SOLAR UPDATE

Astral aficionado Tad "Walking on the Sun" Cook, K7RA, Seattle, Washington, reports: Over the past week, sunspot activity has again declined, with average daily sunspot number down by more than 7 points to 18. Geomagnetic activity has been much more stable this week, with the planetary and mid-latitude A indexes less than half what they were the week before. The mid-latitude A index was actually down to zero on both weekend days, May 5-6. The next period of higher geomagnetic activity is expected around May 25-27. Geophysical Institute Prague projects quiet conditions for May 11-12, quiet to unsettled May 13, unsettled May 14-15, and quiet again on May 16-17. For May 11-17, the US Air Force expects planetary A indices of 5, 5, 8, 8, 10, 10 and 5, a slightly different scenario.

April 30 through May 3 saw sunspot numbers ranging from 32-38, more than 20 points higher than the usual daily readings of late. Several readers reported better propagation on those dates.

Sunspot numbers for May 3 through 9 were 33, 19, 18, 14, 12, 12 and 18, with a mean of 18. 10.7 cm flux was 83.1, 82.5, 81, 78.1, 75.7, 73.4, and 72.1, with a mean of 78. Estimated planetary A indices were 4, 2, 3, 2, 18, 14 and 5, with a mean of 6.9. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 2, 1, 0, 0, 11, 11 and 3, with a mean of 4.

For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>.

==>IN BRIEF:

* This weekend on the radio: The Military/Amateur Radio Communications Tests to celebrate Armed Forces Day and the Nevada Mustang Roundup are May 12. The SBMS 2 GHz and Up WW Club Contest, the VK/Trans-Tasman 80-Meter Contest (phone), the CQ-M International DX Contest, the VOLTA WW RTTY Contest, the Mid-Atlantic QSO Party, the FISTS Spring Sprint, the EACW International Contest, the 50 MHz Spring Sprint are the May 12-13 weekend. The RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship (Data) is May 16. The NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint and the QRP Minimal Art Session are May 17. The NCCC Sprint Ladder is May 18. JUST AHEAD: The US Counties QSO Party (SSB), His Majesty the King of Spain Contest (CW), the EU PSK DX Contest, the Manchester Mineira All America Contest and the Baltic Contest are the May 19-20 weekend. The Run

for the Bacon QRP Contest is May 21. The RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship (CW) is May 24. The CQ World Wide WPX Contest (CW) is May 26-27 weekend. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests/> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more info.

* ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration: Registration remains open through Sunday, May 22, for these ARRL Certification and Continuing Education (CCE) online courses beginning Friday June 1: The ARRL Ham Radio License Course (EC-010), Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 1 (EC-001), Radio Frequency Interference (EC-006), Antenna Design and Construction (EC-009), Analog Electronics (EC-012) and Digital Electronics (EC-013). These courses will also open for registration Friday, May 18, for classes beginning Friday, July 6. To learn more, visit the CCE Course Listing page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html> or contact the CCE Department <cce@arrl.org>.

* ARRL HQ seeks Assistant Editor: The ARRL is accepting applications for the position of Assistant Editor. The successful candidate for this full-time position at ARRL HQ in Newington, Connecticut, will prepare material for publication in QST, other print publications and the ARRL Web site, and will write material for publication. Paid work experience and a college degree in a related field preferred. Ham radio license and on-the-air experience required. Send resume and cover letter to LouAnn Campanello, c/o ARRL HQ, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111, <lcampanello@arrl.org>. ARRL is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

* AMSAT 2007 Space Symposium and General Meeting set: The 2007 AMSAT-NA Space Symposium and General Meeting will take place Friday through Sunday, October 26-28, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania <http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/symposium/2007/index.php>. The Wireless Association of South Hills Amateur Radio Club will serve as the host for this year's event. The 2007 Space Symposium will attempt to attract local middle and high schoolers to the Saturday sessions and is offering programs by local educators. In connection with this initiative, a fully operational satellite station will be available on site. -- AMSAT News Service

* Steven Pituch, W2MY, wins April QST Cover Plaque Award: The winner of the QST Cover Plaque Award for April is Steven Pituch, W2MY, for his article "A Portable Equipment Support Frame." Congratulations, Steven! The winner of the QST Cover Plaque award -- given to the author or authors of the best article in each issue -- is determined by a vote of ARRL members on the QST Cover Plaque Poll Web page <http://www.arrl.org/members-only/QSTvote.html>. Cast a ballot for your favorite article in the May issue by Thursday, May 31.

* ARRL congratulates centenarian member: The ARRL has extended its congratulations to League member Harvey Baalke, W9HNX, of Sheboygan, Wisconsin, who celebrated his 100th birthday March 23. Wrote ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, on the League's behalf: "I seldom have the privilege of writing to an ARRL member on the occasion of their 100th birthday! Please accept belated congratulations on behalf of the Board, staff and your fellow

members of the ARRL. I know you have seen many changes since you were first licensed. One thing that has not changed is the unique camaraderie among radio amateurs of different generations and cultures. Best wishes from the worldwide Amateur Radio community. Sincere 73." Baalke first joined the ARRL in 1936.

* DXCC Desk approves operation for DXCC credit: The ARRL DXCC Desk has approved the BS7H Scarborough Reef 2007 operations for DXCC credit. For more information, visit the DXCC Web page <http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc>.

* JARL operating award checking available at Hamvention: A representative of the Japan Amateur Radio League (JARL) will be available at Dayton Hamvention May 18-20 to check applications for JARL awards and to issue certificates for certain awards. Former JARL executive director and renowned DXer Masa Ebisawa, JA1DM, will be at Booth 483 in the Ballarena of Hara Arena, near ARRL EXPO 2007. Applications for other JARL awards can be checked at the JARL booth. Masa also will answer questions on JARL activities as well as reciprocal licensing in Japan.

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The ARRL Letter is published Fridays, 50 times each year, by the American Radio Relay League: ARRL--the National Association For Amateur Radio, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111; tel 860-594-0200; fax 860-594-0259; <http://www.arrl.org>. Joel Harrison, W5ZN, President.

The ARRL Letter offers a weekly e-mail digest of essential and general news of interest to active radio amateurs. Visit the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org> for the latest Amateur Radio news and news updates. The ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/> also offers informative features and columns. ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> is a weekly "ham radio newscast" compiled and edited from The ARRL Letter. It's also available as a podcast from our Web site.

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==>ARRL News on the Web: <http://www.arrl.org>
==>ARRL Audio News: <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> or call 860-594-0384

==>How to Get The ARRL Letter

The ARRL Letter is available to ARRL members free of charge directly from ARRL HQ. To subscribe, unsubscribe or change your address for e-mail delivery:
ARRL members first must register on the Members Only Web Site <http://www.arrl.org/members/>. You'll have an opportunity during registration to sign up for e-mail delivery of The ARRL Letter, W1AW bulletins, and other material. To change these selections--including

delivery of The ARRL Letter--registered members should click on the "Member Data Page" link (in the Members Only box). Click on "Modify membership data," check or uncheck the appropriate boxes and/or change your e-mail address if necessary. (Check "Temporarily disable all automatically sent email" to temporarily stop all e-mail deliveries.) Then, click on "Submit modification" to make selections effective. (NOTE: HQ staff members cannot change your e-mail delivery address. You must do this yourself via the Members Only Web Site.)

The ARRL Letter also is available to all, free of charge, from these sources:

* ARRLWeb <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>. (NOTE: The ARRL Letter will be posted each Friday when it is distributed via e-mail.)

* The QTH.net listserver, thanks to volunteers from the Boston Amateur Radio Club: Visit Mailing Lists@QTH.Net <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/letter-list>. (NOTE: The ARRL cannot assist subscribers who receive The ARRL Letter via this listserver.)

927. SARL News in English 12/5/2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-12 14:58:36 UTC
From: website@sarl.org.za
Message-ID: <616EDE66D7DE4A91B9CD38BEA0C94104@toron>
Source record: 4532
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 13 MAY 2007

You are listening to Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. This broadcast can also be heard on Echolink by connecting to ZS6FCS. To listen to a web stream go to www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links. This, and previous bulletins, can be downloaded from the web site of the SARL i.e. www.sarl.org.za. You can also read or download previous bulletins from there and subscribe to receive future bulletins by email.

This transmission is by Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with relays on 3,695, 10,135, 14,235 and 51,400 MHz as well as 438,825 MHz in the Pretoria area. (Other news readers please change to suit).

In the news today:

SUMBANDILASAT ON ITS WAY TO RUSSIA

RADIO TECHNOLOGY IN ACTION EVENT IN PORT ELIZABETH WILL BREAK NEW GROUND

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

SUMBANDILASAT ON ITS WAY TO RUSSIA - AMATEUR RADIO BEACON SOUNDS GOOD

SumbandilaSat was given an official sent off on Friday from Sunspace in Stellenbosch enroute to Russia where it will be taken to the Russian Naval base at Murmansk for integration with the launch vehicle. From there it will be loaded on the submarine off the coast of Russia for launch into a 500 km polar orbit. The launch campaign is between 18 and 25 June, much dependent on weather conditions. Once in orbit SumbandilaSat will pass over South Africa mid morning and mid evening.

"The amateur radio beacon and parrot repeater are operating well", Hendrik Burger, project engineer at SunSpace told SA AMSAT. " It was good to hear the satellite responding to "hello SumbandilaSat " by repeating the greeting loud and clear. It gave us a warm feeling when the beacon transmitted the message recorded by Anton Coetzee, a learner at the Kimberley Technical High School who won the competition for the launch beacon message.

111 CANDIDATES TO SIT THE RAE ON THURSDAY

On Thursday May 17, 111 candidates will sit the Radio Amateur Examination at 17 examination centres around South Africa The examination is set and administered by the South African Radio League, the national body for amateur radio in South Africa. 32 Candidates will write the entry level examination for a ZU license while 79 will tackle the class A examination. The single largest number of entry level license candidates comes from the John Vorster Technical High school in Pretoria where the Magalies Radio-Amateurklub recently launched a radio club.

The South African Radio league wishes all candidates success in the examination and looks forward to hearing them on the air soon.

Examination numbers were mailed to candidates and are also available on the SARL web at www.sarl.org.za. Candidates are reminded that each candidate must complete a license application form which was mailed with the examination details.

RADIO TECHNOLOGY IN ACTION EVENT IN PORT ELIZABETH WILL BREAK NEW GROUND

The SARL radio technology in action programme to be held in Port Elizabeth next Saturday, 19 June, will break new ground with a presentation and demonstration by Chris Scarr, ZS2AAW, of the proposed PEARS WiFi network. The initiative will provide far reaching benefits to the Port Elizabeth amateur radio community and is expected to draw the attention of IT professionals which may well be encouraged to join the amateur radio fraternity.

All the presentations are touching on cutting edge technologies and activities and should not be missed. The SARL has issued an open invitation to all persons interested in communication technologies to attend the RTA, which will be held at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University. Entrance fee is R20, which includes entry into the attendance draw. Learners and students attend free. The full programme is available on www.sarl.org.za, scroll down to RTA at the bottom left hand side of the home page.

SPACE GURU MARK SHUTTLEWORTH WILL ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM LEARNERS ON YOUTH DAY

Help local youth to ask questions from space guru, Mark Shuttleworth, when he joins an Intecnet type setup on 16 June 2007 from 10:00 - 11:30 by setting up an amateur radio station at a school, scout hall or a shopping mall.

Clubs are asked to book a link to the conference facility this week so that the necessary arrangements can be made. Various other competitions are being worked on and details will be announced in the near future. The basis of the competitions is for participating amateur radio stations that have young people operating under the supervision of licensed amateurs to make as many QSO's as possible, before and after

the Mark Shuttleworth link up.

To book the link send a mail to armi@sarl.org.za giving details of the telephone number and repeater information. Send also details of the public event you are staging so that it can be included in the publicity campaign kicking off on 21 May.

CALLING ALL CLUB CHAIRMEN

Recently the Itchen Valley Radio Club has made three bursaries available for students under the age of 25 to become radio amateurs. The bursaries are each valued at R650 and will assist students to enter the October 2007 Class A Radio Amateur Examination. The bursaries are known as the Itchen Valley Radio Club YARP 2007 Bursaries and cover the examination enrolment fee and one year's junior membership of the SARL upon passing the examination and R150 towards tuition costs levied by local clubs teaching the RAE.

Club Chairmen are encouraged to identify young students and to assist them in completing the application form available on www.amateurradio.org.za.

NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK

As part of the Department of Science and Technology's National Science Week the Hermanus Magnetic Observatory (HMO) will in conjunction with the Overberg Amateur Radio Club (ZS1OAR) be be hosting two open days at the observatory to highlight amateur radio to the public in general and the youth in particular. You are invited to tune up on Saturday 19 May in the morning and participate with calls to the local club and answering any CQ's originating in Hermanus. Special commemorative QSL cards will be sent to all stations logged.

ZS1HELL FEEDBACK

The 12 members of the team that manned the special events station, ZS1HELL, during the weekend of 28 April to 1 May, in "Die Hell" in Gamakaskloof, would like to thank all amateurs who made contact with them. In their attempt to obtain the WAZS-certificate, the team made 343 contacts with South African stations during the 60 hour period.

Within 48 hours after the complete logsheet had been loaded onto the e-QSL web page of the SARL, all the necessary contacts for Divisions 1,2,3 and 4 had confirmed. There are, unfortunately, still quite a number of stations in Divisions 5 and 6 who have not yet confirmed their QSL's. The team is making an appeal to all amateurs who contacted ZS1HELL to confirm their contact either via e-QSL via the SARL web page or per ordinary post. The postal address is P O Box 273, STRAND, 7140.

INTERNATIONAL MUSEUMS DAY 18th MAY 2007

The Zululand Amateur Radio Club will be operating as ZS5ZLB from the Fort Nongqayi Museum Village, Eshowe on Friday, 18th May 2007 from 08:00 to 15:00 - mainly on 40 metres.

This unique event will be covering a programme in recognition of our universal heritage of the various cultural groups involved in the history of our region. Only one Museum in Kwazulu-Natal is selected each year to host a function of this nature. QSL cards will be sent to all amateurs who work our station.

SUMMITS ON THE AIR (SOTA)

Do you want to participate in the SOTA program but can't mount a mountain? You can be part of the fun by contacting Sid, ZS5AYC, Tom, ZS6TMO, Detlev, ZS6BAB or Lucas, ZS6ACT on Saturday 19 May on 145,500 MHz, 14,165 MHz and 7,065 MHz. Weather permitting, these guys intend to activate Mount-Aux-Sources, SOTA reference ZS/KN-009. They will be active from 11:30 CAT (09:30 UTC). Please give them a contact and also earn a few points for yourself.

SOTA is an international program that encourages amateur radio operation from the summits of hills and mountains. Activators are people who transmit from the summits and chasers are those who contact the activators from the comfort of their shack. SWL's can also participate by logging the QSO's between activators and chasers. For each of the 3 groups there are guidelines and awards. There are more than 300 qualifying summits in the RSA. This information can be found at www.sota.org.uk and the RSA specific information at www.qsl.net/sotasa or contact Lucas at (+27) 084 509 1477.

PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the expected solar activity will continue at very low levels. The geomagnetic field is expected to range from unsettled to active levels on 21 till 23 May. The expected Effective Sun Spot number for the coming week will be less than 5.

20 m and 15 m will provide best opportunities for DX. There is a possibility of 15 and 20 m openings towards India from about 06:00 and again at 12:00 CAT. 40 m may open towards Australia from 22:00.

>From about 14:00, there may be good 15 and 20 m openings towards Europe. Contacts to the USA are going to be very challenging. For the CW and digital enthusiasts it may also be worth monitoring 10 MHz.

Although the DX predictions may not be too enthusiastic, HF always has the capability to surprise you. You will never know what you are missing unless you switch your rig on, listen and also call CQ.

Local conditions are going to be excellent and now is the chance to work towards the Worked All ZS award.

Please visit www.spaceweather.co.za for further information.

DIARY OF EVENTS

15 May - Closing date for applications for Itchen Valley bursaries; 18 May - Museum Day with ZS5ZLB on the air; 19 May - Summits on the Air; 19 May - Hermanus Magnetic Observatory open day; 19 May - ERC Fox hunt;

16 June - SARL Youth day; 30 June - Closing date for updating of SA DX Survey.

SARL News depends on clubs and individuals for news items of importance and interest to radio amateurs. The one and only way to ensure that your contribution will reach the SARL News team, is to place it in www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date. It will be appreciated if you will do it in both Afrikaans and English.

The SARL also invites all listeners to listen to the program Amateur Radio Mirror International this Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 695 kHz. Audio is also streamed on www.zs6mrk.org and on Echolink from ZS6FCS as for this bulletin. A repeat transmission takes place on Mondays at 21:00 on 3 215 kHz. Telkom and Sentech sponsor the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

You have been listening to a news bulletin by the South African Radio League, which was compiled by Gustav, ZS6BWN.

A prosperous week to all, 73.

/EX

========== Message Ends ========== To edit or remove your entry from this mailing list go to www.sarl.org.za/members/admin/maildat.asp

928. WIANEWS for week commencing MAY 13 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-12 15:35:03 UTC
From: nationalnews@wia.org.au
Message-ID: <200705121534.l4CFY8l00283@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4533
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,aus.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

This is WIANEWS for week commencing MAY 13 2007

The WIA Board has adopted Regulations to govern the Advisory Committees that will be created this year. This is described in detail in the "Comment" in April Amateur Radio.

There will be an Advisory Committee for each State and the Northern Territory.

Each Advisory Committee will consist of four people, three elected by the WIA members in the area of the Committee and one nominated by the WIA, called t he Nominated Member.

The WIA Board is very pleased that the following people have agreed to be Nomi nated Members.

New South Wales, Owen Holmwood VK2AEJ
Victoria, Bryan Pliatsios VK3HXR
Queensland, Don Wilschefski VK4BY
South Australia, David Box VK5OV
Western Australia, Neil Husk VK6BDO
Tasmania, David Potter VK7YUM
Northern Territory, Garry Woods VK8GW

VK3KRB TALKS TECH

Tomorrow, Monday the 14th of May at 8pm, WIA Director Robert Broomhead will be appearing as a guest live in the studio of Melbournes 94.1 3WBC FM on the stations "Tech Talk Radio" program.

Robert will be discussing with the shows hosts, Andrew McColm and Dr Ron, the many facets of our hobby of Ham Radio with a particular focus on the renewed interest the hobby has seen since the dropping of morse and introduction of the Foundation License.

Tech Talk radio can be heard at 8:00pm on 94.1 3WBC FM and streaming live to the web and available in MP3 format to download to your IPOD.

For full details checkout Tech Talk Radio's website
www.techtalkradio.com.au/

Tech Talk is also heard in the North West of VK7 on repeaters thanks to Tony VK7AX, which reminds me....

" The next general meeting of the North West Tasmanian Amateur Radio Interest Group is scheduled for Saturday 26 of May at the normal venue of the Lions Club Facility, West Ulverstone."

PEDESTRIAN MOBILE

VK2FWGJ has posted a much simplified sked arrangement for those wishing to contact his brother Jeff, VK4XJJ, as Jeff walks across Australia raising funds and awareness for the Deafblind.

To keep skeds simple ....1730 EST 7.045 MHz.

VK4XJJ Jeff has passed on a big thankyou to this the WIA National News for the great response it has generated. ABC Radio's "Macca on Sunday" interview with Jeff went well, often new callers mention hearing about the walk on Ham Radio.

As this newscast was being prepared, VK4XJJ was camped at Arkaroola.

WIA's Spring VHF-UHF Field Day - November 2007

For everyone who likes to plan ahead - please note the dates for this year's Spring VHF-UHF Field Day. It will be held on November 17/18, a week later than usual. This will prevent a clash with club activities in two states.
(vk7news)

WIA AGM REPORT - WIA DIRECTOR ROBER BROOMHEAD VK3KRB

Last weekend was the WIA AGM at Parkes NSW. Now this is the first time that the WIA has combined the AGM with a full weekend of activities and to some extent it was an experiment with the hope that we could get a few people along to the AGM by arranging a series of activities over the weekend that would be of interest to Radio Amateurs.

Well, despite concerns by some that the weekend would be a total fizzer on the grounds that people just wouldnt want to travel the distance Parkes, we infact had 139 people attend, which was 39 more than the upper limit of 100 we had originally planned for. And three weeks before the weekend with 139 people booked in we had no option but to close off registrations for a number of activities.

We were absolutely amazed at the enthusiasm people showed for the weekend and certainly look forward to organizing an equally interesting AGM weekend for 200 8.

All the various planned activities went off without a hitch and from all accoun ts
people enjoyed them thoroughly, however it was also a weekend of much socializi ng,
I caught up with Bob Tait VK3XP after the weekend..

(Interview with Bob Tait)

Of course the main purpose of the weekend was the AGM and open Forum meetings, I spoke with our President Michael Owen VK3KI for his thoughts and comments on the weekend

Michael Owen

The WIAs Annual General Meeting was held at the Leagues Club, Parkes, New South Wales,
on Saturday 5 May 2007.

Before the meeting, many of those attending participated in a barbeque in a nea rby park.

Highlight of the Annual General Meeting, which is conducted very much as a form ality,
was the submission of audited accounts showing a surplus of $8,000. Glenn Duns tan VK4DU
who had been a Director since the restructure of the WIA to a national body in May 2004
retired, receiving warm tributes for his contribution. Peter Young VK3MV, who had been
elected by the postal ballot of members, was welcomed as a director.

It was followed immediately by the Open Forum, where reports covering all aspec ts of the
WIAs activities were submitted and discussed. Topics covered included examinat ions,
awards, the bookshop, BPL, clubs, contests, emergency communications, history, the ITU
and WRC 07, IARU, the news service, the National Technical Advisory Committee, publications, QSLs, repeaters and standards.

Secretary Ken Fuller VK4FU had organised the written reports into a handsome bo ok.

A copy was given to each participant on registration.

In presenting a report on behalf of the Board, the President Michael Owen VK3KI stressed
the growth in total amateur licence numbers, which had been slowly declining ea ch year
since at least 2001. Despite the steady decline, there were now more amateur l icences
on issue than there were in 2001. In addition, WIA membership is now some 21% higher
than it was in mid 2005.

A highlight of the Open forum was the presentation of awards to members.

The first award to a Foundation licensee was the award of a Presidents Commenda tion
to Haydon McManus, VK3FRST, the Scouts Australia Coordinator of VI3JAM at the 21st Australian Jamboree, so successfully promoting amateur radio.

Justin Giles-Clark VK7TW, President of the Radio and Electronics Association of Southern Tasmania, was awarded the Ron Wilkinson Award for all he has done in r esponse
to the major BPL trials in Hobart.

The first Chris Jones Award was presented to Mal Johnson, VK6LC, the WIA Awards Manager
since 2001, and who has modernized the award application process, introduced new,
attractive and innovative awards and managed the transformation of the awards from
a federal structure to a national structure.

Around 130 people attended the dinner on Saturday night, watching the Australian film,
The Dish afterwards.

Sunday was time for visiting the dish.

In total some 139 people were registered for various activities.

The weather was perfect, and the weekend was undoubtedly a success.

Those who predicted that holding the AGM and associated activities so far from a
capital city would doom the weekend to failure were completely discredited.

However, the WIA now faces one really serious problem.

How on earth can we do better next year? Or even do the equal?

In one sense the Drawcard for the weekend was the visit to the Radio Telescope,

and we really do give our sincere thanks to John Reynolds OIC, John Smith Visitors
Center Manager, John Sarkissian Operations Scientist and in particular
Brett Dawson VK2CBD, second in charge of the Telescope who helped in so many ways
with the planning of the weekend.

Back to Robert VK3KRB

I caught up with our AR editor Peter Freeman who as many will know is passionate
about microwave and UHF communications

(Interview with Peter Freeman VK3KI)

Some pictures of the weekend activities have already been posted on the WIA web site
as part of the news report on the AGM weekend and Im sure there will be quite a
few more appearing in next months AR magazine

In finishing this WIA report, I thought I would have a talk to someone who attended
the weekend who is relatively new to the hobby to see what they thought

(Interview with Ross Sargent VK3ERS)

BPL INTERFERENCE - THE BATTLE CONTINUES - JUSTIN VK7TW REPORTS

MOTOROLA SUSPENDS POWERLINE LV BPL DEVELOPMENT

Less than two years after announcing its Powerline LV Access BPL product, Motorola has decided to suspend product development and to devote its resources to more promising markets, industry sources say. Motorola reportedly has decided to focus on a product called Powerline MU, which is for use within multiple-unit dwellings. The decision to stop work on its Access BPL product reflects declining interest in residential broadband service delivery among utilities coupled with more immediate demand for in-building BPL systems. Motorola has indicated that it's not scrapping Powerline LV altogether, however.

Powerline LV united Motorola's Canopy wireless broadband Internet platform with enhanced ham band-notching HomePlug technology, drastically reducing BPL interference potential by restricting the application of high-frequency RF to the low-voltage side of the power transformers serving customers' homes, not the medium-voltage wires that line many residential streets. As a result, Powerline LV avoided the system architecture that poses the greatest risk of BPL interference to radio communication -- radiation from the medium-voltage power lines.

ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, expressed appreciation for Motorola's approach to the thorny issue of radio interference from BPL systems. In an effort to minimize interference, particularly to the Amateur Radio bands, Motorola designed its Powerline LV system in close cooperation with the League's technical staff, Sumner noted. A test stand Access BPL system was in operation briefly at ARRL Headquarters. Measurements and subjective listening tests on the ham bands showed that Powerline LV was Amateur Radio-friendly.

"As one would expect from a company with such a distinguished record in the field of radio communication, Motorola acknowledged at the outset the seriousness of the interference problem," he said. "Motorola's system architecture influenced other vendors, raised industry awareness of the interference issue, and demonstrated the value of working with the ARRL to find positive solutions."
(arrl letter)

EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO
PRESENTED BY KYLEA VK6FXYL

To find out when a club in YOUR area is hosting assessments and/or training in Amateur Radio go to wia.org.au and check out the club pages.

Participating clubs keep this site up to date and post the latest information for all to see.

Also check the text edition of each news edition, where we do keep a secondary listing.

On the audio broadcast we will continue to give new information when it is received, along with a final reminder, come "hurry up".

This such as Canberra's weekend next week where the C.R.A.R.C. will be undertaking another Foundation Licence course.

Also running Standard and Advanced Licence Examinations
and Assessments on the Saturday (19th) for those who wish to sit.
contact Alan Hawes telephone 02 6258 2568.

And over here in the west, the foundation course for May is next weekend
the 19/20th with the assessment on the 26th.
Contact Neil VK6BDO.

Foundation Licence course, and Standard / Advanced assessments .....

The CRARC will be undertaking another Foundation Licence course on
the weekend 19th & 20th of MAY.
Also running Standard and Advanced Licence Examinations
and Assessments on the Saturday (19th May) for those who wish to sit.

If you wish to sit either the examinations, or do the F.L. Course,
please contact Alan Hawes VK1WX via email to education@vk1.wia.ampr.org
or by phone (after hours) to 02 6258 2568. Please note that all monies
are to be paid by May 7th 2007 !

At Bendigo classes and licence assessments are conducted by Ross Pittard
VK3FCE who can be contacted via email vk3fce@internode.on.net

The Central Goldfields Amateur Radio Club, Maryborough regularly holds
classes. Contact Peter Rafferty VK3CC on 5460 4387 or email
majorca49@hotmail.com

On the Gold Coast and want to talk to the world through their IRLP and
EchoLink systems? Or already licensed and wish to upgrade Foundation
to Standard? Well classes are held at the Nerang Clubhouse of the
GCARS, ring Roy VK4IG on 5539 3530 Exams can be taken at a time
to suit you.

TARC WIA Exams Information
Exam sessions are held on demand with WIA Assessors and assessment packs
available for all 3 levels of licensing.
Contact theTARCinc WIA Exams Regional Co-ordinator Roger/VK4CD 0417 638366.
www.tarc.org.au/tarcexam.htm

VK5
Adelaide Hills Amateur Radio Society will run Foundation licence's
at the Aviation Museum, 56 Lipson Street Port Adelaide, 2 weekends
August 4th and 5th then November 3rd and 4th.
Contact the course convenor, Sasi Nayar on 0417 858 547

FURTHER FROM VK6
Foundation course:-
21st & 22nd of July course with exam on the 28th of July.
VK6 Exams for Standard and Advancedare on June 30th.
Contact Neil VK6BDO.

CONGRATULATIONS - RESULTS

Another letter in this week I'd like to read, it's from Jon, VK5 FIZZ,
and I quote...

"I'm 10 years old and in grade 5 in South Australia. I'm also a Cub Scout.

At the end of March, I did my Foundation License with the South Australian Scout Radio Activities Group.

They said I am the first Youth Member to do a license course with them.

It was really good to beat my Mum (VK5FZZZ) in the exam!

I am looking forward to being able to use my own callsign at JOTA and having my amateur radio badge on my uniform but most of all to talking to lots of different people and learning more about radio.

In the future I hope to get my full call.

I am going to join the Elizabeth Club and they think I am probably the youngest in South Australia to have a license.

I've got a 2m handheld and an old 80m rig too, so I hope to be on the air a lot more!

Thanks to everybody that has helped me out, especially VK5PH and VK5FISH for running the course".

Always good to get 'good news stories' remember you can contact us by email, nationalnews@wia.org.au

I'm Kylie VK6FXYL and from VK1WIA this is the National News Service -

Tune in today...Focus on Tomorrow

INTERNATIONAL NEWS FROM ARNEWSLINE

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: SATGATE CLOSES DO TO LACK OF USE

AMSAT's Satgate is going away. After many years of packet message forwarding via UO-22, GO-32 and AO-51 the Satgate System will close due to a lack of traffic being handled.

Using Satgate, traffic was automatically accepted from the terrestrial packet networks and routed to the satellites. It was trhen downloaded from the satellite and routed into another packet network untouched by human hands.

A total of thirty five worldwide stations were in the system a few years ago. This has dwindled due to this lack of traffic, maintenance problems, change of location of command stations and users who have become Silent Keys.

Another reason for its going away was not stated. That being packet mesaging being replaced by electronic mail over the Internet. That lead to a major loss of interest in traditional packet by the worlds ham community with the lone exception of A-P-R-S. More ham radio space related items later on in this weeks Amateur Radio Newsline report.

ICOM IC-R3 MINI-TV RECEIVER IS AN ENDANGERED SPECIES

The Icom IC-R3, a small handheld receiver with a 2" T-F-T color display has been popular with ATV'ers involved in Emergency Communications for mobile reception of TV pictures may soon go extinct. Icom announced on april 26th that the IC-R3-26, blocked version for the United States market is currently on backorder with the delay is due to the FCC's Part 15.112 rules change. This ruling states that all TV receivers imported into the United States, after March 1, 2007, must be DTV compatible. As the IC-R3 is analog only, so it will no longer be imported for domestic sales. When existing stocks are gone, that's all there will ever be.

GREECE: NEW 4 METER BEACON ON 70.040 MHZ

A new 4 meter beacon is on the air from Greece on 70.040 MHz..

4 meters, which was once a United Kingdom only ham radio allocation is gaining favor across Europe. The latest offering is the new SV1FOUR beacon operation located in Athens that started operation on April 24th.

SV1DH is the beacon keeper. He reports over the Four Meter website that the beacon is licensed for 5 watts output to 5-element yagi antenna beaming 315 degrees toward the UK.

At the moment SV1FOUR is only running at about 1 watt out and transmits its callsign followed by several dashes and locator KM27AW in Morse. More is on-line at www.70mhz.org (Southgate)

CONTEST COLUMN - D A T E L I N E

2007 VK/TRANSTASMAN CONTEST

80M Phone 12 May 2007
80M CW 26 May 2007
160M Phone 7 July 2007
160M CW 21 July 2007

AUGUST 11/12 Remembrance Day Contest (The RD) wia.org.au

7th World HST Championship will be held in Belgrade Serbia September 19-23rd. www.hst2007.org

NOVEMBER 17/18
Spring VHF-UHF Field Day - November 2007
For everyone who likes to plan ahead - please note the dates for this year's Spring VHF-UHF Field Day. It will be held on November 17/18, a week later than usual. This will prevent a clash with club activities in two states.

SPECIAL EVENTS, BEACON AND NET ADVICE
VK's longest continual net;
The Southern Cross DX Net has been running for 43 years, operates 7 days a week - propagation permitting - on a frequency of 14.238.5MHz at 1215 zulu.

The seventh International Museums Weekend special event will take
place on 16th and 17th June 2007.

NOW FOR ROBERT BROOMHEAD - VK3KRB - THIS WEEK FELIX VK4FUQ
WITH SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP NEWS.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- FINAL FRONTIER

VK5ZAI is the Australian Co-ordinator for ARISS.

AMSAT-VK UNOFFICIAL HF Net.
2nd Sunday each month.
November through March 0900 UTC 7.068 MHz
April through October 1000 UTC 3.685 MHz

FO-29 GOES QRT
The Fuji-Oscar 29 satellite may have gone silent. Reports received
from JE9PEL say that the Japan Amateur Radio League is asking for any
received telemetry to be forwarded to them.
The e-mail address given is lab@jarl.or.jp

INDIA PLANS HAMSAT-2
The secretary of AMSAT India says that organization that planning for
a second Indian amateur radio satellite. It will be called Hamsat-2
and AMSAT India is asking for proposals from satellite operators,
designers, and international AMSAT organizations.
You can send your comments to info@amsat.in

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- INTERNET --- THE HAMS DOMAIN

That new Ham Forum organised by Morgan VK5MMM is growing, but don't
forget He'd like a little help, on hearing last weeks call at least
one helpfull ham has stepped forward.

So thanks Barry vk5kbj who is now a moderator

http://adelaide.informe.com/
0438 887987

DAYTON AMATEUR RADIO FORUM
And word of yet another forum, a new on-line discussion board for hams
called the Dayton Amateur Radio Forum and is in cyberspace and is billed
as a place to discus amnything from vintage grear to the latest operating
modes and much more.
www.hamradioboard.proboards56.com/index.cgi
(ARnewsLine)

BB's DIARY ROOM - THE FUTURE, IN AMATEUR RADIO

2008

Sept 13 Alarameet 2008 will be held in Ulverstone Tasmania on Saturday
13th and Sunday 14th September 2008. Susan VK7LUV for details.

2009
International Telecommunication Union's Telecom World 2009.

SOCIAL SCENE

FNNQARG QUEENS BIRTHDAY WEEKEND 2007
The Far North and North Queensland Amateur Radio Get Together
(FNNQARG!) will be happening from the 8th to 11th June at
Cardwell Village Beachcomber Motel and Tourist Park.
Demonstrations of ARDF, World Championship
Antenna Wrestling, Navcom Electronics
ICOM Yaesu and Diamond equipment displays,
the famous Sunday Morning Cricket Match plus
much much more will be happening over the weekend.
Amongst the attendees will by Mr Aoki, Managing Director
of ICOM Australia and Mr Yoshi, Managing Director of
Standard Vertex Yaesu Australia. Rumour has it that they
are already practicing for the Sunday Morning Cricket Match
and hope there is a healthy roll up of regional hams to make
up good numbers for the FNQ and NQ teams.

Secure your accommodation now by getting in contact
with Toni or Bruce at -
Cardwell Village Beachcomber Resort and Van Park
1800 005633 07 40668550 fax 07 40668941
43A Marine Parade Cardwell QLD 4849

JUNE 9
Westlakes will have a display stall at the Lemontree Passage Bushfire
Brigades Fete on Saturday 9th June

JUNE 9-10
The South East Radio Group annual convention, which incorporates the
Australian Foxhunting Championships, will be held at the Scout Hall in
Mount Gambier SA, on the Queen's Birthday weekend, 9-10 June 2007.
Further information from:
http://serg.mountgambier.org/

July 7+8 - GippsTech
Conference for VHF, UHF & SHF enthusiasts in Australia.
Held at the Gippsland Campus of Monash University in Churchill, about
two hours drive east of Melbourne.
www.qsl.net\vk3bez\index.htm

SEPTEMBER 21-23
North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention
Happening in twin cities of Thuringowa and Townsville.

REWIND - A LOOK BACK IN HISTORY
(Will McGhie VK6UU is WIA National Historian)

How long ago did mans exploration of microwave communications technology
begin? Was is post World War II, or even more recent than that?

No, its origins date back to the 1890s when Sir Jagadis Chandra Bose
carried out research in Calcutta India.

He described to the Royal Institution in London in 1897 his research using waveguides, horn antennas, dielectric lenses, various polarisers and even semiconductors at frequencies as high as 60 GHz.

Educated in Britain he returned to India to take up a position of professor at the Presidency College in Calcutta.

There he carried out experiments involving refraction, diffraction and polarisation, developed galena crystals for making receivers for short wavelength radio waves, white and ultraviolet light.

Having anticipated the existence of P-type and N-type semiconductors, Sir Jagadis Chandra Bose was once described as being at least 60 years ahead of his time.

Much of his original equipment still exists and is being conserved by the Bose Institute in Calcutta.

Im Jim Linton VK3PC and youve been listening to VK1WIA.

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WIANews - we've reported...YOU decide.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a qui ck reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio c all".

Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of the National WIA.

HOP TO SPECIFIC WIANews TOPICS

WIA WEB ZONE, www.wia.org.au

WIANews THANKS OUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS , OUR RELAY OPERATORS ACROSS THE WORLD FOR FORWARDING INFORMATION AND COMMENTS THEIR LISTENERS HAVE PASSED ON TO MAKE WIANews VK'S LEADING WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PROGRAM.

E-mail WIANews WITH VK STORIES.

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Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of QNEWS for the National WIA.

Thanks to to our dedicated band of broadcast volunteers who utilize
their time and equipment in bringing you this weekly broadcast.

The purpose of "WIANews" is to rapidly provide news of interest to
active amateurs residing in Australia and the globe.

We strongly encourage membership in the Wireless Institute of Australia
and participation in the activities of local clubs.

Opinions expressed in "WIANews" are those of the writers who submit
material and do not necessarily reflect those of the rebroadcasters,
nor the National WIA.

Material may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, a credit
to WIANews wouldn't go astray...

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929. Re: The term "Elmer"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-12 16:07:10 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <134bpgtmgqvcb22@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 4534

Rick (W-A-one-R-K-T) wrote:
> On Fri, 11 May 2007 09:39:03 -0400, Howard Lester wrote:
>
>> I was licensed in '63

> I was also first licensed in 1963,

How bizarre. I was also first licensed in 1963.

73, Steve KB9X
ex WN4NUJ

930. MAQP + 50MHZ SPRINT

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-12 16:38:48 UTC
From: John Doe <hgorden@adelphia.net>
Message-ID: <WvOdnTnDJ4FTeNjbnZ2dnUVZ_ragnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4535

I will be Roving sometime this afternoon in Baltimore County, Howard, Carroll, Frederick, Washington, Montgomery, Maryland Counties, Washington, DC, and northern VA during the MAQP and additionally FM19, FM18, FM09 & maybe FM08, during the 6m sprint tonight.
Club affiliation: PVRC
IC706 MK2g - 100w -80-10 on screwdriver, 50Mhz & a pair of original Saturn 3-ring HALOs (horizontally stacked), 50w-144Mhz - Original BIGWHEEL, 20w-70Cm using the 2m BigWheel. 73's Howard W3CQH/r

931. Re: The term "Elmer"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-12 17:46:54 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <134bvc18tt50tf6@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 4536

"Steve Bonine" wrote

> Rick (W-A-one-R-K-T) wrote:
>> On Fri, 11 May 2007 09:39:03 -0400, Howard Lester wrote:
>>
>>> I was licensed in '63
>
>> I was also first licensed in 1963,
>
> How bizarre. I was also first licensed in 1963.
>
> 73, Steve KB9X
> ex WN4NUJ

We could start a '63 Club. :-)

N7SO
ex WN2KPO (and a few others since Friday, Sept 13, 1963)

932. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-12 18:05:32 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1178991560.178592.57770@q75g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4537

On May 12, 5:18?am, "Rick (W-A-one-R-K-T)" <get.my.em...@from.qrz.com>
wrote:
> On Thu, 10 May 2007 08:26:49 -0400, Ivor Jones wrote:
> >> Word meanings sometimes change over time. Like the word
> >> "handle"....
>
> > Now that one really *does* irritate me. A handle is for opening a door. I
> > have a *name*, ok..?!
>
> Good morning, Ivor.
>
> What in the world is the benefit of getting irritated over something as
> innocuous as that?

An anonymous person wrote long ago:

"Mankind invented language to satisfy his need to complain..."

:-)

73, Len AF6AY

933. GB2RS NEWS Sunday 13 May 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-12 21:05:20 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200705122100.l4CL0Mo19084@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4538
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

1 GB2RS NEWS Sunday 13 May

The news headlines

* The Queen visits NASA for space link up

* RAIBC expresses gratitude at money raised

* GOAKI to visit the National Space Centre Amateur Radio Society

Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip visited NASA's Goddard Space Flight Centre in Greenbelt, Maryland on Tuesday. NASA astronaut Michael Foale, KB5UAC, introduced the Queen to the crew of the international space station as they orbited Earth. Her majesty was greeted by the three astronauts, Commander Fyodor Yurchikin, RN3FI and flight engineers Oleg Kotov and Suni Williams, KD5PLB, who spoke to the Queen using a live video link up.

The crew members each spoke briefly to the Queen describing life on the space station and the importance of human space flight. Later the Royal couple attended the visitor's centre and the Queen talked with students at a NASA Explorer School Workshop. Before they left, the Queen planted a commemorative dogwood tree on the grounds of the visitor's centre.

The tour of Goddard took place near the end of the Queen's visit to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the Jamestown settlement in Virginia.

The Radio Amateur Invalid and Blind Club, RAIBC, would like to thank the all individuals for their donations of equipment and funds. The Worked All Britain Group generously donated #200 to the club. This money will be used to fund the Reading Rattle group which produces Radial, PW, RadCom, Radio user in audio formats for RAIBC members.

A new RAIBC contest is to run the week of 30 July to 5 August. The contest is open to all members of the RAIBC and will run for one hour a day. All frequencies and modes are permitted, with extra points available for working with the other RAIBC members.

On Tuesday 15 May the National Space Centre Amateur Radio Society will be having a visit from Carlos Eavis, G0AKI, talking about space contacts from GB4FUN. The meeting commences at 7pm and members and visitors should enter by the main entrance promptly otherwise they may not be able to gain admission. The following Sunday the National Space Centre Amateur Radio Society's newly rebuilt station will be operational for demonstrations to visitors. For more information

contact Geoff, G4AFJ, on 0779 649 2146.

Burton upon Trent Amateur Radio Club will be at the Coors Visitor Centre on the weekend of the 16 and 17 June to celebrate International Museums Weekend. This will be the first special event of the recently reformed amateur radio club. The club were active in 1919 and is one of the UK's oldest radio clubs.

The aim of the day is for members of the public to find out more about amateur radio and learn more about the hobby, try the amateur radio experience and speak to people around the world. Licensed operators are also welcome to operate the equipment. There will also be a vintage radio display and CW Morse display. HF, VHF and UHF bands will be in operation over the weekend.

2 A special event is to be held on the August bank holiday called "Pumping Stations on the Air". You or your club, along with your local pumping station are invited to take part in the first International Pumping Stations on the Air weekend. This will take place on Sunday 26 and Monday 27 August from 10am to 5pm. The intention of the event is to set up amateur radio special event stations at as many of the pumping stations as possible throughout the whole world. The scope of your station is entirely up to you, as is the choice of pumping station. Burton upon Trent Amateur Radio Club will be at the Claymills Pumping Station on that weekend. For more information on how to register visit the Burton upon Trent ARC Website at www.burtonarc.co.uk/pump.htm. Now the rallies and events for the coming week [Note to newsreaders: as usual, exercise your judgement about reading the Sunday 6 May event]. On Sunday 13 May the MARS Rally takes place from 10am at Alderbrook School, Solihull. Details from Norman, G8BHE, on 0121 422 9787, or on the web at www.midamradio.co.uk. On Sunday 20 May the Magnum rally takes place at from 10am at the Magnum Leisure Centre, Harbourside, Irvine, Ayrshire, KA12 8PP. Details form Helen on 07776 3895247, or on the web at www.magnumrally.co.uk. On Sunday 20 May the Dunstable Downs national amateur radio car boot sale takes place from 9am at Stockwood Park, Luton, near junction 10 of the M1. Details on the web at www.ddrcbootsale.org.

More details of these and future events can be found on pages 88 and 89 of the May edition of RadCom.

Now for the news of the special events Three clubs in East Anglia; Clacton Radio Club, Felixstowe and District Amateur Radio Club and Harwich Amateur Radio Interest Group have joined forces to operate the GB400AA special event station. The station will commemorate the founding of Jamestown, Virginia 400 years ago. GB400AA will be operated at the Mayflower Museum on the Halfpenny Pier at Harwich where The Harwich Society will have an exhibition showing the local area's connections with the inaugural voyages. It will operate on 25 May. Hornsea ARC is having a boat trip on the river Humber on Saturday 26 May. They hope to operate G4EKT/MM on HF SSB and possibly G6EKT/MM on VHF and UHF FM. From 25 May to 6 June Mike Bryant, GW6NLP, and Colin

Kenton, MW0JNI, will be running special event station GB100TT in association with Scarlett Point amateur radio society, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the TT races. It will be based at Scarlett Point Tower in Castletown. For more information log onto www.qsl.net/wars or www.scarlettpoint.com. And now the HF DX news compiled 425 DX News, the Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin and other sources. Special event station 3A7JO will be active on all bands and modes from Monaco on 2 to 10 June for the twelfth edition of the Games of the Small States of Europe. Activity will take place on all bands and modes. All of the QSOs will be confirmed automatically via the bureau. Direct requests should be sent to the ARM, Association des Radio amateurs de Monaco, QSL Bureau, B.P. 2, and MC 98001, Monaco Cedex.

3 Michael, ON4CAQ, Maurice, ON7KS, Francois, ON6VP, Herman, ON7FH, Dominic, ON7UZ, Jempi, ON8JP and Cois, ON6KN, from UBA section Diest, ON4DST), will be active as 9A8DST from Losinj Island, EU-136 on 17 to 24 May. They also plan to go and operate from the nearby islands of Male Srakane, EU-136, CI062, and Vele Srakane, EU-136, CI-138. QSL via ON4DST, bureau or ON4AMM, direct. Steve, W7VOA, will be active as A52SW from Thimpu on 17 to 22 May. He will operate on 80-6 metres CW, SSB and, possibly, PSK, as well as on 10 metres FM. Steve is a news correspondent based in India covering South Asia and says this will be the first of numerous trips he plans to make to Bhutan over the next several years. QSL via K2AU. Jean-Philippe, F4EEK, Eric, F5LOW, Laurent, F5MNK, Fabrice, F5NBQ and Bertrand, F6HKA will operate as TM0A from Aix Island, EU-032, and DIFM AT-023 on 12 to 19 May. They will have three stations with a variety of antennas, and will operate SSB, CW and digital modes on all bands, with an emphasis on the low bands. QSL via F5OIU, direct or bureau. Special station TM1VDM will be active on 14 to 28 May to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of the writer Maxence Van der Meersch in 1907. QSL via bureau to F6KTN. Giuseppe, I2AZ will be active as IG9/I2AZ from Lampedusa Island, AF-019, IIA AG-001, on 5 to 21 May. Expect him to operate QRP CW on +/- 3560, 7030, 14060, 21060 and 28060 kHz. Davide, IW9GUR, Angelo, IW9HLM, Andrea, IW9HQP and Andrea, IT9RKR plan to be active on 10 to 40 metres SSB from Scoglio delle Sirene, IOTA EU-025, IIA ME-040, on 19 May. QSL via IW9HLM. A group of German radio scouts will be active again as OZ1RDP from Romo Island, EU-125, DIA NS-001, on 26 to 29 May. They plan to operate SSB and CW, and possibly PSK31 and RTTY as well, on 160-10 metres. QSL via DL9BCP. Jeff, G4ELZ and Steve, G4EDG will be active from Flatey Island, EU-168 on 17 to 23 May. They plan to operate as TF4/G4ELZ/P and TF4, G4EDG/P on 80 to 17 metres mainly CW, with 100 watts to wire antennas. QSL direct to G4ELZ. Logs will be uploaded to Log Of The World. Starting 15 May, K9KEJ and K5YG will once again operate from the jungle on Costa Rica's east coast. Calls will be TI6, K9KEJ and TI6, K5YG, and they will operate on 40 and 20 metres SSB. [Note to newsreader: in the following item, `Pohnpei' is pronounced `Ponapay'] JA7HMZ, V63DX, JA7AGO, V63GO and JA7ZP, V63Z will be active on all bands and modes from Pohnpei, OC to 010, Micronesia on 21 to 26 May. QSL via home calls. Jurgen, DB5YB will be active as OZ/DB5YB from

Bornholm Island, EU 030 on 5 to 18 May. He plans to operate SSB on 20, 17 and 15 metres. QSL via home call. Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Fenerbahce Sports Club, TA1HZ and TA2RX will operate as TC100FB from Istanbul on 1 to 31 May. QSL via TA1HZ. TA1CM will operate as TA100FB on 13 to 27 May from Tekirdag. QSL via TA1CM

4 Special station LZ07KM will be active on 1 to 31 May to celebrate St Kiril and Methodius' Day. QSL via LZ1PJ direct, or bureau requests can be sent to lz1pj@qsl.net. Special event station IR1ALP will be active from Cuneo, Italy on 1 to 31 May. A special postage stamp will be affixed on the cards confirming QSOs made on 12 and 13 May, during the 80th Italian Alpine troops gathering. QSL via QSL via IK1AAS.

Now the contest news

The RSGB 80m Club Championship contest takes place between 1900 to 2030 on 16 May on the 3.5MHz band using data modes. The exchange takes the form of RST and serial number. The EU PSK contest takes place between 1200 on 19 May to 1200 on 20 May on the 3.5 and 28MHz bands using PSK. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and EU Area code. His Majesty King of Spain contest takes place between 1200 on 19 May to 1200 on 20 May on the 1.8MHz to 28MHz bands using CW. The exchange takes the form RST and serial number. The RSGB 1.3GHz and 2.3GHz activity evening takes place between 2000 to 2230 local on 15 May on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. The RSGB 144MHz contest takes place between 1400 on 19 May to 1400 on 20 May on the 144MHz band, all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number, locator and postcode. The RSGB 144MHz Backpackers contest takes place between 1100 and 1500 on 20 May on the 144MHz band, all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number, locator and postcode. Now the solar factual data for the period from 29 April to 6 May compiled by Neil Clarke, G0CAS.

Solar activity increased to low on the 2nd, 5th and the 6th, the remaining days activity was very low. The largest solar flare of the period was a C8 on the 2nd. This was the largest solar flare so far this year but it had very little effect on propagation. Solar flux levels declined from 87 units on the 30th to 78 by the 6th. During this time the large sunspot group gradually decreased in size. The average was 84 units. On the 6th the 90 day solar flux average remained at the same level as last week at 74 units. X-ray flux levels averaged A3.3 units and declined from A5.4 units on the 30th to A2.5 by the 6th. Geomagnetic activity on the 30th was unsettled with an Ap index of 20 units. This was due to a coronal hole disturbance. The rest of the period activity was quiet. The average was Ap 6 units. The ACE spacecraft saw solar wind speeds decline from 700 kilometres per second on the 30th to 260 by the 6th. Particle densities were low throughout the period. Bz varied between minus and plus 6 nanoTeslas on the 30th and between minus and plus 2 nanoTeslas on the quiet days. While HF propagation was slightly degraded during the periods of heightened geomagnetic activity, by the end of the week 14MHz was providing good

openings to the BS7H expedition around breakfast time and the early evening. Seasonal changes meant that the band remained open until after 2230UTC on most days. The first strong sporadic-E on 50MHz was reported on the 1st and 2nd. VHF aurora occurred on the29th and the 30th, though openings appear to have favoured North America. And many areas of the UK enjoyed enhanced VHF and UHF propagation, related to the extended period of warm weather.

5 And finally the solar forecast. This week the quiet side of the Sun is expected to be looking our way. Solar activity should be very low as the Sun could be spotless on some days. Solar flux levels are expected to be in the high 60's for most of the week. Geomagnetic activity should be at quiet levels everyday, however, next weekend a small coronal hole disturbance could take place. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitudes should be about 18MHz for the south and 15MHz for the north. The darkness hour lows should be around 10MHz. Paths this week to Japan should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success rate of about 18MHz. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success rate will be around 14MHz. The best time to try this path will be between 1000 and 1300 hours UTC. Sporadic-E is expected to take place on some days. And that's all for this week from the propagation team.

6 Next, the Local News:

Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses

and website links where known.

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your

transmission.]

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST

and EAST ANGLIA On Sunday 13 May Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is running its Advanced Licence course. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

On Sunday 13 May Felixstowe and District Amateur Radio Society is operating GB2WTM from Woodbridge Tide Mill as part of National Mills day. Contact Paul, G4YQC, by email to paul.whiting@bt.com.

On Sunday 13 May Cray Valley Radio Society will be running special event station GB4VLX in memory of Deryck Buckley, G3VLX, who passed away on 1 April. The station will use Deryck's equipment, which has been donated to the Cray Valley society. GB4VLX will be active on HF, 40 and 80m, and possibly on 30m. Special QSL cards will be available via Owen G4DFI.

On Monday 14 May Basingstoke Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on the joy of QRP by G3YMC. Contact Frank, M0AEU, by email to barc@2lo.info.

On Monday 14 May Coulsdon Amateur Transmitting Society is having a visit to the British Vintage Wireless and Television Museum at Dulwich. Contact Andy, G8JAC, on g8jac@btinternet.com.

On Monday 14 May Surrey Radio Contact Club is having a construction evening. Contact Ray, G4FFY, on 020 8644 7589.

On Tuesday 15 May Maidenhead and District Amateur Radio Club is preparing for HF Field Day. Contact John, G8RYW, on 01628 628 463, or by email to g8ryw@tesco.net.

On Tuesday 15 May Stevenage and District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk from a pilot on his experiences flying Concorde. Contact Neil, M0ARH, on 01438 217 077.

On Wednesday 16 May Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is planning for its boot sale. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

On Wednesday 16 May Cray Valley Radio Society is taking part in the 80m data club championship. Contact Bob, BRS32525, on 020 8265 7735 after 8pm.

On Wednesday 16 May Dover Radio Club is having a natter and operating night. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk.

On Wednesday 16 May Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on Q meters and GDO's by Chris, G8JFJ. Contact Jim, M1JJN.

On Wednesday 16 May Hastings Electronics and Radio Club is having a construction evening. Contact Gordon, 01424 431 909, or by email to gordon@gsweet.fsnet.co.uk.

On Wednesday 16 May Ridgeway Repeater Group is having its AGM. Contact Robert, G4XUT, or look on the web at www.rrg.org.uk.

7 On Wednesday 16 May Worthing and District Amateur Radio Club is having a technical topics evening. Contact Roy, G4GPX, on 01903 753 893.

On Thursday 17 May Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is running an Advanced Licence Exam from 6.30pm to 8.30pm. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

On Thursday 17 May Cray Valley Radio Society is having a talk on Crusty's Travel by G3SXE. Contact Bob, BRS32525, on 020 8265 7735 after 8pm.

On Thursday 17 May Shefford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk explaining EBAY by Mike, G3EWE. Contact David, G8UOD, on 01234 742 757.

On Thursday 17 May Sutton and Cheam Radio Society is having its AGM and construction contest. Contact John, G0BWV, on 020 8644 9945, or by email to info@scrs.org.uk.

On Friday 18 May Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society Radio night and Table Top Sale. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Friday 18 May Torbay Amateur Radio Society is having an illustrated talk on DX by Jan Verduyn. Contact Dave, G6FSP, by email to g6fsp@tars.org.uk.

On Friday 18 May Wey Valley Amateur Radio Group is having a magnetic loop construction evening. Details on the web at www.weyvalleyarg.org.uk.

On Saturday 19 May Basingstoke Amateur Radio Club is having a foxhunt weekend in the New Forest. Contact Frank, M0AEU, by email to barc@2lo.info.

On Saturday 19 May Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is having a trip to the Martin Lynch emporium, organised by Alan, G8YKV. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Sunday 20 May Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is visiting Dunstable Boot Sale at Stockwood Park, Luton. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

On Sunday 20 May the Vintage and Military Amateur Radio Society is having its annual open day at the Norfolk and Suffolk Aviation Museum, Flixton. Contact Peter Walker, on 01438 871 350, or by email to g4plw@btinternet.com.

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST

On Monday 14 May Cornish Radio Amateur Club is having a computer section meeting with mini talks on how I became interested in computers. Contact Ian, 01872 561 058.

On Tuesday 15 May Flight Refuelling Amateur Radio Society is running an Intermediate training course. Contact Tony, G3PFM, on 01202 622 262.

On Wednesday 16 May Exmouth Amateur Radio Club is having Bob's birthday party barbeque at the Scout Hut. Contact g0uil@eclipse.co.uk.

On Wednesday 16 May South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is performing annual maintenance of the club aerials with G0DRX. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282.

On Wednesday 16 May Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is on the air. Contact Tony, G0WMB, by email to tonytsgarc@beeb.net.

8 On Thursday 17 May Swindon and District Amateur Radio Club is preparing for the 2 metre contest. Contact Mike, M5CBS, on 01793 826 465.

On Thursday 17 May Yeovil Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on hi fi amplifiers by G7LNJ. Contact Derek, 01935 414 452, or by email to m0wob@tiscali.co.uk.

NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS

On Sunday 13 May Lincoln Short-Wave Club is operating GB0EM from Ellis Mill, Lincoln, as part of the mills on the air weekend. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

On Sunday 13 May Stourbridge and District Amateur Radio Society is attending the MARS Rally Solihull. Contact John, M1EJG, on 01562 700 513.

On Monday 14 May Gloucester Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is having a bring and show your oscilloscope evening. Contact Anne, 2E1GKY, on 01452 548478, daytime.

On Monday 14 May Stourbridge and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air. Contact John, M1EJG, on 01562 700 513.

On Monday 14 May Stratford Upon Avon District Radio Society is having its AGM and surplus sale. Contact Jack, G3VYE, on 01926 641 988.

On Tuesday 15 May Derby and District Amateur Radio Society is having a quiz night. Contact Martin, G3SZJ, on 01332 556 875.

On Tuesday 15 May Loughborough and District Amateur Radio Club is on the air. Contact Chris, G1ETZ, on 01509 504 319.

On Tuesday 15 May Wythall Radio Club is having an equipment familiarisation and on the air evening. Contact Chris, G0EYO, on 07710 412 819, or by email to g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk, or on the web at www.wythallradioclub.co.uk.

On Wednesday 16 May Lincoln Short-Wave Club is having an illustrated talk, Flying the Shackleton. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

On Wednesday 16 May Telford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a surplus equipment sale. Contact Mike, G3JKX, on 01952 299 677, or by email to mjstreetg3jkx@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Thursday 17 May Salop Amateur Radio Society is having a quiz night versus Powys. Contact Glenda, G1YJB, on 01939 235 412.

On Friday 18 May Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is having a barbeque night. Contact Carl, M0XBE, on 07979 092 447, or on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

On Friday 18 May Melton Mowbray Amateur Radio Society is having its annual construction contest for the G6KQP Trophy. Contact Phil, G4LWB, on phil@croxtonkerr.fsnet.co.uk.

On Saturday 19 May Wythall Radio Club is operating special event station GB2ME to celebrate Tolkien Weekend. Contact Chris, G0EYO, on 07710 412 819, or by email to g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk, or on the web at www.wythallradioclub.co.uk.

9 NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

On Monday 14 May Macclesfield and District Radio Society is on the air. Contact Tom, M1EYP, on 01625 612 916, by email to tommyread@hotmail.com, or on the web at www.gx4mws.com.

On Monday 14 May Sheffield Amateur Radio Club is having a bring and buy used equipment sale . Contact Trevor, M0TWS.

On Tuesday 15 May Chester and District Radio Society is having its annual society dinner at the Ramada Jarvis Hotel, Chester. Details on the web at www.chesterdars.org.uk, or by email to info@chesterdars.org.uk.

On Tuesday 15 May Halifax and District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on lightning by Colin, M5AEH. Contact Brenda, 2E0YKS, by email to wrenuk10@yahoo.com.

On Tuesday 15 May Macclesfield and District Radio Society is operating GB50MR to celebrate its 50th anniversary. Contact Tom, M1EYP, on 01625 612 916, tommyread@hotmail.com, or on the web at www.gx4mws.com.

On Tuesday 15 May Stockport Radio Society is making final preparations for National Field Day 2007. Contact David, M1ANT, on 0161 456 7832.

On Tuesday 15 May Wakefield and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air. Contact Dave, G4CLI, on 07748 221 855, or by email to g4cli@hotmail.co.uk.

On Wednesday 16 May Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is having a talk by Peter Russell on bat detectors. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Wednesday 16 May Grimsby Amateur Radio Society is taking part in the 80m data club contest. Contact Brian, G4DXB, on 01472 231 383.

On Wednesday 16 May Hornsea Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on video editing with your PC by G4YTV. Contact Steve, G4GPY, on 01482 860 440, or by email to g4gpy@eddiesplace.karoo.co.uk.

On Wednesday 16 May Wirral and District Amateur Radio Club is at The Green Lodge, Hoylake. Contact Tom, G4BKF, on 07050 291 850.

On Thursday 17 May Grimsby Amateur Radio Society is having a talk by Chris, G7BRZ, on aircraft monitoring using the SBS - 1. Contact Brian, G4DXB, on 01472 231 383.

On Friday 18 May South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is having its AGM. Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999.

On Friday 18 May Tynemouth Radio Club is discussing "Tools Wot I Have Used". Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Saturday 19 May Tynemouth Radio Club is having its club Field Day. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Sunday 20 May Tyne And Wear Repeater Group is having an auction at the Community Centre, Front Street, Great Lumley. Contact Nancy, 0191

477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

10 NEWS FOR SCOTLAND

On Sunday 13 May Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is operating GB2FBM at Finzean Bucket Mill for International Mills Weekend. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

On Monday 14 May Lothians Radio Society is having at talk on a brief history of pirate radio by Toby Sigouin, MM0TSS. Contact Toby, MM0TSS, on 07739 742 367, or by email to enquiries@lothiansradiosociety.com, or on the web at www.lothiansradiosociety.com.

On Wednesday 16 May Paisley (YMCA) Amateur Radio Club is having an open discussion on what you want from your radio club. Contact Jim, GM3UWX.

On Thursday 17 May Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is having a talk by Adam Davidson, MM0KZV, on high voltage switches. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

On Friday 18 May West Of Scotland Amateur Radio Society is having its AGM. Details on the web at www.wosars.org.uk.

NEWS FOR WALES

North Powys RAYNET is looking for a few more volunteers for the Long Distance Walkers Association event on 26 to 28 May. Contact Chris, GW7FYG, on 01938 590446 if you can help.

NEWS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

On Sunday 20 May Mid-Ulster Amateur Radio Club is operating GI3VFW at the Discovery Centre, Oxford Island, from 12.00. Contact John McCabe.

And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast,

prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

934. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-12 21:07:03 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5ame4vF2os0uuU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4539

"Rick (W-A-one-R-K-T)" <get.my.email@from.qrz.com> wrote in
message news:pan.2007.05.12.12.21.34.694531@from.qrz.com
> On Thu, 10 May 2007 08:26:49 -0400, Ivor Jones wrote:
>
> > > Word meanings sometimes change over time. Like the
> > > word "handle"....
> >
> > Now that one really *does* irritate me. A handle is for
> > opening a door. I have a *name*, ok..?!
>
> Good morning, Ivor.
>
> What in the world is the benefit of getting irritated
> over something as innocuous as that?

Who knows..? It wasn't exactly a conscious decision..! Is there ever a
benefit to being irritated..? I honestly don't know why it annoys me, it
just does. Isn't there any silly little thing that annoys you..?

> I have to say that if that's the worst thing I have to
> get irritated about, I am a very lucky man indeed.

Well if it *is* the worst thing you have to get irritated about, you
certainly are :-)

73 Ivor G6URP

935. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-12 22:07:27 UTC
From: George <gmwemail-dsp@yahoo.com>
Message-ID: <gLq1i.17647$YL5.13332@newssvr29.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 4540

I think "handle" and "name" have different meanings.

"Handle" refers to a person's "radio name" or identification on the radio which can be different from his/her actual name. Nowadays, though, the two are almost always the same. But the term "handle" initially had that specific meaning; hence the unique word to describe it.

George, K6GW

"Ivor Jones" <ivor@despammed.invalid> wrote in message
news:5agfp1F2nksfgU1@mid.individual.net...
> <N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote in message
> news:1178790341.802845.79670@h2g2000hsg.googlegroups.com
>
> [snip]
>
>> Word meanings sometimes change over time. Like the word
>> "handle"....
>
> Now that one really *does* irritate me. A handle is for opening a door. I
> have a *name*, ok..?!
>
> 73 Ivor G6URP
>
>
>

936. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-12 23:54:15 UTC
From: "Rick (W-A-one-R-K-T)" <get.my.email@from.qrz.com>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.05.12.23.25.52.290745@from.qrz.com>
Source record: 4541

On Sat, 12 May 2007 18:07:27 -0400, George wrote:

> I think "handle" and "name" have different meanings.
>
> "Handle" refers to a person's "radio name" or identification on the radio
> which can be different from his/her actual name. Nowadays, though, the two
> are almost always the same. But the term "handle" initially had that
> specific meaning; hence the unique word to describe it.

Good evening, George.

I would have to disagree. Since 1963 when I was first licensed, "handle"
and "name" have always meant the same thing. CB'ers took to using
"handle" to mean "radio name", but hams ... except for those that came
from originally being CB'ers ... always used "handle" to mean "name".

Rick (my name AND my handle)

937. Re: The term "Elmer"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-13 04:29:50 UTC
From: Bryan <bryan.swadenerNOSPAM@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <U-CdnfBI8c6nDdvbnZ2dnUVZ_tOmnZ2d@giganews.com>
Source record: 4542

```
Howard Lester wrote:
>
> "Steve Bonine" wrote
>
> > Rick (W-A-one-R-K-T) wrote:
> >> On Fri, 11 May 2007 09:39:03 -0400, Howard Lester wrote:
> >>
> >>> I was licensed in '63
> >
> >> I was also first licensed in 1963,
> >
> > How bizarre. I was also first licensed in 1963.
> >
> > 73, Steve KB9X
> > ex WN4NUJ
>
> We could start a '63 Club. :-)
>
> N7SO
> ex WN2KPO (and a few others since Friday, Sept 13, 1963)
>

Hmm... would you say 63 to the other fellow at the end of a QSO? You could
say it means "Bestest Regards"! ;^)

Vy 63,
Bryan WA7PRC
```

938. Re: The term "Elmer"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-13 15:48:16 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <134ecpcanbnlhf2@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 4543

"Bryan" wrote

>> We could start a '63 Club. :-)
>>
>> N7SO
>> ex WN2KPO (and a few others since Friday, Sept 13, 1963)

> Hmm... would you say 63 to the other fellow at the end of a QSO? You
> could
> say it means "Bestest Regards"! ;^)
>
> Vy 63,
> Bryan WA7PRC

Hmmmmmm! To me, "63" sounds like you're telling me where to go.... "Oh yeah, well 63 to you, too!"

;-)

939. Re: 2m FM calling practices

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-13 18:15:05 UTC
From: John <jlwsecure-usenet6@yahoo.com>
Message-ID: <Xns992F7CF4635E3jlwsecure@207.115.17.102>
Source record: 4545

RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net> wrote in news:1178912315.244869.311630
@n59g2000hsh.googlegroups.com:

> On May 11, 7:01 pm, John <jlwsecure-usen...@yahoo.com> wrote:
>
>>
>> Around my area, pretty much everything goes... (what's legal anyway).
>>
>
> As long as it's legal, that ought to be the test.
>
> What ever happened to the old FCC Official Observer program?

I know there is at least one OO in my area. From what I understand, the
program is still in place.

940. Re: 2m FM calling practices

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-13 18:15:17 UTC
From: John <jlwsecure-usenet6@yahoo.com>
Message-ID: <Xns992F7D7B0BD60jlwsecure@207.115.17.102>
Source record: 4544

"Ivor Jones" <ivor@despammed.invalid> wrote in
news:5akcodF2oshdhU1@mid.individual.net:

>
> You've answered the question. Keep it short. Just announcing that
> you're listening on a repeater takes a few seconds. Many CQ calls can
> take a full 30 seconds or more..! Well the ones I hear can, anyway..!
>

I do suppose a lot of it has to do with what is common practice in each
area. Some repeater crowds are more formal, whereas some are less formal,
and will allow more "variety". CQ is rarely heard on repeaters or simplex
for that matter (on UHF and VHF); but when it does occur, no one has any
issues.

941. Re: 73, 88 and other telegraph numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-13 18:16:48 UTC
From: The Shadow <Repose@Zilch.com>
Message-ID: <i4H1i.302512$JN6.70388@newsfe17.phx>
Source record: 4546

Here you go pick one -- maybe 1 or 99
In 1859, Western Union standardized on the "92 code" in which the numbers
from 1 to 92 were assigned meanings.

1 Wait a moment
2 Important Business
3 What time is it?
4 Where shall I go ahead?
5 Have you business for me?
6 I am ready
7 Are you ready?
8 Close your key; circuit is busy
9 Close your key for priority business (Wire chief, dispatcher, etc)
10 Keep this circuit closed
12 Do you understand?
13 I understand
14 What is the weather?
15 For you and other to copy
17 Lightning here
18 What is the trouble?
19 Form 19 train order
21 Stop for a meal
22 Wire test
23 All copy
24 Repeat this back
25 Busy on another wire
26 Put on ground wire
27 Priority, very important
28 Do you get my writing?
29 Private, deliver in sealed envelope
30 No more (end)
31 Form 31 train order
32 I understand that I am to ...
33 Car report (Also, answer is paid for)
34 Message for all officers
35 You may use my signal to answer this
37 Diversion (Also, inform all interested)
39 Important, with priority on thru wire (Also, sleep-car report)
44 Answer promptly by wire
73 Best regards
88 Love and kisses
91 Superintendent's signal
92 Deliver promptly
OTHERS

93 Vice President and General Manager's signals
95 President's signal
99 = Get Lost (probably unofficial)
134 Who is at the key?

"Howard Lester" <heylester@dakotacom.net> wrote in message
news:134ecpcanbnlhf2@corp.supernews.com...
>
> "Bryan" wrote
>
>>> We could start a '63 Club. :-)
>>>
>>> N7SO
>>> ex WN2KPO (and a few others since Friday, Sept 13, 1963)
>
>> Hmm... would you say 63 to the other fellow at the end of a QSO? You
>> could
>> say it means "Bestest Regards"! ;^)
>>
>> Vy 63,
>> Bryan WA7PRC
>
> Hmmmmmm! To me, "63" sounds like you're telling me where to go.... "Oh
> yeah, well 63 to you, too!"
>
> ;-)
>

942. Re: Official Observers Program

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-13 18:49:09 UTC
From: The Shadow <Repose@Zilch.com>
Message-ID: <9%I1i.331952$6P2.86610@newsfe16.phx>
Source record: 4547

See URL:
http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/org/am_aux.html

Lamont

"John" <jlwsecure-usenet6@yahoo.com> wrote in message
news:Xns992F7CF4635E3jlwsecure@207.115.17.102...
> RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net> wrote in news:1178912315.244869.311630
> @n59g2000hsh.googlegroups.com:
>
>> On May 11, 7:01 pm, John <jlwsecure-usen...@yahoo.com> wrote:
>>
>>>
>>> Around my area, pretty much everything goes... (what's legal anyway).
>>>
>>
>> As long as it's legal, that ought to be the test.
>>
>> What ever happened to the old FCC Official Observer program?
>
> I know there is at least one OO in my area. From what I understand, the
> program is still in place.
>

943. Re: 73, 88 and other telegraph numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-13 20:29:09 UTC
From: George <gmwemail-dsp@yahoo.com>
Message-ID: <CiJ1i.2735$LR5.1443@newssvr17.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 4548

Can I join the '63 Club?

First licensed in '63. First job out of college was with Western Union in
northern NJ.

George, K6GW

"The Shadow" <Repose@Zilch.com> wrote in message
news:i4H1i.302512$JN6.70388@newsfe17.phx...
> Here you go pick one -- maybe 1 or 99
> In 1859, Western Union standardized on the "92 code" in which the numbers
> from 1 to 92 were assigned meanings.
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> 1 Wait a moment
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> 3 What time is it?
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> 5 Have you business for me?
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> 8 Close your key; circuit is busy
> 9 Close your key for priority business (Wire chief, dispatcher, etc)
> 10 Keep this circuit closed
> 12 Do you understand?
> 13 I understand
> 14 What is the weather?
> 15 For you and other to copy
> 17 Lightning here
> 18 What is the trouble?
> 19 Form 19 train order
> 21 Stop for a meal
> 22 Wire test
> 23 All copy
> 24 Repeat this back
> 25 Busy on another wire
> 26 Put on ground wire
> 27 Priority, very important
> 28 Do you get my writing?
> 29 Private, deliver in sealed envelope
> 30 No more (end)
> 31 Form 31 train order
> 32 I understand that I am to ...
> 33 Car report (Also, answer is paid for)
> 34 Message for all officers
> 35 You may use my signal to answer this

> 37 Diversion (Also, inform all interested)
> 39 Important, with priority on thru wire (Also, sleep-car report)
> 44 Answer promptly by wire
> 73 Best regards
> 88 Love and kisses
> 91 Superintendent's signal
> 92 Deliver promptly
> OTHERS
> 93 Vice President and General Manager's signals
> 95 President's signal
> 99 = Get Lost (probably unofficial)
> 134 Who is at the key?
>
>
> "Howard Lester" <heylester@dakotacom.net> wrote in message
> news:134ecpcanbnlhf2@corp.supernews.com...
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>> Hmmmmmm! To me, "63" sounds like you're telling me where to go.... "Oh
>> yeah, well 63 to you, too!"
>>
>> ;-)
>>
>

944. IRTS Radio News Bulletin, Sunday May 13th 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-13 22:00:26 UTC
From: news at irts dot ie <devnull@panix.com>
Message-ID: <200705132200.l4DM0Ar29701@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4449
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Irish Radio Transmitters Society
Radio News Bulletin

Sunday May 13th 2007

News from the IRTS

Ger McNamara EI4GSB has been appointed to fill the vacancy as Regional Representative for Region 4 on the retirement of Paddy Maher EI3AV. The region covers the counties Tipperary, Limerick, Clare and Kerry.

Contact details for Ger are available on the Society's web page. As we welcome Ger to the team we would like to thank Paddy for all the work he has done for society over many years and wish him a speedy return to full health.

International Museums Weekend

The International Museums Weekend takes place on the 16th and 17th of June. This amateur radio special event has grown in popularity since the first event was held in 2002.

Among past participants are The Tower of London, HMS Belfast and the US battleship New Jersey. The Howth Martello Radio Group will be participating again this year, operating from the Vintage Radio Museum in Howth. Visitors are welcome to call and operate the station over the weekend. The museum web site is www.qsl.net/ei5em/museum.html. A full list of participating museums and further information of the event is available from the organiser's web site www.ukradioamateur.co.uk/imw/.

Rallies

Mayo Rally Director Padraic Baynes, EI9JA, told the May meeting of the club that the date of November the 18th had been set for the 2007 Rally. The venue is the Belmont Hotel, Knock and full details will be announced soon.

The Mid Ulster Amateur Radio Club Rally will take place on Sunday the 20th of May 2007 at the Discovery Centre, Oxford Island, Lough Neagh, Lurgan. Doors open at mid-day and talk-in is on 145.525 MHz.

Galtee Walking Festival

There are just 3 weeks to go to the 2 days of activity in the Galtees on the Saturday and Sunday of the June Bank Holiday weekend. John Ronan EI7IG is event Coordinator and he is being assisted by John EI2JB and other members of the Tipperary Amateur radio Group. Preparations are at an advanced stage but there are still radio positions to be filled on Saturday and Sunday. Newcomers are welcome and training will be provided by AREN each morning. Please contact John EI7IG on 086 8167310 or John EI2JB at QTHR.

Ladies Mini Marathon

The 2007 Flora Ladies Mini Marathon takes place on Bank Holiday Monday the 4th of June at 3.00 pm. It starts from Fitzwilliam Square, and finishes in Stephens Green Dublin 2. Sadly this year's event will happen without the familiar voice of Donnchadh O'Shea who traditionally operated the net control station. This year's public service event will be dedicated to his memory. The co-ordinator for the event again this year will be George Adjaye who may be contacted by phone on 086 2586103 or Fax 01 4908546 or email 'george_adjayeg at dcu.ie'.

Comeragh Cycle Race

There are just 7 weeks to go to the national under 23 road racing championship in Waterford on the 1st of July. Richie EI9HR is event Co-ordinator and he is being assisted by John EI8JA. This year's race will be on a greater scale with over 160 riders taking part. The Civil Defence have come on board this year to help with marshalling and RTE will be filming the event. AREN will provide the communications for safe traffic management and accident reporting. There will be more radio reporting points and mobile stations than last year so more radio operators are required. Again newcomers are welcome and training will be provided on the morning of the race. This is an excellent opportunity for operators to put their radio skills to good use in a very enjoyable and rewarding way for the

benefit of the Community. All operators irrespective of experience are welcome.

Please contact Richie on mobile 085-1465465 or evenings on 051-854315. You can also contact Richie by e-mail at "ei9hr at yahoo dot com".

Limerick Radio Club

Limerick Radio Club has been invited by the Foynes Flying-Boat Museum to operate a special Amateur Radio Station in conjunction with the commemorative Transatlantic Re-Enactment Flight 1937 from Newfoundland Canada to Foynes Ireland. A special call-sign has been allocated to the station EI-70-FOY. The station will be on the air from the 6th to the 8th of July 2007. On HF the station will operate from 80 to 10 metres. It will also operate on VHF / UHF using the EI70FOY call-sign.

A special QSL card, commemorating the Re-Enactment Flight, will be sent to all stations worked over the three-day event. All QSL cards should be sent to the Club's QSL Manager Alan Cronin EI8EM at QTHR. Limerick Radio Club can be contacted at "ei4lrc at eircom dot net" or at www.qsl.net/ei4lrc.

Theory Examination

The next Theory Examination for the Experimenters Licence will be held on Thursday the 28th of June next. Places for the examination are limited and will be allocated on a "first come first served" basis. Intending candidates should forward the appropriate fee to Se"n Nolan EI7CD, 12 Little Meadow, Pottery Road Dunlaoghaire, Co. Dublin. The fee is 50 Euro or 25 Euro for full time registered students, those who are retired, are unemployed or have a disability. In addition to the exam centre at the ComReg offices in Dublin an examination will be held on the same date and with the same paper at the Community Centre, Carrigtwohill, Co. Cork.

The closing date for the examination is the 16th of June and it will be strictly adhered to. Sean's e-mail address for further enquiries is "ei7cd at gofree dot indigo dot ie".

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall, EI7IS at QTHR or by phone to 051-853806 or 087-6302026. Items for the radio news can also be faxed to 087 5 6302026. News should be submitted via e-mail to &#65533;news at irts dot ie&#65533; for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Friday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday&#65533;s bulletin.

945. Re: 73, 88 and other telegraph numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-13 22:13:18 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <134f3bi7q65eqe6@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 4450

"George" wrote

> Can I join the '63 Club?
>
> First licensed in '63. First job out of college was with Western Union in
> northern NJ.
>
> George, K6GW

Sure - and welcome! First read the charter. Wait - first WRITE the charter,
and let me know when you're done.

;-) Howard N7SO

946. Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin #809

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-14 14:27:06 UTC
From: RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net>
Message-ID: <1179152792.228081.291730@l77g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4451

SB DX @ WW < KB8NW $OPDX.809
Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin No. 809

The Ohio/Penn DX PacketCluster
DX Bulletin No. 809
BID: $OPDX.809
May 14, 2007
Editor Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW
Provided by BARF80.ORG (Cleveland, Ohio)

Thanks to the Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society, Northern Ohio DX
Association, Ohio/Penn PacketCluster Network, AB5K & the AR TelNet
Clusters Network, K1XN & GoList, ARRL Letter, N1DG, NJ1Q, KF2TI, N2OO,
NG3K, W3UR & The Daily DX, N4AA & QRZ DX, K5AC, WW5L, K8YSE, KU9C,
ND9M, Pete's-DX-Newsdesk, DK8JB, DL7MAE & The DX News Letter, F5NOD,
F5NQL & UFT, I1JQJ/IK1ADH & 425 DX News, I2WIJ, M0OXO, PA7FM, RSGB
IOTA, VA3RJ & ICPO and YB0ECT for the following DX information.

** SPECIAL NOTE FROM EDITOR (By KB8NW): There will not be a OPDX
Bulletin next week. I will be attending the Dayton HamVention. "IF"
I receive a major announcement, I may send something out late
Sunday
or Monday. However, PLEASE continue to send your DX information.
You
never know what I might do.... 73 de Tedd KB8NW

DXCC COUNTRY/ENTITY REPORT: According to the AR-Cluster Network for
the
week of Sunday, 6th/May, through Sunday, 13th/May there were 211
countries active. Countries available: 3A, 3B8, 3C, 3D2, 3DA, 3V, 3W,
3X, 4J, 4L, 4S, 4X, 5B, 5H, 5N, 5R, 5U, 5W, 5Z, 6W, 6Y, 7Q, 7X, 8P,
8Q,
9A, 9G, 9H, 9J, 9K, 9L, 9M2, 9M6, 9N, 9Q, 9U, 9V, 9Y, A3, A4, A5, A6,
A7, A9, AP, BV, BY, C3, C5, C6, C9, CE, CE9, CM, CN, CP, CT, CT3, CU,
CX, D4, DL, DU, E3, E5/n, E5/s, EA, EA6, EA8, EA9, EI, EK, EL, EP, ER,
ES, ET, EU, EX, EY, F, FG, FJ, FK, FM, FO, FR, FY, G, GD, GI, GJ, GM,
GU, GW, HA, HB, HB0, HC, HH, HI, HK, HL, HP, HR, HS, HV, HZ, I, IS,
J2,
J5, J6, J8, JA, JT, JW, K, KG4, KH0, KH2, KH6, KL, KP2, KP4, LA, LU,
LX, LY, LZ, OA, OD, OE, OH, OK, OM, ON, OX, OY, OZ, P4, PA, PJ2, PY,
PZ, R1FJ, S5, SM, SP, ST, SU, SV, SV/a, SV5, SV9, T7, T8, T9, TA, TF,
TG, TI, TK, TL, TR, TT, TU, UA, UA2, UA9, UK, UN, UR, V3, V4, V5, V7,
V8, VE, VK, VK9N, VP2E, VP2M, VP2V, VP5, VP8, VP9, VQ9, VR, VU, XE,
XU,
YB, YI, YK, YL, YN, YO, YU, YV, Z2, Z3, ZA, ZB, ZC4, ZD7, ZD9, ZF,

ZK1/n, ZK1/s, ZL, ZP, ZS

* PLEASE NOTE: The report "could" contain "Pirate/SLIM" operations or more likely a "BUSTED CALLSIGN". As always, you never know - "Work First Worry Later" (WFWL).

3X, GUINEA. QSL Manager Dennis, PA7FM, informs OPDX that Michael, PA5M, is now here and active as 3XY5M. He will remain in Guinea until early June before returning back home. He is there working for the UN's World Food Programme (WFP), but will be active during his spare time between his work there. His callsign 3XY5M has been already approved for DXCC. Activity will be on all bands 160-6 meters (depending on his free time and propagation) using only wire antennas and 100W. Over the past week, Michael was heard on the following frquencies between 1815-1930z: 18155-18160, 14254 and 28435 kHz. QSL via PA7FM direct to: Dennis Robbemond, Loggerhof 11, 3181NS Rozenburg, The Netherland (Please, remember 1 USD does not cover postage anymore. Look for updates and an online log search at: http://www.pa7fm.nl

8Q, MALDIVES (AS-013). Andrew, G7COD, will be active again for the third time as 8Q7AK from the Island of Embudu, South Male Atoll, during the first half of October 2007. Exact dates of operation, frequencies, ...etc, will be announced (probably in September) closer to his activation. Duration of his operation will be approximately 2 weeks. For QSL information and further updates, check QRZ.com. ADDED NOTE FROM G7COD: He reports that all QSLs received from the last 2 activations of 8Q7AK in October 2006 and January/February 2007 have now been mailed direct if IRC or Green Stamps were included. If not included, they have been sent via the Bureau. All QSLs received via the Bureau will be returned the same way. All EQSLs have been responded to.

9U, BURUNDI. Vlad, UA4WHX, is now active as 9U0VB (as May 1st). As always, the length of his stay is unknown. Activity over the past weekend was on 30/20/17/12/10 meters CW/SSB. QSL via his home callsign, direct or by the bureau. It is recommend to send direct cards after his travels.

ANTARCTIC CHALLENGE UPDATE. Gil, F5NOD, informs OPDX that the Antarctic Challenge scores are up-to-date at: http://f6kdf.ath.cx/f5nod/index.htm

BS7, SCARBOROUGH REEF. Members of the BS7H team are reportedly all back

home now. It seems that the team travelled from Scarborough Reef to Manila, The Philippines, and not Hong Kong as first thought. All the international operators were dropped off there, but the six Chinese operators continued on aboard the ship heading back to Hong Kong. This past week details of band statistics were released. Here are the QSOs per band: Band SSB CW RTTY

160m	0	54	0
80m	117	217	0
40m	509	3039	0
30m	0	3374	0
20m	10370	11434	54
17m	3277	3497	0
15m	3803	1986	268
12m	402	474	0
10m	841	724	0
Total	19319	24799	322

Don, N1DG, reported that there were NO QSOs made with NA on 160, 80 and
10 meters. Online logs and two batches of pictures also became available
this week at the following Web pages:
Logs http://www.scarboroughreef.com/srlog.html
http://dx.qsl.net/logs/index.html
Photos http://www.scarboroughreef.com/srphotos.html
http://picasaweb.google.com/paul.pescitelli/K4UJScarboroughReef
PLEASE NOTE WHEN QSLING TO KU9C. Remember postage in the U.S. will be going up on May 14th (First Class Stamp will be 41 cents).
DXCC NEWS: Bill Moore, NC1L, ARRL DXCC Manager, announced that the "BS7H Scarborough Reef 2007 operation" has been approved for DXCC credit.

C4, CYPRUS. Marios, 5B4WN, will be active as C4W during the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (May 26-27th) as Single-Op/All-Band entry. QSL is via the LoTW. QSLs via the Bureau is also available via the "self-QSL" button on: http://www.5b4wn.com

DAYTON ACTIVITIES.....
FROM THE ARRL LETTER - "JARL operating award checking available at Hamvention": A representative of the Japan Amateur Radio League (JARL) will be available at Dayton Hamvention May 18-20th to check applications for JARL awards and to issue certificates for certain awards. Former JARL executive director and renowned DXer Masa Ebisawa, JA1DM, will be at Booth 483 in the Ballarena of Hara Arena, near ARRL EXPO 2007. Applications for other JARL awards can be checked at the JARL booth. Masa also will answer questions on JARL activities as well as reciprocal licensing in Japan.

DXCC Dayton Hamvention Card Checking (Just A Reminder!) - Bill Moore,
NC1L, ARRL DXCC Manager, reports: "DXCC staff and approved card checkers will be checking cards at the Dayton Hamvention from May 18-20th. Checking will be done during all operating hours of the convention. Following these simple steps will help make processing go
quick and easy:
There is a 120 card limit per applicant. Larger applications may be checked as time is available after all other applications are finished. (No larger applications will be checked on Sunday). If some cards cause the application to exceed 120 QSOs, this is OK.

Cards MUST be sorted first by band, then by mode. Cards with more than one QSO should be placed together at the end of the application. Do not sort cards alphanumerically. Applications not properly sorted may be returned for proper sorting.

Prepare all paperwork ahead of time. The record sheet is required when submitting cards at Dayton. Use the latest application form available at www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc. Fill in ALL fields on the record sheet.

Write clearly and concisely.

Do not use forms with fields other than those that appear on the standard ARRL form.

There are no restrictions on what can be checked. (Cards for 160 meters and deleted entities are OK.)

DXCC will not bring applications with cards back to ARRL HQ. All cards must be checked and claimed in Dayton.

For those submitting a hybrid application (LoTW and paper credits combined), the LoTW application must be in the LoTW system by 7:30 AM Monday morning, May 21st. If you do a hybrid application, you must note on the LoTW application that a paper application is being made. You must also note on your paper application that you will be submitting a LoTW application by checking the appropriate box.

Applications for other ARRL awards, such as WAS, VUCC, WAC, can be
checked.

When you arrive at the booth, please take a number and stay near the booth. When your number is called go to the next available checker. Your cards will be checked while you wait and they will be immediately returned to you.

If you need a personal copy of the application and record sheets please handle this before you arrive. DXCC cannot make copies for you on site.

Please see rule 15 for the latest fees. Acceptable payment methods
are: Major credit card, check (by USA bank only), money order (both USA and international), cash (US dollars only). DXCC cannot bill you.

Following these steps will allow us to process your application quickly and in minimal time. Contact Bill Moore, NC1L at dxcc@arrl.org with questions."

DX HOSPITALITY SUITE. The Northern Ohio DX Association (along with Janeen Hire, W8ZET) will once again sponsor a Hospitality Suite at this year's Dayton Hamvention. It will be in Suite 1011 on the 10th Club Floor of the Crowne Plaza Hotel (old Stouffers) on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings (Look for signs!). All DXers/Contesters are welcome. Munchies and refreshments will be avaialble. Come and meet the members and friends of NODXA.

DR5, GERMANY. Operators DK3QZ, DL1EKC, DL3QQ, DL3HAH and PA0R will be active as DR5L during the CQ WPX CW Contest (May 26-27th) as a Multi-2 entry. QSL via DK3QZ.

DR80, GERMANY. Look for operators DK3DM and DJ2QV to be active as DR80AMA during the CQ WPX CW Contest (May 26-27th) as a Multi-Single entry. Activity is to celebrate SES's 80 years of DL ham radio. QSL via DK3DM by the Bureau.

E51/N, NORTH COOK ISLANDS. Sailing couples Mike/KM9D (E51QMA) and Jan/KF4TUG (E51TUG), are now active from Suwarrow Atoll (OC-080), Northern Cook Islands. Operator was heard saying they would be active until May 21st. Most of the activity seems to be on 20/17 meters. QSL via OM2SA.

EE8, CANARY ISLANDS (AF-004). Operators Girts/YL2KL, Oleg/YL3DW, Andy/YL2GQT and Tom/YL2PP will be active as EE8A during the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (May 26-27th) as a Multi-? entry. QSL via YL2KL.

GP3/GP8, GUERNSEY (EU-114). Chris, M0DOL, will be active from the Island of Guernsey (in and around the island) using the special callsigns GP8LED/P and GP3GWB starting on May 26th for one week. Operators Trevour/M3PNQ, Tom/2E0TSW and some members of the Northampton Radio Club will be joining him. Activity is expected to be mainly on 2, 4 and 6 meters.

HAM-COM DX DINNER BANQUET. In assocation with the Ham-Com Hamfest (see http://www.hamcom.org), the Lone Star DX Association DX dinner will be Friday, June 8th at 6:30 p.m., at the Southfork Hotel at 1600 North Central Expressway (U.S. Highway 75) in Plano, Texas. Their featured speaker will be Dr. Glen Johnson, W0GJ, who will present an Audio/Visual program on the VU7RG/VU7MY DXpedition to the Lakshadweep Islands
earlier this year (http://www.vu7.in). Bharathi Prasad, VU2RBI, and her daughter, Ms. D.S. Mahathi, VU3DSM, who both operated from VU7MY, will be special guests at the dinner. The tickets are 36 USDs/person and are available online at www.hamcom.org or may be purchased by

sending a check or money order to: Jim Bass, K5KQI, 2709 Monarch Dr., Arlington, TX 76006. The chances of winning a major door prize are quite good because they have thousands of dollars worth of prizes from many vendors including Kenwood, Yaesu, ICOM, Alpha Power, Tennadyne, W2IHY Technologies, Heil Sound, Texas Towers, The Southfork Hotel, and many many others. Act now!!! Ticket sales end on June 1st.

HP2/3E2, PANAMA (IOTA Op?). Two members of the Uruguay DX Group, Bert/CX3AN and Mario/CX4CR, will be traveling to Panama, June 22-28th. Operators will sign as HP2/homecall (or possibly as 3E2/homecall) from San Blas Archipielago (NA-170). Activity will be on 80-6 meters CW/SSB using 500w into a vertical/wires antennas. They informed OPDX that this
Caribbean DXpedition is to celebrate Bert becoming "DXCC NUMBER ONE" after working BS7H. This will be their 15th country from five different
continents they activated over past 20 years.

IOTA NEWS.....
AS-043. Operators JA1UNS, JI1PLF, 7N1GMK, 7L4PVR and 7N4VPS will be active as homecall/1 from Hachijo Island (JIIA AS-043-004, WLOTA LH-0446), JA1 South Izu Group, May 25-28th. Activity will be on the HF bands, 6m, CW and SSB. QSL via their home callsigns, direct or by the bureau.

EU-060. Operators SV2FPU, SV2HNZ, SV2HOB, SV2HPP, SV2HPY, SV2HRT, SV2HSV and SV2GNQ will be active as SY8WT from Skyros Island
between June 16-22nd. This is the 4th most wanted European island. QSL via SV2HPP, by the Bureau or direct.

EU-108. Operator Jim, MM0BQI, will be active as MM0BQI/p from the Isle of Lunga, Treshnish Isles (IOSA NH-17, SCOTIA DI-09), September 1-3rd. Activity will be on 80-15 meters, mainly SSB. QSL via his home callsign (QRZ.com).

EU-112. Operators Alan/G0RCI, Gordon/G3USR and possibly other members of the Grantham ARS will be active as GC0GRC/p and GS0GRC/p from Eilean an Tighe (House Island), Shiant Islands
(IOSA OH-18, SCOTIA DI-24), July 10-13th. They plan to have 2 stations on the air on all bands 80-6 meters, SSB only. QSL is 100% via the bureau.

EU-120. Members of the Wakefield & District Radio Society will be activating Holy Island Lindisfarne from Saturday, July 21st to Sunday, July 22nd, 24 hours special dispensation from the
National Trust only. The callsigns will be GB1HI and GB5HI. Contacts will also count for "Holy Island Guille Lighthouse"
(Ref.no. ENG-224 and Admiralty number A2816.5). The Worked

All Britain (WAB) reference is NU-23 Northumberland. The
IARU Locator is IO95CQ. QSLs for ALL contacts are via
Charles, M3ZYZ, direct (QRZ.com) or by the Bureau. E-mail
Bureau requests are welcome (see QRZ.com).

EU-145. Francois, ON4LO, will be active from Faro Island (AL-006
for
the Portuguese Islands Award), June 14-27th. Activity will
be on 40/20/15/10 meters SSB and PSK. QSL via his home
callsign, bureau preferred.

OC-177. Five members of the Organisasi Radio Amatir Republik
Indonesia (ORARI) will be participating in 2007 CQWW WPX CW
Contest (May 26-27th) from Ayer Island in the Jakarta Bay.
Operators mentioned are: Pri/YB0ECT, Dudy/YB0DPO, Jo/
YC0LOW,
Andry/YB1TX and Ray/YD0NQW. Activity will be on 160/80/40
meters, 80m and 160m bands, as a Single-Operator category.
This IOTA reference is very seldom activated for IOTA
chasers. Look for RTTY and PSK31 activity on high bands.
The
operators will be signing with their home callsigns with a
specific designator "/0", example: YB0ECT/0. Please send
QSL
cards to the Orari Bureau and/or direct.

LX, LUXEMBOURG. Operators Lars/DF1LON, Carsten/DL1EFD, Hein/DL2OBF,
Jurgen/DL4SDW, Bernd/DL8SCG and Philippe/LX2A will be active as LX7I
during the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (May 26-27th) as a Multi-2 entry. QSL
via LX2A.

MX0, ENGLAND (CASHOTA Activity). Members of the Craven Radio Amateur
Group (CRAG), from the Yorkshire Dales, UK, will be taking part in a
CASHOTA (Castles and Stately Homes On the Air) activation on May 20th
between 0900-1600z. They will be operating from the prestigious
Broughton Hall, near Skipton (Locator IO83WW, WAB Square SD95YSN),
using the callsign MX0BCQ/P on HF and VHF. For QSL information, please
check QRZ.com. Visit the CASHOTA Web page at: http://www.cashota.org/

OX, GREENLAND (6/2 meters, EME). Operators Ole/OZ7OX (OX3OX) and
Bo/OZ1DJJ (OX3LX) are planning a combined work and vacation DXpedition
to here and want to activate grids squares GP47TA and GP36DW. Activity
will be on 6/2m EME. They plan to use their OX callsign or maybe OX2A
or XP1AB. Activity is to take place in July (possibly July 7-25th).
More details are forthcoming.

QSL INFO AND NEWS.....................
3 STEVES QSL CARDS/CERTIFICATES STATUS. Steve, KF2TI, informs that
the QSL cards and certificates for the "3 Steves" operation from
St. Croix, USVI, last year are now starting to go out in the mail.
The callsigns were N2IFA/KP2, KB2ENF/KP2 and KF2TI/KP2.

CN3A AND 5D5A QSL STATUS. Bob, I2WIJ, reports that as of May 11th, the backlog of all direct QSL requests for CN3A and 5D5A have been fully cleared. He states, "Thanks to my wife for her 'outstanding' help as secretary, with a major help in keeping everything clean and ordered.

VU7RG/VU7MY QSLS. Bob Schenck, N2OO, states, "...be patient folks. It'll probably be a few weeks or more yet." This is because the 3 QSL Managers for the VU7RG/VU7MY operation will still have to "process" the cards when they DO arrive from the printer.

QSLS VIA LOTW: 4X4PP, 4Z1JS, CT1DJE, DF2LH, DJ1YFK, DR1A, EA1CUB, EA1NE, FP/G3SXW, FY/F5IRO, G4DJJ, HK6PSG, JH8SLS, KP4SAT, MM0BSM, OH6NIO, PJ4/OE2VEL, TF4M, TO5A and UA3TCJ

QSLS RECEIVED VIA MAIL: 3B9/G3TXF, 5W0RE, 9M4SDX, BX5AA, C56NN, EF8M,
HC8N, HH4/K4QD, HH7/N3BNA, J5UAR, JX9NOA, KH0/K3UY, PJ7/DL1VWR, PZ5ZY, S92FM, SV5/DJ7RJ, V63UA, VK9DNX, YK1BA, YL7X and ZK3RE

SPECIAL EVENT. Members of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Amateur Radio Club will be signing W9IMS to celebrate the 91st running of the Indianapolis 500, between May 24-28th (1500-0300z). Activity will be on
the following suggested frequencies: 21340, 14240, 7240 and 3840 kHz. A certificate and QSL are available. For information, please visit: http://www.w9ims.com

SPECIAL EVENT. Members of the Boeing Employees AR Operators North Society will be active using the special callsign W7FLY to celebrate the rollout of the Boeing 787 Dreamliner, July 8-9th. Activity will be on CW 7050 and 14050, and on SSB 7240 and 14240 kHz. QSL via KN7T: Mark McLauchlin, 2625 176th St SE, Bothell, WA 98012. More information can be found at: http://www.w0ma.org

TI6, COSTA RICA. Operators Orrin/K9KEJ and Bill/K5YG will once again be active from the east coast of Costa Rica as TI6/K9KEJ and TI6/K5YG. Activity will be limited because they are there on a fishing trip. Activity will be on 40/20 meters SSB. QSL via their home callsigns.

UK SIX METRE GROUP CELEBRATES 25 YEARS. The UK Six Metre Group (UKSMG) is happy to announce its 25th birthday. It will be celebrated with a series of special callsigns in several different countries. It will start in the Netherlands with the special callsign PA25UKSMG between May 19th and June 3rd. Activity will be active on all bands from 160-2 meters, including an entry in the CQ WPX CW Contest (May 26-27th). Also, look for several special callsigns to be active during the UKSMG 6m Contest during the first weekend of June. Working them will give you
extra bonus points during that contest. Furthermore there will be a special 25 years anniversary award. Also, look for TM6MG to be active starting June 1st for 2 weeks from France on several bands, but the focus will be on 6m. There will be a few other callsigns to be

announced later, but they have not yet been confirmed. QSL all of these
special callsigns to PA7FM. More information can be found on the UKSMG
eb page at: http:/www.uksmg.org
Online logs for these operations will be available at the following Web
page once they start: http://www.pa7fm.nl

VF0, CANADA (Zone 2 and IOTA Op). Operators Pete/VE3IKV and Bill/W4TAA will be activating the Belcher Islands (NA-196) in CQ Zone 2, VY0 Nunavut Territory, using the special callsign VF0X (authorized by Industry Canada) between June 29th and July 4th. Activity will be on the HF bands and 6 meters, CW and SSB. QSL via VE3IKV direct (quick) or by the bureau (slow).

VP9, BERMUDA (NA-005). Paul, G4BKI, will be active as VP9KF from Hamilton Parish, from May 15th to June 5th. Activity will be CW only, but will include the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (May 26-27th). QSL via W4/VP9KF: Paul Evans, 6809 River Road, Tampa, FL 33615. Visit his Web page at: http://vp9kf.com/

VQ97, CHAGOS ISLANDS (Attention PFX Hunters!). OPDX was informed by Jim, VQ9JC (ND9M), that he has received written permission to use the special callsign "VQ97JC" from May 23rd through June 5th. The special indicator "7" added to the prefix simply reflects the number seven in the year 2007. Jim was informed by Harmon (a.k.a. Dale), W4QM/VQ9QM, who was "Mr. VQ9" for 15 years, this is the first time a special prefix
was authorized to be used there. Look for Jim to use this special prefix as much as possible during those two weeks. He states, "I am on a work assignment while at Diego Garcia, and as such I can only be on the air after work which normally means 1200-1730z. That said, I'm hoping to make the VQ97 prefix available at least 10 evenings during that period; with luck, there may be more. My work schedule includes weekends, so a pretty big bite is already taken out of the CQ WPX Contest timeframe. But I'm expecting to stay overnight at the shack both nights during the contest so that I can put in some time around the local sunrise (2300-0100Z) as well. I'll be SOAB during the contest." QSL via ND9M, direct or by the bureau. QSL cards will not be printed at least until after his return home to Florida in August.

YCCC CELEBRATES 30th ANNIVERSARY. Members of the Yankee Clipper Contest
Club (YCCC) will celebrate its 30th anniversary by signing their call-sign/30. Activity is a way to positively promote the YCCC on the air. A
special certificate will be available after confirming contacts with at
least 10 members. For more details, visit the YCCC Web page at: http://www.yccc.org/Articles/30th%20Anniversary/index.htm

-=-=-=

947. Radial laying methods

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-14 15:28:37 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f29uui$1210$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4452

Vertical antennas have some interesting features, but the radials required for them are a nuisance to install.

Ideally, we would like approximately 1 gazillion radials for a vertical. In reality, we often settle for less. Much less.

When installing my Butternut HF6V, I ended up laying as many radials as my poor aching hockey damaged back could handle, then the next weekend repeated the process. I eventually stumbled upon a method that was fast and painless. Well-as long as everything went well...

So what are you vertical users radial trenching secrets, anyhow? I'll relay mine after things get started.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

948. Re: Radial laying methods

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-14 17:57:47 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1179165419.920635.119270@u30g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4453

On May 14, 7:28 am, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> Vertical antennas have some interesting features, but the
radials
> required for them are a nuisance to install.
>
> Ideally, we would like approximately 1 gazillion radials
for a
> vertical. In reality, we often settle for less. Much less.
>
> When installing my Butternut HF6V, I ended up laying as m
any radials as
> my poor aching hockey damaged back could handle, then the next weekend
> repeated the process. I eventually stumbled upon a method that was fast
> and painless. Well-as long as everything went well...
>
> So what are you vertical users radial trenching secrets,
anyhow? I'll
> relay mine after things get started.

For trenching, a gas-powered lawn edger does a fine job with a dull blade. PROVIDED...you have all the buried PVC water sprinkler lines (if you have them) located; if you don't, that edger will slice right through PVC pipe with little effort. :-(

Note: Edger blade rotation should be tossing excess towards the front for safety. Anyone with lots of rocks just below the soil (as I do) can get injured if the blade tosses things backward.

What I need is a way of getting under a sidewalk AND lots of mature roots from tall cypresses. "Trenchless" line-laying with a pipe and pointy nozzle to hydraulically bore into soil is one way and will cost about $400 to $500 from a plumbing service that does that kind of thing. [estimate] Not good. Manual digging with a shovel for one such pass-through takes as much effort as manual hoe-trenching a couple dozen radials.

BTW, radials themselves can be #14 solid THHN (nylon-jacketed PVC insulation) electrical wiring according to many who have used that. The insulation will preserve the copper longer and reportedly has little effect on final VSWR. Best prices for that seem to be (locally) Home Depot in 500 foot spools.

73, Len AF6AY

949. rec.radio.amateur.moderated Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-15 06:00:04 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines-1-1179208801@panix.com>
Source record: 4454
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info,rec.answers,news.answers

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Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines
Revision: 1.2 2007/02/22 18:15:39
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rram/index.html

Welcome to rec.radio.amateur.moderated! This is a moderated newsgroup
for amateur radio operators and other people having an interest in the
Amateur Radio Service, as defined by national regulations and
international treaties. Following are the posting guidelines for this
newsgroup.

This message includes the following sections:

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter
2. Additional posting guidelines
2.1 Netiquette guidelines
2.2 Posting form requirements
2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files
2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting
2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources
2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability to hold
an amateur radio license
2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling
2.8 Guidelines regarding civility
2.9 Other unacceptable topics

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1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter

rec.radio.amateur.moderated is an inclusive on-line community of amateur
radio operators and other people having an interest in the Amateur Radio
Service. Participants are invited to engage in open discussion of
amateur radio issues and exchange information about participating in the
hobby/service, in an atmosphere of civility, friendship, and fun.

Acceptable topics include but, are not necessarily limited to, questions
and discussions about amateur radio licensing, regulations, tips on
various aspects of setting up an amateur radio station, and sharing
operating experiences and insights.

Unacceptable posts include, but are not limited to, buy/sell/trade
posts, posts that are off-topic to the Amateur Radio Service, posts
promoting or defending unlawful activities, etc. Crossposts of regular
discussion articles between rec.radio.amateur.moderated and other
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discussion newsgroups are not permitted.

Frequently-Asked-Questions lists and other information/bulletin/
announcement postings may be crossposted to rec.radio.info, rec.answers,
and news.answers only with prior approval of the moderators of those
newsgroups. In all such cases, an appropriate "Followup-To" header,
containing only rec.radio.amateur.moderated, will be added by the
moderators if one is not already provided.

Posters are encouraged to state their own views and share their
experiences, but to refrain from making assumptions about the
motivations of other newsgroup participants. Posters are expected to
maintain a basic tone of civility. Prohibited uncivil discourse
includes, but is not limited to, name calling.

Posts containing unsolicited advice questioning the right, worthiness,
suitability and/or readiness of any individual (or members of any group)
to be an amateur radio operator are unacceptable in this newsgroup. If
an individual chooses to post asking for advice on when or whether to
obtain an amateur radio license, or to participate in any type of lawful
activity in the Amateur Radio Service, respondents should be careful to
address their comments only to the original poster and not explicitly
generalize to others in similar situations.

Similarly, posts that arbitrarily declare certain classes of amateur
radio licenses, or certain members of national amateur radio societies
(e.g., American Radio Relay League, Radio Amateurs of Canada, Radio
Society of Great Britain, Wireless Institute of Australia, etc.), to be
more or less worthy than others, are not permitted. Posts that politely
encourage individuals to join their local amateur radio society, or to
upgrade to higher classes of amateur radio license in order to enjoy
greater operating privileges, are permitted, however. Posts that
contain reasoned, civil, and fact-based discussion of the activities and
internal politics of national amateur radio societies are also
permitted.

Buy/Sell/Trade and Commercial Policy:

Posts containing offers to buy, sell, or trade are not permitted on
rec.radio.amateur.moderated. The rec.radio.swap newsgroup was created
for this purpose, and should be used instead. All such articles will be
rejected by the moderators with the advice to re-post to that newsgroup.

Postings that are entirely commercial press releases, advertisements, or
other public relations campaigns will not be permitted. Relatively
unbiased announcements or reviews of new amateur radio-related products
or services may be permitted at the discretion of the moderators. Such
posters are asked to disclose their financial or professional interest,
if any, in such products or services.

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2. Additional Posting Guidelines

2.1 Netiquette guidelines

Participants who are new to Usenet should familiarize themselves with the "netiquette" of Usenet as well as the particular posting guidelines for this group. Several useful posts for "newbies" can be found on the newsgroup news.announce.newusers or on the WWW at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/by-newsgroup/news/news.announce.newusers.html

Particularly helpful articles are:
Welcome to Usenet!
Rules for posting to Usenet
Hints on writing style for Usenet
A Primer on How to Work With the Usenet Community
Emily Postnews Answers Your Questions on Netiquette
Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Usenet

2.2 Posting form requirements

Any article that falls into any of the following categories will be automatically rejected:

A) Articles that contain original text of more than 75 characters per line
B) Crossposted articles to newsgroups not included in these Guidelines
C) Articles that contain more than 400 lines
D) Encoded binary files (except PGP and other short digital signatures)
E) Attachments to posts
F) Articles containing obscene language
G) Articles from individuals who have been suspended or banned from the newsgroup

2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files

Many people close each article they write with a few lines of common text. This may be a cute quip or quote, or may include information about their family, contact information, or disclaimers required by their employer, for example.

Signature files used on rec.radio.amateur.moderated posting must be no longer than 8 lines.

The content of a poster's signature need not be relevant to amateur radio, but it must not violate any of the other posting guidelines. (For example, name-calling that would not be acceptable in the body of a message is also unacceptable in a signature.) Posters may include Uniform Resource Locators (URL's) and business addresses in signature files, provided they comply with all the other guidelines regarding signatures.

2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting

Posts more than 20 lines long that also have more than 75% quoted text will be carefully reviewed by a moderator to determine if that degree of quoting is warranted. Posts with excessive quoted text may be rejected.

Posters must show a reasonable effort to trim the post they are replying to and to include just enough material to establish context. "Me too!" posts are discouraged, and, when posted, must edit the quoted material significantly.

2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources

Unsolicited announcements and pointers to web sites that are strictly commercial press releases, advertisements, or other public relations campaigns, are not permitted. However, a pointer to a website or other external source of information is permitted and encouraged in cases where it is relevant to an existing thread, with appropriate context being given in the post. A URL with no information about what a user should expect to find there will be rejected. A pointer to information that is off-charter for rec.radio.amateur.moderated will be rejected, as will a pointer which itself does not meet the rec.radio.amateur.moderated guidelines (such as a URL containing embedded name-calling).

Moderators are not responsible for verifying the contents of any external information source.

2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability hold an amateur radio license

Identifiable groups and individuals may not be asked/told/etc. not to obtain an amateur radio license, or to only obtain certain classes of amateur radio license. It is not permissible to make statements that a person or members of a specific group "should" not, or should not be allowed to, become an amateur radio operator.

Solicited advice of this type is permissible; however, posters must be careful not to explicitly generalize to others who are in some way "like" the poster asking the question. Stick to the individual asking for advice.

It is acceptable to discuss verified violations, documented in criminal convictions or other government enforcement actions, by a person or members of a specific group.

2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling

Nastiness addressed at a person is considered name-calling. Criticizing a person's *actions* is not, provided that it is done in a civil manner.

Attacks on an action which by their very nature include an accusation against the person's character are not acceptable. For example, "That's a lie" implies an intentional prevarication, and is considered name-calling. Acceptable ways of questioning the truth of a poster's statement include the more tactful "I don't think that's true," "I believe you are mistaken because..." or even simply "That's not true."

"That's not true and you know it" crosses back over into name-calling, however.

2.8 Guidelines regarding civility

By charter, posters are expected to maintain a civil tone in all their postings. The guidelines on name-calling cover part of that requirement, but not all of it.

In general, posters are expected to consider the reputations of other participants, and refrain from making unnecessary accusations or assumptions about the motivations of others. A good rule of thumb is to phrase your comments as your opinion -- "I think..." "It seems to me that..." "This makes me wonder whether..." etc...

Posters are expected to make factual claims, to debate topics openly and in good faith, and to accept honest criticism, all without provocation or prevarication. At least one professional organization, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), has recognized that such fair dealings are necessary components of ethical conduct, and has incorporated them into its Code of Ethics:

http://www.ieee.org/portal/pages/about/whatis/code.html

Though the Amateur Radio Service is not a professional endeavor, the moderators strongly feel that the IEEE Code of Ethics is also a worthwhile set of guiding principles for participants in the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup.

Posters are not required to support the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). However, they are expected to adhere to the spirit of the other parts of the ARRL's "Amateur's Code":

http://www.arrl.org/acode.html

2.9 Other unacceptable topics

Participants are reminded that the charter also prohibits posts promoting or defending unlawful operating practices.

Posts may discuss whether operating practices are unlawful, or engage in reasoned debate over why certain operating practices should or should not be unlawful. Posts may discuss enforcement actions, such as by the Federal Communications Commission in the United States or similar government agencies in other countries, and evidence gathered by parties such as Official Observers in support of complaints about unlawful operation.

Discussions of what practices constitute unlawful operation in the Amateur Radio Service should be limited to *factual* descriptions of the laws in various jurisdictions. Posters' *opinions* as to what practices they consider unlawful are not permitted. In particular, posters are cautioned not to extrapolate their country's laws and regulations to those in other parts of the world, as they may be quite different.

Posts that entirely concern themselves with other radio services or hobbies, such as Citizen's Band, General Mobile Radio Service/Family Radio Service, and Scanner or Shortwave Listening, are considered off-topic to the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup. Newsgroups such as rec.radio.cb, rec.radio.scanner, and/or rec.radio.shortwave may be more appropriate venues for such posts.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-amateur-moderated-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the misc.kids.moderated Posting Guidelines.)

950. Explosion heard on 2M

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-15 09:14:20 UTC
From: litoi <litoi@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <380-22007521535834682@earthlink.net>
Source record: 4455

Details here:

http://www.vectorbd.com/bfd/hamradio/gear29.001

The Man in the Maze
QRV at Baboquivari Peak, AZ

951. Re: Radial laying methods

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-15 09:15:04 UTC
From: Bill Beeman <bbeeman@beemangroup.com>
Message-ID: <c9ci439q33igemqs7pes5e8dem9759jtpu@4ax.com>
Source record: 4456

On Mon, 14 May 2007 11:28:37 EDT, Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:

> Vertical antennas have some interesting features, but the radials
>required for them are a nuisance to install.
>
> Ideally, we would like approximately 1 gazillion radials for a
>vertical. In reality, we often settle for less. Much less.
>
> When installing my Butternut HF6V, I ended up laying as many radials as
>my poor aching hockey damaged back could handle, then the next weekend
>repeated the process. I eventually stumbled upon a method that was fast
>and painless. Well-as long as everything went well...
>
> So what are you vertical users radial trenching secrets, anyhow? I'll
>relay mine after things get started.
>
>
> - 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

For AM broadcast they are normally run in with a modified plow, with a guide tube for the wire on the trailing edge of the blade. Not practical on a residential lot, but if you are in the country a little welding could probably rig up a usable plow if you have access to a small (but bigger than lawn size) tractor. I used to like to then silver-solder the wire to a copper bus ring around the tower base.

In any event, a non-trivial task.

Bill KB0RF

952. Dayton Live webcast

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-15 20:54:36 UTC
From: LVN <gareth.paley@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <jYqdnb80zPcOitfbnZ2dnUVZ8qijnZ2d@bt.com>
Source record: 4457
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur

WA5KUB will be broadcasting the 3 days of the Hamvention live at
http://wa5kub.com from May 18 to May 20th, including the trip down

Meantime a recording of last year's show at dayton is playing on the site.
Goto :

mms://66.231.242.90/hamradio

--
10-10 (till we do it again) de G1LVN
--
My Call is M0WWS. I had an accident,
and I woke up in uk.radio.amateur.
Am I mad, in a coma, or back in time?
---

953. QSL Label printing program

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-15 21:15:45 UTC
From: RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net>
Message-ID: <1179263677.645589.241460@h2g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4458

I use Logger32 as my general purpose logging program. I can mark Q's which I want to QSL, and I can then export those marked Q's to an ADIF file. I'd like a program which could import that ADIF file and the output would be a print to a standard Avery label format.

Anyone know of a Windows product which can do that?

73, RDW

954. Re: QSL Label printing program

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-15 22:36:57 UTC
From: Fabian Kurz <usenet@fkurz.net>
Message-ID: <5auoq6F2qphbaU1@mid.dfncis.de>
Source record: 4459

RDWeaver wrote:
> I use Logger32 as my general purpose logging program. I can mark Q's
> which I want to QSL, and I can then export those marked Q's to an ADIF
> file. I'd like a program which could import that ADIF file and the
> output would be a print to a standard Avery label format.

BV7 by DF3CB is what you are looking for. Of course it's free.

http://df3cb.com/bv/index.html

73,
--
Fabian Kurz, DJ1YFK * Dresden, Germany * http://fkurz.net/
Online Log: http://dl0tud.tu-dresden.de/~dj1yfk/log.html

955. Re: QSL Label printing program

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-16 00:41:03 UTC
From: RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net>
Message-ID: <1179276047.132453.206150@e65g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4460

On May 15, 10:36 pm, Fabian Kurz <use...@fkurz.net> wrote:

>
> BV7 by DF3CB is what you are looking for. Of course it's free.
>
> http://df3cb.com/bv/index.html
>

Perfect! Absolutely perfect.

Thanks es 73,

RDW

956. Re: Radial laying methods

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-16 00:43:19 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1179276186.489064.231420@y80g2000hsf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4461

On May 14, 11:28 am, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> So what are you vertical users radial trenching secrets,
anyhow?

Here are a couple of methods:

The first method is to get a gardening spade with a straight (flat) blade. Hold it with the blade vertical and push with your foot so it makes a straight slit in the turf. Move it one blade-width and repeat.

Push the wire into the slit with a garden weed puller (long rod with a forked end.

The second method requires a special homemade tool. Get a linoleum knife (the kind with a curved blade) and sharpen the outside edge. Take a piece of ~1/4" copper tubing, bend it to a curve, and solder or epoxy it to the side of the blade.

The radial wire is fed through the tubing. The knife is pushed into the ground and pulled along, making a slit and burying the wire at the same time. Requires soft soil!

--

My favorite trick is to not bury the radials at all.

At my old house on RadioTelegraph Hill, I had a nice homebrew 20 meter vertical mounted on the garage. The bottom of the radiator (16 feet of half-inch EMT) was 10 feet up, and very inconspicuous. The radials went over the roof and yard, and were of fine wire so that they were almost invisible. Homemade insulators of clear plexiglas did the job at the far end.

Whole thing cost me maybe $10. I made thousands of QSOs with that antenna.

73 de Jim, N2EY

957. Re: Radial laying methods

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-16 14:50:07 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f2eu77$1188$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4462

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:

> The first method is to get a gardening spade with a straight (flat)
> blade. Hold it with the blade vertical and push with your foot so it
> makes a straight slit in the turf. Move it one blade-width and
> repeat.
>
> Push the wire into the slit with a garden weed puller (long rod with a
> forked end.
>
>
> The second method requires a special homemade tool. Get a linoleum
> knife (the kind with a curved blade) and sharpen the outside edge.
> Take a piece of ~1/4" copper tubing, bend it to a curve, and solder or
> epoxy it to the side of the blade.
>
> The radial wire is fed through the tubing. The knife is pushed into
> the ground and pulled along, making a slit and burying the wire at the
> same time. Requires soft soil!
>
> --
>
> My favorite trick is to not bury the radials at all.

<some snippage>

I came up with a pretty quick method which I'll describe here:

Before I go into this, the standard disclaimers apply -

I don't suggest anyone do this. It is a potentially dangerous
operation, and involves using sharp instruments that are capable of
causing serious injury or death. Don't even think of doing this. You
have been warned!

I found many of the suggested ways of laying radials either painful
from crouching over the work, too mind numbingly slow, or unsatisfactory
in general - such as laying the radials on the ground and not burying.
The XYL particularly hated the last one.

I thought to myself "There must be a method of doing this that isn't
going to take the whole day and is reasonably automated".

So I set off on a quest. First I looked for an edger. Unfortunately the
least expensive one I could find was around a hundred dollars. To make
matters worse, I wouldn't have much use for it afterwards.

So I did what any other nut would have done, I bought a small electric chainsaw. for something like 39 dollars.

In use, I stood part way to the side of the cut, starting at the antenna base. Then pulled the saw back with me to cut the shallow trench. I found it worked even better if I turned the saw on. I had not one kickback, although the occasional spark is to be expected when hitting a rock or pebble.

Then I laid the radial wire in the trench, walked over the cut to compact and stabilize the buried radial, then attached the radial to my ground ring.

This was quick, allowed me to install a lot more radials before my back hurt too much, and only scared the neighbors a little bit.

One other caveat - don't expect the chain to be very sharp after this bit of abuse. I needed to get another chain to restore the saw to it's proper wood cutting use.

And of course, this isn't going to work if you live in a place like New Hampshire, where the soil tends to be made of solid granite.

Like I said before, this is only something I did. In no way is it to be construed as a suggestion. Don't do it.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

958. Re: Radial laying methods

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-16 17:18:56 UTC
From: RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net>
Message-ID: <1179335916.504122.110230@e65g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4463

On May 16, 2:50 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:

>
> So I did what any other nut would have done, I bought a small electric
> chainsaw. for something like 39 dollars.
>

It's what the pro's use, on a different scale. Friend of mine does
fiber optic provisioning, and he's bringing on of these to my station
to plant coax.

See here -----> http://www.ditchwitch.com/dwcom/Product/ProductView/10588

73, RDW

959. Re: Radial laying methods

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-16 19:45:39 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <134mnq3l6elrcc6@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 4464

RDWeaver wrote:
> On May 16, 2:50 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>
>> So I did what any other nut would have done, I bought a small electric
>> chainsaw. for something like 39 dollars.
>>
>
> It's what the pro's use, on a different scale. Friend of mine does
> fiber optic provisioning, and he's bringing on of these to my station
> to plant coax.
>
> See here -----> http://www.ditchwitch.com/dwcom/Product/ProductView/10588

Well . . . there's a bit of difference between a ditch witch, which is made for digging ditches and offers the operator reasonable protection from flying debris, and using a chain saw that is designed for cutting wood.

As Michael warns several times in his article, this "is a potentially dangerous operation, and involves using sharp instruments that are capable of causing serious injury or death. Don't even think of doing this. You have been warned!" I have the utmost respect for a chain saw, even when used in its intended application of cutting wood. (And I use one regularly.) I'd certainly be very aprehensive about using it to part the Red Dirt. Or black dirt, depending on your part of the country.

73, Steve KB9X

960. Re: Radial laying methods

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-16 21:11:56 UTC
From: RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net>
Message-ID: <1179349889.396599.75880@o5g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4465

On May 16, 2:50 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:

>
> One other caveat - don't expect the chain to be very sharp after this
> bit of abuse.
>

Yes, but when you're done planting the radials, you could use the dull
chain as an antenna and maybe win a prize.

See here ---> http://www.n0ew.org/k0s/

73, RDW

961. Re: Radial laying methods

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-16 21:43:21 UTC
From: Jack VK2CJC <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com>
Message-ID: <f2frpr$274$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 4466

> One other caveat - don't expect the chain to be very sharp after this bit
> of abuse. I needed to get another chain to restore the saw to it's proper
> wood cutting use.

Having some experience with chainsaws-

Contacting the blade with dirt will ruin the blade (as stated above), but don't do this with an expensive saw thinking that the blade can be changed later. It'll also ruin the guide wheels and clutch too. In fact, it is widely known among chainsaw operators that dirt = death to chainsaws. It mixes with the oil and becomes a grinding compound.

Trench cutting has to be seen as an old saws dying gasp.

It is also extremely risky. If you unwittingly hit something solid, the saw could bounce or kick back. It happens sometimes when you're cutting wood. Its bound to happen when you are cutting into something when you don't know what it consists of.

Having said all that, I cant decided if my advise would be- be careful, OR- just don't do it.
--
Jack VK2CJC / MM0AXL
FISTS# 9666
Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group
www.mncarg.org

962. Re: Radial laying methods

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-17 03:16:44 UTC
From: "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not>
Message-ID: <f2gd61uri1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 4467

Michael Coslo wrote:
> Vertical antennas have some interesting features, but the radials
> required for them are a nuisance to install.
[snip]
> So what are you vertical users radial trenching secrets, anyhow?
> I'll relay mine after things get started.

I like to do radials a different way: rather than cut a trench for each radial, I scrape the topsoil, lay out the radials and concentrics, bond them, and then cover the whole grid up again. Believe it or not, this is actually quicker, given proper preparation - for an 80 meter vertical with 64 radials, it can be done by four hams in one day - although it is definitely best done when the XYL is visiting her folks. ;-)

After that, I put down lots of fertilizer and new grass seed, and blamed the operation on grubs. Worked like a charm.

Bill W1AC
P.S. This method assumes you are really good friends with an experienced bulldozer operator who has a job in the next block over, but not that you actually do have a grub problem.

--
73,

Bill W1AC

(Remove "73" and change top level domain for direct replies)

963. Re: Radial laying methods

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-17 03:55:36 UTC
From: k8mn@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1179374105.630700.320410@w5g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4468

On May 16, 7:45 pm, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
> RDWeaver wrote:
> > On May 16, 2:50 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>
> >> So I did what any other nut would have done, I bought a small electric
> >> chainsaw. for something like 39 dollars.
>
> > It's what the pro's use, on a different scale. Friend of mine does
> > fiber optic provisioning, and he's bringing on of these to my station
> > to plant coax.
>
> > See here ----->http://www.ditchwitch.com/dwcom/Product/ProductView/10588
>
> Well . . . there's a bit of difference between a ditch witch, which is
> made for digging ditches and offers the operator reasonable protection
> from flying debris, and using a chain saw that is designed for cutting wood.

Some of the ideas presented represent some of the most labor
intensive, dangerous methods I've run across.

Cut some #12 or #14 galvanized steel wire into six or eight inch
lengths. Fold them in half to form a hairpin. Lay out your radial
wires along the surface of your yard. Use a steel hairpin every three
or four feet to hold the wire to the earth. Within several weeks of
the grass growing and cutting cycle, the radials will disappear
beneath the surface of the grass, never to be seen again. I'm now up
to over 6,000 feet of vinyl insulated #12 and #14 radials for my 160m
inverted L using this method. There are no whirring metallic objects,
no chain saws. There's no digging and very little effort.

Dave K8MN

964. Re: Radial laying methods

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-17 12:47:32 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <134ojminc6sgp14@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 4469

k8mn@earthlink.net wrote:

> I'm now up
> to over 6,000 feet of vinyl insulated #12 and #14 radials for my 160m
> inverted L using this method. There are no whirring metallic objects,
> no chain saws. There's no digging and very little effort.

When I read what Dave had written, it struck me that it's an illustration of a trait that I have observed often in our hobby: It has to be done *exactly* the right way. A 1.2:1 SWR isn't good enough. Radials have to be *buried* since obviously they won't be as effective if they're just laid on the ground. Yeah, several hours of back breaking work and possibly risking your life might gain you 1 db that no one will be able to detect . . . or maybe not even that. We need to be a bit more forgiving of non-optimum solutions and do a bit more cost/benefit analysis on the work it takes to convert them to optimum solutions.

An illustration comes to mind. When I was working in Mississippi in the Katrina aftermath, the Red Cross asked the hams to provide their feeding vehicles (ERVs) with communications while they were on station. ["ERV" stands for "emergency response vehicle".] An HT was insufficient to hit the local repeater system. We had mobile 2m tranceivers to put one in each ERV, but the mag mount antennas were useless because ERVs aren't magnetic (fiberglass and aluminium). When I suggested using the existing antenna that was already mounted on the side of the ERV for the Red Cross radio, the response was "Oh, no, we can't do that -- it won't match for 2 meters." And sure enough, it didn't . . . but it was plenty good enough to do the job, and modern transmitter circuity is perfectly capable of coping with a huge mismatch.

What I'm trying to say is that "good enough" works fine in many cases, and the incremental effort to move to "perfect" often isn't justified.

73, Steve KB9X

965. Re: Radial laying methods

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-17 16:09:53 UTC
From: RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net>
Message-ID: <1179417231.621207.255950@n59g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4470

Steve Bonine wrote

> When I read what Dave had written, it struck me that it's
> an illustration of a trait that I have observed often in our
> hobby: It has to be done *exactly* the right way. A 1.2:1
> SWR isn't good enough. Radials have to be *buried* since
> obviously they won't be as effective if they're just laid on the
> ground. Yeah, several hours of back breaking work and
> possibly risking your life might gain you 1 db that no
> one will be able to detect . . . or maybe not even that.
> We need to be a bit more forgiving of non-optimum solutions
> and do a bit more cost/benefit analysis on the work it takes
> to convert them to optimum solutions.

I've a different view on several points.

I didn't see Dave's message as "has to be done *exactly* right", but simply a different way of securing the radials, WITHOUT "have to be *buried*.

But given the amount of copper he's laid down, obviously he's intent on getting the best performance he can muster on 160. Nothing wrong with that, and that 1 db may be just the amount needed to snag that last Z for WAZ Top Band, or break through the east coast curtain to log a multiplier in the Stu Perry Challenge.

Your anecdote about the Red Cross van is well taken, but I think it illustrates a point.

There are times when we readily accept "get 'er done" as "good enough", such as during a disaster like Katrina, or for a temporary setup like Field Day, or a demonstration station at the local high school.

But when we engineer our home station (especially if we're serious about DXing or contesting) we go to all reasonable (and yes, even sometimes unreasonable) lengths to get the best performance we can squeeze out. A couple db better front-to-back, another microvolt to the receiver, more KC between the 2:1 spots on the VSWR curve, an easier way to reduce ground losses under a Battle Creek Special, or a better ergonomic chair for those long contests. In that regard, many of us have no "forgiveness of non-optimum".

73, RDW

966. The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 20

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-18 02:11:47 UTC
From: ARRL Letter Mailing List <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <200705180120.l4I1KrQp007661@linux11676.dn.net>
Source record: 4471
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

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***************
The ARRL Letter
Vol. 26, No. 20
May 18, 2007
***************

IN THIS EDITION:

* +Repeater interference mitigation plan goes to Defense Department
* +Emergency communication tops IARU Administrative Council agenda
* +Scarborough Reef DXpedition logs now online
* +Settlement means loss of amateur ticket for Indiana man
* +Results mixed for Amateur Radio as FCC ends two proceedings
* Solar Update
* IN BRIEF:
This weekend on the radio
ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration
+ARRL reprising Dayton Hamvention blog
+ITU okays Montenegro, Serbia call sign prefix agreement
+AMSAT issues first call for Symposium papers
KD5PLA to succeed KD5PLB aboard ISS
QCWA, Newsline to collaborate in mentoring program
"Strange Antenna Challenge," special event set
We stand corrected

+Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/>

==========================================================
==>Delivery problems: First see FAQ
<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/faq.html#nodelivery>, then e-mail
<letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
==>Editorial questions or comments only: Rick Lindquist, N1RL,
<n1rl@arrl.org>
==========================================================

==>ARRL SUBMITS PLAN TO MITIGATE REPEATER INTERFERENCE TO MILITARY RADARS

The ARRL has submitted an interference mitigation plan to the US Department
of Defense (DoD) as part of an effort to resolve reported interference from
dozens of 70 cm amateur repeaters to US military radar systems on both
coasts. Since Amateur Radio is secondary to government users from 420 to 450
MHz, hams must not interfere with primary users and, under the rules, can be
forced to cease operation. Earlier this year, the US Air Force asked the FCC
to order dozens of repeater systems to either eliminate interference to its
"PAVE PAWS" missile and satellite detection and tracking radars in
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Massachusetts and California or shut down.

"We are waiting the response of the DoD representative to the proposal and will continue to provide information as to its status when it becomes available," commented ARRL Regulatory Information Specialist Dan Henderson, N1ND. The interference mitigation plan has four primary steps.

* All repeaters the DoD has identified as potential interference sources will immediately and temporarily reduce transmitter power output (TPO) to 5 W.

* The ARRL will conduct Longley-Rice studies on each repeater system to determine what further mitigation techniques might apply to individual repeaters. These could include relocating the system, the use of directional antenna systems to create nulls towards the PAVE PAWS site, permanent power reductions or a combination of these techniques.

* The DoD will review ARRL's studies to determine if the proposals will meet DoD's unspecified field strength requirements to mitigate the potential interference satisfactorily.

* Once the DoD reviews and approves the proposals, the ARRL will provide the recommendations to respective repeater frequency coordinating groups and the FCC.

The situation affects 15 repeaters within less than 100 miles of Otis Air Force Base on Cape Cod, Massachusetts, and more than 100 repeaters within some 140 miles of Beale Air Force Base near Sacramento, California. PAVE PAWS facilities occupy essentially the entire 70 cm band -- one factor that makes mitigation difficult. Feeding upward of 1800 active antenna elements, the broadband radar transmitters emit an average power output of more than 145 kW.

Henderson says repeater owners and trustees ultimately would be responsible for implementing the mitigation proposals or for developing alternatives that protect the radar systems to the same extent.

Cooperation will be the key to a successful resolution of the situation, Henderson says. "Although ARRL has no means to compel compliance with the mitigation strategies, each repeater is absolutely obligated not to interfere with these radars," he emphasized. "Failure to implement the mitigation strategy or otherwise eliminate interference attributed to an individual repeater will result in immediate FCC action."

Henderson points out that the FCC is aware of and monitoring this situation and will act as necessary to protect the radars from interference. He stresses, however, that the US military is aware of the critical role Amateur Radio repeaters play in disasters and emergencies, and a wholesale shutdown of US 70 cm Amateur Radio activity is not under consideration.

A US Air Force contractor identified the allegedly problematic repeater systems last summer, but the situation didn't become critical until the Air Force contacted the FCC in March. ARRL officials met with Defense Department

representatives later that month to discuss alleged interference to the PAVE PAWS radar sites, and last month Henderson contacted Amateur Radio frequency coordinating organizations in both affected areas -- the Northern Amateur Relay Council of California (NARCC) and the New England Spectrum Management Council (NESMC).

Contact Dan Henderson, N1ND <n1nd@arrl.org>; (860-594-0236), with specific questions or issues associated with this situation.

==>EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION LEADS IARU ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL AGENDA

The Administrative Council of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) <http://www.iaru.org> held its annual meeting May 14-15 in Boston, Massachusetts. Topping the agenda was the IARU's upcoming participation in the Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference, GAREC-07. The international gathering will take place in Huntsville, Alabama, in mid-August -- just prior to the ARRL National Convention there <http://www.arrl.org/announce/nc/2007/huntsville.html>. The Administrative Council's primary goal is to enhance the coordination and promotion of Amateur Radio's worldwide disaster response capabilities.

During the Boston gathering, the Council received a draft strategy paper from IARU International Coordinator for Emergency Communications Hans Zimmermann, HB9AQS/F5VKP. The body will seek additional information from member-societies on the national regulatory position of the Amateur Service in preparing for and providing emergency communications, with an eye toward identifying problem areas and developing solutions.

The Administrative Council meeting took place earlier in the year than usual in order to complete the review of preparations for the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-07) in Geneva this fall.

The Council also received reports of the other IARU international coordinators and advisers: International Beacon Project Coordinator Peter Jennings, AB6WM/VE3SUN; Satellite Adviser Hans van de Groenendaal, ZS6AKV; Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC) Adviser Christian Verholt, OZ8CY, and Interim Monitoring System International Coordinator Chuck Skolaut, K0BOG. Coordinators and advisers were reappointed for three-year terms.

A further progress report was received from an ad hoc committee investigating the IARU's future role and structure. The Council resolved that the work to date represents an appropriate direction for planning, and it requested that the committee continue its work to address remaining open issues, including consultation with member-societies.

The Council recognized a need for greater international coordination on EMC matters, and it adopted conclusions and recommendations arising from a study of how to accomplish this objective.

Continuing the strategic planning initiative begun in 2003, the Council reviewed and renewed progress on a three-year plan for the development of support for Amateur Radio frequency allocations for 2008 through 2011. Some

details are pending until after WRC-07.

The Council identified ITU meetings that will require IARU representation over the coming year, and it reviewed plans for representation. The principal focus continues to be on WRC-07 preparations.

A report on the status of the IARU member-society in Bosnia and Herzegovina was received from the Region 1 representatives. The Council determined that it requires additional information to clarify whether the member-society is able to adequately represent the interests of all radio amateurs of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the IARU.

The Council reviewed the budget for 2008-2010 as presented by the International Secretariat (ARRL). The budget includes provision for financial contributions from the three regional organizations to defray a portion of the expenses, in accordance with previously adopted policy.

A working document describing the requirements for radio spectrum allocations to the amateur and amateur-satellite services was reviewed. Council members will take a comprehensive look at the document following WRC-07.

In other business, the IARU Administrative Council:

* reviewed and endorsed a plan to revitalize the IARU Worked All Continents (WAC) award program.

* selected "Amateur Radio: A Foundation for Technical Knowledge" as the theme for the next World Amateur Radio Day, April 18, 2008.

* received and discussed reports from each of the three IARU regional organizations.

The next regional conference will be Region 2's in Brasilia in mid-September. The next scheduled Administrative Council meeting will be in Germany in June 2008.

Attending the Boston meeting were IARU President Larry Price, W4RA; Vice President Tim Ellam, VE6SH/G4HUA; Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ; regional representatives Ole Garpestad, LA2RR, Don Beattie, G3BJ, Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T, Rod Stafford, W6ROD, Reinaldo Leandro, YV5AMH, Daniel Lamoureux, VE2KA, Michael Owen, VK3KI, Joong-Geun Rhee, HL1AQQ, ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, on behalf of the International Secretariat, and recording secretary Paul Rinaldo, W4RI.

==>BS7H SCARBOROUGH REEF DXPEDITION LOGS AVAILABLE ONLINE

The BS7H Scarborough Reef DXpedition team reports it logged 45,830 QSOs during its weeklong stay on the South Pacific rocks. All BS7H logs now are available online <http://www.scarboroughreef.com/srlog.html>. The DXpedition to the world's most-wanted DXCC entity, which got under way April 29 and concluded May 5, has been approved for DXCC credit. The Daily DX <http://www.dailydx.com> says if you don't find your call sign in the online log search but are confident you had a solid QSO, send a QSL card to Steve

Wheatley, KU9C, PO Box 31, Morristown, NJ 07963-0031 (or via the QSL Bureau). Attach a brief explanatory note. KU9C will search the logs to see if an error occurred, Daily DX Editor Bernie McClenny, W3UR, says. Do not e-mail KU9C. The BS7H logs have not yet been uploaded to ARRL's Logbook of the World.

As might be expected, 20 meters was the bread-and-butter band, with 21,858 contacts on CW, SSB and RTTY completed. BS7H logged just 54 contacts on 160 meters and 334 on 80 meters, since weather conditions prevented deploying a weather balloon-supported wire until the last few hours. The team netted 3548 QSOs on 40 meters, 3374 on 30 meters, 6774 on 17 meters, 6057 on 15 meters, 876 on 12 meters and 1565 on 10 meters. In all, 19,319 BS7H contacts occurred on SSB, 24,799 on CW and 322 on RTTY. Complete statistics are available on the BS7H Web page <http://www.scarboroughreef.com/srstats.html>.

The DXpedition operators worked long shifts from stations set up on tiny platforms that rose just above each of the four Scarborough Reef rocks that are exposed during high tide. Once they shut down, the BS7H DXpedition team rapidly dismantled the gear and platforms and soon were en route by ship back to Hong Kong.

Team member Mike Mraz, N6MZ, will be at Dayton Hamvention <http://www.hamvention.org> and will deliver a presentation on the BS7H DXpedition during the DX Forum Saturday afternoon. No QSL cards are expected to be available at Hamvention, however. The Daily DX reports that team member James Brooks, 9V1YC, will be producing a video on the DXpedition, available later this year.

QSL BS7H via KU9C. US stations are reminded to include 41 cents first class postage on the return envelope. To expedite your BS7H card, include separate SASEs when requesting cards from other DX stations that KU9C manages.

Scarborough Reef's status as the top most-wanted DXCC entity prompted some ops to go to extremes, such as erecting new antennas, just to work the DXpedition. The Daily DX says Frank Letton, W6JTI, "qualifies as a true-blue DXer" by going the extra mile, as it were. As things turned out, he'd already finalized plans for a three-week trip to visit his mother in San Antonio, Texas, during the period the DXpedition was to be on the air.

Undeterred, Letton shipped a transceiver, accessories and a two-element 20-meter Yagi ahead. Once there, he erected the Yagi on a 35-foot TV mast he purchased locally, and strung up a dipole beneath the beam. The Daily DX reports W6JTI snagged BS7H on both 40 and 20 CW.

According to The Daily DX, W6JTI needs four more entities: Palestine, Montenegro, Yemen and North Korea. He's worked 333 current entities while running just 100 W.

Additional photos of the DXpedition are available on the BS7H Web site <http://www.scarboroughreef.com/srphotos.html>.

==>LOSS OF AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE IS PART OF SETTLEMENT WITH FCC

An Indiana radio amateur will have to surrender his General ticket under the terms of a Settlement Agreement reached with the FCC stemming from alleged corporate and personal misdeeds. In addition, Timothy M. Doty, WB9MCD, of W Terre Haute, will have to yield his General Radiotelephone Operator License, and Commercial Radio Service (CRS) Inc, in which he's an equal partner with his brother, Gary, will have to surrender its Land Mobile Service licenses. In a Memorandum Opinion and Order (MO&O) <http://www.fcc.gov/eb/revocations/files/FCC-07M-12.pdf> in EB Docket 06-168, released April 26, the FCC said the settlement spares all parties from a lengthy legal proceeding, although according to its terms, neither the Dotys nor CRS admit to any violation of the Communications Act of 1934 or FCC rules.

"Suffice it to say, approval of the Agreement will obviate the need for a protracted hearing, thereby conserving the resources of the Commission and the private parties," the FCC said in its MO&O. "In addition, approval of the Agreement will provide for a fair and equitable resolution of this proceeding."

The agreement stipulates that neither Doty will be able to apply for or hold "any attributable interest in any Commission license or authorization" for five years. CRS and the Dotys also will make a "voluntary donation" of $10,000 to the US Treasury. If the matter had gone to hearing, CRS could have been liable for fines approaching $100,000.

In an Order to Show Cause last August, the FCC ordered Timothy Doty and CRS to show cause why their respective Commission licenses should not be revoked. The FCC cited information it had received suggesting that CRS may not have properly disclosed information about Timothy Doty's felony convictions in applications the company filed with the Commission.

In several proceedings in recent years, the FCC has considered a licensee's or applicant's character among factors it takes into account when determining whether an individual possesses the requisite qualifications to be a Commission licensee.

As the agreement recites, in 1991 Doty was convicted in federal court of a felony that involved manufacture and possession of unauthorized satellite TV descrambling devices. He received three years' probation and a $2000 fine. In 2001, Doty was found guilty in state court on a felony count of possessing a controlled substance and sentenced to 18 months incarceration with all but 30 days suspended.

"It appears, therefore, that the concerns raised by the Commission in its order designating this case for hearing will have been resolved," the FCC concluded. The Settlement Agreement is on the FCC's Web site <<http://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/prod/ecfs/retrieve.cgi?native_or_pdf=pdf&id_document=6519409544>.

==>FCC'S TERMINATION OF PROCEEDINGS A MIXED BLESSING FOR HAM RADIO

The FCC's recent termination of two aging proceedings has some favorable and less-than-favorable implications for Amateur Radio. As part of a recent effort to clear the decks of languishing proceedings, the FCC closed out a

Notice of Inquiry and Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NOI and NPRM) in ET Docket 03-237 <http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/et03-237/>, aimed at establishing an "interference temperature metric" as a model for managing interference and "to expand available unlicensed operation" in certain bands. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, referred to the interference temperature model as "a flawed concept" and said the May 4 termination Order <http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-07-78A1.pdf> is good news. The FCC appeared to agree.

"Commenting parties generally argued that the interference temperature approach is not a workable concept and would result in increased interference in the frequency bands where it would be used," the Commission said in its termination Order. "While there was some support in the record for adopting an interference temperature approach, no parties provided information on specific technical rules that we could adopt to implement it."

The Commission further conceded that "with the passage of time" the November 2003 NOI and NPRM and the record in the proceeding "have become outdated." The termination was "without prejudice," suggesting the Commission could resurrect the concept later.

The FCC asserted four years ago that the new metric "could represent a fundamental paradigm shift" in its spectrum management approach by using a standard that takes into account "the cumulative effects of all undesired RF energy" at a given instant. It initially wanted to implement the concept in two microwave bands, suggesting that it the interference temperature limit for a band "would serve as an upper bound or 'cap' on the potential RF energy that could be introduced into the band."

When the ARRL filed comments <http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/et03-237/> in the proceeding in 2004, it called the interference temperature concept "highly premature" and said it should not go forward. The ARRL contended that the FCC didn't have enough information to put such a model into place, and it should not try to take a shortcut, as it did in the broadband over power line proceeding.

In a second Order <http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-07-79A1.pdf> released May 4, the FCC also terminated its inquiry, in ET Docket 03-65, into whether it should "incorporate receiver interference immunity performance specifications into spectrum policy decisions on a broad basis." Sumner commented that immunity standards for consumer electronics devices, including receivers, have long been an ARRL objective. The Commission again asserted that "the passage of time" had rendered out of date its Notice of Inquiry <http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-03-54A6.doc> and record in the proceeding.

"Further, to the extent receiver interference immunity performance specifications are desirable, they may be addressed in proceedings that are frequency band or service specific," the Commission remarked in the Order. The FCC also left the door open to consider the issue again down the road.

In its July 2003 comments <http://www.arrl.org/announce/regulatory/et03-65/ARRL-ET-03-65-cmts.pdf> in ET Docket 03-65, the ARRL told the FCC that improved interference standards for consumer electronic devices is the most-pressing need as the Commission considers the interference immunity performance of receivers. While recommending "either mandatory receiver immunity standards or at least guidelines" in most other services, the ARRL said no receiver immunity standards are necessary or practical in the "essentially experimental" Amateur Service.

"With the current explosion of consumer electronics and unlicensed devices," the League said, "the Commission must establish interference rejection standards for unlicensed home electronic equipment and systems."

==>SOLAR UPDATE

Ra the Sun god Tad "Sunshine, Sunset" Cook, K7RA, Seattle, Washington, reports: This week saw a rise in sunspot numbers, with the average daily value up by more than 11 points to 29.3. On May 16, the daily sunspot number was 56, the highest daily reading since last December 5, when it was 59. This week's average sunspot number was the highest since the January 4-10, 2007, reporting week.

Keep in mind that a tremendous day-to-day variation in sunspot numbers is normal, so this should not be viewed as an indicator that sunspot trends have turned around, and weï¿½re already into Cycle 24. Of course, increased activity may follow; this just isn't an indicator that higher sunspot numbers are due in the very near term.

The bottom of the cycle, late last year predicted for the past couple of months, has moved out as far as a year in the most recent general consensus of the scientific community. With predictions revised so often, it would be useful to keep an eye on each week's release of the Preliminary Report of Solar and Geophysical Data <http://www.sec.noaa.gov/weekly/>.

For the near term, weï¿½ll probably see sunspot numbers higher than the recent periods when it was 0 or 12, but declining a bit, with the next probable peak around May 25-30. Unsettled to active geomagnetic conditions are forecast for the beginning of that period, and we may see some mildly unsettled activity around May 20.

Sunspot numbers for May 10 through 16 were 20, 24, 21, 18, 29, 37 and 56, with a mean of 29.3. The 10.7 cm flux was 71.2, 71.5, 71.4, 73.5, 72.9, 76.9, and 77.1, with a mean of 73.5. Estimated planetary A indices were 3, 2, 3, 3, 3, 6 and 4, with a mean of 3.4. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 2, 2, 2, 2, 1, 4 and 3, with a mean of 2.3.

For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>.

==>IN BRIEF:

* This weekend on the radio: The US Counties QSO Party (SSB), His Majesty the King of Spain Contest (CW), the EU PSK DX Contest, the Manchester Mineira All America Contest and the Baltic Contest are the May 19-20 weekend. JUST AHEAD: The Run for the Bacon QRP Contest is May 21. The RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship (CW) is May 24. The CQ World Wide WPX Contest (CW) is May 26-27 weekend. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests/> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more info.

* ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration: Registration remains open through Sunday, June 3, for these ARRL Certification and Continuing Education (CCE) online courses beginning Friday, June 15: Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 2 (EC-002), Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 3 (EC-003R2), Antenna Modeling (EC-004), HF Digital Communications (EC-005), VHF/UHF -- Life Beyond the Repeater (EC-008) and Radio Frequency Propagation (EC-011). These courses will also open for registration Friday, June 1, for classes beginning Friday July 20. To learn more, visit the CCE Course Listing page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html> or contact the CCE Department <cce@arrl.org>.

* ARRL reprising Dayton Hamvention blog: The ARRL again has a Dayton Hamvention blog <http://www.arrl.org/blog/Dayton%20and%20ARRL%20Expo>. ARRL Publications Manager and QST Editor Steve Ford, WB8IMY, says his "ramblings" for the 2007 Dayton and ARRL Expo Weblog begin where last year's ended. The 2006 blog, which remains on the site, was extremely successful, he said. "We had more than 6000 individuals reading the blog throughout the event," Ford noted. "This year's effort will be much the same, possibly with a new wrinkle or two." The League's Dayton and ARRL Expo Weblog, part of an effort to add personal touch to the Hamvention experience, will chronicle news and impressions of Dayton Hamvention and ARRL EXPO 2007. Hamvention annually attracts upward of 25,000 visitors.

* ITU okays Montenegro, Serbia call sign prefix agreement: Although it became a country -- and a DXCC entity -- in its own right last June, Montenegro has not had an Amateur Radio call sign block to call its own until this month. According to The Daily DX, the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) did not want to give Montenegro an entirely new prefix, so it required the states of Montenegro and Serbia to agree upon one or two prefixes from the five (4N, 4O, YT, YU and YZ) assigned to the former Serbia-Montenegro. An agreement was reached May 11, and the ITU now lists 4O (that's "four Oscar") as Montenegro's prefix. This means Montenegro stations may use 4O0 through 4O9, while Serbia stations will continue to use YT and YU prefixes for all call districts, 0 through 9. The ITU has taken back the former 4N and YZ prefixes for future reassignment. The ITU reportedly wants the two nations to complete the transition to new call sign blocks as soon as possible. The Daily DX Editor Bernie McClenny, W3UR, recommends that DXers update their logging software carefully to reflect the changes.

* AMSAT issues first call for Symposium papers: AMSAT has announced its first call for papers for the 2007 AMSAT Space Symposium and Annual Meeting,

October 25-28 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
<http://www.amsat.org/amsat-new/symposium/2007/index.php>. The organization solicits proposals for papers, symposium presentations and poster presentations on any topic of interest to the Amateur Satellite community. An emphasis this year is an educational outreach to middle and high school students. In particular, papers are sought on students and education, the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program, AO-51, Phase 3E, the Eagle project and other satellite-related topics. A one-page abstract is due by June 1. Camera-ready copy on paper or in electronic form is due by September 1 for inclusion in the symposium Proceedings. Send abstracts and papers to Daniel Schultz, N8FGV <n8fgv@amsat.org>.

* KD5PLA to succeed KD5PLB aboard ISS: NASA has announced that US astronaut Clay Anderson, KD5PLA, will succeed Suni Williams, KD5PLB, as International Space Station Expedition 15 Flight Engineer later this spring. Anderson will arrive aboard the ISS aboard the shuttle Atlantis, set to launch June 8. The same shuttle mission, STS-117, will carry Williams back to Earth after several months aboard the space outpost. NASA originally planned the astro-swap for the STS-118 shuttle mission, first set to fly in June but now targeted for an August launch. Unexpected hail damage to Atlantis' external fuel tank forced the change in plans, and NASA managers approved the revised crew rotation April 26, after determining that it would have no impact on space station operations or future shuttle mission objectives. A Massachusetts native, Williams has been in space since early December. During her ISS stay, she's set a record for spacewalks by a female astronaut, conducting four excursions for a total of 29 hours, 17 minutes. Upon her return, she will have accumulated more time in space than any other woman. She's also logged 20 Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) school contacts so far. Anderson, a Nebraska native, is making his first spaceflight. He'll return home next October.

* QCWA, Newsline to collaborate in mentoring program: The Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA) <http://www.qcwa.org> and Amateur Radio Newsline (ARNewsline) <http://www.arnewsline.org> have joined forces in cosponsoring the Roy Neal, K6DUE, Amateur Radio Mentoring Program. ARNewsline launched the post-licensing educational service in 2004. It's designed to pair newcomers with veteran radio amateurs who can share their skill and experience. "Amateur Radio is a tremendously complex arena", says Newsline Executive Producer Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF. "We have hams who are truly experts in numerous fields [and] we want to take advantage of that talent pool to help educate the next generation of operators and generations to follow." The collaboration with QCWA makes thousands of veteran radio amateurs available as potential mentors -- each with at least 25 years of experience in the hobby. QCWA President John B. Johnston, W3BE, called the arrangement "a good deal for all of Amateur Radio." A retired FCC employee and Dayton Radio Amateur of the Year, Johnston says he believes that it is important to keep ham radio traditions alive. ARNewsline and the QCWA are now seeking both new radio amateurs and potential QCWA mentors -- or Elmers. E-mail <mentor@arnewsline.org> your name, call sign, address with ZIP code, telephone number and a convenient time to call.

* "Strange Antenna Challenge," special event set: Operation over Memorial Day weekend, May 26-28, by special event station K0S will highlight the 2007 Strange Antenna Challenge. Sponsors say K0S will employ out-of-the-ordinary antennas to promote Amateur Radio and making do with what might be available during an emergency. Individuals and clubs may participate as "satellite stations" by using anything but wire or pipe for a radiating element and adding "/K0S" to their call signs. Details are on the Kï¿½S, Strange Antenna Challenge Web site <http://www.n0ew.org/k0s/>. Strange antennas used in past events, dating back to 2002, have included folding chairs, paint easels, ladders, tape measures, dog kennels, fences, cots and chicken wire (photo) with a trampoline as an apparent ground plane. "More people share in the fun each year," says Erik Weaver, N0EW, a Strange Antenna Challenge founder. "I hope you give me a call this year with your very own strange antenna. Now let's play radio!"

* We stand corrected: A paragraph in the story "Ham Radio Instrumental in Pacific Maritime Rescue," in The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 19, contained incorrect information. It should have said: "Another report credits MMSN Net Controller Rooney Polack, 6Y5RP, in Jamaica with intercepting the Mayday and assisting via intermittent radio contacts and relays during the first few hours of the event to get information to the Coast Guard. (Polack is the Amateur Radio Emergency Coordinator for Jamaica and works closely with both emergency management and the weather service there.)

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The ARRL Letter is published Fridays, 50 times each year, by the American Radio Relay League: ARRL--the National Association For Amateur Radio, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111; tel 860-594-0200; fax 860-594-0259; <http://www.arrl.org>. Joel Harrison, W5ZN, President.

The ARRL Letter offers a weekly e-mail digest of essential and general news of interest to active radio amateurs. Visit the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org> for the latest Amateur Radio news and news updates. The ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/> also offers informative features and columns. ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> is a weekly "ham radio newscast" compiled and edited from The ARRL Letter. It's also available as a podcast from our Web site.

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The ARRL Letter also is available to all, free of charge, from these
sources:

* ARRLWeb <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>. (NOTE: The ARRL Letter will be
posted each Friday when it is distributed via e-mail.)

* The QTH.net listserver, thanks to volunteers from the Boston Amateur Radio
Club: Visit Mailing Lists@QTH.Net
<http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/letter-list>. (NOTE: The ARRL
cannot assist subscribers who receive The ARRL Letter via this listserver.)

967. i need recommendations

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-18 04:41:52 UTC
From: Dan <crouchingjaguar@localnet.com>
Message-ID: <134q7jhqrevfq31@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 4472

Im getting my shack started and need some input on a good sturdy mobile for 2 meter. Ive looked at several alinco ones and like what I see. Also what does everyone think of the icom v82 ht? Also is a 7 amp power supply enough to run a mobile?

968. Re: i need recommendations

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-18 04:57:00 UTC
From: RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net>
Message-ID: <1179464186.753639.123070@u30g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4473

On May 18, 4:41 am, "Dan" <crouchingjag...@localnet.com> wrote:

> Im getting my shack started and need some input on a good sturdy mobile for
> 2 meter. Ive looked at several alinco ones and like what I see. Also what
> does everyone think of the icom v82 ht? Also is a 7 amp power supply enough
> to run a mobile?

I'd recommend you consider a dual-bander for mobile work. There are many very rugged designs out there (my favorite is Icom 2720 or their newer 2820). The reason I recommend a dual bander is because 2M activity has dropped off a lot in many areas, while 440 is very active.

Can't comment on the V82.

For mobile work, you won't need a power supply. If you're using the rig as a base station, then a good well filtered and regulated 7 amp supply should cover you, but my experience is the supplies that small are often cheaply built. What brand/model is it?

73, RDW

969. Re: i need recommendations

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-18 10:29:13 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <ZIKdnba0k9Z04tDbnZ2dnUVZ_tKjnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4474

"RDWeaver" <weaver5511@mypacks.net> wrote in message
news:1179464186.753639.123070@u30g2000hsc.googlegroups.com...
> On May 18, 4:41 am, "Dan" <crouchingjag...@localnet.com> wrote:
>
>> Im getting my shack started and need some input on a good sturdy mobile
>> for
>> 2 meter. Ive looked at several alinco ones and like what I see. Also what
>> does everyone think of the icom v82 ht? Also is a 7 amp power supply
>> enough
>> to run a mobile?
>
> I'd recommend you consider a dual-bander for mobile work. There are
> many very rugged designs out there (my favorite is Icom 2720 or their
> newer 2820). The reason I recommend a dual bander is because 2M
> activity has dropped off a lot in many areas, while 440 is very
> active.
>
> Can't comment on the V82.
>
> For mobile work, you won't need a power supply. If you're using the
> rig as a base station, then a good well filtered and regulated 7 amp
> supply should cover you, but my experience is the supplies that small
> are often cheaply built. What brand/model is it?
>
> 73, RDW
>
>

If the radio puts out 50 watts, you will need a power supply that can supply
at least 10 amps.

Dee, N8UZE

970. Re: i need recommendations

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-18 12:53:02 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5b5d2kF2p8hapU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4475

"Dan" <crouchingjaguar@localnet.com> wrote in message
news:134q7jhqrevfq31@corp.supernews.com
> Im getting my shack started and need some input on a good
> sturdy mobile for 2 meter. Ive looked at several alinco
> ones and like what I see. Also what does everyone think
> of the icom v82 ht? Also is a 7 amp power supply enough
> to run a mobile?

I have an Icom V82, I have the UHF U82 as well and they're great radios. The only complaints I have about them are cosmetic; firstly the keypad is not backlit, so it's hard to see what buttons you're pressing in the dark, also the keypad is not arranged in the normal layout, the * 0 and # keys are to the right of the numbers not underneath as with phones and other equipment. But performance wise they're fine.

Power supplies, 7A is a little small, I'd go for at least 15A. As to mobile recommendations, I have the Icom IC2725 which is great. The front panel is removable so you can put the main body under a seat and just clip the front panel to the dash, but of course if you just want it for the shack this is less important.

73 Ivor G6URP

971. Re: i need recommendations

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-18 12:53:23 UTC
From: Edward Feustel <efeustel@hughes.net>
Message-ID: <vvmdnXT0uvlYG9DbnZ2dnUVZ_riknZ2d@giganews.com>
Source record: 4476

"Dan" <crouchingjaguar@localnet.com> wrote in message
news:134q7jhqrevfq31@corp.supernews.com...
> Im getting my shack started and need some input on a good sturdy mobile
> for
> 2 meter. Ive looked at several alinco ones and like what I see. Also what
> does everyone think of the icom v82 ht? Also is a 7 amp power supply
> enough
> to run a mobile?
>
>
I concur with the other's recommendation.

I use a Yaesu FT8800 and like the dual band (simultaneous reception and
linking) capabilities.
I could use a 440 low power ht to key the mobile and transmit at higher
power on 2 meters.

Because FM requires continuous power, I recommend that you have a power
supply capable of 15 amperes ICS if you plan to use it in your shack. If
you want to use it to power a 100 watt transceiver as well plus some
additional accessories, get a 50 amp supply, but in either
case, be certain to evaluate how much rf interference a switching supply
puts out.

Ed, N5EI

972. Re: i need recommendations

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-18 13:16:12 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <134r9o3bg1btt4a@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 4477

"Edward Feustel" wrote

> Because FM requires continuous power, I recommend that you have a power
> supply capable of 15 amperes ICS if you plan to use it in your shack. If
> you want to use it to power a 100 watt transceiver as well plus some
> additional accessories, get a 50 amp supply, but in either
> case, be certain to evaluate how much rf interference a switching supply
> puts out.

50 amps is not necessary for a 100w transceiver. (Was that a typo, Ed?) I think the most I've so far ever seen recommended by a radio manufacturer for 100w is 22 amps. For example, my Astron 20A (20 amp - duh) supply powers my IC-735 just fine. I understand what you mean, though, about 2m being continuous, as opposed to CW and SSB being intermittent on transmit.

A 20 amp supply would be what I'd recommend for the 2m 50w radio in the shack.

Howard N7SO

973. Re: i need recommendations

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-18 13:42:30 UTC
From: "Rick (W-A-one-R-K-T)" <get.my.email@from.qrz.com>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.05.18.13.35.17.265235@from.qrz.com>
Source record: 4478

As for power supplies, you should consider a 12-volt Absorbent Glass Mat (AGM) battery with a maintenance charger (the kind that shuts itself off when the battery is fully charged). That will give you pretty much whatever surge current you need, and if your power fails your station stays up.

AGM batteries are sealed, can be used indoors, and can be mounted in any position (e.g. on their sides or even upside down, so they claim). They are readily available (I get mine from Batteries Plus). I have a 105-amp-hour AGM battery for my motorhome, and a 33-amp-hour AGM battery for my ARES "go kit".

I'm told that the so-called "gel cell" batteries are actually AGM batteries.

974. Re: i need recommendations

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-18 14:24:03 UTC
From: Mike Andrews <mikea@mikea.ath.cx>
Message-ID: <f2kb6cfeu1@puck.litech.org>
Source record: 4479

On Fri, 18 May 2007 09:42:30 EDT, "Rick (W-A-one-R-K-T)" <get.my.email@from.qrz.com> wrote in <pan.2007.05.18.13.35.17.265235@from.qrz.com>:

> As for power supplies, you should consider a 12-volt Absorbent Glass Mat
> (AGM) battery with a maintenance charger (the kind that shuts itself off
> when the battery is fully charged). That will give you pretty much
> whatever surge current you need, and if your power fails your station
> stays up.

I strongly agree. These are a great back-up for power failures or for field operations. I work the OKC Marathon every year, running my Yaesu FT-857D and FT-897D from Power Battery Company 91-Ampere-Hour AGM batteries given me when we got rid of our Muckin' Huge UPS at work. When they're not in use, I keep them charged, so that I can run the station during our all-too-frequent power outages. One of them will run a Yaesu FT-*97D for about 8 hours, I've found, in my typical usage pattern, which is listen-mostly.

Warning: these are HEAVY! Sulfuric acid and lead both are very dense.

The 91AH batteries weigh about 77 pounds each; you want them rigged with some sort of carrying harness if you have to move them, or use a dolly of some sort. If you're putting them on a table, shelf, or other support, it needs to be strong enough, and if they're going in a vehicle or trailer, they need to be secured so that side loads don't cause them to fall.

> AGM batteries are sealed, can be used indoors, and can be mounted in any
> position (e.g. on their sides or even upside down, so they claim). They
> are readily available (I get mine from Batteries Plus). I have a
> 105-amp-hour AGM battery for my motorhome, and a 33-amp-hour AGM battery
> for my ARES "go kit".

There are lots of sources. Your Yellow Pages will be a great help here.

> I'm told that the so-called "gel cell" batteries are actually AGM
> batteries.

Seems to be the case.

--
Mike Andrews, W5EGO
mikea@mikea.ath.cx
Tired old sysadmin

975. Re: i need recommendations

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-18 15:03:10 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5b5t93F2ph6qiU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4480

"Rick (W-A-one-R-K-T)" <get.my.email@from.qrz.com> wrote in
message news:pan.2007.05.18.13.35.17.265235@from.qrz.com
> As for power supplies, you should consider a 12-volt
> Absorbent Glass Mat (AGM) battery with a maintenance
> charger (the kind that shuts itself off when the battery
> is fully charged). That will give you pretty much
> whatever surge current you need, and if your power fails
> your station stays up.
>
> AGM batteries are sealed, can be used indoors, and can be
> mounted in any position (e.g. on their sides or even
> upside down, so they claim). They are readily available
> (I get mine from Batteries Plus). I have a 105-amp-hour
> AGM battery for my motorhome, and a 33-amp-hour AGM
> battery for my ARES "go kit".
>
> I'm told that the so-called "gel cell" batteries are
> actually AGM batteries.

I'd agree with that. I have a thing here called a "Wizard Power Cube"
which I bought at a rally some years ago. It contains a 20AH dryfit
lead-acid sealed battery, a maintenance charger and also an input for a
solar panel so you can use it when out portable on a contest for example,
using the solar panel to get some charge into the battery. I don't recall
the make, but I think the guy selling them made them himself.

73 Ivor G6URP.

976. Re: i need recommendations

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-18 18:30:45 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1179505015.937514.235540@q75g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4481

On May 18, 4:57 am, RDWeaver <weaver5...@mypacks.net> wrote:

>
> For mobile work, you won't need a power supply. If you're using the
> rig as a base station, then a good well filtered and regulated 7 amp
> supply should cover you, but my experience is the supplies that small
> are often cheaply built. What brand/model is it?
>

Even a very good 7A powersupply would be marginal at best. I'd
recommend 15A as a minimum.

73, de Hans, K0HB

977. Is your station photogenic?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-18 23:14:07 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1179528386.730233.134560@h2g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4482

Here's an opportunity to show off Amateur Radio to the public in a
positive way.

73, de Hans, K0HB
--
><{{{{*> http://www.home.earthlink.net/~k0hb

-----Original Message-----

>From: Ronda Berkeley [mailto:rberkeley@lmnotv.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 08, 2007 6:53 PM
>Subject: Man Land HGTV

I am working on a new television series for HGTV called Man Land. It
is
about places in the home that men carve out for themselves such as
the
shed, basement, attic or garage in order to house their passion
project - in
the case of your members, their Ham Radios.

Can you help me to get the word out to your members? I am looking for
guys who have outfitted the ultimate uber-ham radio station in their
homes to appear on our show.

Please have any interested members contact me at 8183824312 or write
me at this email address.

----> rberkeley@lmnotv.com

Thanks so much for your help.

Ronda Berkeley
LMNO Productions
818 382 4312

978. Re: Is your station photogenic?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-19 02:18:19 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5b6sabF2r92noU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4483

"K HB" <groupk0hb@earthlink.net> wrote in message
news:1179528386.730233.134560@h2g2000hsg.googlegroups.com
> Here's an opportunity to show off Amateur Radio to the
> public in a positive way.
>
> 73, de Hans, K0HB
> > <{{{{*> http://www.home.earthlink.net/~k0hb

They wouldn't want to see in here..! I could win the world's untidiest
shack contest without even trying ;-)

73 Ivor G6URP

979. Re: i need recommendations

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-19 02:19:16 UTC
From: riley <riley@riley.net>
Message-ID: <464E41F6.DD2BC73B@riley.net>
Source record: 4484

hi

also check you local hamfests, many SLA batteries from
computer data center ups systems recent pulls.
Most of the time they are in service 3 years and then
pulled and replaced with new. these are under constant float
charge and can provide several years of service life for
ham radio use.

73 riley

980. Re: Is your station photogenic?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-19 03:38:17 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1179545852.270117.223860@h2g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4485

Is my station photogenic?

You tell me:

http://hometown.aol.com/n2ey/myhomepage/

73 de Jim, N2EY

981. Re: Is your station photogenic?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-19 04:04:07 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1179543609.746279.309560@w5g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4486
Body handling: HTML body converted to readable text

On May 19, 2:18 am, "Ivor Jones" wrote:

>
> They wouldn't want to see in here..! I could win the world's untidiest
> shack contest without even trying ;-)
>
> 73 Ivor G6URP

I'll show you mine, if you'll show me yours!

http://home.earthlink.net/~k0hb/sitebuildercontent/sitebuilderpictures/k0hbshack.jpg

73, de Hans, K0HB
--
><{{{{*> http://www.home.earthlink.net/~k0hb

982. Re: Is your station photogenic?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-19 04:04:23 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1179546748.496783.222160@y80g2000hsf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4487

On May 19, 3:38 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:

>
> You tell me:
>

Although I recognize some parts from an old kerosene-powered Muntz TV
that my grandmother discarded in 1893, this assemblage isn't ready for
prime time viewing, Jim.

73, de Hans, K0HB
--
><{{{{*> http://www.home.earthlink.net/~k0hb

983. Re: Is your station photogenic?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-19 05:59:26 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1179554327.481185.267010@w5g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4488

On May 18, 8:04?pm, K?HB <groupk...@earthlink.net> wrote:
> On May 19, 3:38 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:

> > You tell me:
>
> Although I recognize some parts from an old kerosene-powered Muntz TV
> that my grandmother discarded in 1893, this assemblage isn't ready for
> prime time viewing, Jim.

I don't see the Elecraft K2 anywhere in that photo. :-)

But, if some are going on TV, I might arrange a mass
purchase of Factor Suntan #4. It's an easy drive down
Highland Blvd into Hollywood for me. [Max Factor, that
is] :-)

73, Len AF6AY

984. WIANEWS for week commencing MAY 13 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-19 10:00:16 UTC
From: nationalnews@wia.org.au
Message-ID: <200705191000.l4JA08o06440@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4489
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,aus.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

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This is WIANEWS for week commencing MAY 13 2007
```

985. SARL News in English 19/5/2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-19 12:07:11 UTC
From: website@sarl.org.za
Message-ID: <30B89EEACE3F4FC6A72179FD189ED4B8@toron>
Source record: 4490
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 20 MAY 2007

You are listening to Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. This broadcast can also be heard on Echolink by connecting to ZS6FCS. To listen to a web stream go to www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links. This, and previous bulletins, can be downloaded from the web site of the SARL i.e. www.sarl.org.za. You can also read or download previous bulletins from there and subscribe to receive future bulletins by email.

This transmission is by Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with relays on 3,695, 10,135, 14,235 and 51,400 MHz as well as 438,825 MHz in the Pretoria area. (Other news readers please change to suit).

SILENT KEYS

It is with regret that we announce passing of Hellie Claassen, ZS4GV, on the 16th of May. Our sincere condolences go to his family and friends, especially from the Sasolburg Radio Club and all his other amateur friends in the Vaal Triangle.

According to a newspaper report Ted Broome, ZS6KA, 81, and his wife Norma, ZS6KN, 83, were brutally assaulted in their house in Brakpan, apparently on Tuesday afternoon, 16th May. Norma passed away and Ted is recovering in hospital. To Ted a speedy and complete recovery and to him, his relatives and friends our deepest sympathies and strength.

(PAUSE)

In the news today:

INTECNET NEXT SUNDAY TO FEATURE A DISCUSSION ON APRS

SARL ANNOUNCES EXCITING NEW TECHNOLOGY PROJECT

THREE RADIO AMATEURS RECEIVE AWARDS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO AMATEUR RADIO, COMMUNITY SERVICE AND TECHNOLOGY

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

INTECNET NEXT SUNDAY TO FEATURE A DISCUSSION ON APRS

In next Sunday's SARL Intecnet Dick Stratford, ZS6RO, will discuss APRS and attempt to answer questions like "What is APRS? How does it work? What can I do with APRS?

Make a date to join Dick at 20:00 CAT on a repeater near you or on the web. A few days before the presentation, Dick will make a PowerPoint presentation available for download or viewing on the web a few days before the event. Visit www.sarl.org.za and click on ARMI. Clubs wishing to link their repeater to the network should send an e-mail to armi@sarl.org.za before Sunday with details of the telephone number to be connected.

SARL ANNOUNCES EXCITING NEW TECHNOLOGY PROJECT

Council has approved a project to design an HF transceiver that is suitable for use by new amateurs and that will provide a cost-effective entry point into the hobby.

The first phase of the project will be a feasibility study to determine the specifications and architecture of the transceiver and whether it could be supplied cost-effectively. If the feasibility study is promising, then the project will proceed to design, industrialize and build a prototype of the transceiver.

Initial funding for the project will be from an anonymous donation that was made by a generous SARL member specifically for this purpose.

This is not a competition, but rather a co-operative project that will harness the energy and expertise of SARL members to create a world-class design. The project will be managed by the SARL technology councillor, Andrew Roos, ZS6AA. Members wishing to contribute to and be involved in the project are requested to email him at andrew.roos@mweb.co.za.

Further details will be posted on the SARL web site shortly.

THREE RADIO AMATEURS RECEIVE AWARDS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO AMATEUR RADIO, COMMUNITY SERVICE AND TECHNOLOGY

Three radio amateurs received awards for their contribution to the promotion of Amateur Radio, Community Service and Technology at an Awards function hosted by the South African Amateur Radio Development Trust on Tuesday last week.

Dave Reece, ZS1DFR, was awarded the Siemens Radio Amateur of the Year Award (Operational) for his development activity amongst the youth. Dave spends his spare time to involve learners at Cape Maths and Science in amateur radio and has arranged tuition for interested learners to pass the radio amateur examination. He also arranges on-the-air events where learners have an opportunity to get experience in the operational side of the hobby. His other passion is to encourage Radio Amateurs to embrace new technologies and is actively promoting APRS. This system was developed by an US Radio Amateur, Bob Bruninga, for tracking and digital communications with mobile GPS equipped

stations with two-way radio. In the 10 years since its introduction, it has grown to encompass just about every aspect of Amateur Radio. Dave is also chairman of the Cape Town Amateur Radio Centre.

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, received the Siemens Radio Amateur of the Year Award (Technology) for his contribution to the promotion of new technologies and home construction of radio equipment. He was instrumental in building the prototypes of the SA AMSAT equipment that will fly on South Africa's second Satellite, SumbandilaSat. This involved building and testing two versions and integrating the design and software developed by amateur Andrew Roos, ZS6AA, into a working system. The equipment was recently fully tested by SunSpace with excellent results. The system will provide radio amateurs with a satellite communications link, a parrot repeater and an audio beacon. With the magic of space connected to this, the parrot repeater will find good use in the classroom teaching learners the importantce of speaking clearly.

The third award, the Siemens Amateur Radio Community Service Award was presented to Davy Smeda, ZR1FR, a Cape Town Radio Amateur whose passion it is to provide communication for rallies and sporting events. He was an important link during the 1985 Laingsburg disaster when Radio Amateurs set up radio channels between Laingsburg and the Cape Town emergency centre and provided disaster relief communication for several days when other channels were down. It is often said that today we have cell phones, but practice has shown that when there is a disaster the cell system gets overloaded and crashes.

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS HEADS IARU ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL AGENDA

The Administrative Council of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) held its annual meeting on 14-15 May 2007 in Boston, Massachusetts, USA. The meeting was held earlier in the year than usual in order to complete the review of preparations for the International Telecommunication Union World Radio Communication Conference (WRC-07) in Geneva later this year.

IARU participation in the Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference, GAREC-07, to be held in Huntsville, Alabama, in mid-August, was discussed. The Adminstrative Council is determined to seek ways to enhance the co-ordination and promotion of the disaster response capabilities of the amateur service worldwide. A draft strategy paper was received from the IARU International Co-ordinator for Emergency Communications, Hans Zimmermann, HB9AQS/F5VKP. The Council will seek additional information from member-societies on the national regulatory position of the amateur service in preparing for and providing emergency communications, in order to identify problem areas and develop solutions.

Reports of the other IARU international co-ordinators and advisers were received. They are International Beacon Project Coordinator Peter Jennings, AB6WM/VE3SUN, Satellite Adviser Hans van de Groenendaal,

ZS6AKV, EMC Adviser Christian Verholt, OZ8CY, and Interim Monitoring System International Co-ordinator Chuck Skolaut, K0BOG. Co-ordinators and advisers were re-appointed.

Congratulations to Han, ZS6AKV, on his re-appointment.

The Council discussed many other important issues. SARL News over the next few weeks will cover the outcome of the meeting in greater detail.

ARE YOU USING FREQUENCY 439,050 MHz IN DIV 6?

The Division 6 Band Planning Group wishes to allocate this frequency for a new repeater in the Pretoria area, and needs to confirm that it is not already in use.

If you are aware of this frequency being used please would you contact Peter Hers, ZS6PHD, at 083 445 4634, or by email to zs6phd@mweb.co.za.

CLUB NEWS

ZS1HELL ACCOMPLISHMENT

The ZS1HELL team announces, with pride, that the number of QSL-cards needed to be taken into consideration for a TOP BAND certificate has been reached on the e-QSL service of the SARL web. This is proof that the electronic QSL service works well.

The ZS1HELL team, which consisted of 12 members of the Boland Amateur Club wishes to thank all stations who have already answered their QSL electronically.

PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the expected solar activity will continue at very low levels. The geomagnetic field is expected to range from quiet to unsettled levels on 21 till 23 May. The expected Effective Sun Spot number for the coming week will be less than 5.

20 m and 15 m will provide best opportunities for DX. There is a possibility of 15 and 20 m openings towards India from about 06:00 and again at 14:00 CAT. 40 m may open towards Australia from 22:00. From about 14:00, there may be good 15 and 20 m openings towards Europe. Contacts to the USA are going to be very challenging. For the CW and digital enthusiasts it may also be worth monitoring 10 MHz.

Although the DX predictions may currently not be too enthusiastic, the latest predictions are that the next Solar Cycle will start in March next year. Remember that HF always has the capability to surprise you. You will never know what you are missing unless you switch your rig on, listen and also call CQ.

Please visit www.spaceweather.co.za for further information.

DIARY OF EVENTS

27 May - Intecnet; 16 June - SARL Youth day; 30 June - Closing date for updating of SA DX Survey.

SARL News depends on clubs and individuals for news items of importance and interest to radio amateurs. The one and only way to ensure that your contribution will reach the SARL News team, is to place it in www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date. It will be appreciated if you will do it in both Afrikaans and English.

The SARL also invites all listeners to listen to the program Amateur Radio Mirror International this Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 695 kHz. Audio is also streamed on www.zs6mrk.org and on Echolink from ZS6FCS as for this bulletin. A repeat transmission takes place on Mondays at 21:00 on 3 215 kHz. Telkom and Sentech sponsor the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

You have been listening to a news bulletin by the South African Radio League, which was compiled by Gustav, ZS6BWN.

A prosperous week to all, 73.

/EX

========== Message Ends ========== To edit or remove your entry from this mailing list go to www.sarl.org.za/members/admin/maildat.asp

986. WIANEWS for week commencing MAY 20 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-19 12:39:30 UTC
From: nationalnews@wia.org.au
Message-ID: <200705191238.l4JCcWL07227@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4491
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,aus.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

This is WIANEWS for week commencing MAY 20 2007

Last Monday the 14th, WIA Director Robert Broomhead appeared as a guest in the studio of Melbourne's 94.1 3WBC FM on the stations "Tech Talk Radio" progr am.

By all accounts the interview on Melbourne's Tech Talk Radio show appeared to go off quite well. Andrew commented that their streaming servers seemed to have significantly more connections than ever before !@! (well we did promote it via the WIA news broadcast)

Heres the link to the Tech Talk Radio website
http://www.techtalkradio.com.au/

Here's the direct link to listen to an MP3 file of the show.
www.techtalkradio.com.au/download.asp?file=http://www.australianpodcast.com/TTR /20-2007.mp3

Tech Talk radio can be heard at 8:00pm on 94.1 3WBC FM and streaming live to the web and available in MP3 format to download to your IPOD.

Library and Information Week

This coming week, the 21st to 27th of May is Library and Information Week, so what better time to see what your library has relating to Amateur Radio.

Some public libraries hold Amateur Radio manuals and antenna building books. University libraries are generally open to the public, and many hold both Amateur Radio and professional communications journals. For those looking for back-issues of Australian radio and electronics hobby magazines, the National Library, or your State Library, or the Northern Territory Library should be able to help.

The National Library runs a website called Libraries Australia. It allows you to search for material in over 800 Australian libraries at once. Google "librariesaustralia" as one word. It can also help you locate nearby libraries.

If your local library does not hold an item, they can generally obtain it through Inter-Library Loan. If your library is weak in the radio field, you can suggest they purchase relevant material, or you or your club could donate something.

Linking people with ideas @ your library
http://librariesaustralia.nla.gov.au

For WIA National News, this is Julian Sortland, VK2YJS.

AMATEUR RADIO - HOME OF THE GOOD GUYS

IOTA (Islands of the Air) chasers of the last 15 years will know of the enormou
s contribution that
Kadek, YC9BU has made to the program in both activating rare Indonesian islands
and acting as
qsl manager for about 26 other such operations around Indonesia.

Just last month, Kadek suffered a devastating house fire which destroyed his ho
use, shack and all
his belongings. Fortunately his family are all safe.

A number of amateurs from around the world who have benefited greatly from Kade
k's enormous
contribution to IOTA chasing feel that some "Ham Spirit" should prevail and ha
ve arranged for a
collection to be made to assist Kadek in getting back on air to something like
before.

Naturally, Kadek is very down at the moment and Amateur Radio, and in particula
r IOTA chasing,
are going to be very low on his priorities, as he tries to re-establish his you
ng family.

A web site link has been produced at www.mdxc.org/yb9bu which details the a
ppeal, has a glowing
reference from Roger, G3KMA, RSGB IOTA Manager and shows some pictures of the t
otal devastation he
has suffered.

Donations can be made directly to the website or if you wish donations will be
collected in the
Australasian region by Peter Forbes VK3QI.

All donations will be acknowledged on the website (unless anonymous) and to fac
ilitate an early
positive outcome, a cut-off date of July 1 has been set, however later donation
s will be accepted.
(Peter Forbes VK3QI prforbes@bigpond.net.au)

AROUND VK in 80 Seconds.

VK1

Mt Ginini Repeater Site

Last Sunday Steve VK2FHMC, Mark VK1HMS and Alan VK1WX installed the new
outer door. The frame and door are fabricated out of 4MM steel with
concealed fixings, padlock shields and awning.

MAY MEETING
Monday 28th
Dick Elliott VK2KDE will give us a presentation on solar panels their
installation, uses and pitfalls. The QSL cards will be available as usual
and after our guest speaker the meeting will be opened to general business.

Foundation Licence Course

This weekend we are running another foundation licence course for which we have nine candidates. In addition we will be running assessments for two candidates to upgrade to advanced level.

Events Calendar....

Remember to have a look at the EVENTS page on the CRARC Website for a listing of most activities !

VK2

Frank VK2FJL bows out, as "the KEG" rolls in.

At the recent Westlake's AGM the club noted "It was very pleasing to see a bumper turn out for this meeting. It was doubly pleasing to find the nominations for committee far exceeding the available positions.

This is the first time in many years that the club has experienced that number of members wishing to commit and become involved in the day to day management of Westlake's ARC, which augers well for the future of the club.

The successful nominees are:
President: Russell VK2KEG
Vice President: Barry VK2BZ
Secretary: Barry VK2BZ
Treasurer: Les VK2ZPA

Immediate Past President of Westlakes, Frank VK2FJL as the weekly news editor and we at WIA National News are looking forward to a long association with the new President and News Reader/Compiler.

And a BIG thank you to Frank for a job "well done".

VK4

North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention

The 2007 North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention
will be happening in twin cities of Thuringowa and Townsville from
Friday 21st to Sunday 23rd September.

If your going to find yourself in Townsville September then plan to visit!

For an electronic copy of the Venue and Events notes and a
Registration Form send a message to the TARC email address
vk4wit@wia.org.au

VK7

The next meeting of the North West Tasmanian Amateur Radio Interest Group is scheduled for Saturday 26 th. May at the normal venue of the Lions Club Facility, West Ulverstone. That date again... Saturday 26th.

That's it, so back to our "action central newsroom".

EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO
PRESENTED BY KYLEA VK6FXYL

The Wireless Institute of Australia's Foundation Licence Manual is a full colour manual consisting of 95 pages of information for those studying, or those who would just like a reference book for Foundation Licence Operators.

The manual contains the all relevant information you will need to know to successfully complete a training course to obtain our foundation licence.

It also contains a wealth of information a Foundation Licence operator will need. Items like Band Plans, Electrical Safety information, operating procedures such as the Q code, how to contact you local radio club, the WIA and much more.

For more information on obtaining the foundation licence manual please visit wia.org.au
(Alan VK4YAR)

FUTURE EXAMS

To find out when a club in YOUR area is hosting assessments and/or training in Amateur Radio go to wia.org.au and check out the club pages.

Participating clubs keep this site up to date and post the latest information for all to see.

Also check the text edition of each news edition, where we do keep a secondary listing.

On the audio broadcast we will continue to give new information when it is received, but just in case you miss it one week, you can always access our text

Help amateur radio continue to grow

Do you know someone who could be interested in joining our hobby? Then encourage them to enrol in a Foundation Licence training course.

Next Foundation Licence course, and Standard / Advanced assessments .....

VICTORIA

At Bendigo classes and licence assessments are conducted by Ross Pittard VK3FCE who can be contacted via email vk3fce@internode.on.net

The Central Goldfields Amateur Radio Club, Maryborough regularly holds classes. Contact Peter Rafferty VK3CC on 5460 4387 or email majorca49@hotmail.com

QUEENSLAND

On the Gold Coast and want to talk to the world through their IRLP and
EchoLink systems? Or already licensed and wish to upgrade Foundation
to Standard? Well classes are held at the Nerang Clubhouse of the
GCARS, ring Roy VK4IG on 5539 3530 Exams can be taken at a time
to suit you.

TARC WIA Exams Information
Exam sessions are held on demand with WIA Assessors and assessment packs
available for all 3 levels of licensing.
Contact theTARCinc WIA Exams Regional Co-ordinator Roger/VK4CD 0417 638366.
www.tarc.org.au/tarcexam.htm

Tablelands Radio and Electronics Club
TREC WIA Exams Information
TREC will conduct exam sessions as required, at a time to suit the
candidate. WIA Assessors and assessment packs are available for all 3 levels
of licensing.
Contact the TREC WIA Exams Co-ordinator Dale VK4DMC on 4091 3700 or
vk4dmc@wia.org.au for further information.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA
Adelaide Hills Amateur Radio Society will run Foundation licence's
at the Aviation Museum, 56 Lipson Street Port Adelaide, 2 weekends
August 4th and 5th then November 3rd and 4th.
Contact the course convenor, Sasi Nayar on 0417 858 547

WEST AUSTRALIA
Foundation course:-
21st & 22nd of July course with exam on the 28th of July.
VK6 Exams for Standard and Advanced are on June 30th.
Contact Neil VK6BDO.

TASMANIA

Radio and Electronics Association of Southern Tasmania

REAST Education & Assessments

Next examination Sessions will be Tomorrow May 21 at 7pm at
the Domain clubrooms and,

Saturday May 26 there will be a Foundation Training and
examination from 9am.

Please note that the "Intro to the Standard Licence" session for
Saturday the 26th has been cancelled.

For more information or enrol please contact Reg Emmett VK7KK by
emailing regemm@ozemail.com.au or calling 0417 391 607 at least 3
days before to book a place.

Please Note: It unlikely that examination sessions will be available
in June, the next session would be late July.

And remember Foundation Licence Manuals and CD's are available for
purchase at McCann's Model World in Elizabeth St. Hobart at $20.

Intro to Standard Licence Sessions

http://reast.asn.au/events.php#Intro2StandardLicence

A quick reminder about "Intro to the Standard Licence" sessions
on a Saturday afternoons from 1:00 to 4:00pm in the Domain clubrooms.

These sessions are an introduction to the standard licences and
attempt to de-mystify the upgrading process.

The most important segment is the 2-3pm learning time where there is
white boarding and demonstrating concepts and amateur radio problems
that people bring along including running through sample exam
questions.

These sessions lead into and prepared candidates for the standard and
advanced licences in preparation for the Standard licence training
and assessment sessions that Reg VK7KK and Ian VK7QF.

See you there.

(Ken VK7DY/Reg, VK7KK)

>From VK1WIA this is the National News Service -
Tune in today...Focus on Tomorrow

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

The ARRL has submitted an interference mitigation plan to the US Department
of Defence (DoD) as part of an effort to resolve reported interference from
dozens of 70 cm amateur repeaters to US military radar systems on both coasts.

Earlier this year, the US Air Force asked the FCC to order dozens of repeater
systems to either eliminate interference to its "PAVE PAWS" missile and
satellite detection and tracking radars or shut down.

"We are waiting the response of the DoD representative to the proposal and will

continue to provide information as to its status when it becomes available,"
commented ARRL Regulatory Information Specialist Dan Henderson, N1ND.

The situation affects 15 repeaters within less than 100 miles of Otis Air Force

Base on Cape Cod, Massachusetts, and more than 100 repeaters within some 140
miles of Beale Air Force Base near Sacramento, California.

PAVE PAWS facilities occupy essentially the entire 70 cm band -- one factor
that makes mitigation difficult. Feeding upward of 1800 active antenna elements
,
the broadband radar transmitters emit an average power output of more than 145
kW.
(arrl)

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NEWS FROM ARNEWSLINE

KD5PLA TO REPLACE KD5PLB ON THE ISS

NASA has announced that astronaut Clay Anderson, KD5PLA, will succeed Suni Williams, KD5PLB, as International Space Station Expedition 15 Flight Engineer later this spring. According to NASA News, Anderson will arrive aboard the ISS aboard the shuttle Atlantis which is set to launch on 8th June. The same shuttle mission will carry Williams back to Earth.

Suni Williams has been in space since early December. During her ISS stay, she set a record for spacewalks by a female astronaut, conducting four excursions for a total of 29 hours and 17 minutes. Upon her return, she will have accumulated more time in space than any other woman. She has also logged numerous school contacts during her on-orbit stay.

SSETI-ESO LAUNCH DELAYED A YEAR

The launch date for SSeti ESEO, a European Space Agency led student satellite project intended for geostationary transfer orbit has been delayed by approximately one year. It had originally been hoped that this satellite would be a secondary payload on Ariane launch in late November of 2008 but it now seems that opportunity will not be available.

RADIO IN SPACE: EU RADIO FROM SPACE

An advanced in-car multimedia system that could use recycled television satellites coming to the end of their working lives has been unveiled in Europe.

The prototype system was developed by the European Space Agency. It is Said to offer high-quality radio, video and data. If commercialised, the system would offer the first in-car satellite radio service available to Europeans.

IRELAND: ON THE AIR CELEBRATING FLIGHT

Irelands Limerick Radio Club has been invited by the Foynes Flying Boat Museum to operate a special Amateur Radio Station. This, in conjunction with the commemorative Transatlantic Re-Enactment Flight 1937 from Newfoundland Canada to Foynes Ireland.

The special event call sign has been issued to the club to operate as EI70FOY.

The station will be on the air from the July 6th to the 8th. On the High Frequency bands operation will be on 80 through 10 meters. EI70FOY will also operate on VHF / UHF as well.

A special QSL card, commemorating the flight re-enactment will be sent to all stations worked over the three-day event. All inbound QSL cards should be sent to the
Club's QSL Manager Alan Cronin E-I-8-E-M at his callbook address
More is on-line at www.qsl.net/ei4lrc.

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NEWS SOURCED TO THE RSGB NEWS SERVICE AND READ BY G4NJH GB2RS NEWS

The Queen visits NASA for space link up

Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip visited NASA's Goddard Space Flight Centre in Greenbelt, Maryland on Tuesday week past.

NASA astronaut Michael Foale, KB5UAC, introduced the Queen to the crew of the international space station as they orbited Earth. Her majesty was greeted by the three astronauts, Commander Fyodor Yurchikin, RN3FI and flight engineers Oleg Kotov and Suni Williams, KD5PLB, who spoke to the Queen using a live video link up.

The crew members each spoke briefly to the Queen describing life on the space station and the importance of human space flight. Later the Royal couple attended the visitor's centre and the Queen talked with students at a NASA Explorer School Workshop. Before they left, the Queen planted a commemorative dogwood tree on the grounds of the visitor's centre.

The tour of Goddard took place near the end of the Queen's visit to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the Jamestown settlement in Virginia.

International Pumping Stations on the Air

A special event is to be held on the UK August bank holiday called "Pumping Stations on the Air".

You or your club, along with your local pumping station are invited to take part in the first International Pumping Stations on the Air weekend. This will take place on Sunday 26th and Monday 7th August from 10.00 to 17.00.

The intention of the event is to set up amateur radio special event stations at as many of the pumping stations as possible throughout the whole world. The scope of your station is entirely up to you, as is the choice of pumping station.

Burton upon Trent Amateur Radio Club will be at the Claymills Pumping Station on that weekend. For more information on how to register visit the Burton upon Trent ARC Website at www.burtonarc.co.uk/pump.htm.

CONTEST COLUMN - D A T E L I N E

2007 VK/TRANSTASMAN CONTEST

80M CW 26 May 2007
160M Phone 7 July 2007
160M CW 21 July 2007

AUGUST 11/12 Remembrance Day Contest (The RD) wia.org.au

7th World HST Championship will be held in Belgrade Serbia September 19-23rd.
www.hst2007.org

NOVEMBER 17/18
Spring VHF-UHF Field Day - November 2007
For everyone who likes to plan ahead - please note the dates for this
year's Spring VHF-UHF Field Day. It will be held on November 17/18, a
week later than usual. This will prevent a clash with club activities
in two states.

CONTEST STORIES

We trust that you are making preparation for the Westlake's Cup Contest. If so
please be advised that the designer of the VK Contest Logger Programme, Mike,
VK3AVV has been doing more work improving the programme.

In the latest version the special call signs (Bonuses and Clubs) can now be en
tered
by merely listing the call as, for example VK2ATZ/C instead of having to type
VK2ATZ/Club

Don't get caught, download the latest version of VKCL and take advantage of
Mikes' hard work on our behalf. While you're at it check out the details and
rules
for the contest at westlakesarc.org.au and link to Contests.

RAC Canada Day Contest

For the first time in the history of Radio Amateurs of Canada, plans are
underway for the RAC ARES/NTS to be on the air simultaneously in every
Section of the RAC Field Organization using their respective official
RAC call sign.

This "first" will take place during the annual RAC Canada Day Contest on
July 1, 2007.

SPECIAL EVENTS, BEACON AND NET ADVICE
VK's longest continual net;
The Southern Cross DX Net has been running for 43 years, operates
7 days a week - propagation permitting - on a frequency
of 14.238.5MHz at 1215 zulu.

The seventh International Museums Weekend special event will take
place on 16th and 17th June 2007.

VK4MIK Mike reports that preparations for the International
Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend at Cooktown in August are
well advanced and all necessary approvals have been received.
The call sign VK4GHL (Grassy Hill Lighthouse, where the Cooktown

light is situated) has been granted and will be much sought after again this year.

D X A C T I V I T Y A N D D A T E S

The ARRL DXCC Desk has approved the BS7H Scarborough Reef 2007 operations for DXCC credit. For more information, visit the DXCC Web page www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc

NOW ROBERT BROOMHEAD - VK3KRB.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- ATV (Every pixel tells a story)

ATV over internet in US

On Tuesday the 8th of May, the ATV group in Rockford, IL exchanged video and audio with the group of ATV'ers based in California, all being part of the Amateur Television Network (ATN). Tuesday night is ATV Net night in the Los Angeles area at 8 PM (10 PM in Illinois). During the net, video and audio was transmitted from Don Hill, KE6BXT, who is located in Mission Viejo, CA over the Internet using a Slingbox, picked up on my computer, using the video out to give a full screen picture that was then re-broadcast over the local W9ATN ATV repeater here in Rockford, IL.

Likewise, when it was our turn to transmit, we used another Slingbox at our QTH in Rockford to transmit video received from myself (WB9MMM), John, KA9SOG, and Mikayla, KC9HVQ to the group of ATV repeaters that are all linked together. So, we were all able to see each other checking into the ATV net across the country.

Many of you have heard of IRLP, and I would like to suggest that this might be working towards ITVLP (not my term, someone else thought of it), but I need to clarify that this was all done manually where IRLP you can dial in using DTMF. Will we get there some day. I bet we will!

Will others that have ATV repeaters join in on Tuesday nights. I hope so. It was a lot of fun.

Invitation from ATN - everyone can watch and check in via keyboard:

Take a look at the email and internet editions of this broadcast for the website address to check out these ATV activities.

www.ac6rb.com

The latest issue of Amateur Television Quarterly has a good article about all the California, Nevada, and Arizona (with plans for NM) ATV repeaters that are linked and how it can be done (not using the Internet).

(Gene Harlan, WB9MMM via the HAM-ATV Mailing list via vk7news)

www.hampubs.com

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RADIO AMATEUR OLD-TIMERS
http://www.raotc.org.au

ARRL congratulates centenarian member:

The ARRL has extended its congratulations to League member Harvey Baalke, W9HNX, of Sheboygan, Wisconsin, who celebrated his 100th birthday March 23.

Wrote ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, on the League's behalf:

"I seldom have the privilege of writing to an ARRL member on the occasion of their 100th birthday! Please accept belated congratulations on behalf of the Board, staff and your fellow members of the ARRL. I know you have seen many changes since you were first licensed. One thing that has not changed is the unique camaraderie among radio amateurs of different generations and cultures. Best wishes from the worldwide Amateur Radio community.
Sincere 73."

Baalke first joined the ARRL in 1936.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RESCUE RADIO

EMERGENCY FREQUENCIES REGION ONE
21.360 - 18.160 - 14.300 - 7.060 - 3.760 MHz.

Amateur Radio played a critical role May 4 and 5 in rescuing two people from a foundering sailboat that had been en route to Colombia.

Members of the Maritime Mobile Service Net (MMSN) and Intercontinental Net on 14.300 MHz were involved in getting the man and woman aboard the 35-foot

s/v Sailboat to safety after they ran into trouble some 700 nautical miles southwest of the Galapagos Islands in the South Pacific.

The couple, identified as Gunnar Hansen and Grethe Haraldsen, both Norwegian nationals and neither an amateur licensee, put out a Mayday call on the Intercon/MMSN 14.300 MHz frequency the morning of May 4 after Sailabout sustained damage to its bow -- possibly as a result of losing a forestay, which helps to keep the mast upright -- and started taking on water. Thanks to its
efficient pumps, the sailboat remained afloat.

The main concern was for the mast, which supported the antenna for the vessel's

HF radio. Fortunately, it remained standing. The conversation on the MMSN reportedly was widely monitored by others in the sailing and cruising communities. The Sailabout had only recently been equipped with an HF SSB transceiver.

Amateur Radio relays alerted the US Coast Guard at Alameda, California, to the Sailabout's predicament. At the Coast Guard's request, relayed via ham radio, Hansen set off the vessel's Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB).

Throughout the ordeal, various Amateur Radio stations were instrumental in updating the Coast Guard, which never had direct contact with Sailabout.

BB's DIARY ROOM - THE FUTURE, IN AMATEUR RADIO

2008

Sept 13 Alarameet 2008 will be held in Ulverstone Tasmania on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th September 2008. Susan VK7LUV for details.

2009
International Telecommunication Union's Telecom World 2009.

SOCIAL SCENE

MAY 26-27
A field day, sponsored by the Twba and Downs Wireless Group and the City Of Brisbane Radio Society will be held on the 26/27th May at the Eton Vale Roadhouse 13649 New England Hiway Cambooya , 17fs south of Toowoomba.

5 acres for camping . showers and toilets on site , arrive Sat. 8.00am set-up camp and antennae , a prize for hf and vhf contacts so bring a log book. Power is limited so bring a generator .

Contact Ewin Cameron vk4hec on 0418 961 900 or 46 961 900 AH/s

An open invitation to all hams and friends Australia WIDE.
(vk4cro)

FNNQARG QUEENS BIRTHDAY WEEKEND 2007
The Far North and North Queensland Amateur Radio Get Together (FNNQARG!) will be happening from the 8th to 11th June at Cardwell Village Beachcomber Motel and Tourist Park.
Demonstrations of ARDF, World Championship
Antenna Wrestling, Navcom Electronics
ICOM Yaesu and Diamond equipment displays,
the famous Sunday Morning Cricket Match plus
much much more will be happening over the weekend.
Amongst the attendees will by Mr Aoki, Managing Director of ICOM Australia and Mr Yoshi, Managing Director of Standard Vertex Yaesu Australia. Rumour has it that they are already practicing for the Sunday Morning Cricket Match and hope there is a healthy roll up of regional hams to make up good numbers for the FNQ and NQ teams.

Secure your accommodation now by getting in contact with Toni or Bruce at -
Cardwell Village Beachcomber Resort and Van Park
1800 005633 07 40668550 fax 07 40668941
43A Marine Parade Cardwell QLD 4849

JUNE 9
Westlake's will have a display stall at the Lemontree Passage Bushfire Brigades Fete on Saturday 9th June

JUNE 9-10
The South East Radio Group annual convention, which incorporates the Australian Foxhunting Championships, will be held at the Scout Hall in

Mount Gambier SA, on the Queen's Birthday weekend, 9-10 June 2007.
Further information from:
http://serg.mountgambier.org/

July 7+8 - GippsTech
Conference for VHF, UHF & SHF enthusiasts in Australia.
Held at the Gippsland Campus of Monash University in Churchill, about
two hours drive east of Melbourne.
www.qsl.net\vk3bez\index.htm

SEPTEMBER 21-23
North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention
Happening in twin cities of Thuringowa and Townsville.

REWIND - A LOOK BACK IN HISTORY
(Will McGhie VK6UU is WIA National Historian)

Beechworth - Busiest Telegraph Station

The following is sourced to the Border Morning Mail from a story on
the 8th of May 2007 by Brad Worrall about Beechworth being the
busiest telegraph station in the world. It is titled "Beechworth
tappers `busiest in world'"

Beechworth now lays claims to the busiest telegraph station in the world.

In the past 12 months the four-man band of morse code volunteers has
tapped out more than 3800 messages.

Leo Nette, one of the dots and dashes experts, says they are the
busiest in Australia.

"And we are pretty confident we have the southern hemisphere
covered," he said.

"So we put on the internet that we are the busiest in the world and
no one has challenged that."

Mr Nette and his fellow telegraph operators are all former telegram boys.

"It gets in your blood, any old Morse operator can tell you that," he said.

"These days it is a novelty, we have tourists by the bus load wanting
to send a telegram to friends and family."

An informal network of fellow enthusiasts around the globe make sure
the telegrams reach their destination, generally posted to the
address from the nearest telegraph station.

Mr Nette says a message for Prime Minister John Howard was one that
raised eyebrows.

"It wasn't particularly complimentary, but we never received a reply
back," he said.

Mr Nette's group is now looking to the future, in partnership with
Telstra, teaching the elderly to use SMS.

www.bordermail.com.au/news/bm/local/771867.html

(Brad Worrall, Border Mail via the vk7news)

THE FINAL FINAL

WALKS

Jeff VK4XJJ is still going strong on his walk across Australia.

But he still wants to hear from YOU, and it is these calls in particular
that keep him going!!

Every Day, from 5:30pm Eastern on 40 meters, 7045 put out a call to
VK4XJJ

Now we usually don't give url's as they can be a pain to take down but in this
case very simple go to www.jeffswalk.com

More pictures to come and has a link to the DeafBlind Association (NSW) inc.

So where in the outback is "our Jeff"?

Saturday 12th May....Reached North Mulga Homestead.

Sunday 13th May.... heading for Mullawatana.

Monday 14th May.... Mullawatana, enjoying billy tea, very flat country, ranges
20 Km
away.

2 vehicles passed by.
Some emus,
kangaroos and rabbits.
Ground very rocky not much feed.

Wednesday 16th May....Following pipeline road to Woolatchi Bore then set up
camp just south of Mosquito Creek Bore. Walked 20 Km.

(Bill Johnson VK2FWGJ)

Hi everyone

This is 7J7ACT, Simon Bernard, an American ham operator living in Japan.

I am working as a back country guide for skiers and boarders in the mountains
here. You may have heard of the avalanche that occurred on Valentines day.
It just so happened that the 7 people who hired me as a guide that day were
ski patrol from Thredbo.

We came upon the victims of the avalanche and after alerting the police on my
hand held transceiver, worked for the next 3 hours in blizzard conditions
searching and digging out the buried and giving first aid to keep those alive
until help finally came.

I have been invited to give a speech at the seminar about the rescue and will be in VK country from May 26th to June 4th. I am looking for a local ham near Thredbo/Jindabyne who would allow me to guest operate on a weekday as the weekends will be for the seminar and other emergency training.

If you can help, please contact me at bernard@infoaomori.ne.jp

You can also find my contact info at QRZ.com or on my HP at hakkodapowder.com
Hope to hear everyone on the air. Cheers, Simon

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WIANews - we've reported...YOU decide.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

Call-backs follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".

Thanks to to our dedicated band of broadcast volunteers who utilize their time and equipment in bringing you this weekly broadcast.

The purpose of "WIANews" is to rapidly provide news of interest to active amateurs residing in Australia and the globe.

We strongly encourage membership in the Wireless Institute of Australia and participation in the activities of local clubs.

Opinions expressed in "WIANews" are those of the writers who submit material and do not necessarily reflect those of the rebroadcasters, nor the National WIA, but are broadcast in the spirit in which they were submitted.

Material may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, a credit to WIANews wouldn't go astray...

Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of the National WIA.

HOP TO SPECIFIC WIANews TOPICS

WIA WEB ZONE, www.wia.org.au

WIANews THANKS OUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS , OUR RELAY OPERATORS ACROSS THE WORLD FOR FORWARDING INFORMATION AND COMMENTS THEIR LISTENERS HAVE PASSED ON TO MAKE WIANews VK'S LEADING WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PROGRAM.

E-mail WIANews WITH VK STORIES.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

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987. Re: Is your station photogenic?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-19 12:39:53 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5b7j7dF2rai8qU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4492
Body handling: HTML body converted to readable text

"K&#65533;HB" wrote in message
news:1179543609.746279.309560@w5g2000hsg.googlegroups.com
> On May 19, 2:18 am, "Ivor Jones"
> wrote:
>
> >
> > They wouldn't want to see in here..! I could win the
> > world's untidiest shack contest without even trying ;-)
> >
> > 73 Ivor G6URP
>
>
> I'll show you mine, if you'll show me yours!
>
> http://home.earthlink.net/~k0hb/sitebuildercontent/sitebuilderpictures/k0hbshack.jpg
>
> 73, de Hans, K0HB

That's *too* tidy ;-)

73 Ivor G6URP

988. Re: Is your station photogenic?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-19 12:40:53 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1179575072.577598.75070@p77g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4493

On May 19, 12:04?am, K?HB <groupk...@earthlink.net> wrote:
> On May 19, 3:38 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:

> > You tell me:

> Although I recognize some parts from an old kerosene-powered Muntz TV
> that my grandmother discarded in 1893, this assemblage isn't ready for
> prime time viewing, Jim.

Why not, Hans?

What's wrong with it?

btw, there are no parts from Muntz TVs in there. In fact there are
almost no old-TV parts at all. Lots of WW2 military surplus parts
(swords-into-plowshares and all that), a considerable amount of parts
removed from discarded test equipment, and a lot of hamfest finds.

73 de Jim, N2EY

989. Re: Is your station photogenic?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-19 13:00:22 UTC
From: charlie <wehatespam@wymsey.co.uk>
Message-ID: <1NudnR4zP7kKbNPbnZ2dnUVZ8sjinZ2d@pipex.net>
Source record: 4494

Kï¿½HB wrote:
> Here's an opportunity to show off Amateur Radio to the public in a
> positive way.
>
> 73, de Hans, K0HB
> --
>> <{{{{*> http://www.home.earthlink.net/~k0hb
>
>
> -----Original Message-----
>
>> From: Ronda Berkeley [mailto:rberkeley@lmnotv.com]
> Sent: Tuesday, May 08, 2007 6:53 PM
>> Subject: Man Land HGTV
>
>
> I am working on a new television series for HGTV called Man Land. It
> is
> about places in the home that men carve out for themselves such as
> the
> shed, basement, attic or garage in order to house their passion
> project - in
> the case of your members, their Ham Radios.
>
> Can you help me to get the word out to your members? I am looking for
> guys who have outfitted the ultimate uber-ham radio station in their
> homes to appear on our show.
>
> Please have any interested members contact me at 8183824312 or write
> me at this email address.
>
> ----> rberkeley@lmnotv.com
>
> Thanks so much for your help.
>
> Ronda Berkeley
> LMNO Productions
> 818 382 4312
>

http://www.radiowymsey.org/rimages/stationBig.jpg

Charlie.

M0WYM
www.radiowymsey.org

990. Downloadable ham call database???

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-19 20:57:14 UTC
From: "battles1550@mailinator.com" <battles1550@mailinator.com>
Message-ID: <1179604316.603264.23610@p47g2000hsd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4495

Does anyone know if there is a site were you can download a
database of current ham operator's calls, names and addresses?
I don't have continuous access to the web.

Thanks.

991. Re: Downloadable ham call database???

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-19 21:16:34 UTC
From: W2DNE <info@ultradne.com>
Message-ID: <f2nop7bgi1@aioe.org>
Source record: 4496

<battles1550@mailinator.com> wrote in message
news:1179604316.603264.23610@p47g2000hsd.googlegroups.com...

> Does anyone know if there is a site were you can download a
> database of current ham operator's calls, names and addresses?
> I don't have continuous access to the web.

I think your best bet is to just buy one of the many available CDROM versions.

Some administrations (the FCC is one) do put license data on the web in public
download sites, but I'd guess even if you can find them, each would be in
different format, and a real Chinese fire drill to try to integrate them into
one useful whole.

The Man in the Maze
QRL on Baboquivari Peak, AZ

--
Iitoi

992. GB2RS NEWS Sunday 20 May 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-19 21:16:54 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200705192100.l4JL0TU15132@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4497
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

1 GB2RS NEWS Sunday 20 May

The news headlines

* World war two radio intercept operators stage reunion

* School wins radio station licence

* Solar powered Scouting DXpedition

Surviving WWII radio operators who intercepted the highly secret traffic from the German Secret Service attended a reunion at Bletchley Park on April 29. Hams who attended were previously involved with Ultra, the top secret material which was deciphered at Bletchley Park and disseminated only to those who had direct responsibility for directing the war.

Mike Coleman, G1YVR, gave the group an illuminating history of Direction Finding from before WWI to the present day. Direction Finding was a vital part of the WWII operations and was directed by Major Dick Keen with assistance from G5RV, G6LL, G8LT and G6CJ working on aerial systems and distribution wideband amplifiers. A well-known D/F operator was G2BTO, who unfortunately could not attend the reunion.

Bob Painter, G3BPF, described how he was member of the party given the task of tracking down the illicit transmitters of the Stern Gang and the Voice of Israel, in 1946. This was in extremely dangerous circumstances but he survived to locate the Stern Gang, though not the Voice of Israel, which was perhaps fortunate for him.

The 1,500 hams who became Voluntary Interceptors during the war were recruited by various, sometimes bizarre, means. The RSGB was called upon to help but due to the sensitive nature of the work it could not be advertised in the T&R Bulletin! Interceptors were mostly selected via the Old Boy Network.

A Lothians high school has been awarded a licence by Ofcom, enabling it to be the first in Britain to have its own community radio station. Pupils at Queensferry High are delighted to have won a five-year public service licence for Jubilee FM, which they will run with local volunteers. They will broadcast music, news and entertainment 24 hours a day to North and South Queensferry and parts of Fife. Station director Charles Fletcher commented that they are absolutely thrilled. The plan is to launch on St Andrew's Day. The school is looking to the community radio fund, the National Lottery and other potential sources of funding. It will also be a great way of helping train young

journalists on how to run a radio station.

West Lancashire Scouts Expedition to Renland East Greenland 2007 will be taking place from the 23 July to 20 August. A party of 50 Scouts and Leaders from West Lancashire will be exploring the ice cap and mountains of Renland East Greenland. As well as mountain exploration a number of scientific and wildlife studies and experiments are being carried for various academic bodies. The Expedition will also be operating an amateur radio station for a considerable period of time. Operation will be on the 40m, 30m and 20m bands, SSB, Data and some CW, under the call sign G3WGU/OX.

One of the major issues with operation for this period of time is energy as all the power requirements will come from solar cells. Although there is almost 24hr day light at this time of year, the efficiency so far north is somewhat reduced. The expedition is therefore looking for the loan of a small number of light weight solar panels to ensure operational capability. For more information log on to www.greenland.westlancashirescouts.org.uk.

2 Hams will be helping at the National Under 23 Road Racing Championship in Waterford, Ireland, on 1 July. This year's race will have over 160 riders taking part. This major event will have amateurs and the Civil Defence to help with marshalling, and it will be filmed by RTE. This year there is an even heavier reliance on amateur communications. The Amateur Radio Emergency Network is providing the comms for traffic management and accident reporting. Additional volunteer operators who can attend the event are invited to contact event co-ordinator Richie, EI9HR by e-mail to ei9hr@yahoo.com.

Finningley Amateur Radio Society ran a successful Special Events Station on 6 and 7 May at the 2007 European Festival of the Plough. The event hosted by the Society of Ploughmen at former RAF Lindholme, to the east of Doncaster. It attracted large numbers of visitors from Europe and the UK. Finningley ARS operated HF and VHF shacks, with members operating in shifts. Well over 100 contacts were made by each shack. The HF antenna was a G5RV in an inverted V with the top at about 35 feet, mounted on one of the Club's mobile towers. The VHF antenna was also at the top of the tower.

The launch date for SSeti ESEO, a European Space Agency led student satellite project intended for geostationary transfer orbit has been delayed by approximately one year. It had originally been hoped that this satellite would be a secondary payload on Ariane launch in late November of 2008 but it now seems that opportunity will not be available.

Colchester Radio Amateurs are holding a one day Foundation Licence Assessment day on Sunday 24th June 2007. To enrol or for further information please contact Kevan, 2E0WMG, on 07766543784, or email colchesterradioamateurs@hotmail.co.uk.

A new QSL sub manager has been appointed for the G3 EAA-HZZ series of calls. The new gentleman is Mr E E Murphy, 21 Standard Street, Fenton, Stoke on Trent, ST4 4NG, telephone 07881 647434. Mr Murphy is also the sub manager for G6 three letter calls.

Now the rallies and events for the coming week [Note to newsreaders: please use your judgement on which of these to read out, based on your location and broadcast time. We are not aware of any rallies next weekend.] On Sunday 20 May the Dunstable Downs National Amateur Radio Car Boot Sale takes place from 9am at Stockwood Park, Luton, and it is signposted from M1 junction 10. On Sunday 20 May the Magnum rally takes place from 10.30 at the Magnum Leisure Centre, Harbourside, Irvine, Ayrshire KA12 8PP. Details from Helen on 07776 3895247. On Sunday 20 May the Mid-Ulster Amateur Radio Society rally takes place from 11am at the Discovery Centre in Oxford Island, Craigauon.

Now for the news of the special events Clacton Radio Club, Felixstowe and District Amateur Radio Club and Harwich Amateur Radio Interest Group have joined forces to operate the GB400AA special event station. The station will commemorate the founding of Jamestown, Virginia 400 years ago. It will operate at the Mayflower Museum on the Halfpenny Pier at Harwich where The Harwich Society on 25 May.

3 GB1HYS will be operational from Guides Camp in Scarisbrick, Lancashire, between Friday 25 May and Monday 28 May. The Southport District Scouts have taken over the camp for the weekend to celebrate the centenary together. The station will be manned by members of the Southport & District Amateur Radio Club and will be utilising whatever HF bands are available together with 2m, IRLP and possibly 70cm. They would like to hear from anyone and hope to blitz the Centenary Award, whilst giving as many Scouts as possible a taste of Amateur Radio. Many more scout groups are running special event stations over the weekend 25 to 26 May to mark the Centenary of Scouting. A list of known participants appears in page 89 of the May RadCom. And now the HF DX news compiled 425 DX News, the Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin and other sources. A group of German radio scouts will be active again as OZ1RDP from Romo Island, EU to 125, DIA NS-001, on 26 to 29 May. They plan to operate SSB and CW, and possibly PSK31 and RTTY as well, on 160-10 metres. QSL via DL9BCP. JA7HMZ, V63DX, JA7AGO, V63GO and JA7ZP, V63Z will be active on all bands and modes from Pohnpei, OC-010, Micronesia on 21 to 26 May. QSL via home calls. Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Fenerbahce Sports Club, TA1HZ and TA2RX will operate as TC100FB from Istanbul on 1 to 31 May. QSL via TA1HZ. TA1CM will operate as TA100FB on 13 to 27 May from Tekirdag. QSL via TA1CM. Special station LZ07KM will be active on 1 to 31 May to celebrate St Kiril and Methodius' Day. QSL via LZ1PJ direct, or bureau requests can be sent to lz1pj@qsl.net. Special callsign PA25UKSMG will be aired from The Netherlands between 19 May and 3 June to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the UK Six Metre Group. Expect activity on 160-2 metres, including an entry in the CQ WW WPX CW Contest. QSL via PA7FM. Several other special call signs are expected to be used from other countries, especially during the UKSMG 6 Metre Contest during the first weekend of June. Celebrating the 750th

anniversary of Krakow's city rights is HF750C, which will be active from 14 May to 30 June. QSL via SP9BRP. Expect also a large number of local operators to use special prefix SN0 during the year. Hans, PA0HOP will be active from Bali Island, OC-022, as YB9AQW and YB9/PA0HOP between 15 May and 20 June. He will operate RTTY, BPSK31 and OLIVIA, 16 tones to 500 Hz, only. QSL via PA0HOP, this applies also to contacts made with YB9AQW during this time frame only. Special station TM1VDM will be active on 14 to 28 May to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of the writer Maxence Van der Meersch in 1907. QSL via bureau to F6KTN. Now the contest news The RSGB 80m Club Championship takes place between 1900 to 2030 on 24 May on the 3.5MHz band using CW. The exchange takes the form of RST and serial number. The CQ WW WPX contest takes place between 0000 on 26 May to 2359 on 27 May on the 1.8 to 28 MHz bands using SSB. The exchange takes the form of RST and serial number.

4 The RSGB 50MHz activity takes place between 2000 to 2230 local on 22 May on the 50 MHz band, all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. Now the solar factual data for the period from 7 May to 13 May compiled by Neil Clarke, G0CAS. Only one sunspot group was visible every day. This group produced no solar flares, therefore, solar activity remained at very low throughout. Solar flux levels declined from 76 units on the 7th to 71 by the 12th. The 13th saw an increase to 74 units. The average was 73 units. The 90 day solar flux average on the 13th was 74 units, that's the same level as last week. X-ray flux levels declined from A2.3 on the 8th to below the minimum level by the 9th. The average was A1 units. Geomagnetic activity started at `unsettled' levels with an Ap index of 18 units. This was due to a recurring coronal hole. The rest of the period was very quiet and the average was Ap 7 units. The ACE spacecraft saw solar wind speeds decline from 620 kilometres per second on the 7th to 290 by the 13th. Particle densities peaked at 60 particles per cubic centimetre on the 7th but quickly declined to single figures for the remained of the period. Bz varied between minus 16 and plus 20 nanoTeslas on the 7th, during the disturbance and between minus and plus 3 nanoTeslas on the quiet days. HF MUFs were slightly below expectations for much of the week. Nevertheless, good morning openings to the Pacific occurred on 14MHz and VK6 was reported late in the afternoon. However, the main interest was the arrival of stronger and longer lasting sporadic-E on 28, 50 and 70MHz. One operator commented that, 50MHz sounded at times like 20 metres. The main focus was central and southern Europe; less came on northerly bearings. The best reported DX was ST2A, worked by a number of UK operators on 50MHz. An auroral event on the 7th reached briefly down to the south coast, but not many contacts were reported. And finally the solar forecast. This week the slightly more active side of the Sun is expected to rotate into view. However, solar activity should continue at very low levels with only a small chance of a C class solar flare taking place and increasing activity to low. Solar flux levels should increase and be around the high 70's or the low 80's towards next weekend. Geomagnetic activity is

expected to increase from midweek due to a recurring coronal hole. This disturbance should last till the weekend. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitudes should be around 17MHz for the south and 14MHz for the north. The darkness hour lows should be about 9MHz. Paths this week to east coast of North America should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success rate of around 18MHz. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success rate of about 14MHz. The best time to try this path will be between 1500 and 2200 hours UTC. Expect sporadic-E to take place on some days with openings up to 70MHz taking place. And that's all for this week from the propagation team.

5 Next, the Local News:

Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses

and website links where known.

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your

transmission.]

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST

and EAST ANGLIA On Sunday 20 May Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is attending the Dunstable Boot Sale at Stockwood Park, Luton. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

On Sunday 20 May the Vintage and Military Amateur Radio Society is having its annual open day at the Norfolk and Suffolk Aviation Museum, Flixton. Contact Peter Walker, 01438 871 350, g4plw@btinternet.com.

On Monday 21 May Basingstoke Amateur Radio Club is having a club Night. Contact Frank, M0AEU, by email to barc@2lo.info.

On Monday 21 May Braintree and District Amateur Radio Society is having its AGM. Contact John, M5AJB, on 01787 460 947.

On Monday 21 May Surrey Radio Contact Club is having a fix-it, advice, chin-wag and move-it-on evening. Contact Ray, G4FFY, on 020 8644 7589.

On Tuesday 22 May Horndean and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on 'some aspects of propagation' by Robin Bellerby, GM3ZYE. Contact Stuart, G0FYX, on 023 9247 2846, or on the web at www.hdarc.co.uk.

On Tuesday 22 May Stevenage and District Amateur Radio Society is operating on VHF. Contact Neil, M0ARH, on 01438 217 077.

On Wednesday 23 May Dover Radio Club is having a presentation on broadcast band short wave listening by David, G0DQI. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk.

On Wednesday 23 May Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is doing its final planning for Scout's Centenary Camp. Contact Jim, M1JJN.

On Wednesday 23 May Farnborough and District Radio Society is having a Morse night in preparation for NFD with Derek, G3HEJ. Contact Colin, M3IHS.

On Wednesday 23 May Havering and District Amateur Radio Club is having a bring, show and tell your HF radio night. Contact Dave, 2E0EBV, on 07956 594 514.

On Wednesday 23 May Newbury and District Amateur Radio Society is having its AGM. Contact Richard, G3ZGC, on 01635 46241, richard.jolliffe@vodafone.com.

On Wednesday 23 May Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is having an NFD briefing. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

On Wednesday 23 May Worthing and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on 'some aspects of propagation' by Robin Bellerby, GM3ZYE. Contact Roy, G4GPX, on 01903 753 893.

6 On Thursday 24 May Cray Valley Radio Society is taking part in the 80m club CW championships. Contact Bob, BRS32525, on 020 8265 7735 after 8pm.

On Thursday 24 May Echelford Amateur Radio Society is preparing for field day. Contact John Osborne, G4GSC, on 01784 451898.

On Thursday 24 May Shefford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a mobile direction finding event. Contact David, G8UOD, on 01234 742 757.

On Friday 25 May Cambridge and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on simple yet powerful circuits with five or fewer transistors by Mike, G0BLP. Contact David, G8JKV.

On Friday 25 May Loughton and Epping Forest Amateur Radio Society is having a members' radio comparison night. Contact Marc, G0TOC, on 020 8502 1645, or by email to info@lefars.org.uk.

On Friday 25 May Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is having its construction contest. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Friday 25 May Radio Society Of Harrow is having a talk on amateur television in the Harrow area and the Bushey Heath Amateur Television Repeater GB3BH. Contact Chris, G4AUF, on 01895 621 310, chrisfriel@btinternet.com.

On Friday 25 May Torbay Amateur Radio Society is having an education and training evening. Contact Dave, G6FSP, by email to g6fsp@tars.org.uk.

On Friday 25 May Wimbledon and District Amateur Radio Society is having an on the air and construction evening. Contact Jim, M0CON, on 020 8874 7456.

On Saturday 26 May Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is operating the Scout's Centenary Camp station at Hayling Island. Contact Jim, M1JJN.

On Sunday 27 May Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society is visiting the Waters and Stanton Open Day. Contact Martyn, G1EFL, on 01245 469 008.

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST

On Monday 21 May Appledore and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk by Dave, G3YGJ, on a homebrew HF Backpack antenna. Contact Beryl, G1SVP.

On Tuesday 22 May Flight Refuelling Amateur Radio Society is running its Intermediate training course. Contact Tony, G3PFM, on 01202 622 262.

On Wednesday 23 May South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is having its summer table top sale, hosted by G4RZY. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282.

On Wednesday 23 May Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is having a video night. Contact Tony, G0WMB, by email to tonytsgarc@beeb.net.

On Thursday 24 May Swindon and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on software defined radio by Ray Goff, G4FON. Contact Mike, M5CBS, on 01793 826 465.

On Thursday 24 May Yeovil Amateur Radio Club is having a test equipment evening where members are invited to bring along a piece of equipment. Contact Derek, 01935 414 452, or by email to m0wob@tiscali.co.uk.

7 On Friday 25 May Guernsey Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on what to look for in FHFN by GU0SUP. Contact Phil, GU0SUP.

On Sunday 27 May Flight Refuelling Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on microwave EME by John, G0API. Contact Tony, G3PFM, on 01202 622 262.

NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS

On Monday 21 May Gloucester Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is having a Mini DF hunt. Contact Anne, 2E1GKY, on 01452 548478, daytime.

On Monday 21 May Stourbridge and District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on phone operation on shortwave bands by Bob, G4VPE. Contact John, M1EJG, on 01562 700 513.

On Tuesday 22 May Derby and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air. Contact Martin, G3SZJ, on 01332 556 875.

On Tuesday 22 May Loughborough and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on APRS by Jim Andrews, G1HUL. Contact Chris, G1ETZ, on 01509 504 319.

On Tuesday 22 May Mid-Warwickshire Amateur Radio Society is having a visit to the motor cycle museum, organised by Rod, G0FBY. Contact Bernard, M1AUK, on 01926 420 913.

On Tuesday 22 May Worcester Radio Amateurs Association is having a quiz night. Request details by email to info@wraa.co.uk.

On Tuesday 22 May Wythall Radio Club is having a visit from Stratford Upon Avon club. Contact Chris, G0EYO, on 07710 412 819, or by email to g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk, or on the web at www.wythallradioclub.co.uk.

On Wednesday 23 May Lincoln Short-Wave Club is having a news and views evening plus a briefing for Scout Camp. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

On Wednesday 23 May Telford and District Amateur Radio Society is having an amateur radio software evening where members are invited to bring their laptops and demo their favourite programs. Contact Mike, G3JKX, on 01952 299 677, or by email to mjstreetg3jkx@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Thursday 24 May Salop Amateur Radio Society is having its second Fox hunt. Contact Glenda, G1YJB, on 01939 235 412.

On Friday 25 May Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is having an international quiz night. Contact Carl, M0XBE, on 07979 092 447, or on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

On Friday 25 May Lincoln Short-Wave Club is setting up its portable station at Laughterton Scout Camp. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

On Saturday 26 May Telford and District Amateur Radio Society is visiting the Jodrell Bank Radio Telescope. Contact Mike, G3JKX, on 01952 299 677, or by email to mjstreetg3jkx@blueyonder.co.uk.

8 NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

On Sunday 20 May Tyne And Wear Repeater Group is having an auction at the Community Centre, Front Street, Great Lumley. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Sunday 20 May Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is attending the Tyne and Wear Repeater Group Auction. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Monday 21 May Macclesfield and District Radio Society is on the air and having a Club evening. Contact Tom, M1EYP, on 01625 612 916, tommyread@hotmail.com, or on the web at www.gx4mws.com.

On Monday 21 May Sheffield Amateur Radio Club is having a presentation by 2E0DRE on fitting radios into mobiles. Contact Trevor, M0TWS.

On Tuesday 22 May Chester and District Radio Society is having an outside operating night at the Yield, Kelsall, Chester. Details on the web at www.chesterdars.org.uk, info@chesterdars.org.uk.

On Tuesday 22 May Halifax and District Amateur Radio Society is having a members technical evening at Rishworth. Contact Brenda, 2E0YKS, by email to wrenuk10@yahoo.com.

On Tuesday 22 May Macclesfield and District Radio Society is operating its special 50th anniversary station GB5OMR from 2 to 5pm. Contact Tom, M1EYP, on 01625 612 916, tommyread@hotmail.com, or on the web at www.gx4mws.com.

On Tuesday 22 May Wakefield and District Amateur Radio Society is having a construction evening. Contact Dave, G4CLI, on 07748 221 855, or by email to g4cli@hotmail.co.uk.

On Wednesday 23 May Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is on the air. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Wednesday 23 May Wirral and District Amateur Radio Club is having DF practice. Contact Tom, G4BKF, on 07050 291 850.

On Thursday 24 May Grimsby Amateur Radio Society is taking part in the 80m CW club contest. Contact Brian, G4DXB, on 01472 231 383.

On Friday 25 May South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is having a talk entitled "Computers without Bill". Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999.

On Friday 25 May Tynemouth Radio Club is having an operating and Morse night. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Saturday 26 May Hornsea Amateur Radio Club is having a boat trip on the river Humber, where they hope to operate G4EKT/MM on HF SSB and possibly G6EKT/MM on VHF and UHF FM. Contact Steve, G4GPY, on 01482 860 440, or by email to g4gpy@eddiesplace.karoo.co.uk.

On Saturday 26 May Northwest Amateur Radio Club is operating special event station GB1COS, centenary of scouting, from Bispham Hall Scout Estate between 10am and 4.30pm. Contact Ian Cooper.

On Saturday 26 May Sheffield Amateur Radio Club is having a report on National Science Week at Weston Park, Sheffield. Contact Trevor, M0TWS.

9 NEWS FOR SCOTLAND

On Tuesday 22 May Dundee Amateur Radio Club is having a club night. Contact Martin, MM0DUN, on mm0dun@dundee-amateur-radio.co.uk, or on the web at www.dundee-amateur-radio.co.uk.

On Thursday 24 May Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is having a VHF fox hunt. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

On Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 May Dundee Amateur Radio Club is taking part in the Scout Centenary Celebrations. Contact Martin, MM0DUN, on mm0dun@dundee-amateur-radio.co.uk, or on the web at www.dundee-amateur-radio.co.uk.

NEWS FOR WALES

No news items have been received for Wales this week. NEWS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

On Sunday 20 May Mid-Ulster Amateur Radio Club is operating Gi3VFW during their rally at the Discovery Centre, Oxford Island, doors open at 12.00. Contact John McCabe.

And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast,

prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

993. fall hamfest

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-19 23:19:43 UTC
From: Dan <crouchingjaguar@localnet.com>
Message-ID: <134uvs82vn8oq7f@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 4498

Hey is anyone planning on going to the october hamfest in lake placid,NY?

994. Re: Is your station photogenic?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-20 20:19:05 UTC
From: k8mn@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1179692317.981658.150840@36g2000prm.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4399

On May 19, 4:04 am, Kï¿½HB <groupk...@earthlink.net> wrote:

> I'll show you mine, if you'll show me yours!
>
> http://home.earthlink.net/~k0hb/sitebuildercontent/sitebuilderpicture...
>
> 73, de Hans, K0HB
> --
>
> ><{{{{*>http://www.home.earthlink.net/~k0hb

In what must be a tribute to your Nordic roots, your shack is perhaps
the most sterile looking I've ever seen. Where are the backup rigs,
boatanchors, switch boxes, accessory boxes, multiple watt meters?
Where is the six foot rack full of goodies? Where is the clutter?

Dave K8MN

995. Re: Is your station photogenic?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-20 21:02:51 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <1351drdbea1g517@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 4400

<k8mn@earthlink.net> wrote

> Where is the six foot rack full of goodies? Where is the clutter?

Where is the clutter?? Look at that stretched out coiled cord for his gold D-104!! And, gaak! The telephone handset cord has a twist in it! The black wire behind the white lamp isn't hanging straight down, and the pen is not properly aligned with the paper on the desk! What a slob!!

N7SO

;-)

996. IRTS Radio News Bulletin, Sunday May 20th 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-20 22:00:26 UTC
From: news at irts dot ie <devnull@panix.com>
Message-ID: <200705202200.l4KM0AA13828@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4401
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Irish Radio Transmitters Society
Radio News Bulletin

Sunday May 20th 2007

News from the IRTS

Ger McNamara EI4GXB has been appointed to fill the vacancy as Regional Representative for Region 4 on the retirement of Paddy Maher EI3AV. The region covers the counties Tipperary, Limerick, Clare and Kerry.
Apologies, as we ran Gers callsign incorrectly in last weeks news.

Contact details for Ger are available on the Society's web page. As we welcome Ger to the team we would like to thank Paddy for all the work he has done for society over many years and wish him a speedy return to full health.

International Museums Weekend

The International Museums Weekend takes place on the 16th and 17th of June. This amateur radio special event has grown in popularity since the first event was held in 2002.

Among past participants are The Tower of London, HMS Belfast and the US battleship New Jersey. The Howth Martello Radio Group will be participating again this year, operating from the Vintage Radio Museum in Howth. Visitors are welcome to call and operate the station over the weekend. The museum web site is www.qsl.net/ei5em/museum.html. A full list of participating museums and further information of the event is available from the organiser's web site www.ukradioamateur.co.uk/imw/.

Limerick Radio Club

Limerick Radio Club has been invited by the Foynes Flying-Boat Museum to operate a special Amateur Radio Station in conjunction with the commemorative

Transatlantic Re-Enactment Flight 1937 from Newfoundland Canada to Foynes Ireland. A special call sign has been allocated to the station EI-70-FOY. The station will be on the air from the 6th to the 8th of July 2007. On HF the station will operate from 80 to 10 metres. It will also operate on VHF / UHF using the EI70FOY call sign.

A special QSL card, commemorating the Re-Enactment Flight, will be sent to all stations worked over the three-day event. All QSL cards should be sent to the Club's QSL Manager Alan Cronin EI8EM at QTHR. Limerick Radio Club can be contacted at ei4lrc at eircom dot net or at www.qsl.net/ei4lrc.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group

There will be no general meeting for the month of May. The next committee meeting will take place on Monday the 4th of June. All committee members are asked to attend.

Please note that all general meetings will now take place on the last Monday of each month.

Foyle and District

To commemorate the 75th anniversary of Amelia Earharts solo Atlantic flight which landed just outside of Derry having flown from Newfoundland, The Foyle and district amateur radio club will hold a live link-up with clubs in Conception Bay and Harbour Grace Newfoundland. The clubs on the Newfoundland side will be using vintage radio equipment at a local museum.

The planned frequencies are 14.220 MHz and 7.060 MHz, allowing slight variation depending on QRM. The planned times of contact are 8 to 9.30 p.m. local time on Sunday the 20th and Monday the 21st of May.

More information can be found at www.mn0aku.org.uk.

Rallies

Bangor & District Amateur Radio Society Rally will take place on Sunday the 17th of June in the Crawfordsburn Country Park, Helen's Bay, Co. Down. The Cork Radio Club Rally will take place on Sunday the 23rd of September in the Blarney Park Hotel, Blarney, Co. Cork and the Mayo Radio Rally will be on Sunday the 18th of

November in the Belmont Hotel, Knock, Co. Mayo.

A full listing of upcoming rallys is available on www.irts.ie.

Contests

The CW field day will take place in two weeks time on the 2nd and 3rd of June and the VHF/UHF field day will take place on the weekend of the 7th and 8th of July.

The RSGB IOTA contest will be held on the 28th and 29th of July.

Ladies Mini Marathon

The 2007 Flora Ladies Mini Marathon takes place on Bank Holiday Monday the 4th of June at 3.00 pm. It starts from Fitzwilliam Square, and finishes in Stephens Green Dublin 2. Sadly this year's event will happen without the familiar voice of Donnchadh O'Shea who traditionally operated the net control station. This year's public service event will be dedicated to his memory. The co-ordinator for the event again this year will be George Adjaye who may be contacted by phone on 086 2586103 or Fax 01 4908546 or email 'george_adjayeg at dcu.ie'.

Galtee Walking Festival

There are just 3 weeks to go to the 2 days of activity in the Galtees on the Saturday and Sunday of the June Bank Holiday weekend. John Ronan EI7IG is event Coordinator and he is being assisted by John EI2JB and other members of the Tipperary Amateur radio Group. Preparations are at an advanced stage but there are still radio positions to be filled on Saturday and Sunday. Newcomers are welcome and training will be provided by AREN each morning. Please contact John EI7IG on 086 8167310 or John EI2JB at QTHR.

Comeragh Cycle Race

The national under 23 road racing championship will take place in Waterford on the 1st of July. Richie EI9HR is event Co-ordinator and he is being assisted by John EI8JA. This year's race will be on a greater scale with over 160 riders taking part. The Civil Defence have come on board this year to help with marshalling

and RTE will be filming the event. AREN will provide the communications for safe traffic management and accident reporting. There will be more radio reporting points and mobile stations than last year so more radio operators are required. Again newcomers are welcome and training will be provided on the morning of the race. This is an excellent opportunity for operators to put their radio skills to good use in a very enjoyable and rewarding way for the benefit of the Community. All operators irrespective of experience are welcome.

Please contact Richie on mobile 085-1465465 or evenings on 051-854315. You can also contact Richie by e-mail at "ei9hr at yahoo dot com".

Theory Examination

The next Theory Examination for the Experimenters Licence will be held on Thursday the 28th of June next. Places for the examination are limited and will be allocated on a "first come first served" basis. Intending candidates should forward the appropriate fee to Se"n Nolan EI7CD, 12 Little Meadow, Pottery Road Dunlaoghaire, Co. Dublin. The fee is 50 Euro or 25 Euro for full time registered students, those who are retired, are unemployed or have a disability. In addition to the exam centre at the ComReg offices in Dublin an examination will be held on the same date and with the same paper at the Community Centre, Carrigtwohill, Co. Cork.

The closing date for the examination is the 16th of June and it will be strictly adhered to. Sean's e-mail address for further enquiries is "ei7cd at gofree dot indigo dot ie".

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall, EI7IS at QTHR or by phone to 051-853806 or 087-6302026. Items for the radio news can also be faxed to 087 5 6302026. News should be submitted via e-mail to "news at irts dot ie" for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Friday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday"s bulletin.

997. Re: Is your station photogenic?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-21 03:18:04 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1179714134.880606.73910@z28g2000prd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4402

On May 20, 8:19 pm, k...@earthlink.net wrote:

>
> In what must be a tribute to your Nordic roots, your shack is perhaps
> the most sterile looking I've ever seen.
>

Dave,

That photo is actually a birthday present for K0CKB. She was going on
a lecture trip over her birthday, so I asked what she wanted when she
got back --- "Clean up the shack and paint it." was her answer. So I
did, and took a picture and sent it to her.

Here's a link to a more recent photo. Extra credit if you can guess
the caliber of the weapon on the table.

http://home.earthlink.net/~k0hb/sitebuildercontent/sitebuilderpictures/shack.jpg

73, de Hans, K0HB
--
<*}}}}}>< http://www.home.earthlink.net/~k0hb

998. Re: Is your station photogenic?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-21 04:38:04 UTC
From: k8mn@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1179722235.576116.51550@36g2000prm.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4403

On May 21, 3:18 am, Kï¿½HB <groupk...@earthlink.net> wrote:
> On May 20, 8:19 pm, k...@earthlink.net wrote:
>
>
>
> > In what must be a tribute to your Nordic roots, your shack is perhaps
> > the most sterile looking I've ever seen.
>
> Dave,
>
> That photo is actually a birthday present for K0CKB. She was going on
> a lecture trip over her birthday, so I asked what she wanted when she
> got back --- "Clean up the shack and paint it." was her answer. So I
> did, and took a picture and sent it to her.
>
> Here's a link to a more recent photo. Extra credit if you can guess
> the caliber of the weapon on the table.
>
> http://home.earthlink.net/~k0hb/sitebuildercontent/sitebuilderpicture...
>
> 73, de Hans, K0HB

That's more like it!

I may offer a shack photo but it could take three days of shoveling
out.

There's not enough rifle showing for me to venture an accurate guess
as to what it is--maybe .270?

Dave K8MN

999. Re: Downloadable ham call database???

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-21 14:39:41 UTC
From: "battles1550@mailinator.com" <battles1550@mailinator.com>
Message-ID: <1179758274.016950.33320@a26g2000pre.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4404

Thanks, this is just what I need.

Look at downloads along right side of this page:

http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=transaction&page=weekly

1000. Re: Downloadable ham call database???

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-21 14:52:35 UTC
From: W2DNE <info@ultradne.com>
Message-ID: <f2sbl1$8k1$1@aioe.org>
Source record: 4405

<battles1550@mailinator.com> wrote in message
news:1179758274.016950.33320@a26g2000pre.googlegroups.com...
> Thanks, this is just what I need.
>
> Look at downloads along right side of this page:
>
> http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=transaction&page=weekly
>

OK, that covers the W/K's.

Now for the JA, DL, VK, SM, LA, G, VU, BY, UA, F, EA, AP, SU, ZL, LZ, PY, CE, SP, YU, VR, RA, JY, 4X, 5R calls. Not to mention the GM, EI, I, LY, and YL's. Then, of course, there are the XE's and VE's nearby, and 9Y, CO, C6, TF, and OX's not far off shore. Hmmmmmmmmmmmmmmm!

1001. Re: Is your station photogenic?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-21 17:28:34 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1179768433.816273.141530@y18g2000prd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4406

On May 20, 7:18 pm, K HB <groupk...@earthlink.net> wrote:
> On May 20, 8:19 pm, k...@earthlink.net wrote:
>
>
> Here's a link to a more recent photo. Extra credit if you can guess
> the caliber of the weapon on the table.
>
> http://home.earthlink.net/~k0hb/sitebuildercontent/sitebuilderpicture...

I've heard you were a "big gun" on HF but isn't that carrying
things a bit far?!?

:-)

73, Len AF6AY

1002. Re: Is your station photogenic?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-22 03:45:39 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1179801801.086527.193900@p47g2000hsd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4407

On May 21, 5:28 pm, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:

>
> I've heard you were a "big gun" on HF but isn't that carrying
> things a bit far?!?
>

My station is definitely small-bore ;-)

73, de Hans, K0HB
--
<*}}}}}>< http://www.home.earthlink.net/~k0hb

1003. Welcome to rec.radio.info!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-22 06:00:03 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/welcome-1-1179813602@panix.com>
Source record: 4408
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.scanner,rec.radio.shortwave,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/welcome
Revision: 1.1 2007/02/24 19:44:46
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

*** Welcome to rec.radio.info! ***

Welcome to rec.radio.info, a group that aims to provide a noise-free
source of information and news for the entire rec.radio hierarchy.

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to the group
every month. You are now reading the first article, which explains what
rec.radio.info is, and answers some Frequently Asked Questions. The
second article is titled Posting Guidelines, and you only need to read
it if you want to submit an article to rec.radio.info.

You can skip to the next section of this article by searching for the
next
" -- " string. The sections available are:
- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?
- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?
- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?
- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.
- What type of material is considered inappropriate?
- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to
rec.radio.info?
- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?
- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to
speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

-- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?

The purpose or charter of rec.radio.info is to provide the Usenet
community with a resource for information, news, and facts about any and
all things radio.

All the other rec.radio groups are intended for discussions and general
chit chat about radio. Rec.radio.info will contain informational,
factual articles only. Follow-ups are redirected to an appropriate other
group, and further discussion (if any) will not take place in
rec.radio.info.

In order to ensure that rec.radio.info contains only appropriate
articles, it was decided to create the group as a moderated newsgroup.
```

-- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?

It provides a "tag" for each article to be assembled into a filtered presentation in rec.radio.info (even with cross-posting, only one message, with a unique Message-ID, is propagated across the net). This tag also facilitates a pre-existing method of dropping or canceling the articles locally within the discussion groups if you don't want to see them. This accommodates individuals who want to separate the bulletins from the discussions, discussions from the bulletins, as well as those who are adamant about not reading another newsgroup and wanted to see everything all in one basket.

With the total size of Usenet (in number of newsgroups and total traffic) doubling every year or so, this is no insignificant contribution to reducing information noise and chaos. Making the discussion groups a catch-all, and making extra newsgroups filters on that catch-all, is also the most realistic way to implement such a scheme (It's not intuitively obvious what the charter, contents, and general appropriate topics for each and every newsgroup are. Seeing FAQ's and charter/intro postings in the home newsgroup is beneficial for new readers).

By cross-posting one only is adding a few tens of bytes to each bulletin (to specify the extra group on the Newsgroups line), but are adding the capability for very powerful filtering features available on most news servers, listservers and readers. Your local news guru could probably explain these features in more detail.

In rn, for example, according to Leanne Phillips in her rn kill-file FAQ, add a line of the form:

/Newsgroups:.*[,]rec\.radio\.info/h:j

either in ~/News/KILL (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere) or ~/News/rec/radio/amateur/misc/KILL (if you don't want to see them just in rec.radio.amateur.misc). The latter method means your kill file will only be consulted during rec.radio.amateur.misc (and hence runs more efficiently), and will probably work for most people.

In nn, according to Bill Wohler in his nn FAQ, add a line of the form:

rec.radio.info:!s/:^

in ~/.nn/kill (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere), or put the following lines:

sequence
rec.radio.info
rec.radio.

at the end of ~/.nn/init in order to see all the rec.radio.info bulletins first, then read the remaining rec.radio.* without the bulletins.

-- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?

If you are new to Usenet and are not familiar with the terminology, you might want to read the general introductory articles found in the newsgroup news.announce.newusers. Doing so will make your life on the net much easier, and will probably save you from making silly beginner's mistakes.

If you think that at this moment you are reading an echo, a conference, or a bulletin board, I'd also strongly suggest a trip over to news.announce.newusers.

For the rest of this article, we will assume you have a basic knowledge of Usenet terminology and mechanics.

A moderated group means that any article that needs to be posted to the group has to be accepted by the moderator of the group. Since we need to ensure that followups to an article (discussion) do not show up in the rec.radio.info newsgroup, the `Followup-To:' header line contains a newsgroup that is appropriate for discussions about the specific article.

-- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.

Rec.radio.info is a moderated newsgroup, which means that all articles submitted to the group will have to be approved by the moderator first.

The current moderator of the group is the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team. Submissions to rec.radio.info can be posted, or e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Comments, criticisms, suggestions or questions about the group can be e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

But before you do so, please be sure to check out the "Posting Guidelines" article.

The influence of the moderator should be minimal and of an administrative nature, consisting chiefly of weeding out obviously inappropriate articles, while making sure correct headers etc. are used for the appropriate ones.

-- What type of material is considered inappropriate?

There are three broad categories of articles which will be rejected by the moderator:

1) Requests for information: rec.radio.info is strictly a one-way street. We receive information in our mailbox; we then post it to rec.radio.info. Requests for specific information belong in the normal discussion newsgroups. If your request gets answered, you might consider passing the answer on to rec.radio.info, though. Especially if you can edit it into a informational, rather than a discussion, format.

2) Obvious discussion articles, or articles that appear unsubstantiated.

3) Commercial stuff: a relatively unbiased test of a radio product would be accepted, but any hint of for-profit might be reason for rejection. For three reasons: This is not the purpose of the list, for-profit is a controversial topic, and this list may be passed onto Amateur Packet Radio (where for-profit is prohibited except under certain provisos).

rec.radio.swap may be more deserving of the posting in any matter.

Similarly, copyrighted material generally cannot be used. If it's TRULY worthwhile to the net, We would recommend obtaining permission from the copyright holder. Please note the source, and if permission was given. We reserve the right to make the final decision concerning appropriateness in all situations. In most cases, a brief summary of, or pointer to, the copyrighted information may be all we can allow.

-- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to rec.radio.info?

Google has an excellent web interface to Usenet newsgroups. It is available at:

http://groups.google.com

It supports both reading and posting.

-- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?

Yes. See Google Groups above.

Effectively this means that anything you post to rec.radio.info will be permanently stored, so your work will not be lost.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as time critical.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires co-operation and goodwill to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio hierarchy.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

1004. rec.radio.info Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-22 06:05:01 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines-1-1179813900@panix.com>
Source record: 4409
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.scanner,rec.radio.shortwave,rec.answers,news.answers

Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines
Revision: 1.5 2007/03/22 16:30:49
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

*** rec.radio.info - Posting Guidelines and Etiquette ***

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to this group and to rec.answers/news.answers every month. You are now reading the second article, which explains how to submit something to rec.radio.info, and which answers some Frequently Asked Questions about the submission process. The first article is titled "Welcome to rec.radio.info", and it might be a good idea to check it out as well.

-- How do I submit something to rec.radio.info?

Two possibilities. You can use your newsreading software to just post the article to rec.radio.info, as you would do with any other newsgroup. The difference is that the software recognizes the special status of rec.radio.info as a moderated group, and will e-mail your article to us, the moderation team, instead of posting it to the group.

Alternatively, you can mail your article directly to us at the following address:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Mailing us directly is probably (a wee bit) faster, but using the transparency offered by the newsreading software is probably more convenient.

If you have any questions, or wish to deal with some administrivia with the moderation team, we suggest mailing to the following address:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

-- How soon will I see my article appear?

It depends on how busy we are. Your article reaches us as mail, we have to read it first, give it the stamp of approval, and finally send it on to the group. We will attempt to read and decide on all submissions within 72 hours at the very least, though we will probably be able to process submissions much faster in actual practice.

The site from which we moderate this newsgroup, "Public Access Internet and Unix, NYC" (Panix), is directly connected to the Internet, and

articles posted at that site should appear at most major news sites, including Google Groups, the same day. The principal delay, therefore, will be the wait in the moderator's submission queue.

If you post a periodic article, and have shown to be trustworthy, we may allow you to post directly if the article is of a timely nature. See the section below on direct posting.

-- Should my article be in a specific format?

No. If it is not totally illegible, we will accept it, and if it does not have a correct subject-line we will correct it with your permission -- that's what a moderator is for.

However.

You could do us a big favor by making sure your article conforms to these simple requirements:

1) The article must present information, not discussion or requests, We will reject the article or require you to change the wording if it is worth it.
2) A good, descriptive Subject line.
3) Always mention what source you got the information from.
4) Don't forget to include a Followup-To header, at least if you don't want further discussion to automatically be forwarded to you, the poster, which is the default if the article is only posted to rec.radio.info.

As we said: if your article is appropriate we will post it even if you don't follow these guidelines, but then don't blame us for not processing it immediately. 'Perfect' articles we can send on with a couple of keystrokes. Stuff that needs minor editing is going to have to wait until we have time to do so.

Please do not waste both our and your time by posting requests, as this is an information only news group.

-- What about crossposting?

If you send something to rec.radio.info, just name any group you'd like to cross-post to in the Newsgroups field. Then, when we approve the article for rec.radio.info it will get automatically cross-posted to any other groups mentioned. This will also override the default Followup-To: poster, replacing it with the groups you cross posted to.

We would prefer if the group be cross-posted to the various discussion groups in the rec.radio.* hierarchy that are appropriate:

rec.radio.amateur.misc Amateur (ham) radio and related matters
rec.radio.amateur.packet Amateur Packet Radio discussions
rec.radio.amateur.policy Amateur Radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.noncomm Non commercial radio discussions
rec.radio.shortwave International broadcasting on the 'HF' bands

rec.radio.cb Citizens Band (27 MHz) discussion
rec.radio.scanner Scanner discussions (unsupported group)

or in one of the moderated groups:

rec.radio.amateur.moderated Amateur radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.broadcasting Discussion of *domestic* radio broadcasting

We will leave it up to the poster to decide which group(s) are appropriate, but reserve the right to add groups if we feel it has broader interest. We will consult with the poster first.

Notes on crossposting:

- rec.radio.broadcasting is also a moderated group. The rec.radio.broadcasting moderator prefers to review all articles himself before posting. Placing rec.radio.broadcasting before rec.radio.info on the Newsgroups line should accomplish this. We will typically abide by the rec.radio.broadcasting moderator's decision whether the article is appropriate for rec.radio.info.

- rec.radio.amateur.moderated is also a moderated group. As the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team manages both rec.radio.amateur.moderated and rec.radio.info, we can manage crossposting and approvals for both newsgroups. The rec.radio.amateur.moderated group does not allow crossposting to other discussion newsgroups, whether moderated or unmoderated. However, we would like to manage rec.radio.info as consistently as possible with how it was done by previous moderators, including the grandfathering of existing regular postings. Therefore, the submitter can choose rec.radio.amateur.moderated or the other unmoderated rec.radio.amateur.* discussion newsgroups for crossposting, but not both.

- Any FAQ or informational posting approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderation team that is also crossposted to any rec.radio.* newsgroup (besides just rec.radio.info) is also automatically pre-approved for rec.radio.info. See below for more information.

If you post to another moderated group, it may be better to make special arrangements with both moderators before posting by contacting us at our administrivia addresses.

In addition, cross-posts do not take up extra space; modern newsreaders can be configured to show you cross-posted articles only once anyway; not everybody reads rec.radio.info; and rec.radio.info was never meant to reduce the volume of the regular discussion newsgroups. But keep in mind that some of the mail gateways may filter out the informational postings (at request of the subscribers) to keep the load down.

You decide.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, can I make arrangements to help speed up delivery by posting directly from my site?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as timely.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires cooperation and good will to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio.* hierarchy.

If you are currently maintaining (or plan to maintain) a radio-related periodic information posting, you may wish to consider crossposting it to rec.answers/news.answers. Postings that are approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderators for this treatment are automatically pre-approved for crossposting to rec.radio.info (as the news.answers requirements are far more rigorous than the requirements this newsgroup ever plans to use). For more information about this option, consult the appropriate information articles and posting guidelines in rec.answers/news.answers.

Realize also, that even if your post is not approved for rec.answers/news.answers, it can still be approved for rec.radio.info. The intention is not so much to get every last bit of radio-related information on rec.answers/news.answers, but rather to provide an alternative avenue of approval (as well as grandfather existing maintainers of radio-related information and spare them additional bureaucratic hurdles). Again, crossposting to either rec.radio.info or rec.answers/news.answers, both, or neither, is at the discretion of the poster (subject to the approval of the moderators). You decide what is most appropriate for your article.

Please remember that as an information maintainer, you are not alone. There are many others on the net who maintain and post periodic information postings, using various intermediate-to-advanced features of Usenet (usually via automated tools). Various degrees of technical support and general hand-holding are available from many Usenet veterans. Send us some E-mail describing your needs to our administrative address below, and we'll try to help, or at least refer you to the right knowledgeable individual(s).

-- And Follow-ups?

If the only newsgroup you have specified is rec.radio.info, then the Followup-To: field will always be set to poster. If you do not want this, you must supply a Followup-To line of your own, and we will honor that one, as long as it is a subset of the original Newsgroups line.

If you specify newsgroups to cross-post to, then the Followup-To field will be set to include all the cross-posted groups, excepting rec.radio.info itself. Again, if you do not wish this behavior, supply your own Followup-To line.

We maintain other standards on the various RFC-1036 (news transport) header lines. For example, if the article is appropriate for passing into the Packet Radio Information Network, we encapsulate the Packet Bulletin Identifier (BID) in the Message-ID: news header line indicating the machine of origin as the ampr.org domain:

Message-ID: <$opa.55.1994@ampr.org>

where the Packet Radio BID, in this example, is `$OPA.55', and it was posted in the year 1994, because some of the Bid numbers are cycled yearly. Hopefully, this can be used as a key to re-introduce the articles for the Packet Radio network. Also, if the article is a repost of an already existing information article in the rec.radio heirarchy, we ensure that the References: header line is linked to that previously posted article. This also helps to tag articles, and may be used for additional filtering if needed.

Since the articles are archived, please use the Summary and Keywords header lines to help one search for your article.

-- Why have I received no reply from you?

We never reject anything in silence, and we make a point of it to answer all our mail. However, E-mail, like a brain cell, can and does get lost, every now and again.

So, if you send us something, and you don't see it appear it rec.radio.info, and you still have not heard from us in reply after say, five days, you can be pretty sure that either your mail never reached us, or that our answer has never reached you. In that case, please try again (We will filter out duplicates).

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

1005. Amateur Radio Newsline Report 1553 - May 18, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-22 13:04:00 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <E1HqQnG-0004XK-Swa@elasmtp-scoter.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 4410
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1553 - May 18, 2007

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1553 with a
release date of Friday, April May 18th, 2007 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. Hamvention 2007 is
here and we have a preview. Also, the 500
Kilohertz experiment expands in Europe and a 19
year old radio amateur will head Delaware's newly
formed ham radio Communication Corps. Find out
the details on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report
number 1553 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

Hamvention 2007 is here and we are here too. The
doors at Dayton Ohio's Hara Arena opened on
Friday, May 18th, bringing with them a
celebration of the backbone of Amateur Radio:

--

Nies: "Our theme this year is "Local Radio Clubs,
The Heart Of Ham Radio." We are trying to
recognize that an awful lot of what goes on in
Amateur Radio happens because of the efforts of
the local clubs rather than any national, regional or statewide activity."

--

That's Jim Nies, WX8F, who is this year Dayton
Hamvention General Chairman. And in a recent
interview with the Radio amateur Information
Network, he expanded on some of the ways that the
role of clubs will be celebrated:

--

Nies: "We have a program in the Flea Market to
offer discounted spaces to clubs. We have some
banners inside recognizing the contribution that
local clubs make in terms of getting people
involved, Elmering. Just the kind of support that
local clubs do that brings members in and keep the whole thing going."

--

So what are the major changes this year? Most
appear to be in the area of forums:

--

Nies: "In terms of anything dramatically new, we
have some forums coming in. One of the things
with forums we are trying to do is to shorten
things up a little bit so we have room for more
topics. Software Defined Radio is an up and
coming technology and they're getting some
attention. They were there last year and will be again this year."

--

And will those attending see anything new in the way of radio gear?

--

Nies: "We never really know but we do believe
that several of the inside manufacturers are
going to be showing off some of their new
products this year. They never tell us. We
always ask but they tend to event to keep it
under wraps until the very last minute, but I
noticed in the latest QST that a couple of
different vendors are touting new equipment that
they are going to be showing at Hamvention, and
we are kind of excited about that."

--

And there was some good news this year about
parking. Even with all the construction at one
important lot, the parking remained:

--

Nies: "We will still have parking at the Salem
Mall, which is kind of an interesting
situation. The Salem Mall is under construction
and all of the stores except for a bank and the
Home Depot and Sears have been torn down. The
city of Trotwood is marketing it as a new kind of
a mall with the renovation. Meanwhile though,
the parking spaces are still available to us and
we will be bussing to there as we have done for the past years."

--

The Dayton Hamvention runs May 18th, 19th and
20th. Its truly a fun event but if you cannot be
there in person, you can take part vicariously

over the World Wide Web thanks to Tom Medlin, WA5KUB. Tom will be webcasting many of the Hamvention 2007 highlights. Look for the fun at http://wa5kub.com. Meantime we hope to see some of you at the Hara Arena and Hamvention 2007. (ARNewsline(tm) with audio provided by RAIN)

**

RADIO EXPERIMENTATION: 500 KHZ EXPERIMENTS EXPAND IN EUROPE

In other news, word that the German medium wave radio experiment is expanding. Since the beginning of 2005 the German telecommunication authorities have licensed a propagation study on medium wave bands. The first permit for an experimental station on 440 kHz plus/minus 100 Hz was issued to DJ2LF under the callsign DI2AG. In May 2006, DK8KW got the second license to operate under the callsign DI2BO at his home location in Peine near Hannover.

Now comes word that early in 2007 the experimental radio licenses were extended to a second frequency. Besides 440 kHz the frequency of 505.1 kHz plus or minus 100 Hz is also now being used. This frequency falls into the frequency range being used by the United States experimental radio group with the callsign WD2XSH.

And this just in. Swedish authorities have issued one license for this frequency range. (GB2RS News)

**

RESCUE RADIO: 2 RESCUED AT SEA THANKS TO AMATEUR RADIO

A long established ham radio network was instrumental in a recent rescue at sea.

It took place South-West of the Galapagos Islands starting on on Friday, May 4th. That's when Wes Mullenix, KI0A, the Texas-based net controller on Intercon intercepted a distress call from a damaged 35 foot pleasure craft called the Sail About. As KI0A did not have good a truly readable signal from the emergency request, he handed the communications over to Fletcher Henderson, KA4BPR, in Dolthan, Alabama.

It was KA4BPR obtained the pertinent information through a series of relays. He learned that there were two people on board, that they were

named Gunner and Gretta, that they were from Norway, that the boats bow was damaged and began taking on water. With this information in hand, KA4BPR then called the United States Coast Guard to report the situation.

Soon several vessels had set an intercept course to rendezvous with the Sail About which was slowly headed toward that point under motor power. During that time, members of the Intercon net kept in contact with Gunner and Gretta to assure them that help was on its way.

It took several hours, but finally the Sail About was spotted by the rescue ship S V Damarri. Soon other vessels arrived. Gunnar and Greta were rescued, transferred to M V Belnor and the Sail About was, sadly, abandoned at sea. (W4QVA)

**

MORSE: NEW SUPPORT FOR A POPULAR OLD MODE

Morse may no longer be a licensing requirement in most nations, but the mode is very much alive and well. In fact its gaining favor with more and more hams as witnessed by the large number of clubs that are springing to life dedicated to preserving that very basic mode. The latest of these is the Pro C-W Club based in Romania.

The Pro C-W Club is the brain child of Vasile Giurgiu, YO6EX. The organization is dedicated to the preservation and encouragement of the art of CW communications. There are two classes of membership and hams the world over are welcome to join.

No website yet but more information and the dues structure is available from Vasile Giurgiu, YO6EX, SIBIU-1, RO-550450, Romania. (YO6EX)

**

Break 1

From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the Hamvention repeater, W8BI, serving Dayton, Ohio.

(5 sec pause here)

**

PUBLIC SERVICE: HAM RADIO AND THE MINI MARATHON

May in Indianapolis is always a busy time for
Central Indiana amateur radio operators. As
drivers prepared for the 91st running of the
Indianapolis 500 Mile Race, local runners and
amateur radio operators took to the streets of
Indianapolis to set the pace during the annual
Mini-Marathon. Jack Parker W8ISH was at the finish line and filed this
report

--

--

Nat Sound: :N9NIC net control for the Mini-Marathon."

--

Central Indiana hams hit the ground running for
the 32nd annual 500 Festival
Mini-Marathon. This year over 100 hams provided
health and welfare communications around the 13
point one mile marathon. And, that's no easy task.

Thirty-five thousand runners and walkers
crossed the downtown starting line on their trek
out to, and around the famed two and one half
mile oval at the Indianapolis Motor
Speedway. After a slow trip around the track
they headed to the finish line back downtown.

--

Nat Sound: "I need a medical transport at mile marker nine for a diabetic."

--

That much foot traffic kept the amateur radio
operators on their toes during the seven hour
event. Warm morning temperatures and high
humidity took its toll on the runners. According
Net coordinator Mike Palmer, N9FEB, hams posted
the yellow warning flag midway through the event
as runners began to fall by the wayside. Thirty
participants were taken to the hospital for
treatment. Amateur radio operators tracked each
patient and all other runners that failed to make it to the finish line.

Reporting from Indianapolis, this is Jack
Parker, W8ISH for Amateur Radio Newsline.

--

The Amateur radio net had six controllers
utilizing local repeaters and several simplex
frequencies to handle all the health and welfare

traffic. As usual the ham radio operators
finished in first place for a job well done. (W8ISH)

**

RESCUE RADIO: TEEN HAM HEADS UP DELAWARE COMMUNICATIONS CORPS

Delaware's new Communication Corps coordinator is
a 19-year-old college student and ham radio
operator. He also has more experience in
emergency communications than many radio amateurs
twice or three times his age.

The Delaware Emergency Management Agency has
chosen Justin Kates, KB3JUV, to head its newly
formed Communication Corps. Managers say that
Kates, who is a University of Delaware freshman,,
will coordinate Amateur Radio operators across
the state in the event of a terrorist attack,
natural disaster or other emergency.

Kates is believed to be the youngest person in
the nation to hold this level of responsibility
in an emergency response organization. The
Delaware Communication Corps program is funded
by a Department of Homeland Security grant.

More about Justin Kates, KB3JUV, and the role he
is playing in Delaware's emergency preparedness
is on-line at http://kb3juv.blogspot.com/2007/05/nineteen.html (eHam,
others)

**

RESCUE RADIO: CALIFORNIA CITY GETS HAM RADIO EMCOMM GRANT

San Rafael, California has received a $23,000
grant for ham radio operations to help coordinate
an emergency response during times of
disaster. San Rafael received the grant to
establish an amateur radio network that will
swing into action if phone and radio communications fail.

The Marin Independent Journal reports that three
other Bay Area organizations received funds
from California Volunteers as well. This is a
state-run organization meant to get civilians trained in emergency response.

The organizations director is Karen Baker. She
says that these grants will help assist local
communities and nonprofit organizations to better
prepare Californians for the next disaster. A
total of $1 million was handed out across the
state. No specific radio clubs or groups were

named in the California Volunteers press
release. (Marin Independent Journal On-Line)

**

RESCUE RADIO: ON-STAR ADVANCED SAFETY

General Motors has announced that its OnStar
remote vehicle monitoring technology will be
partnered with the Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention. This, to use data from vehicle
crashes to tell paramedics and doctors how badly passengers might be hurt.

On the vehicle, the OnStar sensors will measure
the severity of a crash, where the vehicle was
struck, if airbags deployed and whether the
vehicle has rolled over. Experts will then review
the crash data radioed back from OnStar's
Advanced Automatic Crash Notification technology
and notify first response authorities.

Researchers say that this data could help to save
lives by helping first responders get to people
who are more seriously injured than they seem and
then send them to the nearest trauma
center.

The partnership between OnStar and the Centers
for Disease Control and Prevention is funded by a
$250,000 grant from OnStar and the General Motors Foundation. (GM, CDC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: STATION DINGED $15000 FOR PHONE REBROADCAST

A licensed broadcaster has been dinged for $15000
by the FCC. WMGO Broadcasting Corp., Inc. which
operates WMGO A-M radio in Canton, Mississippi
received the fine for recording a telephone
conversation and later broadcasting it without
first informing the party on the phone of its
intention to do so. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, reports:

--

According to the FCC, Luke Gordon filed a
complaint alleging that on January 6, 2005, the
station recorded a telephone conversation between
him and newsman Jerry Lousteau without notifying
him of Lousteaus' intention to do so. Gordon
further charged that the WMGO later broadcast
excerpts of the recorded telephone conversation
on January 7th, 10th, and 11th, 2005.

In its defense, the station responded that Lousteau initiated a phone call to the Gordon to interview him. WMGO claims that Lousteau was unsuccessful in contacting the Gordon so there was no need and no opportunity to inform him, in person, of the station's intentions to record and/or broadcast the conversation.

Shortly after the Commission received the stations response, Gordon provided the agency with a recording that contained a portion of the telephone conversation that was aired by WMGO. In light of this development, the FCC issued a follow-up letter to the radio station. It directed WMGO to confirm the authenticity of the content of the recording, and to identify the persons whose voices are heard on the tape. The FCC also instructed the WMGO to review its initial response and make any revisions that it believed were necessary.

In responding, WMGO confirmed the authenticity of the audio recording and identified the two speakers as Lousteau and Gordon. WMGO did not affirmatively respond to the Commission's question as to whether the station had informed the Gordon of its intention to record and/or broadcast the telephone conversation. Instead WMGO stated that because Gordon had participated in previous telephone interviews that were recorded and subsequently broadcast by the station. Therefore it could only surmise that Gordon has always been aware of the taping for broadcast.

But the FCC says that's not good enough. It says that the purpose of Section 73.1206 of its rules is to protect the legitimate expectation of privacy in connection with the broadcast use of telephone conversations. It says that when Gordon returned the phone call to WMGO that same day that the station had a legal obligation to inform him that it intended to record and rebroadcast the conversation but failed to do so. And that says the FCC warrants the imposition of a $15,000 fine which WMGO Broadcasting has been ordered to pay.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

--

WMGO Broadcasting was given the usual time to pay the fine or to fine an appeal. (FCC)

**

RADIO LAW: CONGRESS MAY ACT TO SAVE INTERNET BROADCASTING

A bill introduced in Congress ton Friday, April 27th, could be the savior for so-called Internet radio station. Called the Internet Radio Equality Act, the measure would nullify the new rates set by the Copyright Royalty Board which advocates say would put webcasters out of business.

The bi-partisan Internet Radio Equality Act legislation was introduced by Washington Democrat Jay Inslee and Republican representative Don Manzullo of Illinois. Its purpose is to curtail the imposition of a highly controversial March 2 decision which forces royalty payments of a .08 cents per song per listener, retroactively from 2006

Web radio advocates have condemned the Copyright Royalty Board ruling. They say that it could raise rates between 300 to 1200 per cent for webcasters and effectively ending the transmission of musical entertainment over the World-Wide-Web. The Copyright Royalty Board defends its decision stating that artists are entitled to a fair share of the profits from the music that they have created.

If passed, Internet Radio Equality Act would set new rates at 7.5 per cent of the webcaster's revenue. That's the same rate paid by satellite radio broadcasters. Alternatively, webcasters could decide to pay 33 cents per hour of sound recordings transmitted to a single user. The bill would also reset royalty rules for non-profit radio such as National Public Radio. Such government funded radio operations would be required present a report to Congress on how it should determine rates for their internet streaming media. (Published reports)

**

HAM HERITAGE: KEYS 2007 - WORKS OF ART

Keys 2007 - Amateur Radio Works of Art is the first in a multi-part series depicting some very unique Morse keys appearing in the May issue of CQ Magazine. In it, author Dave Ingram, K4TWJ, brings you some of the most beautiful C-W generating devices ever created by the mind of man. Included is an incredible Roto-Bug that uses a motor generator system to produce dots and

a paddle key crafted from an old Astatic D-104
microphone. Its true ham radio creativity at its
best and it all begins on page 44 of the May C-Q
that's on newsstands right now. (CQ)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: CONGRATS TO LARRY KING - 50 YEARS ON THE AIR

CNN personality Larry King is not a ham, but he
has been on the air a lot longer than most radio
amateurs have been licensed. And this year the
master interviewer celebrates his 50th anniversary as a broadcaster.

The Brooklyn, New York born King began his
broadcasting career in 1957 after changing from
his surname from Zeiger. His first job was as a
disc jockey at Miami's WAHR-AM. The next year, he
began a show originating live from a local
restaurant, where he interviewed whatever folks
as they happened by. Now age 73, King joined CNN
back in 1985 and has been interviewing the famous and not so famous ever
since.

As an aside, King and our producer Bill
Pasternak, WA6ITF, have two things in
common. Not only are they both from Bensonhurst,
Brooklyn. Both also attended Lafayette High
School though King had graduated a few years before Bill arrived.

Kings career has already spanned half a
century. We at Amateur Radio Newsline wish him
many more years of success yet to come. (Published reports)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio
amateur. From the United States of America, We
are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the
world from our only official website at
www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the
volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

CHANGING OF THE GUARD: WRITER DAVE ROSENTHAL, N6TST, - S.K.

The changing of the guard in Amateur Radio
continues with word of the passing of longtime
Radio Netherland U-S reporter Dave Rosenthal,

N6TST. A longtime resident of Ridgecrest, California, the 58 year old Rosenthal passed away on March 16th after battling a protracted illness.

We at Newsline first met Dave through the former Radio Netherlands Media Network program producer Jonathan Marks, G8WGN. And over the years, Dave was a contributor to a few of our newscasts as well. In more recent days, N6TST, became a very prolific writer. His articles in QST Magazine drew much interest and acclaim including the ARRL Cover Plaque Award for his article, "Polar Bear Portable."

Dave Rosenthal, N6TST, is survived by his wife Donna, KF6ZVE. In lieu of flowers memorial donations in Dave's name should be sent to the Wiseman Cancer Research Foundation, 201 S Alvarado St, Suite 321, Los Angeles, California, 90057. (ARRL)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: ERROR RATES HIGHER WITH FEMALES USING VOICE RECOGNITION SOFTWARE

Science Daily reports that there is a significantly higher rate of transcription error in women compared to men when using commercial voice recognition applications.

According to a recent study ten radiology residents, five male and five female, were each trained on a commercial speech recognition application. Each was then asked to dictate a standardized set of ten radiology reports containing a total of 2,123 words.

The generated reports were then compared with the original reports and error rates were calculated. The error rate was defined as the sum of the number of word insertions and deletions divided by the total word count for a given report. The results showed error rates in the male population ranged from 0.025 to 0.139 while the error rates in the females ranged from 0.015 to 0.206. (Science Daily)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: MICROSOFT SUPPORTS ROBOT DESIGNERS

Microsoft has previewed a set of new software tools that aims to give developers a simpler way to design robots and to create and test programs that operate a wide range of machines The

group's first product is called Microsoft Robotics Studio. It is designed for hobbyists, students or commercial developers, who have had to reinvent the wheel each time they use different hardware to build a robot. While the fragmented robotics market is now in its infancy, Microsoft says that forecasts call for the industry to grow into a multibillion-dollar market in the next five to 10 years. (Technology Report)

**

WORLDBEAT - SOUTH AFRICA: CALLBOOK BY APRS

The South African Radio League reports that Dick Stratford, ZS6RO, has set-up a server on APRS which can be used to obtain callbook information from anywhere in the APRS international network.

It works this way. When querying a local South African callsign, the South African Radio League database is used. When a D-X callsign is queried via APRS, the QRZ.COM database is used in real-time. The same databases are used when querying from the packet radio network.

APRS, the acronym for Automatic Position Reporting System, was developed by Bob Bruninga, WB4APR. The system uses amateur radio to transmit position reports, weather reports, and messages between users. (SARL)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: PAPERS SOUGHT FOR AMSAT SPACE SYMPOSIUM

AMSAT has put out a call for papers to be presented at its 2007 AMSAT Space Symposium and Annual Meeting slated for October 25th to the 28th in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Proposals for papers, symposium presentations, and poster presentations are invited on any topic of interest to the amateur satellite program. Emphasis for this year is an educational outreach to middle and high School students with emphasis on papers dealing with several targeted topics. These include but are not limited to Students & Education, Amateur Radio on the International Space Station, satellites AO-51, Phase 3 E and Eagle along with other satellite-related topics.

A one-page abstract is required by June 1st. Camera ready copy on paper or in electronic

form will be due by September 1st for inclusion
in the printed symposium proceedings. Papers
received after this date will not be included in the printed proceedings.

Abstracts and papers should be sent to Daniel
Schultz N8FGV by e-mail to: n8fgv@amsat.org. (AMSAT)

**

WORLDBEAT - UK: TV SHOWS THE EARLY DAYS OF UK EMCOMMS

A television show about the early days of Amateur
Radio emergency communications in England was
recently broadcast on the U-K TV station Channel
4 . This, as a part of the stations ongoing '3 Minute Wonder' series.

The program was called "Preparing for the Worst"
was hosted by Pat Gowen G3IOR. It discussed one
of the first ever mobile emergency communications
operations ever in the U-K. Also in the show is
Terry Owen, G4PSH and references are made to
Rafars & Raynet of the city of Norfolk.

Preparing for the Worst can be seen on the
YouTube video service. Just take your web
browser to www.youtube.com/watch?v=vLfsr-Q3m0o (Southgate)

**

WORLDBEAT - UK: NEW UK HAM RADIO WEBSITE

A new British website at www.RadioDXer.co.uk, has
been launched. This to create an online
community for United Kingdom based amateurs and
other radio enthusiasts where they can
participate in discussion on anything to do with radio as a hobby.

Graeme Stoker, M0EUK, the man behind the new
cyberspace global village. He believes that
there are a number of similar American-based
forums, but until now nothing really with a U-K focus. (Southgate)

**

DX

DL6LAU has informed the OPDX newsletter that
DL8OBQ, DJ8NK and himself will now be active as
PJ2/homecall from the island of Curacao (July
9-16th. They plan to participate in the IARU HF Contest
(July 14-15th) as PJ2HQ, and as a Multi-Multi
entry. QSL via their home callsigns. QSL PJ2HQ via N9AG or LoTW.

IW2NEF, will be active as portable HI7 from
Bayahibe, in the Dominican Republic from June

3-9th. Activity will be limited to no more than 1 or 2 hours a day on HF, on 40-10 meters and VHF 6 meters E-skip. He will use a Yaesu FT-857D w/100 watts max power into a vertical "9M WIRE" for HF and a J pole for the 6M band. QSL via IW2NEF.

(From various DX news sources)

**

THAR FINAL ITEM: THE HILLS ARE ALIVE WITH THE SOUND OF PROTEINS

And finally this week, word that biologists have converted protein sequences into another form of communications. Classical music. This they say is an attempt to help vision-impaired scientists and boost the popularity of genomic biology.

New research published in the open access journal Genome Biology describes how researchers have found a way to present human proteins as musical notes. Doctors Rie Takahashi and Jeffrey H. Miller from the University of California, Los Angeles, USA, have so far transcribed segments of two human proteins into music. But to make their melodies more pleasing on the ear, they had first to overcome a few problems -- how to incorporate rhythm, and how to cram the 20 standard amino acids into just 13 notes.

Amino acids are the building blocks of proteins. The two researchers focused on codons which are sets of three adjacent bases that code for particular amino acids. They decided to include four different note durations with codons that appear more frequently transcribed into longer notes than those which appear less often. Individual amino acids are expressed as chords, in which similar amino acids are paired. For example, the amino acids tyrosine and phenylalanine are both assigned a G major chord, but they can be distinguished because the notes in the chord are arranged differently. This means the resulting music has a 20 note range spanning over 2 octaves, but with just 13 base notes.

The team find their music more melodic and less 'jumpy' than previous attempts, which have focused on DNA sequences and protein folding, and hence closer to the musical depth of popular compositions. They are currently piloting a computer program, written by a collaborator Frank Pettit, which uses their translation rules to

convert amino acids into music and hope it will speed up the translation of large segments of genomes. (BioMed Central via Science OnLine)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline@arnewsline.org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), P.O. Box 660937, Arcadia, California 91066.

Two reminders before we go. First we have a new poll for the month of May. This one asks the question now that the Morse exam is part of ham radio history, do you plan to upgrade or remain the license class you are right now. Of coarse this is unfair to Extra class licensees because they cannot go any higher so this poll kind of leaves them out in the cold. To compensate, we added a third possible answer, but you will have to go to our website at www.arnewsline.org to see what it is.

Also, the nominating season for this years Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award closes on May 30th. That's less than 2 weeks away. Any nominations received after that date will not qualify for this years award program.

The Young Ham of the Year Award is open to any radio amateur age 18 or younger residing in all 50 United States, plus Puerto Rico and all 13 Canadian Provinces can qualify. Full details and nominating forms are on our special website at www,yhoty.org. Also see the Vertex-Standard sponsored ad on page 8 of the March issue of QST Magazine.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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1006. Three phase transformer

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-23 01:21:48 UTC
From: Bob Minchin <bob.minchin@OEnewsreader.com>
Message-ID: <arl4i.544$lz3.271@newsfe5-win.ntli.net>
Source record: 4411

I have acquired a big(4kva) three phase transformer. the primary is a star configuration and the secondary a single voltage delta. it is wound on three limbs of an iron core.
I can separate each of the primary and secondary windings to give three pairs each wound on a limb of the core.
I suspect this is perfectly normal - but I've never looked at one before.
Playing (on paper) with the turns ratios, my application of voltage step up from 240 to 415 would be satisified by putting each primary in series across the mains and putting each secondary in series. each winding would get less voltage than originally designed thus not exceeding the original turns per volt.

Provided I connect each winding start to finish in the right order, is there anything to stop me using it in this way?

I've done a bit of a search on three phase transformers but not surprisingly, I've not found anything about using them for single phase applications.

I'd be grateful for any info.

regards

Bob

"why is is that I always want to use things for purposes that they were not designed for??"

1007. Re: Professional HF Work?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-23 01:22:24 UTC
From: Robin <me@here.com>
Message-ID: <465362a9$0$19254$da0feed9@news.zen.co.uk>
Source record: 4412

"BNB Sound" <jon@bnbsound.com> wrote in message
news:1178599461.693178.265950@e65g2000hsc.googlegroups.com...
> I've been an amateur operator for a little over a year now and one of
> my favorite parts of the hobby is soaking up stories from previous
> decades. One of the things I'm curious about is professional HF work.
> I've heard it mentioned in passing that when the early trans-Atlantic
> cables went down they would shift to HF circuits as available to try
> and pick up the slack.
>
> So, what else is out there. I know the military has always been
> heavily invested in radio gear, but what else was (and is?) there? I'd
> love to hear from anyone who ever brought home a paycheck for working
> the airwaves.
>
I used to run a company in Tanzania that supplied HF radio kit to NGO's
Mines, Aid agencies, Safari companies,Farms, Shipping and transportation
companies. Not much of a mobile phone network away from the cities.
Also we provided a HF email service called Bushmail, similar to Sailmail
using Pactor 3 SCS modems for HF email.

HF kit that we supplied Kenwood TRC 80/TK88, Icom IC-78/IC-718, also some
kit from Codan and Motorola

So, yes there is a business market for HF comms kit in Africa.

Robin

1008. Re: Three phase transformer

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-23 19:13:50 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5bja3hF2tm0vfU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4413

"Bob Minchin" <bob.minchin@OEnewsreader.com> wrote in
message news:arI4i.544$lz3.271@newsfe5-win.ntli.net

> I have acquired a big(4kva) three phase transformer. the
> primary is a star configuration and the secondary a
> single voltage delta. it is wound on three limbs of an
> iron core.

Are you sure..? From my (admittedly limited and a long time ago)
experience, it's usually the secondary that's wired in star formation so
you can get three single phases plus a neutral for distribution from a
high voltage source (also usually 3 phase).

Can't help with the rest I',m afraid, my electrical engineering college
days are long behind me..!

73 Ivor G6URP

1009. Re: Three phase transformer

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-23 20:22:39 UTC
From: Bob Minchin <bob.minchin@OEnewsreader.com>
Message-ID: <mL05i.289$RP4.288@newsfe2-win.ntli.net>
Source record: 4414

"Ivor Jones" <ivor@despammed.invalid> wrote in message
news:5bja3hF2tm0vfU1@mid.individual.net...
> "Bob Minchin" <bob.minchin@OEnewsreader.com> wrote in
> message news:arI4i.544$lz3.271@newsfe5-win.ntli.net
>
> > I have acquired a big(4kva) three phase transformer. the
> > primary is a star configuration and the secondary a
> > single voltage delta. it is wound on three limbs of an
> > iron core.
>
> Are you sure..? From my (admittedly limited and a long time ago)
> experience, it's usually the secondary that's wired in star formation so
> you can get three single phases plus a neutral for distribution from a
> high voltage source (also usually 3 phase).
>
> Can't help with the rest I',m afraid, my electrical engineering college
> days are long behind me..!
>
> 73 Ivor G6URP
>
>
Hi Ivor,

I think it must be a special.
The secondary is marked 170v delta
and the primary is 0,200,208,380,415,480 star.

I'll test my application out at low voltage first just in case i let the
smoke out!

regards

Bob

1010. Re: Three phase transformer

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-23 21:17:27 UTC
From: "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not>
Message-ID: <f32907$g7t$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 4415

Ivor Jones wrote:
> "Bob Minchin" <bob.minchin@OEnewsreader.com> wrote in
> message news:arI4i.544$lz3.271@newsfe5-win.ntli.net
>
>> I have acquired a big(4kva) three phase transformer. the
>> primary is a star configuration and the secondary a
>> single voltage delta. it is wound on three limbs of an
>> iron core.
>
> Are you sure..? From my (admittedly limited and a long time ago)
> experience, it's usually the secondary that's wired in star formation so
> you can get three single phases plus a neutral for distribution from a
> high voltage source (also usually 3 phase).
>
> Can't help with the rest I',m afraid, my electrical engineering college
> days are long behind me..!
>
> 73 Ivor G6URP

Ivor,

In the U.S., it's common to have lighting circuits connected with Delta wiring, and the "Wye" input is consistent with a commercial mains Wye setup.

Using Delta wiring in the lighting plant saves a lot on wiring and equipment: the usual practice is to ground one "corner" of the Delta transformer, thus obviating the need for a separate ground wire as in Wye-connected circuits. In addition, an Engineer can specify "Delta breakers", which are arranged to fuse only the two "hot" legs of the Delta feed: since one leg is grounded, no breaker is required, thus saving 1/3 of the cost in equipment.

FWIW.

Bill

--
73,

Bill W1AC

(Remove "73" and change top level domain for direct replies)

1011. Gulf Coastal Software - QSLeCard new freeware

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-24 16:20:26 UTC
From: "battles1550@mailinator.com" <battles1550@mailinator.com>
Message-ID: <1180016258.221484.191590@u30g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4416

Gulf Coastal Software

QSLeCard

Gulf Coastal has up loaded a new freeware QSL card creation program
at the address below. QSLeCard has many options including the
following:

1. Load in a QSL card background of your choice.
2. All data fields on card can be made transparent.
3. Choose to frame card and/or QSO data fields.
4. Choose to archive QSO information.
5. Choice of several fonts, font colors, and font styles.
6. Choice of several data field background colors if not transparent.
7. Output options:
Create GIF and JPG files for emailing QSL card attachments;
Copy card to clipboard; Print the card.

Card data includes -
Call sign
Name/address
73s
Pse QSL
Pse LoTW
Email address
(above field are can be moved around card)

Contact data entries include -
(contact data can be entered thru buttons or typed directly)
Confirming QSO with
Date
Time
(or) current GMT date/time
Frequency
Mode
Power
Signal report

[Note: Gulf Coastal has an enhanced free version of this program
wherein
the card should be ably to be sent directly from the QSLeCard
program. This would eliminate the additional step of starting
an
email client and attaching the JPG to the email. Gulf
Coastal's
internet service provider does not provide pop3/smtp email, so

we have no way of testing the program (we have to use html web
based email). We need one or more volunteers with smtp email
(this is normal email service using an email client) to test
this
direct send feature and give us feedback as to it's success/
failure.
If anyone would be willing to test this enhanced version,
please
send an email to battles@hushmail.com. We will send the
enhanced
version back as an email attachment (quite large attachment +/-
1.3 mb).]

73s
Gulf Coastal Software
battles@hushmail.com (Please send bug reports/suggestions.)

http://www.simtel.net/search.php[action]search[authorName]Gulf+Coastal+Software[SiteID]sim
tel.net
(or go to)
www.simtel.net and search Gulf Coastal in search box. If not found,
search company name in
advanced search box.

1012. Re: Gulf Coastal Software - QSLeCard new freeware

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-24 20:31:03 UTC
From: John <geep@mgwnet.com>
Message-ID: <f34ro0gmj1@news04.infoave.net>
Source record: 4417

went there and can not find it afile name and a drirect lik would be nice

1013. Re: Gulf Coastal Software - QSLeCard new freeware

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-25 01:30:40 UTC
From: Ken <nospam@invalid.net>
Message-ID: <bFq5i.52$dS2.36@newsfe02.lga>
Source record: 4418

In article <f34ro0gmj1@news04.infoave.net>, geep@mgwnet.com says...
> went there and can not find it afile name and a drirect lik would be nice
>
>
>
Hey Geep,

Be careful about this QSLeCard, I downloaded it and found an extra
extension.
The file is named QSLeCard.zip.exe - I send it to the virus vault.
The file size is 355.25 kb. and not 1.3 Mb like the author says.
This was at Simtel which sent me to a mirror site.

--
**********Separated Reply**********

_
Spammers will be assimilated.

Ken
nospam@invalid.com

1014. May 22, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-25 11:14:07 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1180088700.591789.56750@u30g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4419

These are the number of current,
unexpired FCC-issued amateur
radio licenses held by individuals
on the stated dates, and the
percentage of the total number
of active licenses that class contains.

Percentages may not add up to exactly
100.0% due to rounding.

These totals do not include licenses
that have expired but are in the grace
period, nor do they include club, military
and other station-only licenses.

Effective April 15, 2000, FCC no longer issued
new Novice, Technician Plus and Advanced
class licenses, so the numbers of those license
classes have declined steadily since then.

Also since April 15, 2000, FCC has renewed all
existing Technician Plus licenses as Technician.
It is therefore informative to consider the totals of
the two classes, since the Technician class
includes a significant number of Technician Plus
licenses renewed as Technician.

On February 23, 2007, the last Morse Code
test element, the 5 wpm receiving test, was
eliminated as a requirement.

The ARS License Numbers:

As of May 14, 2000:

Novice- 49,329 (7.3%)
Technician - 205,394 (30.4%)
Technician Plus - 128,860 (19.1%)
General - 112,677 (16.7%)
Advanced - 99,782 (14.8%)
Extra - 78,750 (11.7%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 334,254 (49.5%)

Total all classes - 674,792

As of February 22, 2007:

Novice - 22,896 (3.5%)
Technician - 293,508 (44.8%)
Technician Plus - 30,818 (4.7%)
General - 130,138 (19.9%)
Advanced - 69,050 (10.5%)
Extra - 108,270 (16.5%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 324,326 (49.5%)

Total all classes - 654,680

As of May 1, 2007:

Novice - 22,183 (3.4%)
Technician - 287,676 (43.9%)
Technician Plus - 28,303 (4.3%)
General - 138,694 (21.2%)
Advanced - 68,166 (10.4%)
Extra - 110,047 (16.8%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 315,979 (48.2%)

Total all classes - 655,069

As of May 14, 2007:

Novice - 22,111 (3.4%)
Technician - 287,675 (43.9%)
Technician Plus - 27,828 (4.2%)
General - 139,300 (21.3%)
Advanced - 68,036 (10.4%)
Extra - 110,231 (16.8%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 315,503 (48.2%)

Total all classes - 655,181

As of May 22, 2007:

Novice - 22,026 (3.4%)
Technician - 287,373 (43.9%)
Technician Plus - 27,541 (4.2%)
General - 139,693 (21.3%)
Advanced - 67,922 (10.4%)
Extra - 110,314 (16.8%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 314,914 (48.1%)

Total all classes - 654,869

Changes:

>From May 14, 2000, to February 22, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 26,433
Technician - increase of 88,114
Technician Plus - decrease of 98,042

General - increase of 17,461
Advanced - decrease of 30,732
Extra - increase of 29,520

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 9,928

Total all classes - decrease of 20,112

>From May 14, 2000, to May 1, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 27,146
Technician - increase of 82,282
Technician Plus - decrease of 100,557
General - increase of 26,017
Advanced - decrease of 31,616
Extra - increase of 31,297

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 18,275

Total all classes - decrease of 19,723

>From May 14, 2000, to May 14, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 27,218
Technician - increase of 82,281
Technician Plus - decrease of 101,032
General - increase of 26,623
Advanced - decrease of 31,746
Extra - increase of 31,481

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 18,751

Total all classes - decrease of 19,611

>From May 14, 2000, to May 22, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 27,303
Technician - increase of 81,979
Technician Plus - decrease of 101,319
General - increase of 27,016
Advanced - decrease of 31,860
Extra - increase of 31,564

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 19,340

Total all classes - decrease of 19,923

>From February 22, 2007, to May 1, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 713
Technician - decrease of 5,832
Technician Plus - decrease of 2,515
General - increase of 8,556
Advanced - decrease of 884
Extra - increase of 1,777

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 8,347

Total all classes - increase of 389

>From February 22, 2007, to May 14, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 785
Technician - decrease of 5,833
Technician Plus - decrease of 2,990
General - increase of 9,162
Advanced - decrease of 1,014
Extra - increase of 1,961

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 8,823

Total all classes - increase of 501

>From February 22, 2007, to May 22, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 870
Technician - decrease of 6,135
Technician Plus - decrease of 3,277
General - increase of 9,555
Advanced - decrease of 1,128
Extra - increase of 2,044

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 9,412

Total all classes - increase of 189

73 de Jim, N2EY

1015. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1554 - May 25, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-25 14:33:25 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <E1HrW6K-0001rb-CMa@elasmtp-banded.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 4420
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1554 - May 25, 2007

Now, Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1554
with a release date of Friday, May 25th, 2007 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. Two mayors say that
the Hamvention will remain in Dayton while
thousands flock to the HARA Arena for three days
of mid-West ham radio fun. Hear more on Amateur
Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1554 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**
HAMVENTION 2007: TWO MAYORS SAY IT WILL STAY IN THE DAYTON AREA

The Dayton Hamvention will remain in the Dayton,
Ohio, area for a long, long time. This, if two
well respected politicians have anything to say about it.

Speaking at the awards presentation ceremony,
Dayton mayor Rhine McLin and Trotwood, Ohio,
mayor Donald McLaurin, both pledged the support
of their respective cities to keep the Hamvention
at its long time home at the Hara Arena. Mayor
McLaurin made it very clear that the annual ham
radio gathering in a very important to the region and its economy:

--

Mayor McLaurin: "-Our pledge to you all is to
work as hard as we have in the past to keep you
here in the Dayton region. We believe that it is
important for the economy. We believe it is
important for our friends who come in from around
the world. And we want you here."

--

Over the years there have been rumors that the
Hamvention was seeking to move to a new
venue. None of these have ever proven
true. Most of the more recent ones were traced
to the Chicago area, where the trail went
cold. No matter. The Hamvention and the local
political leaders have put the matter to rest

once and for all. And Mayor McLauren had these
words of welcome for all who travel to the Dayton area to attend Hamvention:
--

Mayor McLaurin: "We want you to continue to come
here and talk about this region because we will
love to continue to have you (here). And on
behalf of the City of Trotwood, my colleagues and
the City of Dayton, we welcome you here and we
want you back next year. Thank you so much."

--

So please pay no attention to what you might read
on some Internet rumor blog or hear on the
air. The real word is that the Hamvention is
keeping its home in Dayton, and it likely there to stay. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

HAMVENTION 2007: THE AWARDS CEREMONY

As we said, Mayor McLaurin's remarks regarding
keeping the Hamvention in the Dayton area came at
a banquet held to honor this years award
recipients. It took place on Saturday night, May
19th. This year saw three of the worlds best
known radio amateurs receiving accolades for
their personal contributions to Amateur
Radio. First up was Technical Achievement award
winner David Cameron, VE7LTD. Cameron is the
force behind the Internet Radio Linking Project
better known simply as IRLP. In his acceptance
speech he paid homage to the youth of the hobby:

--

Dave Cameron, VE7LTD: "One thing that really got
to me today was the Youth Forum. I at there and
one of the speakers -- actually the first speaker
whose name was Sam from Syracuse-and he talked to
me about how it was that IRLP got him into ham
radio-and that actually almost brought a tear to
my eye because looking at him at the age of 17
caused me to turn around and look at myself 14
years ago and that's exactly where I would have
been if I had my license at the time. So I was
really glad that we got to him and he had a whole
group of friends - there were about 4 or 5 hams
ranging in age from 14 to 18 that were all there
because of the IRLP and it certainly made me feel
good inside to know that my contribution..my
technical contribution to Amateur Radio albeit

targeted the people I had aimed at being the young."

--

Cameron was followed by Special Achievement Award
winner Ed Hare, W1RFI. Among other things, Hare
was honored for his role in building the case
against permitting Broadband over Powerline
communications to take root in the High Frequency
Amateur bands. Hare, who runs the ARRL lab, said
he was sharing the award with Many hams who were all a part of the B-P-L
fight:

--

Ed Hare, W1RFI: To me this recognizes the
strength of Amateur Radio. Many who helped are
just as deserving if not more so. I think of the
hams who went out every day and checked out the
BPL systems and listening. They did not have a
boss telling them 'hey-you done good' when they
went out and did it. They went out. They did
what they did and they gave of themselves for no
more than their love of Amateur Radio."

--

The love of Amateur Radio was something also
quite evident in the remarks of the 2007 Radio
Amateur of the Year, Jim Haynie, W5JBP. In his
acceptance speech, Haynie, a former president of
the American Radio Relay League, paused to relate
a story detailing the success of the ARRL's
Amateur Radio Educational and Technology program
better known as the Big Project. A big project that helped to create:

--

Jim Haynie, W5JBP: "The day that Colonel
McArthur made a contact from the space station I
sat out in the audience with the families. They
did not know who I was nor what I had to do with
it. They had no clue. But what I heard them say
was hoe excited they were that their kids were getting interested in
science.

Now I know that some of you know K1JT, Joe
Taylor, a Nobel Prize winner in Physics. If our
work at the League can inspire one Joe Taylor
every 10 years, then its been a success and I would be extremely happy."

--

All three winners received a rounds of applause
along with a special surprise from Dayton Mayor, Rhine Lin:

--

Mayor Lin: "At this time I would like to take
mayoral privileges and I would like to have the 3
honorees come up because I have Mayors
Greetings for them and then I would like to have
a picture taken with all three of these gentlemen. (audience laughter)."

--

All in all, its likely an evening that neither
Dave Cameron, VE7LTD, Ed Hare, W1RFI nor Jim
Haynie, W5JBP, will ever forget. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

HAMVENTION 2007: THE SHOW

While it will be a few weeks before the official
Hamvention attendance figures are in, nobody is complaining.

--

Carl Simonow WA6JOW/7: "I haven't been here in 5
or 6 years and its just a great as ever."

--

That's Carl Siminow, WA6JOW, who traveled all the
way from Coos Bay, Oregon to attend Hamvention
2007. Another ham who flew many miles was
Californian Dick Mc Kay, K6VGP. McKay has
attended many of the Dayton shows over the
years. He says that this year was at least as
good as 2006 and the great weather outside may
have made for less crowding indoors:

--

Dick Mc Kay, K6VGP: "Its about the same as last
year. The weather is better and there's a few
new toys. Possibly one or two less vendors but it is a good show."

--

Yes, Mother Nature smiled on Dayton this year
with three days of sunshine and comfortable
temperatures. This got many to go outside and
visit the Flea Market making for more room for
those prowling for bargains among the inside
exhibitors. Hamvention attendee Charlie
Gilliland, WA0KDC of Hiawatha, Kansas is a 35
year veteran attendee and he says that less crowding was fine with him:

--

Charlie Gilliland, WA0KDC: "I would say that it
appear to have a few less people and it is a
little less crowded than it has been because they
have spread it out a little bit. So its kind of
hard to tell but I like it a little more elbow room."

--

But the size of a crowd is really relative to
where you are at any given time. And if your
name happens to be Chip Margelli, your callsign
K7JA and you are working at the Heil Sound booth,
you get a completely different perspective:

--

Chip Margelli, K7JA: "Its actually been an
incredible weekend so far. Its now Saturday
afternoon and the crowd has been significantly
improved over recent years. We have seen a lot
of interest in new products and we have quite a
few new items coming out. But overall, there's
just been more excitement this year than I have
seen in a lot of years and I think this bodes
well for the future of Amateur Radio.

--

More on Hamvention 2007 after this. Right now
its time for you to identify your station. (ARNewsline(tm))

--

Break 1

From the United States of America, We are the
Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin
stations around the world including the W4CN
repeater serving Louisville, Kentucky.

(5 sec pause here)

**

DAYTON HAMVENTION: NEW PRODUCTS

What about this years hot new products. Over the
next several weeks Newsline's Fred Vobbe, W8HDU,
will be highlighting a number of them. One of
the first to catch his eye was at the Vertex
Standard booth. The folks who make Yaesu brand products:

--

Fred Vobbe, W8HDU: Were here at the Yaesu booth
with Dennis. Tell us, what is the new hot
product that Yaesu has come out with this year?,

Dennis Motschenbacher, K7BV: "We have two very
interesting products and both are very
unique. Its been quite a while since we had a
good HF radio for entry level and we have
developed our FT-450 which a radio with a goal
being to be in (priced) at under $1000, weigh
under 10 pounds with 100 watts. It came out to
be a really good radio because we had the
learning curve from the FT-2000 and we were able
to drop that IF DSP into that radio. O, in a
very small package that only weighs 8 pounds,
it's a heck of a (good) receiver and its going to
be a good radio for the desktop as well as being
able to go mobile." (ARNewsline(tm))

--

HAMVENTION 2007: THE FORUMS

More product release news next week, but right
now we turn our attention to the forums. And
according to Forums Chair Ron Moorefield, W8ILC,
this may have been a record year for people who attended the sessions:

--

Ron Moorefield, W8ILC: "Last year we had about
4700 people attend the forums. I think that by
midday on Saturday we were up almost to that
point. So were are probably well above 5000."

--

One of the forums that's always packed solid is
that of the FCC. This year was no exception with
the probable reason being the man that many came
to hear -- the chief rules enforcer Riley
Hollingsworth, K-4-Zed-D-H. His message this
year seemed to be one of our all needing to
respect one another, no matter what mode we choose to operate:

--

Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH: To the Nets: Just
because you have been on the same frequency for
75 years that doesn't mean you own it. All
frequencies are shared. If you vary your
frequency, or even if you don't have a net one
night, the radio world isn't going to end.

To the widebanders: If you want to be a Broadcaster, apply for a broadcast license. Using extraordinarily wide bandwidth on crowded frequencies at peak operating time is rude and selfish and inconsiderate.

To the contesters: Be more courteous. You are responsible for the frequency you are operating on and realize that's true even when you operate split. All frequencies are shared.

To those who don't like contesters: Lighten up!! Contests are short lived. Use the WARC bands. Wash the car. Cut the grass.

Learn from the contesters and this applies to you Traffic net folks too learn from the contesters they pass information a lot faster and more efficiently than you do. Contesters are some of the best radio operators on planet Earth. If the contesters operated at the same pace as some of the emergency traffic nets, the contest would be over after the first few dozen signal strengths were exchanged!

To repeater owners: Just because you are coordinated doesn't mean you own the frequency. Coordination is a recommendation, not a frequency assignment. Nobody asked you to start a repeater. If you shut it down tomorrow, what would happen? People would use OTHER repeaters!

It's no different than leaving your den door open, if that's where your station happens to be. If you let people in and they misuse it, lock the door! Don't ask us to be baby-sitters: That's what control operators are for.

--

The bottom line to Hollingsworth's message: We all share one world of Amateur Radio and it is up to all of us to make it a fun place to be. (ARNewsline(tm) with Hollingsworth audio supplied by RAIN)

**

HAMVENTION 2007 - THE RAIN PROMO

There's lots more to cover in regard to Hamvention 2007, and we will have all that for you, next week. But if you cant wait to hear more with Riley Hollingsworth, all you need to do is to tune into this weeks RAIN Report. That's

because Part 1 of Riley's Hamvention presentation
is now on-line at www.therainreport.com. Or if
you prefer, you can dial it up on the phone at
area code 773-249-0720. Its definitely a talk
that all of you will want to hear. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

REGULATORY NEWS: ARRL SUBMITS INTERFERENCE MITIGATION PLAN

The ARRL says that it has submitted a radio
interference mitigation plan to the US Department
of Defense. This, as part of an effort to
resolve reported interference from dozens of 70
cm amateur repeaters to a pair of U-S military
radar systems on the East and West coasts.

As reported in the ARRL Letter a few weeks ago,
earlier this year, the Air Force asked the FCC to
order dozens of repeater systems to either
eliminate interference to its "PAVE PAWS" missile
and satellite detection and tracking radar
installations, or to shut them all down.

The situation affects 15 repeaters within less
than 100 miles of Otis Air Force Base on Cape
Cod, Massachusetts, and more than 100 repeaters
within some 140 miles of Beale Air Force Base near Sacramento, California.

PAVE PAWS radar occupy essentially the entire 70
cm band and is one factor that makes mitigation
difficult. Feeding upward of 1800 active antenna
elements, the broadband radar transmitters emit
an average power output of more than 145 kilowatts.

ARRL Regulatory Information Specialist Dan
Henderson, N1ND, says that the League is waiting
for a response of the Department of Defense
representative to its proposal. Henderson also
says that the ARRL will continue to provide
information as to its status when it becomes available. (ARRL)
**

ENFORCEMENT NEWS: PRETEXTING OUTLAWED

The FCC has approved new privacy rules that
require telephone customers to provide a password
before they can get account information. This, in
a move against pretexting, which is the practice
of impersonating a phone customer to gain access to his or her phone
records.

Pretexting first came to light last year when Hewlett-Packard executives were accused of hiring private detectives to investigate board members. The move by the Federal Communications Commission comes months after President Bush signed a law criminalizing pretexting and imposing prison sentences and other penalties. (FCC)

**

PUBLIC SERVICE: HAM RADIO AND IRELAND'S ROAD RACING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Hams will be helping at the National Under-23 Road Racing Championship. This event is scheduled to be held in Waterford, Ireland, on July 1st.

The race will feature over 160 riders taking part. Radio amateurs and Civil Defense volunteers will help with marshalling and numerous other event related duties including communications.

This year there will be an even heavier reliance on Amateur Radio networks than in the past. As a result, Ireland's Amateur Radio Emergency Network is also providing the communications for traffic management and accident reporting. (Southgate)

**

RADIO POLITICS: SM ELECTION RESULTS ANNOUNCED

Back in the U-S-An and on in the only contested ARRL Section Manager race in the spring election cycle, Sterling Eanes, AK1K, has been re-elected to a second term as ARRL New Hampshire Section Manager. Eanes received 277 votes, while challenger Russell Santos, K1TSV, polled 236 votes. Ballots were counted May 22 at ARRL Headquarters.
.
Elsewhere, John Dyer, AE5B, will be returning to the West Texas Section Manager's post he once held when he succeeds outgoing S-M Bill Lawless, W5WRL, who did not run for a new term. Dyer, who ran unopposed in the current election cycle, served as West Texas Section Manager from October 2002 through June 2005.

Several incumbent SMs faced no opposition in their bids for new terms and were declared elected. They include Bob Beaudet, W1YRC, in Rhode Island; Jim Cross, WI3N, for Maryland-DC; Dick Flanagan, K7VC, of Nevada; Charles McConnell, W6DPD, of California's San Joaquin Valley; and Mel Parkes, NM7P, representing Utah.

Terms for all successful candidates in the current election cycle begin July 1st. A re-solicitation for nominations for Section Manager in Northern New Jersey will be announced in July and August editions of QST magazine. (ARRL)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: CQ ANNOUNCES HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

CQ Amateur Radio magazine has announced this year's inductees into its CQ Amateur Radio, CQ Contest and CQ DX Halls of Fame.

This year there are 15 inductees into the Amateur Radio Hall of Fame. We do not have time to list all of them, but there are several that will be easily recognizable. These include such well known hams as NASA Administrator Michael Griffin, NR3A, Swan Electronics founder Herb Johnson W6QKI, along with S-S-T-V pioneers Copthorne MacDonald, VY2CM, Don Miller W9NTP and Farrell Winder, W8ZCF.

Also being honored this year is ARRL Senior News Editor Rick Lindquist, N1RL. Maybe best known as the voice of the ARRL Audio News, Lindquist has also been responsible the past decade for keeping the amateur community updated on new developments, via the ARRL Letter and the ARRL Web news pages. The honor comes at a very special time since Rick will retire from the Headquarters staff on Friday, June 1. We at Amateur Radio Newsline wish him well along with a lot of good D-X in the days, months and years ahead.

There are three new inductees this year into the CQ DX Hall of Fame. Roger Western, G3SXW, and Nigel Cawthorne, G3TXF, were nominated together. Both are avid DXpeditioners and have activated many rare locations with their two-man, CW-only, expeditions. Also inducted was Mauro Pregliasco, I1JQJ, the co-editor of Europes 425 DX News.

The CQ Contest Hall of Fame inducts three new members this year as well. They are Fred Capossela, K6SSS, Tom Taormina, K5RC, and the late Phil Goetz, N6ZZ.

The announcement of this years lists of inductees was made public at the Dayton Hamvention on Saturday, May 19th. Check www.cq-amateur-radio.com for more. (CQ, ARNewsline(tm))

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

HAM HISTORY: WW2 HAM SURVIVORS MEET IN THE U-K
Surviving World War II radio operators who intercepted the highly secret traffic from the German Secret Service attended a reunion at the Bletchley Park monitoring post in the United Kingdom on April 29th. Hams who attended were previously involved with Ultra, the top secret operation which was deciphered at Bletchley Park and disseminated only to those who had direct responsibility for directing the war.Mike Coleman, G1YVR, gave the group an illuminating history of Direction Finding from before WWI to the present day. Direction Finding was a vital part of the WW II operations and was directed by Major Dick Keen with assistance from G5RV, G6LL, G8LT and G6CJ working on aerial systems and distribution wideband amplifiers. Another well-known Direction Finding operator was G2BTO, who unfortunately could not attend the reunion. The 1,500 hams who became Voluntary Interceptors during the war were recruited by various, sometimes bizarre, means. The RSGB was called upon to help but due to the sensitive nature of the work it could not be advertised. The T-hunters who came to Bletchley Park were mostly selected via the word of mouth old boys network. (GB2RS)

**
EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: AGREEMENT ON DTV CONVERTERS

In a rare alliance, the National Association of Broadcasters, the Association for Maximum Service Television and the Consumer Electronics Association have actually agreed on something. The three have filed joint comments with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration regarding the $1.5 billion federal program under which consumers will get coupons for low-cost converter boxes that will display DTV programming on their current analog sets.

The move was described as groundbreaking by members of both industries. This is particularly true since the comments include recommended receiver-performance standards for the digital-to-analog converter boxes. That is something the manufacturing community has opposed for full-fledged D-T-V sets.

Until now, broadcasters and consumer electronics manufacturers have often been at odds in regard to the total digitalization of broadcasting. But the two industries have now found common ground in the challenge of how an estimated 70 million sets will continue to receive TV when analog broadcasts cease on Feb. 17,th of 2009. That's the date that all television in the United States goes digital and analog is relegated to the scrap heap. (Technology OnLine)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: AMSAT SYMPOSIUM SEEKS PAPERS

A first call has gone out for papers to be presented at the 2007 AMSAT Space Symposium and Annual Meeting. Its slated for October 25th to the 28th in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Proposals for papers, symposium presentations, and poster presentations are invited on any topic of interest to the amateur satellite program. An emphasis for this year is an educational outreach to middle and high School students.

AMSAT does request a one-page abstract to be submitted by June 1st. Camera ready copy on paper or in electronic form will be due by September 1st for inclusion in the printed symposium proceedings. Abstracts and papers should be sent to Daniel Schultz by e-mail to n8fgv@amsat.org. (ANS)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: OSCAR 11 RECEPTION REPORTS REQUESTED!

OSCAR-11 might switch itself on between now and the 8th or 9th of June. However, due to solar eclipses the satellite is likely to switch itself off, almost immediately. Probably after less that one orbit. This brief period of activity could occur when the satellite is over any part of the world. As such AMSAT is requesting anyone hearing the bird to report its presence. Send reports via the AMSAT Bulletin Board or direct to G3CWV. (ANS)

**

WORLDBEAT - AUSTRALIA: BIG SHOW PLANNED DOWN-UNDER

While Dayton may be the big show here in America, another is getting ready foe a fall opening. The 2007 North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention will be taking place in twin cities of Thuringowa and Townsville from Friday 21st to Sunday 23rd of September. For an electronic copy of the Venue and Events notes and a Registration Form send a message to mailto:vk4wit@wia.org.au (WIA News)

**

DX

In DX, word that the West Lancashire Scouts' Expedition to Renland, East Greenland will be taking place from the 23rd July to 20th August. A party of 50 Scouts and Leaders from West Lancashire in the U-K will be exploring the ice cap and mountains of Renland. As well as mountain exploration a number of scientific and wildlife studies and experiments are being carried for various academic bodies. The Expedition will also be operating an amateur radio station for a considerable period of time. Operation will be on the 40, 30 and 20 meter bands using SSB, data and some CW, under the call sign G3WGU portable OX. QSL as directed on the air.Special station LZ07KM will be active on 1st to 31st May to celebrate Sts. Kiril and Methodius' Day. QSL via LZ1PJ direct, or bureau requests can be sent to mailto:lz1pj@qsl.net.
Lastly, HF750C, which will be active through the 30th of June. This, to celebrate the 750th anniversary of Krakow Poland's city rights. QSL via SP9BRP. Also, you can expect also a large number of local operators to use special prefix SN0 during the year.

(Above from various DX news sources)
**

THAT FINAL ITEM: MORSE A HIT A HAMVENTION 2007

And finally this week, we return to the 2007 for a story about the Morse code. Not a sad story of how hams are mourning its demise as a test element. Rather it's the good news we received from Nancy Kott, W-Zed-8-C of the FISTS Morse preservation society. She says that the code is now growing in popularity as almost never before:

--

Nancy Kott, WZ8C: "Its been wonderful! People have been coming through like crazy and I think the interest in code has absolutely skyrocketed. Its just amazing. People are seeing it as a challenge now, rather than an obstacle and we have been very busy."

ARNewsline: "So the doom-sayers were wring?"

Kott: "Absolutely."

--

Needless to say that Nancy Kott and many other Morse aficionados are rather elated with this turn of events. So, the only question left: Now that Morse is rapidly growing in popularity, what will all of the hams without radios who live only on Internet chat rooms have to argue about now? Well, I guess they will find something. They also do. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline@arnewsline.org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), P.O. Box 660937, Arcadia, California 91066.

Two reminders before we go. First about our on-line poll regarding upgrading now that Morse is no longer an issue. To take part, take your web browser to www.arnewsline.org. Scroll down and watch for the word "Polls" on the left hand side of the page. Then click on the box that is closest to your view. As soon as you cast your vote you will see the current results.

Also, this is the very last call to nominate a youngster for this years Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award. The cutoff date is midnight on May 30th. That's only a few days

away. If the Award Judging Committee does not
have a nomination in hand by midnight on May 30th its to late.

By way of background, any radio amateur age 18 or
younger residing in all 50 United States, plus
Puerto Rico and all 13 Canadian Provinces can
qualify. Full details and nominating forms are
on our special website at www,yhoty.org. Also
see the Vertex-Standard sponsored ad on page 8
of the March issue of QST Magazine.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the
editors desk, I'm Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, saying 73
and we thank you for listening.

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1016. Re: Gulf Coastal Software - QSLeCard new freeware

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-25 15:01:11 UTC
From: "battles1550@mailinator.com" <battles1550@mailinator.com>
Message-ID: <1180102501.154180.207520@q75g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4421

This is a reply from Gulf Coastal Software

Simtel.net has just started using some kind of new download program
that is required
to be executed to get software from their site. I have not tested it
yet, so I don't know
what it does myself. It apparently executes a sub program that
subsequently downloads
the QSLeCard.zip. Simtel (owned by Digital River) is a reputable site
that virus scans
all software before placing them out for downloading. You shouldn't
have any problems
with software/freeware from Simtel.

On May 24, 8:30 pm, Ken <nos...@invalid.net> wrote:
> In article <f34ro0$gm...@news04.infoave.net>, g...@mgwnet.com says...> went there and
can not find it afile name and a drirect lik would be nice
>
> Hey Geep,
>
> Be careful about this QSLeCard, I downloaded it and found an extra
> extension.
> The file is named QSLeCard.zip.exe - I send it to the virus vault.
> The file size is 355.25 kb. and not 1.3 Mb like the author says.
> This was at Simtel which sent me to a mirror site.
>
> --
> **********Separated Reply**********
>
> _
> Spammers will be assimilated.
>
> Ken
> nos...@invalid.com

1017. Re: Gulf Coastal Software - QSLeCard new freeware

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-25 15:44:17 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5bodrnF2tgoccU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4422

<battles1550@mailinator.com> wrote in message
news:1180102501.154180.207520@q75g2000hsh.googlegroups.com
> This is a reply from Gulf Coastal Software
>
> Simtel.net has just started using some kind of new
> download program that is required
> to be executed to get software from their site. I have
> not tested it yet, so I don't know
> what it does myself. It apparently executes a sub
> program that subsequently downloads
> the QSLeCard.zip. Simtel (owned by Digital River) is a
> reputable site that virus scans
> all software before placing them out for downloading.
> You shouldn't have any problems
> with software/freeware from Simtel.

Hmm. Maybe not, but any site that requires me to use an executable to download from it is rather worrying in my view. Why should this be necessary..? I have a perfectly good ftp client (which I paid good money for, incidentally), what's wrong with that..?

73 Ivor G6URP

1018. Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin #810

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-25 21:02:58 UTC
From: Tedd Mirgliotta <kb8nw@barf80.nshore.org>
Message-ID: <MPG.20c11909bf8043019896dd@news.cle.sbcglobal.net>
Source record: 4423
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.amateur.dx,rec.radio.amateur.moderated

SB DX @ WW < KB8NW $OPDX.810
Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin No. 810

The Ohio/Penn DX PacketCluster
DX Bulletin No. 810
BID: $OPDX.810
May 28, 2007
Editor Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW
Provided by BARF80.ORG (Cleveland, Ohio)

Thanks to the Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society, Northern Ohio DX Association, Ohio/Penn PacketCluster Network, AB5K & the AR TelNet Clusters Network, ARRL Web Page, K1XN & GoList, NJ1Q, K2DBK, W2VU, NG3K, W3UR & The Daily DX, N4AA & QRZ DX, NN7A, K8YSE, KU9C, NA9N, Pete's-DX-Newsdesk, 9M2TO, DK8JB, DL7MAE & The DX News Letter, F4EUN, F5NQL & UFT, F6AJA & Les Nouvelles DX, HA0HW, I1JQJ/IK1ADH & 425 DX News, IZ8EDJ, JA7QVK, OK1DOT, ON7RU, RSGB IOTA, SP9MRO, SV0XAW, TA3YJ, VA3RJ & ICPO, VE3LYC, VE3ZIK and VE3ZZ for the following DX information.

** EDITOR'S SPECIAL NOTICE: This week's bulletin was sent out earlier than normal to accommodate the late CQ WW WPX CW Contest announcements. For more details and the complete set of rules, visit the Web page:
http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/WPXRULES2007v332407.pdf
Also, remember to visit Bill's, NG3K, CQWW WPX CW Contest listing of stations that are expected to be active at:
http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/wpxc2007.html

DXCC COUNTRY/ENTITY REPORT: According to the AR-Cluster Network for the week of Friday, 18th/May, through Friday, 25th/May there were 215 countries active. Countries available: 3A, 3B8, 3D2, 3V, 3W, 3X, 4J, 4L, 4O, 4S, 4W, 4X, 5B, 5H, 5N, 5R, 5W, 5X, 5Z, 6W, 6Y, 7X, 8P, 8R, 9A, 9H, 9J, 9K, 9L, 9M2, 9M6, 9Q, 9U, 9V, 9Y, A3, A4, A5, A6, A7, A9, AP, BV, BY, C3, C6, CE, CE9, CM, CN, CP, CT, CT3, CU, CX, D4, DL, DU, E5/n, E5/s, EA, EA6, EA8, EA9, EI, EK, EL, EP, ER, ES, ET, EU, EX, EY, F, FG, FJ, FK, FM, FO, FR, FY, G, GD, GI, GJ, GM, GU, GW, HA, HB, HB0, HC, HC8, HH, HI, HK, HL, HP, HR, HS, HV, HZ, I, IS, J2, J3, J5, J6, J7, JA, JD/o, JT, JW, JX, JY, K, KG4, KH0, KH2, KH6, KL, KP2, KP4, LA, LU, LX, LY, LZ, OA, OD, OE, OH, OH0, OK, OM, ON, OX, OY, OZ, P2, P4, PA, PJ2, PJ7, PY, PY0F, PZ, R1FJ, S5, S9, SM, SP, ST, SU, SV, SV/a, SV5, SV9, T7, T8, T9, TA, TF, TG, TI, TJ, TK, TL, TR, TT, TU, UA, UA2, UA9, UK, UN, UR, V3, V4, V6, V7, V8, VE, VK, VK9N, VP2E, VP2V, VP5, VP6, VP8, VP9, VQ9, VR, VU, XE, XU, XW, YB, YI, YL, YN, YO, YU, YV, Z2, Z3, Z7,

ZA, ZB, ZD7, ZD8, ZL, ZP, ZS

* PLEASE NOTE: The report "could" contain "Pirate/SLIM" operations or more likely a "BUSTED CALLSIGN". As always, you never know - "Work First Worry Later" (WFWL).

3B6, AGALEGA ISLANDS (DXpedition Update). Team leader, Witek, SP9MRO, announced in a press release that the Polish DXpedition to Agalega Island, which was rescheduled to take place between June 6-18th, has received the new callsign 3B6DX for their operation. The DXpedition schedule has also been announced. Here are the details:
* The main group will start the trip at Okecie airport in Warsaw on Monday morning, May 28th at 8:30 AM.
* They will be landing in Mauritius on Tuesday morning at 6:10 AM, May 29th.
* Tuesday through Friday - The team will be busy in Mauritius.
* Early Saturday morning, the team will start their trip to Agalega Islands by boat.
* They are expecting to see Agalega's land on Tuesday, June 5th
* Just after their arrival on Agalega, they will start building their antennas.
* They expect to be active from 3B6 the morning of June 6th at the latest.
* They will start to head back to Mauritius on Monday, June 18th.
* The team will have a flight on Sunday evening back to Poland.
* The DXpedition team will be back at Okecie airport in Warsaw on Monday, June 25th at 14:15.

Witek, SP9MRO, states, "We would like to thank all of you who donated to us once again. All of those who would like to support the DXpedition are kindly asked for their generosity. Postponing the expedition let us solve 90% of the problems that aroused before, but we still have more problems ahead of us. That is why all, even the littlest, donations are very important for us, and we would like to thank you for all of them!" For more details and updated, visit: http://3b6.godx.eu/

3V, TUNISIA. Alex, GM0DHZ, informs that he will be here for a 5 week holiday starting November 19th. He will be active with operators from 3V8SS. This will be a holiday-style operation with activity on 80-10 meters and possibly 160m, CW and SSB. QSL via info on QRZ.com.

4L, GEORGIA. Vaho, 4L8A, will be active during the CQWW WPX CW Contest (May 26-27th) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (20m)/High-Power entry. QSL via DJ1CW, by the Bureau or direct.

4L, GEORGIA. Mamuka , 4L2M, will be active during the CQWW WPX CW Contest (May 26-27th) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (40m)/Low-Power entry. QSL via EA7FTR.

4O, MONTENEGRO (ITU Assigns A Prefix). Montenegro became a new country (DXCC entity) last June, and has been waiting for the ITU to assign an Amateur Radio callsign block since then. The International Tele-

communications Union (ITU) did not want to give Montenegro an entirely new prefix, so it required the states of Montenegro and Serbia to agree upon one or two prefixes from the five existing prefixes (4N, 4O, YT, YU and YZ) assigned to the former Serbia-Montenegro. An agreement was reached on May 11th, and the prefix "4O" is now listed as Montenegro's prefix. Montenegro stations will be using the prefix block 4O0 through 4O9. Serbia stations will continue to use YT and YU prefixes, but the ITU has taken 4N and YZ prefixes for future reassignment. DXers are reminded to please update their logging programs.

5B, CYPRUS. Nick, G3RWF, will be active as 5B/G3RWF near Polis, June 2-30th. This will be a holiday operation, so he will operate SSB, RTTY and PSK during his spare time.

5D, MOROCCO. Operators Stefano/IK2QEI, Ahmed/CN8WK, Bacha/CN8WW and Andy/YO3JR will be active with the special callsign 5D5A during the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (March 26-27th) as a Multi-? entry. QSL via I2WIJ.

7X, ALGERIA. Look for 7X0RY to be active during the CQ WW WPX CW Contest,(May 26-27th) as Single-Op/Single-Band (80m) entry. QSL via the QRZ.com address.

9M2/9M4, WEST MALAYSIA (Special Event, Contest and IOTA Op). Tex, 9M2TO, informs OPDX that members of the Malaysian Amateur Radio Transmitter Society (MARTS) will use their special contest callsign 9M4DXX during the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (May 26-27th) as a Multi-Op/ Single-TX entry. The MARTS contest team will be active from Penang Island (AS-015). QSL via the 9M2 Bureau or direct to 9M2TO. Visit their Web page at: http://9m4dxx.marts.org.my

CQ PRESS RELEASE. The following is a NEWS RELEASE came from Richard Moseson, W2VU, Editor of CQ Amateur Radio:
EMBARGOED FOR RELEASE: Saturday, May 19, 2007
CQ Announces Hall of Fame Inductees for 2007 (Dayton, Ohio - May 19, 2007) - CQ Amateur Radio magazine today announced this year's inductees into the CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame and the CQ Contest and DX Halls of Fame. There are 15 inductees into the Amateur Radio Hall of Fame and three new members each of the DX Hall of Fame and the Contest Hall of Fame.

CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame
The CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame honors individuals who: 1) Whether licensed hams or not, who have made significant contributions to amateur radio; and/or 2) As licensed amateurs, have made significant contributions either to amateur radio, to their professional careers or to some other aspect of life on our planet. This year's inductees are, in alphabetical order:

Catona, Phillip W2JAV (SK) - RTTY pioneer, inventor of the modern-day terminal unit
Flaherty, Paul N9FZX (SK) - co-inventor of Alta Vista search engine
Geloso, John I1JGM, Italian amateur radio manufacturer

Griffin, Michael, NR3A - NASA Administrator
Hillier, James ex-VE3SH (SK) - co-inventor of scanning electron microscope; former head of RCA Labs
Johnson, Herb W6KQI (ex-W7GRA) - Founder of Swan Electronics
Lewallen, Roy W7EL - Developer of EZ-NEC antenna modeling software
Lindquist, Rick N1RL - As ARRL Senior News Editor, he has been responsible for the past decade for keeping the amateur community updated on new developments, via the ARRL Letter and the ARRLWeb news pages.
MacDonald, Copthorne VY2CM - Developer of slow-scan TV (SSTV), author, philosopher
McArthur, Bill KC5ACR - Astronaut who set various ham radio operating records from the International Space Station, including being the first person to complete WAS (Worked All States), WAC (Worked All Continents) and DXCC (DX Century Club) from orbit.
Miller, Don W9NTP - SSTV pioneer; developed (with KB9VAK) first high-definition digital SSTV protocol and program.
Tristao, Louis KG6VY (SK) - Inventor of crank-up tower
Tucker, Durward J., W5VU (SK) - Helped promote and popularize RTTY in the 1950s; oilman and Managing Director of WRR Radio, Dallas
Weiss, Adrian (Ade) W0RSP (ex-K8EEG) - leading proponent and promoter of QRP (low-power communications) in the 1970s and 80s
Winder, Farrell, W8ZCF - Transmitted first SSTV signals to MIR space station. Active with MAREX (MIR Amateur Radio EXperiment) and Suitsat-1 planning teams

CQ DX Hall of Fame
There are three new inductees this year into the CQ DX Hall of Fame:

Roger Western, G3SXW, and Nigel Cawthorne, G3TXF, were nominated together. Roger and Nigel are avid DXpeditioners and have activated many rare locations with their two-man, CW-only, expeditions. To date, Nigel has operated from 44 DX locations, while Roger has been on the air from 37. Nigel owns what may be the world's largest collection of QSL cards. In fact, he recently completed an addition to his home solely to house his QSL collection! In addition to his trips with Nigel, Roger is a founding member of the "Voodudes" contest DXpedition group, a member of the CQ Contest Hall of Fame, and an international adviser to the CQ World Wide DX Contest Committee. He has also authored two books, Up Two: Adventures of a DXpeditioner and Contesting in Africa: Multi-Multi on the Equator.

Mauro Pregliasco, I1JQJ, is co-editor (with his wife, Valeria, IK1ADH) of 425 DX News, the leading DX bulletin in Europe and one of the most popular in the world. The newsletter is published online in both Italian and English, with some 15,000 subscribers to the English version alone. Mauro is also a very active DXer, holding most of the

major DX awards, sits on the Radio Society of Great Britain's IOTA committee, and is Vice Secretary General and HF Award Manager for ARI, the Italian national amateur radio association.

CQ Contest Hall of Fame
The CQ Contest Hall of Fame inducts three new members this year as well:

Fred Capossela, K6SSS, is a past CQ World Wide DX Contest Director and, for the past 40 years, has maintained and annually updated the CQWW All-Time Records List. It was under Fred's direction that the CQWW became the world's most popular and most professionally-run amateur radio contest. The first contester to run the contest, Fred introduced the rigorous verification standards for contacts and multipliers, developed the All-Time Records List, set the current contest dates and introduced the Band-by-Band top scorers' matrix. It was Fred's dedication to running the contest in a fair, honest and professional manner that laid the foundation for the CQWW's current stature.

Phil Goetz, N6ZZ (SK), has the distinction of having operated the CQWW DX Contest from each of the world's 40 CQ zones - one of only two amateurs ever to accomplish this feat (Dick Norton, N6AA, is the other) - and missed operating in the CQWW only three times in the 47 years between 1960 and 2006. Phil was a member of the first ARRL Contest Advisory Committee and served three separate times on the CQWW Contest Committee. In addition, he was a judge at every World Radio Teamsport Championship (WRTC) event, except in 2002, when he was a contestant. Phil became a Silent Key earlier this year.

Tom Taormina, K5RC, has been contesting since 1959, when he entered the ARRL Sweepstakes and made a whopping 35 contacts. His scores improved dramatically since then, and he has held several records and won several national and divisional championships. He has also mentored a string of world-class contesters, who have themselves gone on to record-setting performances. Tom helped develop the Multi-Two category in the ARRL DX contests and helped create the North American QSO Party. He is also a past member of the CQ WW Contest Committee and a past Editor of the National Contest Journal. Tom is also active in DXing and public service communications.

DD4, GERMANY. Zik, VE3ZIK, a member of the "Contestgroup IONOSQUEEZERS" (OV Bonn) will be active as DD4B during the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (May 26-27th) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (possibly 20 or 15m) entry. QSL via DL3PS, by the DARC QSL bureau.

EA8, CANARY ISLANDS. Franky, ON7RU, will be active from the Gran Canaria (AF-004) as EA8/OQ7R, June 4-13th. Activity will be on all bands 80-10 meters, CW, SSB and RTTY. He will use a FT990 and wire antennas. QSL via ON7RU, by the bureau or direct. ADDED NOTE: Frank states that QSL cards from last year's SV8/OT0A operation are being processed.

ER0, MOLDOVA. Look for Serge, UR5FEO, to be active as ER0FEO during the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (May 26-27th) as a Single-Op/All-Band entry. QSL via UU0JM.

FO/C, CLIPPERTON ISLANDS. It was announced at the Dayton DX Dinner Banquet by Pete, N0FW, that a team lead by Bob Grimmick, N6OX, would be going to Clipperton Island sometime in early March 2008. More details will be forthcoming via John Kennon, N7CQQ.

G, ENGLAND (Possibly France). Jim, KR1S, will be in the UK for a few weeks, starting possibly this week. He hopes to do some portable QRP operating from Windermere and London, as well as Amsterdam and Paris.

HH, HAITI. Yannick, F6FYD, is now here on business for one year. He has received the callsign HH2FYD and hopes to be active during his free time. QSL via F6FYD.

HZ, SAUDI ARABIA. Thomas, PY2ZXU/SM0CXU, will be active as HZ1EX from HZ1GW East of Medina during the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (May 26-27th) as Single-Op/All-Band entry (80m not allowed!). QSL via SM0BYD.

IOTA NEWS.....
EU-001. Alex, GM0DHZ, will be active as SV5/GM0DHZ from KOS Island for 2 weeks starting June 7th. Activity will be on CW and SSB. This will be a holiday style operation.

EU-060. Members of the White Tower DX team will be active from Skyros Island between June 12-22nd. Operators mentioned are: SV0XAW, SV2FPU (WTDX Team Leader), SV2HNZ, SV2HOB, SV2HPP, SV2HPY, SV2HRT, SV2HSV and SV2GNQ. The DXpedition team will be using the special callsign SY8WT. Activity will be on 160-6 meters on CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK31. QSL via SV2HPP. For more details on this DXpedition, visit the White Tower DX Team Web page at: http://www.whitetowerdxt.com

EU-061. Operators Udo/DL1DWR, Lutz/DG4VX and Olaf/DG0CH will be active as LA/homecall from Tromoy Island between now and May 29th. Activity will be on 160-2 meters, mostly the digital modes, also CW, SSB and FM. QSL via their home callsigns.

EU-067. Operators Theodoros/SV1EJD, Manu/IZ8IYL and Ant/IZ8CCW will be active as J48MDC from Mikonos Island between June 13-18th. Do not expect too much activity from Ant and Manu because they are on a honeymoon trip. Pilot station will be IZ8BGY (iz8bgy@mdxc.org). More info about J48MDC can be found on: http://www.mdxc.org/j48mdc

EU-088. Members of the EDR Silkeborg will be active as OZ8MW/P from Anholt Island (DIA NK-001), July 25-30th. Activity will include an entry in the IOTA Contest (July 28-29th). The activity outside of the contest will be on 80-10 meters using CW and SSB.

EU-174. Laci, HA0HW, will be active as J48HW and SV8/homecall from Thassos Island, Greece (MIA: MG-124, Grid KN20hs), between May 27th and June 5th. Activity will be on the HF bands, mainly 40/30/20/17 meters and 6 meters. Operations will be mainly CW, with some SSB, RTTY and PSK31 as well. QSL via his home callsign, by the HA Bureau or direct.

NA-029. Operators Gregg/VE3ZZ and Noel/VE2BR will operate from Prince Edward Island in eastern Canada from July 25-30th using the VY2TT superstation (Grid Square FN76vs, CISA PE-001). During the July 28-29th IOTA Contest they will operate as VY2Z (QSL to VE3ZZ) and outside of the contest as VE3ZZ/VY2 and VE2BR/VY2 (QSL to their home callsigns direct via the QRZ.com address or via the Bureau).

NA-144. Terry, W6WTG, will be active as W6WTG/p from Anacapa Island (USI CA-002S, WLOTA LH-1300, WW Loc. DM04HA, Ventura County, California) during the RSGB IOTA Contest (July 28-29th). He will be running battery power with a IC-7000 and will be active on 20 meters. QSL via his home callsign.

OC-129. Kaoru, JA7QVK, is active as JA7QVK/DU7 Cebu Island in the Philippines. He has been on Cebu Island since August of 2005 and is there on business. Kaoru is expected to be here until this coming August. He informs OPDX that he will be active during his free time especially on the weekends on 40-6 meters mainly SSB. Equipment is an IC-706MK2G and ATAS-100 which is a mobile whip like a screw driver. QSL via his home callsign, direct w/SAE + 2 green stamps. He will answer after his return to Japan. ONLY JA stations can QSL via the JA Bureau. QSLs can be sent direct via the following Philippines address w/SAE + 1 green stamp: Kaoru Ono, Unit 1204, Park Tower 2 Cebu Business Park, Cebu City, Philippines 6000. SKED can be made via the following E-mail address: kaoru12506@globelines.com.ph
ADDED NOTE: Also, look for DU7/PA0HIP from Mactan Island (OC-129). He is also very active now.

OC-150. Hotang, YC0IEM, will be actived from Lombok Island as YC0IEM/9, June 8-10th. QSL via IZ8CCW, by the bureau or direct.

IS0, SARDINIA. Operator Martin, OL5Y, will be active as IS0N during the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (May 26-27th) as a Single-Op/All-Band/Low-Power entry. QSL via OK1MG.

IS0, SARDINIA. Mauro, IN3QBR, will be active as IS0/K7QB (perhaps IM0/K7QB) during the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (May 26-27th) as a Single-Op/All-Band/Low-Power entry. QSL via IN3QBR.

J7, DOMINICA. Rod, NA9N, will be active as J79RM, June 28th-July 5th. He will mostly be operating HF and will try to work a number of digital modes. QSL to his home callsign, NA9N.

KL7/NL7, ALASKA (IOTA Op). Operators Marvin/KL1YY, Bob/NF7E and Art/NN7A will operate from Ushagat Island, Alaska (IOTA NA-206), from July 12-17th. They will have two stations using 100 watt transceivers with vertical, wire, and kite antennas. Operation will be CW by NN7A/NL7 and SSB by KL1YY and NF7E/KL7 on 160-10 meters with SSB on the 20m and 15m IOTA frequencies as conditions permit. No digital or VHF operations are planned. There are no existing facilities on Ushagat, so operation will be from a camp set up by the operators using battery and generator power. E-mail and log checking will not be possible during the operation. QSL by the bureau or direct to their home callsigns:
KL1YY: Marvin Baur, 4275 Kachemak Way, Homer, AK 99603 USA
NF7E : Bob Wertz, 6315 E. Townsend-Winona Rd, Flagstaff, AZ 86004 USA
NN7A : Art Phillips, P.O. Box 73, Eckert, CO 81418 USA

P4, ARUBA. John, KK9A, will be active as P40A during the CQ WW WPX CW Contest (May 26-27th) as a Single-Op/Single-Band (40m) entry. QSL via WD9DZV.

QSL INFO AND NEWS.....
QSL routes provided by Johannes, DK8JB:
NX7TT via AI4U R6MDIR via RK3MWA
OP7B via ON7BJ UT0U via UT5UDX
OT0M direct YM100FB via TA1EE

BS7H QSO/QSL INQUIRIES! QSL Manager Steve, KU9C, sent out the following announcement: "Folks, I have received quite a number of QSO not in logs, I forgot my QSO detail, my dog/significant other/kid/etc trashed my log, etc questions in the last week, so let me help with some ground rules:

I'm not in a position to answer whether you are in or not in the log at the moment. Rather than ask via email, I'd ask you to kindly put the inquiry in a NOTE with your QSL to me. I'll research the log as I work your QSL request, and respond accordingly. If you are NOT IN THE WEB log, don't give up, put down EVERY QSO you believe you had, and I'll do the rest. If the web log shows 20SSB, put down EVERY qso you think you had on 20 SSB, not just the first. Don't be embarassed with dupes, rather, give me all the QSOs you've had, I'll see the dupes anyway, but if you are not in the log the first time, it will save me a lot of time researching. Remember, every researched call takes time from processing other cards. If it's a busted call, I'll use well-established judgement in issuing the card, and may ask you to help confirm that the person's whose call appears did NOT make a QSO.

If you DO NOT HAVE ANY detail besides what is in the web log online, it's impossible for me to give you credit for the card. I need to have SOME supporting detail on your QSO. Give me your best guess from memory, who you heard work BS7H just before or after. Chances are one of your friends was in the hunt at the same time, and can help. Remember, it will be a lot easier to remember it now than a month from now. And, I'm not in a position to issue a QSL to you

'just because' the web log says you're there. Not the way it works.

Don't fret the 39 cent stamp or the 84 cent stamp you sent before the postage increase. I'll cover it.

If I do not respond to your email, please don't take it personally. Please follow the guidelines here. I tend to not answer the emails when they ask the questions above, as each email is roughly equivalent to the time it takes to answer 2-3 QSLs...and I tend to choose to answer the cards first.

I'll let you know when the cards start going out via this forum.

As an aside, if you have a problem with how I do QSLs, how long it takes to get a card from me, etc, please take it up with me directly. I don't appreciate reading it third hand via a reflector, etc. Frankly, if you are kind enough to send me a note, I'll be glad to help research it. In many cases, I may be able to help you understand why the process take so long for your QSL, as I keep pretty good records of those calls that take time, and for what reasons that is the case..... 73 Steve KU9C

NEED A QSL MANAGER? Petr, OK1DOT, is willing to offer his services to a station in need. He will provide all the QSL printing and cards to stations he manages at no charge. Petr is currently QSL Manager to: 9V1GO, YB5AQB, ZS6CCY, YB1JZS, WP3F, XV9DT, 3W22S, XV1X, NL7G, TG9AKH, NH6P, 3W3W, HK1AR, YI9CC and 9K2/KY0C. For details, visit his Web page at: http://www.qrz.com/ok1dot
His address is:Petr Gustab, P.O. Box 52, CESKY BROD 282 01, Czech Republic.

Nilay, TA3YJ, sent out QSL cards for TA3J, TA3J/0 (AS115), TA3J/4 LH, TA3J/60, TA3YJ, TC2K4J, YM125ATA, YM125ATA/4 and YM3ATA to the QSL Bureaus of Spain (R) and Turkey direct on May 21, 2007.
(R: Registered Mail)

VP5/PY2XB QSL STATUS. Fred, PY2XB, informs that he is still receiving many QSL requests for his recent operation as VP5/PY2XB, despite the announcements in all DX Bulletins and DX lists that he has a QSL Manager. Fred will forward any requests received via direct to his QSL Manager PT7WA, but of course, it will delay the process of QSLing. For those sending bureau cards: Please be sure to write "VIA PT7WA!" so the Central Bureau will correctly send it to the PT7 Bureau instead of the PY2 bureau.

XT2C QSL STATUS. Bernard, F9IE, informs us that he has put in the mail all direct QSL request from DXers and SWLs received up to May 16th.

QSLS VIA LOTW: 4X4PP, 5H9PD, 5P5V, BD7KLO, DJ0QN, DL0TS, E21EIC, F4DZY, FY5KE, GM4WZL, HB9TSU, RA9AC, RN3QO, UR5MID, UV5U and VE3SY

QSLS RECEIVED VIA MAIL: 4O3T, 4O3ZZ, 4O6T, 4W6MM, 5N8NDP, 6W/DM2AYO, 8P1A, 9Q1EK, A71EM, BX5AA, C6AGN, C6DX, C91Z, CE1/K7CA, CM6CAC, DQ2006Y, EA9EU, ES1QD, FK/FO5RK, GM4KGK, H44MS, J5B, LZ13ARDF, LZ2TU, MD4K, MI0SRR, MN1SWL, T77C, TA3D, TM5CI, TT8HA, V31FG/P, VU7LD, VU7RG, XU7MDY, YS1JBL, ZA/DL3OCH and ZF2BI

SPECIAL EVENT. Look for special event station TM1VDM to be active until May 28th to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of the writer Maxence Van der Meersch (1907-1951). QSL via F6KTN. Two other stations will also be active. Look for TV2VDM to be active from June 1-15th by the Radio Club F5KDB, and FV5VDM will be active from July 1-15th by the Radio Club F6KDM.

SPECIAL EVENT. Members of the REF83 will activate the special callsign TM2RHC during the Air show taking place at LE LUC ARMY AIR BASE from June 10-24th. Activity will be on 160-10 meters on all modes. QSL via F4EUN (see QRZ.com). For more info, visit the following Web pages at:
http://meeting-leluc.fr
http://www.ref83.free.fr

SPECIAL EVENT. Look for the Ukrainian special event station EO20R to be active between May 28th and June 3rd. Activity is to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Slavutych, the city built after the Chernobyl nuclear disaster to host the survivors who had to be relocated from the evacuation zone around the reactor. QSL via UY2RO.

SRT'S WORLD-WIDE DXPEDITION TROPHY. Oreste, IZ8EDJ, S.R.T. Founder and Team Coordinator, annnounced that the members of the Strange Radio Team (SRT) are once again taking their annual survey for DXpedition of the year. The SRT World-Wide DXpedition Trophy will go to the DXpedition that receives the most votes. This year's DXpedition list is: 1A4A, 3B7C, 3C0M, 4O3T, 5A7A, 9M4SDX, BS7H, DX0JP, J20RR & J20MM, KH8SI, N8S, OH10TA, VU7LD, VU7RG/VU7MY, XF4DL, XT2C, YU6AO, YW0DX and ZL8R. Cast your vote at: http://www.strangeradioteam.com/wwdxt/index.asp
ADDED NOTE: The SRT now has a SRT-DX mailing list. To subscribe and receive messages about DX News, IOTA Notices and other HamRadio information, go to: http://www.strangeradioteam.com/reflector.asp

TO3, MARTINIQUE (NA-117). Alex, VE3KF, will be active as TO3T between now and May 31st. Activity will include the CQ WPX CW Contest (May 25-26th). QSL via his home callsign, direct or by the bureau.

V2, ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA. Horward, WB4WXE, will be heading back here and will be active as V26HS between June 9-24th. He will be putting an emphasis on 6 meters but will also be active on 2 meter and HF.

VP5, TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS. Maciek, WQ7X, will be active as VP5/WQ7X, between now and June 5th. Activity will be on 80-10 meters CW and SSB. QSL via his home callsign.

VP6/D, DUCIE ISLAND. Eric/K3NA and Carsten/DL6LAU announced at the Dayton DX forum that a multi-national team of 13 operators will be going to Ducie Island in February 2008. The landing permissions and licenses are granted and a suitable charter vessel is secured. They

are planning to stay 13 days on the atoll. Current list of operators are: Carsten/DL6LAU (Team Leader), Eric/K3NA (Co-Leader), Dietmar/ DL3DXX, Andy/DL8LAS, Martti/OH2BH, Robin/WA6CDR and Krassimir/K1LZ. For more information, updates and details on how to help support this operation, please visit the VP6DX Web site at: http://www.vp6dx.com

YB, INDONESIA (Help Kadek!). It has been reported that Kadek, YB9BU, has lost all his radio equipment following a fire that destroyed his house in early April. A fund called "Help Kadek" has been set up to help Kadek rebuild his radio shack and bring him back on the air. If you would like to help, please visit the following Web page at: http://www.mdxc.org/yb9bu

YM3, TURKEY. Mill, LX1CC, will be vacationing in the city of Selcuk between June 7-21st. He will be using the special callsign YM3CC. His activity will be on 80-10 meters, WARC bands included, on SSB. QSL via his home callsign, direct, by the bureau or e-QSL.

YO, ROMANIA. Jean Michel, F6AJA, is currently active again for the 14th time as YO/F6AJA from Suceava (450 Km north of Bucarest) until May 26th. During his free time Jean Michel will visit his friend Silviu, YO8FZ.

ZF2, CAYMAN ISLANDS. David, K2DBK, will be operating from Grand Cayman (NA-016) from July 22-29th, as ZF2DK. This is a "vacation style" operation; operating during his spare time. David will be able to operate on all bands from 40-6 meters, but he expects to spend most of his time on 20m, conditions permitting. However, he will see what bands are open when he is there and operate accordingly. He does plan to try a little 6m if the band is open. David will primarily be operating SSB and he may operate a little PSK as well. Most likely, he will be hanging out around the IOTA frequencies. QSL either direct (SASE or SAE + 1 GS please) or via the bureau to his home callsign (K2DBK). He plans to upload the logs to LoTW. Updated information will be available at his Web site (http://k2dbk.com) or on QRZ.com.

-=-=-=

ALSO VISIT THE NORTHERN OHIO DX ASSOCIATION'S WEB HOME PAGE:
http://www.papays.com/nodxa.html
-=-
Excerpts and distribution of The OPDX Bulletin are granted as long as
KB8NW/OPDX/BARF80 receive credit. To contribute DX info, please send
via InterNet Mail to: kb8nw@barf80.nshore.org - OR - kb8nw@arrl.net
Information can now be faxed to the following "NEW" phone line at:
1-419-828-7791 (F A X only!)

/EXIT
--
Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW - kb8nw@barf80.nshore.org --or-- kb8nw@arrl.net
Editor of the "Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin" (OPDX - "DXer's Tool of Excellence")
President of the "Northern Ohio DX Association" (NODXA)
DX Chairman for the "Northern Ohio Amateur Radio Society
ARRL Assistant Director of the Great Lakes Division
Sysop of the "Basic Amateur Radio Frequency BBS" (BARF80.ORG)

1019. Re: Gulf Coastal Software - QSLeCard new freeware

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-25 21:47:30 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1180113778.393952.267560@u30g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4424

Excellent work! In just a few minutes of playing with it, I'm impressed. One of the best freeware programs I've seen in some time. The SIMTEL download site was a little cranky, but I Googled up this download site which was easier to use.

http://shareware.pcmag.com/product.php%5Bid%5D102053%5BSiteID%5Dpcmag

One quick question ..... what is the proper size of the .BMP background. I could tinker around and find out, but a little info like that in the help file would be nice (unless a overlooked it).

Thanks for your work on this.

73, de Hans, K0HB

1020. Re: May 22, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-25 21:48:07 UTC
From: LVN <gareth.paley@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <qdmdnaTHWMQ5xcrbnZ2dnUVZ8surnZ2d@bt.com>
Source record: 4425

<N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote in message
news:1180088700.591789.56750@u30g2000hsc.googlegroups.com...
>
>>From February 22, 2007, to May 22, 2007:
>
> Novice - decrease of 870
> Technician - decrease of 6,135
> Technician Plus - decrease of 3,277
> General - increase of 9,555
> Advanced - decrease of 1,128
> Extra - increase of 2,044
>
> Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 9,412
>
> Total all classes - increase of 189
>
>
Is this a US only group or can any coutry join in?
Please can somebody post rec.radio.amateur.moderated's charter to the group.

73 de G1LVN

1021. Re: May 22, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-26 00:17:38 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1180138637.346341.206790@q66g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4426

On May 25, 1:48?pm, "LVN" <gareth.pa...@gmail.com> wrote:

> Is this a US only group or can any coutry join in?
> Please can somebody post rec.radio.amateur.moderated's charter to the group.

According to the group's charter it is open to all. The ARRL makes
all those numbers available free to all, derived from the FCC license
database. US license numbers can be seen also at www.hamdata.com.

73, Len AF6AY

1022. [DXNL] DXNL 1520 (May 23, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-26 00:42:13 UTC
From: Robert Busch - DL7VOA <dxnl@dxhf.darc.de>
Message-ID: <1371082123901.20070526005831@dxhf.darc.de>
Source record: 4427
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.dx,rec.radio.info

DXNL 1520 - May 23, 2007
DX Newsletter

a free and weekly service of
DARC Committee "DX and HF contesting"
(http://www.darcdxhf.de)

editor: Helmut Schlaffer, DL7MAE
(e-mail: dxnl@dxhf.darc.de)

translation by: Bob, DL7VOA
(e-mail: dl7voa@darc.de)

E51 - SOUTH COOK ISLANDS, OC-013
Gary,ZL2IFB, is spending his holidays with his family on Rarotonga from where he intends to work as E51IFB. He also plans to take part in the upcoming WPX Contest (May 26/27) either in the QRP or the low power class. Gary will be QRV only in CW mainly on 40m/30m from May 24-28. He is also looking for a good QTH for future activities. Please send your QSLs direct to ZL2IFB or via LotW.

FM - MARTINIQUE, NA-107
We expect Alex,VE3KF, to show up as TO3T in SSB/CW from May 23-31 and also in the WPX Contest. QSLs direct or via bureau to his homecall.

GD - ISLE OF MAN, EU-116
The Isle of Man is known for its motorcycle race, the Tourist Trophy, held since 1907. Two members of the Wrexham ARS Colin,MW0JNI, and Mike,GW6NLP, will be active from Scarlett Point (EU-116, WLOTA LH 0449) signing GB100TT on all HF bands and GT4WXM/p on UHF between May 25 and Jun 5. QSL via MW0JNI.
Check also: http://www.qsl.net/wars and http://www.scarlettpoint.com

GU - GUERNSEY, EU-114
Chris,M0DOL, Trevour,M3PNQ, and Tom,2E0TSW, will activate two new prefixes from Guernsey (EU-114) using GP8LED/p and GP3GWB all HF bands plus 6m/4m/2m for one week starting on May 26.

HB0 - LIECHTENSTEIN
David,HB0/DL1GDS, Michael,HB0/DO1ARS, Eddy,HB0/DK4SFW, Klaus,HB0/DL5ZL, Reinhard,HB0/DL5ZA, and Karl,HB0/DM3BJ, will be active mainly in SSB/CW and digital modes on 160m-10m, 6m and 70cm from May 26-30.
QSLs via the operator's homecalls, via bureau or direct.
The website of the HB0 DX Team is: http://www.do1ars.de/hb0team.htm
An online log will be published there after the activity but skeds can be arranged also via packet radio.

HH - HAITI, NA-096
Yannick,F6FYD, is working in Haiti for one year and already hit the
airwaves as HH2FYD. QSLs via homecall.

PJ2 - NETHERLAND ANTILLES, CURACAO, SA-006
Jim,WI9WI, is QRV as PJ2T (QSL via N9AG) from the Signal Point Station
from May 21-29. He plans to participate in the WPX Contest in the
single op/allband/high power category.

VP5 - TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS
Maciek,WQ7X, is working in CW/SSB on 80-10m from May 24 until Jun 5.
QSL via homecall.

VQ9 - CHAGOS ARCHIPELAGO, AF-006
Jim,VQ9JC, is active on the air using the special prefix VQ97JC between
May 23 and Jun 5. This is a must for all WPX hunters because this
prefix has never been used before. Jim hits the airwaves after the end
of his daily work usually from 1200-1730 UTC. During the WPX Contest
(single OP/allband) he will stay in the shack over night.
QSLs via his homecall ND9M. He will answer all direct and bureau QSLs
after he returned home to Florida in August.

4W - EAST TIMOR, OC-148
Four members of the "Korea DX Club" Kim,6K5YPW, Lee,DS2BGV,Choi,HL5FUA,
and Yoon,6K2AVL, will hit the airwaves as 4W6AAV or with a two-digit
suffix from May 30 until Jun 4. The team will be QRV in CW/SSB/digital
modes on 10-160m from the capital Dili (OC-148) using two amplifiers,
verticals and beams. These frequencies were announced (in MHz):
band CW SSB digital

160m 1.822 -- --
(QSX 1.824)
80m 3.515 3.795 --
40m 7.015 7.095 --
30m 10.115 -- --
20m 14.015 14.195 14.082
17m 18.075 18.130 --
15m 21.015 21.295 21.082
12m 24.895 24.950 --
10m 28.015 28.460 28.100
The QSL manager is HL5FUA. Direct QSLs will be answered first, bureau
cards will be processed later. Online logs can be found at:
http://dxpedition.co.kr

PREFIX FOR MONTENEGRO
4O is now officially the new prefix for Montenegro. YZ and 4N which
were assigned to Serbia are falling back to the ITU. More information
can be found on the ITU homepage at:
http://www.itu.int/cgi-bin/htsh/glad/cga_callsign.sh?lng=E
This is an excerpt:
callsign block assigned to date

4NA-4NZ ITU 15/05/2007

4OA-4OZ Montenegro 11/05/2007
YTA-YTZ Serbia 11/05/2007
YUA-YUZ Serbia 11/05/2007
YZA-YZZ ITU 15/05/2007

FRANCE, SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS
TM1VDM remembers the writer Maxence van der Meersch (1907-1951) on the
air until May 28. QSL via F6KTN. Two more stations celebrating this
100th birthday will be active as TV2VDM (QSL via F5KDB) from Jun 1-15
and as FV5VDM from Jul 1-15. These QSLs are managed by F6KDM.

USA, SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS
Several members of the "Indianapolis Motor Speedway Amateur Radio Club"
will be active from the 91th Indianapolis 500 Mile Race signing W9IMS
from May 24-28 on following QRGs: 21.340, 14.240, 7.240 and 3.840 MHz.
Find more information including also an award at: http://www.w9ims.com

LINKS: Tanja,DL2YOU, spent much time in finishing the official WAEDC and WAG
Contests result booklet which has been published on the DARC website:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/archives/waedc_wag_magazin_2006.pdf
---
Your votes for the "World wide DXpedition Trophy" are welcome at the
"Strange Radio Team" homepage at: http://www.strangeradioteam.com/wwdxt
Last year the trophy was awarded to 3Y0X.

Current SOTA activities are announced at:
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/activations.php or
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/spots.php

DXPEDITION OF THE YEAR

VU7RG/VU7MY was awarded the DXpedition of the Year at the HamVention in
Dayton. Congratulations to all participants for this terrific effort!

Announcements for the upcoming WPX CW Contest (May 26/27):
call category QSL route

AY7X Multi/Single WD9EWK
C4I Multi/? LZ2HM
C4W SOAB 5B4WN or LotW
C6AYM SOAB K9GY
CN5W Multi/Single LotW
DR5L Multi/2 DK3QZ
DR80AMA Multi/Single DK3DM
EE8A Multi/? YL2KL
EF8M Multi/2 RX3DU
HZ1EX SOAB SM0BYD
IS0N SOAB/LP OK1MG
IS0/K7QB SOAB/LP K7QB, bureau
KV7DX Multi/Single KN5H
LX7I Multi/2 LX2A
PR5W SOAB PY5FB

T40C Multi/Single N1KI
TC3D SOAB/LP TA3D
TM4Q Multi/Single F6FYA
TM7XX Multi/Single F5MUX
WP3C SOAB/LP W3HNK (direct)
YB/0 (OC-177) SOSB HC, bureau or direct
YU07HST Multi/Single YU1FJK
ZF1A Multi/Single W5ASP or LotW
4M5DX Multi/single IT9DAA
5D5A Multi/? I2WIJ
9M4DXX Multi/Single 9M2TO, bureau

IOTA collected by Fredy,DE0MST (e-mail: iota@dxhf.darc.de)

Island activities:
AS-043, JA, South Izu Group, WLOTA LH-0446: JA1UNS/1, JI1PLF/1, 7N1GMK/1,
7L4PVR/1 and 7N4VPS/1 will be QRV in CW/SSB on all bands plus 6m from
May 25-28. QSLs via the operator's homecalls, direct or via bureau.

EU-031, I, Ischia, IIA NA-001: The Wave Master Team members Giovanni,IK1WEG,
Sergio,IW1FSQ, Veronica,IZ1KFF, Gianfranco,IT9SPB, Rosario,IC8FEM,
Marco,IZ1BWO, Jerry,IZ1DSH, Carlo,IZ1GCZ, and Marco,IS0KEB, will use
the callsign IC8TO in SSB/CW/RTTY on 15-160m and 2/6m from May 25-27.
QSL via bureau to IZ1GCZ. The homepage of the Wave Master Team can be
found at: http://www.wavemasterteam.com/IC8TO/ic8to.htm

EU-125, OZ, Island Romo, DIA NS-001: A German scout group plans to become
active in SSB/CW and perhaps also RTTY and PSK on 10-160m signing
OZ1RDP (http://www.oz1rdp.de) from May 26-29. QSL via DL9BCP.

EU-174, SV, Island Thassos, MIA MG-124: Laci,HA0HW, will show up either as
J48HW or SV8/HA0HW between May 27 and Jun 5. He is active on all bands
but prefers working in CW on 40/30/20/17m but also in SSB/RTTY/PSK31
and on 6m. QSLs via homecall, bureau or direct. Check out these pages:
http://ha0hw@pannondxc.hu or http://www.c3.hu/~ha0khw/ha0hw.html and
http://www.qrz.com/callsign/ha0hw

Lighthouse activities:
EU-032, F, Oleron, Chassiron Lighthouse (EU-032, ARLHS FRA-234):
Francois,F/ON4LO/p, is very active in SSB and digital modes on 10-40m
from May 23-29.

Bandspots of the last 7 days

160m
9U0VB 1.821 2340Z via UA4WHX (B)

40m
TM0A 7.012 0701Z via F5OIU
TM1VDM 7.073 0701Z via F6KTN
4A3IH 7.055 0549Z via IT9EJW

30m
TF/G4EDG/p 10.105 0738Z (L)
ZL4PW 10.108 0524Z (B)

20m
E51QMA 14.040 0645Z via OM2SA (d/L), North Cook
E51TUG 14.260 0516Z via OM2SA (d/L), North Cook
KH7DX 14.196 0643Z (d)
NH6P 14.030 0710Z via W6YM (B)
NH7ZE 14.190 0605Z
R1FJT 14.003 0630Z via UA4RC
SV2ASP/A 14.020 0718Z Mt. Athos (d)
SV5/DL6MBR 14.260 0635Z
YM100FB 14.081 2000Z RTTY (B)
6W/IZ2DPX 14.199 0812Z via IK2DUW (B)

17m
A61NT 18.075 1646Z via ON5NT
C31MO 18.123 1650Z
E51QMA 18.091 0817Z via OM2SA (d/L), North Cook
KH6ZM 18.072 0710Z via I0MWI
R1FJT 18.070 0921Z via UA4RC
ST100S 18.140 1757Z via ST2M (d)

15m
E51QMA 21.004 0911Z via OM2SA (d/L), North Cook

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager

Preview

DATE CALL DXNL

07Sep-24Sep 3B7C 1511
May/Jun 3D2AG/Rotuma 1516
29Aug-2007 3XM6JR 1484
-Jun 3XY5M 1519
14May-26May 4A3IH 1518
30May-04Jun 4W6AAV 1520 *
-Apr/08 5H0RS 1515
-Apr/08 6W/EA4ATI 1515
May 6W/IZ2DPX 1517
01Apr-09Sep 8N3IAAF 1513
2007 9N7JO 1501
NOW 9U0VB 1518

-Apr/09 A52VE 1512
-Nov/07 A61TX 1496
23Mar-10Jun C6AGN 1511
-Feb/08 DP0GVN 1496
24May-28May E51IFB 1520 *

2007/2008 EI100S (I) 1501
01Jul-15Jul FV5VDM 1520 *
25May-05Jun GB100TT 1520 *
19May-26May GM3YOR/p 1519
25May-27May IC8TO 1519
May IR1ALP 1517

2006 -2008 J28JA 1484/85
27May-05Jun J48HW 1520 *
NOW J59OFM 1501
May LZ07KM 1517
-Jun OD5/CT1EFS 1515
-30Jul OX3PG 1501
19May-03Jun PA25UKSMG 1519
May -06Jun SV9/DL5MAE 1519
13May-27May SV9/DL8FCK 1519

13May-27May TA100FB 1517
May TC100FB 1517
17May-23May TF4/G4's 1518
NOW -2008 TL8QC 1459
14May-28May TM1VDM 1518
20May-03Jun TM7AJ 1519
13May-31May TO3T 1520 *
NOW -Sep TU2/F5LDY 1486
01Jun-15Jun TV2VDM 1520 *

21May-26May V6 (JA's) 1519
Jan -Dec VI3SAA 1499
24May-05Jun VP5/WQ7X 1520 *
May -Aug VP6TD 1517
15May-05Jun VP9KF 1518
Apr -Jul VQ9JC 1512
23May-05Jun VQ97JC 1520 *
04May-25May W4J 1518
15May-20Jun YB9/PA0HOP 1519
-Sep ZD9BCB 1500

* = new
.. = and other calls

QSL information

CO2AI via EA7FTR (B)
CO2VQ via EA5KB (B)
OH2EURO via OH2HSJ (B)
OL3A via OK1MR (B)
OX3PG via WA0SMQ (d)
OZ/DG3XA via DG3XA
OZ/DL2JRM/p via DL2JRM (B)
PJ4/PA3CNX via PA3CNX (B)
R150M via RA6YJ

R60IMPULS via RU4AK
R7M via R3AWA
RA3AA via (b) oder W3UA
RG3K via UA3QDX
TF/G4EDG/p via G4EDG (L/B)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = Logbook of the World (LotW)

QSL via DK7PE: Please send all direct QSLs to the following address of
Rudi,DK7PE: Rudolf Klos, Ulrichstrasse 26, D-55128 Mainz, Germany.

QSL for VU7RG: Everybody who wrote "via GDXF" on his VU7RG bureau QSL
should send a new card "via DL4KQ"! The German QSL bureau forwarded
all QSLs with "via GDXF" on it to the RSGB bureau.

QSL direct: HC8/XE1KK, J5UAR (via DL7CM), TR8CA (F6CBC), 9Q1EK (SM5DQC),
VU7MY and VU7RG (GDXF QSL service)

QSL via bureau: PJ2F (via LY4F), V25WY (W4OWY), V31WD (N5WD), VC3A (VE3AT),
VU4AN/VU3SID (DL7AFS), XF1K (N6AWD), YB8TAF (EA5KB),YM125ATA,
YV5SSB (EA5KB), ZA1DX (OH2BH), ZC4DW (G0DEZ),4S7DSG (JI3DST),
ZL7/KH0PR (JJ8DEN), 5R8GZ (G3SWH), 5T5HHN (JL1HHN),
6W1RW (F6BEE), 6W1SA (F4BIT), 8P6DR (G3RWL), 9G5A (DL4WK) and
9Y4/AJ9C

QSL via LotW: V31FG, V51/DL5XL, V63SXW, VK9CXW, VP5/VE3TG, XE2WWW, XX9TSX,
YW0DX, 3DA0CA, 4U1ET, 4W3DX, 4W6MM

Many thanks for contributing to this issue of the DXNL are going to:
Carl Smith (QRZ DX), 425DXNews, OPDX Bulletin, DF2CQ, DF6EX (fuer WIN-QSL),
DH5NBK, DJ5AV, DJ5MN, DK5MV, DK6CQ, DK7PE, DK8JB, DL1GDS, DL1SBF, DL2BQV,
DL3IE, DL3TD, DL4KQ, DL7VOA, F5NQL, F6AJA, HA0HW,SWL Norbert Maybaum,IZ8EDJ.

The German PDF version can be found on the DARC homepage at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/bulls/dxmb/2007/dxmb1520.pdf

_____
Subscribe or unsubscribe to the DXNL mailing list yourself at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedxms.htm

1023. Re: May 22, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-26 00:42:35 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1180130182.487249.153830@u30g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4428

On May 25, 5:48?pm, "LVN" <gareth.pa...@gmail.com> wrote:

> Is this a US only group or can any coutry join in?

AFAIK, it's not US only.

I'm not a moderator, but I'd be very interested in seeing amateur
radio license statistics from other countries.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1024. Re: May 22, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-26 02:39:08 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <135f7e0983r6u3f@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 4429

LVN wrote:

> Is this a US only group or can any coutry join in?

This is absolutely not a US-only group. In fact, I would personally be interested in trends in license statistics in other countries.

> Please can somebody post rec.radio.amateur.moderated's charter to the group.

There is a periodic posting to the group that includes posting guidelines. See message ID <radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines-1-1179208801@panix.com> or http://preview.tinyurl.com/3xpvng [same article at Google].

If you want to see the charter, visit http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rram/ and click on the "Charter" link.

Basically, this is a newsgroup that hosts discussion of all aspects of amateur radio, with a few exceptions like commercial or for-sale articles.

73, Steve KB9X

1025. The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 21 (May 25, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-26 02:39:28 UTC
From: ARRL Letter Mailing List <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <200705260238.l4Q2cC9F000328@linux11676.dn.net>
Source record: 4430
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

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***************
The ARRL Letter
Vol. 26, No. 21
May 25, 2007
***************

IN THIS EDITION:

* +League files federal appeals court brief in BPL review petition
* +Bill McArthur, Riley Hollingsworth are Hamvention hits
* +FCC leans on Ambient to demonstrate compliance with BPL license
conditions
* +ARRL Senior News Editor inducted into CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame
* +Oklahoma poised to be next state to adopt amateur antenna legislation
* +ARRL announces Section Manager election results
* Solar Update
* IN BRIEF:
This weekend on the radio
ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration
ARRL and MetLifeï¿½ team up for new membership benefits!
ARRL approved as 2007 Combined Federal Campaign participant
FCC cites distributor for marketing unauthorized RF device

+Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/>

============================================================
==>Delivery problems: First see FAQ
<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/faq.html#nodelivery>, then e-mail
<letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
==>Editorial questions or comments only: Rick Lindquist, N1RL,
<n1rl@arrl.org>
============================================================
NOTE: ARRL Headquarters will be closed Monday, May 28, to observe the
Memorial Day holiday. There will be no W1AW bulletin or code practice
transmissions that day. ARRL Headquarters will reopen Tuesday, May 29, at 8
AM EDT. We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable holiday.
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==>ARRL FILES FEDERAL APPEALS COURT BRIEF IN PETITION FOR REVIEW OF BPL
RULES

The ARRL has filed a federal appeals court brief outlining its case and
requesting oral arguments in its petition for review of the FCC's broadband
over power line (BPL) rules. The League has petitioned the US Court of
Appeals for the DC Circuit to review the FCC's October 2004 Report and Order
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(R&O) in ET Docket 04-37 and its 2006 Memorandum Opinion and Order. In its brief filed May 17, the ARRL contends, among other things, that the FCC's actions in adopting rules to govern unlicensed BPL systems fundamentally alter the longstanding rights of radio spectrum licensees, including Amateur Radio operators.

"For the first time ever, the FCC has permitted new unlicensed devices to operate in spectrum bands already occupied by licensees, even if the unlicensed operations cause harmful interference to the licensees," the League said in stating its case. "The orders under review reverse nearly seven decades of consistent statutory interpretation and upset the settled expectations of licensees without so much as acknowledging the reversal, let alone justifying it."

The ARRL argues that the FCC's approach to adopting rules to govern BPL flies in the face of Section 301 of the Communications Act, which requires that operators of devices that emit radio frequency energy first obtain an FCC license. "For years, the FCC has consistently read Section 301 to apply to unintentional radiators, such as BPL devices, and has expressly embodied that interpretation in its rules," the League's brief recounts.

The Commission then compounded its error by asserting that BPL devices do not fall within Section 301 at all, the League said. "This hail-Mary attempt at justification is another unexplained departure from prior policy that independently requires invalidation of the orders," the ARRL remarked in its brief.

The ARRL contends that the FCC orders under review "jeopardize the license rights of ARRL's members and other license holders by authorizing providers of a new device -- Access Broadband over Power Lines, or 'BPL' -- to send radio signals across the electric grid in the frequencies the license holders occupy, but without having to obtain an FCC license."

The League's brief further asserts that the FCC "has failed to discuss or disclose significant information in the record that potentially contradicts its key interference findings," and seeks to have the FCC produce the information. The ARRL alleges that the Commission not only withheld its internal studies until it was too late to comment but has yet to release portions of studies that may not support its own conclusions. The FCC has claimed that these are "internal communications" that it did not rely upon in reaching its decision to adopt the BPL rules.

"If, as seems more likely, the Commission actually considered and rejected the information contained in the redacted portions of its studies, then it had a duty to disclose the information and reasons for rejecting it. Either way, the FCC acted improperly."

The League also takes issue with what it argues is the FCC's "arbitrary and capricious" adoption of a BPL emission measurement standard that's unsupported by the record in the proceeding and ignores contrary evidence. Additionally, the ARRL says, the FCC rejected a proposed alternative without even considering it.

Said ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, in his "It Seems to Us . . ." editorial for July QST: "The Commission's penchant for ignoring contrary evidence is illustrated even more vividly with regard to how quickly RF emissions are assumed to decay as one moves away from the source. This is important because if the signal is assumed to decay more quickly than it really does, the interference potential of the emissions will be underestimated."

As Sumner notes, the FCC has claimed that "many parties" have presented experimental data supporting a 40 dB per decade (10 times increase in distance) rate. "In fact, there is no such evidence in the record -- and empirical evidence supporting a lower number was ignored," he asserts.

The League maintains that the Commission failed to consider the ARRL's sliding-scale alternative that would have avoided what Sumner calls "the logically indefensible situation that now exists in the rules: the extrapolation factor is 20 dB/decade at 30.001 MHz and 40 dB/decade at 29.999 MHz."

In addition, the ARRL wants the court to determine if the FCC was arbitrary and capricious in failing to limit BPL providers "to frequencies where interference was less likely to occur without materially harming BPL deployment." The League argues that the FCC ignored evidence that restricting BPL to the 30-50 MHz frequency range would have obviated interference to long-distance HF communications without causing problems for public safety services.

The ARRL brief asserts that, for the first time ever, the FCC "has authorized the operation of unlicensed devices that it concedes interfere with licensed devices" and has declared that such devices "may continue operating even where proven to cause interference."

The FCC, ARRL contends, has concluded that BPL's acknowledged interference risks are manageable, but it bases that conclusion -- which ARRL calls "the linchpin of the challenged orders" -- on FCC studies the Commission has declined to make public in unedited form.

"It is clear," the ARRL contends in his brief, "that the withheld pages contain information" that is at odds with the FCC's conclusion to adopt the current rules governing BPL deployments.

"ARRL is not trying to stop the deployment of BPL," the League's brief concludes. ARRL and other commenters have provided the FCC with alternative proposals -- ones that have been demonstrated to work in the real world -- that would have allowed BPL to prosper without harm to licenses or to Congress's licensing regime."

"What is perhaps most unfortunate about the FCC's radical actions in this case is that they were entirely unnecessary."

The FCC's response to the League's brief is due July 2.

==>ASTRONAUT, FCC ENFORCER ATTRACT SRO CROWDS AT UPBEAT 2007 HAMVENTION

Enthusiasm was the order of the day at the 56th Dayton Hamventionï¿½ <http://www.hamvention.org>, May 18-20, near Dayton, Ohio. Business was

brisk among the hundreds of vendors in the indoor areas, despite generally excellent weather outside, which tends to draw hordes to the outdoor flea market area.

At ARRL EXPO, the sales staff was kept hopping as visitors from around the US and around the world stopped by to join the ARRL, purchase publications or just say hello.

On the ARRL Stage, the lineup of 15-minute presentations proved to be popular again this year. Highlights were presentations by NASA astronaut and ISS Expedition 12 Commander Bill McArthur, KC5ACR. He packed them in for a talk about his ham radio experiences from space.

Special Counsel in the FCC Spectrum Enforcement Division Riley Hollingsworth also attracted an SRO crowd with his commentary on the state of the Amateur Radio Service.

McArthur, the ARRL's Guest of Honor at Hamvention 2007, also gave an animated and informative talk at the annual Donor Recognition Reception Thursday evening. The variety of questions he was asked following his talk reflected the enthusiasm that greeted his presentation. About 120 donors to various ARRL programs and scholarships attended the dinner, which was sponsored by the ARRL Development Office.

Despite an Internet outage that affected the entire Hara Arena, QST Editor Steve Ford, WB8IMY, uploaded his personal Dayton musings, including his entertaining "alt" observations, photos and videos. Internet access was never restored, so Steve was forced to leave the Arena premises to find WiFi hotspots for uploading to the ARRL Web. His Hamvention blog remains available <http://www.arrl.org/blog/Dayton%20and%20ARRL%20Expo>.

The ARRL EXPO area in the Ballarena featured exhibits that again this year drew many thousands of Hamvention attendees. They included the US Power Squadrons, Section Managers and other section officials, the International Amateur Radio Union, Regulatory Information, National Association of Radio and Telecommunications Engineers (NARTE), TravelPlus for Repeaters software demos, Media and Public Relations, Education Services, the ARRL Development Office and ARRL Foundation, Great Lakes Division officials, the ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator and QST/NCJ/QEX ï¿½ in short, something of practical value to just about every ham.

But wait -- there's more. Other ARRL EXPO booths featured DXCC card checking, Youth Activities and commercial license exams sponsored by NARTE.

In addition, ARRL staff members and officers took part in nine different Hamvention forums throughout the weekend.

At the awards dinner Saturday night, ARRL President Emeritus Jim Haynie, W5JBP, was honored as Ham of the Year, while ARRL Lab Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, received the Special Achievement Award. The Technical Excellence Award went to David Cameron, VE7LTD.

Perhaps it was partly due to the uncharacteristically pleasant weather, but for whatever reason, visitors to this year's Hamvention seemed as enthusiastic, upbeat and just plain glad to be there, as any Hamvention in recent memory. Hamvention officials have not yet released an official head count.

==>FCC DEMANDS AMBIENT DEMONSTRATE COMPLIANCE WITH BPL LICENSE CONDITIONS

The FCC has called on BPL equipment manufacturer Ambient Corporation to demonstrate that it's complying with all terms of its Part 5 Experimental license or face possible enforcement action. Ambient operates the Briarcliff Manor, New York, BPL pilot program under Experimental license WD2XEQ. In a May 21 letter to Ambient Chief Engineer Yehuda Cern, FCC Spectrum Enforcement Division Chief Kathryn S. Berthot noted that the FCC is investigating ARRL complaints dating back to 2006 that Ambient's Briarcliff Manor BPL system has caused and continues to cause harmful interference to Amateur Radio stations. She said Ambient's most recent six-month report failed to address one condition of its Part 5 license relating to emission measurements to prove compliance.

"Access BPL systems are generally required to meet the pertinent radiated emission requirements specified in Section 15.611(b) of the Commission's rules," Berthot wrote. "However, Ambient's facility, operating under an experimental license, is subject to the operating conditions contained on its license."

Condition 4, Berthot pointed out, requires a progress report six months from the date of grant, which was last August. Condition 5 provides that the progress report "should include, but is not limited to, a description of measurements and results demonstrating compliance" with the radiated emission limits of ï¿½15.109.

Ambient's most recent six-month report indicated that the company had notched out BPL signals on Amateur Radio bands, "demonstrating significant advancements," the FCC noted. Still lacking, the Commission contends, is information to satisfy Condition 5.

Berthot gave Ambient 20 days from the date of this month's letter to submit the results of any measurements it conducted before its most recent progress report to demonstrate compliance with ï¿½15.109. "Any measurements made in the areas addressed in the ARRL complaint should be highlighted," she continued. "If any area included in the ARRL complaint was not previously subject to measurements, measurements must now be taken in that area to test for compliance with ï¿½15.109."

Further, Berthot said, Ambient must note any measurements that reveal any non-compliance with ï¿½15.109, and, in that case, it must include a description of its plans to bring the system into compliance with the conditions of its Experimental license.

"Furthermore," Berthot concluded, "Ambient must submit to the Commission a follow-up report confirming compliance, once it has completed the necessary system modifications. We caution you that failure to respond to this letter may result in enforcement action."

Ambient operates the BPL system on power lines owned and operated by Consolidated Edison, under an experimental FCC authorization. In January 2006, in the wake of continued FCC inaction in response to several previous complaints, the ARRL filed a renewal of its complaint against Ambient's BPL system in Briarcliff Manor.

Without adjudicating ARRL's repeated complaints about interference throughout the amateur 20 meter band, the FCC renewed Ambient's experimental license for an additional term, from August 1, 2005 to August 1, 2007.

==>ARRL SENIOR NEWS EDITOR NAMED TO CQ AMATEUR RADIO HALL OF FAME

ARRL Senior News Editor Rick Lindquist, N1RL, has been inducted into the 2007 CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame. CQ magazine, which sponsors the honor, cited Lindquist for keeping the amateur community updated on new developments via The ARRL Letter, ARRL Audio News and the ARRL Web news pages. He will retire June 1.

Commented QST Editor Steve Ford, WB8IMY: "Rick Lindquist started as the ARRL 'Product Review' editor, but he quickly made the transition to news reporting, which was his true calling. In a remarkably short time, Rick became the most recognized name in Amateur Radio journalism."

ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B, said, "Rick has been our news editor and reporter through many of the major events in Amateur Radio, including 9/11, Katrina and No-Code Licensing. He has been the print and audio voice of the ARRL during these events and he has reported them accurately, incisively and engagingly."

Kramer said Lindquist is "an active contester and DXer with an encyclopedic knowledge of Amateur Radio. He has been especially effective at writing Product Reviews and both writing and editing articles on all aspects of Amateur Radio."

For his part, Lindquist said he was "very surprised and honored" to be inducted into the CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame.

Other 2007 inductees included:

* Roy Lewallen, W7EL, for the development of the EZ-NEC antenna modeling software.

* Don Miller, W9NTP. An SSTV pioneer, he developed (with KB9VAK) the first high-definition digital SSTV protocol and program.

* Durward J. Tucker, W5VU (SK), who helped promote and popularize RTTY in the 1950s.

* Ade Weiss, W0RSP (ex-K8EEG), for being a leading proponent and promoter of QRP (low-power communications) in the 1970s and 80s.

* Farrell Winder, W8ZCF, for sending the first SSTV signals to the Russian Mir space station.

* ISS Expedition 12 commander Bill McArthur, KC5ACR, ARRL's guest of honor at the 2007 Dayton Hamvention and the most active radio amateur aboard the

ISS to date.

* Phillip Catona, W2JAV (SK), an RTTY pioneer and inventor of the modern-day terminal unit.

* Paul Flaherty, N9FZX (SK), co-inventor of Alta Vista search engine.

* John Geloso, I1JGM, an Italian Amateur Radio manufacturer.

* Michael Griffin, NR3A, NASA Administrator.

* James Hillier, ex-VE3SH (SK), co-inventor of scanning electron microscope and former head of RCA Labs.

* Herb Johnson, W6QKI (ex-W7GRA) (SK), founder of Swan Electronics.

* Copthorne MacDonald, VY2CM, author and developer of slow-scan TV (SSTV).

* Louis Tristao, KG6VY (SK), inventor of the crank-up tower.

The CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame honors individuals who, whether licensed or not, "have made significant contributions to Amateur Radio" and/or "have made significant contributions either to Amateur Radio, to their professional careers or to some other aspect of life on our planet."

Inducted into the CQ DX Hall of Fame were QST author Roger Western, G3SXW, and Nigel Cawthorne, G3TXF. Both are avid DXpeditioners, activating many rare locations with their two-man, CW-only, expeditions. To date, Cawthorne has operated from 44 DX locations, while Western has been on the air from 37. Western is also a member of the CQ Contest Hall of Fame.

Other CQ DX Hall of Famers include Mauro Pregliasco, I1JQJ. He and his wife Valeria, IK1ADH, are co-editors of 425 DX News. He's also a very active DXer.

The CQ Contest Hall of Fame inducted three new members this year:

Fred Capossela, K6SSS, a past CQ World Wide DX Contest director. For the past 40 years, he has maintained and annually updated the CQWW All-Time Records List.

Phil Goetz, N6ZZ (SK), who held the distinction of having operated the CQ WW DX Contest from each of the world's 40 CQ zones -- one of only two amateurs ever to do so (ARRL Southwestern Division Director Dick Norton, N6AA, is the other).

Tom Taormina, K5RC, has been contesting since 1959 and holds several records and won several national and divisional championships. He has also mentored a string of world-class contesters, who have themselves gone on to record-setting performances.

==>LEGISLATIVE END RUN NETS WIN FOR OKLAHOMA AMATEUR RADIO ANTENNA BILL

An Amateur Radio antenna bill has made it through the Oklahoma legislature and now awaits the signature of Gov Brad Henry. Securing passage of the essence of the limited federal preemption known as PRB-1

<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/PRB-1_Pkg/prb-1.pdf> was no mean feat, however. Proponents of the legislation had to switch to Plan B after House Bill 1037 (HB 1037) failed to make the House calendar for a vote after getting a "do pass" recommendation in the General Government and Transportation Committee. Supporters of the measure were successful, however, in getting the language of HB 1037 attached to Senate Bill 426, which involves municipal annexations. SB 426 passed the Senate 45-2 and the House 90-5.

"We expect Gov Henry to sign the bill soon and are networking with his office to ensure his approval," said ARRL Oklahoma Section Manager John Thomason, WB5SYT. "The Oklahoma Section members really rose to the task to communicate our need to legislators, key community members including emergency managers and the general public who benefit from Amateur Radio emergency communications."

Thomason said the bill's supporters reminded lawmakers that some Oklahoma Section members have been among those supporting emergency communication in Kansas in the wake of the tornado that recently devastated the town of Greensburg.

Thomason expressed particular appreciation to several key players who helped make the antenna bill a reality. They include David Johansson, KA5GLT, who set the legislative process into motion, Joe White, K5BQG, who advised Section leadership, Assistant SM Eddie Manley, K5EMS, who tracked and reported on the bill's progress and initiated a letter-writing campaign, Melinda Jones, KE5IGK, for researching, composing and networking, and Hal Deitz, W5GHZ, for spending "significant hours at the capitol, meeting, greeting and informing" and keeping the SM apprised.

"It's a good day for Amateur Radio in Oklahoma," Deitz told ARRL this week. "We're excited."

Thomason also offered "a special word of thanks" to Oklahoma State Rep Guy Liebmann, K5GL, who provided support and served as a knowledgeable point of contact at the State Capitol. In addition, he thanked ARRL Field Organization Team Leader Steve Ewald , WV1X, for his help and encouragement.

Elsewhere ARRL Eastern Pennsylvania Section Manager Eric Olena, WB3FPL, reports that Amateur Radio antenna legislation, Senate Bill 884, was introduced May 18, but the measure has not yet been posted on the General Assembly's Web site, nor has it been referred to committee, likely to be either the Senate Local Government Committee or the Senate Communications and Technology Committee.

"We are not ready for you to contact your Pennsylvania state Senators and Representatives yet, but we are getting closer," Olena said on the Section's Web page. SB 884 would incorporate language from PRB-1 into the state's statutes.

Olena has credited the efforts of George Brechmann, N3HBT, of Bucks County who has been working with Pennsylvania Sen Stewart Greenleaf, the bill's sponsor. The proposed bill would restrict municipalities from adopting "an

ordinance, regulation or plan or take any other action that precludes Amateur Service communications" or that fails to comply with PRB-1.

In the North Carolina General Assembly, an Amateur Radio antenna bill, House Bill 1340 (H 1340) was reported favorably out of the House Ways and Means Committee and received the unanimous approval of the full House in early May. The measure has moved to the Senate, where it's under consideration by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

H 1340 calls on municipalities to require ordinances based on health, safety, or aesthetic considerations regulating placement, screening or height of Amateur Radio antennas or antenna support structures "must reasonably accommodate Amateur Radio communications and must represent the minimum practicable regulation necessary to accomplish the purpose" of the city or county.

Beyond that, however, the measure would establish a minimum regulatory height of 90 feet "unless the restriction is necessary to achieve a clearly defined health, safety, or aesthetic objective" of the city or county.

To date, 23 states have adopted PRB-1 legislation. While PRB-1 requires municipalities to "reasonably accommodate" Amateur Radio communication, it does not specify a minimum height below which local governments may not regulate. Four states -- Alaska, Wyoming, Virginia and Oregon -- have legislation in place that specifies antenna support structure heights, below which municipalities may not regulate.

==>SECTION MANAGER ELECTION RESULTS ANNOUNCED

In the only contested Section Manager race in the spring election cycle, Sterling Eanes, AK1K, has been elected to a second term as ARRL New Hampshire Section Manager. He received 277 votes, while challenger Russell Santos, K1TSV, polled 236 votes. Ballots were counted May 22 at ARRL Headquarters.

Elsewhere, John Dyer, AE5B, of Cisco, Texas, will be returning to the West Texas Section Manager's post he held previously when he succeeds outgoing SM Bill Lawless, W5WRL. Lawless did not run for a new term. Dyer, who ran unopposed in the current election cycle, served as West Texas SM from October 2002 through June 2005.

Several sitting ARRL Section Managers faced no opposition in their bids for new terms and were declared elected. They are: Bob Beaudet, W1YRC, Rhode Island; Jim Cross, WI3N, Maryland-DC; Dick Flanagan, K7VC, Nevada; Charles McConnell, W6DPD, San Joaquin Valley, and Mel Parkes, NM7P, Utah.

Terms for all successful candidates in the current election cycle begin July 1.

The ARRL will re-solicit nominations for Section Manager in Northern New Jersey in the July and August editions of QST.

==>SOLAR UPDATE

Solar Seer Tad "Little Miss Sunshine" Cook, K7RA, Seattle, Washington, reports: This week saw a return to active geomagnetic conditions after a period of relative quiet. The planetary A index reached a high of 42 on Wednesday, May 23, and the mid-latitude A index that day was 28. At the same time, sunspot numbers are dropping -- from a high of 56 on May 16 to 44, 23, 15, 14, 12 and 0 on May 19-24. Currently the interplanetary magnetic field points south, making Earth susceptible to geomagnetic upsets from solar wind. We could see a blank sun through the end of May.

Geomagnetic indices should remain active for the next few days, with predicted planetary A index for May 25-29 at 25, 25, 20, 10 and 5. Geophysical Institute Prague predicts active conditions for May 25-26, unsettled May 27, quiet to unsettled May 28, and quiet May 29-31. During the CQ World Wide WPX CW Contest this weekend, expect no sunspots and declining but still active or unsettled geomagnetic conditions.

Sunspot numbers for May 17 through 23 were 30, 45, 44, 23, 15, 14 and 12, with a mean of 26.1. The 10.7 cm flux was 76.5, 75.8, 74.8, 74.1, 73.2, 72, and 70.1, with a mean of 73.8. Estimated planetary A indices were 6, 18, 12, 6, 6, 11 and 42, with a mean of 14.4. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 4, 15, 10, 6, 6, 10 and 28, with a mean of 11.3.

For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>.

==>IN BRIEF:

* This weekend on the radio: The CQ World Wide WPX Contest (CW), the VK/Trans-Tasman 80-Meter Contest (CW), the SKCC Weekend Sprint, the ARCI Hootowl Sprint and the Michigan QRP Memorial Day CW Sprint are the weekend of May 27-28. JUST AHEAD: The NCCC Sprint Ladder is June 1, the Wake-Up! QRP Sprint is June 2. The SEANET Contest, the RSGB National Field Day, the IARU Region 1 Field Day (CW) and the Alabama QSO Party are the June 2-3 weekend. The RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship (Data) is June 4. The ARS Spartan Sprint is June 5. The NCCC Sprint Ladder is June 8. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests/> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more info.

* ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration: Registration remains open through Sunday, June 3, for these ARRL Certification and Continuing Education (CCE) online courses beginning Friday, June 15: Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 2 (EC-002), Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 3 (EC-003R2), Antenna Modeling (EC-004), HF Digital Communications (EC-005), VHF/UHF -- Life Beyond the Repeater (EC-008) and Radio Frequency Propagation (EC-011). These courses will also open for registration Friday, June 1, for classes beginning Friday July 20. To learn more, visit the CCE Course Listing page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html> or contact the CCE Department <cce@arrl.org>.

* ARRL and MetLifeï¿½ team up for new membership benefits! The ARRL inaugurated a partnership with MetLifeï¿½ at Dayton Hamvention to provide new membership benefits. An announcement to ARRL members went out last week outlining the program, which offers group automobile and home insurance as well as banking products. This program also makes available insurance for renters, boats, condos, recreational vehicles (RVs) and fire. "I am very excited to see this program launched after nearly a year of planning and development," ARRL Membership Manager Katie Breen, W1KRB, said. At Hamvention, MetLife representatives set up at ARRL EXPO where they held a giveaway for a giant Snoopy -- MetLife's marketing mascot -- and handed out nearly 8000 Snoopy toys. All ARRL members are eligible for this new program, which offers a wide range of policies. For a free, no-obligation quote, just call toll-free 800-GET-MET8 (438-6388). When calling, have your ARRL membership number ready, and explain that you're inquiring as a group member.

* ARRL approved as 2007 Combined Federal Campaign participant: The ARRL has once again been approved as a participant in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) <http://www.opm.gov/cfc/> for 2007. Similar to the United Way, the CFC encourages contributions from federal government civilian employees, US Postal Service workers and members of the military on behalf of various organizations. By designating the League as the donation's recipient, contributors can support ARRL's efforts to represent its members and all radio amateurs. Last year the CFC attracted more than $22,400 in contributions to the League. The ARRL urges eligible radio amateurs to consider the League when designating CFC donation recipients. To select the ARRL to receive all or part of your payroll deduction, designate organization 10099 (this is a new identifying number!) when completing the 2007 CFC donor form. Donations to ARRL can be designated for Diamond Club contributions, the ARRL Spectrum Defense Fund or the ARRL Education & Technology Program. Or, donors may make unrestricted contributions to the League. One important note: Since the CFC does not provide the ARRL with the names of individual donors, the ARRL Development Office would appreciate a copy of the donor form to ensure that each contribution is applied according to the donor's wishes and the contribution or pledge can be properly acknowledged.

* FCC cites distributor for marketing unauthorized RF device: The FCC has sent an official Citation to Tower Products Inc of Saugerties, New York, for marketing an unauthorized RF device capable of operating on 70 cm Amateur Radio frequencies. The FCC contends that the product in question, the "Laird Telemedia model LTM-WAVE-AG Wireless Monitoring System (LTM-WAVE-AG), requires FCC certification. As an "intentional emitter," the device cannot be operated legally under Part 15 rules. The device is not a Part 97 transmitter, which would not require FCC certification, because it can transmit on spectrum not allocated to the Amateur Radio Service. Additionally, the devices, the FCC said, bore an FCC identification number assigned to another device. The FCC said Tower has acknowledged that the LTM-WAVE-AG is not certified and that it marketed the device in the US, apparently in violation of ï¿½302(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and ï¿½2.803(a) of the FCC rules. In addition, the FCC asserts, Tower apparently violated ï¿½2.2304(a) of the rules by importing an RF device that

did not meet one or more of 10 specified import conditions, and ï¿½2.1204(b) by being unable to document compliance with import conditions. The FCC warned Tower that future such violations could lead to fines of up to $11,000 "for each violation or each day of a continuing violation."

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The ARRL Letter is published Fridays, 50 times each year, by the American Radio Relay League: ARRL--the National Association For Amateur Radio, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111; tel 860-594-0200; fax 860-594-0259; <http://www.arrl.org>. Joel Harrison, W5ZN, President.

The ARRL Letter offers a weekly e-mail digest of essential and general news of interest to active radio amateurs. Visit the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org> for the latest Amateur Radio news and news updates. The ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/> also offers informative features and columns. ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> is a weekly "ham radio newscast" compiled and edited from The ARRL Letter. It's also available as a podcast from our Web site.

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==>How to Get The ARRL Letter

The ARRL Letter is available to ARRL members free of charge directly from ARRL HQ. To subscribe, unsubscribe or change your address for e-mail delivery:
ARRL members first must register on the Members Only Web Site <http://www.arrl.org/members/>. You'll have an opportunity during registration to sign up for e-mail delivery of The ARRL Letter, W1AW bulletins, and other material. To change these selections--including delivery of The ARRL Letter--registered members should click on the "Member Data Page" link (in the Members Only box). Click on "Modify membership data," check or uncheck the appropriate boxes and/or change your e-mail address if necessary. (Check "Temporarily disable all automatically sent email" to temporarily stop all e-mail deliveries.) Then, click on "Submit modification" to make selections effective. (NOTE: HQ staff members cannot change your e-mail delivery address. You must do this yourself via the Members Only Web Site.)

The ARRL Letter also is available to all, free of charge, from these sources:

* ARRLWeb <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>. (NOTE: The ARRL Letter will be posted each Friday when it is distributed via e-mail.)

* The QTH.net listserver, thanks to volunteers from the Boston Amateur Radio Club: Visit Mailing Lists@QTH.Net <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/letter-list>. (NOTE: The ARRL cannot assist subscribers who receive The ARRL Letter via this listserver.)

1026. Re: May 22, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-26 02:54:10 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5bpetjF2tcv5nU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4431

"LVN" <gareth.paley@gmail.com> wrote in message
news:qdmdnaTHWMQ5xcrbnZ2dnUVZ8surnZ2d@bt.com

> Is this a US only group or can any coutry join in?
> Please can somebody post rec.radio.amateur.moderated's
> charter to the group.
> 73 de G1LVN

The group is of course open to all. On behalf of the moderation team,
welcome :-)

BTW it's good to see another UK callsign here, I was beginning to think I
was on my own <g>

For info, the charter can be found here, along with links to other useful
information:

http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rram/index.html

73 Ivor G6URP

1027. Re: Gulf Coastal Software - QSLeCard new freeware

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-26 02:54:42 UTC
From: Fred McKenzie <fmmck@aol.com>
Message-ID: <fmmck-E6181F.22094425052007@nntp.aioe.org>
Source record: 4432

In article <bFq5i.52$dS2.36@newsfe02.lga>, Ken <nospam@invalid.net>
wrote:

> In article <f34ro0gmj1@news04.infoave.net>, geep@mgwnet.com says...
> > went there and can not find it afile name and a drirect lik would be nice
>
> Be careful about this QSLeCard, I downloaded it and found an extra
> extension.
> The file is named QSLeCard.zip.exe - I send it to the virus vault.
> The file size is 355.25 kb. and not 1.3 Mb like the author says.

Ken-

Some zipped files are combined with an un-zip program in order to be
self-extracting. You could try using PKUNZIP, but specifying the entire
filename including the .exe. If it is a self-extracting Zip, that
should unpack it without any danger of infecting your computer.

Fred
K4DII

1028. Re: May 22, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-26 02:55:28 UTC
From: Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-38B74B.22350625052007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 4433

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
> "LVN" <gareth.pa...@gmail.com> wrote:
> >
> > Is this a US only group or can any coutry join in?

> AFAIK, it's not US only.
>
> I'm not a moderator, but I'd be very interested in seeing amateur
> radio license statistics from other countries.

We've been watching the US statistics because of the recent
elimination of Morse code testing. Most of the world dropped code a few
years ago. Therefore, it is in foreign countries that more conclusive
data might be found. That is, in foreign countries, the results of the
experiment may already be in, so to speak.

1029. WIANEWS for week commencing MAY 27 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-26 10:01:58 UTC
From: nationalnews@wia.org.au
Message-ID: <200705261000.l4QA0AF15171@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4434
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,aus.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

This is WIANEWS for week commencing MAY 27 2007

2007 WIA Grants scheme launched

Monday 16th July is the closing date for applications for the WIA Club Grants Scheme for 2007. Full details of the rules for the scheme can be obtained from the WIA Web site, together with a template setting out the suggested application headings for an executive summary, identifying how the club seeks to meet the objectives of the scheme and guidance regarding supporting documentation.

Click on the following link for further details.
www.wia.org.au/news/2007/20070517-01.php

WIA -- Learning Facilitator and Learning Organiser. Transcript of radio interview
between WIA Director Robert Broomhead and VK3DAC Fred Swainston

" In recent weeks the WIA have changed the assessment process from where invigilators were being used to assist assessors; to a new role of Learning Facilitators and Learning Organisers. There has been some confusion about this role and I have with me today Fred VK3DAC who will shed some light on the reasons behind the changes and how the changes will impact on the assessment process.

Robert

Good morning Fred

Would you like to tell us why the changes from invigilators was made?

Fred

Good morning Robert and listeners

There are three major of reasons why the change from invigilators was made.

1. the first being that the invigilator system was inherited from the old examination system and as a result the role in the new assessment system had changed

2. secondly the WIA has a responsibility to ensure that when we interact with the public that reasonable steps are taken to ensure the public is safe, so we introduced the requirement of working with children or police check with the Learning Facilitator and Learning Organiser

3. and thirdly some of the invigilators and group leaders had not had an opportunity to receive training in relation to the new assessment system

and as a result did not fully understand how the system functioned which was inadvertently making it difficult for newcomers to enter amateur radio.

Robert

These are very good reasons to make the change; so what does the new role do?

Fred

The invigilator is replaced by the Learning Facilitator who will essentially monitor the quality and the assessment process being undertaken during the assessment while generally assisting the assessor.

The Learning Organiser replaces the Group Leader and is essentially the first point of contact in a club for a person who is seeking to enter amateur radio. Their role is to guide the person into a class or assessment and generally assist the person through the entry process.

Robert

Can Learning Organisers be assessors?

Fred

Yes; in many cases already assessors take on the first point of contact role and they are already qualified to do so.

Robert

Does the Learning Facilitator role impact on Amateur Radio Trainers?

Fred

No Robert it doesn't have any impact on the training role. Amateur Radio trainers provide instruction to prospective candidates whereas the Learning Facilitator assists during the assessment process. They are very different roles

Robert

So Fred how does someone become a Learning Facilitator of Learning Organiser?

Fred

They apply via the WIA Office. The application form is on line at the WIA web site. The course to accredit Learning Facilitators and Learning Organisers is the same course and is available on line.

Robert

What about the name of Learning Facilitator; it seems unusual

Fred

Yes Robert. It is a name that we are not totally happy with but we had difficulty in finding a name that covered the function. We will look at the name again with the view to a possible change during our assessment system

review.

Robert

Is there transition period to the new system?

Fred

There is, and during this time invigilators will be able to continue in their current role. A date for the end of the transition period end has not been set
as yet.

Robert

So Fred where to from here?

Fred

We have always said that the assessment system will evolve and it is. The fine
tuning process will continue. It is important that we recognise that the entry
point into Amateur Radio via the assessment system be robust and beyond reproach and this is our goal.

Robert

Any further comment

Fred

Yes; I would encourage invigilators and group leaders to transition to the new

system.
There contribution to the overall assessment system has been invaluable and I extend to them my thanks."

AROUND VK in 80 Seconds.
(2sky)

VK1

CRARC meet Monday, that's tomorrow the 28th.
Dick Elliott VK2KDE will give a presentation on solar panels,
their installation, uses and pitfalls.

VK2

PORT MACQUARIE FIELD DAY WEEKEND is Saturday and Sunday the 9th and 10th of June.

Members of the Amateur Radio Fraternity and anyone interested in Radio communication, are invited to attend Port Macquarie's annual field day weekend,
to be held at the Sea Scout Hall, Buller Street, Port Macquarie, next door to

the Country Comfort Motor Inn.

Saturday afternoon will be devoted to setting up the venue for the various displays, but early arrivals may wish to drop in to register early, socialize and later join for a snack comprising a sausage or steak sandwich, can of soft

drink or tea or coffee.

There will be a charge of $5 for the snack. There will be practice Fox Hunts during the afternoon and a 2-Metre talk-in Fox Hunt before the evening snack.

On Sunday there will be displays by leading suppliers of Amateur Radio equipment and of course, the usual tables of disposal equipment. There will be

displays of Home Brew equipment and Computer Programs for Amateur Radio use that may be purchased.

A BBQ lunch will be provided for all registered attendees. Tea and Coffee will

be provided free throughout the day and soft drinks will be available on sale at sensible prices.

Registration Fees which Includes Sunday's BBQ Lunch...

The Hunter Radio Group Contesters will be operating in the Trans Tasman 160 meter phone event on July 7th this year at Luskintyre Tiger Moth Airport
There will be some fun type foxhunt also held round the airport.
The group extends a cordial welcome to all operators.
This will be an ideal training event for the up coming RD contest at the same location.
Food, drinks and accommodation will be available.
Accommodation will be on a first to book basis
As in all Hunter Radio Group functions, having fun will be the main objective
For further information, or to confirm your attendance please contact Grahame VK2FA
on 02 49-548-688 before June 24th 2007

VK3

Learn about emerging technology

Software Defined Radio is being hailed as enabling radio amateurs to build their own HF transceiver that at least rivals today's commercial offerings, but at much lower price.

Paul Engler VK3XDE created a lot of interest with this mini-lecture at last month's Centre Victoria RadioFest at Kyneton when he talked about Software Defined Radio technology.

As a follow-on from that, the Midland Amateur Radio Club at Bendigo will have Paul VK3XDE give a presentation on a Direct Digital Synthesis control module, which is the heart of an all HF band transceiver.

What is promising to be an interesting presentation will happened on Saturday the 9th of June, at the Scout Hall in Vine Street, Bendigo from

about 1pm.

More details can be found on the Midland Amateur Radio Club website
www.marc.org.au
(VK3PC)

VK5

Boat Anchor Net

A regular on air gathering of people interested in old commercial amateur transceivers takes place Sunday afternoons.

The VK5 Boat Anchor Net can be heard at 3.30pm Adelaide time or 4pm Australian Eastern Standard Time on 7.064MHz plus or minus QRM.

Get their old radio out of the cupboard, tune it up and give net controller Mark Kilmier VK5EME a call.
(VK3PC)

EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO
PRESENTED BY KYLEA VK6FXYL

F-Troop net celebrates its 1st birthday

It was on Sunday the 28th of May 2006 that Amateur Radio Victoria launched its F-Troop net as a welcoming, friendly and helpful weekly net particularly for new licensees.

The first net saw 27 call signs including 12 Foundation Licensees taking part. Also joining in was a mix of license assessors, class instructors, and mentoring-inclined experienced radio amateurs.

Foundation Licensees asked questions about the Internet Repeater Linking Project and some useful information was provided on the spot.

The inaugural controller for F-Troop net was Ross Pittard VK3FCE who continues in that role shared by others.

The aim is to provide Foundation Licensees and other less experience radio amateurs an opportunity to participate in and talk about their new hobby.

The F-Troop net can be heard at about 11.40am straight after the Sunday morning broadcast call-backs, and using the wide area coverage Mt Macedon 2-metre repeater VK3RMM 147.250 MHz.

South African Radio League, the S.A.R.L. ANNOUNCES EXCITING NEW TECHNOLOGY PROJECT

This a project to design an HF transceiver that is suitable for use by new amateurs and that will provide a cost-effective entry point into the hobby.

The first phase of the project will be a feasibility study to determine the specifications and architecture of the transceiver and whether it could be supplied cost-effectively. If the feasibility study is promising, then the

project will proceed to design, industrialize and build a prototype of the transceiver.

This is a co-operative project that will harness the energy and expertise of SARL members to create a world-class design. The project will be managed by the SARL technology councillor, Andrew Roos, ZS6AA.

FUTURE EXAMS

To find out when a club in YOUR area is hosting assessments and/or training in Amateur Radio go to wia.org.au and check out the club pages.

Help amateur radio continue to grow

Do you know someone who could be interested in joining our hobby? Then encourage them to enrol in a Foundation Licence training course.

Next Foundation Licence course, and Standard / Advanced assessments .....

NEW SOUTH WALES

ARNSW regularly holds Foundation Licence Assessments as well as Exams for Standard and Advanced Licences.
Held on the last weekend of each EVEN numbered month.
The next Assessment will be 30th June & 1st of July.

Waverley Amateur Radio Society (SYDNEY)
They hold Foundation Licence courses regularly, email the club at exams@vk2bv.org
OR visit vk2bv.org or call Simon, VK2UA on 9328 7141.

The Hunter Radio Group
They'll hold their next licence assessments on Saturday 23rd & Sunday the 24th

of June at 9.00 am at the Print Makers Workshop, 27 Popran St Adamstown.

For further information, please contact the Examination Group Leader, Grahame O'Brien VK2FA on 02- 49548688. It is important that Foundation candidates have

a copy of the foundation manual and have studied it before attempting an assessment.
Manuals are available from the Hunter Radio Group.

Some places will be available for candidates wanting to upgrade from foundation
licences to standard or advanced licences and the Hunter Radio Group will be having a sausage sizzle on both days for lunch.

VICTORIA

Amateur Radio Victoria has announced its next two Foundation Licence training and assessment weekends - 23rd and 24th of June and the 21st and 22nd of July.

Held at Box Hill North these classes attracting candidates from Greater Melbourne and Victorian regional areas.

For inquiries or to enrol please contact Barry Robinson VK3JBR 0428 516 001 or arv@amateurradio.com.au

(Amateur Radio Victoria amateurradio.com.au)

At Bendigo classes and licence assessments are conducted by Ross Pittard VK3FCE who can be contacted via email vk3fce@internode.on.net

The Central Goldfields Amateur Radio Club, Maryborough regularly holds classes. Contact Peter Rafferty VK3CC on 5460 4387 or email majorca49@hotmail.com

QUEENSLAND

On the Gold Coast and want to talk to the world through their IRLP and EchoLink systems? Or already licensed and wish to upgrade Foundation to Standard? Well classes are held at the Nerang Clubhouse of the GCARS, ring Roy VK4IG on 5539 3530 Exams can be taken at a time to suit you.

TARC WIA Exams Information
Exam sessions are held on demand with WIA Assessors and assessment packs available for all 3 levels of licensing.
Contact theTARCinc WIA Exams Regional Co-ordinator Roger/VK4CD 0417 638366.
www.tarc.org.au/tarcexam.htm

Tablelands Radio and Electronics Club
TREC WIA Exams Information
TREC will conduct exam sessions as required, at a time to suit the candidate. WIA Assessors and assessment packs are available for all 3 levels of licensing.
Contact the TREC WIA Exams Co-ordinator Dale VK4DMC on 4091 3700 or vk4dmc@wia.org.au for further information.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA
Adelaide Hills Amateur Radio Society will run Foundation licence's at the Aviation Museum, 56 Lipson Street Port Adelaide, 2 weekends August 4th and 5th then November 3rd and 4th.
Contact the course convenor, Sasi Nayar on 0417 858 547

Examinations are hosted by South Coast Amateur Radio Club.
Those interested in sitting for foundation or license upgrades, please contact by email
vk5kbj@internode.on.net

WEST AUSTRALIA
Foundation course:-
21st & 22nd of July course with exam on the 28th of July.
VK6 Exams for Standard and Advanced are on June 30th.
Contact Neil VK6BDO.

TASMANIA

Radio and Electronics Association of Southern Tasmania

For more information or enrol please contact Reg Emmett VK7KK by
emailing regemm@ozemail.com.au or calling 0417 391 607

Please Note: It unlikely that examination sessions will be available
in June, the next session would be late July.

And remember Foundation Licence Manuals and CD's are available for
purchase at McCann's Model World in Elizabeth St. Hobart at $20.

A quick reminder about "Intro to the Standard Licence" sessions
on a Saturday afternoons from 1:00 to 4:00pm in the Domain clubrooms.

These sessions are an introduction to the standard licences and
attempt to de-mystify the upgrading process.
(Ken VK7DY/Reg, VK7KK)

CONGRATULATIONS - RESULTS

Completing a Foundation Assessment with the WIA Exam Service in Townsville
are 3, 2 of who'm have already been heard on the airwaves.

Kim VK4 FYOT
Paul VK4 FIRE
Joan VK4 FTVL

INTERNATIONAL NEWS READ BY Felix VK4FUQ

THREE RADIO AMATEURS RECEIVE AWARDS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO AMATEUR RADIO,
COMMUNITY SERVICE AND TECHNOLOGY

Three South African radio amateurs have received awards for their contribution

at an Awards function hosted by the South African Amateur Radio Development
Trust.

Dave ZS1DFR, was awarded the Siemens Radio Amateur of the Year Award
(Operational) for his development activity amongst the youth.
Dave spends his spare time to involve learners at Cape Maths and Science in
amateur radio and has arranged tuition for interested learners to pass the
radio amateur examination. He also arranges on-the-air events where learners
have an opportunity to get experience in the operational side of the hobby.
His other passion is to encourage Radio Amateurs to embrace new technologies.
Dave is also chairman of the Cape Town Amateur Radio Centre.

Hannes, ZS6BZP, received the Siemens Radio Amateur of the Year Award
(Technology) for his contribution to the promotion of new technologies and
home
construction of radio equipment. He was instrumental in building the
prototypes of the SA AMSAT equipment that will fly on South Africa's second
Satellite.

The equipment was recently fully tested by SunSpace with excellent results.

The third award, the Siemens Amateur Radio Community Service Award was
presented to Davy, ZR1FR, a Cape Town Radio Amateur whose passion it is to
provide communication for rallies and sporting events. He was an important

link during the Laingsburg disaster when Radio Amateurs set up radio channels back to the Cape Town emergency centre and provided disaster relief communication when other channels were down.

It is often said that today we have mobile phones, but practice has shown that

when there is a disaster the system gets overloaded and crashes.

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS HEADS IARU ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL AGENDA

The Administrative Council of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) held
its annual meeting on 14-15 May 2007 in Boston, Massachusetts, USA.

IARU participation in the Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference, GAREC-07, to be held in Huntsville, Alabama, in mid-August, was discussed.
The Administrative Council is determined to seek ways to enhance the co-ordination
and promotion of the disaster response capabilities of the amateur service worldwide.
A draft strategy paper was received from the IARU International Co-ordinator for Emergency Communications, Hans Zimmermann, HB9AQS/F5VKP.

The Council will seek additional information from member-societies on the national regulatory position of the amateur service in preparing for and providing emergency communications, in order to identify problem areas and develop solutions.

Reports of the other IARU international co-ordinators and advisers were received.
(sarl news)

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NEWS FROM ARNEWSLINE

500 KHZ EXPERIMENTS EXPAND IN EUROPE

Word that the German medium wave radio experiment is
expanding. Since the beginning of 2005 the German telecommunication authorities have licensed a propagation study on medium wave bands.
The first permit for an experimental station on 440 kHz plus/minus 100 Hz was issued to DJ2LF under the call sign DI2AG. In May 2006, DK8KW got the second license to operate under the call sign DI2BO at his home location in Peine near Hannover.

Now comes word that early in 2007 the experimental radio licenses were extended to a second frequency. Besides 440 kHz the frequency of 505.1 kHz plus or minus 100 Hz is also now being used. This frequency falls into the frequency range being used by the United States experimental radio group with the call sign WD2XSH.

And this just in. Swedish authorities have issued one license for this frequency range.

RESCUE RADIO: ON-STAR ADVANCED SAFETY

General Motors has announced that its OnStar remote vehicle monitoring technology will be partnered with the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention. This, to use data from vehicle crashes to tell paramedics and doctors how badly passengers might be hurt.

On the vehicle, the OnStar sensors will measure the severity of a crash, where the vehicle was struck, if airbags deployed and whether the vehicle has rolled over. Experts will then review the crash data radioed back from OnStar's Advanced Automatic Crash Notification technology and notify first response authorities.

Researchers say that this data could help to save lives by helping first responders get to people who are more seriously injured than they seem and then send them to the nearest trauma centre.

The partnership between OnStar and the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention is funded by a $250,000 grant from OnStar and the General Motors Foundation.

US CONGRESS MAY ACT TO SAVE INTERNET BROADCASTING

A bill introduced in Congress ton Friday, April 27th, could be the saviour for so-called Internet radio station. Called the Internet Radio Equality Act, the measure would nullify the new rates set by the Copyright Royalty Board which advocates say would put webcasters out of business.

The bi-partisan Internet Radio Equality Act legislation was introduced by Washington Democrat ay Inslee and Republican representative Don Manzullo of Illinois. Its purpose is to curtail the imposition of a highly controversial March 2 decision which forces royalty payments of a .08 cents per song per listener, retroactively from 2006

Web radio advocates have condemned the Copyright Royalty Board ruling. They say that it could raise rates between 300 to 1200 per cent for webcasters and effectively ending the transmission of musical entertainment over the World-Wide-Web. The Copyright Royalty Board defends its decision stating that artists are entitled to a fair share of the profits from the music that they have created.

If passed, Internet Radio Equality Act would set new rates at 7.5 per cent of the webcaster's revenue. That's the same rate paid by satellite radio broadcasters. Alternatively, webcasters could decide to pay 33 cents per hour of sound recordings transmitted to a single user. The bill would also reset royalty rules for non-profit radio such as National Public Radio. Such government funded radio operations would be required present a report to Congress on how it should determine rates for their internet streaming media. (Published reports)

THE HILLS ARE ALIVE WITH THE SOUND OF PROTEINS

And finally this week, word that biologists have converted protein sequences into another form of communications. Classical music. This

they say is an attempt to help vision-impaired scientists and boost the popularity of genomic biology.

New research published in the open access journal Genome Biology describes how researchers have found a way to present human proteins as musical notes. Doctors Rie Takahashi and Jeffrey H. Miller from the University of California, Los Angeles, USA, have so far transcribed segments of two human proteins into music. But to make their melodies more pleasing on the ear, they had first to overcome a few problems -- how to incorporate rhythm, and how to cram the 20 standard amino acids into just 13 notes.

Amino acids are the building blocks of proteins. The two researchers focused on codons which are sets of three adjacent bases that code for particular amino acids. They decided to include four different note durations with codons that appear more frequently transcribed into longer notes than those which appear less often. Individual amino acids are expressed as chords, in which similar amino acids are paired. For example, the amino acids tyrosine and phenylalanine are both assigned a G major chord, but they can be distinguished because the notes in the chord are arranged differently. This means the resulting music has a 20 note range spanning over 2 octaves, but with just 13 base notes.

The team find their music more melodic and less 'jumpy' than previous attempts, which have focussed on DNA sequences and protein folding, and hence closer to the musical depth of popular compositions. They are currently piloting a computer program, written by a collaborator Frank Pettit, which uses their translation rules to convert amino acids into music and hope it will speed up the translation of large segments of genomes.

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NEWS SOURCED TO THE RSGB NEWS SERVICE AND READ BY G4NJH FROM GB2RS NEWS

Successful reunion of surviving WW2 radio operators

Surviving WWII radio operators who intercepted the highly secret traffic from the German Secret Service attended a reunion at Bletchley Park on April 29th.

Hams who attended were previously involved with Ultra, the top secret material which was deciphered at Bletchley Park and disseminated only to those who had direct responsibility for directing the war.

Mike Coleman, G1YVR, gave the group an illuminating history of Direction Finding from before WWI to the present day. Direction Finding was a vital part of the WWII operations and was directed by Major Dick Keen with assistance from G5RV, G6LL, G8LT and G6CJ working on aerial systems and distribution wideband amplifiers. A well-known D/F operator was G2BTO, who unfortunately could not attend the reunion.

Bob Painter, G3BPF, described how he was member of the party given the task of tracking down the illicit transmitters of the Stern Gang and the Voice of Israel in 1946. This was in extremely dangerous circumstances but he survived to locate the Stern Gang, though not the Voice of Israel, which was perhaps fortunate for him.

The 1,500 hams who became Voluntary Interceptors during the war were recruited by various, sometimes bizarre, means. The RSGB was called upon to help but due to the sensitive nature of the work it could not be advertised in the T&R Bulletin! Interceptors were mostly selected via the Old Boy Network.

First school in Britain to run a radio station

A Lothians high school has been awarded a licence by Ofcom, enabling it to be the first in Britain to have its own community radio station.

Pupils at Queensferry High are delighted to have won a five-year public service licence for Jubilee FM, which they will run with local volunteers. They will broadcast music, news and entertainment 24 hours a day to North and South Queensferry and parts of Fife. Station director Charles Fletcher commented that they are absolutely thrilled. The plan is to launch on St Andrew's Day.

The school is looking to the community radio fund, the National Lottery and other potential sources of funding. It will also be a great way of helping train young journalists on how to run a radio station.

OPERATIONAL NEWS

CONTEST COLUMN - D A T E L I N E

VK/TRANSTASMAN CONTEST
80M CW 26 May 2007
160M Phone 7 July 2007
160M CW 21 July 2007

Boat Anchor Sprints:
June (9), August (11), October (13).
Local ZL time: 2000 to 2100 hrs

Section 1: Old radios - all valves - i.e. ZC1, 19 set, Heathkits, any home brew set, but must have all valves.

Section 2: Any Hybrid transceiver (must have valve finals i.e. FT200, FTDX400/401, Drake, FT 101s, etc..

Amplitude Modulated signals only.

The overall winner shall be the entrant having the highest points score which will be published in the following New Zealand "Break-in".
(Jamie Pye ZL2NN, Editor NZART's InfoLine)

NZART MEMORIAL CONTEST - 80M - SSB AND CW.
7 & 8 July 2007.

Times :- 2000 NZST - 2300 NZST, divided into 3 operating periods each evening.

Band :- 80M SSB and CW.

Contest Rules NZART Website. http://www.nzart.org.nz
(John Powell. ZL1BHQ, NZART Contest Manager)

AUGUST 11/12 Remembrance Day Contest (The RD) wia.org.au

7th World HST Championship will be held in Belgrade Serbia September 19-23rd.
www.hst2007.org

NOVEMBER 17/18
Spring VHF-UHF Field Day - November 2007
For everyone who likes to plan ahead - please note the dates for this year's Spring VHF-UHF Field Day. It will be held on November 17/18, a week later than usual. This will prevent a clash with club activities in two states.

SPECIAL EVENTS, BEACON AND NET ADVICE

Planning ahead for the Lighthouse Weekend

So far 16 Australian lighthouses are registered on the official International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend website (http://illw.net/) to take part in this annual event.

Last year there were 30 registrations for Australia out of the 380 from 51 countries for what is not a contest, but a fun weekend of putting lighthouses on the air.

Preparing for its 3rd year will be Amateur Radio Victoria VK3WI at the Williamstown Lighthouse and Timeball Tower.

It again extends an invitation to particularly new licensees to visit the lighthouse, or perhaps go activate one themselves.

Put it in your calendar - the International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend the 18th and 19th of August.
(Amateur Radio Victoria amateurradio.com.au)

D X A C T I V I T Y A N D D A T E S

IT'S ALL GOOD NEWS FROM THAT RECENT DXPEDITION TO HELL!

The ZS 1 HELL team announces, with pride, that the number of QSL-cards needed to be taken into consideration for a TOP BAND certificate has been reached on the e-QSL service of the SARL web. This is proof that the electronic QSL service works well.

The ZS1HELL team, which consisted of 12 members of the Boland Amateur Club wishes to thank all stations who have already answered their QSL electronically.

NOW ROBERT BROOMHEAD - VK3KRB.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- APRS

The South African Radio League reports that Dick Stratford, ZS6RO, has set-up a server on APRS which can be used to obtain callbook information from anywhere in the APRS international network.

It works this way. When querying a local South African call sign, the South African Radio League database is used. When a D-X callsign is queried via APRS, the QRZ.COM database is used in real-time. The same databases are used when querying from the packet radio network.

APRS, the acronym for Automatic Position Reporting System, was developed by Bob Bruninga, WB4APR. The system uses amateur radio to transmit position reports, weather reports, and messages between users. (SARL ARNewsLine)

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RADIO AMATEUR OLD-TIMERS
http://www.raotc.org.au

A meeting of the South Australian club, SCARC has seen a presentation by Dennis VK5OF / G3IEY, who celebrated his 55th year in Amateur Radio with the club.

Dennis gave a brief talk, showing a time-line of some technological advances and where they fitted in during his life.

He brought in his personal construction of a 'rats-nest' transistorised, transmitter which he created in his early years of AR in fact approximately 7 years after the transistor was first developed at the Bell Telephone Laboratory.

Congratulations Dennis.
(Stef Daniels VK5HSX Publicity Officer South Coast Amateur Radio Club Inc.)

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RADIO SCOUTING
http://www.scouts.com.au
http://www.scout.org/jota
http://www.wiaq.com/nationalnews/jotahead.htm

SCOUT JOTA HF Voice Calling Frequencies
3590, 7090, 14190, 21190, 28590 kHz
14290, 18140, 21360, 24960, 28390 kHz (DX)

This years 50th JOTA will run from October 19th at 22:00 hours to October 21st at 24:00 hours YOUR local time.

An official start will be given by the World Scout Bureau radio station in Geneva, Switzerland on October 19th at 21:00 h UTC with a transmission in the 20 and 80 meter bands and on EchoLink.

BB's DIARY ROOM - THE FUTURE, IN AMATEUR RADIO

2008

Sept 13 Alarameet 2008 will be held in Ulverstone Tasmania on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th September 2008. Susan VK7LUV for details.

2009
International Telecommunication Union's Telecom World 2009.

SOCIAL SCENE

MAY 26-27
A field day, sponsored by the Twba and Downs Wireless Group and the City Of Brisbane Radio Society will be held on the 26/27th May at the Eton Vale Roadhouse 13649 New England Hiway Cambooya , 17fs south of Toowoomba.

5 acres for camping . showers and toilets on site , arrive Sat. 8.00am set-up camp and antennae , a prize for hf and vhf contacts so bring a log book. Power is limited so bring a generator .

Contact Ewin Cameron vk4hec on 0418 961 900 or 46 961 900 AH/s

An open invitation to all hams and friends Australia WIDE.
(vk4cro)

JUNE 9-10 PORT MACQUARIE FIELD DAY
Members of the Amateur Radio Fraternity and anyone interested in Radio communication, are invited to attend Port Macquarie's annual field day weekend,
to be held at the Sea Scout Hall, Buller Street, Port Macquarie, next door to the Country Comfort Motor Inn.

FNNQARG QUEENS BIRTHDAY WEEKEND 2007
The Far North and North Queensland Amateur Radio Get Together (FNNQARG!) will be happening from the 8th to 11th June at Cardwell Village Beachcomber Motel and Tourist Park.
Demonstrations of ARDF, World Championship
Antenna Wrestling, Navcom Electronics
ICOM Yaesu and Diamond equipment displays,
the famous Sunday Morning Cricket Match plus
much much more will be happening over the weekend.
Amongst the attendees will by Mr Aoki, Managing Director of ICOM Australia and Mr Yoshi, Managing Director of Standard Vertex Yaesu Australia. Rumour has it that they are already practicing for the Sunday Morning Cricket Match and hope there is a healthy roll up of regional hams to make up good numbers for the FNQ and NQ teams.

Secure your accommodation now by getting in contact with Toni or Bruce at -
Cardwell Village Beachcomber Resort and Van Park
1800 005633 07 40668550 fax 07 40668941
43A Marine Parade Cardwell QLD 4849

JUNE 9
Westlakes will have a display stall at the Lemontree Passage Bushfire Brigades Fete on Saturday 9th June

JUNE 9-10
The South East Radio Group annual convention, which incorporates the Australian Foxhunting Championships, will be held at the Scout Hall in Mount Gambier SA, on the Queen's Birthday weekend, 9-10 June 2007.
Further information from:
http://serg.mountgambier.org/

Events begin at midday on the Saturday with the 2 metre sniffer hunt and finish
on Sunday with event 10 the 1.2GHz foxhunt at 4.00pm.

Once again there will be a home brewer's competition and as always there are really good prizes to be won. Amateurs are encouraged to bring their latest projects for display.
Entries are judged on creativity, interest to others, workmanship and documentation.

Sunday afternoon a cruise up the Glenelg River for the partners.

July 7+8 - GippsTech
Conference for VHF, UHF & SHF enthusiasts in Australia.
Held at the Gippsland Campus of Monash University in Churchill, about two hours drive east of Melbourne.
www.qsl.net\vk3bez\index.htm

SEPTEMBER 21-23
North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention
Happening in twin cities of Thuringowa and Townsville.

JANUARY 20 2008

The Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group invite all amateurs to attend the 2008 Mid North Coast Radio Expo to be held in Coffs Harbour on Sunday 20th January.

The Expo is held at the St Johns Church Hall, Mc Lean Street, Coffs Harbour. Gary VK2ZKT is the Radio Expo Coordinator on 02 66 55 2 990 or visit the Groups comprehensive web site at www.mncarg.org

THE FINAL FINAL

WALKS

Jeff VK4XJJ is still going strong on his walk across Australia.

But he still wants to hear from YOU, and it is these calls in particular that keep him going!!

Every Day, from 5:30pm Eastern on 40 meters, 7045 put out a call to VK4XJJ

Now we usually don't give url's as they can be a pain to take down but in this case very simple go to www.jeffswalk.com

Jeff operates 5 watts, often with the dipole less than 3 metres off the ground. Daily latitude and longitude shown on web site.

He is well, no health complaints.

Thursday 17th May...Camped near Mosquito Creek Bore. Raining, stuck in tent, no sked this morning. Contact by satellite phone.

Friday 18th...Back on the move after rain. 18 to 24 degrees. Aircraft circled. Walked 28 Kms. Clear skies. Antenna placed across sand hills.

Saturday 19th...Reached Strezleki Track at 1pm. Road wet clay and rutted. 5Km to Monticeline Bore. 12 to 22 degrees. 160 Km south of Moomba.

Sunday 20th...Good interview with Macca on Sunday and an Ausie in Luoyang Henan Province, China heard about Jeff's walk. Chopper checking the road dropped in.

Monday 21st...12 degrees in tent. Heading for Strezleki Creek Crossing. 4wheel drive and van stopped for a chat. nice muffins! Rangers on road.

Tuesday 22nd...Walked 28 Kms. Fantastic sunset.

Wednesday 23rd...Walking towards turnoff to Marty Merty Cattle Station, about 25 Kms. Took short cut after information from Marty Merty and will camp within sight of homestead.
11 to 24 degrees. Will stay at this station till Friday morning.

We are maintaining 2 skeds per day. Evening sked on 7.045 Mhz at 1730 EST. Fellow operators invited to participate after housework, that is location, temperatures, weather and Jeff's condition etc.

Thanks again to the gentlemen who have offered to assist with the web page. Dividing the work helps VK4BNQ (Roger) who has contributed greatly. Thank you Roger. Roger is also the main radio link as I can only hear Jeff clearly some days. A good and vital working example of amateur radio.

Regards,
Bill Johnson
VK2FWGJ

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WIANews - we've reported...YOU decide.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".

Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of the National WIA.

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WIANews THANKS OUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS , OUR RELAY OPERATORS ACROSS THE WORLD FOR FORWARDING INFORMATION AND COMMENTS THEIR LISTENERS HAVE PASSED ON TO MAKE WIANews VK'S LEADING WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PROGRAM.

_____

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".

Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of QNEWS for the National WIA.

Thanks to to our dedicated band of broadcast volunteers who utilize their time and equipment in bringing you this weekly broadcast.

The purpose of "WIANews" is to rapidly provide news of interest to active amateurs residing in Australia and the globe.

We strongly encourage membership in the Wireless Institute of Australia and participation in the activities of local clubs.

Opinions expressed in "WIANews" are those of the writers who submit material and do not necessarily reflect those of the rebroadcasters, nor the National WIA.

Material may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, a credit to WIANews wouldn't go astray...

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1030. Re: Gulf Coastal Software - QSLeCard new freeware

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-26 12:25:47 UTC
From: Ken <nospam@invalid.net>
Message-ID: <X7V5i.346$Et5.252@newsfe06.lga>
Source record: 4435

In article <1180113778.393952.267560@u30g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>,
groupk0hb@earthlink.net says...
> Excellent work! In just a few minutes of playing with it, I'm
> impressed. One of the best freeware programs I've seen in some time.
> The SIMTEL download site was a little cranky, but I Googled up this
> download site which was easier to use.
>
> http://shareware.pcmag.com/product.php%5Bid%5D102053%5BSiteID%5Dpcmag
>
> One quick question ..... what is the proper size of the .BMP
> background. I could tinker around and find out, but a little info
> like that in the help file would be nice (unless a overlooked it).
>
> Thanks for your work on this.
>
> 73, de Hans, K0HB
>
>
>
>

**********Separated Reply**********

Thanks Hans,
I'll try the program out.

_
Spammers will be assimilated.

Ken
nospam@invalid.com

1031. Re: Gulf Coastal Software - QSLeCard new freeware

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-26 12:26:00 UTC
From: Ken <nospam@invalid.net>
Message-ID: <BaV5i.347$Et5.321@newsfe06.lga>
Source record: 4436

In article <fmmck-E6181F.22094425052007@nntp.aioe.org>, fmmck@aol.com
says...
> In article <bFq5i.52$dS2.36@newsfe02.lga>, Ken <nospam@invalid.net>
> wrote:
>
> > In article <f34ro0gmj1@news04.infoave.net>, geep@mgwnet.com says...
> > > went there and can not find it afile name and a drirect lik would be nice
> >
> > Be careful about this QSLeCard, I downloaded it and found an extra
> > extension.
> > The file is named QSLeCard.zip.exe - I send it to the virus vault.
> > The file size is 355.25 kb. and not 1.3 Mb like the author says.
>
>
> Ken-
>
> Some zipped files are combined with an un-zip program in order to be
> self-extracting. You could try using PKUNZIP, but specifying the entire
> filename including the .exe. If it is a self-extracting Zip, that
> should unpack it without any danger of infecting your computer.
>
> Fred
> K4DII
>
>

**********Separated Reply**********

OK Fred,

Usually when I do see a hidden extension like that, red flags go up.
Just habit, I guess.
The virus scanner caught it first.

Thanks Fred.

_
Spammers will be assimilated.

Ken
nospam@invalid.com

1032. Re: May 22, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-26 14:34:49 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <135gcj6h5qqtr8d@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 4437

Klystron wrote:

> We've been watching the US statistics because of the recent
> elimination of Morse code testing. Most of the world dropped code a few
> years ago. Therefore, it is in foreign countries that more conclusive
> data might be found. That is, in foreign countries, the results of the
> experiment may already be in, so to speak.

I'm more interested in the general issue of the health of the hobby than the specific correlation with a code requirement. Here in the US, I see potential ham radio operators spending their time with computers and not impressed by the concept of being able to communicate with people all over the world because they can do that by opening their cell phone. I wonder how the population of amateur radio enthusiasts is holding up in countries where there might be less computers but more cell phones. There's a very different dynamic in less-developed countries and I don't know whether it favors the hobby. For example, people might be more motivated to explore amateur radio but unable to do so because equipment is not available.

73, Steve KB9X

1033. Re: Gulf Coastal Software - QSLeCard new freeware

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-26 14:35:40 UTC
From: "battles1550@mailinator.com" <battles1550@mailinator.com>
Message-ID: <1180189316.062658.298080@q66g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4438

I don't blame anyone for being leary of possible viruses.
Gulf Coastal Software

> Usually when I do see a hidden extension like that, red flags go up.
> Just habit, I guess.
> The virus scanner caught it first.
>
> Thanks Fred.
>
> _
> Spammers will be assimilated.
>
> Ken
> nos...@invalid.com- Hide quoted text -
>
> - Show quoted text -

1034. Re: Gulf Coastal Software - QSLeCard new freeware

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-26 14:36:45 UTC
From: "battles1550@mailinator.com" <battles1550@mailinator.com>
Message-ID: <1180189787.972985.308160@q66g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4439

Someone found the QSLeCard program without the .exe extention at
this site, however, I dont know know how it got on this site.

Guld Coastal Software

http://shareware.pcmag.com/product.php%5Bid%5D102053%5BSiteID%5Dpcmag

1035. Re: Gulf Coastal Software - QSLeCard new freeware

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-26 16:10:43 UTC
From: "battles1550@mailinator.com" <battles1550@mailinator.com>
Message-ID: <1180191240.406928.129690@p77g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4440

Thanks for your nice comment. I won't rebuke you for not consulting
the help file for the size of the bitmap because I have endured
several rebukes myself for asking questions answered in other freeware
help files. The help file is in the folder with the program. I think
that it is 511 x 680 (I am not at home now). I will try to find a
place to put a help button on the interface in the next version.

Gulf Coastal Software

> One quick question ..... what is the proper size of the .BMP
> background. I could tinker around and find out, but a little info
> like that in the help file would be nice (unless a overlooked it).
>
> Thanks for your work on this.
>
> 73, de Hans, K0HB

1036. SARL News in English 26/5/2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-26 16:10:59 UTC
From: website@sarl.org.za
Message-ID: <9537FD0B2D8946ED841E67B22E81A74C@toron>
Source record: 4441
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 27 MAY 2007

You are listening to Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. This broadcast can also be heard on Echolink by connecting to ZS6FCS. To listen to a web stream go to www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links. This, and previous bulletins, can be downloaded from the web site of the SARL i.e. www.sarl.org.za. You can also read or download previous bulletins from there and subscribe to receive future bulletins by email.

This transmission is by Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with relays on 3,695, 10,135, 14,235 and 51,400 MHz as well as 438,825 MHz in the Pretoria area as well as on 145,7875 and 438,850 MHz in the Johannesburg area.. (Other news readers please change to suit).

SILENT KEY

It is with sadness that SA AMSAT learned of the passing away of Garth Milne, ZR1AFH, after a short illness early on Friday morning. Garth gave South Africans the first satellite, SUNSAT, and was largely instrumental in securing an amateur radio payload on SumbandilaSat. He was a true pioneer in technology. His key has become silent but his contribution to science and technology will long be remembered. Our thoughts and sympathy go out to his wife, relatives and friends. A memorial service will be held on Monday 28th May at 14:30 in the Welgelegen Dutch Reformed Church in Dalsig, Stellenbosch,

(PAUSE)

In the news today:

ALL ROADS LEAD TO STELLENBOSCH NEXT SATURDAY

CANDIDATES HAVE DONE WELL IN THE MAY RADIO AMATEUR EXAMS

JOIN THE PRESIDENT'S NET AND INTECNET THIS EVENING

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

ALL ROADS LEAD TO STELLENBOSCH NEXT SATURDAY

An exciting day awaits Western Cape Radio Amateurs when the SARL Radio Technology event will be held at the University of Stellenbosch next Saturday 2 June 2007. The event takes place at the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering in lecture hall 203 in the Electronics Engineering Building. The cost is R20 per person which includes entry into the attendance prize draw. Students and learners enter free. The proceedings will be opened by Prof Chisto Viljoen.

Lectures and demonstration include: . The mystery of the frog's thigh - the story of the invention of the battery. This is a very popular lecture with demonstrations of how the battery as we know it today was developed.

. Research in ionospheric radio propagation - South Africa is in the forefront of research in this area. The lecture will highlight the work carried out at the Hermanus Magnetic Observatory.

. Cognitive Radio, an emerging technology that may make more intelligent use of the available radio spectrum.

. Automatic Position Reporting System, (APRS) a system that uses amateur radio to transmit position reports, weather reports, and messages between users. A live demonstration is included in the presentation.

. BACAR 2007 - a new approach to promote Amateur Radio at schools and a fun club project using a miniature satellite launched on a couple of party balloons. BACAR is the acronym for Balloon Carrying Amateur Radio.

The full programme is available on www.sarl.org.za, click on Radio Technology in Action.

CANDIDATES HAVE DONE WELL IN THE MAY RADIO AMATEUR EXAMS

Excellent results have been recorded in the May Radio Amateur Examination. Of the 65 candidates who wrote the class A exam 57 passed, putting the pass rate at 87,7%. 26 of the 31 candidates who wrote the class B examination passed. The pass rate is 86,7%. This was the first examination where candidates who wrote the class A exam could also write the class B exam if they felt that they would not pass the class A exam. Of the 9 candidates who failed the class A exam, 8 also wrote the class B exam of which 5 passed.

The highest mark in the class A examination was achieved by two candidates who obtained 98%. Congratulations to L Kriedeman, ZS1LEO, and Ms L Fitchat, ZS6LIZ.

The highest mark in the class B examination was 93%. Congratulations to D G Jackaman, ZU6DG, and H D Steyn, ZU6SAP.

The oldest person to write the class A examination is 73 years old and the youngest person 14. The youngest candidate in the class B exam is 13 years old,

The SARL congratulates all the candidates who were successful and hopes that they will soon be on the air enjoying amateur radio. If you did not make it this time, don't give up, study some more and write the next class A examination on 18 October or the next Class B exam on 2 August 2007. All the results are available on www.sarl.org.za.

JOIN THE PRESIDENT'S NET AND INTECNET THIS EVENING

Join the SARL President Graham Hartlett this evening at 19:00 (Sunday 27 May 2007) when he will discuss some of the recent developments on PLT. The guest speaker on the Intecnet, starting at 20:00, is Dick Stratford, ZS6RO, who will talk about APRS and answer questions on how to become involved. His discussion will be supported by a PowerPoint presentation which is available on www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and you will see the link. The presentation is in PDF format for easy download.

Clubs wishing to link their local repeater are invited to send details to armi@sarl.org.za . Both programmes are streamed on the internet and on Echolink. You will find the links on the SARL web under ARMI.

THE TRUST INVITES YOUR INPUT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION COMPETITION

Are you a constructor at heart? Why not enter the 2007 construction competition. It is an open competition which means you can enter with your favourite project. There are two Yaesu VHF transceivers sponsored by Verstay to be won and a number of 2007 ARRL handbooks. Full details on how to enter can be found on www.amateurradio.org.za.

BOOK A SLOT FOR YOUR GROUP TO TALK TO MARK SHUTTLEWORTH DURING THE SARL YOUTH DAY EVENT

To ensure that the group of young people you or your club are hosting on Youth Day on 16 June get to talk to Mark Shuttleworth you need to book your slot now. Time slots will be allocated on a first come basis and will vary between 5 and 15 minutes depending on the size of your event. Mark will be available between 10:00 and 11:30.

To book slots send an email to armi@sarl.org.za with the following details: Group/Club, where the event will be held and how you plan to link into the network. It is planned to have the normal President/Intecnet links operational. How many young people do you expect to host? Who will be your liaison officer and his/her contact details? A detailed guideline will be mailed to the liaison officer a week before the event.

Don't delay. Do it now if you or your club don't wish to miss out.

CLUB NEWS

APRS INTEREST MEETING

The ERB Club extends their apologies to those who travelled to the APRS Meeting which was scheduled for the 19th May.

The meeting was cancelled at the last minute and all were not informed. No new date has been set as yet.

DURBAN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEW COMMITTEE

At the recent AGM of the Durban Amateur Radio Club the following Committee was elected:

Chairman Louis de Bruin ZS5LP; Vice Chairman Dave Long ZS5FR; Secretary Laurie Devereux ZS5DL; Treasurer Louis de Bruin ZS5LP; Members Dave Smith ZS5LPT;

Danny Giraud ZS5DG;

Glen Duffy ZS5GD;

Neal Slogrove ZR5NAS.

Good luck to the new committee and thanks to the retiring committee members for all their hard word.

PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the expected solar activity will continue at very low levels. The geomagnetic field is expected to range from quiet to unsettled levels on 3 till 4 June. The expected Effective Sun Spot number for the coming week will be less than 5.

20 m and 15 m will provide best opportunities for DX. There is a possibility of 20 m openings towards India from about 15:00 CAT. 40 m may open towards Australia from 20:00. From about 15:00, there may be good 15 and 20 m openings towards Europe. Contacts to the USA are going to be very challenging. For the CW and digital enthusiasts it may also be worth monitoring 10 MHz.

Although the DX predictions may currently not be too enthusiastic, now is the time to work towards your 80 m WAZS during the evenings. Remember that HF always has the capability to surprise you. You will never know what you are missing unless you switch your rig on, listen and also call CQ.

Please visit www.spaceweather.co.za for further information.

DIARY OF EVENTS

This evening 27 May - President's Net and Intecnet; 16 June - SARL Youth day; 30 June - Closing date for updating of SA DX Survey; 2 August - Class B RAE; 18 October - Class A RAE.

SARL News depends on clubs and individuals for news items of importance and interest to radio amateurs. The one and only way to ensure that your contribution will reach the SARL News team, is to place it in www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date. It will be appreciated if you will do it in both Afrikaans and English.

The SARL also invites all listeners to listen to the program Amateur Radio Mirror International this Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 695 kHz. Audio is also streamed on www.zs6mrk.org and on Echolink from ZS6FCS as for this bulletin. A repeat transmission takes place on Mondays at 21:00 on 3 215 kHz. Telkom and Sentech sponsor the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

You have been listening to a news bulletin by the South African Radio League, which was compiled by Gustav, ZS6BWN.

A prosperous week to all, 73.

/EX

========== Message Ends ========== To edit or remove your entry from this mailing list go to www.sarl.org.za/members/admin/maildat.asp

1037. Ninety Days

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-26 19:32:57 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1180207956.992855.240930@p77g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4442

U.S. License Changes over two 90 Day Periods from www.hamdata.com:

Hamdata information sorted from FCC publicly-available database of 24 May 2007 and [in square brackets] 24 January 2007:

New Licensees 8,732 [5,281]

Expirations 8,109 [6,496]

Class Changes 15,819 [3,100]

Call Changes 2,876 [1,231]

All Updates* 47,863 [44,976]

* Renewals, address or name changes, plus other administrative changes.

The number of new licensees has gone up but not doubled as in the last (60 Day) posting. This comparison is to the November 2006 to January 2007 90-day period when code testing was required.

The number of license class changes has approximately quintupled since the advent of code testing cessation on 23 February 2007. The number of
callsign changes has slightly more than doubled.

Expirations are slightly increased. In the last 90 days the number of new
licensees is greater than the number of expirations; for November 2006 to January 2007 period expirations exceeded new licensees.

The November 2006 to January 2007 period includes the announcement of FCC 06-178 ending code testing on 15 December 2006. That may have influenced the November 2006 to January 2007 numbers. Comparing the 90-day period ending 24 January 2007 with the 90-day period ending
22 September 2006 [sqaure brackets] we get:

New Licensees 5,281 [4,529]

Expirations 6,496 [9,722]

Class Changes 3,100 [2,704]

Call Changes 1,231 [1,458]

All Updates* 44,976 [30,315]

There is only a slight increase in new licensees but a definite downturn
in expirations from September to January. The sudden increase in adminstrative updates may be a reflection of "summer" activities since this second comparison uses the months of July to September.

73, Len AF6AY

1038. GB2RS NEWS Sunday 27 May 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-26 21:07:37 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200705262100.l4QL0OZ07136@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4443
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

1 GB2RS NEWS Sunday 27 May

The news headlines

* British amateurs inducted to Hall of Fame

* Exceptional woman passes Foundation exam

* New workshop for Amateur Satellite Service

Two British amateurs were inducted to the prestigious CQ Magazine DX Hall Of Fame at the Dayton Hamvention last weekend. Roger Western, G3SXW, and Nigel Cawthorne, G3TXF, were jointly honoured for their many years of activating rare RX locations. To date, Nigel has operated from 44 DX locations, and Roger has activated 37. Nigel has what may be the world's largest collection of QSL cards. In fact, he recently completed a house extension solely to house his QSL collection!

In addition to his trips with Nigel, Roger is a founding member of the "Voodoo" contest DXpedition group, a member of the CQ Contest Hall of Fame, and an international adviser to the CQ World Wide DX Contest Committee. He has also written two books, on DXpeditioning and Contesting.

Finningley Amateur Radio Society is delighted to announce the success of a very exceptional lady. Vera Tomlinson, an octogenarian, passed her M3 Foundation examination at the second attempt. What makes this an outstanding achievement is that Vera is registered blind.

Vera was subjected to the same stringent rules as any other candidate with the exception that Club President, John Swift M0UTX, was allowed to act as a reader for her. Lead instructor, Peter Myers G3UWT, was full of praise for Vera and stated she was a delight to teach and is now looking forward to a QSO on air.

AMSAT UK appreciate that space communications may seem daunting to many new amateurs so they have organised a special beginners workshop which will show how to get started in this exciting aspect of amateur radio.

The beginners workshop will be held as part of the AMSAT UK 22nd International Space Colloquium to be held at the University of Surrey, Guildford, from Friday 20 to Sunday 22 July.

>From 2002 until 2006 AMSAT UK campaigned to get Foundation licence holders access to the Amateur Satellite Service. At the end of last year the UK regulator Ofcom agreed to allow Foundation holders full access to the Amateur Satellite Service following detailed negotiations

with the RSGB.

This new privilege enables Foundation holders to speak directly to Astronauts on the International Space Station and communicate around the world on VHF and UHF via the rapidly growing number of Amateur Radio Satellites.

The event is open to all radio amateurs and SWL's. You do not need to be an AMSAT-UK member. Either day passes or full packages comprising overnight accommodation and meals at the University are available. There is an online booking service and PayPal, Visa and Master Card payments are accepted. For more details contact Jim Heck on G3WGM on 01258 453959.

Ireland's Limerick Radio Club has been invited by the Foynes Flying Boat Museum to operate a special amateur radio station. At the same time there will also be a commemorative Transatlantic ReEnactment Flight.

2 The special event call sign has been issued to the club to operate as EI70FOY. The station will be on the air from July 7 to 8 on the high frequency bands 80 through 10 metres. EI70FOY will also operate on VHF/UHF.

On July 5 1937 the first transatlantic passenger test flight took place from Botwood, Newfoundland and flew to Foynes, Ireland. To commemorate the 70th anniversary of this event a special re-enactment flight is planned by Captain Patrick White and his son Ian. They will be flying their vintage PBY Cattlaina Flying Boat from Botwood Newfoundland on 5 July, landing at Foynes on 6 July.

A special QSL card commemorating the flight re-enactment will be sent to all stations worked over the three day event. All inbound QSL cards should be sent to the Club's QSL Manager, Alan Cronin.

An operation over the American Memorial Day weekend, May 26 to 28, by special event station K0S will highlight the 2007 Strange Antenna Challenge.

Sponsors say K0S will employ out of the ordinary antennas to promote amateur radio and making do with what might be available during an emergency.

Individuals and clubs may participate as satellite stations by using anything but wire or pipe for a radiating element and adding K0S to their call signs. Strange antennas used in past events, dating back to 2002, have included folding chairs, paint easels, ladders, tape measures, dog kennels, fences, cots and chicken wire with a trampoline as an apparent ground plane.

Scarborough has been chosen to host the 2007 World Thundercat Racing Championships. Normally held in South Africa or Australia, this will be the first time that the final has been held in the northern hemisphere.

Thundercats are small speedboats with a crew of two. Regional heats to qualify for the final have been held worldwide. The 400 metre course will be marked out in the South Bay Scarborough. Racing will commence on Tuesday 2 June with the final on Saturday 9th June. The special event station GB2CAT will be on the air June 9 to 10. HF activity will be around 7055 or 3725 KHz SSB, and 7025 or 3525 KHz CW. QSL via the RSGB bureau.

The RSGB are happy to announce that they will be providing an examination session at RSGB HQ on Friday 20th July 2007 to coincide with the July Advanced Examination. We are also able to run Foundation and Intermediate examinations on this day but practical assessments must be completed beforehand. If you are interested in attending then please contact rce.dept@rsgb.org.uk no later than 22 June.

And now for the details of rallies and events for the coming week On Sunday 3 June the SPALDING & DARS ANNUAL RALLY takes place from 10am at the Sir John Gleed Technical School, Halmer Gardens, Spalding. Details from Ambrose, M0DJA, on 07989 636 520, or on the web at www.sdars.org.uk. 3 JUNE 2007 On Sunday 3 June the Red Rose QRP Festival takes place from 11am at Formby Hall, Alder Street, Atherton, Manchester M46 9EY. Details from Les, G4HZJ, on 01942 870634, or by email to g4hzj@ntlworld.com. More details of these and future events can be found on pages 88 and 89 of the June edition of RadCom.

Now for the news of the special events The Bolsover Amateur Radio Society will be operating as GB2PF on Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 August to commemorate the birthday of local man Peter Fidler, who was a famous surveyor in Canada in the 1790s.

3 The club intends to operate as many bands as possible, HF, VHF and UHF, from the new club shack located at the Coalite Sports and Social Club, Moor Lane, Bolsover. The Norman Lockyer Observatory Amateur Radio Group will be participating at the 2nd South West Astronomy Fair. It is due to be held in the grounds of the Norman Lockyer Observatory, Salcombe Hill, Sdimouth, Devon. It will be operating on 1 August using call sign GB2NLO from 0900 to 1800 BST, 0800 TO1700 UTC. They will be working SSB, CW, SSTV and PSK31 as appropriate on the 80, 40, 20, 6, 4 and 2 metre bands. QSL via the RSGB bureau with a special event QSL card. They would welcome any licensed amateurs or those interested in taking up the hobby to visit the exhibition tent. Burton upon Tent Amateur Radio Club will be at the Doveridge Steam and Vintage Charity Rally on the weekend of the 21 and 22 July. Licensed operators are welcome to come along and operate the equipment. They may ask to see your licence so please bring it along. HF, VHF and UHF bands will be in operation over the weekend. For more information www.doveridgesteam.co.uk. The Maidstone Amateur Radio Society G3WM will be operating a special event station GB2BVC celebrating 30 years of sailing at Bewl Sailing Club, Lamberhurst, Kent on Saturday, 26 May. The station will be on HF GB2BVC and VHF as GB2BSC from 0830 until 1600 UTC. HF bands will be 80, 40 and 20 metres.

Roger Greengrass, G4NRG, plans to operate as GM4NRG/P from the Isle of Lismore Scotland, from approximately 3 to 15 June. As the QTH is in a semi-residential location on an island with a population of only 176, actual operation will be dependant upon the ability to erect and use the antennas. He will try and put a spot on the DX cluster when operational. The Isle of Lismore is in the Inner Hebrides, IOTA Island Reference EU-008, Maidenhead locator IO76GN Operation is hoped to be on 6m, hopefully taking advantage of sporadic E propagation, voice and JT6M. Activity is also planned on HF, using SSB and digital modes PSK31. Operation will be holiday style. QSL via home call. And now the HF DX news compiled from 425 DX News, the Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin and other sources.

Richard, M0EAZ, is currently sailing across the Atlantic and regularly checks in to the Maritime Mobile net on 14.300MHz at 2100z each evening. His signals are reported as good, despite using just 100W to a back-stay antenna, and would welcome calls. Special callsign PA25UKSMG will be aired from The Netherlands between 19 May and 3 June to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the UK Six Metre Group. Expect activity on 160-2 metres, including an entry in the CQ WW WPX CW Contest from 26 to 27 May. QSL via PA7FM. Several other special call signs are expected to be used from other countries, especially during the UKSMG 6 Metre Contest during the first weekend of June. Celebrating the 750th anniversary of Krakow's city rights is HF750C, which will be active from 14 May to 30 June. QSL via SP9BRP. Expect also a large number of local operators to use special prefix SN0 during the year. Chris, M0DOL, and other members of the Northampton Radio Club will be active as either GP8LED/P and GP3GWB from castles and fortifications on the island of Guernsey, EU-114, from 26 May to 1 June. Look for HB0/DL1GDS, HB0/DO1ARS and HB0/DK4SFW to be active on 10 to 160 metres from Liechtenstein on 26 to 30 May. QSL via home calls, direct or bureau.

4 Six operators from the Flying Dutch DX Group will be active as HB0/PA0ABM from Triesenberg, Liechtenstein on 15 to 22 June. They will operate on 160 to 10 metres CW, SSB and some digital modes with two stations. Logs will be available at www.logsearch.de and will be uploaded to Log of the World. QSL via PA0ABM, direct or via bureau. Look for JA1UNS/1, JI1PLF/1, 7N1GMK/1, 7L4PVR/1 and 7N4VPS/1 to be active from Hachijo Island, AS043, JIIA AS-043-004, on 25 to 28 May. They plan to operate SSB and CW on the HF bands and 6 metres. QSL via home calls, direct or via bureau. JA1KJW/JR6, JJ1JGI/JR6, JK1EBA/JR6 and 7N4AGB/JR6 will operate Okinawa Island, AS-017, JIIA AS017-033, on 28 May and again on 15 to 18 June. From 29 May to 14 June they will be active from Ishigaki Island, AS-024, AS-024-004. Expect activity on the HF bands and 6 metres SSB and CW. QSL via home calls, direct or via bureau. DL1DWR, DG4VX and DG0CH will be active as LA/DL1DWR from Tromoy Island, EU-061, on 25 to 29 May. Activity will be on 160-2 metres mostly digital modes with some CW, SSB and FM. QSL via DL1DWR. Special Ukrainian callsign EO20R will be aired from 28 May to 3 June for the 20th anniversary of Slavutych, for the city built after the Chernobyl nuclear disaster. They will host the survivors who had relocated from

the evacuation zone around the reactor. QSL via UY2RO. Maciek, WQ7X will be active as VP5/WQ7X from 24 May to 5 June. He plans to operate CW and SSB on 10 to 80 metres. QSL via home call. Jim, VQ9JC, ND9M, has received written permission to use the special callsign VQ97JC from 23 May through 5 June. The 7 added to the prefix reflects the year, and apparently this is the first time special prefix has been authorized for use from Diego Garcia. Jim can only operate during his spare time, which normally means 1200 to 1730 UTC. However, he hopes to make the VQ97 prefix available at least ten evenings during that period, and to stay overnight at the shack both nights during the CQ WW WPX CW Contest from 26 to 27 May. QSL via ND9M, direct or bureau, but cards will not be printed at least until after he returns home in August. Now the contest news The RSGB 70MHz activity takes place between 2000 to 2230 local on 29 May on the 70MHz band, all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. The RSGB National Field Day takes place between 1500 to 1500 on 2 to 3 June on the 1.8 to 28 MHz bands using CW. The exchange takes the form of RST and serial number. Now the solar factual data for the period from 14 May to 20 May compiled by Neil Clarke, G0CAS. A sunspot group emerged on the 14th and increased rapidly in area, number of spots and magnetic complexity. By the 17th the growth had slowed. However, only two small C class solar flares took place and had very little effect on propagation. On the remaining days solar activity was very low. Solar flux levels increased from 73 units on the 14th to peak at 77 units. Levels then declined and by the 20th were down to 74. The average was 76 units. The 90 day solar flux average on the 20th was 74 units, that's the same level as last week. X-ray flux levels increased from below the minimum level to A3 units by the 16th. The average was A1.6 units. Geomagnetic activity was quiet until the expected coronal hole disturbance arrived. The Ap

5 index was only 3 units on the 14th, which was the quietest day and in contrast the Ap was 18 units during the disturbance. The average was Ap 8 units. The ACE spacecraft saw solar wind speeds increase from 280 kilometres per second to 680 by the 18th. Particle densities were low except for the 18th, which increased briefly to 60 particles per cubic centimetre. Bz varied between minus 2 and plus 4 nanoTeslas on the quiet days and between minus 15 and plus 14 nanoTeslas during the disturbance. Low geomagnetic activity meant HF propagation reached forecast levels up the 17th. Some paths were degraded on the 18th but recovered by the 19th. Sporadic-E was occurred every day on both 28 and 50MHz, with at least one opening to West Africa on Six. Few contacts were reported on 70MHz, though crossband QSOs to 50MHz were made with several countries that do not currently allow 4-metre operation. And finally the solar forecast. This week the slightly more active side of the Sun is expected to be looking our way. Solar flux levels could be just in the 80's for the next few days but then levels are expected to decline. Geomagnetic activity is expected to be quiet until next weekend when activity should increase due to a recurring coronal hole. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitudes should be around 18MHz for the south and 15MHz for the north. The darkness hour lows should be

about 10MHz. Paths this week to the Middle East should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success rate of around 23MHz. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success rate will be about 18MHz. The best time to try this path will be between 0700 and 1800 hours UTC. Sporadic-E should take place on some days this week. Historically, the favoured times are mid morning and late afternoons. However, opening can take place at any time. And that's all for this week from the propagation team.

6 Next, the Local News:

Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses

and website links where known.

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your

transmission.]

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST

and EAST ANGLIA On Sunday 27 May Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society is going to the Waters and Stanton open day. Contact Martyn, G1EFL, on 01245 469 008.

On Tuesday 29 May Stevenage and District Amateur Radio Society is operating HF. Contact Neil, M0ARH, on 01438 217 077.

On Wednesday 30 May Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

On Wednesday 30 May Dover Radio Club is having its half term net on GB3KS . Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk.

On Wednesday 30 May Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is having a junk sale. Contact Jim, M1JJN.

On Wednesday 30 May Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is having a Bright Sparks meeting to complete the DF 100 kit and design a QSL card. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

On Wednesday 30 May Worthing and District Amateur Radio Club is having a report on Dayton 2007 by G4UDU. Contact Roy, G4GPX, on 01903 753 893.

On Thursday 31 May Bittern DX Group is having a debrief on GB4NSR. Contact Keith, G0GFQ, on 01263 588 506, keith@g0gfq.com, or on the web at www.bittern-dxers.org.uk.

On Thursday 31 May Shefford and District Amateur Radio Society is watching a DVD on the Wurlitzer storycourtesy of Brian, G8GHR. Contact David, G8UOD, on 01234 742 757.

On Friday 1 June Crystal Palace Radio and Electronics Club is having a talk on Susy Radio by John Stockley, G8NMY. Contact Bob, G3OOU, on 01737 552 170.

On Friday 1 June Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is having a boule evening. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Friday 1 June Torbay Amateur Radio Society is operating GB60TR. Contact Dave, G6FSP, by email to g6fsp@tars.org.uk.

On Friday 1 June Wey Valley Amateur Radio Group is having a club night. Details on the web at www.weyvalleyarg.org.uk.

On Saturday 2 June Brede Steam Amateur Radio Society is operating HF from the bunker. Contact Steve, M0SSR, on 01424 720 815.

7 On Saturday 2 June Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society is taking part in National Field Day from Sandford Mill car park. Contact Martyn, G1EFL, on 01245 469 008.

On Saturday 2 June Cray Valley Radio Society is taking part in the HF CW Field Day. Contact Bob, BRS32525, on 020 8265 7735 after 8pm.

On Saturday 2 June Harwich Amateur Radio Interest Group is taking part in the restricted section of National Field Day. Contact James, M0ZZO, on 01255 242 746.

On Saturday 2 June UK Six Metre Group is running its annual Summer Sporadic E Contest. It's the Group's Silver Jubilee and to commemorate 25 years of promoting 50MHz activity there will be UKSMG stations operating with special callsigns during the contest and at various times during May and June. Details on the web at www.uksmg.org.

On Sunday 3 June Radio Society Of Harrow is operating GB2DHH at the DeHavilland Heritage Museum, London Colney, from 10am. Contact Linda, G7RJL, on 020 8386 8586, or on the web at www.g3efx.org.uk or Chris 01895 621 310.

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST

On Sunday 27 May Flight Refuelling Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on microwave EME by John, G0API. Contact Tony, G3PFM, on 01202 622 262.

On Tuesday 29 May Flight Refuelling Amateur Radio Society is running Intermediate training 1900 - 2130 . Contact Tony, G3PFM, on 01202 622 262.

On Wednesday 30 May South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is on the air. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282.

On Wednesday 30 May Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is on the air. Contact Tony, G0WMB, by email to tonytsgarc@beeb.net.

On Thursday 31 May Swindon and District Amateur Radio Club is having its AGM. Contact Mike, M5CBS, on 01793 826 465.

On Saturday 2 June Taunton and District Amateur Radio Club is taking part in the CW National Field Day. Contact William, G3WNI, on 01823 666 234, or by email to g3wni@btinternet.com.

NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS

On Monday 28 May Gloucester Amateur Radio And Electronics Society is operating from the Escarpment from 3pm to 6.30pm, weather permitting. Contact Anne, 2E1GKY, on 01452 548478, daytime.

On Monday 28 May Stourbridge and District Amateur Radio Society is having an open shack night. Contact John, M1EJG, on 01562 700 513.

On Monday 28 May Stratford Upon Avon District Radio Society is having a round table chat. Contact Jack, G3VYE, on 01926 641 988.

On Tuesday 29 May Derby and District Amateur Radio Society is having a visit to Milford hydro-electric station. Contact Martin, G3SZJ, on 01332 556 875.

8 On Tuesday 29 May Loughborough and District Amateur Radio Club is having its 2nd DF of 2007, on 160m. Contact Chris, G1ETZ, on 01509 504 319.

On Wednesday 30 May Lincoln Short-Wave Club is having its Scout camp debrief. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

On Wednesday 30 May Telford and District Amateur Radio Society is operating portable in the park - come and see how to do it! Contact Mike, G3JKX, on 01952 299 677, or by email to mjstreetg3jkx@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Friday 1 June Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is on the air on HF from 8pm. Contact Carl, M0XBE, on 07979 092 447, or on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

On Friday 1 June Lincoln Short-Wave Club taking part in the HF National Field Day. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

On Sunday 3 June Wythall Radio Club is having its summer fox hunt. Contact Chris, G0EYO, on 07710 412 819, or by email to g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk, or on the web at www.wythallradioclub.co.uk.

NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

On Monday 28 May Hornsea Amateur Radio Club is having a DF night, fox hunting on 2m. Contact Steve, G4GPY, on 01482 860 440, or by email to g4gpy@eddiesplace.karoo.co.uk.

On Monday 28 May Macclesfield and District Radio Society is on the air and having a club evening from 8.00pm. Contact Tom, M1EYP, on 01625 612 916, tommyread@hotmail.com, or on the web at www.gx4mws.com.

On Monday 28 May Sheffield Amateur Radio Club is having an HF, BBQ and sports evening. Contact Trevor, M0TWS.

On Tuesday 29 May Chester and District Radio Society is having a talk on the history of Liverpool airport by Robin Tudor. Details on the web at www.chesterdars.org.uk, info@chesterdars.org.uk.

On Tuesday 29 May Halifax and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air with G2UG at Rishworth. Contact Brenda, 2E0YKS, by email to wrenuk10@yahoo.com.

On Tuesday 29 May Morecambe Bay Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on the RSGB by Dave Wilson. Contact Chris, M5XYZ.

On Tuesday 29 May Northwest Amateur Radio Club is having its second Open Evening. Contact Ian Cooper.

On Tuesday 29 May Wakefield and District Amateur Radio Society is having a digimodes evening with the new shack computer. Contact Dave, G4CLI, on 07748 221 855, or by email to g4cli@hotmail.co.uk.

On Wednesday 30 May Great Lumley Amateur Radio And Electronics Society is on the air. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Wednesday 30 May Wirral and District Amateur Radio Club is meeting at The Dee View, Heswall. Contact Tom, G4BKF, on 07050 291 850.

On Thursday 31 May Grimsby Amateur Radio Society is having a DF hunt. Contact Brian, G4DXB, on 01472 231 383.

9 On Friday 1 June Tynemouth Radio Club is having a talk on A Slinky Antenna by Ken, M3ILL. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Saturday 2 June Grimsby Amateur Radio Society is taking part in the CW Field Day contest at Cibas. Contact Brian, G4DXB, on 01472 231 383.

NEWS FOR SCOTLAND

On Sunday 27 May Dundee Amateur Radio Club is taking part in the Scout Centenary Celebrations. Contact Martin, MM0DUN, by email to mm0dun@dundee-amayeur-radio.co.uk, or on the web at www.dundeeamateur-radio.co.uk.

On Monday 28 May Lothians Radio Society is having a DF hunt with Peter Dick, GM4DTH. Contact Toby, MM0TSS, on 07739 742 367, or by email to enquiries@lothiansradiosociety.com, or on the web at www.lothiansradiosociety.com.

On Wednesday 30 May Paisley (YMCA) Amateur Radio Club is having its AGM. Contact Jim, GM3UWX. On Thursday 31 May Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is on the air. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

On Friday 1 June Cockenzie and Port Seton Amateur Radio Club is having a club night. Contact Bob, GM4UYZ, on 01875 811 723.

On Saturday 2 June Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is taking part in the RSGB National Field Day, operating GM3BSQ/P and GM4RGC/P at Counteswells. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

On Saturday 2 June Dundee Amateur Radio Club is taking part in the CW National Field Day. Contact Martin, MM0DUN, on mm0dun@dundee-amayeur-radio.co.uk, or on the web at www.dundee-amateurradio.co.uk.

On Saturday 2 June Moray Firth Amateur Radio Society is taking part in the HF Field Day. Contact Jim, MM0SMD, on 01340 820 134.

On Sunday 3 June Dundee Amateur Radio Club is taking part in CW National Field Day. Contact Martin, MM0DUN, by email to mm0dun@dundee-amayeur-radio.co.uk, or on the web at www.dundee-amateurradio.co.uk.

NEWS FOR WALES

No news items have been received for Wales this week. NEWS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

No news items have been received for Northern Ireland this week. And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast,

prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

1039. Re: Gulf Coastal Software - QSLeCard new freeware

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-27 20:28:41 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1180297053.118137.26070@m36g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4444

OK, I've played with it some more, and for casual use (making up 1 or a few cards) it's great.

But can you take it to the next step?

Over this weekend a I played awhile in the WPX contest. I can export the log from the contest to an ADIF file, and it would be awesome if I could import that ADIF file into QSLeCard and output (in "batch" mode) cards for all my weekend contacts.

73, de Hans, K0HB

1040. IRTS Radio News Bulletin, Sunday May 27th 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-27 22:00:25 UTC
From: news at irts dot ie <devnull@panix.com>
Message-ID: <200705272200.l4RM09X05931@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4445
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Irish Radio Transmitters Society
Radio News Bulletin

Sunday May 27th 2007

CW Field Day

Don't forget that the CW field day takes place over the June bank holiday weekend (the 2nd and 3rd of June).

EI4CF and Shannon Basin Club have once again made the grounds of Garbally College in Ballinasloe available for any stations interested in taking part from a central location.

Any stations planning on entering the field day please e-mail ?contests at irts dot ie?.

International Museums Weekend

The International Museums Weekend takes place in three weeks time on the 16th and 17th of June. This amateur radio special event has grown in popularity since the first event was held in 2002.

Among past participants are The Tower of London, HMS Belfast and the US battleship New Jersey. The Howth Martello Radio Group will be participating again this year, operating from the Vintage Radio Museum in Howth. Visitors are welcome to call and operate the station over the weekend. The museum web site is www.qsl.net/ei5em/museum.html. A full list of participating museums and further information of the event is available from the organiser's web site www.ukradioamateur.co.uk/imw/.

VHF News

The monthly 6-metre net organised by Kerry Amateur Radio Group will take place next on Monday the 4th of June. The frequency used is 50.135 MHz SSB at 9.00 p.m. local time. The 6-metre net takes place on the first Monday of each month.

The 4-metre activity night will take place on Tuesday the 5th of June on 70.2625 MHz from 8 to 10 p.m. local time. Modes in use are AM, FM and SSB. The 4-metre activity night takes place on the first Tuesday of each month.

The EI 6 meter beacon EI0SIX operates on 50.052 MHz with using 20 Watts into a Trident V6M half-wave vertical antenna. The beacon is located on the Hill of Allen in County Kildare - IO63NF.

Rallies

Bangor & District Amateur Radio Society Rally will take place on Sunday the 17th of June in the Crawfordsburn Country Park, Helen's Bay, Co. Down. The Cork Radio Club Rally will take place on Sunday the 23rd of September in the Blarney Park Hotel, Blarney, Co. Cork and the Mayo Radio Rally will be on Sunday the 18th of November in the Belmont Hotel, Knock, Co. Mayo.

A full listing of upcoming rallies is available on www.irts.ie.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group

Please note that there will be no general meeting for the month of May. The next committee meeting will take place on Monday the 4th of June at 8.00 p.m. in The Roanmore Centre, Waterford. All committee members are asked to attend.

Prefixes for Montenegro and Serbia

When Montenegro first became an independent country, the prefix YU6 was tentatively allocated to it. However, it now has a call sign block of its own. The ITU now lists 4O (that's "four Oscar") as Montenegro's prefix. This means Montenegro stations may use 4O0 through 4O9, while Serbian stations will continue to use YT and YU prefixes for all call districts, 0 through 9. The ITU reportedly wants the two nations to complete the transition to new call sign blocks as soon as possible.

The ITU has taken back the former 4N and YZ prefixes for future reassignment.

Members that use computer logging software should update their software to reflect these new prefix allocations.

Contests

The CW field day will take place in two weeks time on the 2nd and 3rd of June and the VHF/UHF field day will take place on the weekend of the 7th and 8th of July.

The RSGB IOTA contest will be held on the 28th and 29th of July.

Ladies Mini Marathon

The 2007 Flora Ladies Mini Marathon takes place on Bank Holiday Monday the 4th of June at 3.00 pm. It starts from Fitzwilliam Square, and finishes in Stephens Green Dublin 2. Sadly this year's event will happen without the familiar voice of Donnchadh O'Shea who traditionally operated the net control station. This year's public service event will be dedicated to his memory. The co-ordinator for the event again this year will be George Adjaye who may be contacted by phone on 086 2586103 or Fax 01 4908546 or email 'george_adjayeg at dcu.ie'.

Galtee Walking Festival

It's now just one week from the 2 days of activity in the Galtees on the Saturday and Sunday of the June Bank Holiday weekend. John Ronan EI7IG is event Coordinator and he is being assisted by John EI2JB and other members of the Tipperary Amateur radio Group. Newcomers are welcome and training will be provided by AREN each morning. Please contact John EI7IG on 086 8167310 or John EI2JB at QTHR if you are interested in participating.

Theory Examination

The next Theory Examination for the Experimenters Licence will be held on Thursday the 28th of June next. Places for the examination are limited and will be allocated on a 'first come first served' basis. Intending candidates should forward the appropriate fee to Se'n Nolan EI7CD, 12 Little Meadow, Pottery Road Dunlaoghaire, Co. Dublin. The fee is 50 Euro or 25 Euro for full time registered students, those who are retired, are unemployed or have a disability. In addition to the exam centre at the ComReg offices in

Dublin an examination will be held on the same date and with the same paper at the Community Centre, Carrigtwohill, Co. Cork.

The closing date for the examination is the 16th of June and it will be strictly adhered to. Sean's e-mail address for further enquiries is "ei7cd at gofree dot indigo dot ie".

Isle of Man, Special Event

Mike GW6NLP and Colin MW0JNI are running a Special Event Station until the 6th of June, in association with Scarlett Point Amateur Radio Society, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Isle of Man TT races. They'll be based at Scarlett Point Tower in Castletown, on the southern most tip of the Isle of Man.

They'll be running with the callsign GB100TT. A full operating schedule will be on either Wrexham ARS' website, or the Scarlett Point website hopefully this will be finalised nearer the time. Wrexham ARS' website is located at: www.qsl.net/wars and Scarlett Point ARS is at www.scarlettpoint.com.

EI75IRTS

Just a reminder that as part of the Society's Jubilee Celebrations, the IRTS has been allocated the call sign EI75IRTS for the duration of 2007. The licence holder is Finbarr Buckley EI1CS, and with his agreement, the call sign may be used by individual and club members holding a current Radio Experimenter's licence.

Individual and club members of the IRTS can apply to use the call sign EI75IRTS during the rest of the year. More information is available on www.irts.ie.

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall, EI7IS at QTHR or by phone to 051-853806 or 087-6302026. Items for the radio news can also be faxed to 087 5 6302026. News should be submitted via e-mail to "news at irts dot ie" for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Friday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday's bulletin.

1041. Re: 2m FM calling practices

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-28 01:57:14 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <5ldk53lho3in83cg28kqvh5off1arv0jtd@4ax.com>
Source record: 4446

On Sun, 13 May 2007 14:15:05 EDT, John <jlwsecure-usenet6@yahoo.com>
wrote:

>> What ever happened to the old FCC Official Observer program?
>
>I know there is at least one OO in my area. From what I understand, the
>program is still in place.

The program is organized and run by the ARRL.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1042. Re: Professional HF Work?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-28 03:00:15 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <41hk535ddp67hpno956pmohab4umfdptrn@4ax.com>
Source record: 4447

On Wed, 9 May 2007 15:23:30 EDT, AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote:

>On a more consumer-oriented
>basis, the broadcasting industry is generally wondering
>what will become of all those old analog TV transmitters
>after the transition to HDTV in the USA. There's no easy
>answer for that, either.

Do not confuse digital television (DTV) with high definition TV (HDTV)
which is a subset of DTV. All TV stations will be required to use DTV
but the use of HDTV is optional.

As far as the transmitters go, in general they are being junked
because most of them are near the end of their useful lives and are
held together by duct tape and baling wire in anticipation of the
transition.

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
Life Member - Society of Broadcast Engineers

1043. Re: Gulf Coastal Software - QSLeCard new freeware

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-28 03:11:10 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1180319646.501732.16780@q66g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4448

A couple of 'nits' to pick.

The frequency field should be labeled: MHz (or KHz maybe) but not Hz.

When printing to a printer, the program will ALWAYS print to the
systems default printer, even if an alternate printer is selected in
the print option box.

73, de Hans, K0HB

1044. Re: 2m FM calling practices

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-28 03:11:56 UTC
From: The Shadow <Repose@Zilch.com>
Message-ID: <czr6i.142603$Fk2.67063@newsfe08.phx>
Source record: 4349

Once again -- see URL:
http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/org/oo.html

Lamont

"Phil Kane" <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote in message
news:5ldk53lho3in83cg28kqvh5off1arv0jtd@4ax.com...
> On Sun, 13 May 2007 14:15:05 EDT, John <jlwsecure-usenet6@yahoo.com>
> wrote:
>
>>> What ever happened to the old FCC Official Observer program?
>>
>>I know there is at least one OO in my area. From what I understand, the
>>program is still in place.
>
> The program is organized and run by the ARRL.
> --
>
> 73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
>
>>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
> Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon
>
> e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net
>

1045. Re: Professional HF Work?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-28 03:19:46 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <pkhk53p2dr3kq46h73gleedpr07ci43hm8@4ax.com>
Source record: 4350

On Sat, 12 May 2007 04:47:18 EDT, "Dr.Ace" <Ace@WH2T.com> wrote:

>AT&T High Seas Radiotelephone Facility - was the only facility of its kind
>in the world, provided lifesaving, two way voice radio-telephone service
>communication between ships at sea, or aircraft, and telephones on land,
>sea, or in the air.

I beg your pardon - most if not all major coast stations throughout
the world had that capability. I was involved with the Israeli coast
station - 4XO in Haifa (Haifa Radio) - in the mid-60s and I knew that
all of the European coast stations had HF SSB voice service available
as well.

>Before satellite communication systems were widely available, the only way
>ships at sea had to communicate with the rest of the world was via HF SSB
>connections to land stations.

Uh, are we forgetting CW and RTTY (later SITOR) TELEX HF which did not
use AT&T's network?

> Sometimes a hotel
>would register a land based transmitter as a yacht, and give it a fictitious
>name in order to provide phone service to their customers.

Two brothels in a remote area of Nevada (where such activity was
legal) tried that in the late 70s and the VHF Marine carrier who
colluded in that lost his license and equipment as a result.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1046. Re: Radial laying methods

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-28 03:31:31 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <k5jk53tqekp7j3mjt91i5m4gsgcc3du7o1@4ax.com>
Source record: 4351

On Wed, 16 May 2007 10:50:07 EDT, Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:

> I found many of the suggested ways of laying radials either painful
>from crouching over the work, too mind numbingly slow, or unsatisfactory
>in general - such as laying the radials on the ground and not burying.
>The XYL particularly hated the last one.

Even using green wire?
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1047. Re: Gulf Coastal Software - QSLeCard new freeware

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-29 15:08:18 UTC
From: "battles1550@mailinator.com" <battles1550@mailinator.com>
Message-ID: <1180450472.686400.217230@p77g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4352

Printer are a bear to deal with. I don't know how to fix that
problem. It probably has something to do with the print component I
am using.

>The frequency field should be labeled: MHz (or KHz maybe) but not Hz.
This was an oversite and will be corrected.

I am not into contesting myself, but I did have the idea of doing
what you suggested with contest records. However, I need to get a
copy of the records from someone, or at least a few records to see how
to format them when the program reads them into the program. I may
have to get records from every logging program, I don't know if there
is a standard format.

If you can post a few in this news group, I will go to work with the
modification.

I have also uploaded a new version (v73.2) that is supposed to send
the card upon clicking a send button. I have not been able to test it
because of the restrictions I have with my ISP. It should on Simtel
and PCMag (search QSLeCard)
http://shareware.pcmag.com/search.result.php?format=&SiteID=pcmag
within about 20 days. Simtel takes forever to get my freeware on
their system.

Thanks for your suggestions. I usually try to make requested mods.

On May 27, 10:11 pm, Kï¿½HB <groupk...@earthlink.net> wrote:
> A couple of 'nits' to pick.
>
> The frequency field should be labeled: MHz (or KHz maybe) but not Hz.
>
> When printing to a printer, the program will ALWAYS print to the
> systems default printer, even if an alternate printer is selected in
> the print option box.
>
> 73, de Hans, K0HB

1048. Re: Gulf Coastal Software - QSLeCard new freeware

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-29 18:12:03 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1180453424.489264.156960@g4g2000hsf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4353

On May 29, 3:08 pm, "battles1...@mailinator.com"
<battles1...@mailinator.com> wrote:

> I am not into contesting myself, but I did have the idea of doing
> what you suggested with contest records. However, I need to get a
> copy of the records from someone, or at least a few records to see how
> to format them when the program reads them into the program. I may
> have to get records from every logging program, I don't know if there
> is a standard format.
>
> If you can post a few in this news group, I will go to work with the
> modification.
>

ADIF is a standard format which pretty much all logging programs (not
just contesting programs) can export and import, allowing the exchange
of log information between programs, regardless of the 'native' file
structure of the importing/exporting program.

The specifications for ADIF are at http://www.adif.org/ ..... there
are two generations, ADIF 1 and ADIF 2. Build to ADIF 2, as it is
backward compatible to ADIF 1.

Below is a short excerpt with 4 records from a recent export from one
of my programs. The ADIF file is straight ASCII text, and your
QSLeCard program would only need import a few fields from each record,
ie. <CALL>, <FREQ>, <MODE>, <QSO_DATE>, <RST_SENT>, and <TIME_ON>.

QSL.ADI export file created by Logger32 Version 3.3 Build 0. File
created on 5/27/2007 7:53:09 PM
<EOH>
<BAND:3>10M <CALL:5>UT3UA <CONT:2>EU <CQZ:2>16 <DXCC:3>288 <FREQ:
9>28.684000 <ITUZ:2>29 <MODE:3>SSB <NAME:18>Sergio V Vasilenko
<OPERATOR:4>K0HB <PFX:3>UT3 <DEFANGED-APP_LOGGER32_QSL:1>Y <QSL_RCVD:1>Y
<QSLRDATE:8>20070423 <QSO_DATE:8:D>20000304 <RST_RCVD:2>59 <RST_SENT:
2>59 <TIME_ON:6>171545 <TIME_OFF:6>000046 <DEFANGED-APP_LOGGER32_QSO_NUMBER:
5>13691 <EOR>

<BAND:3>20M <CALL:6>JA0JHA <CONT:2>AS <CQZ:2>25 <DXCC:3>339 <FREQ:
9>14.274000 <ITUZ:2>45 <MODE:3>SSB <NAME:14>Akira Minagawa <OPERATOR:
4>K0HB <PFX:3>JA0 <DEFANGED-APP_LOGGER32_QSL:1>Y <QSL_RCVD:1>Y <QSLRDATE:
8>20060802 <QSO_DATE:8:D>20000305 <QTH:5>Koide <RST_RCVD:2>59
<RST_SENT:2>59 <TIME_ON:6>060506 <TIME_OFF:6>000007
<DEFANGED-APP_LOGGER32_QSO_NUMBER:5>13882 <EOR>

<BAND:3>10M <CALL:5>HA5CW <CONT:2>EU <CQZ:2>15 <DXCC:3>239 <FREQ:
9>28.915000 <ITUZ:2>28 <MODE:3>SSB <NAME:16>Jozsef Gyongyosi <OPERATOR:
4>K0HB <PFX:3>HA5 <DEFANGED-APP_LOGGER32_QSL:1>Y <QSL_RCVD:1>Y <QSLRDATE:
8>20060525 <QSO_DATE:8:D>20000305 <QTH:15>H-1162 Budapest <RST_RCVD:
2>59 <RST_SENT:2>59 <TIME_ON:6>173205 <TIME_OFF:6>000006
<DEFANGED-APP_LOGGER32_QSO_NUMBER:5>13919 <EOR>

<BAND:3>15M <CALL:6>JR4PMX <CONT:2>AS <CQZ:2>25 <DXCC:3>339 <FREQ:
9>21.050000 <ITUZ:2>45 <MODE:2>CW <NAME:15>Hiroshi Okazaki <OPERATOR:
4>K0HB <PFX:3>JR4 <DEFANGED-APP_LOGGER32_QSL:1>Y <QSL_RCVD:1>Y <QSLRDATE:
8>20060525 <QSO_DATE:8:D>20001125 <QTH:12>Yokohama 235 <RST_RCVD:3>599
<RST_SENT:3>599 <TIME_ON:6>020556 <TIME_OFF:6>000057
<DEFANGED-APP_LOGGER32_QSO_NUMBER:5>16146 <EOR>

73, de Hans, K0HB

1049. Re: Gulf Coastal Software - QSLeCard new freeware

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-29 18:12:22 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1180458808.349926.323890@w5g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4354

On May 27, 8:28 pm, Kï¿½HB <groupk...@earthlink.net> wrote:

> ..... it would be awesome if I
> could import that ADIF file into QSLeCard and output (in "batch" mode)
> cards for all my weekend contacts.

I thunk some more on this (always dangerous, almost as dangerous as planting copper with chain saws) and thunk up this idea.

Rather than just a mindless bulk import (or better yet, in addition to a mindless bulk import), have a facility to import in 'one-at-a-time' sequence, then have a "Next" and a "Print" option button. In this mode, the program would import and display a QSO, you'd decide whether to print a card for it, or skp to the next QSO record. In that same feature put an "End" button to terminate the import at any point desired.

73, de Hans, K0HB

1050. Re: Professional HF Work?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-29 20:48:24 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f3hsvb$1232$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4355

Phil Kane wrote:
> On Sat, 12 May 2007 04:47:18 EDT, "Dr.Ace" <Ace@WH2T.com> wrote:

<snip>

>> Sometimes a hotel
>> would register a land based transmitter as a yacht, and give it a fictitious
>> name in order to provide phone service to their customers.
>
> Two brothels in a remote area of Nevada (where such activity was
> legal) tried that in the late 70s and the VHF Marine carrier who
> colluded in that lost his license and equipment as a result.

They yacht to have known better than that.... ;^)

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1051. Re: Radial laying methods

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-29 20:48:48 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f3ht4f$1232$2@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4356

Phil Kane wrote:
> On Wed, 16 May 2007 10:50:07 EDT, Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:
>
>> I found many of the suggested ways of laying radials either painful
>>from crouching over the work, too mind numbingly slow, or unsatisfactory
>> in general - such as laying the radials on the ground and not burying.
>> The XYL particularly hated the last one.
>
> Even using green wire?

She gets very concerned that she will run over them when she mows the lawn. I used lawn staples, and they were never run over, but the fear was always there. Now everything including the coax gets buried.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1052. Re: Gulf Coastal Software - QSLeCard new freeware

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-29 20:49:11 UTC
From: "battles1550@mailinator.com" <battles1550@mailinator.com>
Message-ID: <1180470293.461803.81360@g4g2000hsf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4357

OK, thanks. I was hoping that tyhere was going to be a standard
format. Your suggestion about programming some form of selectivity
into the program is good also. This mod will probably take about a
week, but again, Simtel will hold up on the upload for another 20+
days.

John - Gulf Coastal Software

On May 29, 1:12 pm, Kï¿½HB <groupk...@earthlink.net> wrote:
> On May 27, 8:28 pm, Kï¿½HB <groupk...@earthlink.net> wrote:
>
> > ..... it would be awesome if I
> > could import that ADIF file into QSLeCard and output (in "batch" mode)
> > cards for all my weekend contacts.
>
> I thunk some more on this (always dangerous, almost as dangerous as
> planting copper with chain saws) and thunk up this idea.
>
> Rather than just a mindless bulk import (or better yet, in addition to
> a mindless bulk import), have a facility to import in 'one-at-a-time'
> sequence, then have a "Next" and a "Print" option button. In this
> mode, the program would import and display a QSO, you'd decide whether
> to print a card for it, or skp to the next QSO record. In that same
> feature put an "End" button to terminate the import at any point
> desired.
>
> 73, de Hans, K0HB

1053. [DXNL] DXNL 1521 (May 30, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-31 00:47:38 UTC
From: Robert Busch - DL7VOA <dxnl@dxhf.darc.de>
Message-ID: <199387648569.20070531003859@dxhf.darc.de>
Source record: 4358
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.dx,rec.radio.info

DXNL 1521 - May 30, 2007
DX Newsletter

a free and weekly service of
DARC Committee "DX and HF contesting"
(http://www.darcdxhf.de)

editor: Helmut Schlaffer, DL7MAE
(e-mail: dxnl@dxhf.darc.de)

translation by: Bob, DL7VOA
(e-mail: dl7voa@darc.de)

DU - PHILIPPINES, OC-129
Kaoru,JA7QVK/DU7, is staying on Cebu Island (OC-129) now for one year.
He is on a business trip and will stay there until August 2007. Kaoru
is working mainly in SSB on 40-6m and skeds can be arranged via e-mail:
kaoru12506@globelines.com.ph
Unfortunately QSLs only direct, when he is back in Japan.
This is his address: Kaoru Ono, Unit 1204, Park Tower 2,
Cebu Business Park, Cebu City, Philippines 6000.

EA8 - CANARY ISLANDS, AF-004
Franky,ON7RU, will be active as EA8/OQ7R in CW/SSB/RTTY on 80-10m using
a FT-990 and wires from Jun 4-13. QSL via ON7RU, bureau or direct.

FO/C - CLIPPERTON ISLAND, NA-011
During the "Dayton DX Dinner Banquet" an upcoming activation of
Clipperton was announced for March 2008. The team leader will be
Bob Grimmick,N6OX. More information will be released at a later date.

HI - DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, NA-096
IW2NEF/HI7 will be QRV from Bayahibe (NA-096) from Jun 3-9. He will
work on 40-10m and 6m using a Yaesu FT-857D with 100 watts and vertical
but only for one or two hours a day. QSLs via his homecall.

KH8/S - SWAINS ISLAND, OC-200
The first N8S QSLs of the Swains Island DXpedition will be sent on
Jun 5. Meanwhile more than 6.000 letters arrived directly at YT1AD.
The call N8S has been issued to Dale,K9TTT, in June 2006 and was used
by the "Michigan DX Association" before. Dale promised to forward all
errant QSLs to YT1AD.

TA - TURKEY
Mill,LX1CC, will spend his holidays in Turkey from Jun 7-21. His QTH
will be the city of Selcuk and he got the special callsign YM3CC.

Activities will take place in SSB on 80-10m (including the WARC bands).
QSL cards via bureau to his homecall, direct or via eQSL.

VP6/D - DUCIE ISLAND, OC-182
First information was released about an upcoming DXpedition to
Ducie Island (OC-182) lasting for two weeks around Feb 10, 2008.
Licence and landing permission have been guaranteed already. The
first top DXers joining the team were: Carsten,DL6LAU (team leader),
Eric,K3NA (co-leader), Dietmar,DL3DXX, Andy,DL8LAS, Martti,OH2BH,
Robin,WA6CDR, and Krassimir,K1LZ. More info will be released at:
http://www.vp6dx.com

3A - MONACO
The special event station 3A7JO will be QRV in all modes on all bands
from Jun 2-10. All QSOs will be confirmed via bureau automatically.
If you can't wait that long send your direct QSLs to:
ARM (Association des Radioamateurs de Monaco) QSL Bureau, B.P. 2,
MC 98001, Monaco Cedex.
More information can be found on the website: http://www.monaco2007.mc

3B6 - AGALEGA ISLAND, AF-001
3B6SP will be the callsign of the Polish DXpedition which will show up
for 12 days starting on Jun 6. For health reasons Wojtek,SP9PT, had to
leave the team which now consists of: SP9MRO (team leader), SP5BFX,
SP3MGM, SP6EQZ, SP3RBR, YL SP9SX and SP5XVY. Danuta,SP9SX, will take
care of the QSLs. The team left Poland for Mauritius on May 28 and
their flight back goes on Jun 18. These QRGs were announced for 3B6SP:
band CW SSB RTTY PSK (QRGs in MHz)
160m 1.821,5 1.845 - -
80m 3.521 3.780 3.590 -
40m 7.021 7.070 7.040 7.038
30m 10.121 - 10.140 10.142
20m 14.021 14.185 14.084 14.072
17m 18.081 18.136 18.104 18.102
15m 21.021 21.290 21.084 21.072
12m 24.901 24.930 24.924 24.922
10m 28.021 28.490 28.084 28.122
Updated information is released on their website: http://3b6.godx.eu

5B - CYPRUS, AS-004
5B/G3RWF will be QRV in SSB/RTTY/PSK during his holidays from Jun 2-30.

FRANCE, SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS
The "24 Hours of Le Mans" belong to the classics in motor racing and
will be held the 56th time this year. TM6ACO will be active in CW/SSB
on all bands from Jun 3-17. QSL via bureau to F6KFI. Please check also:
http://asso.proxiland.fr/aras72

TM5BBC will be QRV from Creully from Jun 1-15 remembering the BBC
correspondents who reported from there about the battle in the Normandy
in June/Jule 1944. QSL via F2UW.

POLAND, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
The special event callsign HF750C celebrates the 750th birthday of the city of Cracow on the air since May 14. This station will be active until Jun 30 (QSL via SP9BRP) supported by several SN0 calls until the end of 2007.

SPAIN, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
The 32nd America's Cup is the most prestigious event in sailing and this year it is carried out in Europe for the first time off the shore of Valencia. Pascual,EA5FKQ (AO5FKQ), and other OMs from this region will use the special prefix AO5 instead of EA5 until Jul 7.

UKRAINE, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
The town of Slavutych was founded to be the new home for those persons who had to be evacuated after the nuclear accident in Chernobyl back in 1986. The special event station EO20R is working during this small jubilee from May 28 until Jun 3. QSLs as usual via UY2RO.

CQ DX HALL OF FAME
Thirty years after Geoff Watts (BRS-3129, publisher of the legendary "The DX News Sheet") was elected into the CQ DX HALL OF FAME the first Italian HAMs received this honour as well. Mauro,I1JQJ, and his XYL Valeria,IK1ADH, publishers of the Italian "425 DX News" were both elected into the CQ DX HALL OF FAME this year. The other new entries are Roger Western,G3SXW, and Nigel Cawthorne,G3TXF, who are travelling together almost all the time. Nigel activated 44 DXCC entities and Roger 37 and both are founding members of the "Voodoo Contest Group". Congratulations!

SRT-DX MAILING LIST
The "Strangeradio DX Team" has a mailing list featuring DX- and IOTA-news or rumours from the DX community on their website:
http://www.strangeradioteam.com/reflector.asp

LINKS: Rob,PA3GVI, published several interviews with fellow HAMs at:
http://www.sitekreator.com/pa3gvi/ham_interview.html

Once again we want to point your interest to the interview with the BS7H DXpedition team member Christian Entsfellner,DL3MBG, and two new videos of BS7H on the homepage: http://dokufunk.org
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Current SOTA activities are announced at:
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/activations.php or
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/spots.php

UPCOMING CONTESTS

Jun 2/3: IARU-Region 1 CW Fieldday

IOTA collected by Fredy,DE0MST (e-mail: iota@dxhf.darc.de)

Island activities:
EU-several, SV, TA: Tommy Horozakis,VK2IR, is on a roundtrip through Greece

at the moment including a visit to Mount Athos. He will activate about
15 to 18 different Greek and Turkish islands between May 27 and Aug 28.
He will work on HF not only in the usual modes but also in PSK/SSTV.
He will join the "SV DX Group" (SV1GE, SV1AAU, SV2DGH, SV1DPJ, SV2FWV,
SV2HNC, SV0XAD and DH9VA) to show up as SY8AN from Antiparos (EU-067)
working in SSB/CW/RTTY on all bands from Jun 9-17. See also:
http://www.sv2dgh.gr/sy8an

EU-001, SV5, Dodekanese: Harvey,SV5/OO5S, and Dan,SV5/OQ1C, are sepnding
their holidays there until Jun 1. QSL via ON4ON, direct/bureau.

EU-001, SV5, Kos: Alex,SV5/GM0DHZ, will be QRV in CW/SSB during his holiday
on Kos for two weeks starting on Jun 7.

EU-014, TK, Corsica: Marco,TK/IK1YED, is QRV mainly in SSB but also in digi
modes on 6-160m until Jun 1.

WLOTA

Lighthouse activities:
GU, Guernsey, EU-114, WLOTA 0013: To complete the information published in
the last DXNL we want to remember that the activity of Chris,M0DOL, and
Tom,2E0TSW, signing GP8LED and GP3GWB takes place from May 29 until
Jun 2. This counts for the Hanois Lighthouse (WLOTA 0013).

SV, Gavdos, EU-187, LH 1885 (Tripiti), ARLS CRE-007: Wolfgang,SV9/DL5MAE,
showed up from Gavdos on time and will stay there until the beginning
of June. QSL via homecall, direct/bureau.

Bandspots of the last 7 days

80m
ON60HRT 3.790 2120Z via ON4HRT (B)

30m
PJ2/WI9WI 10.102 2218Z via WI9WI (B)
TF/G4EDG/p 10.105 0741Z EU-168, via G4ELZ

20m
P40L 14.033 1802Z via K5WW (B)
TF/G4EDG/p 14.040 1116Z EU-168, via G4ELZ
9Q1D 14.218 0632Z via SM5BFJ (d)

17m
F/DJ3RZ 18.075 0759Z EU-070
ZD8RH 18.073 1847Z via G4DBW (B)

15m
P40L 21.016 1815Z via K5WW (B)
PJ2/WI9WI 21.005 1850Z via WI9WI (B)
9U0VB 21.005 0757Z via UA4WHX (B)

12m
9U0VB 24.895 0927Z via UA4WHX (B)

10m
HV0A 28.515 1620Z via IK0FVC (d/L)

6m
A71EM 50.103 1725Z via EA7FTR (B)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager

Preview

DATE CALL DXNL

02Jun-10Jun 3A7JO 1521 *
06Jun-17Jun 3B6SP 1521 *
07Sep-24Sep 3B7C 1511
May/Juni 3D2AG/Rot. 1516
29Aug-2007 3XM6JR 1484
-Jun 3XY5M 1519
30May-04Jun 4W6AAV 1520
02Jun-30Jun 5B/G3RWF 1521 *
-Apr/08 5H0RS 1515
-Apr/08 6W/EA4ATI 1515
01Apr-09Sep 8N3IAAF 1513
2007 9N7JO 1501
NOW 9U0VB 1518

-Apr/009 A52VE 1512
-Nov/07 A61TX 1496
23Mar-10Jun C6AGN 1511
-Feb/08 DP0GVN 1496
04Jun-13Jun EA8/OQ7R 1521 *
2007/2008 EI100S(I) 1501
28May-03Jun EO20R 1521 *
01Jul-15Jul FV5VDM 1520
Mar 2008 FO/Clipp. 1521 *
25May-05Jun GB100TT 1520
14May-30Jun HF750C 1521 *
03Jun-09Jun IW2NEF/HI7 1521 *

-Aug JA7QVK/DU7 1521 *
2006 -2008 J28JA 1484/85
27May-05Jun J48HW 1520
NOW J59OFM 1501
-Jun OD5/CT1EFS 1515
-30Jul OX3PG 1501
19May-03Jun PA25UKSMG 1519
07Jun-20Jun SV5/GM0DHZ 1521 *
May -06Jun SV9/DL5MAE 1519
NOW -2008 TL8QC 1459
01Jun-15Jun TM5BBC 1521 *
03Jun-17Jun TM6ACO 1521 *

20May-03Jun TM7AJ 1519
NOW -Sep TU2/F5LDY 1486
01Jun-15Jun TV2VDM 1520

Jan -Dec VI3SAA 1499
24May-05Jun VP5/WQ7X 1520
Feb 2008 VP6DX/Ducie 1521 *
May -Aug VP6TD 1517
15May-05Jun VP9KF 1518
Apr -Jul VQ9JC 1512
23May-05Jun VQ97JC 1520
15May-20Jun YB9/PA0HOP 1519
07Jun-21Jun YM3CC 1521 *
-Sep ZD9BCB 1500

* = neu
.. = und andere Calls

QSL-Informationen

AO5GKT via EA5GKT
AO7SIX via PA7FM (B)
AP2TN via DJ9ZB (B)
C4M via W3HNK (d)
CT8A via CT1ARR (B)
CX6VM via W3HNK (d)
DD4B via DL3PS (B)
DM0Y via DL3BQA (B)
EC8KK via EA8KK
EE8A via YL2KL
EG7MV via EA7HBC
EG8CID via EA8AUW (B)
EG8FAS via EA4FAS
EH4IDS/EH7 via EA7NL
EN80AL via UT8AL
ES5Q via ES5RY (B)
EW3AAQ via EW3LN
EY1HQ via DJ1MM (B)
F4ECJ (d)
GB100TT via MW0JNI
GM0F via M0CMK (B)
HB0/DL1ARS via DL1ARS (B)
HB0/DL1GDS via DL1GDS (B)
HB0/DL5ZL via DL5ZL
HE70FG via HB9FG
HF750C via SP9BRP (B)
HF70COP via SP8KPK
HL27GDM via 6L0NT
HZ1EX via SM0BYD (B)
IF9/I2ADN via I2ADN (B)
II4SDP via IZ4GWE (B, L)

II8IPY via I8ACB

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = Logbook of the World (LotW)

QSL via bureau: AM4AO/AM7 (EA7GXW), AM8BHD (EA8BHD),BX3AC (G3SWH),CU7/DH3NB,
C6AWF (G3SWH), CU6NS (EA5KB), CX5UR (EA5KB), EX2X (EA5KB),
EY8MM (K1BV), FO/JJ8DEN, HS0ZAR (K3ZO), J79AG (DL9USA),
JD1BMB (DJ0FX), JW8WF (LA8WF), KH0N (JA6CNL), MD4K (G3NKC),
P40TA (WM6A), P4/N9LAH, PZ5WP (PA7FM), R270E (RA9SC), TA3J/0,
S01MZ (EA1BT), S92RI (CT1APE), TI0SP (EA7FTR), TK/DJ2GM,
TK/IK5PWQ, TZ5A (G3SXW), TZ6LF (KY7M), TZ6NS (AA7A),
VU3RYO (DL2JRM), 8Q7IS, 9A/VE3ZIK, 9A60CVW, 9M6/G3OOK, sowie
9V1CW (via PA0KHS)

QSL direct: OX60AD (OX3UR)

QSL via LotW: C91CO, FH/G3SXW, FW/G3SXW, FY/F5IRO, HK3AXY, HK6PSG, HV0A,
IS0SDX, KH0M, KH2/G3SXW, MJ/K8PT, OD5/TF1MM, P29SX, S79SXW,
TF3MM, TF4M, TO7R, V26A

Looking for a QSL manager?
A useful website to bookmark may be: http://www.ik3qar.it/manager

Looking for a QSL route!
Willy,DL3IE, is looking for a working QSL route for FB8WK (Crozet) who
was active in 1983/1984. If you can help please send an e-mail to DXNL.

Many thanks for contributing to this issue of the DXNL are going to:
Carl Smith (QRZ DX), 425DXNews, OPDX-Bulletin, DF6EX (fuer WIN-QSL), DJ1OJ,
DJ5AV, DJ9ZB, DK8JB, DL1SBF, DL6UAA, DL7VOA, DL9RCF, F5NQL, IZ2DPX, IZ8EDJ,
OE1WHC, PA3GVI u.a.

The German PDF version can be found on the DARC homepage at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/bulls/dxmb/2007/dxmb1521.pdf

Subscribe or unsubscribe to the DXNL mailing list yourself at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedxms.htm

1054. Re: Professional HF Work?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-05-31 19:08:58 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1180638504.082962.194340@q66g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4359

Phil Kane <Phil.K...@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote on Sun, 27 May 2007
23:00:15 EDT:
>On Wed, 9 May 2007 15:23:30 EDT, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:

>>On a more consumer-oriented
>>basis, the broadcasting industry is generally wondering
>>what will become of all those old analog TV transmitters
>>after the transition to HDTV in the USA. There's no easy
>>answer for that, either.
>
>Do not confuse digital television (DTV) with high definition TV (HDTV)
>which is a subset of DTV. All TV stations will be required to use DTV
>but the use of HDTV is optional.

I made an "aside" for comparison and haven't confused anything.
Firstly, DTV isn't about using HF spectrum...I am very aware of that.
The transmitters for television represent a sizeable capital
investment by broadcasters. I am aware of the complaints of the
broadcast industry (pro and con) during the entire time of the "Grand
Alliance" testing that led to the eventual DTV broadcasting format
that went into broadcasting regulations. It's been years since I
"rode gain" at a control console or "took" a particular camera or tape
unit, but I do
know something of the MPEG video transport format even though it
generally gives me considerable confusion every time I've studied
it. :-)

The MPEG video transport format can accommodate four different pixel
arrangements and DTV receivers are supposed to be built to decode all
of them automatically. That video format includes the old-style
analog format (converted from analog to digital) on up to the High-
Definition TV which is considered by most consumers as "wide screen
TV." The DTV transmitters themselves handle the entirety of the video
format sent up from the studios,including the quadraphonic sound, text
for hearing impaired, and whatever else the studio central control
sticks in there.

In the old TV transmitter arrangements of any appreciable power, they
were almost always TWO, one for video (AM sorta SSB called "vestigal
sideband"), one for audio (FM) with a Diplexer (passive filter) to
connect
both to the same wideband antenna. The DTV transmitter is a single
one since ALL of the modulation information is conveyed by it, no
"extra" one for sound, seldom any need for an external filter, let
alone

a diplexer. The internal design of the DTV transmitter HAS to be different than either the AM video or FM aural transmitters by nature of the modulation mode. But, that DTV transmitter can handle ANY of the video transport formats automatically. Whether the TV station central engineering sends old NTSC video converted to "low grade" digital format or has gone all-out to run everything in "high definition"
doesn't bother the DTV transmitter. The end result for conversion to DTV was a replacement of the transmitters (old) by one new one. Draconian for the broadcasters but visual and audible pleasure for millions of consumers receiving the DTV.

>As far as the transmitters go, in general they are being junked
>because most of them are near the end of their useful lives and are
>held together by duct tape and baling wire in anticipation of the
>transition.

I disagree with that "junk" figurative phrasing. Here in Los Angeles, there is one central TV (and most FM) broadcast transmitter site, Mount Wilson. It's been a few years since I was up there but all the stations (7 on VHF, 4 on UHF) had good, long-lasting transmitters. At the time KTLA (ch. 5) was beginning to convert to DTV; they were a pioneer broadcaster in L.A. and this year is their 60th anniversary here. Both studio and transmitter sites have excellent equipment and their DTV signal is absolutely HDTV. Their morning show content is, in my view, JUNK, but that is CONTENT, having nothing to do with equipment or signal quality...a personal critique.

What used to be a TV "leader" in quality of equipment, NBC (ch. 4) under the 'general's" eye of RCA, hasn't fully converted to HDTV in their studios. NBC evening news is HDTV but local news is still narrow TV. NBC is owned by General Electric and "RCA" exists solely as a brand name now. I think...haven't kept up on the mergers and acquisitions of large corporations lately. :-)

TV is above 30 MHz, definitely not in the HF spectrum. However the type and kind of modulation carried by any transmitter will determine whether or not it will be "junked" for a new replacement, NOT it's supposed "held together by tape and bailing wire." If hams could run 4 KW PEP SSB on HF (not in the USA) then the ages-old Western Electric LD-T2 SSB transmitter would be a great surplus bargain for them...Class A stages up to the PA which is AB_2, push-button QSY to any one of 10 pre-tuned frequencies. Problem is, the SSB format is 12 KHz wide and has internal frequency multiplexing for four 3 KHz audio inputs combined for the output SSB modulation. A no-no for amateur radio use, even if well-designed after WW2 by WE. Too much modification required to fit the "tranditional" and technical specs even
if a superb design for its intended use. That was the general point I
was making, not something about the video format of DTV.

>73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
>Life Member - Society of Broadcast Engineers

73, Len AF6AY
Life Member - Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers

No pixels were harmed in the generation of this message but billions
of electrons were rudely shoved around.

1055. Weekend contest "48 hours of hell"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-01 17:38:29 UTC
From: LVN <gareth.paley@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <09mdnRnV6Jr9yP3bRVnyugA@bt.com>
Source record: 4360

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fAOOd48j6WA

Enjoy some real Ham Radio Fun at the OZ1ADL/OZ5E Contest station with lots
of famous guest operators.
Thanks to the Hamband for an excellent song !
See more on http://www.oz1adl.com

It's worth a watch just for the big beam at 1 minute 53 secs !

--
10-10 de G1LVN
--
My Call is M0WWS. I had an accident,
and I woke up in rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Am I mad, in a coma, or back in time?

1056. The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 22 (Jun 1, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-02 05:39:20 UTC
From: ARRL Letter Mailing List <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <200706020513.l525Dbu8019218@linux11676.dn.net>
Source record: 4361
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

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***************
The ARRL Letter
Vol. 26, No. 22
June 1, 2007
***************

IN THIS EDITION:

* +League demands FCC shut down Ambient BPL pilot project
* +"Lighten up" on the ham bands, Hollingsworth recommends
* +Lots of new gear at Dayton 2007
* +FCC plans hearings on three ham radio applications
* +Nevada ham instrumental in road rescue
* +Contest club concedes November SS gavel
* Solar Update
* IN BRIEF:
This weekend on the radio
ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration
+National Hurricane Center's WX4NHC sets On-The-Air Station Test
+Canada ending 136 kHz and 5 MHz special authorizations
FCC Amateur Radio enforcement correspondence posted
Aiieeee! My BS7H QSO is not in the log!
Yasme Foundation announces address change
UK Six Metre Group marks Silver Jubilee with special call signs
Clarke Cooper, K8BP, wins May QST Cover Plaque Award

+Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/>

==========================================================
==>Delivery problems: First see FAQ
<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/faq.html#nodelivery>, then e-mail
<letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
==>Editorial questions or comments only: Khrystyne Keane, <k1sfa@arrl.org>
==========================================================

==>ARRL TO FCC: SHUT DOWN "GROSSLY NONCOMPLIANT" AMBIENT BPL PILOT PROJECT

The ARRL has again demanded that the FCC shut down Ambient Corporation's
broadband over power line (BPL) pilot project in Briarcliff Manor, New York.
On May 21 the FCC called on the BPL equipment maker and system operator to
demonstrate it's complying with all terms of the Part 5 Experimental license
<http://www.arrl.org/news/bandthreat/BriarcliffManorResponse20070521.pdf>
authorizing the system, or face possible enforcement action. In a May 31
letter to FCC Spectrum Enforcement Division Chief Kathryn S. Berthot, ARRL
General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, contended that it's "long past time that
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the Commission enforce its own rules," and again objected to the Commission's "inexplicable inaction" in the face of evidence the system is noncompliant. Imlay pointed out that the FCC's May 21 letter made no mention of Condition #1 of Ambient's Part 5 Experimental license.

"That condition requires that if any interference occurs, the holder of the authorization will be subject to immediate shutdown," Imlay wrote. "Interference has repeatedly occurred, and it has been witnessed and verified by a member of the Commission's Enforcement Bureau staff. Yet no action has been taken whatsoever to terminate this experimental authorization over a period of more than two and one-half years. This is inexcusable."

Ambient operates the Briarcliff Manor BPL pilot program under Experimental license WD2XEQ. ARRL testing as recent as late May indicated the system is operating outside of the parameters of its FCC authorization.

The League called the FCC's most recent push to get the company to comply with the terms of its Experimental license "too little, too late and an abdication of the Commission's responsibility to protect its licensees from interference from unlicensed RF devices."

"The Commission's obsessive compulsion to avoid any bad news about BPL has clearly driven its multi-year inaction," the League continued. "Had this been any other experimental authorization dealing with any technology other than BPL, the experimental authorization would have been terminated long ago."

The League's complaints regarding interference to Amateur Radio communication from the Briarcliff Manor system date back to October 2003 and included supportive technical reports and test results.

As it stands, the League maintained, the FCC should have shut down Ambient's BPL system a long time ago. The ARRL further objected to Ambient's "repeated misrepresentations in its six-month reports claiming that its Briarcliff Manor BPL system meets FCC emission limits."

New measurements done May 24 by ARRL Laboratory Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, conclusively establish that the Ambient BPL system, in Hare's words, "continues to operate well above the Part 15 emission limits that are stipulated as a condition of its Experimental license." Hare said his latest excursion marked the third time his emissions testing in Briarcliff Manor showed the system to be operating significantly above Part 15 emissions limits.

"The spectral masks in this system intended to protect some radio services from interference work poorly enough in this generation-1 equipment, but when the system is operated at excessive levels, strong interference is an inevitable outcome," he commented. "By operating this system above the Part 15 emissions limits, Ambient is making it impossible for any electric utility to use results from this experiment to reach any conclusions about the technical and commercial viability of BPL."

The ARRL further argued that the Ambient BPL system should not be permitted to continue operating under the radar with an Experimental license instead of under the FCC's Part 15 BPL rules, adopted in 2004. The Briarcliff Manor system does not even appear in the FCC's BPL database, the League noted.

"Causing Ambient to operate in accordance with the BPL rules rather than allowing it to hide behind its experimental authorization would at least be consistent with the Commission's regulatory plan for BPL, however inadequate that plan is in terms of interference avoidance," Imlay's letter concluded.

==>RILEY REITERATES RECOMMENDATION TO "LIGHTEN UP" ON HAM BANDS

FCC Special Counsel in the Spectrum Enforcement Division Riley Hollingsworth's main message at the Dayton Hamvention¿½ <http://www.hamvention.org> 2007 FCC Forum may not have been a new one. But it's certainly one he believes bears repeating -- at least until it starts cutting through the QRM and QRN that pervade more communication channels than our Amateur Radio bands.

"Well, you could have gone to the flea market, but you came to church instead," Hollingsworth quipped to his Dayton forum audience. "I've got you now."

Hollingsworth repeated what for many Riley Watchers has become a familiar refrain: That the Amateur Radio community needs to "lighten up" on the air. Acknowledging that he was repeating himself, Hollingsworth urged his audience to take his message more to heart. "All of you can learn from each other," he said, "and you need to work together more and show a little more respect for your diverse interests and for the Amateur Service as a whole. It isn't about you. It isn't about enforcement. It's about Amateur Radio."

As radio amateurs take to the airwaves, he continued, they need to decide what's most important -- the best interests of ham radio or their ego, pride or perceived "rights."

"I realize I may be preaching to the choir here, but on the air you need to be more cooperative and less argumentative -- and I need you to take this message with you when you go home," he continued.

As a "homework assignment," Hollingsworth encouraged his listeners to read the "It Seems to Us . . ." editorial, "Most Effective Use" <http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2007/05/01/1/>, by ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, in May 2007 QST. In his commentary, Sumner stressed that interference occurring as a side effect of legitimate Amateur Radio activities in crowded bands "is simply a fact of life" and that it's "unfair to your fellow amateurs to assume that every instance of interference you may encounter is a hostile act."

Hollingsworth offered good news and bad news. "The good news: Nothing is wrong with Amateur Radio," he allowed. "It is a good service that is showing its value to the public on a daily basis."

The bad news, he asserted, making a comparison to "road rage," is "that there is an element of Amateur Radio that too often reflects present society

generally."

Hollingsworth urged all radio amateurs to cooperate more and depend less on the FCC to solve their operating issues.

"We live in a rude, discourteous, profane, hotheaded society that loves its rights, prefers not to hear about its responsibilities, and that spills over into the ham bands," he said.

Hollingsworth's bottom line: Be flexible in your frequency selection and make regular use of the "big knob" on the front of your transceiver to shift to any of the "thousands of frequencies and hundreds usable at any given time of day or year" as necessary to avoid problems. "The world is ugly enough -- don't add to it," Hollingsworth advised.

"We can enforce our rules, but we can't enforce kindness and courtesy or common sense," Hollingsworth concluded. "And a very wise person, who happens to be standing to my left [FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau staffer Bill Cross, W3TN -- Ed] once told me: 'You can't regulate stupid.' If we could, we'd be working for the United Nations instead of the FCC."

In his comments, Cross singled out the controversy that erupted recently over fears that automatically controlled digital stations would overwhelm the amateur bands, eclipsing most other modes. Cross cited ï¿½97.7 of the rules, which requires each amateur station to have a control operator and, in essence, to employ a "listen-before-transmit" protocol."

When a station is under automatic control, regardless of the transmission mode, Cross explained, the control operator need not be at the control point, but must employ station control devices and procedures while transmitting that ensure compliance with the FCC rules and does not cause harmful interference to ongoing communications of other stations.

The operational rule, Cross said, is: "Your call sign, your responsibility."

==>ARRAY OF NEW GEAR DEBUTS AT DAYTON 2007

It's always a treat to get your first look at a new HF transceiver at Dayton. This year, there were no fewer than six to drool over. Here, in alphabetical order, is a rundown:

Elecraft <http://www.elecraft.com/> announced its new K3 HF and 6 meter transceiver. It includes many upgrade options, so many, in fact, that you can configure anything from a kit-built 10 W portable QRP radio to a full-featured, contest-ready 100 W rig with *two* high-performance receivers. It is scheduled to ship starting in July.

FlexRadio Systems <http://www.flex-radio.com/>, a pioneer in high-performance software defined radios (SDRs), introduced its Flex-5000 HF plus 6-meter transceiver series that promises higher performance and more features than its earlier model. Included are the Flex-5000C, a fully integrated system in a single box, and the Flex-5000D, which includes a second receiver.

Hilberling, the first Amateur Radio transceiver maker from across the Atlantic for some years, announced its PT-8000 transceiver. It's offered as a full-featured HF and VHF transceiver available in 10, 100 or 600 W versions. The North America distributor is Array Solutions <http://www.arraysolutions.com/>.

ICOM <http://www.icomamerica.com/> unveiled its IC-7700 HF + 6 meter transceiver. It appears to be a single-receiver version of its top-tier IC-7800, sharing the 200 W transmitter, high performance receiver and 7-inch display of its sibling. Contesters are the market target, but the IC-7700 may be of interest to anyone who covets the features of the IC-7800 but doesn't need two receivers or the higher price tag.

Ten-Tec <http://www.tentec.com/> has its new Omni-VII HF + 6 meter transceiver on display. The unit's "distributed roofing filter architecture" promises ham-band-only receive performance with a general coverage receiver. Stay tuned for the "Product Review" in July QST.

Finally, Yaesu <http://www.yaesu.com/> showed its new FT-450 HF + 6 meter offering. The FT-450 bears some similarities to the Yaesu FT-2000, but with fewer features and a correspondingly lower price.

What else?

Array Solutions is distributing the SPE Expert 1K-FA solid-state linear amplifier. It is a compact light weight (44 pounds) fully automated, full break-in capable amplifier that puts out 1000 W PEP on 160 through 10 meters (700 W PEP on 6 meters). It has an internal 120 or 240 V ac power supply and antenna tuner.

Dishtronix <http://www.dishtronix.com/> showed off its 100% duty cycle, 1500 W output (on all modes) solid-state linear. This is a "serious" amplifier at 65 pounds with the choice of a separate 120 pound linear power supply or a 54 pound switcher.

Tokyo Hy-Power <http://www.thp.co.jp/> enjoyed a great debut at Dayton this year, showing three HF amplifiers newly introduced to the US market. On display were the HL-1.2KFX 750 W output, HL-1.5KFX 1 kW output and HL-2.5KFX legal limit amplifiers as well as the HL-500V 2 meter linear. All are solid state. THP also offers a new legal-limit automatic antenna tuner.

Kenwood <http://www.kenwood.com/> announced a new V/UHF mobile transceiver, the TM-71A. Of particular note is free software that allows downloading repeater data from ARRL's Travel Plus <http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?item=9930> directly into radio memories. It also can function as a crossband repeater.

Yaesu introduced a new V/UHF transceiver especially for hams on the go! The FTM-10 is designed to mount on the handlebars of your bike or motorcycle so that you don't even need a mic! Just talk into the front panel, and you're on the air!

Radio accessories are always popular at Dayton and MFJ can always be counted on to have new products. Topping the list this year is the MFJ-998 1500 W

Intellituner. This legal-limit auto tuner is designed to handle loads from 12 to 1600 ohms from 160 to 10 meters and includes two outputs and sophisticated memory, protection and control features.

West Mountain Radio <http://www.westmountainradio.com/>, the RigBlaster and RigRunner folk, have branched out into the audio side of your radios. They introduced a DSP-equipped speaker designed for the HF operator who would like more signal and less noise.

Palstar <http://www.palstar.com/> has a new AT1KP tuner that covers 160 through 6 meters. By switching in the 160 meter inductance only when needed, the AT1KP reduces the minimum capacitance of the tuner so it can cover 6 meters.

The Swiss Antenna Matching System from Heinz-Bolli is a legal-limit remote-controlled tuner designed for outdoor mounting. It can be manually tuned by remote control or auto tuning can be used to select the best tuner configuration or adjust the parameters. Array Solutions is the North American distributor. -- Joel Hallas, W1ZR

It's not too early to start working up those holiday gift lists.

==>FCC DESIGNATES HEARINGS ON THREE AMATEUR RADIO APPLICATIONS

The FCC has issued hearing designation orders (HDOs) to Amateur Radio license applicants in three unrelated cases. All three HDOs released May 24 hinge on licensee "character" issues. The Commission notified David O. Castle, WA9KJI, of Evansville, Indiana, that it was designating his license renewal application for hearing in the wake of alleged misconduct extending back several years and continuing at least until earlier this year.

"Since 1998, Castle has been warned repeatedly to refrain from intentionally interfering with radio communications; broadcasting without communicating with any particular station; causing interference on amateur repeaters; using amateur repeaters without authorization, and using indecent, slanderous or harassing language," the FCC said in the HDO it issued to Castle. "We find that Castle's continuing course of conduct raises questions as to whether he possesses the requisite character qualifications to remain a Commission licensee."

In March, FCC Special Counsel in the Spectrum Enforcement Division Riley Hollingsworth warned Castle to abide by a request to refrain from using repeaters owned by the Tri-State Amateur Radio Society.

The FCC also designated for hearing two applications for new Amateur Radio licenses. In the case of Frank C. Richards of Mooers, New York, the Commission says the applicant apparently had attempted in 1995 to hijack the license of a Frank C. Richards, KB4VU, who lives in Ft Myers, Florida. The New York Richards was initially successful, and the FCC granted him KG2IC, but after the Florida Richards contacted the FCC to say he'd never moved nor modified his license, the FCC directed the New York Richards to explain. On June 2004, the New York Richards turned in his license. While the FCC did not pursue further enforcement action the, it did tell the New York Richards

that the circumstances of the apparent abuse of the license system could become a factor if he ever applied for an Amateur Radio ticket in the future.

The New York Richards applied for a Technician license last June 28, and accompanied his application with a letter. The FCC Enforcement Bureau said it was unable to determine whether the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau should grant the application, however, so it now has been designated for a hearing.

"The Commission and the courts have recognized that 'the FCC relies on the honesty and probity of its licensees in a regulatory system that is largely self-policing,'" the FCC said in the HDO.

"The attempt of Frank Richards (NY) to change the address and other information for call sign KB4VU, and his subsequent cancellation of the license in lieu of responding to EB's inquiries regarding the renewal/modification application raise substantial and material questions of fact as to whether he made false certifications, misrepresented the facts to the Commission, and/or demonstrated a lack of candor in order to claim the identity and operating privileges of Frank Richards (FL)," the FCC said.

In a third case, the FCC has designated for hearing the new Amateur Radio license application of Jack R. Sharples of Florida. In its HDO, the FCC identified Sharples as "a convicted felon and registered sexual predator."

"Sharples's felony conviction for at least one sexual-related offense involving children raises material and substantial questions as to whether he possesses the requisite character qualifications to be a Commission licensee," the FCC said. "Although Sharples's felony adjudications occurred more than seven years ago, the nature of the criminal misconduct and the fact that the Amateur Radio Service is particularly attractive to children call into serious question whether he should be permitted to obtain an Amateur Radio authorization."

The FCC gave Castle, Richards and Sharples 20 days to file a "written appearance" with the Commission or face dismissal of their applications.

==>NEVADA HAM PLAYS ROLE IN RADIO RESCUE

ARRL member Eric Christianson, KE7DZZ, of Reno, Nevada, was just listening to the repeater for background noise May 26, but an emergency call made him sit up and take notice.

"I immediately grabbed the mic and asked 'What's the nature of the emergency?' The guy said that he was in a remote area with a downed motorcycle rider who appeared to have a serious neck injury. He said the injured man couldn't sit up without feeling dizzy."

On the other end of the circuit was Dave Kersting, KF6QQO, of Redondo Beach, California, who'd been out riding his motorcycle with friends that day. Before he left, Kersting grabbed his 2 meter handheld radio, programmed with some repeater frequencies along their route, and his handheld GPS unit.

"Dave gave me the GPS coordinates of their location, so I called my local 911 dispatch, Washoe County," Christianson said. He relayed the coordinates to the 911 dispatcher, who asked him to remain on in contact with Kersting until EMS arrived at the scene.

"Washoe County couldn't find these guys," Christianson recounted. "It seems Dave's GPS had given the wrong coordinates, but another guy in the group had a GPS, and he got different coordinates. I gave dispatch the new coordinates, and by using them, they found the group."

The new coordinates placed the group inside Mono County, California. Washoe County then called Mono County. About 7:15 PM, a helicopter ambulance, called Christianson on the phone to let him know their pilot was in flight near the area and asked if he had any more details for them. The chopper landed just a few minutes later and transported the injured biker to a local hospital.

An ARES member and a ham for two years, Christianson first became interested in Amateur Radio because he wanted to help people in need. "I normally would have been on 20 meters looking for some DX, but I had the radio on the repeater memory scan just because it was quieter than listening to HF while I worked at my computer," he said. "Thank God for that, I helped to save a life."

"The real hero is Dave, who had the presence of mind to program in local repeater frequencies. The other hero is Amateur Radio. What we do with Amateur Radio is great, and I am so proud to be a part of it."

==>CONTEST CLUB "DOES THE RIGHT THING"

The Potomac Valley Radio Club (PVRC) has agreed to forfeit its victory in the 2006 ARRL November Sweepstakes because some of those contributing scores to PVRC turned out to be outside the club's territory.

"This is a decision that I take very seriously, as so many of you poured your heart and soul into this great competitive event," PVRC President Jim Nitzberg, WX3B, said in a letter to members. "We decided this was the best course of action consistent with our high ethical standards as one of the finest unlimited contesting clubs."

Nitzberg says the PVRC completed last fall's November Sweepstakes with the largest turnout of operators in its history. But upon closer examination, he said, measurable activity occurred from areas "clearly beyond" the 350-mile diameter ARRL competition boundary (175-mile radius).Once the club used more precise measurement techniques to determine its boundaries, he explained, the PVRC ended up losing by a wide margin.

Nitzberg notes that the club was not officially challenged nor requested to forfeit but made the decision on its own after carefully examining participation. He also accepted responsibility for the error as the club's president and extended congratulations to the Northern California Contest Club for winning the November SS gavel.

The PVRC this year celebrates its 60th anniversary this year, and members will take part in an annual on-the-air reunion over the June 2-3 weekend. During the event PVRC ops are encouraged to append /60 to their call signs.

==>SOLAR UPDATE

Solar swami Tad "Black Hole Sun" Cook, K7RA, Western North Carolina, this week, reports: Average daily sunspot number this week dropped nearly 23 points to 3.3, while average daily solar flux declined exactly 5 points to 68.8. We saw five days in a row with a sunspot number of zero. All those zeroes combined with sunspot numbers of 11 and 12 are what made the average only 3.3. If there are any sunspots at all, the sunspot number itself can't ever go that low, because there are no sunspot numbers between 0 and 11, due to the way the number is calculated. It is not actually a count of the number of sunspots.

Eleven is the number you get if there is just one sunspot, because a value of ten is added for each group of sunspots. So one sunspot counts for only one group, so ten plus one sunspot equals eleven. If there are two sunspots in that group, then the sunspot number is 12, three is 13, and so on. But if there are three sunspots divided into two groups, then the number is 23, as it was on May 20.

If we didn't have any images of the sun, and the sunspot number was 23, we might think there were 13 sunspots in one group, instead of three in two groups, which would be valid according to the formula, but less likely.

The forecast is for continued one or zero sunspot conditions, with the planetary A index for June 1-7 at 5, 5, 15, 15, 8, 5 and 5. Geophysical Institute Prague predicts quiet conditions for today, June 1, unsettled June 2-4, and quiet again on June 6-7. For some reason Prague didn't make any prediction for June 5, but I'll bet that it's a quiet to unsettled day.

Just prior to the writing of this update, at 0651 UTC on June 1, an M1 class X-ray flare was released from the sun. Now, the interplanetary magnetic field points south, making earth vulnerable. On June 3, a solar wind stream is expected to hit Earth when a coronal hole shifts into a critical position. That's the basis for the planetary A index forecast of 15 for June 3-4.

Sunspot numbers for May 24 through 30 were 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 11 and 12, with a mean of 3.3. 10.7 cm flux was 69.9, 68.1, 67.7, 67, 68.7, 69.6, and 70.7, with a mean of 68.8. Estimated planetary A indices were 28, 16, 16, 12, 5, 4 and 4, with a mean of 12.1. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 21, 9, 10, 10, 5, 5 and 3, with a mean of 9.

For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>.

==>IN BRIEF:

* This weekend on the radio: The Wake-Up! QRP Sprint is June 2. The SEANET Contest, the RSGB National Field Day, the IARU Region 1 Field Day (CW) and the Alabama QSO Party are June 2-3 weekend. The RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship (Data) is June 4. The ARS Spartan Sprint is June 5. The NCCC Sprint Ladder and the Digital Pentathlon are June 8. The Portugal Day Contest and the Asia-Pacific Sprint (SSB). The ANARTS World Wide RTTY Contest and the GACW WWSA CW DX Contest and the REF DDFM 6-Meter Contest are June 9-10. The ARRL June VHF QSO Party is June 9-11. The SKCC Sprint, the NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint and the RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship (CW) are June 13. The NCCC Sprint Ladder and the Digital Pentathlon are June 15. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests/> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more info.

* ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration: Registration remains open through Sunday. July 8, for these ARRL Certification and Continuing Education (CCE) online courses beginning Friday, July 20: Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 2 (EC-002), Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 3 (EC-003R2), Antenna Modeling (EC-004), HF Digital Communications (EC-005), VHF/UHF -- Life Beyond the Repeater (EC-008) and Radio Frequency Propagation (EC-011). These courses also will open for registration Friday, June 1, for classes beginning Friday July 20. To learn more, visit the CCE Course Listing page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html> or contact the CCE Department <cce@arrl.org>.

* National Hurricane Center's WX4NHC sets On-The-Air Station Test: The annual WX4NHC <http://www.wx4nhc.org> On-the-Air Station Test from the National Hurricane Center (NHC) in Miami takes place Saturday, June 2, 1300-2100 UTC. The yearly event provides an opportunity for WX4NHC to test its radio equipment, computers and antennas on as many modes and bands as possible. "This is not a contest or simulated hurricane exercise," says WX4NHC Assistant Amateur Radio Volunteer Coordinator Julio Ripoll, WD4R. He adds that WX4NHC also will be testing new computers and software as well conducting operator training. WX4NHC will be on the air on HF, VHF and UHF, plus 2 and 30-meter APRS. Suggested SSB frequencies are 3.950, 7.268, 14.325, 21.325 and 28.525 MHz, ï¿½QRM. WX4NHC also will be on the VoIP Hurricane Net <http://www.voipwx.net/> 1700-1900 UTC (IRLP node 9219/EchoLink WX-TALK Conference) and on South Florida area VHF/UHF repeaters and simplex. Stations working WX4NHC exchange call sign, signal report, location and name plus a brief weather report, such as "sunny," rain" or "cloudy." Non-hams may submit their actual weather using the On-Line Hurricane Report Form <http://www.wx4nhc.org/WX-form1.html>. QSL to WD4R and include an SASE. Do not send cards to the NHC. Due to security measures, no visitors will be allowed at NHC during the test.

* Canada ending 136 kHz and 5 MHz special authorizations: In accordance with an agreement between Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) and Industry Canada -- that country's telecommunications regulatory agency -- special authorizations allowing some Canadian radio amateurs to conduct experiments at 136 kHz and 5 MHz will terminate June 30. "These experiments have had, as one objective, the provision of data that would support the objectives of

RAC and the IARU for possible new allocations to the Amateur Service at these frequencies," the RAC said. Future special authorizations will depend on the outcomes of World Radiocommunication Conference 2007 (WRC-07), which gets under way October 22, the RAC added. New, worldwide, secondary amateur allocations at 135.7 to 137.8 kHz and in the 5 MHz range are up for possible consideration at WRC-07. RAC Newfoundland-Labrador Section Manager Joe Craig, VO1NA, described some of his LF experiences in "The Transatlantic on 2200 Meters," which appeared in July 2005 QST <http://www.arrl.org/qst/2005/07/craig.pdf>. Craig also has been in the forefront of 60-meter experimentation in Canada through the Marconi Radio Club of Newfoundland. In 2003, club station VO1MRC worked N1RL in Massachusetts for the first Canada-US two-way amateur contact on 60 meters. There more information on the VO1MRC 5 MHz Experiment Web pages <http://www.ucs.mun.ca/~jcraig/5megex.html>.

* FCC Amateur Radio enforcement correspondence posted: The FCC has posted additional Amateur Radio enforcement correspondence and documents on its "Amateur Radio Service Enforcement Actions" page <http://www.fcc.gov/eb/AmateurActions/Welcome.html>. Special Counsel in the FCC Spectrum Enforcement Division Riley Hollingsworth has sent letters to Anthony R. Migliori, KI6GVY (Warning Notice); Ryan A. Migliori, KI6GVX (Warning Notice); Harold L. Finley Jr, W4BAD (request for information); Commercial Radio Service/Timothy M. Doty, WB9MCD (Memorandum Opinion & Order plus Settlement Agreement); Jeffrey B. Bregel, KD6NBD (Warning Notice); James B. Cormia, WB2GAJ (Warning Notice); Eric B. Maldonado, N9OVR (Warning Notice); James L. McCurry, K4EDK (inquiry), and Henry A. Stange, WA6RXZ (Warning Notice). The FCC Enforcement Bureau has posted Hearing Designation Orders to Jack R. Sharples, Frank C. Richards and David O. Castle, WA9KJI (see above). The FCC Enforcement Bureau now posts Amateur Radio enforcement-related correspondence and documents -- with some exceptions -- on its own Web site. Direct all questions concerning the Amateur Radio Service Enforcement Actions Web postings via e-mail only to Riley Hollingsworth <fccham@fcc.gov> in the FCC Spectrum Enforcement Division.

* Aiieeee! My BS7H QSO is not in the log! The fellow who's handling QSL cards for the recent BS7H Scarborough Reef DXpedition -- Steve Wheatley, KU9C -- says he's received "quite a number" of questions concerning contacts not in the online log <http://www.scarboroughreef.com/srlog.html>, a lack of QSO details, the dog ate my log and similar. "Rather than ask via e-mail," he suggests, "I'd ask you to kindly put the inquiry in a note with your QSL to me. I'll research the log as I work your QSL request, and respond accordingly." Wheatley says that if you're not showing up in the BS7H online log, don't depair. "Put down every QSO you believe you had, and I'll do the rest." KU9C reminds operators that researching contacts takes him away from processing other cards. "If it's a busted call, I'll use well-established judgment in issuing the card," he says, "and may ask you to help confirm that the person's whose call appears did not make a QSO." But, he adds, if an operator can't supply any QSO details beyond what's in the online log, it will be impossible for him to issue a card. He also says not to fret if you sent return postage under the old rates; he'll make up the difference. Scarborough Reef has been the top most-wanted DXCC entity -- The Daily DX

<http://www.dailydx.com>

* Yasme Foundation announces address change: One of the more famous and long-lived post office box numbers in DXing has changed. Effective immediately, all mail to the Yasme Foundation <http://www.yasme.org> should go to PO Box 20578, Castro Valley, CA USA 94546. The US Postal Service will forward mail sent to the former PO box number for approximately six months, so recent mail to the Foundation should be unaffected. The Yasme Foundation is a not-for-profit corporation organized to conduct scientific and educational projects related to Amateur Radio, including DXing, and the introduction and promotion of Amateur Radio in underdeveloped countries. The Yasme Foundation derived its name from the Yasme sailing vessels that carried legendary DXer Danny Weil, VP2VB <http://www.qsl.at/common/weil.html>, to various rare DX spots around the world in the 1950s and 1960s.

* UK Six Metre Group marks Silver Jubilee with special call signs: The UK Six Metre Group (UKSMG) will commemorate its 25th anniversary of promoting 50 MHz by fielding UKSMG stations using special call signs during the group's Summer Sporadic E Contest, June 2-3 (1200 UTC to 1200 UTC) and at various times during May and June. Be on the lookout for these 25th anniversary call signs: AN7SIX, AO7SIX, EG7SIX, PA25UKSMG, SP25SIX, TM6MG and GD5KW Contest rules and details of a special UKSMG 25th Anniversary Award are on the UKSMG Web site.

* Clarke Cooper, K8BP, wins May QST Cover Plaque Award: The winner of the QST Cover Plaque Award for May is Clarke Cooper, K8BP, for his article "A Super Duper Five Band Portable Antenna." Congratulations, Clarke! The winner of the QST Cover Plaque award -- given to the author or authors of the best article in each issue -- is determined by a vote of ARRL members on the QST Cover Plaque Poll Web page <http://www.arrl.org/members-only/QSTvote.html>. Cast a ballot for your favorite article in the June issue by Saturday, June 30.

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The ARRL Letter offers a weekly e-mail digest of essential and general news of interest to active radio amateurs. Visit the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org> for the latest Amateur Radio news and news updates. The ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/> also offers informative features and columns. ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> is a weekly "ham radio newscast" compiled and edited from The ARRL Letter. It's also available as a podcast from our Web site.

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ARRL members first must register on the Members Only Web Site <http://www.arrl.org/members/>. You'll have an opportunity during registration to sign up for e-mail delivery of The ARRL Letter, W1AW bulletins, and other material. To change these selections--including delivery of The ARRL Letter--registered members should click on the "Member Data Page" link (in the Members Only box). Click on "Modify membership data," check or uncheck the appropriate boxes and/or change your e-mail address if necessary. (Check "Temporarily disable all automatically sent email" to temporarily stop all e-mail deliveries.) Then, click on "Submit modification" to make selections effective. (NOTE: HQ staff members cannot change your e-mail delivery address. You must do this yourself via the Members Only Web Site.)

The ARRL Letter also is available to all, free of charge, from these sources:

* ARRLWeb <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>. (NOTE: The ARRL Letter will be posted each Friday when it is distributed via e-mail.)

* The QTH.net listserver, thanks to volunteers from the Boston Amateur Radio Club: Visit Mailing Lists@QTH.Net
<http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/letter-list>. (NOTE: The ARRL cannot assist subscribers who receive The ARRL Letter via this listserver.)

1057. SARL News in English 2/6/2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-02 14:19:59 UTC
From: website@sarl.org.za
Message-ID: <B195DDFAB4A441B89C925C07562F973D@toron>
Source record: 4362
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 03 JUNE 2007

You are listening to Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. This broadcast can also be heard on Echolink by connecting to ZS6FCS. To listen to a web stream go to www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links. This, and previous bulletins, can be downloaded from the web site of the SARL i.e. www.sarl.org.za. You can also read or download previous bulletins from there and subscribe to receive future bulletins by email.

This transmission is by Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with relays on 3,695, 10,135, 14,235 and 51,400 MHz as well as 438,825 MHz in the Pretoria area. (Other newsreaders please change to suit).

SILENT KEY

It is with regret that we have to announce the passing of Johan van der Mescht, ZS4VDM, on Sunday 27 May 2007 following a serious motorcycle accident.

We extend our sincere condolences to his wife, Esme, family and friends.

(PAUSE)

In the news today:

UPDATE ON POWER LINE TELECOMMUNICATION NOW ON THE WEB

LAUNCH OF SUMBANDILASAT DELAYED

NEW ZU CALL SIGNS ON THE AIR!

ADHERENCE TO THE BAND PLANS

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

UPDATE ON POWER LINE TELECOMMUNICATION NOW ON THE WEB

During last week's President's Net SARL President, Graham Hartlett, presented an update on the position of Power Line Telecommunication in South Africa. The full text is now available on the web at

www.sarl.org.za by selecting PLC in the left hand vertical menu table.

The latest tests have confirmed to ICASA that PLT has an inherent interference potential and that this must be taken care of in new type approval specification for PLT systems. ICASA has also recognised that it would need to strengthen its interference complaint handling capability and has asked the EMC working group of the TC80 SABS committee to work on type approval specifications and how to deal with interference should it occur. It is recognised that these specifications would be an interim measure and in no way pre-empt international specifications. Once international standards have been agreed, the interim specifications will be revised and brought into line. It is expected that an international agreement on PLT interference, how to measure it and acceptable limits could be some time away.

The SARL web pages on PLT include audio clips and a link to a video clip.

HAVE YOU GEARED UP FOR THE YOUTH DAY EVENT ON 16 JUNE?

The SARL Youth Day event is gaining momentum. If you or your club are planning to host young people to talk to Mark Shuttleworth via Amateur Radio, do not delay in booking a slot by sending an email to armi@sarl.org.za. Please let us know where you are setting up a station and how many learners you believe will attend. The live link will be available from 145,750 MHz in Pretoria, 145,650 MHz in Durban and local repeaters in Port Elizabeth and Cape Town. Limited HF links will be available. Send us as much detail about your event as possible. For a club wishing to host a station at one of the FET colleges, full details were mailed to Club Chairmen in the SARL Letter.

A guideline will be available on the web a week before the event.

LAUNCH OF SUMBANDILASAT DELAYED

The launch of SumbandilaSat has been delayed due to administrative problems. Some paper work is still to be completed before the launch can go ahead. SA-AMSAT is awaiting an official statement from the Department of Science and Technology.

CONTEST RESULTS

The Autumn QRP Sprint was run on Sunday 22 April 2007. The Contest Committee received 5 logs for this contest. Jan, ZS4JAN, takes top honours with 1 640 points, followed by Andries, ZS6VL, with 864 points, Ian, ZS5IAN, with 720 points, Pierre, ZS6BQS, with 560 points and Franz, ZS6EU, with 480 points.

The ZS3/ZS4 40 Metre Sprint was held on Sunday 06 May and the Contest Committee received 7 contest logs and 1 check log. Jan, ZS4JAN, takes first place with 97 points, followed by Allan, ZR1AAH, with 74 points, the Bloemfontein RAC with 60 points, Marius, ZS4MP, with 46 points, the

Sasolburg ARC with 42 points, Ian, ZS5IAN, with 41 points and Bradley, ZS5BG, with 39 points. Denis, ZR6DNS, submitted a check log worth 16 points.

The SARL Hamnet 40 Metre Simulated Emergency Communications Contest was run on Sunday 04 March 2007. To date, the SARL Contest Manager has not seen any of the results.

NEW ZU CALL SIGNS ON THE AIR!

The Magalies Amateur Radio Club assisted the new ZU Radio Amateurs with vigour by ensuring that 12 new ZU stations were on the air within one week after passing the exams. Thanks to the commitment of Louw, ZS6LME, and Theo, ZS6ATO, who obtained second-hand radios, reprogrammed them, had the output reduced to 20 watt and with the able assistance of Marten, ZS6ZY, called on the new amateurs at their homes to help them set up the radio and antennas correctly.

The newly formed school club has also in the mean time obtained its own call sign namely ZS6JVT. The newly built, fully equipped radio centre will be officially opened by Hans van de Groenendaal, ZS6AKV, on Youth Day at 08:30, where after the new amateurs will proudly operate their own club radio station. Everyone is invited to join them on this memorable occasion, which promises to be a day full of excitement. The youngsters will also attempt to make contact with Mark Shuttleworth on that day.

ADHERE TO THE HF BAND PLAN

Radio amateurs in Southern Africa are reminded to adhere to the IARU HF Band Plan, which came into effect on 1 January 2006. The band plan is available for download from the SARL web site at www.sarl.org.za. Please obtain a copy and distribute it between club members and make sure you understand the various allocations.

The allocations per band have been calculated using the maximum bandwidth in hertz and users must keep their transmissions within that bandwidth.

Listening around the bands, it has been noticed that stations are operating outside band limits or operating phone in CW segments. The lowest dial setting for phone on 160, 80 and 40 metres is 1 843, 3 603 and 7 043 kHz. The South African allocation for 160 metres is 1 810 to 1 850 kHz.

ADHERENCE TO VHF AND UHF BAND PLANS IS IMPORTANT TO ACHIEVE MAXIMUM USE OF THE SPECTRUM

VHF and UHF band plans are devised to achieve maximum use of the spectrum allocated to Amateur Radio and adherence to the plans ensures interference free operation and ultimately that great satisfaction of hearing a weak or satellite signal and making a QSO.

Amateur satellites have a very broad footprint and to ensure world-wide interference free operation certain segments of the various frequency bands are set aside for this.

For instance, for FM voice communication with the International space station and other manned space vehicles 145,200 MHz is set aside for simplex operation or 145,200/145,800 for transponder type operation. Please do not use these frequencies for ordinary ground based QSOs. The segment 145,800 - 146,000 MHz is set aside for satellite operation. Please do not use this segment for terrestrial operation. Similarly, the segment 435,000 - 438,000 MHz is also set aside for the amateur satellite service.

The International Amateur Radio Union internationally coordinates band plans by mutual agreement. Band plans are available on www.sarl.org.za, look in the left hand column for licences, open the page and then click on band plans.

DIVISION 6 BAND PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

The next meeting of the Division 6 Band Planning Committee will be held at the NARC from 9:00 - 12:00 on Saturday 9th June 2007. All clubs in the region are invited to send a representative.

For further information kindly contact Piet Badenhorst ZS6PJB at 082 574 4829 or by email at zs6pjb@gmail.com.

PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the expected solar activity will continue at very low levels. The geomagnetic field is expected to range from quiet to active levels on 3 to 4 June. The expected Effective Sun Spot number for the coming week will be less than 5.

20 and 15 metres will provide best opportunities for DX. There is a possibility of 20 metre openings towards India from about 15:00 CAT. 40 metres may open towards Australia from 20:00. From about 16:00, there may be 15 and 20 metre openings towards Europe. At about 16:00 short 20 metre openings towards the West Coast of the USA is possible. Otherwise, contacts to the USA are going to be very challenging. For the CW and digital enthusiasts, it may also be worth monitoring 10 MHz.

Although the DX predictions may currently not be too exciting, now is the time to work towards your 80 metre Worked All ZS during the evenings. Remember that HF always has the capability to surprise you. You will never know what you are missing unless you switch your rig on, listen and call CQ.

Please visit www.spaceweather.co.za for further information.

DIARY OF EVENTS

16 June - SARL Youth day; 30 June - Closing date for updating of SA DX Survey; 2 August - Class B RAE; 18 October - Class A RAE.

SARL News depends on clubs and individuals for news items of importance and interest to radio amateurs. The one and only way to ensure that your contribution will reach the SARL News team, is to place it in www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date. It will be appreciated if you will do it in both Afrikaans and English.

The SARL also invites all listeners to listen to the program Amateur Radio Mirror International this Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 695 kHz. Audio is also streamed on www.zs6mrk.org and on Echolink from ZS6FCS as for this bulletin. A repeat transmission takes place on Mondays at 21:00 on 3 215 kHz. Telkom and Sentech sponsor the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

You have been listening to a news bulletin by the South African Radio League, which was compiled by Dennis, ZS4BS.

A prosperous week to all, 73.

/EX

========== Message Ends ========== To edit or remove your entry from this mailing list go to www.sarl.org.za/members/admin/maildat.asp

1058. Re: Gulf Coastal Software - QSLeCard new freeware

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-02 20:43:56 UTC
From: RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net>
Message-ID: <1180817017.158954.196470@q66g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4363

On May 27, 8:28 pm, K&#65533;HB <groupk...@earthlink.net> wrote:

>
> Over this weekend a I played awhile in the WPX contest. I can export
> the log from the contest to an ADIF file, and it would be awesome if I
> could import that ADIF file into QSLeCard and output (in "batch" mode)
> cards for all my weekend contacts.
>
> 73, de Hans, K0HB

There's another excellent QSLing service out there, called GlobalQSL.
You design a QSL card (they provide software, or they will design a
card for you) and upload the image to their website. Then you upload
your log in A.D.I.F. format, and they print and mail (via buro or
managers) your cards. Depending on quantity, cost per card delivered
is in the range of a dime for a "real live" cardboard QSL. It's a
couple of fellows from Israel who came up with this interesting
approach. More detail at their web site http://www.globalqsl.com/

73, RDW

1059. GB2RS NEWS Sunday 3 June 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-02 21:20:56 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200706022100.l52L0PU10069@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4364
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

1 GB2RS NEWS Sunday 3 June

The news headlines

* Amateur becomes Mayor of Cambridge

* Canadians lose 136kHz and 5MHz

* Major product launches at Dayton Hamvention

Jenny Bailey, G0VQH, became Mayor of Cambridge in the local council election on 24 May. Jenny was first elected to Cambridge City Council in 2002, serving East Chesterton ward and becoming an executive councillor. She has spent the past 12 months as deputy Mayor. Apart from her usual civic duties, she hopes to bring a better understanding of amateur radio to local and national government.

Since 2001, a number of special, time-limited authorisations have been granted to some Canadian radio amateurs to conduct experiments on 136 kHz and at 5 MHz. All of these special authorisations will expire and transmissions must cease on 30 June, 2007. Further special authorisations will depend on the outcomes of WRC-2007, scheduled for 22 October - 16 November. At the suggestion of Canada, the agenda includes a new, worldwide, secondary Amateur allocation at 135.7 - 137.8 kHz. A secondary allocation near 5 MHz may also arise at WRC-2007 as a consideration in the review of radio services in the band 4 - 10 MHz.

A number of major companies chose last weekend's Dayton Hamvention to launch new products. Elecraft, FlexRadio, Icom, TenTec, Kenwood and Yaesu all announced new transceivers. Dishtronix and Tokyo Hy-Power announced kilowatt-class solid state linears, and other well-known names such as MFJ and Palstar also had new offerings. Look for news of these and other new products in forthcoming issues of RadCom.

CNN International is to end its analogue satellite distribution in Europe on 4 June, when its current contract with Astra expires. CNNI is already available free-to-air via other satellites and even terrestrially via DVB-T in some areas. The analogue satellite transmissions at 19.2 degrees East are still used by around half the satellite viewers in Germany, but SES Astra wants to phase out the analogue services and complete its transition to digital.

Current DAB radios may be unable to receive anything in a few years time, according to Pure Digital. This is due to the introduction of DAB Plus, which uses the new AAC Plus audio coding. The new DAB standard is

incompatible with existing DAB receivers, and will render them obsolete. The new coding system is twice as efficient as the MP2 system currently in use, meaning that the number of channels per multiplex could double. Manufacturers are expected to quietly switch to producing dual standard receivers before any changeover occurs. The British DAB system is unlikely to be affected for many years.

And now for the details of rallies and events for the coming week [Note to newsreaders: please exercise your judgement on which of the 3 June events to read, based on your service area and time of transmission].

2 On Sunday 3 June the Red Rose QRP Festival takes place from 11am at Formby Hall, Alder Street, Atherton, Manchester. Details form Les, G4HZJ, on 01942 870634.

On Sunday 3 June the Spalding & DARS Annual Rally takes place from 10am at the Sir John Gleed Technical School, Halmer Gardens, Spalding. Details form Ambrose, M0DJA, on 07989 636 520. On Sunday 10 June the Elvaston Castle National Radio Rally takes place from 9am at Elvaston Castle Country Park, Elvaston, Derby. Details from Les on 01332 559965 or on the web at www.elvastonrally.co.uk. More details of these and future events can be found on pages 88 and 89 of the June edition of RadCom. Now for the news of the special events

GB1EPC will be active until 28 June to celebrate the European PSK Club 1st year birthday. EPC number is EPC#2000. The station will be setup at Bridge Street in Glasgow. Anyone is welcome to operate at the station. PSK modes only of course. QSL-cards via MM0DFV. Roger Greengrass, G4NRG, plans to operate as GM4NRG/P from the Isle of Lismore Scotland, EU-008, from approximately 3 to 15 June. He will try and put a spot on the DX cluster when operational. Operation will be on HF and 6m, holiday style, on SSB and digital modes. QSL via home call. On 9 and 10 June several members of the Marcon section of ARI in Italy will join the operations relevant to the Museum Ships Weekend 2007, in coordination with A.R.M.I. (Italian Mariners Radioamateurs Association). This weekend will see the simultaneous activation of many military and commercial ships around the world. The Bolsover Amateur Radio Society will be operating as GB2PF on Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 August to commemorate the birthday of local man Peter Fidler, who was a famous surveyor in Canada in the 1790s. The club intends to operate as many bands as possible, HF, VHF and UHF, from the new club shack located at the Coalite Sports and Social Club, Moor Lane, Bolsover. And now the HF DX news compiled from 425 DX News, the Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin and other sources.

In June and July 1944 the BBC war correspondents used the tower of the chateau at Creully as a radio studio, from where the first reports of the Battle of Normandy were broadcasted. Look for special callsign TM5BBC to be aired again from Creully on until the 15 June. QSL via F2UW.

Simone, IZ4DYQ will be active as IA5/IZ4DYQ from Elba Island (EU-028) until 13 July. He plans to operate mainly SSB on 20 and 40 metres. QSL via home call, bureau preferred.

The Polish 3B6 Agalega Islands DXpedition Team is on course to start operation on Tuesday 5 June. In an announcement by team leader Witek, SP9MRO, the group's call sign was confirmed as 3B6DX. Operation will be for ten or more days, with the team leaving the area on Monday 18 June. For more details and updates, visit www.3b6.godx.eu/.

Maciek, WQ7X, will be active as VP5/WQ7X to the 5 June. He plans to operate CW and SSB on 10 to 80 metres. QSL via home call.

Jim, VQ9JC, ND9M, will be active as VQ97JC through to the 5 June from Diego Garcia. Jim can only operate during his spare time, which normally means 1200 to 1730 UTC although he will try and arrange occasional evening working. QSL via ND9M, direct or bureau, but cards will not be printed at least until after he returns home in August.

3 Special event station TM2RHC, which stands for 2nd Regiment Helicoptere Combat, will be active on 10 to 24 June before and during an air show at Le Luc le Cannet, France. QSL via F4EUN.

ARI Versilia will activate special event station II5MD on 11 to 13 June for the "Meucci Day". Antonio Meucci was recognized as the first inventor of the telephone by the United States Congress in its resolution 269 dated 11 June 2002. QSL via operator's instructions.

The Yankee Clipper Contest Club celebrates its 30th anniversary and its members may sign homecall/30 (eg K1RX/30) for the rest of the year. A special certificate will be available for contacting at least 10 members; details can be found at www.yccc.org.

Richard, M0EAZ, is currently sailing across the Atlantic and regularly checks in to the Maritime Mobile net on 14.300MHz at 2100z each evening. His signals are reported as good, despite using just 100W to a back-stay antenna, and would welcome calls.

Celebrating the 750th anniversary of Krakow's city rights is HF750C, which will be active until 30 June. QSL via SP9BRP. Expect also a large number of local operators to use special prefix SN0 during the year.

Now the contest news

The RSGB 80m Club Championships takes place between 1900 to 2030 on 4 June on the 3.5MHz band, data modes. The exchange takes the form of the RST and serial number. The ANARTS RTTY contest takes place between 0000 and 2359 on 9 and 10 June on 3.5 to 28 MHz bands. The exchange takes the form of RST, Time UTC and CQ.

The RSGB 144MHz activity and club championship takes place between 2000 to 2230 on 5 June, all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator.

The RSGB 144MHz Backpackers contest takes place between 0900 to 1300 on 10 June on 10 June, all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator.

The Practical Wireless 144MHz QPR contest takes place between 0900 to 1600 on 10 June, all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator.

Now the solar factual data for the period from 21 to the 27 May compiled by Neil Clarke, G0CAS. Despite a magnetically complex sunspot group that was visible it failed to produce any solar flares. Solar activity was very low. Gradually the sunspot group decayed and by the 24th it had disappeared. Solar flux levels declined from 73 units on the 21st to 67 by the 27th. The average was 70 units. The 90 day solar flux average on the 27th was 73, that's one unit down on last week. X-ray flux levels was A2.2 units on the 21st but then declined to below the A1 level for the remainder of the period. Geomagnetic activity started at quiet levels with an Ap index of 6 units on the 21st. Activity increased to sub-storm levels on the 23rd, this disturbance is possibly due to a filament disappearance on the 19th of May. A high-speed coronal hole disturbance caught the original disturbance and this lasted through to the 27th. The most disturbed day was the 23rd with an Ap of 42 units. The average was Ap 19 units. The ACE spacecraft saw solar wind speeds increased from 430 kilometres per second on the 23rd to 750 by the 26th. Particle densities were low except for the 22nd, which increased to 36 particles per cubic centimetre on the 22nd. Bz varied between minus 11 and plus 7 nanoTeslas during the disappearing filament disturbance and between minus and plus 7 nanoTeslas during the coronal hole disturbance the next day.

4 The magnetic disturbances resulted in periods when HF propagation was markedly degraded, particularly over the North America path. Auroral propagation occurred at 50 and 144MHz from late morning on the 23rd, resuming on the 24th. Sporadic-E was reported at 28 and 50MHz on most days. There were several reports of double-hop contacts with the eastern Mediterranean area on Six, while the new Athens 4-metre beacon was heard in the UK for the first time.

And finally the solar forecast. This week the quiet side of the Sun is expected to be looking our way. Solar activity is expected to be very low. Solar flux levels should slowly decline and by next weekend be around the 70 mark. Geomagnetic activity is expected to be unsettled today and tomorrow due to a recurring coronal hole. Activity will then decline to quiet levels for the remainder of the period. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitudes should be around 18MHz for the south and 15MHz for the north. The darkness hour lows should be about 10MHz. Paths this week to Australia should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success rate of around 20MHz. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success rate will be about 16MHz. The best time to try this path will be between 0900 and 1200 hours UTC. Sporadic-E should take place almost daily with openings on 28MHz and 50MHz. Openings on 70MHz can be expected on some days and openings on

144MHz cannot be ruled out. And that's all for this week from the propagation team.

5 Next, the Local News:

Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses

and website links where known.

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your

transmission.]

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST

and EAST ANGLIA Calling all Isle of Wight Radio Amateurs. The RSGB Roadshow featuring the President Angus Annan, MM1CCR, the General Manager Peter Kirby, G0TWW, your Regional Manager Gavin Keegan, G6DGK and

your local RSGB representative Chris Brown, G0DWE will be holding an open meeting at the Camphill Club, Quarry View, Camphill, Newport, IOW on Tuesday 3 July commencing at 7.30. All Radio Amateurs on the Island are invited to attend. On Sunday 3 June Radio Society Of Harrow is operating GB2DHH at the DeHavilland Heritage Museum, London Colney, from 10am. Contact Linda, G7RJL, on 020 8386 8586, or on the web at www.g3efx.org.uk or Chris 01895 621 310. On Monday 4 June Braintree and District Amateur Radio Society is having an aerial clinic and 70cm aerial testing evening. Contact John, M5AJB, on 01787 460 947.

On Monday 4 June Cray Valley Radio Society is taking part in the 80m club data championship. Contact Bob, BRS32525, on 020 8265 7735 after 8pm. On Monday 4 June Felixstowe and District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on ESWR Planning with Steve, M1ACB. Contact Paul, G4YQC, by email to paul.whiting@bt.com. On Monday 4 June Southdown Amateur Radio Society is having a talk by John, G3DQY, on getting S9 to ZL and about GB2PW, Chaseley. Contact John, G3DQY, on 0124424319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com. On Monday 4 June Surrey Radio Contact Club is having a BBQ at G3ZPB's. Contact Ray, G4FFY, on 020 8644 7589. On Tuesday 5 June Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society is having a table top sale. Contact Colin, G0TRM, on 01245 223 835, colinpage@ukgateway.net, or on the web at www.g0mwt.org.uk. On Tuesday 5 June Cray Valley Radio Society is taking part in the 2m club championship. Contact Bob, BRS32525, on 020 8265 7735 after 8pm. On Tuesday 5 June Horndean and District Amateur Radio Club is having a social evening. Contact Stuart, G0FYX, on 023 9247 2846, or on the web at www.hdarc.co.uk. On Tuesday 5 June Leiston Amateur Radio Club is visiting the Orfordness BBC Transmitter site. Contact Dave, G4HUP, on 01473 737 717, g4hup@btinternet.com. On Tuesday 5 June Stevenage and District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on the Lifetime Licence by Dave, G4ETG. Contact Neil, M0ARH, on 01438 217 077. On Wednesday 6 June Dover Radio

Club is having an operating and natter night. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk. On Wednesday 6 June Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is having operating and natter night with G3VEF and G8KGI. Contact Jim, M1JJN.

6 On Wednesday 6 June Havering and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk by Oliver, G3TPJ, on test equipment. Contact Dave, 2E0EBV, on 07956 594 514.

On Wednesday 6 June Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is having a talk by Rob Mannion, G3XFD, Editor of Practical Wireless. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk. On Wednesday 6 June Southdown Amateur Radio Society is operating at Halisham. Contact John, G3DQY, on 0124424319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com. On Wednesday 6 June Worthing and District Amateur Radio Club is planning for the PW Contest. Contact Roy, G4GPX, on 01903 753 893. On Thursday 7 June Cray Valley Radio Society is having the G3VLX auction and planning for VHF Field Day. Contact Bob, BRS32525, on 020 8265 7735 after 8pm. On Thursday 7 June Horsham Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on recorded sound by John Weller, G0GNA. Contact or on the web at www.harc.org.uk. On Thursday 7 June Shefford and District Amateur Radio Society is planning for VHF National Field Day. Contact David, G8UOD, on 01234 742 757. On Friday 8 June Cambridge and District Amateur Radio Club is having a foxhunt. Contact David, G8JKV. On Friday 8 June Hilderstone Radio and Electronics Club is having a talk by Don, G4TKR. Contact Mike, G4MIX, on 01304 813 175, g4mix@waitrose.com.

On Friday 8 June Loughton and Epping Forest Amateur Radio Society is having a review of the Canvey Island and Dunstable Downs Rallies by John, G0VEH and Marc, G0TOC. Contact Marc, G0TOC, on 020 8502 1645, or by email to info@lefars.org.uk. On Friday 8 June Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is having an APRS demo by Bob, G0BUX. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Friday 8 June Radio Society Of Harrow is having a talk and demonstration of slow scan TV by Kelly, M1KFM, Don G0ACK and Ray, G0BSP. Contact Linda, G7RJL, on 020 8386 8586, or on the web at www.g3efx.org.uk or Chris 01895 621 310. On Friday 8 June Wimbledon and District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on a Desert Island Radio DIY project by Reg, M1EEK. Contact Jim, M0CON, on 020 8874 7456.

On Saturday 9 June Loughton and Epping Forest Amateur Radio Society is operating GB2AVF at the Abridge Village Fete, Abridge, Essex. Contact Marc, G0TOC, on 020 8502 1645, or by email to info@lefars.org.uk. On Sunday 10 June Cambridge and District Amateur Radio Club is taking part in the PW 144MHz QRP contest. Contact David, G8JKV.

On Sunday 10 June Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is taking part in the Practical Wireless 144MHz QRP contest. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk. On Sunday 10 June Southdown Amateur Radio Society is operating at the Beachy Head Site. Contact John, G3DQY, on 0124424319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST

On Tuesday 5 June Flight Refuelling Amateur Radio Society is running its Intermediate training from 1900 - 2130. Contact Tony, G3PFM, on 01202 622 262.

7 On Wednesday 6 June Exmouth Amateur Radio Club is having a fox hunt. Details by email from g0uil@eclipse.co.uk.

On Wednesday 6 June South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is having a technical matters evening. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282. On Wednesday 6 June Taunton and District Amateur Radio Club is having a club open forum. Contact William, G3WNI, on 01823 666 234, or by email to g3wni@btinternet.com. On Wednesday 6 June Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is having a mobile foxhunt in the Thornbury area. Contact Tony, G0WMB, by email to tonytsgarc@beeb.net. On Wednesday 6 June Trowbridge and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on monitoring air traffic control with an airband radio by Mike Beale, M5CBS. Contact Ian, G0GRI, on 01225 864 698, E/W. On Thursday 7 June Cornish Radio Amateur Club is having a talk by Wayne Gannon on RAF RF. Contact Ian, 01872 561 058. On Thursday 7 June Saltash and District Amateur Radio Club is on the air. Contact Brian, M0BHG, on 01752 844 321. On Thursday 7 June Swindon and District Amateur Radio Club is having a BBQ . Contact Mike, M5CBS, on 01793 826 465. On Thursday 7 June Yeovil Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on capacitors by Robert, G0RYL. Contact Derek, 01935 414 452, or by email to m0wob@tiscali.co.uk. On Friday 8 June Jersey Amateur Radio Society is working outside on the club antennas, towers and building. Contact Phil, MJ0JER, by email to gj3dvc@gj3dvc.org.je.

NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS

On Sunday 3 June Wythall Radio Club is having its summer fox hunt. Contact Chris, G0EYO, on 07710 412 819, or by email to g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk, or on the web at www.wythallradioclub.co.uk.

On Monday 4 June Stourbridge and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air. Contact John, M1EJG, on 01562 700 513. On Tuesday 5 June Derby and District Amateur Radio Society is having its junk sale. Contact Martin, G3SZJ, on 01332 556 875. On Tuesday 5 June Loughborough and District Amateur Radio Club is erecting 160m aerials on college field. Contact Chris, G1ETZ, on 01509 504 319. On Tuesday 5 June Wythall Radio Club is taking part in the 2m Club Championship from the shack. Contact Chris, G0EYO, on 07710 412 819, or by email to g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk, or on the web at www.wythallradioclub.co.uk. On Wednesday 6 June Lincoln Short Wave Club is having a microlight evening at Wickenby Airfield. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

On Wednesday 6 June Midland Amateur Radio Society is having a general meeting at Church Hall, Pershore Road, Birmingham. Contact 01953 458844. On Thursday 7 June Salop Amateur Radio Society is having its third fox hunt. Contact Glenda, G1YJB, on 01939 235 412.

8 On Thursday 7 June Stafford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a shack night. Contact Graeme, G4NVH, on 01785 604 534, or by email to graeme.boull@ntlworld.com.

On Friday 8 June Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is having a club forum. Contact Carl, M0XBE, on 07979 092 447, or on the web at www.hrrarc.com. On Sunday 10 June Stourbridge and District Amateur Radio Society is attending the Alveston Rally. Contact John, M1EJG, on 01562 700 513. NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

On Monday 4 June Grimsby Amateur Radio Society is taking part in the 80m data Club Contest. Contact Brian, G4DXB, on 01472 231 383. On Monday 4 June Macclesfield and District Radio Society is having an aerial construction evening. Contact Tom, M1EYP, on 01625 612 916, tommyread@hotmail.com, or on the web at www.gx4mws.com. On Monday 4 June South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is having its monthly technical forum. Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999. On Monday 4 June Thornton Cleveleys Amateur Radio Society is having its AGM followed by an inquest on HF Field Day. Contact Jack, G4BFH, by email to jack.duddington@btinternet.com. On Tuesday 5 June Chester and District Radio Society is having a talk on modern day simple code by John Langan. Details on the web at www.chesterdars.org.uk, info@chesterdars.org.uk. On Tuesday 5 June Stockport Radio Society is having a presentation on microwaves, the world above 1GHz by Peter Day, G3PHO. Contact David, M1ANT, on 0161 456 7832. On Tuesday 5 June Wakefield and District Amateur Radio Society is having a radio trivia quiz with G4CLI, competing for a prize donated by Steve, 2E0NFK. Contact Dave, G4CLI, on 07748 221 855, or by email to g4cli@hotmail.co.uk. On Wednesday 6 June Great Lumley Amateur Radio And Electronics Society is on the air. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Thursday 7 June Grimsby Amateur Radio Society is having an RSGB Video Night. Contact Brian, G4DXB, on 01472 231 383. On Friday 8 June South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is having members mini lectures. Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999. On Friday 8 June Tynemouth Radio Club is having an operating and Morse night. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk. On Saturday 9 June Hull and District Amateur Radio Society is running a Foundation course at Walton St Leisure Centre, Hull. Contact Mr Penny on 01482 504618. NEWS FOR SCOTLAND

On Sunday 3 June Dundee Amateur Radio Club is taking part in CW National Field Day. Contact Martin, MM0DUN, on mm0dun@dundee-amayeur-radio.co.uk, or on the web at www.dundee-amateur-radio.co.uk. On Thursday 7 June Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is having a junk sale. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

9 On Sunday 10 June Cockenzie and Port Seton Amateur Radio Club is taking part in the Practical Wireless 144MHz QRP Contest. Contact Bob, GM4UYZ, on 01875 811 723.

NEWS FOR WALES

On Wednesday 6 June Conwy Valley Amateur Radio Club is having its AGM followed by a talk by Ian Wright, GW0VML, on DXpeditions to lighthouses. Contact Wynne, GW6PMC, on 01745 855 068. NEWS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

No news items have been received for Northern Ireland this week. And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast,

prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

1060. Re: |+|+|+|+|+| T H E C O L O R O F C R I M E |+|+|+|+|+|

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-03 00:45:58 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net>
Message-ID: <13643pnt8tgeu16@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 4365

Isn't this supposed to be a moderated newsgroup?

In addition to being inappropriate for r.r.a.m, it was
improperly cross-posted to these other moderated
newsgroups:

rec.autos.sport.nascar.moderated,misc.legal.moderated

1061. Re: |+|+|+|+|+| T H E C O L O R O F C R I M E |+|+|+|+|+|

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-03 02:19:34 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <136499btifjjg26@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 4366

Richard Crowley wrote:
> Isn't this supposed to be a moderated newsgroup?

The article contains a forged approval header.

1062. IRTS Radio News Bulletin, Sunday June 3rd 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-03 22:01:00 UTC
From: news at irts dot ie <devnull@panix.com>
Message-ID: <200706032200.l53M0hX00058@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4367
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Irish Radio Transmitters Society
Radio News Bulletin

Sunday June 3rd 2007

International Museums Weekend

The International Museums Weekend takes place on the 16th and 17th of June. This amateur radio special event has grown in popularity since the first event was held in 2002.

Among past participants are The Tower of London, HMS Belfast and the US battleship New Jersey. The Howth Martello Radio Group will be participating again this year, operating from the Vintage Radio Museum in Howth. Visitors are welcome to call and operate the station over the weekend. The museum web site is www.qsl.net/ei5em/museum.html. A full list of participating museums and further information of the event is available from the organiser's web site www.ukradioamateur.co.uk/imw.

Tipperary Amateur Radio Group

The next monthly meeting of the Tipperary Amateur Radio Group will take place in Raheen House Hotel Clonmel on Thursday next the 7th of June at 8.00 p.m.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group

Two theory revision classes will take place prior to the theory exam in June. The date of the first class is this coming Tuesday the 5th of June. The following revision class will take place two weeks later on Tuesday the 19th of June. Classes start at 7.30 p.m. and will be held at the usual venue of the Roanmore Centre, Waterford.

A committee meeting will take place on Monday the 4th of June at 8.00 p.m. Committee members are asked to attend.

Rallies

Bangor & District Amateur Radio Society Rally will take place on Sunday the 17th of June in the Crawfordsburn Country Park, Helen's Bay, Co. Down. The Cork Radio Club Rally will take place on Sunday the 23rd of September in the Blarney Park Hotel, Blarney, Co. Cork and the Mayo Radio Rally will be on Sunday the 18th of November in the Belmont Hotel, Knock, Co. Mayo.

A full listing of upcoming rallys is available on www.irts.ie.

Marconi's Wireless Telegraph in Ireland, "Alpha/Omega Tour"

In 1907, Guglielmo Marconi's dream of fixed point-to-point wireless telegraph stations linking North America and Europe became a reality. Derrygimla near Clifden, County Galway served as the site of his wireless station. Over the next 15 years, spark-induced blue flashes generated by the station's massive 20 kV generators sent tens of thousands of wireless messages across the Atlantic, linking to its North American counterpart at Glace Bay, Nova Scotia.

2007 marks the centennial of those first sparks generated from Marconi's historic Clifden station. To commemorate this significant event, as well as radio's first-ever commercial venture at Ballycastle-Rathlin, Hal W8HC announces a special amateur radio operation from both locations central to Marconi's fame and success as a pioneer in wireless technology. Ballycastle-Rathlin was his first wireless telegraph station and the Clifden station would be his last, ceasing operation in 1922.

On Saturday and Sunday, August the 4th and 5th. Hal will operate from Ballycastle as GI/W8HC/p. He will be also taking part in the annual Marconi Festival at Ballycastle with the Marconi Radio Group's MN"MRG special event station on Sunday the 5th of August. On Monday the 6th of August, he will ferry over to Rathlin Island (EU-122) and operate from East Lighthouse (ARLS designator NTI 011).

He will arrive in Clifden on Wednesday the 8th of August where he will operate as EI/W8HC/p at the Derrygimla site on Thursday and Friday the 9th and 10th of August. It is hoped that some operating time can also occur from nearby Letterfrack, site of an ancillary receive station built in 1912 to allow for

full duplex operation of the transatlantic signals.

All QSOs will be confirmed via LOTW and special QSLs from each of these historic Marconi locations will be printed and sent via GlobalQSL www.globalqsl.com. In addition, a specially designed certificate will be issued to those stations making contact with both GI and EI operations from either Ballycastle or Rathlin and Derrygimla or Letterfrack. In keeping with the historic connection, all QSOs from these locations will be CW only. Limited mobile phone operation will take place during transit in both GI and EI.

Contests

The CW field day will take place in two weeks time on the 2nd and 3rd of June and the VHF/UHF field day will take place on the weekend of the 7th and 8th of July.

The RSGB IOTA contest will be held on the 28th and 29th of July.

Ladies Mini Marathon

The 2007 Flora Ladies Mini Marathon takes place on Bank Holiday Monday the 4th of June at 3.00 pm. It starts from Fitzwilliam Square, and finishes in Stephens Green Dublin 2. Sadly this year's event will happen without the familiar voice of Donnchadh O'Shea who traditionally operated the net control station. This year's public service event will be dedicated to his memory. The co-ordinator for the event again this year will be George Adjaye who may be contacted by phone on 086 2586103 or Fax 01 4908546 or email 'george_adjayeg at dcu.ie'.

Theory Examination

The next Theory Examination for the Experimenters Licence will be held on Thursday the 28th of June next. Places for the examination are limited and will be allocated on a 'first come first served' basis. Intending candidates should forward the appropriate fee to Se'n Nolan EI7CD, 12 Little Meadow, Pottery Road Dunlaoghaire, Co. Dublin. The fee is 50 Euro or 25 Euro for full time registered students, those who are retired, are unemployed or have a disability. In addition to the exam centre at the ComReg offices in Dublin an examination will be held on the same date and

with the same paper at the Community Centre,
Carrigtwohill, Co. Cork.

The closing date for the examination is the 16th of June and it will be strictly adhered to. Sean's e-mail address for further enquiries is "ei7cd at gofree dot indigo dot ie".

EI75IRTS

Just a reminder that as part of the Society's Jubilee Celebrations, the IRTS has been allocated the call sign EI75IRTS for the duration of 2007. The licence holder is Finbarr Buckley EI1CS, and with his agreement, the call sign may be used by individual and club members holding a current Radio Experimenter's licence.

Individual and club members of the IRTS can apply to use the call sign EI75IRTS during the rest of the year. More information is available on www.irts.ie.

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall, EI7IS at QTHR or by phone to 051-853806 or 087-6302026. Items for the radio news can also be faxed to 087 5 6302026. News should be submitted via e-mail to "news at irts dot ie" for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Friday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday's bulletin.

1063. Re: Gulf Coastal Software - QSLeCard new freeware

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-04 16:30:56 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1180968087.486868.53180@p47g2000hsd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4368

On Jun 2, 8:43 pm, RDWeaver <weaver5...@mypacks.net> wrote:

>
> There's another excellent QSLing service out there, called GlobalQSL.
> You design a QSL card (they provide software, or they will design a
> card for you) and upload the image to their website. Then you upload
> your log in A.D.I.F. format, and they print and mail (via buro or
> managers) your cards. Depending on quantity, cost per card delivered
> is in the range of a dime for a "real live" cardboard QSL. It's a
> couple of fellows from Israel who came up with this interesting
> approach. More detail at their web sitehttp://www.globalqsl.com/
>

Wow! While it is limited to "via the BURO", this looks like a great
idea in the "electronic evolution" of QSLing.

Thanks for the link.

73, de Hans, K0HB

1064. Can you id this receiver?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-04 23:54:38 UTC
From: richgr@panix.com
Message-ID: <f428n4$j4p$1@panix5.panix.com>
Source record: 4369

Please take a look at: http://www.panix.com/~richgr/Hallicrafters.jpg

and if you can, tell me the model number of this receiver. I am fairly
sure the mfgr is Hallicrafters.

--
Rich Greenberg N Ft Myers, FL, USA richgr atsign panix.com + 1 239 543 1353
Eastern time. N6LRT I speak for myself & my dogs only. VM'er since CP-67
Canines:Val, Red, Shasta & Casey (RIP), Red & Zero, Siberians Owner:Chinook-L
Retired at the beach Asst Owner:Sibernet-L

1065. Re: Can you id this receiver?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-05 01:22:43 UTC
From: Fabian Kurz <usenet@fkurz.net>
Message-ID: <5cjpv7F309cm7U1@mid.dfncis.de>
Source record: 4370

Rich Greenberg wrote:
> Please take a look at: http://www.panix.com/~richgr/Hallicrafters.jpg
>
> and if you can, tell me the model number of this receiver. I am fairly
> sure the mfgr is Hallicrafters.

Hallicrafters SX-43:

http://www.rigpix.com/hallicrafter/sx43.htm

73,
--
Fabian Kurz, DJ1YFK * Dresden, Germany * http://fkurz.net/
Online Log: http://dl0tud.tu-dresden.de/~dj1yfk/log.html

1066. Re: Can you id this receiver?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-05 10:06:24 UTC
From: Porgy Tirebiter <biteme@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <GP59i.10930$4Y.4095@newssvr19.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 4371

"Fabian Kurz" <usenet@fkurz.net> wrote in message
news:5cjpv7F309cm7U1@mid.dfncis.de...
> Rich Greenberg wrote:
>> Please take a look at: http://www.panix.com/~richgr/Hallicrafters.jpg
>>
>> and if you can, tell me the model number of this receiver. I am fairly
>> sure the mfgr is Hallicrafters.
>
> Hallicrafters SX-43:
>
> http://www.rigpix.com/hallicrafter/sx43.htm
>
> 73,
> --
> Fabian Kurz, DJ1YFK * Dresden, Germany * http://fkurz.net/
> Online Log: http://dl0tud.tu-dresden.de/~dj1yfk/log.html
>
I had one...SX-42

1067. Re: Can you id this receiver?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-05 15:59:25 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1181058650.821914.41850@p47g2000hsd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4372

On Jun 5, 10:06 am, "Porgy Tirebiter" <bit...@gmail.com> wrote:

>
> SX-42
>

Nope, SX-43. The location of the phone jack gives it away.

73, de Hans, K0HB

1068. Re: Can you id this receiver?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-05 19:15:21 UTC
From: richgr@panix.com
Message-ID: <f44cnagbo1@reader2.panix.com>
Source record: 4373

In article <5cjpv7F309cm7U1@mid.dfncis.de>,
Fabian Kurz <usenet@fkurz.net> wrote:
>Rich Greenberg wrote:
>> Please take a look at: http://www.panix.com/~richgr/Hallicrafters.jpg
>>
>> and if you can, tell me the model number of this receiver. I am fairly
>> sure the mfgr is Hallicrafters.
>
>Hallicrafters SX-43:
>
>http://www.rigpix.com/hallicrafter/sx43.htm

Thanks Fabian. That certainly looks like it.

This was a question (no prize) in my local ham club magazine.

--
Rich Greenberg N Ft Myers, FL, USA richgr atsign panix.com + 1 239 543 1353
Eastern time. N6LRT I speak for myself & my dogs only. VM'er since CP-67
Canines:Val, Red, Shasta & Casey (RIP), Red & Zero, Siberians Owner:Chinook-L
Retired at the beach Asst Owner:Sibernet-L

1069. [DXNL] DXNL 1522 (Jun 6, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-06 23:22:25 UTC
From: Robert Busch - DL7VOA <dxnl@dxhf.darc.de>
Message-ID: <78988573373.20070606233423@dxhf.darc.de>
Source record: 4374
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.dx,rec.radio.info

DXNL 1522 - Jun 6, 2007
DX Newsletter

a free and weekly service of
DARC Committee "DX and HF contesting"
(http://www.darcdxhf.de)

editor: Helmut Schlaffer, DL7MAE
(e-mail: dxnl@dxhf.darc.de)

translation by: Bob, DL7VOA
(e-mail: dl7voa@darc.de)

EA8 - CANARY ISLANDS, AF-004
The Teide National Park (Tenerife, Canary Islands) shall be added to
the UNESCO World Patrimony List and this campaign is supported by a
group of radio amateurs who will activate the special callsign AN8TID
operating from the volcano La Rambleta (Pico del Teide, 3555m above sea
level). They will work in CW/SSB/digital on HF/VHF/UHF on June 9/10.
The QSL manager EA8NQ confirms direct and via the bureau. See also:
http://www.ure.es/ea8arg/an8tid.htm

FO/C - CLIPPERTON ISLAND, NA-011
The DXpedition announced in the last DXNL opened a website now at:
http://clipperton2008.org/ There you can find many useful information
like the 30th anniversary of the 1978 Clipperton DX Club's DXpedition.
Approximately 24 OPs plan to make 100.000 QSOs.

FY - FRENCH GUYANA
FY/G3SXW and FY/G3TXF announced to be active from Jun 8-10. As usual
the two fresh elected "DX Hall of Fame" members will work in CW only
on 80-17m. QSL cards are confirmed reliably via their homecalls, also
via the bureau.

OD - LEBANON
Jean-Marc,ON4JM, is working for the Belgian army and will be based at
a field hospital in South Lebanon from Jun 6 until the mid of August.
He will try to hit the airwaves in SSB/CW/digital modes on 10-160m
signing OD5/ON4JM during his very rare leisure time.
QSLs via homecall, via bureau preferred.

TA - TURKEY
TA1HZ and TA2RX are very active as TC800YOM mainly in SSB on 17/20/40m
until Jun 30. This activity shall remember the poet and theologian
Mevlanas who would celebrate his 800th birthday now.

TI9 - COCOS ISLAND, NA-012
"After the big success of TI9M we start again! The next DXpedition to TI9 will depart in February 2008! Become part of an exciting adventure! Write to: ti2hmg@qsl.net" This is the text on the website and you can even fill out an application form to become a team member of this DXpedition at: http://www.qsl.net/ti2hmg/cocos.htm

V2 - ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA, NA-100
V26HS will be the call of Howard,WB4WXE, on NA-100 from Jun 9-26. Howard prefers to work on 6m, with 350 watts and mainly on 50.125 MHz or 50.110 MHz. QSL via homecall.

3A - MONACO
Luc,ON4LUC, and Paul,ON6DP, can be found on the air signing 3A/ON4LUC and 3A/OP0P since Jun 3. They are working with 100 watts and inverted V in RTTY/PSK/SSB on 20/40/80m until Jun 8 or 9. QSLs via ON6DP.

3D2 - ROTUMA ISLAND, OC-060
Tony,3D2AG, writes that his trip to Rotuma has been delayed. He plans to stay on Rotuma for several months now starting in Nov or Dec 2007.

5N - NIGERIA
Marek,5N2/SQ8JCA, is working in Cogi during the whole month of June and will be QRV in SSB on 6-80m especially from 1000-1600 UTC. QSL via SQ8JCA.

GERMANY, SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS
DH150HZ (with the special DOK HZ1857) is a special event callsign to celebrate the 150th birthday of Heinrich Hertz. The QSL manager DL5KUA writes that the decision how many QSLs have to be printed is not made before this autumn and the shipment is going to start not much earlier than in the beginning of 2008. However all QSO information is uploaded to the LotW regularly. Other special event calls active from Germany are DK150HZ (Karlsruhe, DOK HZ1885), DR150HZ (Bonn, DOK HZ1894) and DB150HZ (Berlin, DOK HZ1878). The licences are valid until Jan 1, 2008.

PORTUGAL, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
CQ4IPY will be the call of Marq,CT1BWW, during the 4th International Polar Year in SSB/CW/PSK31/RTTY/SSTV on 80-10m from Jun 9-15 and once again from Sep 8-14. QSLs via his homecall.

HUNGARY, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
The "Danube River Day" is held in Hungary every year. HG7DANUBE can be found on the air from Jun 1-30. QSLs direct via HA2MN or as a eQSL. Check also his homepage at: http://ha2mn.dsgnet.hu
---
The 46th Firac Congress takes place in Hungary as well from Sep 13-17. For this reason Tibi,HA5BSW, will use the special call HG46FC between May 30 and Sep 30. QSL via HA5BSW, also via LotW. The Firac is the international radio club of HAMs related to railways.

SPAIN, SPECIAL EVENT CALLS
The URE and the Spanish commmunication authority DGTel have an agree-
ment which allows the URE to apply for all special callsigns of its

members at once. All Spanish HAMs interested in a special callsign from July 1 until Dec 31,2007, should send their request to the URE secretary until Jun 10. The prefixes ED, EE and EF are reserved for minor events completed with the suffix of the applicant's call. The prefixes AM and AN are reserved for major national events and the prefix AO for major international events. Three letters suffixes starting with UR, RC or RK may only applied for by radio clubs or amateur radio societies and suffixes with one letter are reserved for special contests but may be completed with any of these prefixes: ED, EE, EF, EG, EH, AM, AN,AO.
These contests are considered:
Jul 14/15: IARU HF Championship
Aug 11/12: WAEDC CW Contest
Sep 1/2: All Asian DX SSB Contest
Sep 8/9: WAEDC SSB Contest
Sep 29/30: CQ WW RTTY DX
Oct 27/28: CQ WW DX SSB Contest
Nov 24/25: CQ WW DX CW Contest
Dec 8/9: ARRL 10m Contest

DXCC: The approval of the 7O1YGF cards (activated in April 2000) is still refused by the DXCC. Rumours from the USA say that the "files" are not closed yet, so there is still some hope that this may change some time.

LINKS: VA3RJ published a very comprehensive list of special event calls at:
http://webhome.idirect.com/~va3rj/spevents_dx.html

Current SOTA activities are announced at:
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/activations.php or
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/spots.php

UPCOMING CONTESTS

Jun 9, 0000-2400 UTC: Portugal Day Contest
Jun 9, 1500 UTC till Jun 10, 1500 UTC: 2007 GACW WWSA CW DX Contest
You can find the rules at: http://gacw.no-ip.org/contestgerman.html

IOTA collected by Fredy,DE0MST (e-mail: iota@dxhf.darc.de)

Island activities:
EU-067, SV, Mykonos: The newly wed couple Manu,IZ8IYL, and Ant,IZ8CCW, and SV1EJD will spend their holidays here from Jun 13-18. Their callsign is J48MDC. See also: http://www.mdxc.org/j48mdc

EU-071, TF7, Vestmannaeyjar: TF7/SM5ELV will be QRV from Heimaey Island from Jun 10-13. QSL via homecall.

EU-096, OH, Turku province: OH1/DG5XJ is working from Houtskaer Island from Jun 7-13.

EU-172, OZ, Jylland East and Fyn Group: Ulli,OZ/DO2ML, is active from Aeroe Island (FY-014) from Jun 4-7.

NA-122, HI, Cabras: A group around HI3CCP plans to become QRV as HI0C in
all modes on all bands from Isla Cabras from Jun 11-17. QSL via ON4IQ.

OC-150, YB, Lombok: Hotang,YC0IEM/9, will be QRV from Jun 8-10.
QSL via IZ8CCW, direct/bureau.

IOTA Contest 2007 (July 28/29)
Callsign Island IOTA

MM0OVL/p Mull EU-008
M8C St.Mary's EU-011
TK/M0VPE Corsica EU-014
DF7FC/p Langeness EU-042
CU8T Flores EU-089
GM0B Bute EU-123
MM0NDX/p Cramond EU-123
DL0KWH Usedom EU-129
DR6IOTA Usedom EU-129
PA/OQ1C/p Schouwen Duiveland EU-146
J48IO Proti EU-158
VY2Z Prince Edward NA-029
HI3C Hispaniola NA-096
WP4I Puerto Rico NA-099
NP3CW Puerto Rico NA-099
C6APR Crooked NA-113
VE2FK Ile aux Coudres NA-128
N4AUG Talbot NA-138
W3RFA South Marsh NA-140
W6I Anacapa NA-144
W6WTG/p Anacapa NA-144

Lighthouse activities (ARLHS/WLOTA):

OZ/DO2ML LH 0973 Jun 4- 7
EA8/OQ7R LH 0969 Jun 4-13
YC0IEM/9 LH 2637 Jun 8-10
JA1KJW/JR6 LH 0134 until Jun 14
7N4AGB/JR6 LH 0134 until Jun 14
JJ1JGI/JR6 LH 0134 until Jun 14
JK1EBA/JR6 LH 0134 until Jun 14
EA8/PA3BWK LH 0099 Jun 10-16
TF7/SM5ELV LH 0976 Jun 10-13
V26HS LH 1118 Jun 9-24
DS4DRE/4 LH 1528 until Jun 30
5B/G3RWF LH 0051 Jun 2-30
SG60RK LH 2969 until Dec 31

Bandspots of the last 7 days

80m
GB100TT 3.781 2235Z via MW0JNI

40m
VP5/WQ7X 7.004 0421Z via SP5DRH (B)
4W6AAV 7.006 1630Z via HL5FUA (B)

30m
3XY5M 10.102 1720Z via PA7FM (B)

20m
A52AM 14.215 1545Z via JA0JHA (B)
BG7JSQ 14.004 1821Z see QRZ.com
KH6QR 14.252 0730Z
OX3PG 14.191 0730Z see QRZ.com
PA25UKSMG 14.187 1828Z via PA7FM (B)
SV9/DL5MAE 14.344 1515Z via DL5MAE (B)
VP2EKG 14.200 2125Z see QRZ.com
VQ97JC 14.029 1606Z via ND9M (B)
VQ97JC 14.205 1445Z via ND9M (B)
5Q0PI 14.012 0914Z via OZ6PI
6V1A 14.260 0829Z AF-045, via 6W6JX (B)

17m
SV9/DL5MAE 18.071 1357Z via DL5MAE (B)
VR2NN 18.069 1100Z
3XY5M 18.068 1834Z via PA7FM (B)
9M6XRO 18.077 1113Z via M5AAV (B)

12m
HV0A 24.895 1035Z via IK0FVC (d, L)

10m
HV0A 28.020 1012Z via IK0FVC (d, L)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager

Preview

DATE CALL DXNL

03Jun-09Jun 3A/ON4LUC 1522 *
02Jun-10Jun 3A7JO 1521
06Jun-17Jun 3B6SP 1521
07Sep-24Sep 3B7C 1511
Nov/Dec 3D2AG/Rotuma 1522 *
29Aug-2007 3XM6JR 1484
-Jun 3XY5M 1519
02Jun-30Jun 5B/G3RWF 1521
-Apr/08 5H0RS 1515
-Apr/08 6W/EA4ATI 1515
01Apr-09Sep 8N3IAAF 1513
2007 9N7JO 1501
NOW 9U0VB 1518

-Apr/09 A52VE 1512
-Nov A61TX 1496
09Jun-10Jun AN8TID 1522 *
23Mar-10Jun C6AGN 1511
09Jun-15Jun CQ4IPY 1522 *
09Sep-14Sep CQ4IPY 1522 *
-Feb/08 DP0GVN 1496
04Jun-13Jun EA8/OQ7R 1521
2007/2008 EI100S(I) 1501
01Jul-15Jul FV5VDM 1520
08Jun-10Jun FY/G3SXW.. 1522 *
Mar 2008 FO/Clipp. 1521

14May-30Jun HF750C 1521
30May-30Sep HG46FC 1522 *
01Jun-30Jun HG7DANUBE 1522 *
11Jun-17Jun HI0C 1522 *
03Jun-09Jun IW2NEF/HI7 1521
-Aug JA7QVK/DU7 1521
2006 -2008 J28JA 1484/85
13Jun-18Jun J48DMC 1522 *

-Jun OD5/CT1EFS 1515
-Aug OD5/ON4JM 1522 *
07Jun-13Jun OH1/DG5XJ 1522 *
-30Jul OX3PG 1501
04Jun-07Jun OZ/DO2ML 1522 *
07Jun-20Jun SV5/GM0DHZ 1521
May -06Jun SV9/DL5MAE 1519

-30Jun TC800YOM 1522 *
10Jun-13Jun TF7/SM5ELV 1522 *
NOW -2008 TL8QC 1459
01Jun-15Jun TM5BBC 1521
03Jun-17Jun TM6ACO 1521
NOW -Sep TU2/F5LDY 1486
01Jun-15Jun TV2VDM 1520

Jan -Dec VI3SAA 1499
Feb/08 VP6DX/Ducie 1521
May -Aug VP6TD 1517
15May-05Jun VP9KF 1518
Apr -Jul VQ9JC 1512
15May-20Jun YB9/PA0HOP 1519
08Jun-10Jun YC0IEM/9 1522 *
07Jun-21Jun YM3CC 1521
-Sep ZD9BCB 1500

* = new
.. = and other calls

QSL information

UP62BQ via UN8BQ
VK7GK via DL8NU (d)
VP2ERV via NF9V (B, L)
VP5/KN6Y via KN6Y
VP5/WQ7X via SP5DRH (B)
YA/9A4ZD via 9A4ZD
YB2TJV (d)
YB9/OK2DW via OK2DW
YL7A via YL2GM
YM100FB via TA1EE (B)
YP8A via YO8WW (B)
YP0LB via YO5BFJ
ZD8RH/p via G4DBW (B)
3XY5M via PA7FM (B)
3Z50KCR via SP5KCR
4W6AAV via HL5FUA (B)
5B4AHI via RX3RC (B)
5H0RS via IT9YVO
5K1X via HK1HHX
5P1AA via LX1NO (B)
5W0JT via JT1CO (B)
6H1MW via XE1MW (B)
6V1A via 6W6JX (B)
6W/IZ2DPX via IK2DUW (B)
6W2SC via HA3AUI (B)
6W7FZ via DK6ZZ
7S100ALA via SK7CN
7X5ST via 7X2LS (d)
8Q7QQ via HB9QQ (B)
9A/IZ4DYQ via IZ4DYQ (B)
9A/IZ4HWA via IZ4HWA (B)
9A/OO6N via ON6KN
9A60Z via 9A2DM (B)
9A8ABG via DB3GF
9H3EZ via DL3KWF (B)
9H3RT via DL9MWG (B)
9H3RZ via DL3KWR (B)
9M2CP via 9V1CP
9N7TE via JA2ATE
9U0VB via UA4WHX (B)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = Logbook of the World (LotW)

QSL via bureau: A22/JA4ATV, DT8A (via DS4NMJ), FO/JJ8DEN, PJ2/WB9Z, FR5MV,
S01MZ (EA1BT), V73KJ (JA1KJW),VP9/K1XM (KQ1F),4K9W (DL6KVA);
VU4AN/VU3NZC (DL7UFN), VU4AN/VU3RYF (DL9MS), YF0ANA,
YB0AJR/9 (OK1JR), 5R8GT/p (DK8ZD), 9G5FD (G3XTT),
9G5OO (DL4WK) and 9Y4NZ

Many thanks for contributing to this issue of the DXNL are going to:
Carl Smith(QRZ DX), 425DXNews, OPDX Bulletin, DF2UG, DF6EX (fuer WIN-QSL),
DJ1OJ, DJ5AV, DK7PE, DK8JB, DL1SBF, DL2BQV, DL3IE, DL4EA, DL5AXX, DL7VOA,
DL9RCF, F5NQL, F6AJA, HA5BSW, LU1DZ, SWL Norbert Maybaum and others.

Die deutsche PDF-Version finden Sie auf unserer Homepage:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/bulls/dxmb/2007/dxmb1522.pdf

_____
Subscribe or unsubscribe to the DXNL mailing list yourself at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedxms.htm

1070. QSLeCard question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-07 14:24:14 UTC
From: "battles1550@mailinator.com" <battles@mailinator.com>
Message-ID: <1181225556.832954.132130@k79g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4375

Gulf Coastal Software

Has anyone who has downloaded QSLeCard been able to get the 'Send QSL' feature to work. I am not able to test this feature myself and need to try another email component if it is not working.

Thanks - Gulf Coastal Software

1071. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1556 - June 8, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-08 13:20:59 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <E1HwaoS-0005LM-S3b@elasmtp-masked.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 4376
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1556 - June 8, 2007

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1556 with a
release date of Friday, June 8, 2007 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a QST. A Manassas Virginia ham
proves RF ingress can seriously hamper
BPL, South Africa's ham community takes a stand
on BPL, and the FCC takes another step toward an
enhanced Emergency Alert System. All this and
more on Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1556 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

THE BPL FIGHT: MANASSAS VA HAM PROVES BPL INGRESS AT PROBLEM EVEN AT QRP

A simple test conducted by a ham radio operator
in Manassas, Virginia, has provided proof
positive that even flea-power Q-R-P ham radio
operations can shut down Broadband Over Powerline
Internet access operation. Amateur Radio
Newsline's Don Carlson, KQ6FM, reports:

--

The revelation comes on the website of George
Tarnovsky, K4GVT. On it, Tarnovsky shows the
results of tests made using only 40 watts and QRP
at 2 watts on the 80 through 10 meter bands.

The gear used in his test was an Icom 706
transceiver, with Outbacker Perth antenna on his
car parked curb side. The vehicle was
approximately 70 feet from his house, and more
than 100 feet from the BPL power pole
interface. Inside the home a laptop with BPL
interface repeatedly downloading a 40 Megabyte file.

--

Tarnovsky: "Well, what we found is that when we
were within reasonably close proximity -- I would
say within 100 feet or so of any of the BPL
installations -- when we transmitted on E-CARS on
7.225 that we actually had an affect on

them. The way ewe knew that we had an affect was
that as soon as you released the microphone
(PTT), rather than hearing the typical BPL noise,
you knew the system was backed up with data and
consequently became very aggressive and just
blanked (the band). If you looked at a spectrum
display of it -- it just covered the entire
spectrum. Its almost as though all the stops
were off. In other words the band stops were
off. Just rip and get the data out and that's exactly what it did."

--

What K4GVT found was that on all bands the
connection suffered at least a major slowdown
when he transmitted at the 40 watt level. On 80
through 15 meters the 40 watts caused the
download to stop altogether and requiring it to
be restarted. But the biggest surprise was on 40
meters where 2 watts of R-F rendered the BPL
connection numb. He says that the 2 watts at 7
MHz caused the BPL data transfer to stop.

--

Tarnovsky: " With the original G1 installation,
2 watts would have an affect on it. Since then
they have made some changes in their firmware to
the G1. The G2 has agile notching so they can go
in and they can notch it (the spectrum), but
being agile they can also remove them and that's
the problem that we are facing here."

--

Tarnovsky notes that regardless of what carriers
a BPL provider might notch out of a system, the
system operator cannot filter its input. As
such, R-F ingress to the BPL system is wide open,
and susceptible to all near field RF from 2 to 29
MHz. Even one that only 2 watts and more than 100 feet away.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Don Carlson, KQ6FM, in Reno.

--

More on the BPL ingress experiment by K4GVT
including a band by band results chart is on his
website. Its in cyberspace at
www.k4gvt.com/bpl/bplweakness.html (ARNewsline(tm), QRZ.com)

**

THE BPL FIGHT: LATEST SOUTH AFRICA REPORT NOTES INTERFERENCE POTENTIAL

South Africa's ham community has confirmed what so many others know already. That Broadband Over Powerline Internet access is a major source of interference to High Frequency communications

During a recent net, South African Radio League President Graham Hartlett, presented an update on the society's position of powerline telecommunication in South Africa. The latest tests have confirmed that BPL has an inherent interference potential and that this must be taken care of in new type approval specification for powerline data communications systems.

Hartlett noted that telecommunications regulator ICASA has recognized that it will need to strengthen its interference complaint handling capability and has asked the EMC working group to develop type approval specifications and how to deal with interference should it occur. These specifications would be an interim measure and in no way pre-empt international specifications. Once international standards have been agreed, the interim specifications would be revised and brought into line. (WIA News)

**

THE BPL FIGHT: ARRL SAYS FCC MUST SHUT DOWN AMBIENT

Still with BPL news, word that the ARRL has again demanded that the FCC shut down Ambient Corporation's broadband over power line pilot project in Briarcliff Manor, New York.

In a May 31 letter to FCC Spectrum Enforcement Division Chief Kathryn S. Berthot, ARRL General Counsel Christopher D. Imlay, W3KD, says that it's long past time that the Commission enforce its own rules, and again objected to the Commission's inexplicable inaction in the face of evidence the system is noncompliant.

On May 21 the FCC called on the BPL equipment maker and system operator to demonstrate it's complying with all terms of the Part 5 Experimental license authorizing the system, or face possible enforcement action.

Imlay's letter pointed out that the FCC's May 21 letter made no mention of Condition #1 of Ambient's Part 5 Experimental license. That condition requires that if any interference occurs, the holder of the authorization will be

subject to immediate shutdown. (ARRL)

**

RESCUE RADIO: FCC MOVES TOWARD AN UPGRADED EAS

The FCC has adopted a Second Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking that strengthens the nation's EAS or Emergency Alert System. The Commission's Order promotes the development of fully digital Next Generation technologies and delivery systems that will better serve the American public.

According to the CGC Communicator, the Order requires EAS participants to accept messages using a messaging system called Common Alerting Protocol. CAP as it will be known is the groundwork for what's being called the Next Generation EAS delivery systems. This protocol will need to be in place no later than 180 days after FEMA makes a key announcement.

The Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making is the second part of the decision. It seeks comment on whether participants should be required to deliver EAS alerts originated by local, county, tribal, or other state governmental entities. More on the Report and Order is on-line at http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-273458A1.pdf (CGC)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: RAFT DE-ORBITS

The US Naval Academy's RAFT ham radio satellite has reached the end of its orbital life. Data compiled from stations monitoring its 145.825 MHz downlink indicates that RAFT de-orbit occurred between 02:00 and 03:00 UTC on May 30th. Its final beacon was heard at 01:45 UTC that day. (ANS)

**

WITH ARNEWSLINE(tm): 2007 YHOTY NOMINATIONS NOW CLOSED

The nominating season for the 2007 Young Ham of the Year Award is now closed. The deadline for submitting nominations was midnight on May 30th, The judging committee is now hard at work selecting this years winner. We will have that persons name to announce in a few weeks.

**

Break 1

From the United States of America, We are the
Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin
stations around the world, including the X Warn
repeater system serving Xenia, Ohio.

(5 sec pause here)

**

TELECOMMUNICATIONS LAW: BROADCASTERS WIN APPEAL ON INDECENCY AND PROFANITY
RULES

A federal appeals court has overturned an
indecency ruling against the Fox Broadcasting and
has broadly questioned whether the Federal
Communications Commission has any right to police
the airwaves for offensive language. Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, has more:

--

In a 2 to 1 decision on June 4th, , the U.S.
Court of Appeals for the 2nd Circuit in New York
ruled that the FCC went too far in issuing a 2006
decision against Fox for separate incidents in
2002 and 2003 after two personalities each
uttered an expletive on live television.

In 2004, the agency reversed years of policy and
effectively branded even "fleeting," or one-time,
use of an expletive off-limits on broadcast
television and radio In its ruling the court
found that that the FCC had not adequately, or
constitutionally, explained why it changed its
mind on the fleeting use of profanity and ordered
the agency to retool its regulations.

Because the Fox incidents occurred before the
FCC's 2004 ruling on fleeting profanity, the
agency did not fine the network, though it did
rule that the broadcasts were indecent. Fox
appealed the FCC ruling to the 2nd Circuit,
saying the new rule set a dangerous precedent for clamping down on free
speech.

According to the Washington Post, the decision is
likely to be looked on as a rebuke to the FCC and
a victory for television networks, which in
recent years have pushed back against the
regulatory agency's crackdown on indecency. It
could also bolster the broadcasters argument that
parents need better tools such as

channel-blocking technology rather than more
government regulation to police the viewing habits of their children.

FCC Chairman Kevin Martin said that he was
disappointed in the court's ruling. He added
that FCC attorneys were reviewing the agency's
options and might appeal the decision to the
Supreme Court. Lawyers who specialize in the
First Amendment issues told the Washington Post
that such an appeal could easily become a test
case to determine whether the federal government
still has the right and responsibility to police the public airwaves.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, in Philadelphia.

--

What affect this ruling might have on indecency
and profanity issues in other FCC administered
services is unknown. (ARNewsline(tm) from published news reports)

**

RESCUE RADIO: TSA VOLUNTEER TRAINS NEW HAMS

30 Transportation Safety Administration
volunteers have been trained to use emergency
high frequency radio equipment during disasters.
The 30 have also qualified for Amateur Radio operator licenses.

According to news reports, TSA employees
participating in the May 9th training traveled to
Pensacola, Florida for the session. Volunteers
came from as far away as Louisiana, Alabama,
Mississippi, Arizona and New York State.

Spokesman Steve Earnest said that Pensacola is
fortunate that it has a Transportation Safety
Officer who is also a highly experienced Amateur
Radio operator, trainer and examiner.

Earnset says that this radio amateurs volunteer
efforts have given the agency tremendous in-house
capability. One he says would have been
expensive for the agency to replicate using
contractors. More is on-line at
/www.tsa.gov/press/happenings/amateur_radio_operators.shtm (TSA Release)

**

RESCUE RADIO: TENNESSEE RED CROSS CHAPTER GIFTED RADIO GEAR

Within the next 18 months, the Treis-County
Tennessee Chapter of the American Red Cross

should have a new emergency communications station. One with improved capabilities ready to use in the event of a disaster.

According to the Tullahoma News Guardian, the emergency communications station is being made possible by a donation by the wife of the late Bill Bearden, a former Red Cross volunteer and ham radio operator. Mrs. Bearden has donated two antennas and numerous pieces of Amateur Radio equipment that is being refurbished. One of the antennas will be installed on a new tower at the local Red Cross headquarters where the station will be installed.

Chapter Executive Director Alice Cano thanked Mrs. Bearden and noted that the new station would better enable the Red Cross to stay in touch with drivers of emergency response vehicles. She also noted that Bryan Marlowe, KE4LPL, a member of the Red Cross chapter's information technology team, Jimmy Floyd, NQ4U and other radio amateurs make up the Treis County chapter's disaster communications committee. (Tullahoma News)

**

RESCUE RADIO: ATV AT SANTA BARBARA EM COMMS DRILL

Fifteen California Amateur Radio Emergency Service volunteers equipped with slow-scan television assisted with a voluntary wildfire evacuation drill on Saturday morning, April 28th. An exercise involving residents of over 900 homes near the city of Santa Barbara.

During the event, five ARES teams were stationed at key intersections where winding, narrow roads merged into the main street out of a mountain community. The amateurs sent slow scan photos in a pre-arranged rotation, with the camera number appearing in the picture. Each number corresponding to the assigned intersection so officials could easily identify the location on large area maps.

Receiving stations were set up at the City's Emergency Operating Center. According to Santa Barbara City Fire Battalion Chief John Ahlman, the amateur television pictures were the only continuous, real-time information his department received from the field.

This is not the first time ham radio has been a part of Santa Barbara emergency communications drills. Fire officials were so impressed with

the information provided by the ARES slow-scan TV
at a smaller drill two years ago, that they
invited the ham radio group back to participate in this one as well.
(N6ZKJ)

**

ENFORCEMENT: BEHRINGER FINED $1,000,000 FOR UNAUTHORIZED GEAR SALES
Electronics supplier Behringer USA, Inc. has been
dinged with a proposed one million dollar fine by
the FCC. This, for marketing 50 models of
unauthorized radio frequency equipment in the
United States without prior consent from the regulatory agency.
The gear in question is described as digital
audio music devices. This says the FCC was a
willful and repeated violation of Section 302(b)
of the Communications Act of 1934, and Section
2.803(a) of the Commission's Rules. (FCC)
**

REGULATORY NEWS: ARRL VEC TYPO LEADS TO LICENSE CLASS CORRECTION

The FCC has rescinded an Extra class upgrade
accidentally granted to W5VXJ of Phoenix,
Arizona, who had only filed for a General class
upgrade. And it's doing so with the implied
consent of the radio amateur involved. Bill
Pasternak, WA6ITF, has the details:

--

The story goes this way. On February 2, 2006,
the Commission received from the ARRL VEC an
electronic data file that contained an
application requesting modification of John R.
Ure, W5VXJ''s license to upgrade his operating
privileges from Technician Plus Class to Amateur
Extra Class. The license was modified to
authorize Amateur Extra Class operator privileges on February 2, 2006.

On April 19, 2006, the ARRL VEC requested that
the Commission rescind this modification. This,
on the grounds that the earlier data file it
submitted contained a typographical error and
that the requested upgrade was intended to modify
the operator privileges for Amateur Radio Service
Station W5VXJ to General Class operator privileges.

Based on the new information, the FCC contacted
Ure and proposed to modify the license to change
the license class from Amateur Extra Class to General Class.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, in Los Angeles.

--

W5VXJ did not protest the proposed modification
of his license within the requisite thirty-day
time frame s the FCC says that Ure is deemed to
have consented to the modification. (FCC)

**

TELECOMMUNICATIONS LAW: SPOOFING CAN GET YOU 5 IN JAIL

Spoof and you could go to jail. So says one
house of Congress. Jim Davis, W2JKD, has more:

--

The House of Representatives has voted to make
phone "spoofing," the use of fake caller ID
information to defraud people, a felony subject.
The bill makes it a federal crime to use false
caller ID information with the intent to defraud
or to deceive the recipient about the identity of
the caller. A conviction brings a 5 year prison
sentence and forfeiture of any gains from the
offense, or of the software or technology use to
commit the crime. Exemptions are made for the
activities of law enforcement and intelligence agencies.

--

The bill now goes to the Senate for action and debate. (Technology Today)

**

NEW AT HAMVENTION 2007: LINK COMMUNICATIONS

Continuing with our coverage of new products
shown at the recent Dayton Hamvention, we turn
this week to a rather specialized area. That of
repeater controllers and a company called Link
Communications. Here's Fred Vobbe, W8HDU:

--

Audio report only. Please download the audio report at www.arnewsline.org

--

More on the RLC-DSP404 is on line at www.csm1000.com (ARNewsline(tm))

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio
amateur. From the United States of America, We
are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the

world from our only official website at
www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the
volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: "AMATEUR RADIO TODAY" IS #1 HAM VIDEO ON YOUTUBE

"Amateur Radio Today" the ARRL video produced by
Dave Bell, W6AQ, Bill Baker, W1BKR, Bill
Pasternak, WA6ITF and the late Alan Kaul, W6RCL
-- and written by W6RCL-- has today become the
most watched ham radio video on www.YouTube.com

As this is written, there are three postings of
"Amateur Radio Today" of this show on
YouTube. The one posted by "Tomintexas" has to
date garnered some 24,423 people screening
it. Another by a user named mranticocialguy has
been screened 3,727 time and the third by user
VA3CSS that has been viewed 1859 times. Adding
all three postings together, "Amateur Radio
Today" has been viewed on YouTube a total close to 30,000 times.

In second place in the most viewed ham radio
YouTube videos is "The Ham Band" singing "Come
and Join Us On The Airwaves." The video
featuring Andrew John Huddelston, Oh-Zed-1-X-J
and his wife Lissa Ladefoged on a 100 foot high
tower has so far racked up an impressive 20,676 views.

Third place goes to the on-line programmer 88
SLIDE whose "Ham Radio Field Day" video has
garnered 6785 views. It uses footage shot around
Los Angeles and Orange County California on Field Day weekend, 2006.

While none of these shows have set any YouTube
viewing records their numbers are still very
respectable for a special interest such as Amateur Radio. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY: DAB STANDARD BEING CHANGED

A major change is coming to a digital broadcast
radio near you. Jeramy Boot, G4NJH, is in
Nottingham in the U-K with the latest on DAB
standards and the future of digital receiver design:

--

Current DAB radios may be unable to receive
anything in a few years time, according to Pure Digital.

This is due to the introduction of DAB Plus,
which uses the new AAC Plus audio coding. The new
DAB standard is incompatible with existing DAB
receivers, and will render them obsolete. The new
coding system is twice as efficient as the MP2
system currently in use, meaning that the number
of channels per multiplex could double.

Manufacturers are expected to quietly switch to
producing dual standard receivers before any changeover occurs.

I'm Jeramy Boot, G4NJH.

--

The switchover only affects terrestrial DAB radio
and not satellite delivered services such as Sirius or XM. (GB2RS)

**

WORLDBEAT - GERMANY: THE DL 100 AWARD

In news from around the world, German hams are on
the air throughout June with a special
celebration. This with members of the radio
clubs of Norddeich and Hage commemorating the
100th anniversary of the well known coast station
Norddeich Radio. Operations are planned for 160
through 10 meters on various modes. The special
callsign, DL100DAN is being used and a special D
A N 100 award will be available. More
information can be found at http://norddeich-radio.de/ (OPDX)

**

WORLDBEAT - JAPAN: JARL TO CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL QRP DAY

The Japan Amateur Radio League's QRP Club will be
running five special event stations, 8J1P, 8J3P,
8J4P, 8J5P and 8J6P on June 17th to celebrate the
International QRP Day. International QRP Day was
designated by the IARU Region 1 Conference held
in April 1984 in Italy to stimulate QRP operation
worldwide. It was reaffirmed by the IARU Region
3 Conference in New Zealand in December of 1985 (JARL)

**

WORLDBEAT - UK: GB3RAL PROPOSED 40 AND 60 MHz BEACONS ON THEIR WAY

In VHF news, work from the United Kingdom that
the new GB3RAL 40.05 and 60.05MHz beacons are due
to receive government clearance in mid-June but

both have already cleared their key Primary User stages. Assuming that regulatory clearance is also obtained the sponsors will go forward to for final clearance and approval sometime this summer.

If approved, it brings ham radio in the UK closer to the prospect of a unique 40, 50, 60 and 70 MHz co-located beacon system at the Rutherford Appleton Labs location near Oxford. While not in amateur bands, the 40 and 60 MHz beacons should prove to be extremely useful propagation study markers both in the UK and world wide. (GB2RS)

**

ON THE AIR: CELEBRATING IN INDY WITH HAM RADIO

Back in the United States, Indianapolis, Indiana has been a hotbed of special event stations during May and it continues in June. Fire up that new HF rig and get ready to copy. Jack Parker W8ISH has this report from the Circle City.

--

If you have your HF rig fired up and your antenna pointed toward Indianapolis you many score some great contacts in the next few weeks. Beginning Friday evening June 8th the Indianapolis Radio Club will begin making contacts from the site of the USS Indianapolis Memorial. The USS Indianapolis was sunk during World War Two after delivering atomic bomb components that were later used in the attack on Hiroshima. Listen for the W9IND call sign during the 44 hour event or check the Indianapolis Radio Club web page for more information.

The pace continues to quicken as the United States Grand Prix rolls into town on Fathers Day weekend, June 17th. Special event station W9IMS will be on the air, taking check-ins, during that weekend . This world class special event station operates during each one of the major races at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. If you don't catch W9IMS during the Formula One race you have another opportunity to snag a special QSL card during the Brickyard 400 NASCAR race the weekend of July 29th.

And last but not least, many central Indiana clubs report gearing up for Field Day 2007 on June 23rd and 24th. Maybe we'll catch you on the HF bands.

Reporting for Amateur Radio Newsline this is Jack Parker W8ISH.

--

The USS Indianapolis Memorial station will join
nearly 70 other special event stations around the
world as part of the Museum Ships Weekend. (W8ISH)

**

DX

In D-X, word that N6PF, will be celebrating his 60th birthday with a
visit to 3A2MD's QTH in Monaco. He will be
operating with his call portable 3A from June
25th to the 30th. Bands and modes of activity
were not provided. QSL via his home callsign.

And SQ8JCA, will once again be active portable 5N2
from Cogi, Nigera during all of June. Activity is
expected to be on 80 through 6 meters on SSB
only. Listen out for him between 10:00-16:00 UTC
and QSL to his home callsign address.

Lastly, members of the Borisov Amateur Radio Club
will be active as EW905B between now and November
30th. This, three number callsign is to
celebrate the 905th anniversary of Borisov City
in Belarus. QSL this one via EW2EO.

(From various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: THE LONG SAIL

And finally this week the story of a voyage by
sea and the role played by Amateur Radio. Rob Mt
Barker, VK5MM, of the W-I-A News has the details:

--

"Sometimes we could hear them, but they couldn't
hear us. But we knew they were out there."

They were the words of John Hackney of Orono, who
joined the crew of a Trans-Atlantic sailing
expedition in the British Virgin Islands.

A father and son crew from Bangor, along with an
assortment of additional mates, completed the
last leg of a journey that took them from Bangor
to ports throughout Europe and back again over the course of two seasons of
sailing.

Dan Cassidy, 58, and his son David, 23, left
Bangor in May 2006 to start the voyage that would
cover nearly 18,000 miles and take them to 10

different countries. And Amateur Radio went along for the ride.

In a smaller boat, rotating watches have to keep an eye out for other, larger vessels and an ear out for the weather forecasts. For those communications, they relied on a Ham radio contact with an inland operator who monitors weather conditions for mariners.

The Ham radio also allowed Fleana's crew to send e-mails, which sometimes were more reliable than voice communications. Those e-mails were a godsend for family members.

"We were getting some information," said Deena Cassidy, Dan's wife.

"We knew things were going well, so I didn't really worry."

Good day. I'm Robb, VK5MM

--

As we go to air, the voyage continues. (WIA News)

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NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline@arnewsline.org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), P.O. Box 660937, Arcadia, California 91066.

Before we go, the results of our on-line poll that asked the question of what are your upgrade plans now that Morse is no longer required. Well 38.8% of those who responded said they planned to upgrade while only 15.8% said they will stay with the license they now have. And a whopping 45.8% clicked the box that said that they wished everyone would stop talking about the Morse exam going away. We tend to agree.

The new poll now on line regards your ham radio reading habits. It asks what is your favorite major U.S. ham radio magazine. You vote at www.arnewsline.org.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the
editors desk, I'm Jim Damron, N8TMW, and I'm Jeff
Clark, K8JAC, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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1072. The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 23 (June 8. 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-09 10:36:35 UTC
From: ARRL Letter Mailing List <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <200706090419.l594JXVA014011@linux11676.dn.net>
Source record: 4377
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter
Vol. 26, No. 23
June 8, 2007
****

IN THIS EDITION:

* + ARRL, DoD, FCC try to come to terms with Pave Paws
* + ARRL/IARU team to represent Amateur Radio at ITU meeting in Geneva
* + FCC announces enhancements to ULS License Archive
* + It's KD5PLA in for KD5PLB on International Space Station
* + League staffers crisscross the country promoting Amateur Radio
* + ARISS milestone: 300th contact
* Solar Update
* IN BRIEF:
This weekend on the radio
ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration
+New England ham honored for work with Handiham program
+Local radio club to honor John Hennessee, N1KB (SK)
ARRL staff Relays for Life
ARISS warns of pirate activity
ARRL seeks new assistant editor

+Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/>

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==>Delivery problems: First see FAQ
<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/faq.html#nodelivery>, then e-mail
<letter-dlvy@arrl.org>

==>Editorial questions or comments only: S. Khrystyne Keane,
<k1sfa@arrl.org>
==========

==> ARRL, DoD, FCC TRY TO COME TO TERMS WITH PAVE PAWS

The ARRL has sent out more than 100 letters to repeater owners/trustees who have repeaters affected by the "Pave Paws" radars (PPR). Citing an increasing number of interference complaints, the US Air Force has asked the FCC to order dozens of repeater systems to either mitigate interference to the Pave Paws radars or shut down. The ARRL is working with the US Department of Defense (DoD) to develop a plan to mitigate alleged interference from 70 cm ham radio repeaters to this military radar system on both coasts.

The situation affects 15 repeaters within less than 100 miles of Otis Air Force Base on Cape Cod, Massachusetts, and more than 100 repeaters within some 140 miles of Beale Air Force Base near Sacramento, California.

ARRL Regulatory Information Specialist Dan Henderson, N1ND, stresses that the Defense Department acknowledges Amateur Radio's value in disasters and emergencies and is being extremely cooperative -- and a wholesale shutdown of US 70 cm Amateur Radio activity is not on the table.

The Amateur Radio Service is a secondary user in the 420-450 MHz band, both by the Table of Frequency Allocations and the FCC Part 97 regulations. As such, Amateur Radio licensees, jointly and individually, bear the responsibility of mitigating or eliminating any harmful interference to the primary user, which in this case is the Government Radiolocation Service that includes the DoD Pave Paws systems.

The letters sent to affected repeater owners/trustees give them an up-to-date briefing on the ongoing negotiations with the US Air Force, as well as outlines the DoD's plan. The DoD has indicated a willingness to try a mitigation proposal, but they have also indicated their need is for these issues to be resolved sooner rather than later. With that expediency in mind, the proposed mitigation strategy is as follows:

* All repeaters on the DoD list in the affected areas will immediately reduce power to 5 W transmitter power output (TPO). Each repeater licensee/trustee should contact Henderson to confirm this once this has been done for their system. Confirmation of this being done is needed from each repeater owner by Friday, June 15, 2007.

* The ARRL will provide the Longley-Rice calculations for each repeater to the DoD by June 15, 2007. The DoD will provide engineering data to the ARRL and FCC by June 15, 2007. These studies will be reviewed by the DoD, the ARRL Lab and the FCC to determine the amount of mitigation necessary for each repeater. Based on this review by the DoD, additional mitigation proposals for individual repeaters (including further power reductions, lowering of antenna heights, use of more directive antennas and other possible mitigation techniques) will be provided by the ARRL as needed to individual repeater owners. If there is a disagreement on the conclusions, a conference call will be held to resolve any outstanding issues.

* All interference must be resolved no later than August 1, 2007.

* Beginning in August 2007 (and continuing on a periodic basis), the DoD will have a follow-up engineers study at each PPR site to ensure corrective actions have been taken and the interference and to ensure that successful mitigation continues.

According to the DoD, the in-band interference from Amateur Radio fixed FM voice repeaters has increased to an unacceptable level. Pave Paws radars are used for national security functions, including early detection of water-launched missiles. They are critical to our national

defense and are in use 24 hours per day, seven days per week.

The goal of the ARRL has been to develop and implement a plan that would mitigate the interference, and at the same time to permit the repeaters to continue operation and to operate on as liberal a basis as possible. To do so, the League has offered to work closely with the two involved repeater coordinating groups, as well as the individual repeater owners, sharing information and dealing with this issue on a coordinated basis with all stakeholders.

The League has also been in contact with representatives of the FCC. They have the ultimate responsibility for enforcing any mitigation plan, up to and including ordering specific repeaters to shut down operations. The FCC is aware of the complex nature of this problem and the mitigation strategy being proposed by the DoD.

Since Amateur Radio operators are secondary users on the band, the ARRL has few options, and all options involve cooperation with the DoD. It is hoped the Longley-Rice calculations from the ARRL and the DoD's engineering studies will provide enough data to allow as many of the repeaters in the affected areas as possible to remain on the air at reasonable power levels.

It is entirely probable that even with extreme mitigation techniques, some repeaters in close proximity to the PPR sites may have to be shut down permanently. If that happens, official notice would come from the FCC. It is also possible that some repeaters might be required to operate permanently at a lower power level in the areas near these Air Force bases. In those cases, the League will be in contact with the individual repeater owners with that information and the FCC will be notified.

Henderson requests that all repeater owners/trustees affected by this issue immediately implement the 5 W TPO for your repeater/s; please contact his office by June 15 indicating if you have implemented the power reduction. This will allow the ARRL to have voluntary compliance on hand that can be used to show the cooperation of the amateur community.

Henderson stresses that it is to each repeater's long-term advantage to implement the power reduction as soon as possible. The DoD indicated they will be collecting engineering data during June. This presents the opportunity to assess a repeater's actual impact at the lower power level and a more honest determination of its continued potential for harmful interference to the PPR sites. If any repeaters are running at higher power levels, then the determinations can only be based on assumptions rather than on actual data.

==> ARRL/IARU TEAM TO REPRESENT AMATEUR RADIO AT ITU MEETING IN GENEVA

ARRL Chief Executive Officer and IARU Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ, will be representing the IARU at a meeting of ITU-R Working Party 1A next week in Geneva, Switzerland. WP 1A is responsible for spectrum

engineering techniques within Study Group 1 (spectrum management) and will be working on a document that may eventually become what's called a "preliminary draft new report" on the impact of power line telecommunications (PLT, what we call BPL on this side of the Atlantic) on radiocommunication systems operating below 80 MHz. Of course, the IARU's interest is in ensuring that the report accurately reflects the sensitivity of the amateur services to interference from this source. Jon Siverling, WB3ERA, of the ARRL Technical Relations Office is on the US delegation.

Also meeting at about the same time (June 12-20) is ITU-R Working Party 8A, which is responsible for most of the land mobile services, plus the amateur and amateur-satellite services. WP 8A hopes to complete work on a "draft new handbook for the amateur and amateur-satellite services" to be published by the ITU. This isn't competition for The ARRL Handbook -- it is simply an overview of the activities of the amateur services along with existing ITU texts that relate to the two services, and is intended to be a helpful guide for administrations that may not be familiar with Amateur Radio. IARU President Larry Price, W4RA, will represent the IARU, and Sumner will assist as time permits. ARRL Chief Technology Officer Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, is on the US delegation and is chairman of the working group that will deal with the amateur handbook.

After these meetings, Sumner, Price and Rinaldo will travel via train to attend the Friedrichshafen convention in Germany the following weekend.

==> FCC ANNOUNCES ENHANCEMENTS TO ULS LICENSE ARCHIVE

The FCC has announced a redesign of the Universal Licensing System (ULS) License Archive Search. Users can access this new functionality via the "Archives" button under "SEARCH" on the ULS page.

"Each time a license is acted upon, the current version is captured within ULS," the FCC explained this week in a public notice. "The License Archive allows users to view the current and prior versions of a license."

In the redesigned License Archive, the search interface, results screen and detail pages will use the same display as ULS License Search. On the detail pages, users now will be able to directly access license information.

"There will be no need to 'drill down' -- follow link after link -- to reach the information you need," the FCC noted. "This enhancement increases functionality and improves compliance with Section 508 of the Americans with Disabilities Act."

The redesigned License Archive search interface allows a user to search using most of the criteria available in ULS Advanced License Search except for Radio Service Group, Licensee City, State and ZIP Code and Frequencies. Users will have the same ability to sort and restrict their archive search results that they have in ULS License Search, the FCC said. Licensee ID no longer will be available as a License Archive

Search criterion, however. Users should now search by the Licensee's FCC Registration Number (FRN).

The search results display will be similar to the search results in License Search, with a few minor exceptions: There will be no display of a "Pending Applications" icon, a column titled "Version" will display "Archived" or "Current" depending on the version of the license and a "Last Action Date" column will be used instead of "Expiration Date."

In general, the License Archive Search details will look similar to License Search details. However, the following additional fields will be displayed for all archived licenses: Last Action Date, Version, Licensee ID, and Sub-Group Identification Number (SGIN).

Also, other License Search functions that previously were not available in the License Archive have been added, including a "Printable Page" link that allows the user to print the contents of the page pre-formatted for most common printers. A "Reference Copy" link now allows the user to print an unofficial copy of the license. A link to view "Related Applications" from the current version of the license has been added, as has the ability to view attachments and automated letters in a PDF file.

License Archive will display termination pending components similar to the manner in which they are currently displayed in License Search. Additionally, License Archive will display all terminated components of a license, regardless of when it was terminated. These components will indicate a status of "Terminated" on the component's summary and detail pages. Under the previous License Archive system, terminated components were not displayed unless the license itself was terminated as well.

For additional information or assistance, visit the FCC's at <http://esupport.fcc.gov/index.htm> or call the FCC Support Center, (877) 480-3201 or 717-338-2888 (TTY 717-338-2824) and select Option #2, Forms or Licensing Assistance. Hours are weekdays, except federal holidays, from 8 AM until 6 PM Eastern Time.

==> IT'S KD5PLA IN FOR KD5PLB ON INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION

NASA has given the go-ahead for the launch of the space shuttle Atlantis Friday, June 8. The STS-117 mission will carry US astronaut Clay Anderson, KD5PLA, to the International Space Station to succeed Suni Williams, KD5PLB, as ISS Expedition 15 Flight Engineer. Anderson will join Expedition 15 Commander Fyodor Yurchikhin, RN3FI, and Flight Engineer Dr Oleg Kotov.

Williams will return to Earth aboard the Atlantis. She arrived on the ISS last December and has been among the most active ISS crew members on Amateur Radio. NASA originally planned the astro-swap for the STS-118 shuttle mission, now targeted for an August launch.

Atlantis Commander Rick Sturckow and his six crewmates will spend 11 days in space and take part in three spacewalks. Work planned for this

mission will increase the ISS's power capability in preparation for the arrival of new science modules from the European and Japanese space agencies.

Joining Sturckow and Anderson on STS-117 will be Pilot Lee Archambault and mission specialists Patrick Forrester, Steven Swanson, John "Danny" Olivas and Jim Reilly.

==> LEAGUE STAFFERS CRISSCROSS THE COUNTRY PROMOTING AMATEUR RADIO

ARRL Membership Manager Katie Breen, W1KRB, was in Rochester, New York for the Atlantic Division Convention and Rochester Hamfest May 31-June 3. ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN; Atlantic Division Director Bill Edgar, N3LLR, and Vice Director Tom Abernethy, W3TOM, were there as well. Katie reports that both attendance and spirits were high at the event, especially on Saturday morning with long lines and standing-room-only for the VE test sessions. More than 100 test elements were given with over 70 passes. Many excited new hams came to share their good news at the ARRL Booth and have their pictures taken with President Harrison. Katie gave a forum on Saturday afternoon that included a tour of HQ, highlighting the Special Event blogs and videos on youtube.com.

ARRL Regulatory Information Specialist Dan Henderson, N1ND, attended the Georgia State Convention in conjunction with the Atlanta Hamfest on June 2. Dan spoke about the changing face of Amateur Radio since the 2006-2007 rules changes.

ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH, attended the Northwestern Division Convention led by Division Director Jim Fenstermaker, K9JF, and Vice Director Bill Sawders, K7ZN. The event, held in Seaside, Oregon last weekend, attracted about 2500 people from Oregon, Washington, Montana, Alaska, Idaho and California. The special event stations, W1AW/7 was operational for the duration of the convention, which also offered flea market opportunities and key ham radio vendors. More than 300 people attended the Saturday night banquet where Steve Johnson, N7VIC, received a scholarship. The ARRL table saw brisk business as publications and Field Day T-shirts and other paraphernalia flew off the table.

==> ARISS MILESTONE: 300TH CONTACT

On Thursday, May 31, Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) made its 300th contact since its inception back in December 2000. This milestone QSO was to the NASA Teacher Conference in Houston, Texas. The first contact was on December 21, 2000 to Burbank School in Burbank, Illinois.

The United States leads in the number of ARISS contacts with 153. Japan is next with 25; Australia has 18, Canada has 16, Belgium has 10, the United Kingdom and Germany have 8 and France has 7 contacts. A total of 28 countries have made contact with the ISS through ARISS.

For schools interested in setting up an ARISS contact, first check with your local school! See if the school's Amateur Radio school station is sufficiently equipped to enable a successful contact (i.e., general technical level, transceiver + power, steerable antenna, tracking programs and such). Please take into account the expected level of deployment of the Amateur Radio equipment operated onboard ISS. Next, carefully fill out the application form (this can be found at <http://www.rac.ca/ariss/arissapp.htm>. Please make sure to include the school's educational proposal. The educational proposal should include answers to these questions: How will you: a) integrate this activity into the school curriculum and b) involve as many grade levels as you can, participating through essay contests, poster drawing, letter writing and so on? How will you get as much media coverage as possible? For US schools, e-mail your completed application to ariss@arrl.org.

For more information on the ARISS program, please see <http://www.rac.ca/ariss/faqariss.htm.>

==> SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "There's a Little Black Spot on the Sun Today" Cook, K7RA, Western North Carolina, this week, reports:

After five days of no sunspots from May 24-28, spots returned on May 29, and have increased since in number and size. There are currently several sunspots visible, and the sunspot number for the past five days (Sunday through Thursday) was 58, 58, 63, 47 and 59. Coupled with quiet and stable geomagnetic indicators, this is good for HF propagation. Our reporting week for this bulletin (the numbers reported at the end) runs from Thursday through Wednesday, and the average daily sunspot number for May 31 to June 6 rose nearly 43 points to 46.1 when compared to the prior seven days. Average daily solar flux rose nearly 15 points to 83.7.

Last week the latest projection looked like no sunspots around Field Day with a declining geomagnetic disturbance, but this week the forecast looks a little better. Including the Friday before (the event doesn't begin until Saturday) the projected solar flux last week for June 22-24 was 65 for all three days, with a planetary A index of 20, 12 and 5. This week's prediction for those dates shows the same A index, but a solar flux 10 points higher, at 75 for all three days.

A check of recent sunspot numbers alongside solar flux values on the same dates at <http://www.sec.noaa.gov/ftpdir/indices/DSD.txt> shows no sunspots when the solar flux was down around 65, but at 75 the sunspot number can be in the forties.

For the next few days expect continued quiet geomagnetic activity, with the same moderate (for the low point of the sunspot cycle) sunspot count.

Sunspot numbers for May 31 through June 6 were 11, 41, 45, 58, 58, 63 and 47 with a mean of 46.1. 10.7 cm flux was 74.6, 79.4, 83.2, 87, 85.7,

88.8, and 87.1, with a mean of 83.7. Estimated planetary A indices were 4, 6, 7, 10, 8, 3 and 2 with a mean of 5.7. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 2, 5, 5, 7, 8, 2 and 2, with a mean of 4.4.

For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>.

==>IN BRIEF:

* This weekend on the radio: The ARRL June VHF QSO Party is June 9-11. On June 8, it's the NCCC Sprint Ladder and the Digital Pentathlon. The ANARTS WW RTTY Contest, Portugal Day Contest, the Asia-Pacific Sprint (SSB), the GACW WWSA CW DX Contest and the REF DDFM 6 Meter Contest are all on June 9. Coming up on June 13 is the SKCC Sprint, the NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint, the RSGB 80 Meter Club Championship (CW) and the NCCC Sprint Ladder. Next weekend plays host to the Digital Pentathlon, the All Asian DX Contest (CW), the SMIRK Contest, SARL Youth for Amateur Radio, the West Virginia QSO Party, the AGCW VHF/UHF Contest, Kids Day, DIE Contest, Run for the Bacon QRP Contest and the RSGB 80m Club Championship (SSB). See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests/> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more info.

* ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration: Registration remains open through Sunday June 17 for these online courses beginning on Friday July 6; Technician License Course (EC-010), Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 1 (EC-001), Radio Frequency Interference (EC-006), Antenna Design and Construction (EC-009), Analog Electronics (EC-012) and Digital Electronics (EC-013). These courses will also open for registration Friday May 15, for classes beginning Friday July 3. To learn more, visit the CCE Course Listing page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html> or contact the CCE Department <cce@arrl.org>.

* New England ham honored for work with Handiham program: Phil Temples, K9HI, ARRL New England Assistant Director and Affiliated Club Coordinator for the ARRL Eastern Massachusetts Section, was recognized by Boston College for his work with the Courage Center Handiham program and participation in the Read Aloud program in the Boston school system. Temples, an employee in the Boston College Computer Science Department and a Handiham volunteer instructor, received BC's 2007 Community Service Award at a recognition dinner in May. "You have been recognized for your efforts in recruiting, organizing, teaching and mentoring at the non-profit Courage HandiHam System Camp in Lake George, Minnesota and Cupertino, California," wrote William R. Mills, Jr., Director of Community Affairs at Boston College. "We know you consider yourself a privileged man to be able to serve others because you believe that people should have the right to live, work and learn in a community based on abilities, not disabilities."

* Local Radio Club to Honor John Hennessee, N1KB (SK): The Newington Amateur Radio Club (NARL) will operate Field Day this year with call sign W1H in honor of John Hennessee, N1KB (SK). John, a long-time ARRL Headquarters staff member, died last year. He was 42. A Headquarters employee since 1986, Hennessee was a regulatory information specialist in ARRL Field and Educational Services. In addition, Hennessee was an active member of NARL where he was a Field Day regular; he also belonged to the Quarter Century Wireless Association. Over the years, he enjoyed operating various bands and modes, often as a guest operator at W1AW or at the Headquarters club station W1HQ. John enjoyed CW and low-power operating (QRP). For more information contact E. Jonathan Hardy, KB1KIX, NARL Field Day Chairman, at kb1kix@arrl.net. Field Day is June 23-24, 2007.

* ARRL Staff Relays for Life: Team ARRL joined in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life of Newington last weekend, raising almost $3500 to help find a cure for cancer, well over their goal of $3000. Team ARRL remembered those who have lost their battle with cancer, and walked in honor of our survivors. There are more than 4600 Relays this year world-wide. To find a Relay near you, go to <http://www.cancer.org>. You can visit Team ARRL at <http://www.acsevents.org/relay/ctnewington>.

* ARISS warns of pirate activity: Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) reports a rumor that the ISS was making direct contacts on the 40 meter band. ARISS stresses this is not happening, as there is no HF radio equipment on board the space station, although the HF antenna is mounted. Sometimes the Goddard Amateur Radio Club, WA3NAN, retransmits shuttle audio.

* ARRL seeks new Assistant Editor: The ARRL is currently seeking applicants for an Assistant Editor to join the publications group at Headquarters in Newington. The successful candidate will fulfill a variety of responsibilities related to preparing material for publication. The primary responsibilities of the position include preparing general interest and some technical material for publication in QST and on the ARRL Web site; ensuring that manuscripts are well written and engaging, conforming to the rules of grammar, spelling, usage and ARRL style; taking photographs for publication in QST and on the ARRL Web site and writing material for publication. Other responsibilities as may be assigned, and include the possibility of some weekday and weekend travel. Those interested in the position should send a cover letter and resume to LouAnn Campanello at <lcampanello@arrl.org>.

* We stand corrected: The Contest Corral column in the July 2007 issue of QST, which will be arriving in ARRL members' mailboxes soon, lists an incorrect date for the IARU HF World Championship. It will be held July 14-15.
* The resonance probe article listed on the front cover of the July 2007 issue (now being mailed to ARRL members) does not appear in that issue. The article will appear in an upcoming issue.

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The ARRL Letter is published Fridays, 50 times each year, by the American Radio Relay League: ARRL--the National Association for Amateur Radio, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111; tel 860-594-0200; fax 860-594-0259; <http://www.arrl.org>. Joel Harrison, W5ZN, President.

The ARRL Letter offers a weekly e-mail digest of essential and general news of interest to active radio amateurs. Visit the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org> for the latest Amateur Radio news and news updates. The ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/> also offers informative features and columns. ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> is a weekly "ham radio newscast" compiled and edited from The ARRL Letter. It's also available as a podcast from our Web site.

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The ARRL Letter is available to ARRL members free of charge directly from ARRL HQ. To subscribe, unsubscribe or change your address for e-mail delivery:
ARRL members first must register on the Members Only Web Site <http://www.arrl.org/members/>. You'll have an opportunity during registration to sign up for e-mail delivery of The ARRL Letter, W1AW bulletins, and other material. To change these selections--including delivery of The ARRL Letter--registered members should click on the "Member Data Page" link (in the Members Only box). Click on "Modify membership data," check or uncheck the appropriate boxes and/or change your e-mail address if necessary. (Check "Temporarily disable all automatically sent email" to temporarily stop all e-mail deliveries.) Then, click on "Submit modification" to make selections effective. (NOTE: HQ staff members cannot change your e-mail delivery address. You must do this yourself via the Members Only Web Site.)

The ARRL Letter also is available to all, free of charge, from these sources:

* ARRLWeb <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>. (NOTE: The ARRL Letter will be posted each Friday when it is distributed via e-mail.)

* The QTH.net listserver, thanks to volunteers from the Boston Amateur Radio Club: Visit Mailing Lists@QTH.Net <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/letter-list>. (NOTE: The ARRL

cannot assist subscribers who receive The ARRL Letter via this
listserver.)

1073. SARL News in English 9/6/2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-09 14:44:24 UTC
From: website@sarl.org.za
Message-ID: <627394850D334FA68492BFF2ADB2AE9F@toron>
Source record: 4378
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 10 JUNE 2007

You are listening to Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. This broadcast can also be heard on Echolink by connecting to ZS6FCS. To listen to a web stream go to www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links. This, and previous bulletins, can be downloaded from the web site of the SARL i.e. www.sarl.org.za. You can also read or download previous bulletins from there and subscribe to receive future bulletins by email.

This transmission is by Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with relays on 3,695, 10,135, 14,235 and 51,400 MHz as well as 438,825 MHz in the Pretoria area. (Other newsreaders please change to suit).

In the news today:

GET READY FOR YOUTHDAY 2007

CALL FOR BURSARY APPLICATIONS

LAST CHANGE TO ENTER THE 2007 CONSTRUCTION COMPETITION

SARL FAX NUMBER

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

GET READY FOR YOUTHDAY 2007

Is your club and are you ready for Youth Day 2007? The objective of this year's June 16 activity day is to get as many young people to experience amateur radio by operating an amateur radio station under your supervision and talking to other young people on the air.

The emphasis should be on operating an amateur station, not on just handing the microphone to your young guest to say a few words.

Spend some time, showing how to operate the transceiver and how to go about calling CQ or another station. After that you sit back and keep a watchful eye on the operation and give guidance as required. Don't take over.

To make it all legal, simply complete the registration for an educational station. It is available on the web at www.sarl.org.za, click on SARL forms and download the registration as an educational station form, complete the form and fax the completed form to the number on the form. The next step is to send an email to youth@sarl.org.za and give details of the youth day activities you or your club are planning.

The SARL is also planning a special event where the youth can talk to an interesting personality. It was planned to have Mark Shuttleworth as the guest, but due to last minute changes in Mark's travelling schedule he had to pull out. The SARL is talking to other personalities and once finalised details will be available on the web. The special event will be between 10 and 11:30 CAT and to ensure that your group is given an opportunity, it is advisable to register by sending an e-mail to youth@sarl.org.za. Although there will be some open time, there is a better opportunity if you have a booked slot so you don't have to compete with other stations.

Guidelines on how to make Youth Day 2007 a great success will be available on the web from tonight at www.sarl.org.za, click on youth activity at the bottom of the left hand side column. Also look for regular updates.

CALL FOR BURSARY APPLICATIONS

The Itchen Valley Radio Club has made three bursaries available for Students under the age of 25 to become radio amateurs. The bursaries are each valued at R650 and will assist students to enter the October 2007 Class A Radio Examination. The bursaries are known as the Itchen Valley Radio Club YARP 2007 Bursaries and cover the examination enrolment fee and one year's junior membership of the SARL upon passing the examination and R150 towards tuition costs levied by local clubs teaching the RAE. The tuition manual is available free of charge from the SARL web at www.sarl.org.za

"We decided that as part of our outreach we would make a contribution to the development of amateur radio in South Africa, particularly amongst the younger generation", Quentin Gee, the Itchen Valley Radio Club Secretary, told SARL News.

The SA Amateur Radio Development Trust administers the bursaries. The closing date for applications is extended until 30 June 2007. Applications forms are available on www.amateurradio.org.za.

NEXT PRESIDENT'S NET AND INTECNET ON 1 JULY

The next President's Net and Intecnet will be held on Sunday 1 July starting with the President's Net at 19:00 followed by the Intecnet at 20:00. The subject for discussion on the Intecnet will be about home construction. Stay tuned for more details.

SARL FAX NUMBER - PLEASE CHANGE YOUR RECORDS

Some time ago the SARL fax number at the NARC was converted to a faxmail system which allows faxes to be received on the office PC with the facility to email the fax to councillors if the fax requires their attention.

The new number is the old number with a 088 prefix. The full fax number is thus 088 011 675 2793.

Please use the full 13-digit number, failing to do so means that your fax will no longer arrive at the NARC.

LAST CHANGE TO ENTER THE 2007 CONSTRUCTION COMPETITION

The closing date for entries is Monday 11 June. The competition is an open competition where the entrant decides what he or she would like to enter. Once all the paper entries are received, the judging committee will meet to evaluate all the paper entries and select five finalists.

Each finalist will have up to R1 000 at his/her disposal to construct the project.

The closing date for the completed project is 31 July 2007 and the prizes will be presented at the SARL RTA in Johannesburg on 18 August. Verstay, Yaesu distributors in South Africa, will present the two overall winners with a Yaesu 2 metre mobile transceiver. Full details on www.amateurradio.org.za.

YOUTH DAY ACTIVITIES

The Magalies Radio Amateur Club invites everyone to the official opening of the new radio centre at The John Vorster Technological School situated in Meyer Street, Rietfontein, Pretoria. Activities commence at 08:30 with the official opening of the radio centre by Hans van de Groenendaal, ZS6AKV, where after the new ZU licensees will operate their own radio station under the call sign ZS6JVT. All radio amateurs are invited to make contact with the youngsters on 40 and 80 metres as well as on VHF.

Call-ins for directions to the school will be available from 08:00 on the 145,750 repeater. Please visit us on youth day and experience the excitement displayed by the young radio amateurs, it is contagious.

The Alberton Amateur Radio Club (AARC) will be setting up a special event field station at the Dalview Primary School in Brakpan as part of the Youth Day festivities. A station will be active on HF, VHF and UHF from Friday 15 June and again from 08:00 to 12:00 on 16 June. An APRS station will be on show and a foxhunt will form part of the activities.

CLUB NEWS

ZS6PTA Mega Flea market. The Pretoria Amateur Radio Club wil be hosting their winter flea market on 30 June 2007 at the South Campus of the University of Pretoria, on the corner of Lynwood and University roads. The starting time is 09:00 and all are welcome. There will be the usual tasty eats and drinks available. For more information, or to book a

table, contact Almero, ZS6LDP, on 012 567 3722 or on 082 908 3359.

Website of ZS6POT. It is with pleasure that the Potchefstroom Amateur Radio Club announces that it now has its own website, www.zs6pot.za.org. The webmaster is Mike Brink, ZR6BRI, and the management of the club and all its members thank Mike for his outstanding effort. Please visit this exciting new website and give your comments!

CONTEST NEWS

The SARL Digital Contest will be run on Sunday 24 June 2007 from 15:00 to 18:00 CAT. Following a suggestion from the SARL VHF Manager, the contest has been changed to include 6 and 2 metres as well. The rules can be found in the 2007 SARL Contest Manual.

PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the expected solar activity will be at low to moderate levels with a slight chance of high activity. The geomagnetic field is expected to be quiet. The expected Effective Sun Spot number for the coming week will be less than 15. The higher sun activity in conjunction with a quiet geomagnetic field may lead to a bit of excitement.

20 and 40 metres will provide best opportunities for DX. There is a possibility of 20 metre openings towards India from about 16:00 CAT. 20 metre may open towards Australia from 07:00. From about 17:00, there may be 20 metre openings towards Europe. At about 16:00 short 20 metre openings towards the West Coast of the USA are possible. Otherwise, contacts to the USA are going to be very challenging. For the CW and digital enthusiasts, it may also be worth monitoring 10 MHz.

Remember that HF always has the capability to surprise you. You will never know what you are missing unless you switch your rig on, listen and call CQ.

Please visit www.spaceweather.co.za for further information.

DIARY OF EVENTS

16 June - SARL Youth day; 24 June - SARL Digital Contest; 30 June - Closing date for updating of SA DX Survey; ZS6PTA Flea Market 1 July - President's Net and Intechnet; 2 August - Class B RAE; 18 October - Class A RAE.

SARL News depends on clubs and individuals for news items of importance and interest to radio amateurs. The one and only way to ensure that your contribution will reach the SARL News team, is to place it in www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date. It will be appreciated if you will do it in both Afrikaans and English.

The SARL also invites all listeners to listen to the program Amateur Radio Mirror International this Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 695 kHz. Audio is also streamed on www.zs6mrk.org and on Echolink from ZS6FCS as for this bulletin. A repeat transmission takes place on Mondays at 21:00 on 3 215 kHz. Telkom and Sentech sponsor the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

You have been listening to a news bulletin by the South African Radio League, which was compiled by Dennis, ZS4BS.

A prosperous week to all, 73.

/EX

========== Message Ends ========== To edit or remove your entry from this mailing list go to www.sarl.org.za/members/admin/maildat.asp

1074. Programming 2 mtr repeater and simplex frequencies

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-09 14:53:34 UTC
From: "Dr.Ace" <Ace@WH2T.com>
Message-ID: <87327$4669ca97$4e04e17$29769a@DIALUPUSA.NET>
Source record: 4379
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

INTRODUCTION

This article describes how to program almost every U.S. repeater and simplex frequency for the entire 2 meter FM band plan into a radio's memory channels.
http://www.bloomington.in.us/~wh2t/two.html

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1075. GB2RS NEWS Sunday 10 June 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-09 18:47:33 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200706091847.l59IIEC02308@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4380
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

1 GB2RS NEWS Sunday 10 June

The news headlines

* British ARDF Championships go well

* Centenary of Marconi's Clifden station

* Club marks Amelia Earhart's solo Atlantic flight

The British ARDF Championships were held over the Spring Bank Holiday weekend as part of a three day International Festival of ARDF and attracted visitors from Germany, China and Kazakhstan.

RSGB president Angus Annan visited on the second day. In spite of poor weather, the participants set out with determination to find their allotted hidden transmitters which had been placed in Bucknell Woods, Shropshire. Angus presented the new 3.5 MHz ARDF trophy to Michael Dunbar, RS195082, whose time on the M40 course was the fastest of the day for the host country participants.

This year marks the centennial of those first sparks generated from Marconi's historic Clifden station. To commemorate this event W8HC has announced a special amateur radio operation from both locations central to Marconi's fame and success as a pioneer in wireless technology.

Ballycastle-Rathlin was his first wireless telegraph station and the Clifden station was his last, ceasing operation in 1922. In 1907, Guglielmo Marconi's dream of fixed point-to-point wireless telegraph stations linking North America and Europe became a reality. Derrygimla near Clifden, County Galway served as the site of his wireless station. Over the next 15 years, spark-induced blue flashes generated by the station's massive 20 kV generators sent tens of thousands of wireless messages across the Atlantic, linking to its North American counterpart at Glace Bay, Nova Scotia.

On August 4 and 5 Hal W8HC will operate from Ballycastle as GI/W8HC/p. He will also be taking part in the annual Marconi Festival at Ballycastle with the Marconi Radio Group's MNO/MRG special event station on 5 and 6 of August, he will ferry over to Rathlin Island (EU-122) and operate from East Lighthouse (ARLS designator NTI 011). He will arrive in Clifden on 8 August where he will operate as EI/W8HC/p at the Derrygimla site on 9 and 10 August. It is hoped that some operating time can also occur from nearby Letterfrack, site of an ancillary receive station built in 1912 to allow for full duplex operation of the transatlantic signals.

All QSOs will be confirmed via Log of The World and special QSLs from each of these historic Marconi locations will be printed and sent via GlobalQSL www.globalqsl.com. In addition, a specially designed certificate will be issued to those stations making contact with both GI and EI operations from either Ballycastle or Rathlin and Derrygimla or Letterfrack.

Foyle and District Local Amateur Radio Club recently linked up with an amateur radio group in the Newfoundland on the 75th anniversary of aviation pioneer Amelia Earhart's solo Atlantic crossing. She took off from Harbour Grace airfield en route to Paris and despite a gruelling passage and storms she landed safely in Gallagher's field at Ballyarnett on 21 May 1932.

A live link up was set up on 20 to 21 May with their counterparts in Newfoundland where the epic flight began. The amateur radio group in Conception Bay and Harbour Grace added a further historic dimension to the event as they transmitted on vintage radio equipment from their local museum. Civic dignitaries, including the Mayor of Habour Grace, sent good wishes to the people of Derry.

2 On 24 July to 8 August both the 21st World Scout Jamboree in Chelmsford in the United Kingdom and Brownsea Island will be on the air with their own fully equipped amateur radio stations. Both will offer a radio programme to the participating Scouts. The stations are operated by an international team of Scout radio amateurs.

During the Sunrise Ceremony on 1 August, GB100J will have a central role in connecting the world together. It will be part of the Sunrise Network.

The staff at GB100J offer a full radio-scouting set of activities to all Jamboree participants. The station is located at the Central Plaza of the camp site and will be active on all HF bands. Arrangements are being made for a contact with the International Space Station on one of its passes over the Jamboree.

Following the resignation of Bill Mahoney, G3TZM, after 21 years service to the Repeater Management Committee, a new committee member is sought for the West Midlands Area. The Chairman and Members of the RMC would wish to place on record their sincere thanks to Bill for his long and loyal service to the repeater community and wish him all the very best for the future.

Duties of committee members include dealing with all repeater issues in their area, advising on feasibility and vetting of proposals, liaison with local repeater groups, representing the RMC at rallies and attendance at RMC meetings.

Those RSGB members interested in applying for this interesting position should send their CV detailing experience in amateur radio and particularly in respect of repeaters to John McCullagh, GI4BWM, the RMC Chairman. John can be contacted by email at gi4bwm@ukrepeater.net or by post via RSGB HQ. The closing date for receipt of applications is 31

July.

Falkland Remembrance Weekend takes place next weekend 16/17th June, marking its 25th anniversary. The Firepower Museum, located in the former Royal Arsenal site at Woolwich will be holding a special display over the weekend, including visits from vehicles similar to those involved.

GB2FR will be operated on HF and VHF by the Museum Station, by members of the museum club station from 10am on Saturday 16th until 4pm on Sunday 17th. QSL Cards and certificates will also be available for working this unique special event call.

Visitors are most welcome on site and will be extended the courtesy of the microphone if they bring their identification with them. There is a free museum car park adjacent to the Museum. And now for the details of rallies and events for the coming week

[Note to newsreaders: please exercise your judgement on which of the 10 June events to read, based on your service area and time of transmission].

On Sunday 10 June the Elvaston Castle National Radio Rally takes place from 9am at Elvaston Castle Country Park, Elvaston, Derby. Details from Les on 01332 559965 or on the web at www.elvastonrally.co.uk. On Sunday 17 June the Newbury and District ARS rally and boot sale takes place from 9.30 at the Newbury Showground, near M4 Junction 13. Email carboot@nadars.org.uk for more information. On Sunday 17 June the East Suffolk Wireless Revival takes place from 9.30 at Suffolk Showground, Felixstowe Road, Ipswich. More details from John, G3XDY, on 01473 717830 or Steve, M1ACB, on 07720 412648. More details of these and future events can be found on pages 88 and 89 of the June edition of RadCom.

Now for the news of special events GB25FC is the special event call sign that will be active until 18 June to commemorate 25 years since the end of the Falklands conflict. Up to four independent stations working from the Wyke Regis Amateur Radio Training Centre. They will be using Morse, SSB, digital modes, RTTY SSTV & UI-View, and there will also

3 be a station working through the local radio internet links. Anyone who is licensed and would like to help work one or more of the stations is invited to contact the organisers by email to gb25fc@wykeradio.org.

GB1EPC will be active until 28 June to celebrate the European PSK Club 1st birthday. EPC number is EPC#2000. The station will be setup at Bridge Street in Glasgow. Anyone is welcome to operate at the station - PSK modes only of course. QSL cards via MM0DFV. Roger Greengrass, G4NRG, plans to operate as GM4NRG/P from the Isle of Lismore Scotland, EU-008, until 15 June. He will try and put a spot on the DX cluster when operational. Operation will be on HF and 6m, holiday style, on SSB and digital modes. QSL via home call.

On the 10 June several members of the Marcon section of ARI in Italy will join the operations relevant to the Museum Ships Weekend 2007, in coordination with A.R.M.I. (Italian Mariners Radioamateurs Association). This weekend will see the simultaneous activation of many military and commercial ships around the world.

The Bolsover Amateur Radio Society will be operating as GB2PF on Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 August to commemorate the birthday of local man Peter Fidler, who was a famous surveyor in Canada in the 1790s. The club intends to operate as many bands as possible, HF, VHF and UHF, from the new club shack located at the Coalite Sports and Social Club, Moor Lane, Bolsover.

And now the HF DX news compiled from 425 DX News, the Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin and other sources.

Isido, I1XOI, Piera, IK1AIF, Mario, IW1PZC, Giovanni, IZ1DFG, Giorgio, IZ1HGP, Mauro, IW2KVT, Giuseppe, I2AZ and possibily Emanuele, IW2NOD will be active as IG9/homecall from Lampedusa Island (AF-019, IIA AG-001) on 9 to 19 June. They plan to operate SSB and CW on the HF bands plus 6 and 2 metres. QSL via home calls, direct or bureau. In June and July 1944 the BBC war correspondents used the tower of the chateau at Creully as a radio studio, from where the first reports of the Battle of Normandy were broadcasted. Look for special callsign TM5BBC to be aired again from Creully until 15 June. QSL via F2UW.

Six operators from the Flying Dutch DX Group will be active as HB0/PA0ABM from Triesenberg, Liechtenstein on 15 to 22 June. They will operate on 160 to 10 metres CW, SSB and some digital modes with two stations. Logs will be available at www.logsearch.de/ and will be uploaded to Log of The World. QSL via PA0ABM, direct or bureau. The White Tower DX Team's operation from Skyros Island (EU-060) is expected to take place on 16 to 22 June. Nine operators SV0XAW, SV2FPU, SV2HNZ, SV2HOB, SV2HPP, SV2HPY, SV2HRT, SV2HSV and SV2GNQ will be active as SY8WT with six stations, five amplifiers and a wide range of beams, verticals and dipoles. QSL via SV2HPP, direct or bureau. Look for RV3ATS, RV3ATT and RU3AVF to operate on 10, 15, 20, 40, 80 and 2 metres as RV3ATS/p from 16 mountains located in various different Russian Districts between 19 June and 21 July. They also plan to participate in a number of contests on the VHF and HF bands. QSL via RV3ATS, direct or bureau. The Polish 3B6 Agalega Islands DXpedition Team will be operating until 18 June. In an announcement by team leader Witek, SP9MRO, the group's call sign was confirmed as 3B6DX. For more details and updates, visit www.3b6.godx.eu. Francois, ON4LO, will be active as CT/ON4LO/p from a couple of Portuguese lighthouses namely Cabo de Sao Vincente (ARLHS POR-012) and Ponta Sagres (ARLHS POR-043) until 29 June. He plans to operate

4 SSB and digital modes on 10 to 40 metres. Marq, CT1BWW, will operate as CQ4IPY on 9 to 15 June and to celebrate the 4th International Polar Year. Expect him to be active on 10 to 80 metres SSB, CW, PSK31, RTTY and SSTV. QSL via home call.

Special event station TM2RHC, which stands for 2nd Regiment Helicoptere Combat, will be active on 10 to 24 June before and during an air show at Le Luc le Cannet, France. QSL via F4EUN.

ARI Versilia will activate special event station II5MD on 11 to 13 June for the Meucci Day. Antonio Meucci was recognized as the first inventor of the telephone by the United States Congress in its resolution 269 dated 11 June 2002. QSL via operator's instructions.

Celebrating the 750th anniversary of Krakow's city rights is HF750C, which will be active until 30 June. QSL via SP9BRP. Expect also a large number of local operators to use special prefix SN0 during the year.

Now the contest news The RGSB 80m Club Championships takes place between 1900 to 2030 on 13 June on the 3.5MHz band, CW. The exchange takes the form of RST and serial number. The All Asian Contest takes place from 0000 on 16 June to 2359 on 17 June on the 1.8 to 28MHz bands, CW. The exchange takes the form of RST and Age. The RSGB 432MHz activity takes place between 2000 to 2230 on 12 June on 70cm, all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. The RSGB 50MHz Trophy Contest takes place between 1400 on 16 June to 1400 on 17 June on 6m, all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. The RSGB 50MHz Backpackers takes place between 1100 to 1500 on 6m, all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. Now the solar factual data for the period from 28 May to the 3 June compiled by Martin Harrison, G3USF. After weeks with low or very low solar activity, a big new sunspot that appeared on the 1st quickly brought the largest batch of flares this year, with 7 M-class and 4-C-class flares on the 2nd and 3rd, triggering several sudden ionospheric disturbances that affected the low bands. The solar flux increased from 67 to 87, with the weekly average rising from 70 to 76. However, the 90-day average remained at 73. X-ray flux levels were initially minimal but surged to B1.0 on the 1st. Geomagnetic levels were in single figures every day except the 3rd, when a high-speed coronal stream resulted in an Ap figure of 10. The average was a lowly 6 units. Solar wind speeds ranged between 277km/sec on the 31st and 531km/sec on the 3rd. Particle densities were mostly low but reached 31 per cubic centimetre on the 2nd, when the interplanetary magnetic field showed its maximum variation of plus 10 and minus 5 nanoTeslas. HF propagation was variable, with some disappointing days but others with good openings to Asia and the Pacific and evening propagation to South and North America and Japan. Thanks to the low geomagnetic field transpolar paths were more reliable. Sporadic-E was reported every day at 28 and 50MHz, with occasional 4-metre openings on 4 metres and at least one on 2 metres to Spain and Italy.

5 And finally the forecast. That big sunspot will still be making itself felt, though it will have passed the central meridian. It seems set to sustain the solar flux in the 80s for most of the week, though the level may dip into the 70s towards the weekend. Geomagnetic levels will be variable. There is a possibility of flare-induced disturbances

over the next few days and a recurring coronal hole will bring higher geomagnetic levels around the 14th or 15th. MUFs at equal latitudes will reach 18MHz in southern Britain and 15MHz in the north on the quieter days, but will be a couple of MHz lower during disturbed periods. Darkness hour lows should be about 10MHz. Paths to South America will have a maximum usable frequency around 23MHz; but 24 and 28MHz openings will be possible on the better days. The optimum working frequency, giving a 90 per cent chance of a contact, will be about 18 MHz. The best time will be between 2000 and midnight UTC. Expect 28 and 50MHz sporadic-E on a daily basis, with openings at 70MHz on several days. A vigilant watch on 144MHz may catch brief, intense openings there, mainly through bearings from east to south. And that's all from the propagation team for another week.

6 Next, the Local News:

Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses

and website links where known.

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your

transmission.]

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST

and EAST ANGLIA On Sunday 10 June Cambridge and District Amateur Radio Club is taking part in the Practical Wireless 144MHz QRP Contest. Contact David, G8JKV.

On Sunday 10 June Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is taking part in the Practical Wireless 144MHz QRP Contest. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk. On Sunday 10 June Southdown Amateur Radio Society is operating at the Beachy Head Site. Contact John, G3DQY, on 0124424319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com. On Monday 11 June Basingstoke Amateur Radio Club is having a Club Meeting. Contact Frank, M0AEU, by email to barc@2lo.info. On Monday 11 June Coulsdon Ats is having its annual DF Hunt in Banstead Woods. Contact Andy, G8JAC, on g8jac@btinternet.com. On Monday 11 June Surbiton Heritage Amateur Radio And Electronics Society is having an electronics and radio quiz. Contact Tony, G7DGW, on g7dgw@shares.uk.net, or on the web at www.shares.uk.net. On Monday 11 June Surrey Radio Contact Club is having a VHF NFD 2007 planning meeting at the home of John, G8IYS. Contact Ray, G4FFY, on 020 8644 7589. On Tuesday 12 June Stevenage and District Amateur Radio Society is operating VHF. Contact Neil, M0ARH, on 01438 217 077. On Wednesday 13 June Aylesbury Vale Radio Society is working on the club project, is on the air and having a discussion evening. Contact Roger, G3MEH, on 01442 826 651, or by email to roger@g3meh.com. On Wednesday 13 June Dover Radio Club is having a presentation on the DAB digital radio update by Matt, M1CMN. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk. On Wednesday 13 June

Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is planning for VHF NFD. Contact Jim, M1JJN. On Wednesday 13 June Farnborough and District Radio Society is having a talk on mathematics in radio by John, G3KND. Contact Colin, M3IHS. On Wednesday 13 June Harwich Amateur Radio Interest Group is having a mini scrap heap challenge night with M0ZZO and 2E0XIS. Contact James, M0ZZO, on 01255 242 746. On Wednesday 13 June Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is having a friendly DF hunt. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk. On Wednesday 13 June South Essex Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on air band by Bob, M3OBO. Contact Dave, G4UVJ, on 01268 697 978, or by email to southessex.ARS@btinternet.com. On Thursday 14 June Brede Steam Amateur Radio Society is operating HF from the bunker. Contact Steve, M0SSR, on 01424 720 815.

7 On Thursday 14 June Echelford Amateur Radio Society is having a qiz night. Contact John Osborne, G4GSC, on 01784 451898.

On Thursday 14 June Reading and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk and demo on "Tracking the Falcon" by Falconer Steve Turner, G1PPA. Contact Pete, G8FRC, on 01189 695 697. On Thursday 14 June Shefford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a direction finding event on foot. Contact David, G8UOD, on 01234 742 757. On Friday 15 June Wey Valley Amateur Radio Group is having its AGM. Contact or on the web at www.weyvalleyarg.org.uk. On Saturday 16 June Horndean and District Amateur Radio Club is operating GB0RMM at the Royal Marines Museum, Portsmouth. Contact Stuart, G0FYX, on 023 9247 2846, or on the web at www.hdarc.co.uk. On Saturday 16 June Loughton and Epping Forest Amateur Radio Society is operating GB2NWA at North Weald Airfield, North Weald, Essex. Contact Marc, G0TOC, on 020 8502 1645, or by email to info@lefars.org.uk. On Saturday 16 June Radio Society of Harrow is operating GB2DHH at the DeHavilland Heritage Museum, London Colney. Contact Linda, G7RJL, on 020 8386 8586, or on the web at www.g3efx.org.uk or Chris 01895 621 310. On Sunday 17 June Cambridge and District Amateur Radio Club is visiting Wimpole Church Fete. Contact David, G8JKV.

On Sunday 17 June Felixstowe and District Amateur Radio Society is going to the ESWR Rally at Suffolk Showground. Contact Paul, G4YQC, by email to paul.whiting@bt.com. On Sunday 17 June Newbury and District Amateur Radio Society is holding their annual Rally and Car Boot Sale at Newbury Showground. Contact Richard, G3ZGC, on 01635 46241, richard.jolliffe@vodafone.com.

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST

On Monday 11 June Cornish Radio Amateur Club is having a computer section meeting at the new venue. Contact Ian, 01872 561 058.

On Tuesday 12 June Flight Refuelling Amateur Radio Society is running its intermediate training course. Contact Tony, G3PFM, on 01202 622 262. On Tuesday 12 June Poldhu Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on Goonhilly by Anthony, G0XPD . Contact Keith, G0WYS, on 01326 574 441.

On Wednesday 13 June South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is having a QSL card evening. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282. On Wednesday 13 June Taunton and District Amateur Radio Club is operating the club station. Contact William, G3WNI, on 01823 666 234, or by email to g3wni@btinternet.com. On Wednesday 13 June Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is having an is on the air night. Contact Tony, G0WMB, by email to tonytsgarc@beeb.net. On Thursday 14 June Yeovil Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on QRPP operation G3MYM. Contact Derek, 01935 414 452, or by email to m0wob@tiscali.co.uk. On Friday 15 June Jersey Amateur Radio Society is working outside on the antennas, towers and building. Contact Phil, MJ0JER, by email to gj3dvc@gj3dvc.org.je.

8 On Friday 15 June Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is having a radio evening in Jill Mill car park. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Friday 15 June Torbay Amateur Radio Society is having an operating night. Contact Dave, G6FSP, by email to g6fsp@tars.org.uk.

NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS

On Sunday 10 June Stourbridge and District Amateur Radio Society is attending the Alveston Rally. Contact John, M1EJG, on 01562 700 513.

On Monday 11 June Stourbridge and District Amateur Radio Society is having an open shack night. Contact John, M1EJG, on 01562 700 513. On Monday 11 June Stratford Upon Avon District Radio Society is having a fox hunt. Contact Jack, G3VYE, on 01926 641 988. On Tuesday 12 June Eagle Radio Group is having a talk on the Lincolnshire and Nottingham Air Ambulance Service. Contact Terry, G0SWS, on 07979 733 640. On Tuesday 12 June Loughborough and District Amateur Radio Club is visiting the Sutton Coldfield TV transmitter. Contact Chris, G1ETZ, on 01509 504 319. On Wednesday 13 June Lincoln Short-Wave Club is having a news, views and progress report on the new shack. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153. On Wednesday 13 June Telford and District Amateur Radio Society is taking part in a contest with Mid-Cheshire Amateur Radio Society. Contact Mike, G3JKX, on 01952 299 677, or by email to mjstreetg3jkx@blueyonder.co.uk. On Thursday 14 June Salop Amateur Radio Society is visiting the Wooferton site. Contact Glenda, G1YJB, on 01939 235 412.

On Friday 15 June Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is having a vintage computer evening with Phil Parry, M0DLZ. Contact Carl, M0XBE, on 07979 092 447, or on the web at www.hrrarc.com. On Friday 15 June Melton Mowbray Amateur Radio Society is having its annual fox hunt to decide the award of the G4RPS Memorial Trophy. Contact Phil, G4LWB, on phil@croxtonkerr.fsnet.co.uk. On Saturday 16 June Lincoln Short-Wave Club is operating GB2CWP as part of museums on the air weekend. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153. NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

On Monday 11 June Macclesfield and District Radio Society is having a talk and presentation about summits on the air by Tom Read, M1EYP and Jimmy Read, M3EYP. Contact Tom, M1EYP, on 01625 612 916, tommyread@hotmail.com, or on the web at www.gx4mws.com. On Monday 11 June Thornton Cleveleys Amateur Radio Society is having a talk by Brian Rigby on Magistrates Courts. Contact Jack, G4BFH, by email to jack.duddington@btinternet.com.

On Tuesday 12 June Halifax and District Amateur Radio Society is having a members technical evening at Rishworth School. Contact Brenda, 2E0YKS, by email to wrenuk10@yahoo.com. On Tuesday 12 June Morecambe Bay Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on SOTA by Ian, G7KXV. Contact Chris, M5XYZ.

9 On Tuesday 12 June Wakefield and District Amateur Radio Society is having a barbecue at the QTH of John, G7JTH. Contact Dave, G4CLI, on 07748 221 855, or by email to g4cli@hotmail.co.uk.

On Wednesday 13 June Great Lumley Amateur Radio And Electronics Society is having a construction night. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk. On Wednesday 13 June Grimsby Amateur Radio Society is taking part in the 80m CW club contest. Contact Brian, G4DXB, on 01472 231 383. On Wednesday 13 June Hornsea Amateur Radio Club is having an activity night. Contact Steve, G4GPY, on 01482 860 440, or by email to g4gpy@eddiesplace.karoo.co.uk. On Friday 15 June South Manchester Radio And Computer Club is having a talk on electrical safety by Ged, G8RSI. Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999. On Friday 15 June Tynemouth Radio Club is having a talk on amateur Radio for a pound by Tony, G8YFA. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk. On Saturday 16 June Grimsby Amateur Radio Society is operating GB2TA as part of museums is on the air weekend. Contact Brian, G4DXB, on 01472 231 383. NEWS FOR SCOTLAND

On Sunday 10 June Cockenzie and Port Seton Amateur Radio Club is taking part in the Practical Wireless 144MHz QRP Contest. Contact Bob, GM4UYZ, on 01875 811 723. On Monday 11 June Lothians Radio Society is having its AGM at Ettrick Hotel. Contact Toby, MM0TSS, on 07739 742 367, or by email to enquiries@lothiansradiosociety.com, or on the web at www.lothiansradiosociety.com. On Thursday 14 June Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is having an outside field night, on the air as portable or mobile. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

On Saturday 16 June Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is operating GB2GTM at Grampian Transport Museum for International Museums Weekend. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk. On Sunday 17 June Cockenzie and Port Seton Amateur Radio Club is operating GB2MOF for Museum of Flight at East Fortune. Contact Bob, GM4UYZ, on 01875 811 723.

NEWS FOR WALES

No news items have been received for Wales this week. NEWS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

On Sunday 17 June Bangor and District Amateur Radio Club is holding its Radio and Computer Rally. Contact Mike, GI4XSF, on 028 4277 2 383. And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast,

prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

1076. IRTS Radio News Bulletin,

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-10 20:57:20 UTC
From: news at irts dot ie <devnull@panix.com>
Message-ID: <200706102057.l5AKv9P14572@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4381
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

[No readable article body recovered]

1077. IRTS Radio News Bulletin, Sunday June 10th 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-10 21:14:04 UTC
From: news at irts dot ie <devnull@panix.com>
Message-ID: <200706102113.l5ALDpj08082@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4382
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Irish Radio Transmitters Society
Radio News Bulletin

Sunday June 10th 2007

CW Field Day

Three Irish field day stations were heard during last weekend's CW Field Day. Shannon Basin Radio Club, using the call sign EI3Z/P, and South Dublin Radio Club (EI2SDR/P) battled it out in the grounds of Garbally College in Ballinasloe, County Galway, while well known EI contester Paul EI5DI operated with the "GI Brass Pounders" (call sign GI6YM/P) in County Antrim. Although the weather was not so kind, band conditions were generally good. There was a lot of Solar activity over the weekend, following the M3 flare on Friday 1st June, making band openings unpredictable. However 10 metres and 15 metres were open for some hours on Saturday and also briefly on Sunday.

The majority of QSOs were with other field day stations in IARU Region 1, particularly UK and German stations. However all participants reported calls from DX stations, with Australian, African and South Pacific call signs in the logs.

Theory Examination

Next Saturday, the 16th of June is the closing date for those intending to sit the theory examination for an Experimenter's Licence to be held on Thursday the 28th of June.

As announced last week all of the places for the exam centre at the ComReg offices in Dublin have already been allocated. In addition to the Dublin exam centre an examination will also be held on the same date and time and with the same paper at the Community Centre, Carrigtwohill, Co. Cork. Anyone who intends sitting the exam at this centre and who has not already done so would need to forward the appropriate fee immediately to Se&#65533;n Nolan EI7CD, 12 Little Meadow, Pottery Road,

Dunlaoghaire, Co Dublin.

The fee is 50 Euro or 25 Euro for full time registered students those who are retired, unemployed have a disability or are repeating the examination. Remember, the closing date for applications is Saturday next the 16th of June and for administrative reasons this date has to be strictly enforced. Se&#65533;n's e mail address for further enquiries is ei7cd at gofree dot indigo dot ie and his postal address may be found in the call book section of the IRTS website at www.irts.ie.

International Museums Weekend

The International Museums Weekend takes place on the 16th and 17th of June. This amateur radio special event has grown in popularity since the first event was held in 2002.

Among past participants are The Tower of London, HMS Belfast and the US battleship New Jersey. The Howth Martello Radio Group will be participating again this year, operating from the Vintage Radio Museum in Howth. Visitors are welcome to call and operate the station over the weekend. The museum web site is www.qsl.net/ei5em/museum.html. A full list of participating museums and further information of the event is available from the organiser's web site www.ukradioamateur.co.uk/imw.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group

The date of the next theory revision class will take place on Tuesday the 19th of June at 7.30 p.m. in the Roanmore Centre, Waterford.

The next general meeting will take place on Monday the 26th of June at 8.00 p.m. in the Roanmore Centre, Waterford.

Comeragh Cycle Race

The national under 23 road racing championship will take place in Waterford on the 1st of July. Richie EI9HR is event Co-ordinator and he is being assisted by John EI8JA. This years race will be on a greater scale with over 160 riders taking part. The Civil Defence have come on board this year to help with marshalling and RTE will be filming the event.

AREN will provide the communications for safe traffic management and accident reporting. There will be more radio reporting points and mobile stations than last year so more radio operators are required. Again newcomers are welcome and training will be provided on the morning of the race. This is an excellent opportunity for operators to put their radio skills to good use in a very enjoyable and rewarding way for the benefit of the Community. All operators irrespective of experience are welcome.

Please contact Richie on mobile 085-1465465 or evenings on 051-854315. You can also contact Richie by e-mail at "ei9hr at yahoo dot com".

Rallys

Bangor & District Amateur Radio Society Rally will take place on Sunday the 17th of June in the Crawfordsburn Country Park, Helen's Bay, Co. Down. The Cork Radio Club Rally will take place on Sunday the 23rd of September in the Blarney Park Hotel, Blarney, Co. Cork, the Waterford Rally will take place on the 21st of October 2007 in the Woodlands Hotel, Waterford and the Mayo Radio Rally will be on Sunday the 18th of November in the Belmont Hotel, Knock, Co. Mayo.

A full listing of upcoming rallys is available on www.irts.ie.

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall, EI7IS at QTHR or by phone to 051-853806 or 087-6302026. Items for the radio news can also be faxed to 087 5 6302026. News should be submitted via e-mail to news at irts dot ie for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Friday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sundays bulletin.

1078. Re: Programming 2 mtr repeater and simplex frequencies

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-10 22:40:45 UTC
From: The Shadow <Repose@Zilch.com>
Message-ID: <hUZai.404758$7g3.40687@newsfe14.phx>
Source record: 4383

"John" <jlwsecure-usenet6@yahoo.com> wrote in message
news:Xns994B8158959FFjlwsecure@207.115.17.102...
> "Dr.Ace" <Ace@WH2T.com> wrote in
> news:87327$4669ca97$4e04e17$29769a@DIALUPUSA.NET:
>
>> INTRODUCTION
>>
>> This article describes how to program almost every U.S. repeater and
>> simplex frequency for the entire 2 meter FM band plan into a radio's
>> memory channels.
>> http://www.bloomington.in.us/~wh2t/two.html
>>
> Informative. Does anyone know if there is such a list for 70 cm freqs
> also?
>
Take a look at the SERA FREQUENCY UTILIZATION PLAN for 420-450 MHz

http://www.sera.org/440.html

73
Lamont

1079. Re: Programming 2 mtr repeater and simplex frequencies

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-11 00:11:25 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5d3gvuF330f98U1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4384

"Dr.Ace" <Ace@WH2T.com> wrote in message
news:87327$4669ca97$4e04e17$29769a@DIALUPUSA.NET
> INTRODUCTION
>
> This article describes how to program almost every U.S.
> repeater and simplex frequency for the entire 2 meter FM
> band plan into a radio's memory channels.
> http://www.bloomington.in.us/~wh2t/two.html

Very good, now how about one for us over in the UK :-)

73 Ivor G6URP

1080. A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-11 15:21:17 UTC
From: "Bill Horne, W1AC" <bh1521q7_qrm@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <E1Hxkw0-0002qk-Cc@billhorne.homelinux.org>
Source record: 4385

Fellow hams,

Like many others, I occasionally use AM on both 160 and 80 meters. My reasons for doing so are probably typical: I do it because it reminds me of the first transmitter I owned, and of other rigs and earlier times, before I had the money to buy new equipment and linear amplifiers. I also have many good friends who operate AM, and I like to talk to them as well as to my friends who use CW or SSB.

I'm writing this to ask that hams who don't favor AM make allowances for us: it seems that the "AM Window" on 80 meters is being taken over by hams operating SSB, sometimes with blunt, on-the-air comments to the effect that those running AM aren't entitled to use the space. There have been skirmishes, complaints, acrimonious debates, and even outright jamming lately, and I'm afraid it will escalate to the point that FCC action will be needed.

I'm going to be blunt here: I'm not a psychologist, but I think those who oppose AM are making a big mistake by not treating AM operators with the same standard of on-air behavior that they show to other hams. I'm not sure why this "range war" has started, but it's only logical endpoint is with reduced privileges for ALL hams, not just those who use AM.

Our hobby is at a crossroads: with young technophiles gravitating to the Internet, and military forces needing neither CW operators nor technicians, the future we face at the frequency-bargaining table and in the public's mind is no longer in the hands of benevolent government agencies eager for trained personnel who can be pressed into service quickly. In fact, the future of the hobby is now in OUR hands, and unless we start working together and stop sniping at each other over minor things like the modes we use, we're going to fade away without anyone noticing.

FWIW. YMMV.

73, Bill W1AC

(Filter qrm for direct replies)

1081. Digital question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-11 15:22:03 UTC
From: "battles1550@mailinator.com" <battles@mailinator.com>
Message-ID: <1181573642.724688.18560@q69g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4386

I am interested in geting into digital modes. I have not done
anything with these modes before. Can I get some suggestions on what
is(are) the best software on the market for multiple mode operation?
Are there possibly separate mode freeware programs out there that are
just as good. I have downloaded the freeware digital multi-mode from
F6CTE but have not been able to set it up yet. I have also seen the
MMTTY and DigiPan software mentioned in QST articles.

Thanks for any help on this.

1082. Re: Digital question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-11 19:13:59 UTC
From: The Shadow <Repose@Zilch.com>
Message-ID: <6%dbi.405105$7g3.107509@newsfe14.phx>
Source record: 4387

"battles1550@mailinator.com" <battles@mailinator.com> wrote in message
news:1181573642.724688.18560@q69g2000hsb.googlegroups.com...
> I am interested in geting into digital modes. I have not done
> anything with these modes before. Can I get some suggestions on what
> is(are) the best software on the market for multiple mode operation?
> Are there possibly separate mode freeware programs out there that are
> just as good. I have downloaded the freeware digital multi-mode from
> F6CTE but have not been able to set it up yet. I have also seen the
> MMTTY and DigiPan software mentioned in QST articles.
>
> Thanks for any help on this.
>
Lots of Digital mode stuff at URL:
http://ac6v.com/opmodes.htm#D

73 Lamont

1083. Re: Digital question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-11 19:15:08 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f4jr1c$1d76$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4388

battles1550@mailinator.com wrote:
> I am interested in geting into digital modes. I have not done
> anything with these modes before. Can I get some suggestions on what
> is(are) the best software on the market for multiple mode operation?

> Are there possibly separate mode freeware programs out there that are
> just as good. I have downloaded the freeware digital multi-mode from
> F6CTE but have not been able to set it up yet. I have also seen the
> MMTTY and DigiPan software mentioned in QST articles.

There are quite a few freeware programs out there. I personally use Digipan, and have been trying out Ham Radio Deluxe. In the past I'd used Zakanaka. For SSTV, I use MMSSTV, and for RTTY, I use MMTTY.

I'm big on separate programs for separate modes. To me the multi moded programs show that they don't specialize.

I will note however, that Ham Radio Deluxe is a pretty full featured program. It is actually more toward rig control than just PSK31. I use it to control my IC-761. Google it up, especially if you are thinking about computer rig control.

A few tips to get you started:

Keep the sound level low. You'll avoid splattering up the band. When you first look at the waterfall display, you'll notice that some guys signals are mostly 2 bars with a bit of "stuff" between them. Then there are the signals that look like a porcupine, with spikes heading out from them. This severely messes with the bandwidth. A good PSK31 signal doesn't take a whole lot more than a fast OOK CW signal, but I've seen messy ones take up over a KHz.

Don't be that guy! 8^)

Keep the sound level low enough so that your ALC doesn't kick in, and you'll do great. Hope to see you on my screen sometime.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1084. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-11 19:20:59 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f4k0me$1ers$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4389

Bill Horne, W1AC wrote:
> Fellow hams,
>
> Like many others, I occasionally use AM on both 160 and 80 meters. My
> reasons for doing so are probably typical: I do it because it reminds
> me of the first transmitter I owned, and of other rigs and earlier
> times, before I had the money to buy new equipment and linear
> amplifiers. I also have many good friends who operate AM, and I like
> to talk to them as well as to my friends who use CW or SSB.
>
> I'm writing this to ask that hams who don't favor AM make allowances for us:
> it seems that the "AM Window" on 80 meters is being taken over by hams
> operating SSB, sometimes with blunt, on-the-air comments to the effect that
> those running AM aren't entitled to use the space. There have been skirmishes,
> complaints, acrimonious debates, and even outright jamming lately, and I'm
> afraid it will escalate to the point that FCC action will be needed.

> I'm going to be blunt here: I'm not a psychologist, but I think those who
> oppose AM are making a big mistake by not treating AM operators with the
> same standard of on-air behavior that they show to other hams. I'm not sure
> why this "range war" has started, but it's only logical endpoint is with
> reduced privileges for ALL hams, not just those who use AM.

There is an element on 75 meters that just seems to hate the idea of
Hams having fun, and want to spoil it for others.

I suspect that they don't really have all that much against AM'ers, or
at least no more than they have against anyone else in the hobby. Though
no doubt they bring up the mode as a wedge to "justify" their harassment.

I believe that we are at a good point in the timeline of Amateur radio
that we need to have the amateurs who are being interfered with to start
documenting the interference, and sending it off to the F.C.C.

RDP - Record, Document, Pursue

> Our hobby is at a crossroads: with young technophiles gravitating to the
> Internet, and military forces needing neither CW operators nor technicians,
> the future we face at the frequency-bargaining table and in the public's mind
> is no longer in the hands of benevolent government agencies eager for
> trained personnel who can be pressed into service quickly. In fact, the
> future of the hobby is now in OUR hands, and unless we start working together
> and stop sniping at each other over minor things like the modes we use, we're
> going to fade away without anyone noticing.

You're pretty much right there Bill, although I would not quite agree on tekkie folks going to the internet. I don't think we're producing many tech folks at all. But that's another issue.

I am convinced that what we need are:

Kind and friendly folk who are willing to take the newbies under their wing and teach them.

Folk who do not judge other Hams by their favorite mode of operation.

Folk who are willing to go after the jammers and riff raff and follow through with that RDP.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1085. Re: Digital question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-11 19:21:49 UTC
From: William Warren <w_warren_nonoise@comcast.not>
Message-ID: <WNWdnfhb84EnAPDbnZ2dnUVZ_qarnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4390

battles1550@mailinator.com wrote:
> I am interested in geting into digital modes. I have not done
> anything with these modes before. Can I get some suggestions on what
> is(are) the best software on the market for multiple mode operation?
> Are there possibly separate mode freeware programs out there that are
> just as good. I have downloaded the freeware digital multi-mode from
> F6CTE but have not been able to set it up yet. I have also seen the
> MMTTY and DigiPan software mentioned in QST articles.
>
> Thanks for any help on this.
>

OM, I think your best bet is to start with packet on VHF, because
digital modes are really different from code or voice, and there's a lot
to learn. You can get used Termincal Node Controllers (TNCs) for less
than fifty bucks.

Your best bet is to find someone that's already experienced, and he
might even have some equipment to loan out.

Good luck!

William

(Remove the noise from my signal)

1086. Re: Programming 2 mtr repeater and simplex frequencies

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-11 20:47:44 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1181594679.675351.306600@x35g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4391

On Jun 9, 6:53?am, "Dr.Ace" <A...@WH2T.com> wrote:
> INTRODUCTION
>
> This article describes how to program almost every U.S. repeater and
> simplex frequency for the entire 2 meter FM band plan into a radio's memory
> channels.http://www.bloomington.in.us/~wh2t/two.html

Good listing, thank you!

On programming scanners, another who has a Uniden BC868T
asked me if its possible to program just two frequencies (repeater
Tx/Rx). Other than taking up a whole bank of 50 frequencies
(the Uniden BC868 has 10 banks of 50 each) for just one repeater,
I didn't know. I'd like to follow just the Rx/Tx from a single
repeater
also. Note: Most scanners scan in one direction. With just two
frequencies per bank it could do it...but the other 48 frequency
memory slots would have to be emply. Anyone have any
suggestions?

73, Len AF6AY

1087. [DXNL] DXNL 1523 (Jun 13, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-11 22:45:33 UTC
From: Robert Busch - DL7VOA <dxnl@dxhf.darc.de>
Message-ID: <146107355288.20070612002038@dxhf.darc.de>
Source record: 4392
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.dx,rec.radio.info

DXNL 1523 - Jun 13, 2007
DX Newsletter

a free and weekly service of
DARC Committee "DX and HF contesting"
(http://www.darcdxhf.de)

editor: Helmut Schlaffer, DL7MAE
(e-mail: dxnl@dxhf.darc.de)

translation by: Bob, DL7VOA
(e-mail: dl7voa@darc.de)

HB0 - LIECHTENSTEIN
Six OPs of the "Flying Dutch DX Group" are going to Triesenberg in
Liechtenstein to hit the airwaves as HB0/PA0ABM from Jun 15-22. They
are working with two stations in CW/SSB/digital modes on 160-10m.
Online logs will be made available at: http://www.logsearch.de
QSL via PA0ABM, direct, via bureau or LotW.

HI - DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, NA-096
Dave,NA6DF/HI7, is going to spend his holidays in Punta Cana from
Jun 14-23. He will work with QRP in CW/SSB on 10-20m. QSL via NA6DF.

KH3 - JOHNSTON ATOLL, OC-023
Susan,W7KFI/mm, left Hawaii on her yacht "USSV Dharma" with destination
Johnston atoll this monday. She expects about six days of travel so be
aware that she might show up as KH3/W7KFI already this weekend. She
will be QRV for one week, prefers working in CW on following QRGs:
14.036, 14.236, 7.036 MHz etc. Susan is using a FT-847 for CW and an
IC-718 for SSB. Her QSL manager is K6FAF. She would also use the LotW
but never found out how to use it properly. Her next planned stops are
V7, T32 and then the Southern hemisphere.

KP4 - PUERTO RICO, NA-099
Pietro,IT9OPR, will spend his holidays on Puerto Rico (NA-099) from
Jun 15-28. He might show up as guest OP from the shack of Flavio,KP4AWX
or he might be underway with Pedro,WP4CCQ/m.

OX - GREENLAND, NA-018
Jan-Ole,OX/DB8JO (SSB), Juergen,OX/DJ5HD (CW), and Wolfgang,OX/DJ5ZWS
(RTTY and PSK31), announced to become QRV from Nuuk/Greenland (NA-018)
on 10-80m from Jun 14-25. QSLs via their homecalls.

T9 - BOSNIA-HERCEGOVINA, 9A - CROATIA
Zik,VE3ZIK (DO7ZZ), will stay in Bilice/Croatia between Jun 16 and

Sep 5 . He plans to activate at least one IOTA island as 9A/VE3ZIK during this time possibly also during the IOTA Contest. He will work with 100 watts and a wire for all bands in CW/SSB/RTTY/PSK31 and in FM on 29.600 MHz.
He also plans to show up as T9/VE3ZIK from Jun 20-27 and from Sep 5-10.
Zik's homepage can be found at: http://www.qslnet.de/ve3zik
Bureau QSLs may be requested via e-mail to zik@tiscali.de but all other QSLs should be sent via bureau to DL3PS.

TA - TURKEY
Charlie,TA4/GI4FUE, spends his holidays in Marmaris from Jun 12-24. Of course he will also indulge in his hobby and plans to show up mostly in CW on 30/20/17/15/12/10m. He hopes to find some space in his luggage for his 6m portable antenna as well.

TZ - MALI
Fredo,TZ/TU5GV, can be found on 10-80m until Jun 15.
Please send your QSLs direct or via bureau to F4DXW.

VP6 - PITCAIRN ISLAND, OC-044
VP6TD who will stay on Pitcairn until August 2008 showed up on the air already. He was spotted in PSK on 14.070 MHz from time to time.
See also DXNL 1517.

3B7 - ST BRANDON ISLANDS, AF-015
Due to an engine breakdown the 3B6SP team had to land on Raphael Island belonging to St. Brandon. The team obtained the permission to work as 3B7SP (instead of 3B6SP) while their catamaran "Josephina" is repaired there. More updates can be found at: http://3b6.godx.eu

9X - RUANDA
Vlad,UA4WHX, hit the airwaves as 9X0VB during the first week of June. He is travelling Africa and the Indian Ocean for several months now and still it is not known where he will go next and how long he will stay there. As usual he is working in SSB/CW on most of the HF bands. Vlad is the guest of Colonel Diogene Mudenge,9X1AA, a high ranking officer of the defense ministry in Ruanda. Rumours say 9X1AA plans to found a national amateur radio society in Ruanda.
QSLs for this and all other activities of UA4WHX will be managed by Vlad himself after his return home and nobody knows when this will be.

CROATIA, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
The special event station 9A07P is working in all modes on all bands from the city of Djurdjevac between Jun 1 and Dec 31.
QSLs will be sent automatically via the bureau.

BELARUS, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
Members of the Borisov Amateur Radio Clubs (BARC) can be found working on the air as EW905B until Nov 30. This call celebrates the 905th anniversary of the city of Borisov. QSL via EW2EO.
Check also their homepage at: http://www.qsl.net/ew2ww

PIRATE
Apollo,SV2ASP/A, was very active and made more than 1500 QSOs in CW,
SSB and RTTY during the past time. But Apollo writes also that his call
was abused in CW by a PIRATE on May 16/17 (2300-0200 UTC) while he was
working in SSB at the same time.

LINKS: Very interesting slide shows about the trips of Susan A Meckey,W7KFI,
can be found at: http://ussvdharma.net/photofolio/index.php

Current SOTA activities (mountain summits) are announced at:
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/activations.php or
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/spots.php

UPCOMING CONTESTS

Jun 16/17: JARL All Asian DX Contest

IOTA collected by Fredy,DE0MST (e-mail: iota@dxhf.darc.de)

Island activities:
EU-034, ES0, Saaremaa County: Frank,DL1FT, will be QRV as ES0FTZ from Saare-
maa from Jul 11-21. More info via: http://www.funkexpedition.de/estland

EU-057, DL, Bock Island, GIA O 04: The island Bock will be activated for
the very first time on Jun 16 from 0700 UTC until the late afternoon.
DL5KVV/p and DL5CO/p will work on the usual IOTA frequencies.
QSLs via the DARC bureau to their homecalls.

EU-060, SV, Skyros: SV2FPU, SV2HNZ, SV2HOB, SV2HPP, SV2HPY, SV2HRT, SV2HSV
and SV2GNQ of the "White Tower DX Team" will use the call SY8WT on
Skyros (EU-060) from Jun 16-22. QSL via SV2HPP, via bureau or direct.
Their homepage is: http://whitetowerdxt.com/content/view/50/87/lang,en

EU-138, SM7, Blekinge County: Bernd,DL8AAV, will be on the air as SD1B/7
from Aspoe Island between Jun 18 and Jul 1.

EU-181, LZ, Bulgaria Group: LZ/G0SGB/p will be QRV from Sveti Ivan Island
on Jun 16/17. QSL direct via homecall.

OC-268, YB, Payung Payungan, Laut Kecil Islands: Fuadi,YC7IM, and friends
will show up as YE7M on 40/20/17/15/10m from Jun 22-24.
QSL via YC7IM (H.M. Fuadi Yatrin, P.O. Box 195, Banjarmasin 70000,
South Borneo, Indonesia).

GOOD TO KNOW...

The new IOTA Directory 2007 has been published lately and can be bought
at the RSGB booth on the HAM RADIO fair in Friedrichshafen or via DK1RV, not
earlier than Jun 15.

Lighthouse activities (ARLHS/WLOTA):

IG9/I1XOI LH 2312 Jun 9-19
IG9/IK1AIF LH 2312 Jun 9-19

IG9/IW1PZC LH 2312 Jun 9-19
J48MDC LH 0146 Jun 13-18
OX/DB8JO LH 0072 Jun 14-24
OX/DJ5HD LH 0072 Jun 14-24
OX/DJ5ZWS LH 0072 Jun 14-24
F6KMB/p FRA 731/PB 201 Jun 16
LZ/G0SGB LH 0121 Jun 16/17
SY8WT LH 2002 Jun 17-23

Bandspots of the last 7 days

160m
5H3EE 1.821 2325Z via DL4SM (B)
9X0VB 1.823 2337Z via UA4WHX (B)

80m
GB100TT 3.781 2235Z EU-116, via MW0JNI

40m
CM6CBF 7.018 0508Z see QRZ.com
I0RI 7.058 1009Z via IZ0GKN (B)
OY/PA0VHA 7.037 2123Z RTTY, via HC (B)
TM5BBC 7.032 0948Z via F2UW

30m
DL100DAN 10.115 1838Z via DK1QO (B)

20m
A52AM 14.194 1748Z via JA0JHA (B)
FO/N6JA 14.004 0516Z see QRZ.com
IM0/IK5MEQ 14.256 0721Z EU-045
KH6QR 14.260 0753Z (B)
SY8AN 14.195 0659Z via SV2DGH (B)
OY/PA3BAG 14.265 1743Z EU-018, via PA0VHA (B)

17m
VU2PAI 18.075 1012Z (d)
3XY5M 18.068 1834Z via PA7FM (B)
9X0VB 18.069 1448Z via UA4WHX (B)

10m
3XM6JR 28.489 1531Z via UA6JR

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager

Preview

DATE CALL DXNL

06Jun-17Jun 3B6SP 1521
07Sep-24Sep 3B7C 1511

Nov/Dec 3D2AG/Rotuma 1522
29Aug-2007 3XM6JR 1484
02Jun-30Jun 5B/G3RWF 1521
-Apr/08 5H0RS 1515
-Apr/08 6W/EA4ATI 1515
01Apr-09Sep 8N3IAAF 1513
2007 9N7JO 1501
NOW 9X0VB 1523 *

-Apr/09 A52VE 1512
-Nov A61TX 1496
16Jun Bock/EU-057 1523 *
09Jun-15Jun CQ4IPY 1522
09Sep-14Sep CQ4IPY 1522
-Feb/08 DP0GVN 1496
2007/2008 EI100S(I) 1501
-30Nov EW905B 1523 *
01Jul-15Jul FV5VDM 1520
Mar 2008 FO/Clipperton 1521

15Jun-22Jun HB0/PA0ABM 1523 *
14May-30Jun HF750C 1521
01Jun-30Jun HG7DANUBE 1522
11Jun-17Jun HI0C 1522
-Aug JA7QVK/DU7 1521
2006 -2008 J28JA 1484/85
13Jun-18Jun J48DMC 1522
05Jun-28Jun J79RM 1523 *
Jun KH3/W7KFI 1523 *
15Jun-28Jun KP4/IT9OPR 1523 *
14Jun-23Jun NA6DF/HI7 1523 *

-Jun OD5/CT1EFS 1515
-Aug OD5/ON4JM 1522
-30Jul OX3PG 1501
14Jun-25Jun OX (DLs) 1523 *
07Jun-20Jun SV5/GM0DHZ 1521
16Jun-22Jun SY8WT 1523 *
12Jun-24Jun TA4/GI4FUE 1523 *
-30Jun TC800YOM 1522
NOW -2008 TL8QC 1459
01Jun-15Jun TM5BBC 1521
03Jun-17Jun TM6ACO 1521
NOW -Sep TU2/F5LDY 1486
01Jun-15Jun TV2VDM 1520
-15Jun TZ/TU5GV 1523 *

Jan -Dec VI3SAA 1499
Feb 2008 VP6DX/Ducie 1521
May -Aug VP6TD 1517
15May-05Jun VP9KF 1518

Apr -Jul VQ9JC 1512
15May-20Jun YB9/PA0HOP 1519
22Jun-24Jun YE7M 1523 *
07Jun-21Jun YM3CC 1521
-Sep ZD9BCB 1500

* = new
.. = and other calls

QSL information

A92GT via EA7FTR (B)
A92Q via K0DQ
AO4K via EA4KD
DL100DAN via DK1QO
DR80AMA via DK3DM (B)
EA/F6EWB via F6EWB
ED7ESH via EA7ESH
EG2FAS via EA4FAS
EG9FAS via EG4FAS
EH4EI via EA4CT (B)
EM80A via UY5AA
EM80AG via UT0AZA
EO20R via UY2RO (B)
GB1COS via G7FDR (eQSL/d)
GB1FVS via GM4CFS (B)
GB1HRS via GM4ZGU
GB1HYS via G7LFC (eQSL/B)
GB1LSG via GW6CUR
GB1MCC via G0JPE
GB1OOS via G4GET
GB1OOX via G0REL
GB1SAS via M1DUC
GB2BDS via G4LVK
GB2BS via G8CBU
GB2LC via G3WFW
GB2NND via G7KBF
GB2NSR via G0CLR
GB2ODS via M0AEU
GB2PKS via GM8KPH
GB2RDS via G4GET
GB2TSC via M1EIO
SN750C via SP9PKZ (B)
SN70MKK via SP2AVE
SN0CFP via SP9CFP
SV5/OQ1C via ON4ON (B)
SV8/HA0HW via HA0HW (B)
SV8/ON4AUB via ON4AUB
SV8/OT2A via ON4HIL (B)
SV9/DL5MAE via DL5MAE (B)
SV9/DL8FCK via DL8FCK

T88NN via JI0NNM
T80K via JN3JBC (B)
T93J via OE1EMS
T93T via 9A2AJ (B)
TA/OO6C via ON6CC (B)
TA3/LZ1NK via LZ1NK (B)
TA4/OO6C via ON6CC (B)
TC1919ATA via TA bureau
TC100FB via TA1HZ (B)
TC57ALAY via TA1HZ (B)
ZP6GBA via EA5KB (B)
2E0JPG via G0LKG (B) or (d)
2E0JRC NO QSL
2W0DAA (d)
2W0GDB (d)
2W0HAC (d)
3B8/RX3DX via RX3DX
3Z100S via SP6ZDA (B)
3Z0ILQ via SP5DDJ
4A3IH via IT9EJW (B)
4O5W via YU1EXY (B)
5P4VM via OZ4VM
9X0VB via UA4WHX (B)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = Logbook of the World (LotW)

FM1HN (direct, NOT via K3PD anymore): Tijus Julien, Mayson No 132,
Rue Edouar-Jeanne, F-97200 Fort de France, Martinique

N8S QSL cards: Dragan,YZ1EW, writes that the first 1000 direct QSLs were
mailed on Jun 8 and the rest of the mail will be answered within the
next 30 days.

4U QSL cards at the HAM RADIO: Missing QSLs for contacts with 4U1UN, 4U60UN,
4U1ITU and 4U1WRC (since 1985) can be obtained at the booth of the
"SDXF" (Swiss DX Foundation) on the HAM RADIO fair in Friedrichshafen
on Friday (Jun 22) and Saturday (Jun 23). Please bring all your QSO
information along and watch out for the times printed at the booth.
The QSL manager can only confirm those 4U1ITU and 4U1WRC QSOs which can
be found in the online log: http://life.itu.ch/radioclub/4u1/index.php

Elvira,IV3FSG, can be found at the Croatian booth on the HAM RADIO writing
out QSLs for XT2SE and 5V7SE on Jun 22/23 from 1400-1600 and on Jun 24
from 1000-1200.

QSL via direct: V51AS

QSL via LotW: BS7H, but only for the sponsors. The rest of the log will
be uploaded as soon as all direct QSLs have been confirmed.

Many thanks for contributing to this issue of the DXNL are going to:
Carl Smith (QRZ DX), 425DXNews, OPDX Bulletin, DF6EX (fuer WIN-QSL), DJ5AV,
DK8JB, DL1SBF, DL3IE, DL5KVV, DL5MO, DL7VOA, F5NQL, HB9BOU, VE3ZIK, YZ1EW,
9A2JK and others.

The German PDF version can be found on the DARC homepage at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/bulls/dxmb/2007/dxmb1523.pdf

_____
Subscribe or unsubscribe to the DXNL mailing list yourself at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedxms.htm

1088. Re: Programming 2 mtr repeater and simplex frequencies

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-11 23:12:50 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <03lr631nm52md4aaq252mh4fo4fsu22kfe@4ax.com>
Source record: 4393

On Mon, 11 Jun 2007 16:47:44 EDT, AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote:

>On programming scanners, another who has a Uniden BC868T
>asked me if its possible to program just two frequencies (repeater
>Tx/Rx). Other than taking up a whole bank of 50 frequencies
>(the Uniden BC868 has 10 banks of 50 each) for just one repeater,
>I didn't know. I'd like to follow just the Rx/Tx from a single
>repeater also. Note: Most scanners scan in one direction. With just two
>frequencies per bank it could do it...but the other 48 frequency
>memory slots would have to be emply. Anyone have any
>suggestions?

Not necessarily. My R/S scanners (rebadged Unidens) have the
capability to lock out "filled" channels and banks just as most modern
scanning ham rigs have the capability of locking out filled
"memories". Actually, the banks are "opt in" while the channels
therein are "opt out". I even have one scanner which I operate in
non-scanning "manual" mode all the time.

Or did I misunderstand your question?

--
73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
Life Member - ARRL
Life Member - SBE
Life Member - NARTE
Senior Member/Life Member in Process, IEEE

<ggg>

1089. Re: Programming 2 mtr repeater and simplex frequencies

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-12 06:04:17 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1181628235.088663.299760@q19g2000prn.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4394

Phil Kane wrote on Mon, Jun 11 2007 3:12 pm:

On Mon, 11 Jun 2007 16:47:44 EDT, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:

>... My R/S scanners (rebadged Unidens) have the
>capability to lock out "filled" channels and banks just as most modern
>scanning ham rigs have the capability of locking out filled
>"memories". Actually, the banks are "opt in" while the channels
>therein are "opt out". I even have one scanner which I operate in
>non-scanning "manual" mode all the time.
>
>Or did I misunderstand your question?

Yes, because I may have omitted a paragraph on location in
my posting. My apologies. I'm IN the foothills and a quarter-
plus mile (closest approach) to I-5. Some repeaters come in
solid, some on multipath. Mobile repeater users can be solid
as a rock on the closest approach to me, then do the multipath
or fade thing as I-5 winds around behind some local hill
outcroppings. Sometimes big rigs on I-5 can do multipath fun
and games with their big box when close to the mobile repeater
user: the repeater user won't notice it since they are rolling at
the same rate as everyone else. Being able to "short-scan"
between Rx and Tx frequencies would seem to ease the burden
of (sometimes) severe multipath cutting off one or the other,
perhaps both briefly.

Yes, I do know that BOTH repeater frequencies are carrying
the same information. :-)

The Uniden BC898T (apparently now a discontinued model)
was chosen because it has a nice little tuning knob. More
modern scanners are going to keypad (PC input optional)
frequency input, no tuning knob at all (not traditional radio,
heh heh heh). A toggling push-button selects either
Frequency Tuning or Channel Tuning. For a few repeater
frequency pairs that have shown more-severe effects, I've
programmed both frequencies into memory as pairs in
sequential memory locations. With the tuning selection
set to Channel Tuning it is easy to go back and forth.
However, that requires me to be close to the scanner. I'd
prefer to use it as a scanner with my ear-mind set on
automatic as most scanner users do.

For the civil aviation band, I have 41 frequencies programmed,
and that is not including the ATIS (Air Traffic Information Service)

continuous-loop transmissions. Those are programmed in according to airport and function (tower, approach control, departure control, ground, etc.) and, if I am close to the scanner I can use the Channel Tuning to easily flip up or down for that airport (BUR, VNY, WHP, SMO, LAX), following a particular aircraft's progress.

My BC898T can select or deselect any memory bank as desired, even to just scanning within one memory bank. Very easy to select. Instructions don't tell how to select just certain frequencies to scan within a single memory bank. I was hoping there might be some 'undocumented' programming commands that might enable doing that. [only a very few of those available for the BC898]

BTW, the Diamond 130 discone works fine from FM BC bottom end on up to 70cm ham band, measured for good VSWR (between 1.2 and 1.6 all the way). That's with the bottom cone radials two feet above the roof peak here. The IC-746Pro does a creditable job on 2m but I will eventually get dedicated VHF-UHF transceivers in the collection.

73, Len AF6AY

1090. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-12 06:58:39 UTC
From: cmdr buzz corey <cmdr-buzz-corey@mailcity.com>
Message-ID: <1181625341.829840.118970@g37g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4395

On Jun 11, 1:20 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:

>
> There is an element on 75 meters that just seems to hate the idea of
> Hams having fun, and want to spoil it for others.

There are a lot of cbers on the ham bands who happen to have ham
licenses.

1091. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-12 07:00:21 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1181629779.517716.19450@n15g2000prd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4396

On Jun 11, 11:20?am, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> Bill Horne, W1AC wrote:
> > Fellow hams,
> You're pretty much right there Bill, although I would not quite agree
> on tekkie folks going to the internet. I don't think we're producing
> many tech folks at all. But that's another issue.
>
> I am convinced that what we need are:
>
> Kind and friendly folk who are willing to take the newbies under their
> wing and teach them.

Ahem...most of the "newbies" recently getting on HF aren't "new" at
all but
have now been able to administratively change their class as a result
of
FCC 06-178. [I am a relatively rare extra-out-of-the-box who has been
IN
radio longer than most here, but I'm cheering for the recent
'upgraders.']

BTW, I've never had any "Elmer" since my Army active duty time ended
in
1956. The closest to that I've gotten since is to silently observe
others
operating their rigs and, once in a while, get to say a few words as a
guest third-party. First-hand observation can teach much and the
'teacher'
doesn't have to explain anything, certainly not lecture.

> Folk who do not judge other Hams by their favorite mode of operation.

Whoa! BIG issue from what I've heard. Usually its against DSB AM as
if it
is some cardinal sin! I don't understand it even though I've heard
all the
rationales of "limited bandspace" and all that for years.

The very last time hams got more bandspace on HF was 28 years ago at
WARC-79. Lately the FCC gave out a few channels at "60m" instead
of the ARRL-requested band of frequencies. Nobody in any position of
amateur leadership seems to be doing anything about getting more band-
space in HF, yet HF is much less used overall now than it was 28
years ago.

> Folk who are willing to go after the jammers and riff raff and follow
> through with that RDP.

I don't know about all this "riff-raff" stuff since I've not heard much, yet I
can receive fairly good over HF, same as most others. So far, I've only
had one UNIDENTIFIED Raddio Kopp try to flash his badge about my
using the phrase "roger that" instead of just 'roger.' :-)

How does one follow up on the Unidentified riff-raff without having a trio
of DF-equipped hams all taking bearings at the same time? Shout and
holler in newsgroups and other forums and demand somebody do
something?!? Listening to 10m here I just don't get all that "jamming"
and "riff-raff" supposedly done by CBers, just hams doing their ham
thing with a few complaining about that CBer riff-raff. :-(

I like the sound of DSB AM. Saves having to retweak tuning for a network
of SSB users, none of which are exactly on-frequency.

73, Len AF6AY

1092. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-12 13:53:34 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f4m4hr$1bva$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4397

cmdr buzz corey wrote:
> On Jun 11, 1:20 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>
>> There is an element on 75 meters that just seems to hate the idea of
>> Hams having fun, and want to spoil it for others.
>
> There are a lot of cbers on the ham bands who happen to have ham
> licenses.
>

I would respectfully note that the problems cannot all be laid at the feet of those who use/used Citizen band radios. It is a kind of convenient word to generalize with, but in the end can add to the problems.

But more importantly, what are we going to do about it? Somewhere between the world of "You will not say the word "roger" lest ye be banned from my repeater", and the Dodge City of 75 meters is a middle ground that needs explored.

Basically, Hams need to accept that there are some of us who have different accents from us, and may talk differently.

We need to not get spun up when someone says "My handle is...". Or Roger, or whatever. People who speak Q-signals and give 5 of 9 reports should not berate others for silly language.

On the other hand, people who interfere with others communications need dealt with, and dealt with harshly once found.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1093. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-12 16:28:33 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f4m8rp$1abe$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4398

AF6AY wrote:
> On Jun 11, 11:20?am, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>> Bill Horne, W1AC wrote:
>>> Fellow hams,
>> You're pretty much right there Bill, although I would not quite agree
>> on tekkie folks going to the internet. I don't think we're producing
>> many tech folks at all. But that's another issue.
>>
>> I am convinced that what we need are:
>>
>> Kind and friendly folk who are willing to take the newbies under their
>> wing and teach them.
>
> Ahem...most of the "newbies" recently getting on HF aren't "new" at
> all but have now been able to administratively change their class as a result
> of FCC 06-178. [I am a relatively rare extra-out-of-the-box who has been
> IN radio longer than most here, but I'm cheering for the recent
> 'upgraders.']

True enough, but I'm not really addressing admin upgrades. There is a new group of Hams who are interested in radio, but may not know all that much. In our area we nave new Hams who haven't used a soldering iron. We teach 'em how to use one.

There are some Hams who would hold these unpolished gems in contempt for their lack of knowledge.

>
>> Folk who do not judge other Hams by their favorite mode of operation.
>
> Whoa! BIG issue from what I've heard. Usually its against DSB AM as
> if it is some cardinal sin! I don't understand it even though I've heard
> all the rationales of "limited bandspace" and all that for years.
>

There is some contention here. The enhanced bandwidth SSB crowd is pretty roundly panned for their use of bandwidth. Theey might point out that the AM'ers also use a lot.

My thoughts are that the AM is a legacy mode, and there really aren't a lot of practitioners, so I am willing to put up with that bit of extra use. Wide band SSB on the other hand, is just a mode that doesn't serve much purpose.

>> Folk who are willing to go after the jammers and riff raff and follow
>> through with that RDP.

>
> I don't know about all this "riff-raff" stuff since I've not heard
> much, yet I can receive fairly good over HF, same as most others. So far, I've
> only had one UNIDENTIFIED Raddio Kopp try to flash his badge about my
> using the phrase "roger that" instead of just 'roger.' :-)

There is a fair amount of interference out there. It isn't really too
many people, much less than 1 percent, but that small group can wreak
some havoc.

And as I have said before, there is altogether too much worry about
saying the exact correct words. If more hams worried about actual
problems, and less about speech patterns, it would be FB... ;^)

> How does one follow up on the Unidentified riff-raff without having a
> trio of DF-equipped hams all taking bearings at the same time?

More or less just that, Len. There are a lot of Hams who love
Fox-Hunts. This would be different from most fox hunting, but would
serve an actual useful purpose. We have Hams who travel to some pretty
awful places to DXpedition. Seems a few might want to do some direction
finding.

Sometimes this isn't even needed, as some of the miscreants aren't too
secretive about their callsigns.

> Shout and holler in newsgroups and other forums and demand somebody do
> something?!?

Hehe, people have tried that for some time, and it doesn't work too well.

> Listening to 10m here I just don't get all that
> "jamming"
> and "riff-raff" supposedly done by CBers, just hams doing their ham
> thing with a few complaining about that CBer riff-raff. :-(

I don't spend a lot of time on 10 m, but what time I have spent there,
the inhabitants have been pretty well behaved. Most of my experience
with the bad guys has been on 75 meters, and a little on 20.

> I like the sound of DSB AM. Saves having to retweak tuning for a
> network of SSB users, none of which are exactly on-frequency.

1094. [RAC-Bulletin] Subject: VO1MRC Experiments on 60 metres

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-12 16:29:28 UTC
From: John Iliffe <john.iliffe@sympatico.ca>
Message-ID: <466EBAB1.BAB42F6D@sympatico.ca>
Source record: 4299
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

The Marconi Radio Club of Newfoundland (MRCN) station VO1MRC will be conducting a propagation experiment from 0000-2359 UTC on the 15th and 16th of June. During this period, a CW beacon will be in operation on 5269
kHz. The station will be open briefly for 2 way contacts starting 0001 UTC
each of these days and will operate simplex on 5260.5 kHz CW. Following this it will transmit on 5327.5 USB and receive 5346.5 USB for stations authorised to transmit on 60 metres and 3807.5 kHz LSB for other stations.
Please note that only stations so authorised by their respective administrations may transmit on 60 metres.

The experiment was proposed by MRCN, endorsed by Radio Amateurs of Canada and authorised by Industry Canada. Further information may be found by searching for VO1MRC on the internet.

Sent by the RAC Bulletins from RACHQ mailing list robot.
Send comments to: rachq@rac.ca
For more information about the email robot, please visit:
http://rac.eton.ca/racbullemail.htm

1095. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-12 17:27:25 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <aolt63tkjn7nbcmb8qq1elj15kfdorelct@4ax.com>
Source record: 4300

On Tue, 12 Jun 2007 09:53:34 EDT, Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:

>Somewhere
>between the world of "You will not say the word "roger" lest ye be
>banned from my repeater", and the Dodge City of 75 meters is a middle
>ground that needs explored.

"Roger that, 10-4...good buddy...." <g>
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1096. [RAC-Bulletin] Internet Worm/Virus

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-12 17:30:19 UTC
From: John Iliffe <john.iliffe@sympatico.ca>
Message-ID: <466EBC65.9D1ABE42@sympatico.ca>
Source record: 4301
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

RAC Bulletin

Recently an Internet Worm programme, a type of virus that spreads from computer to computer over the Internet, has been circulating which purports to originate with RAC. A copy is attached below.

RAC does not report SPAM back to the originator and we have no Mail System Administrator who would send out such a report to users of the e-mail forwarder. SPAM is dumped when detected.

If you receive an e-mail like this one please just trash it and DO NOT FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS. If you do, the worm could be installed on your computer!

Dear user ve3xk@rac.ca, Mail system administrator of rac.ca would like to let you know that,

We have detected that your e-mail account has been used to send a huge amount of spam during the recent week.
Probably, your computer was compromised and now runs a trojaned proxy server.

Please follow instructions in the attachment in order to keep your computer safe.

Best wishes,
The rac.ca support team.

Sent by the RAC Bulletins from RACHQ mailing list robot.
Send comments to: rachq@rac.ca
For more information about the email robot, please visit:
http://rac.eton.ca/racbullemail.htm

1097. Re: Programming 2 mtr repeater and simplex frequencies

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-12 17:41:53 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <fgmt63dgqf07i7nrma1m4ie2dq3pb1ks0h@4ax.com>
Source record: 4302

On Tue, 12 Jun 2007 02:04:17 EDT, AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote:

>My BC898T can select or deselect any memory bank as
>desired, even to just scanning within one memory bank. Very
>easy to select. Instructions don't tell how to select just certain
>frequencies to scan within a single memory bank. I was hoping
>there might be some 'undocumented' programming commands
>that might enable doing that. [only a very few of those available
>for the BC898]

This clarifies it a little. Do I understand that channels within a
bank cannot be selectively locked out? Strange - because that has
been a feature of most if not all scanners from the days of crystal
control (pre-synthesized) scanners. What sayeth the manual?
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1098. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-12 20:50:07 UTC
From: cmdr buzz corey <cmdr-buzz-corey@mailcity.com>
Message-ID: <1181666263.112809.248310@x35g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4303

On Jun 12, 7:53 am, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> cmdr buzz coreywrote:
> > On Jun 11, 1:20 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>
> >> There is an element on 75 meters that just seems to hate the idea of
> >> Hams having fun, and want to spoil it for others.
>
> > There are a lot of cbers on the ham bands who happen to have ham
> > licenses.
>
> I would respectfully note that the problems cannot all be laid at the
> feet of those who use/used Citizen band radios. It is a kind of
> convenient word to generalize with, but in the end can add to the problems.
>
> But more importantly, what are we going to do about it? Somewhere
> between the world of "You will not say the word "roger" lest ye be
> banned from my repeater", and the Dodge City of 75 meters is a middle
> ground that needs explored.
>
> Basically, Hams need to accept that there are some of us who have
> different accents from us, and may talk differently.
>
> We need to not get spun up when someone says "My handle is...". Or
> Roger, or whatever. People who speak Q-signals and give 5 of 9 reports
> should not berate others for silly language.
>
> On the other hand, people who interfere with others communications need
> dealt with, and dealt with harshly once found.
>
> - 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

I will rephrase that...there are a lot of cbers and cb types who have
ham licenses.

1099. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-13 01:08:23 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <136ugrrknl7p514@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 4304

"Phil Kane" wrote

> "Roger that, 10-4...good buddy...." <g>

Yeahhhhh, the personal here is Howard....

And now back to our regularly scheduled program.

N7SO

1100. Re: Programming 2 mtr repeater and simplex frequencies

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-13 05:46:26 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1181713568.831592.189200@o11g2000prd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4305

On Jun 12, 9:41?am, Phil Kane <Phil.K...@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:
> On Tue, 12 Jun 2007 02:04:17 EDT, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
> >My BC898T can select or deselect any memory bank as
> >desired, even to just scanning within one memory bank. Very
> >easy to select. Instructions don't tell how to select just certain
> >frequencies to scan within a single memory bank. I was hoping
> >there might be some 'undocumented' programming commands
> >that might enable doing that. [only a very few of those available
> >for the BC898]
>
> This clarifies it a little. Do I understand that channels within a
> bank cannot be selectively locked out? Strange - because that has
> been a feature of most if not all scanners from the days of crystal
> control (pre-synthesized) scanners. What sayeth the manual?
> --
The Uniden 'Bearcat' BC898T Trunk Tracker III manual (56 pages) only
says to MANUALLY skip certain channels. I have done that but that is
not the automatic mode I wanted.

Now, I'm not all that familiar with scanners or their history or who
made what except as what is available on the web. I would suppose
that selective within-memory-group automatic operation might be
available on other models. I specifically wanted some Trunk Tracking
capability because of all the Trunking operations going on in the Los
Angeles area. If Uniden had what you described in other models I
could only surmise that such was removed from internal programming to
cover the more complex Trunking modes. I won't dispute anything as
this subject isn't worth the time and trouble to me.

Since the Icom IC-746Pro here does have 2m memory presets, I could use
that to listen to 2m repeaters and leave them off the BC898T. The
746Pro control panel functions take a separate learning curve exercise
with all the bells and whistles Icom stuck in there...but I wouldn't
trade it for the world now.

I appreciate Ace's link to the 2m ham repeater listing and hope to get
other bands' listings on up to the start of L-band, just to add to the
non-amateur radio stuff going on in a large urban area. There is a
huge amount of that down here if you remember. It may exceed the 500
memory channels in the BC898T! :-)

73, Len

1101. Programming repeater and simplex frequencies

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-13 13:23:02 UTC
From: The Shadow <Repose@Zilch.com>
Message-ID: <GaSbi.428249$g24.393609@newsfe12.phx>
Source record: 4306

See SERA Frequency Utilization Plans
http://www.sera.org/freq0101.html

> SNIP
> I appreciate Ace's link to the 2m ham repeater listing and hope to get
> other bands' listings on up to the start of L-band, just to add to the
> non-amateur radio stuff going on in a large urban area. There is a
> huge amount of that down here if you remember. It may exceed the 500
> memory channels in the BC898T! :-)
>
> 73, Len
>

1102. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-14 04:06:48 UTC
From: Jack VK2CJC <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com>
Message-ID: <f4pmjk$9kk$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 4307

> I would respectfully note that the problems cannot all be laid at the feet
> of those who use/used Citizen band radios. It is a kind of convenient word
> to generalize with, but in the end can add to the problems.

In my experience the bulk of "problem" operators were on air before CB
became a popular hobby.

Using the term "CBer" as a derogatory remark can only lead to pointless
arguments. A tactic some very successfully use as a means to divert debate
away from the fact that bad operators are bad operators regardless of their
other interests, and focus on those newer to the hobby than themselves.

Can we use the term "CBer" to describe people who use CB radio? And accept
that CB is really off topic for this group so why are we talking about these
guys anyway?

--
Jack VK2CJC / MM0AXL
Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group
www.mncarg.org

1103. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-14 04:07:31 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns994ED20D397DDmcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 4308

Jim Higgins <invalid@invalid.invalid> wrote in
news:u38073pvdahe05h8a8alejg6ktcrfnch0l@4ax.com:

> On Tue, 12 Jun 2007 09:53:34 EDT, Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:
>
>>cmdr buzz corey wrote:
>>> On Jun 11, 1:20 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>>>
>>>> There is an element on 75 meters that just seems to hate
>>>> the idea of
>>>> Hams having fun, and want to spoil it for others.
>>>
>>> There are a lot of cbers on the ham bands who happen to have ham
>>> licenses.
>>
>> I would respectfully note that the problems cannot all be laid at
>> the
>>>feet of those who use/used Citizen band radios. It is a kind of
>>>convenient word to generalize with, but in the end can add to the
>>>problems.
>>
>> But more importantly, what are we going to do about it? Somewhere
>>>between the world of "You will not say the word "roger" lest ye be
>>>banned from my repeater", and the Dodge City of 75 meters is a middle
>>>ground that needs explored.
>>
>> Basically, Hams need to accept that there are some of us who have
>>>different accents from us, and may talk differently.
>>
>> We need to not get spun up when someone says "My handle is...".
>> Or
>>>Roger, or whatever. People who speak Q-signals and give 5 of 9 reports
>>>should not berate others for silly language.
>>
>>>On the other hand, people who interfere with others communications
>>>need dealt with, and dealt with harshly once found.
>
> I like your approach, Michael.
>
> That last suggestion, if successful, would go a long way to ward
> cleaning up 75M! ;-)
>
> Not sure what rock I've been living under, but I've never heard that
> "Roger" wasn't kosher on a repeater. Do you maybe mean "10-4?"

Nope. A few months ago, I did a little investigation on repeaters. Surprisingly enough to me, a lot of the repeater pages had guidelines of "how to speak" Roger was in a few.

Keeping in mind that that is quite legal - a repeater owner can bring down the repeater or kick someone off it if s/he doesnt want anyone to say "Chewbacca", it isn't a freindly sort of thing to do.

> Some of the best - friendly, courteous, etc. - hams I know were former
> CBers. They may not be all very technically inclined, but all have
> well set up stations - good effective antennas, proper grounding, etc.
> - and they did it themselves. And more importantly they treat their
> fellow hams decently on and off the air. All the ones I know deserve
> the respect and tolerance you suggest above and when you get down to
> it don't really need it because they don't stand out as former CBers.

My experience has been the same. A local Ham who is a truck driver just happens to be an excellent ham, in all ways. We're bringing him up on the technical end too. He does occasionally say "roger that". Big deal. I'll take ten of him for every grump.

> And if a new ham does happen to say "10-4" or "my handle is" it's easy
> enough to privately Elmer him on the sensitivity some have to that
> lingo. Those who refuse that simple courteous approach might do well
> to look for another hobby. We have enough grouchy old men as it is.
> ;-)

Right! We can lead by example, and if need be, I can make a mention of it if it is egregious. Mention it off the air, and in a constructive way. I wouldn't browbeat anyone for saying roger, or even first personal, but would make an exception if people were delving into the "avoidance/defeat" of law enforcement activities that I've heard on 11 meters.

> My personal pet peeve comes from reading the FCC enforcement letters.
> If it's not an Extra class licensee involved then it tends to be
> someone who has been licensed for 20+ years. It's definitely not the
> newcomers. They make their occasional mistakes, but they don't do
> anything wrong with malicious intent. If everyone just met that one
> simple standard the bands would be an entirely different place, esp
> 75M.

Seeing the enforcement letters, I read much the same. There is the occasional Technician that is operating beyond their priveliges, but unlicened operation, repeater jammers, and plenty of hams who have been licensed for a very long time.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1104. WIANEWS for week commencing JUNE 3 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-14 04:17:49 UTC
From: nationalnews@wia.org.au
Message-ID: <200706140416.l5E4Gsf06527@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4309
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,aus.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

This is WIANEWS for week commencing JUNE 3 2007

New National Standard Built Around Amateur Radio

The Commonwealth Department of Education Science and Technology has endorsed a new competency standard, called:-
"Operate and maintain an amateur radio communication station".

The standard approximates the syllabus for a Standard amateur operators certificate of proficiency.

This means the there is now a nationally recognised standard built around amateur radio. This is a link between amateur radio and education and industry. Competency to this standard can be an element in an electro-technology qualification.

It certainly should make amateur radio as an activity much more attractive to schools.

However, it is important to note that holding the competency will not qualify the holder for an amateur licence which still requires WIA certification to ACMA of competency in the theory, regulatory and practical elements of the syllabus.

WIA President Michael Owen VK3KI welcomed the Departments endorsement, saying that he hoped that schools would be encouraged to support amateur radio activities and also acknowledged the work of the WIA's Nominated RTO, Fred Swainston VK3DAC in achieving this recognition of amateur radio.

Previous Editor of Westlakes Amateur Radio Magazine, Frank, VK2FJL in his May edition told how, on May 16 Barry VK2BZI was awakened by a telephone call from the Australian Search and Rescue in Canberra requesting he locate an EPIRP that the Westpac helicopter said was near the 16 ft. Sailing Club at Belmont NSW.

With RDF receiver, a Potomac FIM 71 Field Strength meter, x Government Auctions he left home and as he neared Belmont Bay the familiar signal of an EPIRB was starting to be heard.

At Belmont 16 footer Sailing Club the signal was very strong, bearing parallel to the shore. The transmitter was either in the club or west of the club and west of the club is not easy access.

VK2BZI called in the water police to help check west of the club and proceeded to check out the club premises.

The club is built over water and it was necessary to send a volunteer under the club in case a floating device had washed underneath.

However with some sleuthing on Barry's part he found the EPIRP laying behind some flowers in the front garden of one of the houses west of the club where it had been left running, actually he located its position not by the RDF but by the switching noise it made whilst it transmitted.

His well used and slightly deaf human ear found the device.

Finally disabling he advised ASAR and thanked all who assisted and was back hom
e
by morning cuppa time.

BPL INTERFERENCE - THE BATTLE CONTINUES

WIA Director Delivers BPL Presentation to 2007 IIR FleetMobile Conference in Sydney.

WIA Director Phil Wait (VK2DKN) delivered a presentation on BPL to the IIR 2007 FleetMobile conference held at Star City in Sydney, over the 28-30th of May.

The conference was attended by about 100 executives and business managers responsible for communications and IT in Government Radio Networks including State, Federal and New Zealand Police, Fire Departments, Defence, Emergency Services, and representatives from ACMA and commercial organizations such as Telstra, Motorola and Cisco.

The theme of the conference was the converged future of communications-realizing significant operational benefit by achieving intelligent mobile communications strategies.
Discussion cantered around new communications technologies which bring together disparate communications systems and technologies into a single operational platform, and where ad-hoc communications links can be easily and quickly formed between different agencies or different parts of an agency to suit the immediate communications needs.

Shortly all forms of information such as, voice, data, location and mapping, video, SMS GPRS and GSM, Email and Internet, will be able to be shared seamlessly between different operators using quite different communications systems. This is especially valuable in disaster response situations where emergency services have at times had difficulty establishing robust communications links with each other.

In short, the traditional divide between voice and data transmission is no more.

This was a very valuable opportunity for the WIA to highlight its concerns about the potential for BPL interference to HF radio communications.
As Phil stated, "the unique thing about HF radio is that, unlike other newer technologies, it does not require infrastructure which can easily be destroyed in times of disaster or conflict. There will always be a place for HF radio and its utility must be protected".

The WIA's presentation was extremely well received. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation and the video can be downloaded from the WIA's BPL page. This is a large file and will require a broadband connection and a

copy of Microsoft PowerPoint. Clubs and others are welcome to use this presentation without modification.

WIA Awards Website
Our Awards website is very functional but does not display all our new awards.

The WIA is currently designing and building a new National website that will include our new awards section.

Until this is completed you are invited to place all requests via email to the awards manager.
Malcolm K. Johnson. VK6LC
awards@wia.org.au

And speaking of our website, the results of the John Moyle competition have been posted to the website.

www.wia.org.au/contests/john_moyle/

Sadly, Bill Rice VK3ABP an old stalwart of the Federal WIA, at age 80 years old a week ago, passed away quietly sitting in his favourite chair at about 5.00 pm Tuesday.

Bill will be remembered by many as the longest ever serving editor of Amateur Radio magazine. Bill joined the AR Publications Committee in 1972, became editor in July 1984 and continued in the position until December 1999.

Older amateurs will remember Bill as a keen 2 m operator and constructor. The VK3ABP 2 m valve converter, described in Amateur Radio around 1970, is arguably the most replicated radio equipment ever described in the magazine.

Next week we will bring you a special tribute to this new octogenarian, now sadly silent key. VK3ABP

AROUND VK in 80 Seconds.
(4vks)

VK2

School radio club calling CQ IRLP

The Bishop Druit College Radio Club at Coffs Harbour on the mid-north coast of New South Wales is looking VK, ZL or Asia-Pacific contacts on IRLP.

The students who have been experimenting with building simple FM radio receivers are also keen to have some on air operating experiences.

IRLP contacts with interested parties or similar school electronic/radio groups would be great - but the club only has limited time during the local lunchtime period.

The station equipment has been provided by Peter McAdam VK2EVB - and the club is QRV Fridays 0315 - 0345 UTC, on the IRLP node 6625 which is via its local repeater VK2RDO.
(VK3PC)

The Hunter Radio Group Contesters will be operating in the Trans Tasman 160 meter phone event on July 7th this year at Luskintyre Tiger Moth Airport.

There will be some fun type foxhunt also held round the airport.
The group extends a cordial welcome to all operators.
This will be an ideal training event for the up coming RD contest at the same location.

Food, drinks and accommodation will be available.
Accommodation will be on a first to book basis
As in all Hunter Radio Group functions, having fun will be the main objective For further information, or to confirm your attendance please contact Grahame VK2FA on 02 49-548-688 before June 24th 2007

Whilst in the Hunter, they'll hold their next licence assessments on 23rd & 24th of June at 9.00 am at the Print Makers Workshop, 27 Popran St Adamstown.

For further information, again contact the Examination Group Leader, Grahame O'Brien VK2FA on 02- 49548688. It is important that Foundation candidates have a copy of the foundation manual and have studied it before attempting an assessment.

Manuals are available from the Hunter Radio Group.

Some places will be available for candidates wanting to upgrade from foundation licences to standard or advanced licences and the Hunter Radio Group will be having a sausage sizzle on both days for lunch.

VK4
Invitation to a Seminar about Tesla

The IEEE North Queensland Section and the Communication Society Chapter, invite you to attend a technical seminar on: Tuesday 12th June 2007 from 4 pm to 5 pm in the Electrical Engineering Building, James Cook University's Douglas Campus.

The seminar is titled -
NIKOLA TESLA ? THE MAN WHO LIT UP THE WORLD

The Seminar marks the 150th anniversary of the birth of Nikola Tesla whose theoretical work at the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century created the conditions for the electrification of the world via a multiphase ac electricity supply.

For further information contact
Dr. Graham Woods,
Chairman IEEE North Queensland Section,
Ph 07-47814219

VK5

Good morning listeners
This is John VK5DJ for the South East Radio Group.

The Australian Fox Hunting Championship is coming up very soon on the Queen's Birthday long weekend in Mount Gambier. Action starts on Saturday 9th June starting from the Scout Hall in Margaret Street, Mount Gambier.

Events begin at midday on the Saturday with the 2 metre sniffer hunt and finish on Sunday with event 10 the 1.2GHz foxhunt at 4.00pm.

Catering will be by Phil VK5HAM and his team.

Once again there will be a home brewer's competition and as always there are really good prizes to be won. Amateurs are encouraged to bring their latest projects for display.
They need not be fancy or complicated. We look for a range of construction projects from the simplest antenna, antenna coupler or crystal set to the most complex of equipment.
Ham radio has an interest for all but at the heart of our hobby is the home brewer. Support out home brew competition. Entries are judged on creativity, interest to others, workmanship and documentation. But even if your project doesn't fit these criteria it could well win a prize because the judges just thought it was a great little project.

Sunday afternoon we have arranged for a cruise up the Glenelg River for the partners.
The cost at $25 is very reasonable and the voyage aboard the Nelson Endeavour is really worth every cent.

So put it in your diary now - the South East Radio Group Convention and Australian Fox hunting competition on the Queen's Birthday long weekend in June. It's worth coming just to see some of the technology some of the fox hunters have in their cars and atop them.
On our part we enjoy making it hard to find the foxes in the forests and beautiful country side of Mt Gambier.

Check the SERG website for details.
See you there, June 9 and 10.
John VK5DJ

The next meeting of BARC will be a combined Club meeting with North East Radio Club at their clubrooms, Ardtornish Primary School Hall, Saarinen Avenue, St Agnes on Friday June 8 at 7.30pm.

If you require further details contact Ian VK5AIC on 85245029 or Norm VK5NR on 85642522.
(Brian VK5BC)

DISCUSSION POINT

This in from the NZART InfoLine

Plasma TVs

"I wonder what we can do about the proliferation of Plasma TVs? They seem to be producing horrendous interference on HF - up to half a kilometre or more radius.

I'm certainly affected, since about five weeks ago, by, I believe, one of these 'unintentional radiators'.

160, 80, 40 and 20m unworkable due to S9+ noise.

Plasma TVs *generally* *FAIL* US FCC Class A (commercial) requirements, which are looser than FCC Class B (residential) requirements. Yet these appliances are introduced into the residential environment without concern to the requirements of non-interference to other services.

What can be done to manage the interference caused to the amateur service by these devices?

De Glenn, ZL2TLD

INTERNATIONAL NEWS READ BY Rob VK5MM

"Sometimes we could hear them, but they couldn't hear us. But we knew they were out there."

They were the words of John Hackney of Orono, who joined the crew of a Trans-Atlantic sailing expedition in the British Virgin Islands.

A father and son crew from Bangor, along with an assortment of additional mates, completed the last leg of a journey that took them from Bangor to ports throughout Europe and back again over the course of two seasons of sailing.

Dan Cassidy, 58, and his son David, 23, left Bangor in May 2006 to start the voyage that would cover nearly 18,000 miles and take them to 10 different countries.

And Amateur Radio went along for the ride.

In a smaller boat, rotating watches have to keep an eye out for other, larger vessels and an ear out for the weather forecasts.

For those communications, they relied on a Ham radio contact with an inland operator who monitors weather conditions for mariners.

The Ham radio also allowed Fleana's crew to send e-mails, which sometimes were more reliable than voice communications. Those e-mails were a godsend for family members.

"We were getting some information," said Deena Cassidy, Dan's wife. "We knew things were going well, so I didn't really worry."

Thanks to Amateur Radio.

Special Authorizations for Canadian Amateur Radio Experiments at 135 kHz and 5 MHz to Cease 30 June 2007.

Since 2001, at the request of RAC, Industry Canada has granted a number of special authorizations to some Canadian radio amateurs to conduct experiments in the band 135.7 - 137.8 kHz and at 5 MHz.

These experiments have had, as one objective, the provision of data that would support the objectives of RAC and the IARU for possible new allocations to the Amateur Service at these frequencies.

In accordance with the agreement between RAC and Industry Canada, all the special authorizations to Canadian radio amateurs will be terminated and transmissions must cease as of 30 June, 2007.

Further special authorizations will depend on the outcomes of WRC-2007, scheduled for October - November, at which, on the initiative of Canada, a new, worldwide, secondary allocation to the Amateur Service at 135.7 - 137.8 kHz is on the agenda.

A secondary allocation near 5 MHz may also arise at WRC-2007 as a consideration in the review of radio services in the band 4 - 10 MHz.

Per the agreement for special authorizations, each experimenter is required to prepare a summary report of his experiments, which may be in the form of an article for TCA.
(RAC)

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NEWS FROM ARNEWSLINE

DAYTON HAMVENTION: NEW PRODUCTS

What about this years hot new products. Over the next several weeks Newsline's Fred Vobbe, W8HDU, will be highlighting a number of them. One of the first to catch his eye was at the Vertex Standard booth. The folks who make Yaesu brand products:

Fred Vobbe, W8HDU: Were here at the Yaesu booth with Dennis. Tell us, what is the new hot product that Yaesu has come out with this year?,

Dennis Motschenbacher, K7BV: "We have two very interesting products and both are very unique. Its been quite a while since we had a good HF radio for entry level and we have developed our FT-450 which a radio with a goal being to be in (priced) at under $1000, weigh under 10 pounds with 100 watts. It came out to be a really good radio because we had the learning curve from the FT-2000 and we were able to drop that IF DSP into that radio. O, in a very small package that only weighs 8 pounds, it's a heck of a (good) receiver and its going to be a good radio for the desktop as well as being able to go mobile."

CQ ANNOUNCES HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

CQ Amateur Radio magazine has announced this year's inductees into its CQ Amateur Radio, CQ Contest and CQ DX Halls of Fame.

This year there are 15 inductees into the Amateur Radio Hall of Fame. We do not have time to list all of them, but there are several that will be easily recognizable. These include such well known hams as NASA Administrator Michael Griffin, NR3A, Swan Electronics founder Herb Johnson W6QKI, along with S-S-T-V pioneers Copthorne MacDonald, VY2CM, Don Miller W9NTP and Farrell Winder, W8ZCF.

Also being honoured this year is ARRL Senior News Editor Rick Lindquist, N1RL. Maybe best known as the voice of the ARRL Audio News, Lindquist has also been responsible the past decade for keeping the amateur community updated on new developments, via the ARRL Letter and the ARRL Web news pages. The honour comes at a very special time since Rick will retire from the Headquarters staff on Friday, June 1. We at Amateur Radio Newsline wish him well along with a lot of good D-X in the days, months and years ahead.

There are three new inductees this year into the CQ DX Hall of Fame. Roger Western, G3SXW, and Nigel Cawthorne, G3TXF, were nominated together. Both are avid DXpeditioners and have activated many rare locations with their two-man, CW-only, expeditions. Also inducted was Mauro Pregliasco, I1JQJ, the co-editor of Europe's 425 DX News.

The CQ Contest Hall of Fame inducts three new members this year as well. They are Fred Capossela, K6SSS, Tom Taormina, K5RC, and the late Phil Goetz, N6ZZ.

The announcement of this years lists of inductees was made public at the Dayton Hamvention on Saturday, May 19th. Check www.cq-amateur-radio.com for more

In DX, word that the West Lancashire Scouts' Expedition to Renland, East Greenland will be taking place from the 23rd July to 20th August. A party of 50 Scouts and Leaders from West Lancashire in the U-K will be exploring the ice cap and mountains of Renland. As well as mountain exploration a number of scientific and wildlife studies and experiments are being carried for various academic bodies. The Expedition will also be operating an amateur radio station for a considerable period of time. Operation will be on the 40, 30 and 20 meter bands using SSB, data and some CW, under the call sign G3WGU portable OX. QSL as directed on the air. Special station LZ07KM will be active on 1st to 31st May to celebrate Ss Kiril and Methodius' Day. QSL via LZ1PJ direct, or bureau requests can be sent to mailto:lz1pj%40qsl.net.
Lastly, HF750C, which will be active through the 30th of June. This, to celebrate the 750th anniversary of Krakow Poland's city rights. QSL via SP9BRP. Also, you can expect also a large number of local operators to use special prefix SN0 during the year.

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NEWS SOURCED TO THE RSGB NEWS SERVICE AND READ BY G4NJH FROM GB2RS NEWS

Two British amateurs were inducted to the prestigious CQ Magazine DX Hall Of Fame at the Dayton Hamvention. Roger Western, G3SXW, and Nigel

Cawthorne, G3TXF, were jointly honoured for their many years of activating rare RX locations. To date, Nigel has operated from 44 DX locations, and Roger has activated 37. Nigel has what may be the world's largest collection of QSL cards. In fact, he recently completed a house extension solely to house his QSL collection!

In addition to his trips with Nigel, Roger is a founding member of the "Voodoo" contest DXpedition group, a member of the CQ Contest Hall of Fame, and an international adviser to the CQ World Wide DX Contest Committee. He has also written two books, on DXpeditioning and Contesting.

Finningley Amateur Radio Society is delighted to announce the success of a very exceptional lady. Vera Tomlinson, an octogenarian, passed her M3 Foundation examination at the second attempt.

What makes this an outstanding achievement is that Vera is registered blind.

Vera was subjected to the same stringent rules as any other candidate with the exception that Club President, John Swift M0UTX, was allowed to act as a reader for her.

Lead instructor, Peter Myers G3UWT, was full of praise for Vera and stated she was a delight to teach and is now looking forward to a QSO on air.

OPERATIONAL NEWS
CONTEST COLUMN - D A T E L I N E

VK/TRANSTASMAN CONTEST
160M Phone 7 July 2007
160M CW 21 July 2007

Boat Anchor Sprints:
June (9), August (11), October (13).
Local ZL time: 2000 to 2100 hrs

Section 1: Old radios - all valves - i.e. ZC1, 19 set, Heathkits, any home brew set, but must have all valves.

Section 2: Any Hybrid transceiver (must have valve finals i.e. FT200, FTDX400/401, Drake, FT 101s, etc..

Amplitude Modulated signals only.

The overall winner shall be the entrant having the highest points score which will be published in the following New Zealand "Break-in".
(Jamie Pye ZL2NN, Editor NZART's InfoLine)

NZART MEMORIAL CONTEST - 80M - SSB AND CW.
7 & 8 July 2007.

Times :- 2000 NZST - 2300 NZST, divided into 3 operating periods each evening.

Band :- 80M SSB and CW.

Contest Rules NZART Website. http://www.nzart.org.nz
(John Powell. ZL1BHQ, NZART Contest Manager)

AUGUST 11/12 Remembrance Day Contest (The RD) wia.org.au

7th World HST Championship will be held in Belgrade Serbia September 19-23rd. www.hst2007.org

NOVEMBER 17/18
Spring VHF-UHF Field Day - November 2007
For everyone who likes to plan ahead - please note the dates for this year's Spring VHF-UHF Field Day. It will be held on November 17/18, a week later than usual. This will prevent a clash with club activities in two states.

SPECIAL EVENTS, BEACON AND NET ADVICE
VK's longest continual net;
The Southern Cross DX Net has been running for 43 years, operates 7 days a week - propagation permitting - on a frequency of 14.238.5MHz at 1215 zulu.

2nd DANUBE RIVER DAY ACTIVITY
(New rules for 2007)

The International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River has declared June 29, each year to be the INTERNATIONAL DANUBE DAY.

On the occasion of the event in 2007 the group of Hungarian ham radio amateurs being resided the Danube River Bend, HUNGARY call for the secondly organized special event activity.

All hams worldwide are kindly invited to take part!

Official name:
Danube River Activity

Participation: any licensed ham

Period: 0000 UT June 01 - 2359 UT June 30, 2007

Frequency: all

Mode: all

Repeater operation: accepted

VoIP (EchoLink, etc.) operation: allowed if both sides are on radio (Radio - VoIP System - Radio).

Special Event Station:
HG7DANUBE

Report: all participants are to send signal report, operator's name, QTH. Stations alongside the river shall send "nr Danube" in addition.

Points:

Stations alongside Danube River from all 10 countries worth 1 point,
2 points can be claimed for them on the day of June 29.

QSO with HG7DANUBE worth 5 points all over the activity period.

A station sending "nr Danube" counts once for scoring independently from
band and mode over the activity period.

Multiplier: None

The highest score will be awarded with a special Cup.

Any station reaching 100 points will be awarded with a special Danube Day
Certification.

Logs are to be sent to: Mr. Jozsef Szekely HA7VY, H-2011 Budakalasz,
Kinizsi u. 5. Hungary or via email ha7vy@freemail.hu
as text attachment till July 30. 2007

More details and information may be available on
http://ha2mn.dsgnet.hu

The Organizers would highly appreciate VK hams' participation, especially
foundation licensees. There are EchoLink repeaters to contact Hungarian
hams alongside Danube River: HG2RUB-R in Esztergom, HG5RUG-R in Budapest
and HG7RUC-R in Dobogoko
(ASL 700 mtrs).

Otherwise, all 10 countries has EchoLink repeaters covering Danube River
areas.

Thanks in advance and see you in activity.
(73 de Tibi, HA2MN)

D X A C T I V I T Y A N D D A T E S

Prefixes for Montenegro and Serbia

When Montenegro first became an independent country, the prefix YU6 was
tentatively allocated to it. However, it now has a call sign block of its
own. The ITU now lists 4O (that's "four Oscar") as Montenegro's prefix.

This means Montenegro stations may use 4O0 through 4O9, while Serbian
stations will continue to use YT and YU prefixes for all call districts,
0 through 9.
The ITU reportedly wants the two nations to complete the transition to
new call sign blocks as soon as possible.

The ITU has taken back the former 4N and YZ prefixes for future
reassignment.

Members that use computer logging software should update their software
to reflect these new prefix allocations
(IRTS)

NOW ROBERT BROOMHEAD - VK3KRB.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- ATV (Every pixel tells a story)

QRP ATV

Past Editor of Westlakes News Bulletin Frank VK2FJL in his May edition tells of yet another ATV record attempt.

Ho Hum, how boring, Do you say?

But wait a minute, what about an Australian ATV record using stock standard A/V sender/ receivers sold by Jaycar, utilizing 15mW over 175km? Remember, these units are designed to show Video from Foxtel set-top boxes from room to room, say up to 100m.

This is really a story about how you, the amateur can get on 5.7Ghz ATV with minimal equipment.

The authors' 5.7G units, are in our Amateur 6cm band.

In the last John Moyle field day contest Dan VK2GG and Graham VK2DWL found a spot whilst Jack VK2TRF travelled some 175km away.

Jack ended up at Mt Gibraltar, a very busy site, having all kinds of nasty RF installation which could hamper any record attempt, or swamp the puny 15mW from the transmitter.

On the other hand, the other pair were on Mt Warrawalong, a Forestry Fire tower site, with mainly forestry UHF yagi's on it.

It turns out 5.7Ghz is a remarkable band. For this attempt, Dan made a "tuppeny" feed out of WR137 waveguide, which he attached to his 1.2m dish. Jack used a "Golden Dish" for improved gain.

P5 pictures were received at each end of the link.

How's that for minimizing spurious RF emissions, using QRP for a record attempt?

Further successful ATV transmissions on 10Ghz and 2.4Ghz were made along the link for the purpose of the John Moyle event.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- FEMALES IN RADIO
ALARA - AUSTRALIAN LADIES AR ASSOCIATION
http://alara.org.au
Net is held each Mondays on 3.580 MHz, commencing at 1030 UTC.
(1000utc during daylight saving)
geencee@picknowl.com.au

Alarameet 2008 will be held in Ulverstone Tasmania on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th September 2008. Susan VK7LUV says those who will be travelling via the Spirit of Tasmania, this will be the "Shoulder Season".
ALARA will be having dinner on Friday 12th September and there will be a tour offered for Monday 15th September also.
(sourced to alara newsletter)

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RADIO AMATEUR OLD-TIMERS
http://www.raotc.org.au

OLD TIMERS
Members and friends of the Radio Amateurs Old Timers Club Australia are reminded that the next news and information broadcast will take place on the first Monday of the Month.

using the RAOTC callsign of VK3OTN.

10.00 am Victorian time on 7.060 and 3.650 MHz plus 1.843 MHz AM, and 145.700.

On 14.150 MHz at 01.00 UTC beaming north and 02:00 UTC west from Melbourne

For those not yet retired, 8.30 PM Victorian time tune 80 mtrs 3.650 MHz

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THE BEST NEWS YOU'LL GET ALL WEEK
Oh... and to contact us with your news?
email nationalnews@wia.org.au

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WIANews - we've reported...YOU decide.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".

Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of the National WIA.

HOP TO SPECIFIC WIANews TOPICS

WIA WEB ZONE, www.wia.org.au

WIANews THANKS OUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS , OUR RELAY OPERATORS ACROSS THE WORLD FOR FORWARDING INFORMATION AND COMMENTS THEIR LISTENERS HAVE PASSED ON TO MAKE WIANews VK'S LEADING WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PROGRAM.

E-mail WIANews WITH VK STORIES.

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Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of QNEWS for the National WIA.

Thanks to to our dedicated band of broadcast volunteers who utilize
their time and equipment in bringing you this weekly broadcast.

The purpose of "WIANews" is to rapidly provide news of interest to
active amateurs residing in Australia and the globe.

We strongly encourage membership in the Wireless Institute of Australia
and participation in the activities of local clubs.

Opinions expressed in "WIANews" are those of the writers who submit
material and do not necessarily reflect those of the rebroadcasters,
nor the National WIA.

Material may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, a credit
to WIANews wouldn't go astray...

1105. WIANEWS for week commencing JUNE 10 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-14 04:19:24 UTC
From: nationalnews@wia.org.au
Message-ID: <200706140418.l5E4l3w25555@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4310
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,aus.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

This is WIANEWS for week commencing JUNE 10 2007

NATIONAL WIA STORIES

ROBERT BROOMHEAD AND SILENT KEY

It is with sadness that the WIA advises the passing of Bill Rice VK3ABP, who at age 80 became a silent key whilst sitting in his favourite chair in his home in Altona.

It is a sad yet reflective occasion on which to remember a unique character.

Bill was the longest serving editor of the Wireless Institute of Australia's journal Amateur Radio magazine. He joined its Publications Committee in 1972, became Editor in July 1984 and continued in the position until December 1999. It was a role in which he relished and able to contribute in so many ways. As Editor he was also a member of the WIA Federal Executive for a number of years.

Bill was a quietly spoken gentleman, with the persona not unlike that of a yester-year stereotypical bearded scientist, with a brilliant mind.

He had been an active radio amateur for 60 years, first as VK5BP at Murray Bridge South Australia moving in 1948 to Adelaide to attend university.

On relocating to Melbourne in 1960 be became VK3ABP. He was from the era when radio amateurs built their own equipment. Synonymous with the callsign VK3ABP was his valve two-metre converter that featured in AR magazine and became a very popular project enabling many to get on to that band.

While a good listener and being very personable, Bill talked little about his occupation in the defence research and development field and the leading edge technology that it involved.

Retirement from work gave Bill extra time for amateur radio projects

Bill had many friends and I have on the line Ron Fisher VK3OM ...
(Ron Fisher online recording)

Some of Bill's other activities included history and sailing. He often sailed in Gippsland - a personal achievement was to sail on the rarely filled inland salt Lake Eyre in South Australia.

In 2001 he was awarded honorary life membership of the WIA for his long and meritorious service, which he accepted with genuine humility.

One of Bills other close friends was Bill Roper VK3BR and I have Bill on line to share a few words....

(Bill Roper online recording)

A service was held Tuesday at St Eanswythe's Church, in Altona with about 200 people attending.

Bill will be sadly missed and his passing is a great loss to amateur radio.

ROBERT BROOMHEAD AND FRED SWAINSTON LISTEN TO THE AUDIO MP3

New National Standard Built Around Amateur Radio

The Commonwealth Department of Education Science and Technology has endorsed a new competency standard, called:-
"Operate and maintain an amateur radio communication station".

The standard approximates the syllabus for a Standard amateur operators certificate of proficiency.

This means the there is now a nationally recognised standard built around amateur radio. This is a link between amateur radio and education and industry. Competency to this standard can be an element in an electro-technology qualification.

It certainly should make amateur radio as an activity much more attractive to schools.

However, it is important to note that holding the competency will not qualify the holder for an amateur licence which still requires WIA certification to ACMA of competency in the theory, regulatory and practical elements of the syllabus.

WIA President Michael Owen VK3KI welcomed the Departments endorsement, saying that he hoped that schools would be encouraged to support amateur radio activities and also acknowledged the work of the WIA's Nominated RTO, Fred Swainston VK3DAC in achieving this recognition of amateur radio.

P29 revival underway

A strong effort is being made to increase amateur radio activity in Papua New Guinea and a recent P29 CQ Day is only just the beginning.

Wilfred Kilepak Amai P29PG/VK3DWA initiated the very successful special activity day outside the Parliament Building in Port Moresby. There were plenty of interested on-lookers.

The radio administration PANGTEL is supportive of any steps to achieve a greater participation in amateur radio.

Wilfred says PANGTEL is aware of the Australian licence restructure that occurred in October 2005 that includes the Foundation Licence, but has not yet followed suit.

Traditionally P29 has mirrored the VK licence system, due to the strong relationship between Papua New Guinea and Australia that was established before it gained independence in 1975.

And Papua New Guinea could also have its first ever YL operator with an individual who qualified for a licence in Australia now being considered for a P29 callsign allocation.

I'm Jim Linton VK3PC and you're listening to VK1WIA.

ROBERT BROOMHEAD AND WILFRED KILEPAK LISTEN TO THE AUDIO MP3

EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO
PRESENTED BY KYLEA VK6FXYL

FUTURE EXAMS

To find out when a club in YOUR area is hosting assessments and/or training in Amateur Radio go to wia.org.au and check out the club pages.

Help amateur radio continue to grow

Do you know someone who could be interested in joining our hobby? Then encourage them to enrol in a Foundation Licence training course.

Next Foundation Licence course, and Standard / Advanced assessments .....

NEW SOUTH WALES

The Hunter Radio Group
They'll hold their next licence assessments on Saturday 23rd & Sunday the 24th of June at 9.00 am at the Print Makers Workshop, 27 Popran St Adamstown.

For further information, please contact the Examination Group Leader, Grahame O'Brien VK2FA on 02- 49548688. It is important that Foundation candidates have a copy of the foundation manual and have studied it before attempting an assessment.
Manuals are available from the Hunter Radio Group.

Some places will be available for candidates wanting to upgrade from foundation

licences to standard or advanced licences and the Hunter Radio Group will be having a sausage sizzle on both days for lunch.

WEST AUSTRALIA

HANDS UP IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO GO TO HAM COLLEGE?

Thought that would get your attention. In VK6 we now have HAM College offering courses for the foundation, standard and advanced licences. The next Foundatio
n
course is to be held on the 21st & 22nd of July - get your name in early to sec
ure
a place in the classroom.

Is anyone interested in obtaining their Advanced licence - the next course is scheduled to start in July/August.

How about Morse code.....yes there is even a course run for Morse - why not sto
p
procrastinating and sign up today.

The next date for those wishing to sit Exams is June 30th.
Go to www.warg.org.au under the foundation licence page to view additional cour
se
and exam dates or you can contact VK6BDO Neil or myself for further details.

CONGRATULATIONS - RESULTS

Congratulations go out to new Radio Amateur Robert Young VK4FRJY
who has recently received his new callsign from ACMA after successfully
completing Foundation Assessment with the WIA Exam Service in Townsville.

Congratulations to 10 new Ham College graduates who obtained their Foundation
licences over the past couple of weeks, as well as 1 standard and 1 Advanced.
Look forward to making contact with you all in the near future.

AROUND VK in 80 Seconds.

VK2

The Hunter Radio Group Contesters will be operating in the Trans Tasman 160
meter phone event on July 7th this year at Luskintyre Tiger Moth Airport.
As in all Hunter Radio Group functions, having fun will be the main objective
For further information, or to confirm your attendance please contact
Grahame VK2FA on 02 49-548-688 before June 24th.

VK3

Amateur Radio Victoria say that the Mt St Leonard 70cm repeater VK3RMU
north-east of Melbourne is now on its new frequency of 439.800MHz.

Amateur Radio Victoria made the very recent QSY was mainly due to
persistent interference from a suspected low interference potential device
(LIPD).

The Sunday VK1WIA broadcast will also adopt the new frequency later this
month.

In south-west Victoria at Warrnambool the VK3RWL repeaters on 2m
147.050MHz and 70cm 439.650MHz are getting plenty of use by locals.

Early indications are that the range of VK3RWL is excellent with reports
from Ballarat, Horsham, Hamilton and Portland being received.

While the repeaters are up and running there's still a little bit more
work to do before the project is complete.

With the arrival of the winter rains and cold weather access to the site
is becoming difficult.

Many thanks to Russell Lemke VK3ZQB who with others have worked to restore
the repeaters, that were required to meet rigid and costly commercial site
requirements, borne by Amateur Radio Victoria.

Early indications are that the range of VK3RWL is excellent with reports
form Ballarat, Horsham, Hamilton and Portland being received.

DISCUSSION POINT

Often around this time in the WIA National News we bring you
"Discussion Point",
Today we bring you BOILING POINT, thanks to Frank VK2FJL, Previous editor
of Westlakes Magazine.

It seems a person decided to have a cup of coffee. He took a cup of water
and put it in the microwave to heat it up (something that he had done numerous
times before).

I am not sure how long he set the timer for, but he wanted to bring the water
to a boil.

When the timer shut the oven off, he removed the cup from the oven. As he
looked into the cup, he noted that the water was not boiling, but instantly
the water in the cup "blew up" into his face.

The cup remained intact until he threw it out of his hand but all the water had
flown out into his face due to the build up of energy. His whole face blistered
and he suffered 1st and 2nd degree burns to his face.

Worse he may have lost partial sight in his left eye.

While at the hospital, the doctor who was attending to him stated that this is
a fairly common occurrence and water (alone) should never be heated in a
microwave oven.

If water is heated in this manner, something should be placed in the cup to
diffuse the energy such as: a wooden stir stick, tea bag, etc.

It is however a much safer choice to boil the water in a tea kettle.

WHY IS IT SO???

Micro waved water and other liquids do not always bubble when they reach the
boiling point.
They can actually get superheated and not bubble at all. The superheated liquid
will bubble up out of the cup when it is moved or when something like a spoon
or tea bag is put into it.

To prevent this from happening and causing injury, do not heat any liquid for
more than two minutes per cup. After heating, let the cup stand in the
microwave for thirty seconds before moving it or adding anything .

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NEWS FROM ARNEWSLINE

WORLDBEAT - GERMANY: THE DL 100 AWARD

In news from around the world, German hams are on the air throughout
June with a special celebration. This with members of the radio clubs
of Norddeich and Hage commemorating the 100th anniversary of the well
known coast station Norddeich Radio. Operations are planned for 160
through 10 meters on various modes. The special callsign, DL100DAN is
being used and a special D A N 100 award will be available. More
information can be found at http://norddeich-radio.de/ (OPDX)

WORLDBEAT - JAPAN: JARL TO CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL QRP DAY

The Japan Amateur Radio League's QRP Club will be running five special event stations, 8J1P, 8J3P, 8J4P, 8J5P and 8J6P on June 17th to celebrate the International QRP Day. International QRP Day was designated by the IARU Region 1 Conference held in April 1984 in Italy to stimulate QRP operation worldwide. It was reaffirmed by the IARU Region 3 Conference in New Zealand in December of 1985 (JARL)

WORLDBEAT - UK: GB3RAL PROPOSED 40 AND 60 MHz BEACONS ON THEIR WAY

In VHF news, work from the United Kingdom that the new GB3RAL 40.05 and 60.05MHz beacons are due to receive government clearance in mid-June but both have already cleared their key Primary User stages. Assuming that regulatory clearance is also obtained the sponsors will go forward to for final clearance and approval sometime this summer.

If approved, it brings ham radio in the UK closer to the prospect of a unique 40, 50, 60 and 70 MHz co-located beacon system at the Rutherford Appleton Labs location near Oxford. While not in amateur bands, the 40 and 60 MHz beacons should prove to be extremely useful propagation study markers both in the UK and world wide. (GB2RS)

ON THE AIR: CELEBRATING IN INDY WITH HAM RADIO

Back in the United States, Indianapolis, Indiana has been a hotbed of special event stations during May and it continues in June. Fire up that new HF rig and get ready to copy. Jack Parker W8ISH has this report from the Circle City.

If you have your HF rig fired up and your antenna pointed toward Indianapolis you many score some great contacts in the next few weeks. Beginning Friday evening June 8th the Indianapolis Radio Club will begin making contacts from the site of the USS Indianapolis Memorial. The USS Indianapolis was sunk during World War Two after delivering atomic bomb components that were later used in the attack on Hiroshima. Listen for the W9IND call sign during the 44 hour event or check the Indianapolis Radio Club web page for more information.

The pace continues to quicken as the United States Grand Prix rolls into town on Fathers Day weekend, June 17th. Special event station W9IMS will be on the air, taking check-ins, during that weekend . This world class special event station operates during each one of the major races at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. If you don't catch W9IMS during the Formula One race you have another opportunity to snag a special QSL card during the Brickyard 400 NASCAR race the weekend of July 29th.

And last but not least, many central Indiana clubs report gearing up for Field Day 2007 on June 23rd and 24th. Maybe we'll catch you on the HF bands.

Reporting for Amateur Radio Newsline this is Jack Parker W8ISH.

The USS Indianapolis Memorial station will join nearly 70 other special event stations around the world as part of the Museum Ships Weekend. (W8ISH)

THE QNEWS WORK BENCH - the nuts and volts report -
Since Adelaide's South Coast Amateur Radio Club took over the distribution of the VK5JST Antenna Analyser kits they have been receiving numerous orders for the kits from right across Australia.
Just visit their website, www.scarc.org.au

MORSE ON YOUR iPoD - we are joined by VK1KEP Peter Ellis.

This interesting contribution from Mark Sullivan ZL3AB appeared on the KiwiDX Group cluster.

In an attempt to improve CW comprehension and speed it was decided to load some CW files onto an iPoD to listen to on the way to work.

To start you need to create a CW sound file in "wav" format.

To do this, look for a great little freeware program on the net called WinMorse 2.0. Its a 482kb download and extremely easy to use.

http://winmorse. mark-bellamy.qarchive. org/

Once you open the software you can set the speed you want the CW sent at and then type/paste some text into the window.

All you need to do then is choose the output as "wav" from a drop down menu and the software does the rest.

Once you save the file you can then open it in the iTunes software that will convert the file into AAC, the default format for the iPoD and you can then copy it onto your iPoD and play it.
This process will also work for any MP3 player that has software that can convert wav files into MP3. If your software does not do that there are a number or wav to MP3 converters on the Net.
(fists club downunder)

MEDIA WATCH

TV SHOWS THE EARLY DAYS OF UK EMCOMMS

A television show about the early days of Amateur Radio emergency communications in England was recently broadcast on the U-K TV station Channel 4 . This, as a part of the stations ongoing '3 Minute Wonder' series.

The program was called "Preparing for the Worst" was hosted by Pat Gowen G3IOR. It discussed one of the first ever mobile emergency communications operations ever in the U-K. Also in the show is Terry Owen, G4PSH and references are made to Rafars & Raynet of the city of Norfolk.

Preparing for the Worst can be seen on the YouTube video service.

SOCIAL SCENE

This "long weekend" sees Amateur radio in action at

the PORT MACQUARIE FIELD DAY
Sea Scout Hall, next door to the Country Comfort Motor Inn.

CARDEWLL BEACH RESORT TROPICAL NORTH QUEENSLAND
The Far North and North Queensland Amateur Radio Get Together

LAKES AREA OF VK2
The Lemontree Passage Bushfire Brigades Fete yesterday, Saturday 9th June.

Mount Gambier The South East Radio Group annual convention.

Then next month in VK3 the "BIG ONE" July 7+8 - GippsTech - THE
Conference for VHF, UHF & SHF enthusiasts in Australia.
Held at the Gippsland Campus of Monash University in Churchill, about
two hours drive east of Melbourne.

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We strongly encourage membership in the Wireless Institute of Australia
and participation in the activities of local clubs.

Opinions expressed in "WIANews" are those of the writers who submit
material and do not necessarily reflect those of the rebroadcasters,
nor the National WIA, but are broadcast in the spirit in which they were
submitted.

Material may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, a credit to
WIANews wouldn't go astray...

Compiled by VK3VIM on behalf of the National WIA.
/ex

BB's DIARY ROOM - THE FUTURE, IN AMATEUR RADIO

2008

Sept 13 Alarameet 2008 will be held in Ulverstone Tasmania on Saturday
13th and Sunday 14th September 2008. Susan VK7LUV for details.

2009
International Telecommunication Union's Telecom World 2009.

SOCIAL SCENE

JUNE 9-10 PORT MACQUARIE FIELD DAY
Members of the Amateur Radio Fraternity and anyone interested in Radio communication, are invited to attend Port Macquarie's annual field day weekend, to be held at the Sea Scout Hall, Buller Street, Port Macquarie, next door to the Country Comfort Motor Inn.

FNNQARG QUEENS BIRTHDAY WEEKEND 2007
The Far North and North Queensland Amateur Radio Get Together (FNNQARG!) will be happening from the 8th to 11th June at Cardwell Village Beachcomber Motel and Tourist Park.
Demonstrations of ARDF, World Championship
Antenna Wrestling, Navcom Electronics
ICOM Yaesu and Diamond equipment displays,
the famous Sunday Morning Cricket Match plus
much much more will be happening over the weekend.
Amongst the attendees will by Mr Aoki, Managing Director of ICOM Australia and Mr Yoshi, Managing Director of Standard Vertex Yaesu Australia. Rumour has it that they are already practicing for the Sunday Morning Cricket Match and hope there is a healthy roll up of regional hams to make up good numbers for the FNQ and NQ teams.

Secure your accommodation now by getting in contact with Toni or Bruce at -
Cardwell Village Beachcomber Resort and Van Park
1800 005633 07 40668550 fax 07 40668941
43A Marine Parade Cardwell QLD 4849

JUNE 9
Westlakes will have a display stall at the Lemontree Passage Bushfire Brigades Fete on Saturday 9th June

JUNE 9-10
The South East Radio Group annual convention, which incorporates the Australian Foxhunting Championships, will be held at the Scout Hall in Mount Gambier SA, on the Queen's Birthday weekend, 9-10 June 2007.
Further information from:
http://serg.mountgambier.org/

July 7+8 - GippsTech
Conference for VHF, UHF & SHF enthusiasts in Australia.
Held at the Gippsland Campus of Monash University in Churchill, about two hours drive east of Melbourne.
www.qsl.net\vk3bez\index.htm

SEPTEMBER 21-23
North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention
Happening in twin cities of Thuringowa and Townsville.

JANUARY 20 2008

The Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group invite all amateurs to attend the 2008 Mid North Coast Radio Expo to be held in Coffs Harbour on Sunday 20th January.

The Expo is held at the St Johns Church Hall, Mc Lean Street,
Coffs Harbour.
Gary VK2ZKT is the Radio Expo Coordinator on 02 66 55 2 990 or visit the Groups comprehensive web site at www.mncarg.org

THE FINAL FINAL

WALKS

Jeff VK4XJJ is still going strong on his walk across Australia.

But he still wants to hear from YOU, and it is these calls in particular that keep him going!!

Every Day, from 5:30pm Eastern on 40 meters, 7045 put out a call to VK4XJJ

Now we usually don't give url's as they can be a pain to take down but in this case very simple go to www.jeffswalk.com

Jeff entered Moomba Gas Field on Sunday 27 May

Well received and looked after by Santos and staff.

Made presentations and received donations for DeafBlind.

Left Moomba Wednesday 30th. Walked 14Km and set up camp. 24 degrees.

VK4BNQ (Gympie)and myself VK2FWGJ (Mooranbah), heard Jeff QRP on 2 and a half watts (2.5).
Temporary external battery problem. (Wednesday and Thursday)

Will walk 25 Km Thursday.
(Bill Johnson VK2FWGJ)

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WIANews - we've reported...YOU decide.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".

Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of the National WIA.

HOP TO SPECIFIC WIANews TOPICS

WIA WEB ZONE, www.wia.org.au

WIANews THANKS OUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS , OUR RELAY OPERATORS ACROSS THE WORLD FOR FORWARDING INFORMATION AND COMMENTS THEIR LISTENERS HAVE PASSED ON TO MAKE WIANews VK'S LEADING WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PROGRAM.

E-mail WIANews WITH VK STORIES.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".

Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of QNEWS for the National WIA.

Thanks to to our dedicated band of broadcast volunteers who utilize their time and equipment in bringing you this weekly broadcast.

The purpose of "WIANews" is to rapidly provide news of interest to active amateurs residing in Australia and the globe.

We strongly encourage membership in the Wireless Institute of Australia and participation in the activities of local clubs.

Opinions expressed in "WIANews" are those of the writers who submit material and do not necessarily reflect those of the rebroadcasters, nor the National WIA.

Material may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, a credit to WIANews wouldn't go astray...

1106. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-14 09:48:00 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <ung173ht1f603sip56qa830s3bv8h997q3@4ax.com>
Source record: 4311

On Wed, 13 Jun 2007 13:30:26 EDT, Jim Higgins
<invalid@invalid.invalid> wrote:

>And if a new ham does happen to say "10-4" or "my handle is" it's easy
>enough to privately Elmer him on the sensitivity some have to that
>lingo. Those who refuse that simple courteous approach might do well
>to look for another hobby. We have enough grouchy old men as it is.
>;-)

This really not-too-grouchy old man remembers the use of "my handle
is...." or "handle here is..." on HF as "good amateur practice" even
before CB was invented.

Of course the use of "first personal is...." still grates on my ears
but give them time....they'll learn eventually.

My two electrons....
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1107. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-15 01:09:13 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns994FD5327AA02mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 4312

Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote in
news:ung173ht1f603sip56qa830s3bv8h997q3@4ax.com:

> Of course the use of "first personal is...." still grates on my ears
> but give them time....they'll learn eventually.

My own personal pet peeve is when someone speaks "HI HI". In Morse it does sound kind of like laughter, but when spoken it sounds quite strange.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1108. rec.radio.amateur.moderated Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-15 06:00:05 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines-1-1181887200@panix.com>
Source record: 4313
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines
Revision: 1.2 2007/02/22 18:15:39
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rram/index.html

Welcome to rec.radio.amateur.moderated! This is a moderated newsgroup
for amateur radio operators and other people having an interest in the
Amateur Radio Service, as defined by national regulations and
international treaties. Following are the posting guidelines for this
newsgroup.

This message includes the following sections:

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter
2. Additional posting guidelines
2.1 Netiquette guidelines
2.2 Posting form requirements
2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files
2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting
2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources
2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability to hold
an amateur radio license
2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling
2.8 Guidelines regarding civility
2.9 Other unacceptable topics

------------------------------------------------------------------------

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter

rec.radio.amateur.moderated is an inclusive on-line community of amateur
radio operators and other people having an interest in the Amateur Radio
Service. Participants are invited to engage in open discussion of
amateur radio issues and exchange information about participating in the
hobby/service, in an atmosphere of civility, friendship, and fun.

Acceptable topics include but, are not necessarily limited to, questions
and discussions about amateur radio licensing, regulations, tips on
various aspects of setting up an amateur radio station, and sharing
operating experiences and insights.

Unacceptable posts include, but are not limited to, buy/sell/trade
posts, posts that are off-topic to the Amateur Radio Service, posts
promoting or defending unlawful activities, etc. Crossposts of regular
discussion articles between rec.radio.amateur.moderated and other
```

discussion newsgroups are not permitted.

Frequently-Asked-Questions lists and other information/bulletin/
announcement postings may be crossposted to rec.radio.info, rec.answers,
and news.answers only with prior approval of the moderators of those
newsgroups. In all such cases, an appropriate "Followup-To" header,
containing only rec.radio.amateur.moderated, will be added by the
moderators if one is not already provided.

Posters are encouraged to state their own views and share their
experiences, but to refrain from making assumptions about the
motivations of other newsgroup participants. Posters are expected to
maintain a basic tone of civility. Prohibited uncivil discourse
includes, but is not limited to, name calling.

Posts containing unsolicited advice questioning the right, worthiness,
suitability and/or readiness of any individual (or members of any group)
to be an amateur radio operator are unacceptable in this newsgroup. If
an individual chooses to post asking for advice on when or whether to
obtain an amateur radio license, or to participate in any type of lawful
activity in the Amateur Radio Service, respondents should be careful to
address their comments only to the original poster and not explicitly
generalize to others in similar situations.

Similarly, posts that arbitrarily declare certain classes of amateur
radio licenses, or certain members of national amateur radio societies
(e.g., American Radio Relay League, Radio Amateurs of Canada, Radio
Society of Great Britain, Wireless Institute of Australia, etc.), to be
more or less worthy than others, are not permitted. Posts that politely
encourage individuals to join their local amateur radio society, or to
upgrade to higher classes of amateur radio license in order to enjoy
greater operating privileges, are permitted, however. Posts that
contain reasoned, civil, and fact-based discussion of the activities and
internal politics of national amateur radio societies are also
permitted.

Buy/Sell/Trade and Commercial Policy:

Posts containing offers to buy, sell, or trade are not permitted on
rec.radio.amateur.moderated. The rec.radio.swap newsgroup was created
for this purpose, and should be used instead. All such articles will be
rejected by the moderators with the advice to re-post to that newsgroup.

Postings that are entirely commercial press releases, advertisements, or
other public relations campaigns will not be permitted. Relatively
unbiased announcements or reviews of new amateur radio-related products
or services may be permitted at the discretion of the moderators. Such
posters are asked to disclose their financial or professional interest,
if any, in such products or services.

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2. Additional Posting Guidelines

2.1 Netiquette guidelines

Participants who are new to Usenet should familiarize themselves with the "netiquette" of Usenet as well as the particular posting guidelines for this group. Several useful posts for "newbies" can be found on the newsgroup news.announce.newusers or on the WWW at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/by-newsgroup/news/news.announce.newusers.html

Particularly helpful articles are:
Welcome to Usenet!
Rules for posting to Usenet
Hints on writing style for Usenet
A Primer on How to Work With the Usenet Community
Emily Postnews Answers Your Questions on Netiquette
Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Usenet

2.2 Posting form requirements

Any article that falls into any of the following categories will be automatically rejected:

A) Articles that contain original text of more than 75 characters per line
B) Crossposted articles to newsgroups not included in these Guidelines
C) Articles that contain more than 400 lines
D) Encoded binary files (except PGP and other short digital signatures)
E) Attachments to posts
F) Articles containing obscene language
G) Articles from individuals who have been suspended or banned from the newsgroup

2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files

Many people close each article they write with a few lines of common text. This may be a cute quip or quote, or may include information about their family, contact information, or disclaimers required by their employer, for example.

Signature files used on rec.radio.amateur.moderated posting must be no longer than 8 lines.

The content of a poster's signature need not be relevant to amateur radio, but it must not violate any of the other posting guidelines. (For example, name-calling that would not be acceptable in the body of a message is also unacceptable in a signature.) Posters may include Uniform Resource Locators (URL's) and business addresses in signature files, provided they comply with all the other guidelines regarding signatures.

2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting

Posts more than 20 lines long that also have more than 75% quoted text will be carefully reviewed by a moderator to determine if that degree of quoting is warranted. Posts with excessive quoted text may be rejected.

Posters must show a reasonable effort to trim the post they are replying to and to include just enough material to establish context. "Me too!" posts are discouraged, and, when posted, must edit the quoted material significantly.

2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources

Unsolicited announcements and pointers to web sites that are strictly commercial press releases, advertisements, or other public relations campaigns, are not permitted. However, a pointer to a website or other external source of information is permitted and encouraged in cases where it is relevant to an existing thread, with appropriate context being given in the post. A URL with no information about what a user should expect to find there will be rejected. A pointer to information that is off-charter for rec.radio.amateur.moderated will be rejected, as will a pointer which itself does not meet the rec.radio.amateur.moderated guidelines (such as a URL containing embedded name-calling).

Moderators are not responsible for verifying the contents of any external information source.

2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability hold an amateur radio license

Identifiable groups and individuals may not be asked/told/etc. not to obtain an amateur radio license, or to only obtain certain classes of amateur radio license. It is not permissible to make statements that a person or members of a specific group "should" not, or should not be allowed to, become an amateur radio operator.

Solicited advice of this type is permissible; however, posters must be careful not to explicitly generalize to others who are in some way "like" the poster asking the question. Stick to the individual asking for advice.

It is acceptable to discuss verified violations, documented in criminal convictions or other government enforcement actions, by a person or members of a specific group.

2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling

Nastiness addressed at a person is considered name-calling. Criticizing a person's *actions* is not, provided that it is done in a civil manner.

Attacks on an action which by their very nature include an accusation against the person's character are not acceptable. For example, "That's a lie" implies an intentional prevarication, and is considered name-calling. Acceptable ways of questioning the truth of a poster's statement include the more tactful "I don't think that's true," "I believe you are mistaken because..." or even simply "That's not true."

"That's not true and you know it" crosses back over into name-calling, however.

2.8 Guidelines regarding civility

By charter, posters are expected to maintain a civil tone in all their postings. The guidelines on name-calling cover part of that requirement, but not all of it.

In general, posters are expected to consider the reputations of other participants, and refrain from making unnecessary accusations or assumptions about the motivations of others. A good rule of thumb is to phrase your comments as your opinion -- "I think..." "It seems to me that..." "This makes me wonder whether..." etc...

Posters are expected to make factual claims, to debate topics openly and in good faith, and to accept honest criticism, all without provocation or prevarication. At least one professional organization, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), has recognized that such fair dealings are necessary components of ethical conduct, and has incorporated them into its Code of Ethics:

http://www.ieee.org/portal/pages/about/whatis/code.html

Though the Amateur Radio Service is not a professional endeavor, the moderators strongly feel that the IEEE Code of Ethics is also a worthwhile set of guiding principles for participants in the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup.

Posters are not required to support the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). However, they are expected to adhere to the spirit of the other parts of the ARRL's "Amateur's Code":

http://www.arrl.org/acode.html

2.9 Other unacceptable topics

Participants are reminded that the charter also prohibits posts promoting or defending unlawful operating practices.

Posts may discuss whether operating practices are unlawful, or engage in reasoned debate over why certain operating practices should or should not be unlawful. Posts may discuss enforcement actions, such as by the Federal Communications Commission in the United States or similar government agencies in other countries, and evidence gathered by parties such as Official Observers in support of complaints about unlawful operation.

Discussions of what practices constitute unlawful operation in the Amateur Radio Service should be limited to *factual* descriptions of the laws in various jurisdictions. Posters' *opinions* as to what practices they consider unlawful are not permitted. In particular, posters are cautioned not to extrapolate their country's laws and regulations to those in other parts of the world, as they may be quite different.

Posts that entirely concern themselves with other radio services or hobbies, such as Citizen's Band, General Mobile Radio Service/Family Radio Service, and Scanner or Shortwave Listening, are considered off-topic to the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup. Newsgroups such as rec.radio.cb, rec.radio.scanner, and/or rec.radio.shortwave may be more appropriate venues for such posts.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-amateur-moderated-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the misc.kids.moderated Posting Guidelines.)

1109. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1557 - June 15, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-15 17:14:46 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <E1Hz7gq-00075q-55@elasmtp-dupuy.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 4314
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1557 - June 15, 2007

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1557 with a
release date of Friday, June 15, 2007 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. Education combines
with public service in a California school, the
ARRL tries to solve ham radio interference to a
military radar system and a Field Day concert in
Sacramento. Well, kind of. Find out the details
on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1557 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RESCUE RADIO MEETS EDUCATION: 47 NEW EM COMM TEEN HAMS IN CALIFORNIA

We start this week with a very positive story
with word that 47 eighth grade students in
California are now prepared to serve their
community in time of crisis using Amateur
Radio. This, thanks to a middle-school principal
and a teacher who saw the opportunity to combine
science and public service into a learning
experience for their students. Amateur Radio
Newsline's Jeff Reinhardt, AA6JR, lives in the area and has more:

--

Representatives of the City of Calabasas, the Los
Angeles County Sheriff's Department, the American
Radio Relay League and other agencies were on
hand recently to congratulate 47 eighth-graders
at A.C. Stelle Middle School. This, after they
completed a class that lead to their getting the
Amateur Radio licenses as a part of the American
Radio Relay League's educational incentive known better as The Big Project.

The adoption of the Big Project into the Las
Virgenes Unified School District as an Amateur
Radio educational program was the brain child of
school Principal, Mary Sistrunk, and science
chairman, Karl Beutel. Beutel, who is KE6MAO,
kicked off the project in all six of his science
classes some time ago with a presentation and

demonstrations of radio, including communication with other amateur operators using the schools own radio station. He then offered the students the opportunity to take an Amateur Service exam on-campus.

Meantime, emergency services groups are supporting this project with hopes that it will provide a source of communications volunteers. Sheriff's Department Reserve Captain, Tom Fakehany, N6FDR, says that these students are likely the next generation of emergency volunteers who will provide communications when all else fails. County Disaster Communications Service member Norm Goodkin, K6YXH, says that the plan is to help organize these new hams into a youth group. One with the ability to provide emergency communications services to the school and to the community in the the City of Calabasas.

Next semester, the 47 students plan to start an amateur radio club at Calabasas High School, along with the 17 new hams already there from last year's project. According to Beutel, his school nearly tripled the number of students who earned their licenses from the program's inception last year.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Jeff Reinhardt, AA6JR, in Los Angeles.

--

Beutel believes that this program is among the largest groups of middle school students to ever accomplish this. The honor of the largest middle school ham radio licensing program thus far goes to "The Bardstown Experiment," that was chronicled in the October 1989 issue of QST magazine. That article detailed how more than 60 middle-school students and two teachers studied for and received their Novice class licenses. (ARNewsline(tm) via E-Mail)

**

WORLDBEAT - NEWFOUNDLAND: VO1MRC BEACON ON THE AIR

Turning to world news, word that the Marconi Radio Club of Newfoundland will be conducting a propagation experiment running a CW beacon on 5 point 269 MHz. This, using its VO1MRC station.

The beacon will be operational on June 15th and 16th from 00:00 to 23:59 UTC. VO1MRC will also be open briefly for 2 way contacts. Starting

00:01 UTC each of these days it will operate on
5260.5 KHz using CW. Following this it will
transmit on 5327.5 and receive 5346.5 KHz using
Upper Sideband for stations authorized to
transmit on 60 meters. It will also operate on
3807.5 KHz Lower Sideband for other stations.

Further information may be found by searching for
VO1MRC on the World Wide Web. (VHF Reflector)

**

WORLDBEAT - AUSTRALIA: NEW COMPETANCY STANDARD FOR HAM RADIO

New and closer ties between government, industry,
education and ham radio have come together
down-under. This, as a result of a new
Competency Standard exam in Amateur Radio being
made available to all citizens of
Australia. Graham Kemp, VK4BB, of the WIA News has the details:

--

The Commonwealth Department of Education Science
and Technology has endorsed a new competency
standard, called:-"Operate and maintain an
amateur radio communication station".

The standard approximates the syllabus for a
Standard amateur operators certificate of
proficiency. This means the there is now a
nationally recognised standard built around
amateur radio. This is a link between amateur
radio and education and industry. Competency to
this standard can be an element in an electro-technology qualification.
It certainly should make amateur radio as an
activity much more attractive to schools.

However, it is important to note that holding the
competency will not qualify the holder for an
amateur licence which still requires WIA
certification to ACMA of competency in the
theory, regulatory and practical elements of the syllabus.

WIA President Michael Owen VK3KI welcomed the
Departments endorsement, saying that he hoped
that schools would be encouraged to support
amateur radio activities and also acknowledged
the work of the WIA's Nominated RTO, Fred
Swainston VK3DAC in achieving this recognition of amateur radio.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Graham Kemp,
VK4BB, of the WIA News in Australia.

--

The new competency standard may not bring a lot
of operators to the air but it should give the
citizens of Australia a better understanding of
what Amateur Radio is really all about. (WIA News)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: OCEAN TRAVLER W7KFI HEADS TO JOHNSTON ISLAND

Ham radio operator and ocean adventurer Susan
Meckley, W7KFI, has told the Ohio Penn DX
Newsletter that she is on her way to Johnston
Island and should be there by the time this
newscast goes to air. W7KFI plans to operate 80
through 10 meters on SSB and CW while on Johnston
and is usually at 36 Kilohertz above the bottom
of any band. She expects to be on Johnston
Island for about a week before heading to
Marshall Islands which is a 3 week voyage further South.

What makes this story unique is that Susan
Meckley is a 70 year old grandmother and the
skipper of the USS Dharma who has been sailing
all over the Pacific. This amazing lady has a
truly interesting story to tell and it is highly
recommend that you visit the following Web pages
to see where she has been:
http://ussvdharma.net and www.qrz.com/callsign/W7KFI (Southgate, OPDX)

**

WORLDBEAT - NEW GUNIA: HAM RADIO REVITALIZATION IN P29

Still in the South Pacific, Papua New Gunia is
seeing a revitalization in its Amateur Radio
community. Jim Linton, VK3PC, has the rest of the story.

--

A strong effort is being made to increase amateur
radio activity in Papua New Guinea and a recent
P29 CQ Day is only just the beginning.

Wilfred Kilepak Amai P29PG/VK3DWA initiated the
very successful special activity day outside the
Parliament Building in Port Moresby. There were
plenty of interested on-lookers.

The radio administration PANGTEL is supportive of
any steps to achieve a greater participation in amateur radio.

Wilfred says PANGTEL is aware of the Australian
licence restructure that occurred in October 2005

that includes the Foundation Licence, but has not yet followed suit.

Traditionally P29 has mirrored the VK licence
system, due to the strong relationship between
Papua New Guinea and Australia that was
established before it gained independence in 1975.

I'm Jim Linton VK3PC reporting for the Amateur Radio Newsline.

--

Papua New Gunia could also soon have its first
ever female radio amateur. The unidentified ham
qualified for a license in Australia earlier this
year. She is now being by that nations
telecommunications regulator Pang Tel for a P29 callsign. (WIA News)

**

Break 1

From Auckland, New Zealand and Los Angeles
California in the United States of America, we
are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin
stations around the world including the Douglas
County Amateur Radio Club's W0UK repeater serving Lawrence, Kansas.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RADIO REGULATIONS: HAM RADIO VS. PAVE PAWS - CHAPTER 2

The ARRL has sent out more than 100 letters to
owners and trustees of 70 centimeter repeaters
whose systems have allegedly affected the
governments PAVE PAWS radar installations on the
Atlantic and Pacific coasts. The letters
essentially tell these hams to lower the output
power of their repeaters to 5 watts and await
further notice from the FCC. Amateur Radio
Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, reports:

--

Citing an increasing number of interference
complaints, the US Air Force earlier this year
asked the FCC to order dozens of repeater systems
to either mitigate interference to Pave Paws
radar installations or to shut down. According
to the ARRL Letter, the situation affects 15
repeaters within less than 100 miles of Otis Air
Force Base on Cape Cod, Massachusetts, and more
than 100 repeaters within some 140 miles of Beale

Air Force Base near Sacramento, California.

The ARRL is working with the Department of Defense to develop a plan to mitigate alleged interference from 70 centimeter ham radio repeaters to this military radar system on both coasts. The letters sent to affected repeaters give them an up-to-date briefing on the ongoing negotiations with the US Air Force, as well as outlines the Department of Defense plan. The Department of Defense has indicated a willingness to try a mitigation proposal, but they have also indicated their need is for these issues to be resolved sooner rather than later. With that in mind, the ARRL proposed an initial mitigation strategy. It works this way.

All repeaters on the Department of Defense list in the affected areas will immediately reduce power to 5 watt absolute maximum transmitter power output. Each repeater licensee or trustee should then immediately contact ARRL Regulatory Information Specialist Dan Henderson, N1ND, to confirm that this step has been taken.

Meantime, the ARRL will provide Longley-Rice calculations for each repeater to the Department of Defrense. For those who have never before heard the term, Longley-Rice Calculations are used to compute signal loss from a transmitter to receiver along a particular path and terrain.

For its part, the Department of Defense will then provide engineering data to the ARRL and FCC. These studies will be reviewed by the Department of Defense, the ARRL Lab and the FCC to determine the amount of mitigation necessary for each repeater.

Based on this review by the Department of Defense additional mitigation proposals for individual repeaters will be provided by the ARRL as needed to individual repeater owners. This might include further power reductions, lowering of antenna heights, use of more directive antennas and other possible mitigation techniques. If there is a disagreement on the conclusions, a conference call will be held to resolve any outstanding issues.

All interference must be resolved no later than August 1st. Beginning in August and continuing on a periodic basis, the Department of Defense will have a follow-up engineers study at each PAVE PAWS Radar site to ensure corrective actions

have been taken and to ensure that successful mitigation continues.

The ARRL says that even with extreme measures, its still possible that some repeaters in close proximity to the PAVE PAWS sites may have to be shut down permanently. If that happens, official notice would come from the FCC. It is also conceivable that some repeaters might be required to operate permanently at a lower power level in the areas near these Air Force bases. In those cases, the League will be in contact with the individual repeater owners with that information and the FCC will be notified.

The bottom line: Its up to the ham community near the two PAVE PAWS Radar installations to make co-existance work. If the hams fail to do so, then they could have their repeaters taken off the air for good.

For the Amateur Radio newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

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PAVE PAWS radar systems are used for national security functions, including early detection of water-launched missiles. The Amateur Radio Service is a secondary user in the 420 to 450 MHz band. As such, Amateur Radio licensees bear the responsibility of mitigating or eliminating any harmful interference to the primary user, which in this case is the Government Radiolocation Service that includes the PAVE PAWS Radar systems. (ARRL)

**

MILITARY RADIO: EXPIREMENT AT MIRAMAR

An experimental authorization has been granted to Northrop Grumman to operate in the 1850 to 1865 and 1930 to 1945 MHz bands. This, to demonstrate a Battlefield Airborne Communications Node for the U.S. Air Force. The system will operate both fixed and mobile as well as airborne at an altitude of 60,000 feet within 92 miles of Marine Corp Air Station Miramar near San Diego, California. More about it is on-line at http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-273498A1.doc (CGC)

**

RESCUE RADIO: NEW CELLPHONE SENSORS

The United States Department of Homeland Security has reportedly launched an initiative asking the

wireless industry about the potential for
equipping a new generation of cellular telephones
with technology to scan and detect harmful
compounds in the environment and automatically
relay the readings to a central monitoring
point. According to the CGC Communicator, the
concept, known as "Cell-All," is said to have
attracted the interest of several companies, and
partnerships with handset manufacturers are being
discussed. More is on-line at
http://public.cq.com/docs/hs/hsnews110-000002524221.html (CGC)

**

FCC NEWS: BETTER ULS INTERFACE ASSISTS THE HANDICAPPED

The FCC has enhanced the usability of the
Universal Licensing System website for people with disabilities.

According to the Handi Ham Newsletter, in the
redesigned License Archive, the search interface,
results screen and detail pages will use the same
display as ULS License Search. On the detail
pages, users will directly access license information.

Handi Hams says that this attention to better web
design will help everyone navigate the ULS pages,
not just people with disabilities. Users are
able to access the new functionality via the
"Archives" button on the ULS homepage at:
http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/ (Handi Ham Newsletter)

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NAMES IN THE NEWS: GET WELL WISHES TO QCWA PRES W3BE

Some names in the news. First some get well soon
wishes to QCWA President and 1991 Radio Amateur
of the Year John B. Johnston, W3BE. John is back
at his Maryland home recuperating from heart
bypass surgery on Thursday, June 8th. According
to word from the QCWA the operation went well and
he should be fine after his recovery period. Get
well wishes can be sent to W3BE at his callbook address. (ARNewsline(tm),
QCWA)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: JOHN HENNSEESS N1KB TO BE REMEMBERED AT FIELD DAY 2007

The ARRL is reporting that the Newington Amateur
Radio League in Connecticut will honor the memory
of long-time Handiham volunteer John Hennessee,
N1KB. This, at Field Day 2007 by using the special event callsign W1H.

John Hennessee died in 2006 at age 42. He had worked at ARRL headquarters for 20 years and was described as always patient and thorough in his answers to our questions about rules and regulations. The Field Day operation using the W1H callsign is a tribute to his dedication to the Amateur Service over his lifetime. (ARRL)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: N6R - A FIELD DAY CELEBRATION OF PRESIDENT AND MRS. REAGAN

And listen out for a very special Special Event station over Field Day weekend. This one operating from the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Vally, California as N6R.

This is the third consecutive year that the Ventura County Amateur Radio Society will operate from the library grounds . And once again they will be joined by members of the Simi Settlers Amateur Radio Club for what is fast becoming an annual Field Day operation that also commemorates the lives of President Ronald and Mrs. Nancy Reagan.

This is a prize contact not to be missed. QSL N6R to N6ZE with Self Addressed Stamped Envelope to his QRZ.com mailing address. (N6ZE)

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NAMES IN THE NEWS: A K9EID FIELD DAY CONCERT

This year will mark a different kind of Field Day for ham radio's own Mr. Audio. This with word that Bob Heil, K9EID, will spend Sunday, June 24th firing up the Mighty Wurlitzer pipe organ at the Towe Auto Museum in Sacramento, California.

For those of you not aware, in addition to being an inventor and researcher, Bob Heil is also a well accomplished concert organist. And this particular concert will actually be a reunion of sorts between K9EID and the instrument on which he will be performing.

The gorgeous instrument which Bob will play was originally installed in the St. Louis, Missouri. Lowe's State theatre during the late 1920's. In 1958 it was removed and installed in Rugerri's restaurant in St Louis where a then young Bobby Heil played this very Wurlitzer for the diners. The organ was moved to Sacramento were pipes from the Hollywood home of the late

producer director Cecil B. De Mille were added to make this spectacular sounding instrument.

The Sierra Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society is sponsoring this Sunday afternoon concert. It begins at 2 P.M. Pacific time and admission to it is free with a paid museum admission. And during the program K9EID will introduce songs from his latest CD titled "Bob Heil at Home." This recently completed album was recorded on his own 3 manual theatre organ that is installed in his Illinois studio.

Again, that's Field Day Sunday, June 24th at the Towe Auto Museum in Sacramento, California, for a free theater organ concert by ham rafios's own Bob Heil, K9EID. It should be a truly fun afternoon. (Heil Sound Ltd. release)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From beneath the Southern Cross, we are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

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CHANGING OF THE GUARD: 73 TO "MR. WIZARD"

If you grew up in the 1950's and 1960's and had a fascination with science, them you likely tuned into a television program called "Watch Mr. Wizard." For 30 minutes each week from 1951 to 1965, Don Herbert donned the persona of "Mr. Wizard" to teach his legions of young viewers about the magic of science in every day living.

Its not known if Don Herbert was a radio amateur. Years ago there were stories circulating that he held a W 9 call prior to World War 2, but that's never been established. No matter, Don Herbert as "Mr. Wizard" is generally credited with helping to build the United States base of baby boomer technologists whose interest in science and engineering was peaked by tuning into this

program. Some, credit their lifelong careers to watching Mr. Wizard as they were growing up. And one ham we know quite well got hooked in a big way. While he was in college, Henry Feinberg, K2SSQ, took a job with Mr. Wizard designing many of the simple experiments that made kids want to turn on and tune in. He says that Don Herbert's key to success was to always keep science understandable and use the kind of objects a youngster might find around the house.

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Feinberg: "The first thing that I made after I found out it was Mr. Wizard -- I had watched that program while growing up -- was to take a piece of Oak Tag (construction paper) , make it into a cone, stick a darning needle on the end of it and use it as a phonograph."

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Keeping science simple was the real key to Don Herbert's success as Mr. Wizard. As a result, the show which was aimed at youngsters between 8 and 13 received a Peabody Award in 1953 for the high quality of its youth programming. And by the mid-1950's more than 100,000 children across the United States had enrolled in 5,000 Mr. Wizard Science Clubs. And such was the power of Don Herbert on America's youth that during the 1960's and 1970's, about half the applicants to Rockefeller University in New York cited Mr. Wizard when asked how they first became interested in their chosen careers.

After his children's program went off the air, Don Herbert remained in television science programming with general-audience shows like "How About" and "Exploration." NBC revived "Watch Mr. Wizard" for one year in the early 1970's. In the 1980s, Don Herbert reprised his children's shows with "Mr. Wizard's World" on the Nickelodeon cable network.

Don Herbert never really retired. Always dedicated to the education of America's youth, in recent years he established a website where he made may past shows and his science training materials available to the general public. And it was on that website where his family posted the sad news that he had passed on Tuesday morning, June 12th . Don Herbert -- "Mr. Wizard" -- was 89.

Additional informatiuon from the Mr Wizard Studios website: For those of you who would like to share your thoughts on Don Herbert or anything Mr. Wizard related, the family has added a guestbook for your convenience. Also added is a new blog. Both Can be reached by links on the http://www.mrwizardstudios.com/ home Pge. (ARNewsline(tm) from published reports.)

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ON THE AIR: COMMEMORATING 70 YEARS OF TRANS ATLANTIC FLIGHT

To commemorate the 70th anniversary of the first transatlantic passenger test flight, a special re-enactment flight is planned by Captain Patrick White and his son Ian. The two will be flying their "Vintage Lady", a PBY Catalina Flying Boat, from Botwood Newfoundland to Foynes, Ireland, on the 5th and 6th of July. To celebrate this event, Ireland's Limerick Radio Club has been invited by the Foynes Flying Boat Museum to operate a special Amateur Radio station in conjunction with the commemorative reenactment of the 1937 flight. EI70FOY will be on the air from the 6th to the 8th of July on 80 throuhgh10 meters as well as locally on VHF and UHF. A special QSL card, commemorating the flight, will be sent to all stations worked over the three days . All QSL cards should be sent to the Club's QSL Manager Alan Cronin EI8EM at his callbook address. (Southgate)

**

ON THE AIR: 2ND REGIMENT HELICOPTER COMMEMORATIVE

And another special event station is TM2RHC. It will be active from 10th to 24th of June before and during an air show at Le Luc le Cannet, France. QSL via F4EUN. The call letters TM2RHC stands for 2nd Regiment Helicopter Combat. QSL as directed by the operators. (OPDX)

**

THE CONTEST CALANDER: IARU WORLD CHAMPIONSHIO - JULY 14 - 15 UTC

In radiosport news, this years annual IARU HF World Championship will be held during the 24-hour period from 1200 UTC Saturday, July 14th to 1200 UTC Sunday, July 15th. Because this is unusually late in the month for the event to occur, there has been some confusion about the dates. So again the correct dates are the 14 and

15 of July in UTC time. Complete rules are on
line at www.iaru.org/contest.html (Via E-Mail)

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DX

In D-X, word that the The Polish 3B6 Agalega
Islands DXpedition Team will be operating until
the 18th of June. Team leader SP9MRO says that
the group's call sign is 3B6DX. For more details
and updates, visit www.3b6.godx.eu

ON4LO, will be active portable C T from a couple
of Portuguese lighthouses until 29th
June. Thoise hes putting on the air are Cabo de
Sao Vincente and Ponta Sagres. He plans to
operate SSB and digital modes on 10 to 40 meters. QSL as directed on the
air.

The White Tower DX Team's operation from Skyros
Island is expected to take place from 16th to
22nd June. Nine operators will be active as SY8WT
with six stations, five amplifiers and a wide
range of beams, verticals and dipoles. QSL via
SV2HPP, direct or via the bureau.

(Above from various DX news sources)

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THAT FINAL ITEM: FIGHTING THE 10 METER FREEBAND INVASION

And finally this week, if you are wondering what
all those conversations without call signs are on
28.085 MHz, well it appears to be a small
invasion of unlicensed truckers and so called
Freeband operators of our 10 meter band. We have more in this report:

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Originally confined to portions of the mid-West,
the pirate trucker and Freeband epidemic appears
to be spreading nationwide. This, as more and
more of these illegal operators are making their
unauthorized home on 28.085 Megahertz and several other 10 meter
frequencies.

And what is the Amateur Radio community doing
about this invasion? On the surface at least,
very little. With the upper High frequency bands
not offering very much D-X these days, the
majority of hams are sticking to 20, 40 and 80
meters with few stations heard in the 15, 12 and

10 meter spectrum. So the truckers and
Freebanders see this is fair game for their
unlawful operations and are busy establishing
squatters rights in these bands.

What about the FCC? Well its doing what it
can. There have been several well publicized
violation notices sent to trucking
firms. They request owners to instruct their
drivers to curtail any operations for which they
are not licensed and threatening punitive action
such as fines. But that's about it. With the
FCC enforcement folks stretched thin and Freeband
operations being among the lowest of priorities
on the enforcement agenda, there is no reason to
believe that there is going to be any sort of
massive sweep by the Federal government to clear
these pirate operators out of the ham radio bands.

In the end, it will be the ham radio community
that will have to defend these frequencies. And
it does that by using them. If hams load up 10
meters or any band with legitimate Amateur Radio
operations, there will be no place for the
illegals to play and they will go elsewhere.

In the case of 28.085, there have been
suggestions that this frequency become a national
C-W or RTTY Calling Channel. That's a pretty
good approach. Another is for every ham with the
capability of operating 10 meters to start
holding QSO's on that frequency. As any Morse
enthusiast will tell you, C-W can get through
even when faced with all sorts of QRM including pirate operators using
voice.

The bottom line. if licensed radio amateurs fill
up 10 meters even for local chats, the truckers
and Frreebanders will soon be looking elsewhere for a new home.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Evi Simons, in New York.

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About two decades ago, then 73 Magazine editor
Wayne Green, W2NSD, coined the phrase "Use it or
loose it." Back then it was applied to the
pending transfer of 220 to 222 MHz away from
Amateur Radio. Today the same words ring
important in fighting those without licenses who
are trying to take 10 meters forcibly from
hams. (ARNewsline(tm), QRZ.com, listener input)

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NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, and our other contributors, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline@arnewsline.org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), P.O. Box 660937, Arcadia, California 91066.

Before we go, a reminder of our latest on-line poll. It asks what is your favorite major U.S. ham radio magazine. You vote at www.arnewsline.org.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF, in Auckland, New Zealand, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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1110. The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 24 (Friday, June 15, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-16 02:50:58 UTC
From: ARRL Letter Mailing List <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <200706160204.l5G24GFn019430@linux11676.dn.net>
Source record: 4315
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter
Vol. 26, No. 24
June 15, 2007
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IN THIS EDITION:

* + US Senate to investigate BPL's interference potential to Amateur Radio
* + Are you ready for Field Day?
* + Army MARS HF e-mail system passes "hurricane test"
* + ElectroMagnetic Capability Committee meets at ARRL HQ
* + ARRL Headquarters gets a facelift
* + Oklahoma governor signs antenna support structure bill into law; North Carolina next in line
* Solar Update
* IN BRIEF:
This weekend on the radio
ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration
+ ARRL Logbook of the World back on line
+ New General class books are good to go!
WAS Award gets a new look
US Islands revamps awards program
Amistad takes to sea with Amateur Radio send-off
Rare Rwanda on the air

+Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/>

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==>Delivery problems: First see FAQ
<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/faq.html#nodelivery>, then e-mail <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
==>Editorial questions or comments only: S. Khrystyne Keane, <k1sfa@arrl.org>
==========

==> US Senate to investigate BPL's interference potential to Amateur Radio

Sen Mark Pryor of Arkansas filed a bill yesterday in the US Senate calling on the Federal Communications Commission to conduct a study on the interference caused by broadband Internet transmission over power lines, otherwise known as BPL. Sen Pryor is a member of the Senate's Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

If passed, Senate Bill 1629 would require the FCC to "conduct and submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives, a report on a study of interference potential of systems for the transmission of broadband Internet services over power lines."

The bill states that there are to be four required areas of study.

1. "The variation of field strength of BPL service signals with distance from overhead power lines, and a technical justification for the use of any particular distance extrapolation factor.
2. "The depth of adaptive, or 'notch,' filtering for attenuating normally permitted BPL service radiated emission levels that would be necessary and sufficient to protect the reliability of mobile radio communications.
3. "A technical justification for the permitted, radiated emission levels of BPL signals relative to ambient levels of man-made noise from other sources.
4. "Options for new or improved rules related to the transmission of BPL service that, if implemented, may prevent harmful interference to public safety and other radio communication systems."

ARRL president Joel Harrison, W5ZN, said, "The ARRL is grateful for Senator Pryor's support. The radio amateurs of my home state of Arkansas are fortunate to be represented in both the Senate and the House of Representatives by legislators who are sensitive to our needs and concerns. The Senator's recognition of Amateur Radio's role in emergency communications and public safety is greatly appreciated."

This bill calls for the same studies to be performed as House Bill 462, introduced January 12, 2007 by Rep Mike Ross of Arkansas.

To view Senate Bill 1629, please see www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/amateur_radio_act.pdf.

==> Are you ready for Field Day?

Field Day 2007 is fast approaching! Are you ready? Dan Henderson, N1ND, ARRL Regulatory Information Specialist and Field Day Coordinator, reminds all Field Day participants that now is the time to make those final preparations. "Now is the time to make sure you have sent out the letters inviting the local officials, such as town council members, served agencies representatives, to attend your event. You should also be firming up your media contacts."

If you need additional information, please refer to your Field Day packet. This includes rules, forms and various FAQs; it can be downloaded from www.arrl.org/contests/forms. Those groups still needing handouts and exhibit kits for their information tables should not wait any longer -- orders for supplies need to be at ARRL HQ by Monday, June 18 to allow for shipping prior to Field Day. Contact Leona Adams at 860-594-0341. The cost is $6.50 for ARRL members and $9.50 for non-members.

==> Army MARS HF e-mail system passes "hurricane test"

Although the 2007 Atlantic hurricane season has yet to begin, a Transportation Security Administration (TSA) alert for a fictitious hurricane in late March sent special teams of Army Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) emergency responders scurrying to duty stations from Miami to Houston and beyond. Dubbed "Operation Sidewinder," the drill aimed to test a new HF digital backup communication link for airports in case a weather or terrorist event ever compromised conventional telecommunications, as Katrina did in 2005. For this first comprehensive trial run, Army MARS mobilized a new Winlink digital communication system, with Air Force and Navy-Marine Corps MARS members providing active support.

Operation Sidewinder marked the first comprehensive demonstration of the TSA's partnership with the Army MARS, a Pentagon-sponsored organization of volunteer Amateur Radio operators that supports federal government agencies during emergencies. MARS has some 5000 members in its separate Army, Air Force and Navy-Marine Corps branches. Operation Sidewinder called for a Category 3 hurricane to make landfall at Miami, continuing on toward Houston. To drill MARS's capabilities in multiple emergencies, a possible terrorist operation concurrent with the weather emergency was added.

Earlier this year, the TSA, part of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), adopted the MARS Winlink emergency communications network for deployment at major airports. DHS, however, has not adopted Winlink on a department-wide basis. DHS cites the Winlink system for its ability to provide interconnectivity between HF radio and the Internet. The use of Winlink 2000 permits access to SHARES [SHared RESources program of the National Communications System] and MARS systems via conventional HF/VHF/UHF radio circuits.

Army MARS Chief Stuart Carter said Operation Sidewinder gave MARS members the opportunity to demonstrate long-haul HF connectivity, local VHF communication, HF e-mail, a WiFi computer interface with HF radio for e-mail, a TSA HF mobile facility, an Army MARS volunteer's vehicle capable of indefinite HF operations and two small, light and portable HF suites.

Participants at Miami International Airport activated the TSA Winlink station and dispatched an initial situation report to inform the network that the airport had shut down in the face of 115 MPH winds. At Pensacola, the TSA's AAN4PNS portable unit was activated. Other TSA stations joined in from Dallas/Fort Worth, New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Houston and Charleston, West Virginia. At Charleston's Yeager Airport, a 10 member MARS support team handled 50 text messages along with several photos. Texas Army MARS Winlink gateway AAB6TX logged 236 exercise messages in addition to secondary voice and MT63 digital traffic. Additional participants included the Pentagon's AAN3PNT, the Army North headquarters at Ft Sam Houston in San Antonio; FEMA Region 6, and the Texas State Emergency Operations Center, plus dozens of Army, Air Force and Navy-Marine Corps MARS members who joined on their own initiative.

==> ElectroMagnetic Capability Committee meets at ARRL HQ

The ElectroMagnetic Compatibility Committee (EMC), an ARRL Standing Committee, met at ARRL Headquarters in Newington this week. Committee Chairman Dennis Bodson, W4PWF, ARRL Roanoke Division Director, said the group came together to discuss the Committee's goals and objectives. They also discussed presenting an EMC forum at the Dayton Hamvention in 2008, as well as ElectroMagnetic Compatibility forum as it relates to automobiles.

"We provide hams with information on how they might minimize their situations to ElectroMagnetic Compatibility. We serve as the conduit to receive reports for Committee action and respond back," Bodson said.

Bodson said the Committee has numerous goals, including monitoring the development of ElectroMagnetic Capability; assessing the impact of ElectroMagnetic Capability on the Amateur Radio Service; informing the ARRL Board of Directors about the Committee's activities, and making recommendations to the Board for further action concerning ElectroMagnetic Compatibility if necessary.

Committee members have certain areas of expertise, Bodson said. Jody Boucher, WA1ZBL, is an electric-utility RFI troubleshooter. Ron McConnell, W2IOL, and Steve Jackson, KZ1X, work with digital subscriber lines (DSL). Mark Steffka, WW8MS, deals with automotive EMC. Steve

Strauss, NY3B, is an expert concerning home-phone networking and Part 15 issues. Ron Hranac, N0IVN, handles cable television issue. Cortland Richmond, KA5S, is an EMC consultant. Other members of the committee are ARRL Laboratory Engineer Mike Gruber, W1MG, and ARRL Honorary Vice President Hugh Turnbull, W3ABC, member emeritus of the EMC Committee.

==> ARRL Headquarters gets a facelift

If you haven't been to ARRL Headquarters lately, you might not recognize it. The building received a fresh coat of paint earlier this month, and the drainage problems in the parking lot have been fixed.

This week, workers started tearing out the sidewalks in front of the HQ building in preparation for the new Diamond Terrace. New curbs and sidewalks will also be installed. Pictures chronicling the progress of the project will be up on the ARRL Web site next week. This will be a photo blog or essay that will show the project as it goes through its many steps to completion.

A project of the ARRL Diamond Club, The Diamond Terrace will be constructed of personalized, 4ï¿½8-inch laser-engraved bricks. Gracing the new entrance to ARRL Headquarters, The Diamond Terrace will recognize donors wishing to venerate their own call signs or to honor or memorialize the call sign of a family member, club or "Elmer" (mentor).

ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, was the first in line to buy a Diamond Terrace brick, and another 20 bricks already are spoken for. Others can join them with a $250 annual Diamond Club membership contribution (ARRL will contact Diamond Clubbers who made contributions of $250 or more after November 15, 2006 to ask if they wish to place a brick). The Diamond Club now has more than 2000 members, and the unrestricted funds it takes in support such ARRL activities as spectrum defense, educational initiatives, field services, DXCC, publications, contesting and the ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator among others, Hobart points out. "You pick an area that's near and dear to your heart, and Diamond Club revenue is very likely supporting it."

Donors may request up to three lines of 16 characters (spaces and punctuation included) per line, although the more lines, the smaller the characters. Legends may consists of a call sign or a name -- or both -- or a club name and call sign and even a year. Diamond Club members contributing $250 or more each year may add a new brick, or bricks, to the terrace. Especially generous donors may wish to donate a garden bench to The Diamond Terrace at ARRL for an initial donation of $10,000.

New bricks for The Diamond Terrace will be put into place 50 bricks at a time each year during May and June. Bricks will be set in sand and are treated to withstand a harsh New England winter. A brick locator will be posted on the ARRL Web site.

Hobart says the terrace ultimately will consist of 5000 bricks. "We hope it will be a catalyst for growth, and that many members will support this effort," she said. Contact Hobart by telephone (860-594-0397) or via e-mail at k1mmh@arrl.org. You can also visit the ARRL Web site to learn more or to sign up for your Diamond Club membership and Diamond Terrace brick.

==> Oklahoma governor signs antenna support structure bill into law; North Carolina next in line

Oklahoma became the 24th state to pass antenna support structure legislation. Governor Brad Henry signed Oklahoma Senate Bill 426 into law May 31. This new law states antenna support structures can be erected as long as the structure complies with 47 C. F. R., Section 97.15(b). This "allow[s] for the erection of an Amateur Radio antenna or an Amateur Radio antenna support structure at a height and dimension sufficient to accommodate Amateur Radio Service communications," the law reads.

The new law defines an antenna support structure as a "structure or framework that is designed to elevate an antenna above the ground for the purpose of increasing the effective communications range and reliability of an amateur radio station. Amateur Radio antenna support structures are removable by design and therefore are a removable structure for assessment purposes."

The Oklahoma law is scheduled to take effect on Thursday, November 1, 2007.

Meanwhile, in North Carolina, State House Bill 1340, the "Amateur Radio Antenna Bill" was approved by the Senate Commerce, Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee on Thursday, June 14.

Director of Bill Drafting for the North Carolina Legislature Gerry Cohen, K4GC, wrote HB1340. "Though the committee approved the bill today, the report was not turned in; I expect that to happen Monday. If that happens, it will be on Tuesday's Senate calendar for approval, returned to the House Wednesday for concurrence in the date change amendment, probably concurred in Thursday of next week, ratified the following Monday, and delivered to Gov Michael F. Easley on Tuesday, June 26. He then has 10 calendar days to act, with day one being June 27. This is all assuming no hang-ups along the way," Cohen said.

The North Carolina bill calls for "reasonable accommodation" of antenna support structures. It states that "a city [or county] may not restrict antennas or antenna support structures of Amateur Radio operators to heights of 90 feet or lower unless the restriction is necessary to achieve a clearly defined health, safety, or aesthetic objective of the city [or county].

If North Carolina passes HB1340, 25 states will have PRB-1 language laws on the books.

==>SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Sunrise, Sunset" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: Expect low sunspot activity and moderate geomagnetic conditions this next week. Higher geomagnetic activity is predicted for June 19 and again on June 22. The US Air Force predicts the planetary A index from June 15-24 (June 23-24 is ARRL Field Day) at 10, 5, 5, 10, 20, 15, 12, 20, 12 and 5. Geophysical Institute Prague predicts unsettled conditions for June 15, quiet to unsettled on June 16-17, quiet on June 18-19, unsettled June 20, and unsettled to active conditions on June 21. Sunspot numbers for June 7 through 13 were 59, 51, 19, 14, 13, 12 and 12 with a mean of 25.7. 10.7 cm flux was 85.5, 84.3, 78.6, 75.9, 73.3, 70.4, and 70.9, with a mean of 77. Estimated planetary A indices were 3, 8, 8, 8, 2, 4 and 5 with a mean of 5.4. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 1, 7, 5, 6, 1, 3 and 5, with a mean of 4. These numbers show that average daily sunspot numbers for June 7-13 are down over 20 points, compared to May 31 thro!
ugh June 6. Average daily solar flux declined over five points. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>.

==>IN BRIEF:

* This weekend on the radio: Coming up on June 13 is the SKCC Sprint, the NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint, the RSGB 80 Meter Club Championship (CW) and the NCCC Sprint Ladder. The Digital Pentathlon, the All Asian DX Contest (CW), the SMIRK Contest, SARL Youth for Amateur Radio, the West Virginia QSO Party, the AGCW VHF/UHF Contest, Kids Day, DIE Contest, Run for the Bacon QRP Contest and the RSGB 80m Club Championship (SSB) are all this weekend, as well. ARRL Field Day is next weekend, June 23-24. Next weekend also plays host to the following contests: NCCC Sprint Ladder and the Digital Pentathlon on June 22; the Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest, His Majesty King of Spain Contest, (SSB), Marconi Memorial HF Contest and the ARCI Milliwatt Field Day. The Quebec QSO Party has been cancelled. See the ARRL Contest Branch page http://www.arrl.org/contests/> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more info.

* ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration: Registration remains open through Sunday June 17 for these online courses beginning on Friday July 6; Technician License Course (EC-010), Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 1 (EC-001), Radio Frequency Interference (EC-006), Antenna Design and Construction (EC-009), Analog Electronics (EC-012) and Digital Electronics (EC-013). These courses will also open for registration Friday May 15, for classes beginning Friday July 3. To learn more, visit the CCE Course Listing page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html> or contact the CCE Department <cce@arrl.org>.

* ARRL Logbook of the World back on line: The new Logbook of the World server is up and running. The principal benefits of the new server, aside from the value of having newer hardware, are that it provides faster processing and more storage, and it uses upgraded operating-system and relational database (RDMS) software. The speed difference will be quite noticeable, as well. The increase in storage space took LoTW from using about 90 percent of its available storage to about 45 percent. The new software allows for future growth, as the ARRL has upgraded to a system that allows better distributed processing and clustering. LoTW has more than 16,400 users and over 130 million QSO records.

* New General class books are good to go!: According to ARRL Sales and Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, the new ARRL General Class License Manual is ready for shipping. As of July 1, 2007, a new General Class license exam pool will take effect; the old pool will no longer be valid. The new ARRL General Class License Manual has everything you need to pass the General Class exam. Also available is the ARRL General Q&A. This book makes upgrading to General Class quick and easy, allowing you to review from the entire question pool with brief explanations following each question. You can order the new manuals, plus manuals for Technician and Amateur Extra from www.arrl.org/catalog/lm/.

* WAS Award gets a new look: Radio operators applying for the ARRL Worked All States (WAS) award will now receive a handsome, newly-designed certificate, sure to be a nice attraction to the ham who enjoys chasing awards and displaying prizes in the shack. The WAS Award is available to all amateurs worldwide who submit proof with written confirmation of having contacted each of the 50 states of the United States of America. The WAS Awards program includes 10 different awards and endorsements. Complete details, rules and applications for WAS can be found on the ARRL Web site. Those who already hold a WAS award can get the new style certificate issued for $10. Contact ARRL Awards Manager, Eileen Sapko at esapko@arrl.org or 860-594-0288

* US Islands revamps awards program: There have been some significant changes to the US Islands Awards Program. The US Protectorate Islands were recently added to the program;

formerly, only those islands governed by individual states were included. As such, there are several new islands added to the mix, including the US Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico and others. New awards have also been added to the program, and an additional award is the works for protectorate islands. USI stresses that the earlier award series is still ongoing and hasn't changed. "These new awards series marks the first expansion to the program in many years," said Page Pyne, WA3EOP, USI's Program Coordinator. For more information, please see www.usislands.org.

* Amistad takes to sea with Amateur Radio send-off: Special Event call sign W1A will be on the air this weekend in recognition and celebration of the up-coming transatlantic crossing and 18-month journey of the Freedom Schooner Amistad. This historic voyage will commemorate the 200th anniversary of the abolition of the slave trade in the United Kingdom and the United States, promoting the values of understanding and unity represented by Amistad itself. The main operation of this special event will be set up at the Long Wharf Pier in New Haven, Connecticut, homeport of the Amistad, flagship of the State of Connecticut. The ship will be docked there prior to its departure. Some stations expect to operate from remote locations using the W1A call sign. HF operations will start Friday, June 15 at noon, continuing through Saturday and Sunday. Planned frequencies include 3.675, 7.275, 14.275, 21.275 and 28.475 MHz. The Freedom Schooner Amistad is a replica of the original ship that! was commandeered by Africans who had been captured in 1839. First stopping in Halifax, Nova Scotia, the Amistad will travel to England, arriving in London in early August in commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the Abolition Act passed by England's Parliament. The Amistad will then join in the Liverpool National Museum's public opening of the International Slavery Museum on August 23, the UNESCO designated Slavery Remembrance Day. The ship travels on to Bristol before continuing its voyage to Portugal and the West Coast of Africa, marking major points in the history of the slave trade. In December, the Amistad will sail into the harbor of Freetown, Sierra Leone, the original West African homeland of many of the Amistad captives. This symbolic "homecoming" will be a capstone event of the Atlantic Freedom Tour. The Amistad will return to the United States via the Caribbean and Bermuda in spring 2008, traveling to multiple ports coming up the East Coast as the US commemo!
rates the bicentenary of legislation to ban the importation of!
slaves.
If any hams are interested in helping to operate W1A, please contact Don Wilson, K1IN at k1in@aol.com.

* Rare Rwanda on the Air: The Daily DX reports Vladimir Bykov, UA4WHX, is now operating from the very rare Rwanda as 9X0VB. Rwanda has not been on the air since late 1997 and currently ranks #33 on The DX Magazine's "2006 Most Wanted Survey." Watch for him on 10-160 meters on both CW and SSB. QSL via UA4WHX, but please wait until he gets home before sending your QSLs. There is no word on where Bykov will head to next.

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The ARRL Letter is published Fridays, 50 times each year, by the American Radio Relay League: ARRL--the National Association for Amateur Radio, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111; tel 860-594-0200; fax 860-594-0259; <http://www.arrl.org>. Joel Harrison, W5ZN, President.

The ARRL Letter offers a weekly e-mail digest of essential and general news of interest to active radio amateurs. Visit the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org> for the latest Amateur Radio news and news updates. The ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/> also offers informative features and columns. ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> is a weekly "ham radio newscast" compiled and edited from The ARRL Letter. It's also

available as a podcast from our Web site.

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==>How to Get The ARRL Letter

The ARRL Letter is available to ARRL members free of charge directly from ARRL HQ. To subscribe, unsubscribe or change your address for e-mail delivery:
ARRL members first must register on the Members Only Web Site <http://www.arrl.org/members/>. You'll have an opportunity during registration to sign up for e-mail delivery of The ARRL Letter, W1AW bulletins, and other material. To change these selections--including delivery of The ARRL Letter--registered members should click on the "Member Data Page" link (in the Members Only box). Click on "Modify membership data," check or uncheck the appropriate boxes and/or change your e-mail address if necessary. (Check "Temporarily disable all automatically sent email" to temporarily stop all e-mail deliveries.) Then, click on "Submit modification" to make selections effective. (NOTE: HQ staff members cannot change your e-mail delivery address. You must do this yourself via the Members Only Web Site.)

The ARRL Letter also is available to all, free of charge, from these sources:

* ARRLWeb <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>. (NOTE: The ARRL Letter will be posted each Friday when it is distributed via e-mail.)

* The QTH.net listserver, thanks to volunteers from the Boston Amateur Radio Club: Visit Mailing Lists@QTH.Net <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/letter-list>. (NOTE: The ARRL cannot assist subscribers who receive The ARRL Letter via this listserver.)

1111. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-16 04:18:32 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1181957879.791620.77170@k79g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4316

On Jun 13, 1:08 am, "Howard Lester" <heyles...@dakotacom.net> wrote:

>
> Yeahhhhh, the personal here is Howard....
>

Talked to a young fella on the repeater the other day who introduced himself by saying "my first personal is Jim and you're my first contact, QSL?".

He seemed like a nice sort, delighted that he had just received his shiny new call sign, and was anxious to make some new friends. Kinda sounded like I felt when I put my new call sign on the air the first time way back when, except probably brighter, cuz Jim is one of those young computer jocks. Me, I still got problems with the LL scale on my Pickett slide rule. Yep, I think Jim sounded brighter than me, quick to catch on to things.

But I don't think Jim will be back on the repeater. Before I had a chance to really get to know much about Jim, or even wrangle an invite to lunch, another station, with an impressive "senior" call sign joined the contact, flashed his shiny Radio Cop badge, and proceeded to issue Jim a "verbal speeding ticket" for improper lingo on the radio. "Radio Cop" said the term "personal" (and for that matter "handle") were unwelcome in ham radio, and that Q-signals were not to be used on VHF voice. Just generally made my newfound friend feel like an unwashed interloper. (Gosh, I've been saying "handle" since I was a conditional class. Slow to catch on, you know.)

Now I should point out that "Radio Cop" took pains to appear very well meaning. Didn't use any bad words that I noticed, was quite polite, even seemed like he was trying to be "helpful." In other words, he thought he was doing Jim a favor by pointing out his transgression from our sacred Amateur Radio way of doing things. I think Jim felt just the same way I did back in a new school in third grade when the well meaning teacher pointed out that "we don't keep our pencil behind our

ear in this room." Sure enough, I looked around and none of my new classmates had pencils behind their ears. Sure was embarrassing, and at that moment I really wished I was back with my good old buddies in second grade. Now, if I'd been allowed to hang out a couple of days, I'm sure I would have learned how to properly stow my pencil. And if Jim would have hung around a couple of days on our repeater I just bet he would have noticed that his lingo, perhaps learned in another radio service, was a bit out of place, and pretty soon Jim would sound "just like the rest of us." Like I said, he seemed pretty bright to me, quick to catch on to things.

"Radio Cop", you have kept our hobby uncorrupted. I heard Jim down around 27 Mhz this morning, and saw his ad on eBay trying to sell his barely used 2-meter HT. I'm gonna miss my new friend Jim, because I think I could have learned something from him. Maybe you could have also.

Like I said, he seemed pretty bright to me, quick to catch on to things. What do think it was that he caught on to about us from "Radio Cop".

73, de Hans, K0HB

~~~
When a true genius appears in this world, you may know him by this sign, that the dunces are all in confederacy against him.
~~~

1112. WIANEWS for week commencing JUNE 17 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-16 04:36:42 UTC
From: nationalnews@wia.org.au
Message-ID: <200706160436.l5G4aPc24114@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4317
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,aus.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

This is WIANEWS for week commencing JUNE 17 2007

Mal VK4MAL is currently working with the Red Cross Counter-Disaster division in the flooded areas of the New South Wales Central Coast and Hunter Region.

Mal VK4MAL is Counter-Disaster Co-ordinator for Red Cross in North Queensland and he and hundreds of other volunteers were shipped in from across VK to provide some help for flood weary local volunteers and residents of the disaster zone.

VK2ATZ/portable the Westlakes AR Club were in the thick of things, but were still able, somehow, to score a vantage point to see the container ship which was washed ashore at Nobby's Beach on the Friday morning.

Saturday Westlakes Amateur Radio Club was open....But not for usual business. It was open to the few that braved the weather and answered the calls for help to clean up the debris from the horrible weather suffered the previous night.

Some helping included VK2YPW, VK2AFZ, VK2ZM and Keith VK2PKT, Paul VK2BPL, and Richard VK2FRKO also John VK2FJKG

Then when the Hunter River in Maitland looked like breaking its banks on Sunday, the Volunteer Rescue Association wasted no time in securing the specialist communications skills of WICEN (NSW).

Eight operators from the Hunter Region were deployed at Rutherford, and they were tasked with passing intelligence reports to the services involved, along with monitoring and reporting the river levels at 15 minute intervals. This involved three teams, two at the gauges and one at the control centre; all were alert and busy throughout the night and into the next morning.

As well as this, teams were on stand-by in both the Sydney North and Central Coast Regions, but as the floods abated they were not required; it is worth noting that although members in the Central Coast Region also suffered from the storm, some were still able to respond.

Other VRA squads such as CREST and Cave Rescue were also involved.

The President of the Volunteer Rescue Association, Ray Gill ESM[*], thanked WICEN for their prompt response.

(sourced to TARC Westlakes and Dave Horsfall VK2KFU WICEN (NSW))

[*]

Note: "ESM" is not a callsign, but refers to "Emergency Service Medal".

As shown in this recent Hunter Emergency, we amateur radio operators are community minded and are often keen to benefit our community and others with our equipment and skills. The development of the Wireless Institute of Australia National Network of Emergency Communications is a case in point.

Here is the Vice President of the WIA, Ewan McLeod VK4ERM.

The establishment of the Wireless Institute of Australia National Network of Emergency Communications or WIANNEC is progressing. This is the result of the IARU requirement to be able to provide initial emergency HF communications when required until government and other communications assets are operational and able to take over.

WIANNEC does not usurp the established role and capabilities of WICEN. However, it is anticipated there are WICEN operators and stations capable of satisfying the needs of WIANNEC as are well established stations and contest stations.

What can you do to assist in the planning, establishment and operation of this network in the unfortunate situation where our HF communications capability is required? Well, you must consider these five primary questions:

One. Are you in regular contact with Amateur Radio Stations in the Australasian region that is, is your station's capability proven?

Two. Are you able to support 24 hour operations with our neighbouring countries and nations?

Three. Is there a pool of experienced operators you can call on at short notice to assist in maintaining the 24 hour operation of your station?

Four. Do you have broadband and permanently on internet access?

Five. Are you prepared and able to make your station available for emergency communications in our region?

If you can answer in the affirmative for those five questions then I would appreciate hearing from you. My email address is vk4erm@wia.org.au

This is Ewan VK4ERM looking forward to your communication.

WIA PRESIDENT MICHAEL OWEN VK3KI

I would like to announce some changes that will take effect from 1 July.

>From 1 July 2007 the cost of Family Membership will drop from $40 to $30 per year.

A Family Member does not receive Amateur Radio and is a second or further person living at the same address as a Member or Concession Member receiving Amateur Radio.

The WIA Board hopes that this will encourage more people living at the same address to all become members of the WIA, particularly in this year of high expense associated with the ITU World Radiocommunication Conference next November in Geneva.

Also from 1 July 2007 the WIA will no longer offer membership without the magazine, Amateur Radio. Existing Non-AR memberships will continue.

The Board believes that while the WIA communicates in a number of ways, including broadcasts and the WIA website, the magazine is the only way that the WIA can directly communicate with all members who receive it, and so the non-AR membership is no longer appropriate.

The WIA has been forced to increase the cost of assessments.

Currently all assessment packs are $25. From 1 July 2007 the cost of packs used on or after that date will increase to $35 per pack, irrespective of when the pack was produced.

The assessment packs are for the Foundation qualification (which includes theory, regulations and a practical assessment), the Standard and Advanced Regulations and the Standard Theory and Advanced Theory. Each will cost $35, payable when the pack is used.

The only exception will be a practical assessment taken alone which will remain at $25.

A detailed cost review has revealed that the cost of producing and processing each pack is more than the amount we have been charging, and so other WIA income has been subsidising assessments.

Two reminders:

Please don't forget that the last date for nominations to be received for the Advisory Committees is 22nd June.

Currently we are reviewing the WIA's 'Assessment Instructions'.

That is, how we conduct the whole assessment process.

We have asked each Assessor to identify (with particularity) each part of the Instructions (including the forms) that have caused any difficulty or uncertainty or could be either clarified or simplified, and to make a precise suggestion as to change.

We remind the Assessors to respond and invite any one else who is interested to send your suggestions by post to Dianne Aston,
WIA Examinations Officer, PO Box 2175, Caulfield Junction, VIC, 3161, or by email to nationaloffice@wia.org.au, marking your email Assessment Instructions Revision.

We have asked that all suggestions be at the office no later than tomorrow, 18 June 2007.

THE WIA NATIONAL QSL COLLECTION

The WIA QSL card collection contains cards donated by radio amateurs and Short-Wave Listeners from both Australia and overseas, the aim of which is to save 'something for the future'. We are all aware of the great interest shown in such items as vintage cars, antique furniture and heritage buildings. QSL cards also have an archival value in that old QSLs, through their description of radio equipment and comments made by our radio 'old timers', can depict the fascinating world of amateur radio in its early days.

Members of the WIA have reason to be proud of their WIA QSL Collection, for it contains some of the most valuable archival material in the world. The QSL of Reinhartz 1XAM of the USA De Loy of France are here. It was the amateur radio transmission between these two experimenters in November 1923 that bridged the Atlantic for the first time. The QSLs of Frank Bell Z4AA and Cecil Goyder G2SZ are here. It was these experimenters who made the first two-way amateur radio contact between New Zealand and England in 1924.

The Collection has also an excellent range of post war QSLs such as rare DX, IOTA, DOK, Prefix and USA County QSLs, in addition to a thematic collection and a pictorial collection containing some of the world's most attractively designed QSLs.

The WIA appeals to all amateur radio operators and executors of 'silent key' estates to donate QSLs to the Collection. Such donations are acknowledged in the WIA's Amateur Radio magazine, and postage is fully refunded.

Both radio clubs and individuals have the opportunity of purchasing at cost price a DVD portraying a wide range of both pre-war and post-war QSLs. These have proved very popular at Club evenings.

Would you care to help by becoming one of our QSL contributors or a QSL Curator Enquiries should be directed to:

Ken Matchett VK3TL Hon. Curator
Tel: (03 9728 5350
Email: wiaqslcollection@wia.org.au

Thanks Robert, now we have received a letter from Ken, in the letter Ken tells us the he has undergone major surgery and undergoes a period of Radio and Chemo therapy. Ken is urgently appealing to all radio Amateurs particularly those in VK3 to consider become involved in the QSL collection and to help maintain what is probably one of the most valuable QSL collections in the world.

Ken says that even a few hours a week would be helpful. Again the email address to contact Ken is wiaqslcollection@wia.org.au

Following the outstanding success of the Parkes AGM weekend in May and continuing requests for copies of the reports presented at the open forum, WIA Director Robert Broomhead has announced that copies of the bound Open Forum Report Booklet would be available to members and affiliated clubs for $10 per copy including Postage..

This booklet of some 66 pages with glossy front cover pictorial of the 'Dish" will give members who were not at Parkes a good idea of the range of activities that are encompassed within the work of the Wireless Institute on behalf of members and all amateurs", said Robert, "It gives a good overview of the when, where and why of current WIA act ivies"

Appointment of Karl Hennig VK6XW as Intruder Watch Coordinator

Karl Hennig VK6 XW has been appointed by the WIA Board to replace Glenn Dunstan VK4DU who retired at the recent WIA AGM.

The WIA has accepted responsibility as a central clearing house for reports on intrusions from non amateur activities. The WIA Intruder Watch Service is an agreed mechanism with the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA). The Service also links to the international intruder watch for amateur radio, specifically by linkages to the International Amateur Radio Union Region 3 covering our part of the world..

Full details of the WIA Intruder Watch system are available here on the WIA Web site.

The success of the Service in protecting the access of Australian amateurs to the HF depends heavily on the support of active amateurs willing to go that extra mile and submit formal reports about interference

Michael Owen VK3KI, President of the WIA and Phil Wait VK2DKN made special presentations at the NZART AGM June 2.

Michael spoke to the changes in the WIA since his visit two years ago at the New Plymouth Conference in 2005, whilst Phil spoke to Broadband over Power Line issue with a well presented and received presentation.

This text edition is only authorised for re-publication in full on www.wia.org.au on the ax25 ww packet radio bulletin board system and in the early email editions sent from the vk1wia server at national office. Any subsequent copying on newsgroups is a blatant pirated activity.

AROUND VK in 80 Seconds.
(4vks)

VK2

School radio club calling CQ IRLP

The Bishop Druit College Radio Club at Coffs Harbour on the mid-north coast of New South Wales is looking VK, ZL or Asia-Pacific contacts on IRLP.

The students who have been experimenting with building simple FM radio receivers are also keen to have some on air operating experiences.

IRLP contacts with interested parties or similar school electronic/radio groups would be great - but the club only has limited time during the local lunchtime period.

The station equipment has been provided by Peter McAdam VK2EVB - and the club is QRV Fridays 0315 - 0345 UTC, on the IRLP node 6625 which is via its local repeater VK2RDO.
(VK3PC)

VK4

FNNQARG was great !

The weather was beautiful during the day but a bit brisk at night, 65 hams and support crews attended, many experiments with canvas palaces and rapid deployment field poles and towers were undertaken and a heap of fun was had.

Oh, and some were lucky enough to purchase new transceivers and antennae and play with them in a tropical paradise PLUS sample some gastronomic resort delights.

This sums up the 2007 Far North and North Queensland Amateur Radio Get Together held over the Queens Birthday long weekend in June.

VK5

SERG have had a busy time, not only another successful Mt Gambier weekend, but would seem the hub of their extensive repeater network (VK5RNC) at Naracoorte received what seems to have been a direct lightning strike.

Took it all out; from antennae right through to UHF linking gear, meaning a complete rebuild.

Murphy lurking just before their convention again!!!

VK6

HAMFEST 2007 happens in Ashfield Sunday August 5 at 9am.

Northern Corridor Radio Group will even have interstate traders on the day with impressive specials!

Along with the usual features one experiences at hamfests, this "biggie" in Perth will feature 109 Signals Squadron and the Tesla Society.

Cyril Jackson Recreation Centre
Fisher Street
Ashfield.

Opinions expressed in "WIANews" are those of the writers who submit material and do not necessarily reflect those of the rebroadcasters, nor the National WIA, but are broadcast in the spirit in which they were received.

EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO
PRESENTED BY KYLEA VK6FXYL

YOUTHDAY 2007
June 16 in ZS land saw many young people experience amateur radio by operating an amateur radio station under supervision and talking to other young people on the air.

The emphasis was on operating an amateur station, not on just handing the microphone to the young guest to say a few words.

More on the web
www.sarl.org.za

FUTURE EXAMS

To find out when a club in YOUR area is hosting assessments and/or training in Amateur Radio go to wia.org.au and check out the club pages.

Next Foundation Licence course, and Standard / Advanced assessments .....

NEW SOUTH WALES

ARNSW regularly holds Foundation Licence Assessments as well as Exams for Standard and Advanced Licences.
Held on the last weekend of each EVEN numbered month.
The next Assessment will be 30th June & 1st of July.

The Hunter Radio Group
They'll hold their next licence assessments on Saturday 23rd & Sunday the 24th of June at 9.00 am at the Print Makers Workshop, 27 Popran St Adamstown.

For further information, please contact the Examination Group Leader, Grahame O'Brien VK2FA on 02- 49548688. It is important that Foundation candidates have a copy of the foundation manual and have studied it before attempting an assessment.
Manuals are available from the Hunter Radio Group.

Some places will be available for candidates wanting to upgrade from foundation licences to standard or advanced licences and the Hunter Radio Group will be having a sausage sizzle on both days for lunch.

VICTORIA

Amateur Radio Victoria has announced its next two Foundation Licence training and assessment weekends - 23rd and 24th of June and the 21st and 22nd of July.

Held at Box Hill North these classes attracting candidates from Greater Melbourne and Victorian regional areas.

For inquiries or to enrol please contact Barry Robinson VK3JBR 0428 516 001 or arv@amateurradio.com.au

(Amateur Radio Victoria amateurradio.com.au)

ACMA NEWS

The Australian Communications and Media Authority is seeking public comment on proposed variations to the schemes that regulate the conversion of broadcast television from analogue to digital mode.
The full release can found at
www.acma.gov.au/WEB/STANDARD//pc=PC_310295

INTERNATIONAL NEWS READ BY Rob VK5MM

ARRL/IARU TEAM TO REPRESENT AMATEUR RADIO AT ITU MEETING IN GENEVA

ARRL Chief Executive Officer and IARU Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ, have been representing the IARU at a meeting of ITU-R Working Party 1A in Geneva, Switzerland.

Working Party 1A is responsible for spectrum engineering techniques within Study Group 1 (spectrum management) and has been working on a document that may eventually become what's called a "preliminary draft new report" on the impact of power line telecommunications (PLT, what we call BPL on this side of the Pacific) on radiocommunication systems operating below 80 MHz.

Of course, the IARU's interest is in ensuring that the report accurately reflects the sensitivity of the amateur services to interference from this source.

Also meeting at about the same time (June 12-20), ITU-R Working Party 8A, which is responsible for most of the land mobile services, plus the amateur and amateur-satellite services. WP 8A hopes to complete work on a "draft new handbook for the amateur and amateur-satellite services" to be published by the ITU.
(arrl letter)

OPERATIONAL NEWS - CONTEST COLUMN - D A T E L I N E

VK/TRANSTASMAN CONTEST
160M Phone 7 July 2007
160M CW 21 July 2007

The Hunter Radio Group Contesters will be operating in the Trans Tasman 160 meter phone event on July 7th this year at Luskintyre Tiger Moth Airport

There will be some fun type foxhunt also held round the airport.

The group extends a cordial welcome to all operators.

This will be an ideal training event for the up coming RD contest at the same location.

Food, drinks and accommodation will be available.

Accommodation will be on a first to book basis

As in all Hunter Radio Group functions, having fun will be the main objective

For further information, or to confirm your attendance please contact Grahame VK2FA on 02 49-548-688 before June 24th 2007

NZART MEMORIAL CONTEST - 80M - SSB AND CW.
7 & 8 July 2007.

Times :- 2000 NZST - 2300 NZST, divided into 3 operating periods each evening.

Band :- 80M SSB and CW.

Contest Rules NZART Website. http://www.nzart.org.nz
(John Powell. ZL1BHQ, NZART Contest Manager)

JULY 14-15
The annual IARU HF World Championship is held on the second full weekend of July. This year it will be held during the 24-hour period from 1200 UTC Saturday, 14 July to 1200 UTC Sunday, 15 July.
Rules are at www.iaru.org/contest.html

Because this is unusually late in the month for the event to occur, there has been some confusion about the dates. The CORRECT dates are 14-15 July. Any references to 7-8July are INCORRECT.
(David Sumner, K1ZZ Secretary, IARU)

14th of July the Jack Files Contest.
0800 UTC - 1400 UTC
80 metres only.
Use 3.5MHZ - 3.7MHz
CW; SSB; or All Modes

Boat Anchor Sprints:
August (11), October (13).
Local ZL time: 2000 to 2100 hrs

Section 1: Old radios - all valves - i.e. ZC1, 19 set, Heathkits, any home brew set, but must have all valves.

Section 2: Any Hybrid transceiver (must have valve finals i.e. FT200, FTDX400/401, Drake, FT 101s, etc..

Amplitude Modulated signals only.

The overall winner shall be the entrant having the highest points score which will be published in the following New Zealand "Break-in".
(Jamie Pye ZL2NN, Editor NZART's InfoLine)

AUGUST 11/12 Remembrance Day Contest (The RD) wia.org.au

Today marks only 56 days to the 2007 RD contest.

Last years Audited results are now posted on the WIA website.

In the July issue of your AR magazine we will publish this years Rules (with some minor adjustments from the previous years).

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www.hst2007.org

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(Richard Osborne)

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(ARRL LETTER)

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Don't forget the Young Hams Net on 80 meters! It's on 3.590

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This is a net for both new hams in the hobby or just a weekly catch up and chat.

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www.qsl.net\vk3bez\index.htm

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Cyril Jackson Recreation Centre
Fisher Street
Ashfield.

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North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention
Happening in twin cities of Thuringowa and Townsville.

JANUARY 20 2008

The Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group invite all amateurs to attend the 2008 Mid North Coast Radio Expo to be held in Coffs Harbour on Sunday 20th January.

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WALKS

Jeff VK4XJJ is still going strong on his walk across Australia.

Every Day, from 5:30pm Eastern on 40 meters, 7045 put out a call to VK4XJJ

Jeff, VK4XJJ walking Gulf to Gulf, is doing fine, his position on Wednesday evening, 13th June, was 112 km northeast of Innamincka on the way to Birdsville.

For position and details see website - www.jeffswalk.com

==========

WIANews 24/7 with the following bulletin in Audio
when you visit the NEWSROOM on www.wia.org.au

This is WIANEWS for week commencing JUNE 10 2007, I'M GRANT VK3VIM

NATIONAL WIA STORIES

ROBERT BROOMHEAD AND SILENT KEY

It is with sadness that the WIA advises the passing of Bill Rice VK3ABP, who at age 80 became a silent key whilst sitting in his favourite chair in his home in Altona.

It is a sad yet reflective occasion on which to remember a unique character.

Bill was the longest serving editor of the Wireless Institute of Australia's journal Amateur Radio magazine. He joined its Publications Committee in 1972, became Editor in July 1984 and continued in the position until December 1999. It was a role in which he relished and able to contribute in so many ways. As Editor he was also a member of the WIA Federal Executive for a number of years.

Bill was a quietly spoken gentleman, with the persona not unlike that of a yester-year stereotypical bearded scientist, with a brilliant mind.

He had been an active radio amateur for 60 years, first as VK5BP at Murray Bridge South Australia moving in 1948 to Adelaide to attend university.

On relocating to Melbourne in 1960 be became VK3ABP. He was from the era when radio amateurs built their own equipment. Synonymous with the callsign VK3ABP was his valve two-metre converter that featured in AR magazine and

became a very popular project enabling many to get on to that band.

While a good listener and being very personable, Bill talked little about his occupation in the defence research and development field and the leading edge technology that it involved.

Retirement from work gave Bill extra time for amateur radio projects

Bill had many friends and I have on the line Ron Fisher VK3OM ...
(Ron Fisher online recording)

Some of Bill's other activities included history and sailing. He often sailed in Gippsland - a personal achievement was to sail on the rarely filled inland salt Lake Eyre in South Australia.

In 2001 he was awarded honorary life membership of the WIA for his long and meritorious service, which he accepted with genuine humility.

One of Bills other close friends was Bill Roper VK3BR and I have Bill on line to share a few words....
(Bill Roper online recording)

A service was held Tuesday at St Eanswythe's Church, in Altona with about 200 people attending.

Bill will be sadly missed and his passing is a great loss to amateur radio.

ROBERT BROOMHEAD AND FRED SWAINSTON LISTEN TO THE AUDIO MP3

New National Standard Built Around Amateur Radio

The Commonwealth Department of Education Science and Technology has endorsed a new competency standard, called:-
"Operate and maintain an amateur radio communication station".

The standard approximates the syllabus for a Standard amateur operators certificate of proficiency.

This means the there is now a nationally recognised standard built around amateur radio. This is a link between amateur radio and education and industry. Competency to this standard can be an element in an electro-technology qualification.

It certainly should make amateur radio as an activity much more attractive to schools.

However, it is important to note that holding the competency will not qualify the holder for an amateur licence which still requires WIA certification to ACMA of competency in the theory, regulatory and practical elements of the syllabus.

WIA President Michael Owen VK3KI welcomed the Departments endorsement, saying he hoped that schools would be encouraged to support amateur radio activities and also acknowledged the work of the WIA's Nominated RTO, Fred Swainston VK3DAC in achieving this recognition of amateur radio.

P29 revival underway

A strong effort is being made to increase amateur radio activity in Papua New Guinea and a recent P29 CQ Day is only just the beginning.

Wilfred Kilepak Amai P29PG/VK3DWA initiated the very successful special activity day outside the Parliament Building in Port Moresby. There were plenty of interested on-lookers.

The radio administration PANGTEL is supportive of any steps to achieve a greater participation in amateur radio.

Wilfred says PANGTEL is aware of the Australian licence restructure that occurred in October 2005 that includes the Foundation Licence, but has not yet followed suit.

Traditionally P29 has mirrored the VK licence system, due to the strong relationship between Papua New Guinea and Australia that was established before it gained independence in 1975.

I'm Jim Linton VK3PC and you're listening to VK1WIA.

ROBERT BROOMHEAD AND WILFRED KILEPAK LISTEN TO THE AUDIO MP3

EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO
PRESENTED BY KYLEA VK6FXYL

FUTURE EXAMS

To find out when a club in YOUR area is hosting assessments and/or training in Amateur Radio go to wia.org.au and check out the club pages.

Help amateur radio continue to grow

Do you know someone who could be interested in joining our hobby? Then encourage them to enrol in a Foundation Licence training course.

Next Foundation Licence course, and Standard / Advanced assessments .....

NEW SOUTH WALES

The Hunter Radio Group
They'll hold their next licence assessments on Saturday 23rd & Sunday the 24th of June at 9.00 am at the Print Makers Workshop, 27 Popran St Adamstown.

For further information, please contact the Examination Group Leader, Grahame O'Brien VK2FA on 02- 49548688. It is important that Foundation candidates have a copy of the foundation manual and have studied it before attempting an assessment.
Manuals are available from the Hunter Radio Group.

Some places will be available for candidates wanting to upgrade from foundation licences to standard or advanced licences and the Hunter Radio Group will be having a sausage sizzle on both days for lunch.

WEST AUSTRALIA

HANDS UP IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO GO TO HAM COLLEGE?

Thought that would get your attention. In VK6 we now have HAM College offering courses for the foundation, standard and advanced licences. The next Foundation course is to be held on the 21st & 22nd of July - get your name in early to secure a place in the classroom.

Is anyone interested in obtaining their Advanced licence - the next course is scheduled to start in July/August.

How about Morse code.....yes there is even a course run for Morse - why not stop procrastinating and sign up today.

The next date for those wishing to sit Exams is June 30th.
Go to www.warg.org.au under the foundation licence page to view additional course and exam dates or you can contact VK6BDO Neil or myself for further details.

CONGRATULATIONS - RESULTS

Congratulations go out to new Radio Amateur Robert Young VK4FRJY who has recently received his new callsign from ACMA after successfully completing Foundation Assessment with the WIA Exam Service in Townsville.

Congratulations to 10 new Ham College graduates who obtained their Foundation licences over the past couple of weeks, as well as 1 standard and 1 Advanced.
Look forward to making contact with you all in the near future.

AROUND VK in 80 Seconds.

VK2

The Hunter Radio Group Contesters will be operating in the Trans Tasman 160 meter phone event on July 7th this year at Luskintyre Tiger Moth Airport.
As in all Hunter Radio Group functions, having fun will be the main objective
For further information, or to confirm your attendance please contact Grahame VK2FA on 02 49-548-688 before June 24th.

VK3

Amateur Radio Victoria say that the Mt St Leonard 70cm repeater VK3RMU north-east of Melbourne is now on its new frequency of 439.800MHz.

Amateur Radio Victoria made the very recent QSY was mainly due to persistent interference from a suspected low interference potential device (LIPD).

The Sunday VK1WIA broadcast will also adopt the new frequency later this month.

In south-west Victoria at Warrnambool the VK3RWL repeaters on 2m 147.050MHz and 70cm 439.650MHz are getting plenty of use by locals.

Early indications are that the range of VK3RWL is excellent with reports from Ballarat, Horsham, Hamilton and Portland being received.

While the repeaters are up and running there's still a little bit more work to do before the project is complete.

With the arrival of the winter rains and cold weather access to the site is becoming difficult.

Many thanks to Russell Lemke VK3ZQB who with others have worked to restore the repeaters, that were required to meet rigid and costly commercial site requirements, borne by Amateur Radio Victoria.

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DISCUSSION POINT

Often around this time in the WIA National News we bring you "Discussion Point",
Today we bring you BOILING POINT, thanks to Frank VK2FJL, Previous editor of Westlakes Magazine.

It seems a person decided to have a cup of coffee. He took a cup of water and put it in the microwave to heat it up (something that he had done numerous times before).

I am not sure how long he set the timer for, but he wanted to bring the water to a boil.

When the timer shut the oven off, he removed the cup from the oven. As he looked into the cup, he noted that the water was not boiling, but instantly the water in the cup "blew up" into his face.

The cup remained intact until he threw it out of his hand but all the water had flown out into his face due to the build up of energy. His whole face blistered and he suffered 1st and 2nd degree burns to his face.

Worse he may have lost partial sight in his left eye.

While at the hospital, the doctor who was attending to him stated that this is a fairly common occurrence and water (alone) should never be heated in a microwave oven.

If water is heated in this manner, something should be placed in the cup to diffuse the energy such as: a wooden stir stick, tea bag, etc.

It is however a much safer choice to boil the water in a tea kettle.

WHY IS IT SO???

Micro waved water and other liquids do not always bubble when they reach the boiling point.
They can actually get superheated and not bubble at all. The superheated liquid will bubble up out of the cup when it is moved or when something like a spoon or tea bag is put into it.

To prevent this from happening and causing injury, do not heat any liquid for more than two minutes per cup. After heating, let the cup stand in the

microwave for thirty seconds before moving it or adding anything .

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NEWS FROM ARNEWSLINE

WORLDBEAT - GERMANY: THE DL 100 AWARD

In news from around the world, German hams are on the air throughout June with a special celebration. This with members of the radio clubs of Norddeich and Hage commemorating the 100th anniversary of the well known coast station Norddeich Radio. Operations are planned for 160 through 10 meters on various modes. The special callsign, DL100DAN is being used and a special D A N 100 award will be available. More information can be found at http://norddeich-radio.de/ (OPDX)

WORLDBEAT - JAPAN: JARL TO CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL QRP DAY

The Japan Amateur Radio League's QRP Club will be running five special event stations, 8J1P, 8J3P, 8J4P, 8J5P and 8J6P on June 17th to celebrate the International QRP Day. International QRP Day was designated by the IARU Region 1 Conference held in April 1984 in Italy to stimulate QRP operation worldwide. It was reaffirmed by the IARU Region 3 Conference in New Zealand in December of 1985 (JARL)

WORLDBEAT - UK: GB3RAL PROPOSED 40 AND 60 MHz BEACONS ON THEIR WAY

In VHF news, work from the United Kingdom that the new GB3RAL 40.05 and 60.05MHz beacons are due to receive government clearance in mid-June but both have already cleared their key Primary User stages. Assuming that regulatory clearance is also obtained the sponsors will go forward to for final clearance and approval sometime this summer.

If approved, it brings ham radio in the UK closer to the prospect of a unique 40, 50, 60 and 70 MHz co-located beacon system at the Rutherford Appleton Labs location near Oxford. While not in amateur bands, the 40 and 60 MHz beacons should prove to be extremely useful propagation study markers both in the UK and world wide. (GB2RS)

ON THE AIR: CELEBRATING IN INDY WITH HAM RADIO

Back in the United States, Indianapolis, Indiana has been a hotbed of special event stations during May and it continues in June. Fire up that new HF rig and get ready to copy. Jack Parker W8ISH has this report from the Circle City.

If you have your HF rig fired up and your antenna pointed toward Indianapolis you many score some great contacts in the next few weeks. Beginning Friday evening June 8th the Indianapolis Radio Club will begin making contacts from the site of the USS Indianapolis Memorial. The USS Indianapolis was sunk during World War Two after delivering atomic bomb components that were later used in the attack on Hiroshima. Listen for the W9IND call sign during the 44 hour event or check the Indianapolis Radio Club web page for more information.

The pace continues to quicken as the United States Grand Prix rolls into town on Fathers Day weekend, June 17th. Special event station W9IMS will be on the air, taking check-ins, during that weekend . This world class special event station operates during each one of the major races at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. If you don't catch W9IMS during the Formula One race you have another opportunity to snag a special QSL card during the Brickyard 400 NASCAR race the weekend of July 29th.

And last but not least, many central Indiana clubs report gearing up for Field Day 2007 on June 23rd and 24th. Maybe we'll catch you on the HF bands.

Reporting for Amateur Radio Newsline this is Jack Parker W8ISH.

The USS Indianapolis Memorial station will join nearly 70 other special event stations around the world as part of the Museum Ships Weekend. (W8ISH)

THE QNEWS WORK BENCH - the nuts and volts report -
Since Adelaide's South Coast Amateur Radio Club took over the distribution of the VK5JST Antenna Analyser kits they have been receiving numerous orders for the kits from right across Australia.
Just visit their website, www.scarc.org.au

MORSE ON YOUR iPoD - we are joined by VK1KEP Peter Ellis.

This interesting contribution from Mark Sullivan ZL3AB appeared on the KiwiDX Group cluster.

In an attempt to improve CW comprehension and speed it was decided to load some CW files onto an iPoD to listen to on the way to work.

To start you need to create a CW sound file in "wav" format.

To do this, look for a great little freeware program on the net called WinMorse 2.0. Its a 482kb download and extremely easy to use.

http://winmorse. mark-bellamy.qarchive. org/

Once you open the software you can set the speed you want the CW sent at and then type/paste some text into the window.

All you need to do then is choose the output as "wav" from a drop down menu and the software does the rest.

Once you save the file you can then open it in the iTunes software that will convert the file into AAC, the default format for the iPoD and you can then copy it onto your iPoD and play it.
This process will also work for any MP3 player that has software that can convert wav files into MP3. If your software does not do that there are a number or wav to MP3 converters on the Net.
(fists club downunder)

MEDIA WATCH

TV SHOWS THE EARLY DAYS OF UK EMCOMMS

A television show about the early days of Amateur Radio emergency communications in England was recently broadcast on the U-K TV station Channel 4 . This, as a part of the stations ongoing '3 Minute Wonder' series.

The program was called "Preparing for the Worst" was hosted by Pat Gowen G3IOR. It discussed one of the first ever mobile emergency communications operations ever in the U-K. Also in the show is Terry Owen, G4PSH and references are made to Rafars & Raynet of the city of Norfolk.

Preparing for the Worst can be seen on the YouTube video service.

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Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of the National WIA.

HOP TO SPECIFIC WIANews TOPICS

WIA WEB ZONE, www.wia.org.au

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Thanks to to our dedicated band of broadcast volunteers who utilize their time and equipment in bringing you this weekly broadcast.

The purpose of "WIANews" is to rapidly provide news of interest to active amateurs residing in Australia and the globe.

We strongly encourage membership in the Wireless Institute of Australia and participation in the activities of local clubs.

Opinions expressed in "WIANews" are those of the writers who submit material and do not necessarily reflect those of the rebroadcasters, nor the National WIA.

Material may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, a credit to WIANews wouldn't go astray...

========== MODERATOR'S COMMENT:
on proposed variations to the schemes that regulate the conversion of broadcast television from analogue to digital mode.
The full release can found at
www.acma.gov.au/WEB/STANDARD//pc=PC_310295

INTERNATIONAL NEWS READ BY Rob VK5MM

ARRL/IARU TEAM TO REPRESENT AMATEUR RADIO AT ITU MEETING IN GENEVA

ARRL Chief Executive Officer and IARU Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ, have been representing the IARU at a meeting of ITU-R Working Party 1A in Geneva, Switzerland.

Working Party 1A is responsible for spectrum engineering techniques within Study Group 1 (spectrum management) and has been working on a document that may eventually become what's called a "preliminary draft new report" on the impact of power line telecommunications (PLT, what we call BPL on this side of the Pacific) on radiocommunication systems operating below 80 MHz.

Of course, the IARU's interest is in ensuring that the report accurately reflects the sensitivity of the amateur services to interference from this source.

Also meeting at about the same time (June 12-20), ITU-R Working Party 8A, which is responsible for most of the land mobile services, plus the amateur and amateur-satellite services. WP 8A hopes to complete work on a "draft new handbook for the amateur and amateur-satellite services" to be published by the ITU.
(arrl letter)

OPERATIONAL NEWS - CONTEST COLUMN - D A T E L I N E

VK/TRANSTASMAN CONTEST
160M Phone 7 July 2007
160M CW 21 July 2007

The Hunter Radio Group Contesters will be operating in the Trans Tasman 160 meter phone event on July 7th this year at Luskintyre Tiger Moth Airport

There will be some fun type foxhunt also held round the airport.

The group extends a cordial welcome to all operators.

This will be an ideal training event for the up coming RD contest at the same location.

Food, drinks and accommodation will be available.

Accommodation will be on a first to book basis

As in all Hunter Radio Group functions, having fun will be the main objective

For further information, or to confirm your attendance please contact Grahame VK2FA on 02 49-548-688 before June 24th 2007

NZART MEMORIAL CONTEST - 80M - SSB AND CW.
7 & 8 July 2007.

Times :- 2000 NZST - 2300 NZST, divided into 3 operating periods each evening.

Band :- 80M SSB and CW.

Contest Rules NZART Website. http://www.nzart.org.nz
(John Powell. ZL1BHQ, NZART Contest Manager)

JULY 14-15
The annual IARU HF World Championship is held on the second full weekend of July. This year it will be held during the 24-hour period from 1200 UTC Saturday, 14 July to 1200 UTC Sunday, 15 July.
Rules are at www.iaru.org/contest.html

Because this is unusually late in the month for the event to occur, there has been some confusion about the dates. The CORRECT dates are 14-15 July. Any references to 7-8July are INCORRECT.
(David Sumner, K1ZZ Secretary, IARU)

14th of July the Jack Files Contest.
0800 UTC - 1400 UTC
80 metres only.
Use 3.5MHZ - 3.7MHz
CW; SSB; or All Modes

Boat Anchor Sprints:
August (11), October (13).
Local ZL time: 2000 to 2100 hrs

Section 1: Old radios - all valves - i.e. ZC1, 19 set, Heathkits, any home brew set, but must have all valves.

Section 2: Any Hybrid transceiver (must have valve finals i.e. FT200, FTDX400/401, Drake, FT 101s, etc..

Amplitude Modulated signals only.

The overall winner shall be the entrant having the highest points score which will be published in the following New Zealand "Break-in".
(Jamie Pye ZL2NN, Editor NZART's InfoLine)

AUGUST 11/12 Remembrance Day Contest (The RD) wia.org.au

Today marks only 56 days to the 2007 RD contest.

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Every Day, from 5:30pm Eastern on 40 meters, 7045 put out a call to VK4XJJ

Jeff, VK4XJJ walking Gulf to Gulf, is doing fine, his position on Wednesday evening, 13th June, was 112 km northeast of Innamincka on the way to Birdsville.

For position and details see website - www.jeffswalk.com

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WIANews 24/7 with the following bulletin in Audio
when you visit the NEWSROOM on www.wia.org.au

This is WIANEWS for week commencing JUNE 10 2007, I'M GRANT VK3VIM

NATIONAL WIA STORIES

ROBERT BROOMHEAD AND SILENT KEY

It is with sadness that the WIA advises the passing of Bill Rice VK3ABP, who at age 80 became a silent key whilst sitting in his favourite chair in his home in Altona.

It is a sad yet reflective occasion on which to remember a unique character.

Bill was the longest serving editor of the Wireless Institute of Australia's journal Amateur Radio magazine. He joined its Publications Committee in 1972, became Editor in July 1984 and continued in the position until December 1999. It was a role in which he relished and able to contribute in so many ways. As Editor he was also a member of the WIA Federal Executive for a number of years.

Bill was a quietly spoken gentleman, with the persona not unlike that of a yester-year stereotypical bearded scientist, with a brilliant mind.

He had been an active radio amateur for 60 years, first as VK5BP at Murray Bridge South Australia moving in 1948 to Adelaide to attend university.

On relocating to Melbourne in 1960 be became VK3ABP. He was from the era when radio amateurs built their own equipment. Synonymous with the callsign VK3ABP was his valve two-metre converter that featured in AR magazine and became a very popular project enabling many to get on to that band.

While a good listener and being very personable, Bill talked little about his occupation in the defence research and development field and the leading edge technology that it involved.

Retirement from work gave Bill extra time for amateur radio projects

Bill had many friends and I have on the line Ron Fisher VK3OM ...
(Ron Fisher online recording)

Some of Bill's other activities included history and sailing. He often sailed in Gippsland - a personal achievement was to sail on the rarely filled inland salt Lake Eyre in South Australia.

In 2001 he was awarded honorary life membership of the WIA for his long and meritorious service, which he accepted with genuine humility.

One of Bills other close friends was Bill Roper VK3BR and I have Bill on line to share a few words....
(Bill Roper online recording)

A service was held Tuesday at St Eanswythe's Church, in Altona with about 200 people attending.

Bill will be sadly missed and his passing is a great loss to amateur radio.

ROBERT BROOMHEAD AND FRED SWAINSTON LISTEN TO THE AUDIO MP3

New National Standard Built Around Amateur Radio

The Commonwealth Department of Education Science and Technology has endorsed a new competency standard, called:-
"Operate and maintain an amateur radio communication station".

The standard approximates the syllabus for a Standard amateur operators certificate of proficiency.

This means the there is now a nationally recognised standard built around amateur radio. This is a link between amateur radio and education and industry. Competency to this standard can be an element in an electro-technology qualification.

It certainly should make amateur radio as an activity much more attractive to schools.

However, it is important to note that holding the competency will not qualify the holder for an amateur licence which still requires WIA certification to ACMA of competency in the theory, regulatory and practical elements of the syllabus.

WIA President Michael Owen VK3KI welcomed the Departments endorsement, saying he hoped that schools would be encouraged to support amateur radio activities and also acknowledged the work of the WIA's Nominated RTO, Fred Swainston VK3DAC in achieving this recognition of amateur radio.

P29 revival underway

A strong effort is being made to increase amateur radio activity in Papua New Guinea and a recent P29 CQ Day is only just the beginning.

Wilfred Kilepak Amai P29PG/VK3DWA initiated the very successful special activity day outside the Parliament Building in Port Moresby. There were plenty of interested on-lookers.

The radio administration PANGTEL is supportive of any steps to achieve a greater participation in amateur radio.

Wilfred says PANGTEL is aware of the Australian licence restructure that occurred in October 2005 that includes the Foundation Licence, but has not yet followed suit.

Traditionally P29 has mirrored the VK licence system, due to the strong relationship between Papua New Guinea and Australia that was established before it gained independence in 1975.

I'm Jim Linton VK3PC and you're listening to VK1WIA.

ROBERT BROOMHEAD AND WILFRED KILEPAK LISTEN TO THE AUDIO MP3

EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO
PRESENTED BY KYLEA VK6FXYL

FUTURE EXAMS

To find out when a club in YOUR area is hosting assessments and/or training in Amateur Radio go to wia.org.au and check out the club pages.

Help amateur radio continue to grow

Do you know someone who could be interested in joining our hobby? Then encourage them to enrol in a Foundation Licence training course.

Next Foundation Licence course, and Standard / Advanced assessments .....

NEW SOUTH WALES

The Hunter Radio Group
They'll hold their next licence assessments on Saturday 23rd & Sunday the 24th of June at 9.00 am at the Print Makers Workshop, 27 Popran St Adamstown.

For further information, please contact the Examination Group Leader, Grahame O'Brien VK2FA on 02- 49548688. It is important that Foundation candidates have a copy of the foundation manual and have studied it before attempting an assessment.
Manuals are available from the Hunter Radio Group.

Some places will be available for candidates wanting to upgrade from foundation licences to standard or advanced licences and the Hunter Radio Group will be having a sausage sizzle on both days for lunch.

WEST AUSTRALIA

HANDS UP IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO GO TO HAM COLLEGE?

Thought that would get your attention. In VK6 we now have HAM College offering courses for the foundation, standard and advanced licences. The next Foundation course is to be held on the 21st & 22nd of July - get your name in early to secure a place in the classroom.

Is anyone interested in obtaining their Advanced licence - the next course is scheduled to start in July/August.

How about Morse code.....yes there is even a course run for Morse - why not stop procrastinating and sign up today.

The next date for those wishing to sit Exams is June 30th.
Go to www.warg.org.au under the foundation licence page to view additional course and exam dates or you can contact VK6BDO Neil or myself for further details.

CONGRATULATIONS - RESULTS

Congratulations go out to new Radio Amateur Robert Young VK4FRJY who has recently received his new callsign from ACMA after successfully completing Foundation Assessment with the WIA Exam Service in Townsville.

Congratulations to 10 new Ham College graduates who obtained their Foundation licences over the past couple of weeks, as well as 1 standard and 1 Advanced.
Look forward to making contact with you all in the near future.

AROUND VK in 80 Seconds.

VK2

The Hunter Radio Group Contesters will be operating in the Trans Tasman 160 meter phone event on July 7th this year at Luskintyre Tiger Moth Airport.
As in all Hunter Radio Group functions, having fun will be the main objective
For further information, or to confirm your attendance please contact Grahame VK2FA on 02 49-548-688 before June 24th.

VK3

Amateur Radio Victoria say that the Mt St Leonard 70cm repeater VK3RMU north-east of Melbourne is now on its new frequency of 439.800MHz.

Amateur Radio Victoria made the very recent QSY was mainly due to persistent interference from a suspected low interference potential device (LIPD).

The Sunday VK1WIA broadcast will also adopt the new frequency later this month.

In south-west Victoria at Warrnambool the VK3RWL repeaters on 2m 147.050MHz and 70cm 439.650MHz are getting plenty of use by locals.

Early indications are that the range of VK3RWL is excellent with reports from Ballarat, Horsham, Hamilton and Portland being received.

While the repeaters are up and running there's still a little bit more work to do before the project is complete.

With the arrival of the winter rains and cold weather access to the site is becoming difficult.

Many thanks to Russell Lemke VK3ZQB who with others have worked to restore the repeaters, that were required to meet rigid and costly commercial site requirements, borne by Amateur Radio Victoria.

Early indications are that the range of VK3RWL is excellent with reports form Ballarat, Horsham, Hamilton and Portland being received.

DISCUSSION POINT

Often around this time in the WIA National News we bring you "Discussion Point",
Today we bring you BOILING POINT, thanks to Frank VK2FJL, Previous editor of Westlakes Magazine.

It seems a person decided to have a cup of coffee. He took a cup of water and put it in the microwave to heat it up (something that he had done numerous times before).

I am not sure how long he set the timer for, but he wanted to bring the water to a boil.

When the timer shut the oven off, he removed the cup from the oven. As he looked into the cup, he noted that the water was not boiling, but instantly the water in the cup "blew up" into his face.

The cup remained intact until he threw it out of his hand but all the water had flown out into his face due to the build up of energy. His whole face blistered and he suffered 1st and 2nd degree burns to his face.

Worse he may have lost partial sight in his left eye.

While at the hospital, the doctor who was attending to him stated that this is a fairly common occurrence and water (alone) should never be heated in a microwave oven.

If water is heated in this manner, something should be placed in the cup to diffuse the energy such as: a wooden stir stick, tea bag, etc.

It is however a much safer choice to boil the water in a tea kettle.

WHY IS IT SO???

Micro waved water and other liquids do not always bubble when they reach the boiling point.
They can actually get superheated and not bubble at all. The superheated liquid will bubble up out of the cup when it is moved or when something like a spoon or tea bag is put into it.

To prevent this from happening and causing injury, do not heat any liquid for more than two minutes per cup. After heating, let the cup stand in the microwave for thirty seconds before moving it or adding anything .

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NEWS FROM ARNEWSLINE

WORLDBEAT - GERMANY: THE DL 100 AWARD

In news from around the world, German hams are on the air throughout June with a special celebration. This with members of the radio clubs of Norddeich and Hage commemorating the 100th anniversary of the well known coast station Norddeich Radio. Operations are planned for 160 through 10 meters on various modes. The special callsign, DL100DAN is being used and a special D A N 100 award will be available. More information can be found at http://norddeich-radio.de/ (OPDX)

WORLDBEAT - JAPAN: JARL TO CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL QRP DAY

The Japan Amateur Radio League's QRP Club will be running five special event stations, 8J1P, 8J3P, 8J4P, 8J5P and 8J6P on June 17th to celebrate the International QRP Day. International QRP Day was designated by the IARU Region 1 Conference held in April 1984 in Italy to stimulate QRP operation worldwide. It was reaffirmed by the IARU Region 3 Conference in New Zealand in December of 1985 (JARL)

WORLDBEAT - UK: GB3RAL PROPOSED 40 AND 60 MHz BEACONS ON THEIR WAY

In VHF news, work from the United Kingdom that the new GB3RAL 40.05 and 60.05MHz beacons are due to receive government clearance in mid-June but both have already cleared their key Primary User stages. Assuming that regulatory clearance is also obtained the sponsors will go forward to for final clearance and approval sometime this summer.

If approved, it brings ham radio in the UK closer to the prospect of a unique 40, 50, 60 and 70 MHz co-located beacon system at the Rutherford Appleton Labs location near Oxford. While not in amateur bands, the 40 and 60 MHz beacons should prove to be extremely useful propagation study markers both in the UK and world wide. (GB2RS)

ON THE AIR: CELEBRATING IN INDY WITH HAM RADIO

Back in the United States, Indianapolis, Indiana has been a hotbed of special event stations during May and it continues in June. Fire up that new HF rig and get ready to copy. Jack Parker W8ISH has this

report from the Circle City.

If you have your HF rig fired up and your antenna pointed toward Indianapolis you many score some great contacts in the next few weeks. Beginning Friday evening June 8th the Indianapolis Radio Club will begin making contacts from the site of the USS Indianapolis Memorial. The USS Indianapolis was sunk during World War Two after delivering atomic bomb components that were later used in the attack on Hiroshima. Listen for the W9IND call sign during the 44 hour event or check the Indianapolis Radio Club web page for more information.

The pace continues to quicken as the United States Grand Prix rolls into town on Fathers Day weekend, June 17th. Special event station W9IMS will be on the air, taking check-ins, during that weekend . This world class special event station operates during each one of the major races at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. If you don't catch W9IMS during the Formula One race you have another opportunity to snag a special QSL card during the Brickyard 400 NASCAR race the weekend of July 29th.

And last but not least, many central Indiana clubs report gearing up for Field Day 2007 on June 23rd and 24th. Maybe we'll catch you on the HF bands.

Reporting for Amateur Radio Newsline this is Jack Parker W8ISH.

The USS Indianapolis Memorial station will join nearly 70 other special event stations around the world as part of the Museum Ships Weekend. (W8ISH)

THE QNEWS WORK BENCH - the nuts and volts report -
Since Adelaide's South Coast Amateur Radio Club took over the distribution of the VK5JST Antenna Analyser kits they have been receiving numerous orders for the kits from right across Australia.
Just visit their website, www.scarc.org.au

MORSE ON YOUR iPoD - we are joined by VK1KEP Peter Ellis.

This interesting contribution from Mark Sullivan ZL3AB appeared on the KiwiDX Group cluster.

In an attempt to improve CW comprehension and speed it was decided to load some CW files onto an iPoD to listen to on the way to work.

To start you need to create a CW sound file in "wav" format.

To do this, look for a great little freeware program on the net called WinMorse 2.0. Its a 482kb download and extremely easy to use.

http://winmorse. mark-bellamy.qarchive. org/

Once you open the software you can set the speed you want the CW sent at and then type/paste some text into the window.

All you need to do then is choose the output as "wav" from a
drop down menu and the software does the rest.

Once you save the file you can then open it in the iTunes software
that will convert the file into AAC, the default format for the
iPoD and you can then copy it onto your iPoD and play it.
This process will also work for any MP3 player that has software that
can convert wav files into MP3. If your software does
not do that there are a number or wav to MP3 converters on the Net.
(fists club downunder)

MEDIA WATCH

TV SHOWS THE EARLY DAYS OF UK EMCOMMS

A television show about the early days of Amateur Radio emergency
communications in England was recently broadcast on the U-K TV station
Channel 4 . This, as a part of the stations ongoing '3 Minute Wonder' series.

The program was called "Preparing for the Worst" was hosted by Pat
Gowen G3IOR. It discussed one of the first ever mobile emergency
communications operations ever in the U-K. Also in the show is Terry
Owen, G4PSH and references are made to Rafars & Raynet of the city of Norfolk.

Preparing for the Worst can be seen on the YouTube video service.

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WIANews - we've reported...YOU decide.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to
the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may
lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might
even get a "cheerio call".

Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of the National WIA.

HOP TO SPECIFIC WIANews TOPICS

WIA WEB ZONE, www.wia.org.au

WIANews THANKS OUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS , OUR RELAY OPERATORS ACROSS
THE WORLD FOR FORWARDING INFORMATION AND COMMENTS THEIR LISTENERS HAVE
PASSED ON TO MAKE WIANews VK'S LEADING WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PROGRAM.

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Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of QNEWS for the National WIA.

Thanks to to our dedicated band of broadcast volunteers who utilize
their time and equipment in bringing you this weekly broadcast.

The purpose of "WIANews" is to rapidly provide news of interest to
active amateurs residing in Australia and the globe.

We strongly encourage membership in the Wireless Institute of Australia
and participation in the activities of local clubs.

Opinions expressed in "WIANews" are those of the writers who submit
material and do not necessarily reflect those of the rebroadcasters,
nor the National WIA.

Material may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, a credit
to WIANews wouldn't go astray...

1113. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-16 14:37:38 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1182003215.118617.263920@c77g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4318

On Jun 11, 11:21?am, "Bill Horne, W1AC" <bh1521q7_...@comcast.net>
wrote:

> Like many others, I occasionally use AM on both 160 and 80 meters.

Minor point:

For some odd reason, FCC lists "80 meters" and "75 meters" in Part 97
as if they were different bands.

> My
> reasons for doing so are probably typical: I do it because it reminds
> me of the first transmitter I owned, and of other rigs and earlier
> times, before I had the money to buy new equipment and linear
> amplifiers. I also have many good friends who operate AM, and I like
> to talk to them as well as to my friends who use CW or SSB.

I used to do some 75 meter AM - because it was fun. I hope to do more
soon. But the fun was definitely reduced by the behavior of a few bad
apples.

> I'm writing this to ask that hams who don't favor AM make allowances for us:
> it seems that the "AM Window" on 80 meters is being taken over by hams
> operating SSB, sometimes with blunt, on-the-air comments to the effect that
> those running AM aren't entitled to use the space. There have been skirmishes,
> complaints, acrimonious debates, and even outright jamming lately, and I'm
> afraid it will escalate to the point that FCC action will be needed.
>
Long history of that. I don't know why, because AM activity is
concentrated on a few well-known frequencies.

> I'm going to be blunt here: I'm not a psychologist, but I think those who
> oppose AM are making a big mistake by not treating AM operators with the
> same standard of on-air behavior that they show to other hams. I'm not sure
> why this "range war" has started, but it's only logical endpoint is with
> reduced privileges for ALL hams, not just those who use AM.
>
> Our hobby is at a crossroads: with young technophiles gravitating to the
> Internet, and military forces needing neither CW operators nor technicians,
> the future we face at the frequency-bargaining table and in the public's mind
> is no longer in the hands of benevolent government agencies eager for
> trained personnel who can be pressed into service quickly. In fact, the
> future of the hobby is now in OUR hands, and unless we start working together
> and stop sniping at each other over minor things like the modes we use, we're
> going to fade away without anyone noticing.
>

I don't think we'll lose HF spectrum. VHF/UHF is what the commercial and military folks want.

What has already started to happen is lack of protection for licensed radio amateurs. Look at the BPL mess: FCC has dragged its feet even when documented harmful interference has been presented.

As for the bad behavior on 75, it is one of the reasons I sold my AM rig (National NC-173, EFJohnson Viking 2 and 122 VFO) and focused on CW.

What really puzzles me about the problem is this:

Several months ago, FCC widened 75 meters (and narrowed 80 meters) even more than had been requested. AM voice is now legal for US Extras from 3600 to 4000 kHz. That's more space than any HF/MF ham band except 10 and 15 meters.

Is there no room for AM in all those 400 kHz?

73 de Jim, N2EY

1114. SARL News in English 16/6/2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-16 15:00:01 UTC
From: website@sarl.org.za
Message-ID: <C978B3729EB34F49A98B6BDB5A160EDA@toron>
Source record: 4319
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 17 JUNE 2007

You are listening to Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. This broadcast can also be heard on Echolink by connecting to ZS6FCS. To listen to a web stream go to www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links. This, and previous bulletins, can be downloaded from the web site of the SARL i.e. www.sarl.org.za. You can also read or download previous bulletins from there and subscribe to receive future bulletins by email.

This transmission is by Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with relays on 3,695, 10,135, 14,235 and 51,400 MHz as well as 438,825 MHz in the Pretoria area. (Other newsreaders please change to suit).

SILENT KEY

It is with regret that we have to announce the passing of Robert Mansfield, ZS5RB, aged 94, on Saturday 9th June 2007. We extend our sincere condolences to his family and friends.

PAUSE

In the news today:

TWO YAESU VX-2R 2 m / 70 cm HANDHELD TRANSCEIVERS TO BE WON

NEXT ZU EXAMINATION ON 23 AUGUST

BUMPER EDITION OF RADIO ZS

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

TWO YAESU VX-2R 2 m / 70 cm HANDHELD TRANSCEIVERS TO BE WON IN SARL CONTESTS

SARL VHF Manager Piet Badenhorst, ZS6PJB, has announced that the winners of the two contests coming up on 24 June and over the weekend of 21 - 23 September will receive a YAESU VX-2R 2 m / 70 cm micro handheld transceiver.

The first contest is the SARL Digital Contest next Sunday, 24 June running from 13:00 UTC to 16:00 UTC on the 40, 6 and 2 metre bands. The

second contest is the SARL VHF/UHF contest that takes place over the weekend of 21 - 23 September.

The SARL Digital Contest is sponsored by the Lichtenburg Amateur Radio Club and is aimed at the promotion of the use of the PSK mode in South Africa, and to establish as many contacts as possible between radio amateurs in Southern Africa using this mode.

PSK is the acronym for Phase-shift keying. It is a digital modulation scheme that conveys data by changing, or modulating, the phase of the carrier wave. What do you need to get started? The first step is to download the latest version of PSK31 from http://aintel.bi.ehu.es/psk31.html, install it and read the comprehensive help files. The site also includes a full explanation on how to wire up your transceiver to the PC.

As far as the competition rules are concerned, download the contest handbook from www.sarl.org.za. You will find details of the Digital Contest on page 8.

"PSK is an interesting mode," Piet Badenhorst told SARL News. "In many circles it is regarded as the successor of RTTY. I encourage radio amateurs who have not engaged in digital communications to set up for the contest on 24 June. Perhaps the best reason to do so is that it costs nothing and only a few junk box components are needed for the radio to PC interface.

The YAESU micro miniature 144/440 MHz handheld has extensive receive frequency coverage, providing local-area two-way amateur communications along with unmatched monitoring capability. It is the world's smallest HT with 1,5 / 1 watt output. Receive range is 500 kHz to 999 MHz (less cellular). This means you can hear the AM, shortwave and FM broadcast bands, TV audio, aircraft and public service channels. CTCSS/DCS with split tone capability is built in. Kobus Conradie, ZS1DC / ZS6UZ, of LetsPlayRadio has donated the transceivers for the contest.

NEXT ZU EXAMINATION ON 23 AUGUST

A typographical error slipped into last week's SARL NEWS item about the next ZU examination. The exam for the entry-level licence will be held on Thursday 23 August. The closing date for entries is 23 July 2007.

BUMPER EDITION OF RADIO ZS COMING YOUR WAY SOON

The next edition of RADIO ZS was mailed on Friday 15 June, will reach members this coming week and will be available for download by members from www.sarl.org during the week. The edition has a range of interesting articles leading with Dave Ingram, K4TWJ's feature "Ham Pride - our legacies and traditions."

Hannes Enslin, ZS6JDE's interesting article on EME for Africa is another good read. Texting with Eagle is about an interesting SMS type facility that will be included in AMSAT North America's Eagle project.

Chris Gryffenberg, ZS6COG, reviews the RigExpert Standard digital mode's interface available for use with digital modes and general transceiver control. He now shares his experience with you in purchasing and installing the Rig Expert.

The Quickie beam by Al Akers, ZS2U, is the ideal article for newcomers to amateur radio who would like to build a quick and inexpensive beam, or for the amateur who has trouble getting into the local repeater with a ground plane.

Eddie Leighton, ZS6BNE, asks the question in his Digital Modes column "is there a future for amateur radio?" There is also museum news, scouting and all about QSL cards. Do not miss this edition of Radio ZS.

Thanks to members of the Boland ARC who assisted in putting Radio ZS into the envelopes and affixing the address labels.

If you have something interesting to share, write it for Radio ZS and send it to Dennis Green, ZS4BS. His email address is zs4bs@netactive.co.za or radiozs@sarl.org.za. From now on Radio ZS will be published alternate months, so more reading for your membership of the SARL.

DX SURVEY

The closing date for the Southern African DX Survey is Saturday 30 June 2007. The survey can be downloaded from the SARL web site and after completing it, e-mail it to zs4bs@netactive.co.za. To date some 15 surveys have been received.

Also available on the SARL web site is DX Tracker V5, a MS Excel spreadsheet created by Tjerk, ZS6P, to assist you in keeping track of your DXCC entities worked and confirmed.

PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the expected solar activity will be at low to very low levels. The geomagnetic field is expected to be quiet in general with unsettled to minor storm levels possible on 19 until 22 June. The expected Effective Sun Spot number for the coming week will be less than 5.

20 and 40 metres will provide best opportunities for DX. There is a possibility of 20 metre openings towards India from about 15:00 CAT. 20 metres may open towards Australia from 07:00. From about 17:00, there may be 20 metre openings towards Europe. At about 16:00 short 20 metre openings towards the West Coast of the USA are possible. Otherwise, contacts to the USA are going to be very challenging. For the CW and digital enthusiasts, it will also be worth monitoring 10 MHz.

It is once again time to work on your 80 metre WAZS award in the evenings. Remember that HF always has the capability to surprise you. You will never know what you are missing unless you switch your rig on, listen and call CQ.

Please visit www.spaceweather.co.za for further information.

DIARY OF EVENTS

24 June - SARL Digital Contest; 30 June - Closing date for updating of SA DX Survey; ZS6PTA Flea Market; 1 July - President's Net and Intechnet; 23 August - Class B RAE; 18 October - Class A RAE.

SARL News wishes all fathers a very happy Father's Day.

SARL News depends on clubs and individuals for news items of importance and interest to radio amateurs. The one and only way to ensure that your contribution will reach the SARL News team, is to place it in www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date. It will be appreciated if you will do it in both Afrikaans and English.

The SARL also invites all listeners to listen to the program Amateur Radio Mirror International this Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 695 kHz. Audio is also streamed on www.zs6mrk.org and on Echolink from ZS6FCS as for this bulletin. A repeat transmission takes place on Mondays at 21:00 on 3 215 kHz. Telkom and Sentech sponsor the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

You have been listening to a news bulletin by the South African Radio League, which was compiled by Dennis, ZS4BS.

A prosperous week to all, 73.

/EX

========== Message Ends ========== To edit or remove your entry from this mailing list go to www.sarl.org.za/members/admin/maildat.asp

1115. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-16 17:20:54 UTC
From: Mike Andrews <mikea@mikea.ath.cx>
Message-ID: <f5164u$qa4$1@puck.litech.org>
Source record: 4320

On Sat, 16 Jun 2007 10:37:38 EDT, N2EY@aol.com wrote in
<1182003215.118617.263920@c77g2000hse.googlegroups.com>:

> I don't think we'll lose HF spectrum. VHF/UHF is what the commercial
> and military folks want.

I seem to remember reading something yesterday about a defense contractor
getting an experimental permit for something right spang in the middle of
1.8-2.0 MHz. I need to review the bidding on that, and will write more once
I find it.

> What has already started to happen is lack of protection for licensed
> radio amateurs. Look at the BPL mess: FCC has dragged its feet even
> when documented harmful interference has been presented.

The ARRL is holding the FCC's collective feet to the fire, and that sort of
action is one of the very few reasons that the ARRL still gets any of my
money.

> As for the bad behavior on 75, it is one of the reasons I sold my AM
> rig (National NC-173, EFJohnson Viking 2 and 122 VFO) and focused on
> CW.

> What really puzzles me about the problem is this:

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> from 3600 to 4000 kHz. That's more space than any HF/MF ham band
> except 10 and 15 meters.

> Is there no room for AM in all those 400 kHz?

Apparently not. But there's certainly plenty of room for the Hi-Fi SSB
crowd. *sigh*

--
Mike Andrews, W5EGO
mikea@mikea.ath.cx
Tired old sysadmin

1116. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-16 18:19:40 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns9951877916ADDmcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 4321

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote in
news:1182003215.118617.263920@c77g2000hse.googlegroups.com:

> On Jun 11, 11:21?am, "Bill Horne, W1AC" <bh1521q7_...@comcast.net>
> wrote:
>
>> Like many others, I occasionally use AM on both 160 and 80 meters.
>
> Minor point:
>
> For some odd reason, FCC lists "80 meters" and "75 meters" in Part 97
> as if they were different bands.

Really odd, in that the ARRL lumps them together as 80 meters. The
whole thing is not accurate anyhow, so I guess it is more by convention
than anything else.

>
> I don't think we'll lose HF spectrum. VHF/UHF is what the commercial
> and military folks want.

Agreed. HF "suffers" from unpredictability, or perhaps more accurately,
it's wildly varying characteristics. One part of the day, a flea power
signal can make its way around the world, the next part it won't. Then
the sunspots can do the same thing. Those are all the characteristincs
that we have fun with, but are really bad for the control that is needed
by other groups. I like to think about what would happen during good
propagation to all those competing signals.

> What has already started to happen is lack of protection for licensed
> radio amateurs. Look at the BPL mess: FCC has dragged its feet even
> when documented harmful interference has been presented.

Politics always loses when confronted by physics. Even if wins all the
battles.

> As for the bad behavior on 75, it is one of the reasons I sold my AM
> rig (National NC-173, EFJohnson Viking 2 and 122 VFO) and focused on
> CW.
>
> What really puzzles me about the problem is this:
>
> Several months ago, FCC widened 75 meters (and narrowed 80 meters)

That would be quite a trick! (joke)

> even more than had been requested. AM voice is now legal for US Extras
> from 3600 to 4000 kHz. That's more space than any HF/MF ham band
> except 10 and 15 meters.
>
> Is there no room for AM in all those 400 kHz?

Not for the miscreants! 8^(

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1117. 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-16 19:00:35 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200706161900.l5GJ0PL29941@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4322
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

[No readable article body recovered]

1118. GB2RS NEWS Sunday 17 June 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-16 20:36:17 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200706162035.l5GKZRT07088@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4323
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

1 GB2RS NEWS Sunday 17 June

The news headlines

* Data and Repeater committees merged

* Chesterfield & District Scouts get lottery grant

* Amateurs in Household Cavalry pageant

A study of the work of the Data Communications Committee and the Repeater Management Committee has revealed increasingly common ground, especially where internet gateways and internet linking to repeaters are concerned. Advances are also being made towards the introduction of digital modes such as D-Star and APCO25 that amongst other newer technologies can carry both voice and data streams. With this in mind it has been agreed that a new committee based on the Repeater Management Committee structure and to be known as the Emerging Technology Co-ordination Committee will replace the DCC and RMC with immediate affect. The new committee will be chaired by John McCullagh, GI4BWM, with Iain Philipps, G0RDI as Vice-Chairman. Other committee members will include current Regional Repeater Managers and Steve Morton, G8SFR, who will continue to co-ordinate Internet Gateway applications.

Applications for Notices of Variation should continue to be submitted via the current Data Communications and Repeater Management Committee websites until further notice.

Chesterfield & District Scouts Amateur Radio Club has recently received a National Lottery Grant from the Awards for All Fund for ₯9959.00.

New radio equipment, computers, a portable generator and a mini marquee will be bought. The grant will be used to build upon the clubs aims and objectives in developing amateur radio within scouting and guiding in the Chesterfield and surrounding areas. The club intend to support scouting members in gaining their amateur radio licence, through training and development of their skills. They also want to develop Amateur Radio Direction Finding, ARDF, by purchasing equipment which will allow the club to demonstrate amateur radio within the scouting and guiding community in Derbyshire.

The Scout Radio Club usually meets once a month at varying locations in the Chesterfield area. Two members of the Worcester Radio Amateurs Association took part in the Household Cavalry pageant on 12 June.

John Griffiths, M3XER and Jem Carvil, M3JEM, are both owners of military vehicles once used by the Cavalry. John and his wife Anne are owners of an Alvis Saracen Armoured Command Post dating from 1956. Jem is the owner of a very rare Daimler Ferret Scout Car.

The event marked the official opening of the Household Cavalry Museum on Horse Guards Parade by Her Majesty the Queen. The Pageant brought to life the Household Cavalry's rich history through reenactments and ceremonial displays, from its formation in 1661 to the present day. A commentary was provided by Michael Portillo. Stephen Fry recorded seven different voices including that of Samuel Pepys and King George III, and Dame Judi Dench provided the voice of Queen Victoria.

2 EU governments have agreed that the troubled Galileo satellite navigation network needs to be built with public funds if it is to get off the ground.

Its 30 satellites will beam radio signals to receivers on the ground, helping users pinpoint their locations. The contract for the first four satellites proper in the final constellation was awarded at the end of 2004. Under the new arrangement, the public sector would now order the remaining 26.

During the course of the next six years, this will require Europe's ministers to release an extra one billion euros over and above the funds they were probably going to have to make available under the publicprivate partnership (PPP) originally envisaged. Concerns have been voiced by the amateur community because Galileo uses frequencies within the 23cm band.

Trowbridge and DARC G2BQY for the second time in three years entered the May RSGB 144MHz contest, operating portable from a former RAF airfield near Bath.

The event, which was held on 19 to 20 May was planned by David, M0GHZ and Chris, G0HFX, who supplied this equipment. David has been keen to encourage greater participation by club members in VHF events, which has also generated activity in the RSGB Club Championships. This recent contest activity proved to be a huge success for the club with 19 members taking part. A handful operated the station while others provided assistance in station assembly, aerial and tent erection, logging and catering. The club amassed 305 QSO and some 93 multipliers.

And now for the details of rallies and events for the coming week

[Note to newsreaders: please exercise your judgement on which of the 17 June events to read, based on your service area and time of transmission]. On Sunday 17 June the Newbury and District ARS rally and boot sale takes place from 9.30 at the Newbury Showground, near M4 Junction 13. Email carboot@nadars.org.uk for more information. On Sunday 17 June the East Suffolk Wireless Revival takes place from 9.30 at Suffolk Showground, Felixstowe Road, Ipswich. More details from John, G3XDY, on 01473 717830 or Steve, M1ACB, on 07720 412648. On Sunday 17 June Bangor and District Amateur Radio Club is holding its

40th Anniversary Radio and Computer Rally at Crawfordsburn Country Club, Crawfordsburn Village. Doors open at 11:30. For more details, contact Mike, GI4XSF, on 028 4277 2 383. From Friday 22 to Sunday 24 June the Hamtronic rally takes place in Friedrichshafen, Germany. On Sunday 24 June the West of England Radio Rally takes place at from 10am at the 'Cheese & Grain', Bridge Street, Frome, Somerset. Details from Shaun, G8VPG on 01225 873 098, or email rallymanager@westrally.org.uk. More details of these and future events can be found on pages 88 and 89 of the June edition of RadCom. Now for the news of special events

Nine Alpha Zero Seven Papa, 9A07P, special event station will be active on all bands and modes until 31 December to celebrate the city of Djurdjevac. Full story on a special QSL card. All QSOs will be confirmed automatically via the bureau.

3 GB1EPC will be active until 28 June to celebrate the European PSK Club 1st birthday. EPC number is 2000. The station will be setup at Bridge Street in Glasgow. Anyone is welcome to operate at the station, PSK modes only of course. QSL cards via MM0DFV. A veterans weekend using call sign GB2VET will be held on 3 to 5 August at the East Park Holderness Road Hull East Yorkshire. All veterans from the Navy, Army and Air force along with members of the public are invited to the event. The show will include outdoor displays by all the three services, military equipment and a veteran Spitfire from WW2 will be on display. Working on VHF and HF depending on the conditions at the time. Any person willing to help with this event, or for more information contact G0SWO RAFARS 2912, or telephone 01482 351907. The Bolsover Amateur Radio Society will be operating as GB2PF on Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 August to commemorate the birthday of local man Peter Fidler, who was a famous surveyor in Canada in the 1790s. The club intends to operate as many bands as possible, HF, VHF and UHF, from the new club shack located at the Coalite Sports and Social Club, Moor Lane, Bolsover.

And now the HF DX news compiled from 425 DX News, the Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin and other sources. Roland, 9A3MR, Tibor, HA3HP and Tom, 9A2AA, will be active from various islands in the IOTA EU-170 group until 20 June. They also plan to go and operate on 6 metres, from JN73 from as many (Islands Of Croatia Award) www.inet.hr/9a6aa/ new ones as possible. QSL via home calls. Giacomo, I4FGG, will operate CW and SSB as I4FGG/IF9 from Marettimo Island (EU-054, IIA TP-010) until 21 June. All QSOs will be confirmed automatically via the bureau. Dave, NA6DF, will be active holiday style from Punta Cana, Dominican Republic until 23 June. He will be operating QRP as NA6DF/HI7, mostly on 10 to 20 metres CW and SSB. QSL via home call. Look for Jan-Ole, DB8JO, SSB, Juergen, DJ5HD, CW and Wolfgang, DJ5ZWS, RTTY and PSK31, to be active on 10 to 80 metres as OX/homecall from Nuuk, Greenland (NA-018) until 25 June. QSL via home calls. Pietro, IT9OPR, reports he will be active holiday style from Puerto Rico (NA-099) until 28 June. He will operate from the QTH of Flavio, KP4AWX as well as mobile with Pedro, WP4CCQ. Jan, PA4JJ, will be active as 9A/PA4JJ/p from Porec, Croatia until 7

July. He plans to spend most of his time on the WARC bands using RTTY and PSK. QSL via home call direct or bureau a QSL request form for bureau cards can be found at www.pa4jj.nl. Look for RV3ATS, RV3ATT and RU3AVF to operate on 10, 15, 20, 40, 80 and 2 metres as RV3ATS/p from 16 mountains located in various different Russian Districts between 19 June and 21 July. They also plan to participate in a number of contests on the VHF and HF bands. QSL via RV3ATS, direct or bureau. Six operators from the Flying Dutch DX Group will be active as HB0/PA0ABM from Triesenberg, Liechtenstein until 22 June. They will operate on 160 to 10 metres CW, SSB and some digital modes with two stations. Logs will be available at www.logsearch.de/ and will be uploaded to Log of The World. QSL via PA0ABM, direct or bureau. The White Tower DX Team's operation from Skyros Island (EU-060) is expected to take place until 22 June.

4 Nine operators SV0XAW, SV2FPU, SV2HNZ, SV2HOB, SV2HPP, SV2HPY, SV2HRT, SV2HSV and SV2GNQ will be active as SY8WT with six stations, five amplifiers and a wide range of beams, verticals and dipoles. QSL via SV2HPP, direct or bureau. Special event station TM2RHC, which stands for 2nd Regiment Helicoptere Combat, will be active until 24 June before and during an air show at Le Luc le Cannet, France. QSL via F4EUN. Francois, ON4LO, will be active as CT/ON4LO/p from Portuguese lighthouses Cabo de Sao Vincente (ARLHS POR-012) and Ponta Sagres (ARLHS POR-043) until 29 June. He plans to operate SSB and digital modes on 10 to 40 metres. Celebrating the 750th anniversary of Krakow's city rights is HF750C, which will be active until 30 June. QSL via SP9BRP. Expect also a large number of local operators to use special prefix SN0 during the year.

Now the contest news

The RSGB 80m Club Championships takes place between 1900 to 2030 on 21 June on the 3.5MHz band, SSB mode. The exchange takes the form of RST and serial number. His Majesty the King of Spain Contest takes place between 1200 on 23 June to 1200 on 24 June on 1.8MHz to 28MHz bands, SSB mode. The exchange takes the form of RS and serial number. The RSGB 50MHz Backpackers Contest takes place between 1100 to 1500 on 17 June on 6m band and all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. The RSGB 1.3GHz to 2.3GHz activity takes place between 2000 to 2230 local on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator.

Now the solar factual data for the period from the 4 to 10 of June, compiled by Neil Clarke, G0CAS. Solar activity was high on the 4th and moderate on the 9th when a M class solar flare took place on each day. The remaining days activity was low with a number of C class solar flares taking place. Solar activity was dominated by a single large sunspot group. However, a gradual decay in size, number of spots and magnetic complexity took place everyday. The largest solar flare was a M8/3B on the 4th. Solar flux levels declined from 86 units to 76 by the 10th. The average was 82. The 90 day solar flux average on the 10th was

74 units, that's one unit up on last week. X-ray flux levels declined from B1 units to A2.5 by the 10th, the average was A6.8 units. Geomagnetic activity was quiet throughout. An Ap of only 2 units was recorded on the 6th. The average was Ap 6 units. The ACE spacecraft saw solar wind speeds decline from 580 kilometres per second to 310 by the 7th. Particle densities were low except for a brief rise to 23 particles per cubic centimetre during the morning of the 8th. Bz varied little day to day and varied between minus 7 and plus 8 nanoTeslas. These reports frequently note the variability of propagation during the summer sporadic-E season. That was amply demonstrated during the past week. On the 6th, there were excellent sporadic-E openings, with 6-metre contacts between the UK and the Arabian Gulf, the Caribbean and the United States. On 144MHz, openings with Spain and Greece took place. 4-metres was also open for direct and crossband contacts. These openings lasted several hours. But most of those who hoped for more of the same the next day found contacts few and far between.

5 And finally the solar forecast. This week the quiet side of the Sun is expected to be looking our way. Solar activity should be very low everyday. Solar flux levels should decline and be around the 70 mark or even slightly lower than that later in the week. Geomagnetic activity should be quiet today but tomorrow or the day after activity is expected to increase due to a recurring coronal hole. This disturbance should last till almost next weekend. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitudes should be about 18MHz for the south and 15MHz for the north. The darkness hour lows should be around 8MHz. Paths this week to India should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success rate of around 22MHz. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success rate will be about 17MHz. The best time to try this path will be between 0800 and 1300 hours UTC. Expect sporadic-E to take place on some days with possibly openings up to 144MHz. However, prolonged elevated geomagnetic conditions are not favourable for sporadic-E. And that's all from the propagation team for another week.

6 Next, the Local News:

Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses

and website links where known.

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your

transmission.]

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST

and EAST ANGLIA On Sunday 17 June Cambridge and District Amateur Radio Club is visiting Wimpole Church Fete. Contact David, G8JKV.

On Sunday 17 June Felixstowe and District Amateur Radio Society is going to the ESWR rally. Contact Paul, G4YQC, by email to

paul.whiting@bt.com.

On Sunday 17 June Newbury and District Amateur Radio Society is running its rally and car boot sale at Newbury Showground. Contact Richard, G3ZGC, on 01635 46241, richard.jolliffe@vodafone.com.

On Monday 18 June Bishops Stortford Amateur Radio Society is having an HF and VHF operating evening at The Hop Poles, Great Hallingbury. Contact Tony, G0PQF, on 07770 475 283.

On Monday 18 June Braintree and District Amateur Radio Society is having its club BBQ. Contact John, M5AJB, on 01787 460 947.

On Monday 18 June Surrey Radio Contact Club is having a fix it evening. Contact Ray, G4FFY, on 020 8644 7589.

On Tuesday 19 June Solent Club For Amateur Radio and Television is having a talk, video show and practical demo by Peter, G3PYB and Frank, G0LFI of high performance microwave equipment for portable use in the middle microwave bands 3.4, 5.7 and 10GHz. Contact Tony, G7OGT, on 01794 500 589.

On Tuesday 19 June Stevenage and District Amateur Radio Society is having its junk sale. Contact Neil, M0ARH, on 01438 217 077.

On Wednesday 20 June Dover Radio Club is having an operating and natter night. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk.

On Wednesday 20 June Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is going portable on Portsdown Hill. Contact Jim, M1JJN.

On Wednesday 20 June Hastings Electronics and Radio Club is having its summer BBQ. Contact Gordon, 01424 431 909, or by email to gordon@gsweet.fsnet.co.uk.

On Wednesday 20 June Havering and District Amateur Radio Club is looking at pictures of Windmills on the Air 2007. Contact Dave, 2E0EBV, on 07956 594 514.

On Wednesday 20 June Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is preparing for Barford Radio Rally. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

On Wednesday 20 June Southdown Amateur Radio Society is operating at Halisham. Contact John, G3DQY, on 0124424319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

7 On Wednesday 20 June Worthing and District Amateur Radio Club is having a DF hunt. Contact Roy, G4GPX, on 01903 753 893.

On Thursday 21 June Brede Steam Amateur Radio Society is operating HF from the bunker. Contact Steve, M0SSR, on 01424 720 815.

On Thursday 21 June Cray Valley Radio Society is taking part in the 80m SSB club championship. Contact Bob, BRS32525, on 020 8265 7735 after

8pm.

On Thursday 21 June Sutton and Cheam Radio Society is having a talk on home brew radio by Hans Summers, G0UPL. Contact John, G0BWV, on 020 8644 9945, or by email to info@scrs.org.uk.

On Friday 22 June Cambridge and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk entitled Practically Vertical by Peter M0DCV. Contact David, G8JKV.

On Friday 22 June Loughton and Epping Forest Amateur Radio Society is having its club BBQ. Contact Marc, G0TOC, on 020 8502 1645, or by email to info@lefars.org.uk.

On Friday 22 June Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is having a fox hunt. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Friday 22 June Torbay Amateur Radio Society is having an illustrated talk. Contact Dave, G6FSP, by email to g6fsp@tars.org.uk.

On Sunday 24 June Basingstoke Amateur Radio Club is having a foxhunt. Contact Frank, M0AEU, by email to barc@2lo.info.

On Sunday 24 June Colchester Radio Amateurs is having a foundation licence assessment day. Contact Kevan, 2E0WMG, by email to colchesterradioamateurs@hotmail.co.uk or on 07766543784.

On Sunday 24 June Horndean and District Amateur Radio Club is having a coach trip to the London museums. Contact Stuart, G0FYX, on 023 9247 2846, or on the web at www.hdarc.co.uk.

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST

On Monday 18 June Appledore and District Amateur Radio Club is having a visit by Pam RSGB SW Manager visit to club. Contact Beryl, G1SVP.

On Tuesday 19 June Flight Refuelling Amateur Radio Society is running its intermediate training course. Contact Tony, G3PFM, on 01202 622 262.

On Wednesday 20 June Exmouth Amateur Radio Club is having an open evening up on the common. Contact g0uil@eclipse.co.uk.

On Wednesday 20 June South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is having its club BBQ. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282.

On Wednesday 20 June Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is having a video night. Contact Tony, G0WMB, by email to tonytsgarc@beeb.net.

On Thursday 21 June Swindon and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on some guidelines to structural antenna installations by Jan, G0BBL. Contact Mike, M5CBS, on 01793 826 465.

On Thursday 21 June Yeovil Amateur Radio Club is having a fox hunt. Contact Derek, 01935 414 452, or by email to m0wob@tiscali.co.uk.

8 On Friday 22 June Guernsey Amateur Radio Society is meeting in Friedrichshafen. Contact Phil, GU0SUP. On Friday 22 June Jersey Amateur Radio Society is working outside on the antennas, towers and building. Contact Phil, MJ0JER, by email to gj3dvc@gj3dvc.org.je.

On Saturday 23 June Trowbridge and District Amateur Radio Club is attending Southwick and North Bradley Scout Fete GX2BQY. Contact Ian, G0GRI, on 01225 864 698, E/W.

NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS

On Monday 18 June Stourbridge and District Amateur Radio Society is having an open discussion on future Society activities. Contact John, M1EJG, on 01562 700 513.

On Tuesday 19 June Derby and District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on flying Tiger Moths commercially in the 21st century by Mark, G3URU. Contact Martin, G3SZJ, on 01332 556 875.

On Tuesday 19 June Loughborough and District Amateur Radio Club is having its 3rd DF of 2007. Contact Chris, G1ETZ, on 01509 504 319.

On Tuesday 19 June Wythall Radio Club is having a talk by Chris, G1VDP on DXing. Contact Chris, G0EYO, on 07710 412 819, or by email to g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk, or on the web at www.wythallradioclub.co.uk.

On Wednesday 20 June Lincoln Short-Wave Club is having a hand held treasure hunt. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

On Wednesday 20 June Telford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a BBQ at G3ZPB's. Contact Mike, G3JKX, on 01952 299 677, or by email to mjstreetg3jkx@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Thursday 21 June Stafford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a shack night. Contact Graeme, G4NVH, on 01785 604 534, or by email to graeme.boull@ntlworld.com.

On Friday 22 June Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is having a members BBQ Evening. Contact Carl, M0XBE, on 07979 092 447, or on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

On Monday 18 June Macclesfield and District Radio Society is having a fox hunt. Contact Tom, M1EYP, on 01625 612 916, tommyread@hotmail.com, or on the web at www.gx4mws.com.

On Monday 18 June South Tyneside Amateur Radio Society will be closed for 4 weeks from Monday 18 June. Details on the web at www.starsradio.co.uk.

On Monday 18 June Thornton Cleveleys Amateur Radio Society is having videos by Ted Avery on TVI. Contact Jack, G4BFH, by email to

jack.duddington@btinternet.com.

On Tuesday 19 June Chester and District Radio Society is having a surplus sale. Details on the web at www.chesterdars.org.uk, info@chesterdars.org.uk.

On Tuesday 19 June Halifax and District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on Trans Siberian railway by Alan Thomas at The Royal Oak, Halifax. Contact Brenda, 2E0YKS, by email to wrenuk10@yahoo.com.

On Tuesday 19 June Northwest Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on the work of the Radio Amateur's Emergency Network by local RAYNET group. Contact Ian Cooper, or on the web at www.northwestARC.org.uk.

9 On Tuesday 19 June Stockport Radio Society is having outdoor activity from Woodford Recreation Ground. Contact David, M1ANT, on 0161 456 7832.

On Tuesday 19 June Wakefield and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air and making contest preparations. Contact Dave, G4CLI, on 07748 221 855, or by email to g4cli@hotmail.co.uk.

On Wednesday 20 June Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is having a construction night. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Thursday 21 June Grimsby Amateur Radio Society is taking part in the 80m SSB club contest. Contact Brian, G4DXB, on 01472 231 383.

On Friday 22 June Hull and District Amateur Radio Society is operating special event station GB200WW William Wilberforce, marking 200 year of the abolition of slavery. Contact Penny, 01482 504 618, sirramond@sirramond.karoo.oc.uk.

On Friday 22 June South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is having its Summer Solstice BBQ. Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999.

On Friday 22 June Tynemouth Radio Club is having an operating and Morse night. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Saturday 23 June Wakefield and District Amateur Radio Society is taking part in the HM King of Spain contest at the portable site at Woolley Edge. Contact Dave, G4CLI, on 07748 221 855, or by email to g4cli@hotmail.co.uk.

On Sunday 24 June Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is having a fox hunt. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

NEWS FOR SCOTLAND

On Sunday 17 June Cockenzie and Port Seton Amateur Radio Club Museums on the air weekend "Museum of Flight - East Fortune" GB2MOF. Contact Bob, GM4UYZ, on 01875 811 723.

On Tuesday 19 June Clan Maclean Amateur Radio Society is celebrating the International Gathering of the Clan MacLean by operating special event stations GB2IMG and GB2CMA. Contact Ian, G0BMH/N3XSA, on g0bmh@cmars.org.uk.

On Wednesday 20 June Cockenzie and Port Seton Amateur Radio Club are taking part in the 20 metre contest from 1900 to 2200. Contact Bob, GM4UYZ, on 01875 811 723.

On Thursday 21 June Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on ZL by Norman, GM3WIJ. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

On Saturday 23 June Moray Firth Amateur Radio Society is taking part in VHF Field Day. Contact Jim, MM0SMD, on 01340 820 134.

NEWS FOR WALES

On Thursday 21 June Swansea Amateur Radio Society is having its annual treasure hunt. Contact Nick, MW0JGE, on 01792 402 035.

10 NEWS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND On Sunday 17 June Bangor And District Amateur Radio Club is having its Radio and Computer Rally. Contact Mike, GI4XSF, on 028 4277 2 383.

And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast,

prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

1119. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-16 23:15:40 UTC
From: Iitoi <Iitoi@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <380-220076616223612671@earthlink.net>
Source record: 4324

mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net wrote:

>> Several months ago, FCC widened 75 meters (and narrowed 80 meters)

> That would be quite a trick! (joke)

No trickier than the shrinkage-gap on 30-meters.

Several years ago GEARVAKf (the 'f' is silent) revealed the discovery that radio waves were gradually slowing down. Found during experiments conducted by our own Dr. Elwood P. Lishnus and Dr. Avruell U. Harnishe of the GEARVAKf Scientific Studies Committee, the Harnishe-Lishnus Effect has had a profound influence upon the manufacture and design of amateur radio equipment and other devices that make use of the radio spectrum.

Originally, radio frequency drifing was thought to be a minor problem within receivers and transmitters brought on by unstable heating and cooling of frequency-determining circuits. That theory was abandoned, however, when the slowing of the radio waves forced the electronics industry to change its frequency measurement system from the cycles-per-second to the Hertz standard. New equipment manufactured under the Hertz standard did not drift, whereas old gear made under the cycles-per-second standard continued to drift from set frequencies. Observation of this phenomenon led to the discovery of the Harnishe-Lishnus Effect in 1966.

The early experiments, however, dealt only with frequencies below 10 MHz. Last year, Drs. Harnishe and Lishnus made a series of observations of the slowing of radio waves above 10 MHz and found that they vary at a much different rate than those below 10 MHz.

Surprisingly, they found that the lower frequencies are actually pulling away from the higher frequencies, leaving a gap in the middle. That gap just happens to fall right in the new 30 meter amateur band between 10.109 MHz and 10.115 MHz. The FCC won't let us operate there because there are no frequencies to operate on! Any rig loaded up in the gap would see an infinite SWR and instant destruction. The Harnishe-Lishnus Effect provided early warning and probably saved thousands of dollar of equipment from ruin.

-- GEARVAKf Bulletin Vol. 23, No. 1

The Man in the Maze
QRM from Baboquivari Peak, AZ

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Iitoi

1120. RF Safety Calculator

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-17 00:41:29 UTC
From: Iitoi <Iitoi@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <380-22007601702051656@earthlink.net>
Source record: 4325

Is this online calculator (link below) sufficient compliance with §97.13(c)?

http://n5xu.ece.utexas.edu/rfsafety/

The Man in the Maze
QRV from Baboquivari Peak, AZ

--
Iitoi

--- StripMime Report -- processed MIME parts ---
multipart/alternative
text/plain (text body -- kept)
text/html

1121. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-17 04:34:52 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns9951F20BA2B31mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 4326

"Iitoi" <Iitoi@earthlink.net> wrote in
news:380-220076616223612671@earthlink.net:

> mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net wrote:
>
>>> Several months ago, FCC widened 75 meters (and narrowed 80 meters)
>
>> That would be quite a trick! (joke)
>
> No trickier than the shrinkage-gap on 30-meters.

Oh dear, what I meant was that it would be quite a trick to widen 75
meters because once it was widened, it wouldn't be 75 meters any more!

Yeah, I know - pretty lame, huh?

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1122. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-17 12:50:33 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1182084614.041642.316250@m36g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4327

On Jun 16, 2:19?pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote innews:1182003215.118617.263920@c77g2000hse.googlegroups.com:
> > On Jun 11, 11:21?am, "Bill Horne, W1AC" <bh1521q7_...@comcast.net>
> > wrote:
>
> >> Like many others, I occasionally use AM on both 160 and 80 meters.
>
> > Minor point:
>
> > For some odd reason, FCC lists "80 meters" and "75 meters" in Part 97
> > as if they were different bands.
>
> Really odd, in that the ARRL lumps them together as 80 meters. The
> whole thing is not accurate anyhow, so I guess it is more by convention
> than anything else.

Yup. Why FCC considers them different bands, even though they are
right next to each other, is a mystery.
>
> > I don't think we'll lose HF spectrum. VHF/UHF is what the commercial
> > and military folks want.
>
> Agreed. HF "suffers" from unpredictability, or perhaps more accurately,
> it's wildly varying characteristics. One part of the day, a flea power
> signal can make its way around the world, the next part it won't. Then
> the sunspots can do the same thing. Those are all the characteristincs
> that we have fun with, but are really bad for the control that is needed
> by other groups. I like to think about what would happen during good
> propagation to all those competing signals.

There's also the size of simple, effective antennas on the lower
frequencies, particularly if you want broadband, no-tuner performance.
I saw a neat design for a 40-10 meter discone in the ARRL Antenna Book
- it's not exactly small.

> > What has already started to happen is lack of protection for licensed
> > radio amateurs. Look at the BPL mess: FCC has dragged its feet even
> > when documented harmful interference has been presented.
>
> Politics always loses when confronted by physics. Even if wins all the
> battles.

I don't know about politics losing all the time. If the licensed
services are not protected, all kinds of havoc can happen.

In the bad old days, 27 MHz was an ISM band, reserved for things like diathermy and heat-sealing machines. I remember one case, here in Philadelphia, where a heat-sealing factory's machines put a strong harmonic right on the Philadelphia Police dispatcher channel.

Of course FCC was all over them in a big way. But imagine if FCC had dragged its feet...

Of course amateur radio isn't the same as the police channel, but once the camel's nose gets in the tent, things get very odd.

> > As for the bad behavior on 75, it is one of the reasons I sold my AM
> > rig (National NC-173, EFJohnson Viking 2 and 122 VFO) and focused on
> > CW.
>
> > What really puzzles me about the problem is this:
>
> > Several months ago, FCC widened 75 meters (and narrowed 80 meters)
>
> That would be quite a trick! (joke)

Yup. But they did it anyway.

> > even more than had been requested. AM voice is now legal for US Extras
> > from 3600 to 4000 kHz. That's more space than any HF/MF ham band
> > except 10 and 15 meters.
>
> > Is there no room for AM in all those 400 kHz?
>
> Not for the miscreants! 8^(

'zactly.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1123. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-17 19:29:25 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <v22b731s2lasugq3o3mr86v45qm1esn9cl@4ax.com>
Source record: 4328

On Sun, 17 Jun 2007 08:50:33 EDT, N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:

>In the bad old days, 27 MHz was an ISM band, reserved for things like
>diathermy and heat-sealing machines. I remember one case, here in
>Philadelphia, where a heat-sealing factory's machines put a strong
>harmonic right on the Philadelphia Police dispatcher channel.

The major problem with the 27 MHz heat sealers was the 4th harmonic in the aviation bands. The local FCC engineer in charge had the legal authority to shut the plant down immediately without a warning or hearing and the plant could not resume operation until it certified by measurement and an FAA overflight that the IX was corrected. The necessary shielding to accomplish compliance is the reason that the characteristic "heat sealer buzz" is no longer a problem on 11 or 10 meters.

>Of course FCC was all over them in a big way. But imagine if FCC had
>dragged its feet...

Even today, FAA complaints take first priority, but in reality that was a different FCC... <g>

In my first year with the agency we went out on about a half-dozen such complaints in the San Francisco area, but 30 years later when I retired we hadn't received such a complaint in many years.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1124. IRTS Radio News Bulletin, Sunday June 17th 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-17 20:00:32 UTC
From: news at irts dot ie <devnull@panix.com>
Message-ID: <200706172000.l5HK0GG15795@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4329
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Irish Radio Transmitters Society
Radio News Bulletin

Sunday June 17th 2007

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2 Metre Spring Counties Contest Results

The winner of the High Power portable section in the Spring Counties Contest was EI2SBC/P and the High Power Outside EI section went to MI0CLP/P.

The Low Power Portable section was won by EI4HX/P.

The High Power Fixed section was won by EI2JD and the outside EI category went to GI4SRQ.

EI3ENB won the low power fixed section while the outside EI section of this category went to MI3IYA (Now 2I0BIW).

The FM Only section was won by EI7GY/P.

Thanks go to all stations who took part, and congratulations to all the award winners. The next contest to look forward to is the UHF/VHF field day on the first weekend of July.

AFRI 75 DXpedition QSL Update

The QSL Manager of the recent Swaziland DXpedition, Peter EI7CC, reports that over the past few weeks QSL cards in respect of over 1000 QSOs have been sent to those who requested a direct QSL. The remaining 200 or so requests should be dealt with in the coming week.

QSLs for those EI stations who have not QSLed direct will be sent via the bureau.

Hong Kong Special Prefix

Approval has been granted for the use of the Special Prefix "VR10" in addition to "VR2" for Hong Kong Radio Amateurs starting from the 1st of July 2007 to the 30th of June 2008 for the 10th anniversary of Hong Kong's

reunification with China.

More details are available in the OFTA letter for Hong Kong Radio Amateurs, which can be found at www.ofta.gov.hk/en/amateur/ama-cir200706.pdf.

HARTS is also going to use the special callsign "VR10HK" as HARTS HQ Station especially during the IARU HF Contest (14-15/7/2007).

For further information, please contact the Award and Contest Manager VR2XNG (Dawood Ng) through email at
�excom2007 at harts dot org dot hk�.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group

The date of the next theory revision class will take place this coming Tuesday the 19th of June at 7.30 p.m. in the Roanmore Centre, Waterford.

The next general meeting will take place on Monday the 26th of June at 8.00 p.m. in the Roanmore Centre, Waterford.

Comeragh Cycle Race

The national under 23 road racing championship will take place in Waterford on the 1st of July. Richie EI9HR is event Co-ordinator and he is being assisted by John EI8JA. This year�s race will be on a greater scale with over 160 riders taking part. The Civil Defence have come on board this year to help with marshalling and RTE will be filming the event.

AREN will provide the communications for safe traffic management and accident reporting. There will be more radio reporting points and mobile stations than last year so more radio operators are required. Again newcomers are welcome and training will be provided on the morning of the race. This is an excellent opportunity for operators to put their radio skills to good use in a very enjoyable and rewarding way for the benefit of the Community. All operators irrespective of experience are welcome.

Please contact Richie on mobile 085-1465465 or evenings on 051-854315. You can also contact Richie by e-mail at "ei9hr at yahoo dot com".

Rallys

Bangor & District Amateur Radio Society Rally will take place on Sunday the 17th of June in the Crawfordsburn Country Park, Helen's Bay, Co. Down. The Cork Radio Club Rally will take place on Sunday the 23rd of September in the Blarney Park Hotel, Blarney, Co. Cork, the Waterford Rally will take place on the 21st of October 2007 in the Woodlands Hotel, Waterford and the Mayo Radio Rally will be on Sunday the 18th of November in the Belmont Hotel, Knock, Co. Mayo.

A full listing of upcoming rallys is available on www.irts.ie.

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall, EI7IS at QTHR or by phone to 051-853806 or 087-6302026. Items for the radio news can also be faxed to 087 5 6302026. News should be submitted via e-mail to ﷺnews at irts dot ieﷺ for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Friday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sundayﷺs bulletin.

1125. Re: RF Safety Calculator

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-17 21:11:12 UTC
From: Fred McKenzie <fmmck@aol.com>
Message-ID: <fmmck-90B9DF.15464317062007@nntp.aioe.org>
Source record: 4330

In article <380-22007601702051656@earthlink.net>,
"Iitoi" <Iitoi@earthlink.net> wrote:

> Is this online calculator (link below) sufficient compliance with ?97.13(c)?

Iitoi-

It is according to the write-up on the right side of the page. I
suggest you check out the FCC's OET Bulletin No. 65 via the link there.

Also at the FCC web site, OET65 Supplement B references a fairly simple
BASIC language program that does the same thing. I tried it, and was
able to run it using Chipmunk BASIC on my Macintosh computer. Quoting
footnote 12 from Supplement B:

"12 For example, a power density "calculator" has been developed by
Kenneth Harker, KM5FA, and can be
accessed at the following World Wide Web site:
http://www.utexas.edu/students/utarc/. This program is based
on a C version of a public domain BASIC program written by Prof. Wayne
Overbeck that appeared in the
January, 1997, issue of CQ VHF. The source code for this program may be
downloaded at:
ftp://members.aol.com/cqvhf/97issues/rfsafety.bas"

Fred
K4DII

1126. Re: How Popular Is/Was Amateur Radio

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-17 21:21:29 UTC
From: Ed Cregger <ecregger@bellsouff.net>
Message-ID: <HFgdi.3179$s9.2597@bignews6.bellsouth.net>
Source record: 4331

<crn@NOSPAM.netunix.com> wrote in message
news:f1mud7kv1$8300dec7@news.demon.co.uk...
> RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net> wrote:
>>
>> But something apparently has gone horribly wrong. Your numbers
>> indicate that in the past 7 years we have lost all the gains of the
>> 90's and are apparently sliding backwards into the 1980's hams-per-
>> Americans ratios.
>
> This is to be expected, the big intake of the 1950s is now dying off.
>
> --
> g4jci
>

Not to mention the spread of the internet. Here we are typing instead of
talking on the radio.

Ed, NM2K

1127. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-17 23:32:04 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns9952B71F01D29mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 4332

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote in
news:1182084614.041642.316250@m36g2000hse.googlegroups.com:

> On Jun 16, 2:19?pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:

<some snippage>

>> Politics always loses when confronted by physics. Even if wins all
>> the battles.
>
> I don't know about politics losing all the time. If the licensed
> services are not protected, all kinds of havoc can happen.

Then the politics loses. The world is full of examples where
politicians have decided what the truth is. I'll spare us the details to
avoid going off topic, but BPL, which is one really minor example of that
sort of thought, will almost certainly fail unless Amateur radio is
outlawed in all BPL deployment areas. While it does indeed interfere with
our service, we can inadvertantly shut it down just by transmitting
legally. I wonder how the customers will feel about losing their access
for large chunks of time. I really don't think it will ever get that far,
however.
- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1128. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-18 03:56:26 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <cgob73tupa281g2g4c4boecldgbbfc5emb@4ax.com>
Source record: 4333

On Sun, 17 Jun 2007 19:32:04 EDT, Mike Coslo
<mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:

>While it does indeed interfere with
>our service, we can inadvertantly shut it down just by transmitting
>legally. I wonder how the customers will feel about losing their access
>for large chunks of time. I really don't think it will ever get that far,
>however.

If that were to happen, the BPL providers would exercise the same
"money talks and big money talks loudly" leverage as they have done to
get BPL approved, and thereby get the FCC to shut the Amateur Radio
services down in those areas, much as the Air Force (my pre-FCC
employer) is clobbering 3/4 meter band operation with their Pave Paws
radar systems.

My personal opinion is that BPL will self-destruct on economic grounds
if we amateurs can just hold out long enough.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1129. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-18 03:56:29 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1182128743.626046.53690@g4g2000hsf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4334

On Jun 11, 3:21 pm, "Bill Horne, W1AC" <bh1521q7_...@comcast.net>
wrote:

> In fact, the future of the hobby is now in OUR hands, and
> unless we start working together and stop sniping at each
> other over minor things like the modes we use, we're
> going to fade away without anyone noticing.

AMEN! Hams are members of a group comprising about one quarter of one per cent of the U.S. population. We have strong common interests as a result of that shared minority status. Let's focus on those common interests, rather than on minor differences in our mode preferences or whether we say "name" or "handle" or "first personal".

These petty arguments remind me of sail-boaters and power-boaters arguing among themselves about which technology is "most efficient", or "gets through rough water", or whatever, while in the meantime a commercial interest is petitioning to drain the water out of the lake and converting the whole stinking place to an industrial park.

Friends, our "lake" of spectrum is in danger of being drained away -- spend your energy and intellect trying to solve that problem which MEANS SOMETHING to everyone of us, instead of arguing over the merits/ demerits of Morse testing, or whether "hi hi" on voice is acceptable.

Without spectrum, there is no Amateur Radio.

73, de Hans, K0HB
--
The dust will not settle in our time. And when it does some
great roaring machine will come and whirl it all skyhigh again.

1130. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-18 19:03:18 UTC
From: dplatt@radagast.org
Message-ID: <advik4-ia8.ln1@radagast.org>
Source record: 4335

In article <cgob73tupa281g2g4c4boecldgbbfc5emb@4ax.com>,
Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:

>If that were to happen, the BPL providers would exercise the same
>"money talks and big money talks loudly" leverage as they have done to
>get BPL approved, and thereby get the FCC to shut the Amateur Radio
>services down in those areas, much as the Air Force (my pre-FCC
>employer) is clobbering 3/4 meter band operation with their Pave Paws
>radar systems.

Fortunately, the legal situations which exist with regard to those two
situations are rather different.

w/r/t the PAVE PAWS radar systems in the 420 - 450 MHz frequency band,
the government radar system is the primary user of this frequency
spectrum, and has been for years. Amateur operators are secondary
users of these frequencies, and are (and have been) explicitly
required to limit use of these frequencies so that amateur use does
not interfere with the primary users (radar). All that has happened
recently, is that the government users have actually asserted that
amateur use _is_ interfering with radar, and that amateur users must
eliminate the interference as is required by the FCC rules.

In short, the Air Force has the law on their side. We can hope that
the ARRL's work to come up with a selective interference-mitigation
program will succeed... but if the Air Force gets snicky and insists
on a total shutdown of 70 cm ham repeaters near the PAVE PAWS sites,
they can make it stick.

The situation with BPL is different, as least as far as the law reads
today... BPL operators have *no* licensed right to radiate in the
amateur bands, while amateur users are either primary or secondary
users of these bands. The ARRL is making a pretty good case that the
FCC is ignoring both the law (national, and perhaps even international
law and treaty obligations), and their own regulations, in allowing
BPL operators to behave as they are.

>My personal opinion is that BPL will self-destruct on economic grounds
>if we amateurs can just hold out long enough.

Agreed.

The BPL providers have made big noise about how BPL will open up
broadband access to rural customers who are not now served by any
broadband providers. It would be amusing to see what would happen if
the FCC were to offer these providers the right to continue operating
BPL systems with current emission levels... but *only* on the

condition that the providers would agree to fund a build-out of their system to cover 90% or more of rural customers. Imagine the howls of "Oh, we can't afford that!"

--
Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO
Friends of Jade Warrior home page: http://www.radagast.org/jade-warrior
I do _not_ wish to receive unsolicited commercial email, and I will boycott any company which has the gall to send me such ads!

1131. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-18 20:59:36 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1182200048.617931.298690@p77g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4336

On Jun 18, 3:56 am, Phil Kane <Phil.K...@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:

>
> My personal opinion is that BPL will self-destruct on economic grounds
> if we amateurs can just hold out long enough.
>

I share that opinion, Phil, as do most others in the telecomm industry that I associate with. For all the hoopla generated from POTUS right on down into the ranks of FCC, the stark fact is that real-live users (notice I didn't say 'paying customers') of BPL number under 10,000 nationwide, and most of those 'users' are participants in 'trials' and 'feasibility studies'. After a half-decade of promotion, BPL has been unable to gain economic traction in the form of 'production' installations in real customer bases.

In five years BPL with be nothing more than a footnote in some telecom technical journals as a dead-end technological curiosity which never made a dime. Last time I checked there were less than 8,000 paid and 'demonstration' subscribers, and the number was dwindling.

Meanwhile every second issue of QST contains another confrontational "It seems to us" K1ZZ jeremiad about BPL, we see ARRL President W5ZN sending huffy letters to the FCC Chairman, ARRL has challenged the Commission in Federal court, and now a ham in Congress is pushing for a Bill to have a Congressional "study" of the matter.. All this over an issue that is already dying a quiet death-by-apathy on the part of the commercial telecommunications community.

I've spent two successful careers in professional telecommunications, and maintain strong personal and professional ties in the industry. Up until about 5 years ago Amateur Radio enjoyed a very positive reputation among the "pros", but today we are mostly viewed as obstructionist old coots without a clue, and it's getting worse.

This is absolutely the wrong time to be making enemies of the agency which controls our service. Kid yourselves not, our Amateur Radio service exists only so long as FCC considers us "worth the bother", and the recent behavior of ARRL seems, in my opinion, deliberately calculated to raise our "bother quotient". We should expect no support from the pros when FCC decides they've had enough of us; in fact we should expect them to cheer from the sidelines as we are sent off the field of play. Recent news out of Newington portends to me a hastening of that event.

73, de Hans, K0HB
--
><{{{{*> http://www.home.earthlink.net/~k0hb

1132. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-19 00:50:37 UTC
From: Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-E0B08F.20420618062007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 4337

In article <1182200048.617931.298690@p77g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>,
KOHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net> wrote:

> [...]
> This is absolutely the wrong time to be making enemies of the agency
> which controls our service. Kid yourselves not, our Amateur Radio
> service exists only so long as FCC considers us "worth the bother",
> and the recent behavior of ARRL seems, in my opinion, deliberately
> calculated to raise our "bother quotient". We should expect no
> support from the pros when FCC decides they've had enough of us; in
> fact we should expect them to cheer from the sidelines as we are sent
> off the field of play. Recent news out of Newington portends to me a
> hastening of that event.

I am not certain of that. Sometimes, government agencies are not able
to give voice to certain positions because of political pressures from
elected officials and their temporary appointees. The 'work-around' is
to get some pliant non-governmental organization to give voice to those
controversial positions. It is a sort of 'good cop/bad cop' routine. The
ARRL has been the FCC's lapdog for so many decades that it is tough to
imagine that they have suddenly grown a backbone.

1133. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-19 01:18:18 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1182215712.396073.108500@q75g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4338

On Jun 19, 12:50 am, Klystron <x...@yyy.zzz> wrote:

> The ARRL has been the FCC's lapdog for so many decades
> that it is tough to imagine that they have suddenly grown
> a backbone.

This issue (BPL) will collapse from a case of market apathy. ARRL is squandering good will and good money on an issue that the "pros" in telecommunications have already written off as a non-starter. We should have saved our "silver bullets" to fight a real threat.

73, de Hans, K0HB

1134. Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-19 02:50:50 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1182220609.914641.260340@p77g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4339

Folks,

What are people doing for Field Day this year?

73 de Jim, N2EY

1135. Re: Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-19 03:06:51 UTC
From: Mike Andrews <mikea@mikea.ath.cx>
Message-ID: <f57h7l$r2o$1@puck.litech.org>
Source record: 4340

On Mon, 18 Jun 2007 22:50:50 EDT, N2EY@aol.com wrote in
<1182220609.914641.260340@p77g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>:
> Folks,

> What are people doing for Field Day this year?

Staying home. The local club has talked the talk two years running,
telling my wife and others that they were welcome to operate, but
failed to walk the walk and actually let them operate when they asked
to. "Fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice, shame on me." The
crowning glory was the club president and the repeater trustee jumping
her at a meeting because she dared to bring up the problems with the
repeater during bad weather, precisely when the repeater is most
needed. I've been on the club repeater since then only to run my
weekly net, and that'll die when my dues and membership expire.

I'll be catching up on house maintenance. Y'all have fun.

--
"No lusers were harmed in the creation of this usenet article.
AND I WANT TO KNOW WHY NOT!"
--glmar04 at twirl.mcc.ac.uk in a.s.r

1136. Re: Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-19 03:27:32 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1182223631.882670.254980@e9g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4341

On Jun 18, 6:50?pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> Folks,
>
> What are people doing for Field Day this year?

The CONTEST called a "Readiness Exercise" is just another contest.
Always has been. If it's a Contest going on, there's little point in
listening to "the bands" (the HF ones) since there is very little
evidence of actual "Readiness" activity that is supposed to be a
hallmark of an outing in the park with buddies.

If "Field Day" were an ACTUAL Readiness Exercise I would consider
joining in once I had some portable equipment. Since I don't and
since it isn't, I'll just stay in my air conditioned home and "work on
my code."

PIC programming code, that is... :-)

Y'all have fun, heah?

73, AF6AY

1137. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-19 07:03:21 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns9953F307C7EC6mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 4342

Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote in
news:cgob73tupa281g2g4c4boecldgbbfc5emb@4ax.com:

> On Sun, 17 Jun 2007 19:32:04 EDT, Mike Coslo
> <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
>
>>While it does indeed interfere with
>>our service, we can inadvertantly shut it down just by transmitting
>>legally. I wonder how the customers will feel about losing their
>>access for large chunks of time. I really don't think it will ever get
>>that far, however.
>
> If that were to happen, the BPL providers would exercise the same
> "money talks and big money talks loudly" leverage as they have done to
> get BPL approved, and thereby get the FCC to shut the Amateur Radio
> services down in those areas, much as the Air Force (my pre-FCC
> employer) is clobbering 3/4 meter band operation with their Pave Paws
> radar systems.

I think the two situations are a little different, depending on who is
the primary and secondary users of a particular frequency.

I wonder if they will ban The users of 11 meters too? 5 watts is enough
to disrupt BPL.

I don't think that the money will talk loudly enough as the sunspot cycle
picks up again. Could be wrong about that tho'

And even if so, It is just poor technology, and has so many levels of
possible failure.

> My personal opinion is that BPL will self-destruct on economic grounds
> if we amateurs can just hold out long enough.

We agree on that, for sure.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1138. Re: Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-19 07:03:55 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns995426BE5661mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 4343

AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote in news:1182223631.882670.254980
@e9g2000prf.googlegroups.com:

> On Jun 18, 6:50?pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>> Folks,
>>
>> What are people doing for Field Day this year?
>
> The CONTEST called a "Readiness Exercise" is just another contest.
> Always has been. If it's a Contest going on, there's little point in
> listening to "the bands" (the HF ones) since there is very little
> evidence of actual "Readiness" activity that is supposed to be a
> hallmark of an outing in the park with buddies.
>
> If "Field Day" were an ACTUAL Readiness Exercise I would consider
> joining in once I had some portable equipment. Since I don't and
> since it isn't, I'll just stay in my air conditioned home and "work on
> my code."

Our club alternates between a low power, and a high power Field
Day. While I personally like the low power FD better, some of the other
guys really like to run legal limit into a 40 meter beam on a portable
tower. So we compromise and alternate. We'll be running 3A, with a
dedicated CW station, a dedicated 40 meter station, and a Other
frequency/80 meter evening station. We'll have a recieve antenna at the
perimiter of what is allowed to eliminate the interference you get when
you have a lot of high power stations operating in close proximity.

> Y'all have fun, heah?

Nothing better! Folks come out to chat as well as operate. We socialize
and have a mostly relaxing weekend (hard to call it all relaxing when I
pull the night shift on 80 meters - I'm pretty tired by Sunday afternoon)
It's always a little interesting trying to talk the local pizza places
into delivering to a field outside of town. Sometimes they do, and
sometimes they won't.

Of course Field Day isn't for everyone.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1139. Re: Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-19 15:16:46 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f58o03$1djm$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4344

Mike Andrews wrote:
> On Mon, 18 Jun 2007 22:50:50 EDT, N2EY@aol.com wrote in
<1182220609.914641.260340@p77g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>:
>> Folks,
>
>> What are people doing for Field Day this year?
>
> Staying home. The local club has talked the talk two years running,
> telling my wife and others that they were welcome to operate, but
> failed to walk the walk and actually let them operate when they asked
> to.

Sounds like you need a new club.

One thought on all this. It is quite possible that "they" got just what
they wanted if they squelched your XYL and you. But will you let them?

Might be time to have your own Field day setup. If your family is being
stepped on, there might be some others in the same situation who might
join with you.

> I'll be catching up on house maintenance. Y'all have fun.

We sure will! 8^)

1140. Re: Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-19 16:20:50 UTC
From: Jerseyj <jerseyj69@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <jerseyj69-10BD66.12053519062007@comcast.dca.giganews.com>
Source record: 4345

In article <1182220609.914641.260340@p77g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>,
N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:

> Folks,
>
> What are people doing for Field Day this year?
>
> 73 de Jim, N2EY

I'm participating with my local club , probably do a graveyard shift and
have my wife (not licensed) join me to log and operate if she wants to.

I really don't get a club that says the YL is welcome and then doesn't
let her operate. Time for a conversation or a new club possibly.

Jerry

1141. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-19 20:48:24 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1182285470.339809.154910@i13g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4346

K?HB wrote on Mon, 18 Jun 2007 16:59:36 EDT:

>On Jun 18, 3:56 am, Phil Kane <Phil.K...@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:

>> My personal opinion is that BPL will self-destruct on economic grounds
>> if we amateurs can just hold out long enough.
>
> <snip>
>
>In five years BPL with be nothing more than a footnote in some telecom
>technical journals as a dead-end technological curiosity which never
>made a dime. Last time I checked there were less than 8,000 paid and
>'demonstration' subscribers, and the number was dwindling.

The June 2007 issue of the IEEE Spectrum has a Special Report which
is over-titled "By 2008 More Than Half Of The World's Population Will
Live In Urban Areas." Note "world's population," not just the USA.
That further reduces some (mythical?) need to bring the Internet-
structure to rural users, the popular rationale for BPL...as touted by
the
FCC Commissioners of the recent regime. Meanwhile most of those
"isolated" rural users are doing just fine with their POTS.

Here in southern six-land there is intense competition among the cable
TV providers to offer high-speed Internet connectivity (768 KBPS on
the
cheapest plan) using the already-installed cable TV "wires." Much of
the Greater Los Angeles area and adjoining foothill communities are
already so "wired." We don't need subcarriers on AC primary power
lines to carry even low-speed Internet.

>Meanwhile every second issue of QST contains another confrontational
>"It seems to us" K1ZZ jeremiad about BPL, we see ARRL President W5ZN
>sending huffy letters to the FCC Chairman, ARRL has challenged the
>Commission in Federal court, and now a ham in Congress is pushing for
>a Bill to have a Congressional "study" of the matter.. All this over
>an issue that is already dying a quiet death-by-apathy on the part of
>the commercial telecommunications community.

Ah, but BPL very definitely remains a clear and present danger to HF
radio users. SOMEONE has to carry the banner of Forces Against
BPL. We can't ask the apathetic to do it...they have, well, too much
apathy to do it.

However, the forces that be at Newington are feeling the mortality
symptoms of their organization. They feel they must DO SOMETHING

now that they no longer have the clout with the FCC they've always assumed was theirs. They may not have received an onslaught of New Members as a result of the revolutionary effect of 06-178. They seem worried, thus all the more reason to SAY something to prove they still "have what it takes to lead their membership."

But, I agree with you that they've gone over-the-top in their response.

Sincerely, Len AF6AY

1142. Re: Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-19 20:50:29 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1182285685.408714.190360@n15g2000prd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4347

Mike Coslo wrote on Tues 19 Jun 2007 03:03:

>AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote in news:1182223631.882670.254980
>@e9g2000prf.googlegroups.com:
>
>> If "Field Day" were an ACTUAL Readiness Exercise I would consider
>> joining in once I had some portable equipment. Since I don't and
>> since it isn't, I'll just stay in my air conditioned home and "work on
>> my code."
>
> Our club alternates between a low power, and a high power Field
>Day. While I personally like the low power FD better, some of the other
>guys really like to run legal limit into a 40 meter beam on a portable
>tower. So we compromise and alternate. We'll be running 3A, with a
>dedicated CW station, a dedicated 40 meter station, and a Other
>frequency/80 meter evening station. We'll have a recieve antenna at the
>perimiter of what is allowed to eliminate the interference you get when
>you have a lot of high power stations operating in close proximity.

So, it's been a Contest all along, hasn't it? Not really a "Readiness
Exercise" for "emergency communications" as has been rationalized
(seemingly forever) by lots of old-timers and the ARRL. Why don't
they come out and admit the truth of what it IS and has always been?

I see nothing wrong with having an Outing At A Park for ham radio,
particularly on a nice day in June which is ideal for northern-climate
folks (I grew up in northern Illinois and know what it is like). It's
an
ideal club "togetherness" activity away from the usual clubhouse
atmosphere. I think it would be better for all to stop the pretense
of
a "readiness exercise" and just call it what it IS, a Contest From
Field Locations.

>It's always a little interesting trying to talk the local pizza places
>into delivering to a field outside of town. Sometimes they do, and
>sometimes they won't.

In real emergencies one could not expect pizza places to be open
and running. Even during a fine day in June. No male-oriented club
has members with a roll-away barbecue grill? There was a whole
page of Field Day Recipes in the last QST.

> Of course Field Day isn't for everyone.

True enough. At least a third of respondents to the ARRL on-line informal, unscientific Poll said they wouldn't be participating.

Emergency Preparedness drills using radio? Been there, done that. The Army and Marines know how to do it, even at QRP RF power levels. In all kinds of weather at any time of day or night. The only "contesting" done is plain SURVIVAL.

Not to worry about this station in southern six-land. I won't be radiating RF during Field Day. I'll be at a diferent picnic. Non-ham-radio picnic. Enjoy.

Sincerely, Len, AF6AY

1143. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-19 22:58:16 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1182288910.977315.169570@q75g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4348

> On Jun 17, 12:50 pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:

> Yup. Why FCC considers them different bands, even though they are
> right next to each other, is a mystery.

The high end of the band is at 75-meters, the low end at 85-meters
(give or take). On average, I guess it's 80 meters. I'm just glad
they don't make us call the MF/HF bands:

166.666666666666667-meters,
85.714285714285714-meters,
42.857142857142857-meters,
29.702970297029703-meters,
21.428571428571429-meters,
16.603940668585344-meters,
14.285714285714286-meters,
12.053033346725593-meters, and
10.714285714285714-meters.

Beep beep,

de Hans, K0HB

1144. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-19 22:59:07 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1182285542.113760.275860@o11g2000prd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4199

K?HB wrote on Mon, 18 Jun 2007 16:59:36 EDT:

>On Jun 18, 3:56 am, Phil Kane <Phil.K...@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:

>I've spent two successful careers in professional telecommunications,
>and maintain strong personal and professional ties in the industry.
>Up until about 5 years ago Amateur Radio enjoyed a very positive
>reputation among the "pros", but today we are mostly viewed as
>obstructionist old coots without a clue, and it's getting worse.

Well, I've only had one career in radio-electronics counting my
particular military service. "Successful?" For me? Well, I want
for
nothing having finished it. As a mostly-licensed-NOT-in-amateur-
radio
for all of that time, I would make your "5 years" into 20 or 25
years.
The pro telecommunications and radio-electronics industries were
established and grown by NON-amateurs from the get-go, despite all
the legendary hoopla from old-timer-hams.

>This is absolutely the wrong time to be making enemies of the agency
>which controls our service. Kid yourselves not, our Amateur Radio
>service exists only so long as FCC considers us "worth the bother",
>and the recent behavior of ARRL seems, in my opinion, deliberately
>calculated to raise our "bother quotient".

The ARRL (I am a voting member) rather blew it big-time with their
"Regulation By Bandwidth" proposal. Both their original petition and
subsequent retraction of that looked to my non-legal eyes as written
by undergrad law students. Real attorneys would have fun with such
things and would have to really work to try to find out what those
documents were trying to say or convey.

One of the signs of the Newington group feeling their own mortality is
the "Diamond Terrace" proposal and "membership (for extra money)."
[call it the mausoleum syndrome] I have nothing against a building
reconstruction or spiffying-up a place of work. But buying a brick
for
cash just to have some quasi-immortality by members? Okay, if they
need cash inflow so much, then the League ought to cater towards
those three-fourths of all US ham licensees who are NOT members.

>We should expect no
>support from the pros when FCC decides they've had enough of us; in
>fact we should expect them to cheer from the sidelines as we are sent

>off the field of play. Recent news out of Newington portends to me a
>hastening of that event.

I don't share your gloom and doom there. I say US amateur radio will NOT suffer any near-future demise. The FCC full well recognizes that amateur radio IS a hobby (even if they don't say so outright). The FCC also recognizes that other RF emitters are also for hobby activities; see the 100 channels allocated for model radio control use at 72+ MHz, well after the first HF CB creation. Hobbyists are ALSO citizens and the federal government is obliged to listen to them as well as the evil big-money capitalists (who are also citizens).

If there be danger, then it is to future allocations of and about amateur radio. WARC-79 gave international hams new bands in HF. But, that was 28 years ago. What have the US hams gotten lately? A few individual channels at "60m?" Those 60m channels was originally a League proposal for a whole band, not a few channels.

Newington has always been oriented to HF. That's not where the future of radio is...the future is above 30 MHz where most of the rest of the radio world has gone and expanded. If the ARRL wants to concentrate on spectrum territory where their core membership operates at and using old tried-and-true modes, fine, but I see that as just catering to a minority of a minority. I see it as just plain IGNORING the majority of licensees. That ain't leadership.

Sincerely, Len, AF6AY

1145. Re: Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-19 23:13:38 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <3mng7351na39b484bdlub2id0v74ij8i0j@4ax.com>
Source record: 4200

On Mon, 18 Jun 2007 23:27:32 EDT, AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote:

>If "Field Day" were an ACTUAL Readiness Exercise I would consider
>joining in once I had some portable equipment.

And what training and qualification of proficiency do you have to slip into the seat at a disaster EOC/ICP or field position and be an effective communicator, such as familiarity with the operation and the communication needs of the site and served agency or even the message protocols and formats in use and where and how they are to be passed?

In an emergency or disaster situation, we need TRAINED "message passers", far more than untrained drop-in volunteers. We are always ready to train folks before anything happens, but we really don't have the time or resources to train folks when the stuff is flowing.

And our Team does run Field Day as a Readiness Exercise, complete with call-outs and dispersal assignments.

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
Member, Washington County (Oregon)
Emergency Communications Team
ARES/RACES and HEARTNET Qualified

1146. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-19 23:41:55 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5dr5aiF34veonU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4201

"Phil Kane" <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote in message
news:cgob73tupa281g2g4c4boecldgbbfc5emb@4ax.com

[snip]

> My personal opinion is that BPL will self-destruct on
> economic grounds if we amateurs can just hold out long
> enough.

Ok, I'll bite..! What is "BPL"..?! Everyone seems to think everyone knows,
but I am devoid of clue..! Can someone enlighten me..? I assume something
specific to the US or surely I would have heard of it..?!

73 Ivor G6URP

1147. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-20 00:09:02 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <nqrg7394bibbn1q2dhcpac92o1oc1uh40n@4ax.com>
Source record: 4202

On Tue, 19 Jun 2007 19:41:55 EDT, "Ivor Jones"
<ivor@despammed.invalid> wrote:

>Ok, I'll bite..! What is "BPL"..?! Everyone seems to think everyone knows,
>but I am devoid of clue..! Can someone enlighten me..? I assume something
>specific to the US or surely I would have heard of it..?!

It's a US acronym for Broadband over Power Lines. The European term
and acronym (which I can't recall right now) is something
different(Power Line Carrier ??), but the process is the same.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1148. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-20 01:51:39 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5drb1sF35kptuU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4203

"Phil Kane" <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote in message
news:nqrg7394bibbn1q2dhcpac92o1oc1uh40n@4ax.com
> On Tue, 19 Jun 2007 19:41:55 EDT, "Ivor Jones"
> <ivor@despammed.invalid> wrote:
>
> > Ok, I'll bite..! What is "BPL"..?! Everyone seems to
> > think everyone knows, but I am devoid of clue..! Can
> > someone enlighten me..? I assume something specific to
> > the US or surely I would have heard of it..?!
>
> It's a US acronym for Broadband over Power Lines. The
> European term and acronym (which I can't recall right
> now) is something different(Power Line Carrier ??), but
> the process is the same.

Ah, ok, thanks. The idea has been put forward in the UK but I don't think
anyone has taken it up.

73 Ivor G6URP

1149. Re: Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-20 02:08:21 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns9954E0694AD96mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 4206

Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote in
news:3mng7351na39b484bdlub2id0v74ij8i0j@4ax.com:

> And our Team does run Field Day as a Readiness Exercise, complete with
> call-outs and dispersal assignments.

Phil, I would bet if an enterprising fellow were to write up
something about their operations, it might be pretty well received.. (wink
wink) 8^)

I am very interested in how your group does it. I'm always looking
for ways to generate some interest, and this could be a great way to work
with our EC.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1150. Re: Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-20 02:09:21 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns9954DE774288Emcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 4207

AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote in
news:1182285685.408714.190360@n15g2000prd.googlegroups.com:

> Mike Coslo wrote on Tues 19 Jun 2007 03:03:
>
>>AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote in news:1182223631.882670.254980
>>@e9g2000prf.googlegroups.com:
>>
>>> If "Field Day" were an ACTUAL Readiness Exercise I would consider
>>> joining in once I had some portable equipment. Since I don't and
>>> since it isn't, I'll just stay in my air conditioned home and "work
>>> on my code."
>>
>> Our club alternates between a low power, and a high power
>> Field
>>Day. While I personally like the low power FD better, some of the
>>other guys really like to run legal limit into a 40 meter beam on a
>>portable tower. So we compromise and alternate. We'll be running 3A,
>>with a dedicated CW station, a dedicated 40 meter station, and a Other
>>frequency/80 meter evening station. We'll have a recieve antenna at
>>the perimiter of what is allowed to eliminate the interference you get
>>when you have a lot of high power stations operating in close
>>proximity.
>
> So, it's been a Contest all along, hasn't it? Not really a "Readiness
> Exercise" for "emergency communications" as has been rationalized
> (seemingly forever) by lots of old-timers and the ARRL. Why don't
> they come out and admit the truth of what it IS and has always been?

Not sure that I understand. We come out and get on the air, with
different styles of operation from year to year. Certainly if it
were done in contest fashion, our approach would be different.

> I see nothing wrong with having an Outing At A Park for ham radio,
> particularly on a nice day in June which is ideal for northern-climate
> folks (I grew up in northern Illinois and know what it is like). It's
> an ideal club "togetherness" activity away from the usual clubhouse
> atmosphere. I think it would be better for all to stop the pretense
> of a "readiness exercise" and just call it what it IS, a Contest From
> Field Locations.

Field Day is designed to get people on the air. For some, this is
the only weekend that they do get on the air. In our club, they work
and learn how to put a station together, and how to operate. We
encourage the newbies or less experienced folk to do some operation.

If it were a contest, there would only be about three of us operating the whole time. The new guys and gals can only operate at about 25 percent the rate that our more experienced Ops can.

Field day was how I was enticed to go for my General license. A patient and more experienced amateur had me log for him for a couple hours, then turned the mic over to me. I am a quick study, but my operation in that first Field Day cost the club quite a few points. Now I run Field Day for them...

>>It's always a little interesting trying to talk the local pizza places
>>into delivering to a field outside of town. Sometimes they do, and
>>sometimes they won't.
>
> In real emergencies one could not expect pizza places to be open
> and running. Even during a fine day in June. No male-oriented club
> has members with a roll-away barbecue grill? There was a whole
> page of Field Day Recipes in the last QST.

I've had these conversations often with local Hams about the very subject. While it is very true that the conditions do mot emulate the likely reality of an emergency, the basics of what is needed is the ability to erect a portable station that operates off of the mains, operate the station and gain or practice proficiency in that operation, and then tear down and pack up when it is over.

After all, in a real emergency the operators might be freezing, injured, starving, suffering from malaria or radiation poisoning or even worse.

Probably would be hard to get many volunteers if we insisted on literal accuracy of conditions! ;^)

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1151. Re: Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-20 04:36:11 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1182314150.282314.72530@a26g2000pre.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4208

Phil Kane wrote on Tue, 19 Jun 2007 19:13:38 EDT:

>On Mon, 18 Jun 2007 23:27:32 EDT, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
>
>>If "Field Day" were an ACTUAL Readiness Exercise I would
>>consider joining in once I had some portable equipment.
>
>And what training and qualification of proficiency do you have to slip
>into the seat at a disaster EOC/ICP or field position and be an
>effective communicator, such as familiarity with the operation and the
>communication needs of the site and served agency or even the message
>protocols and formats in use and where and how they are to be passed?

I did not target ANY specific "EOC/ICP" organization. My diatribe
was directed towards the ARRL and the old-timers who've
mouthed all those legendary rationales about FIELD DAY being a
"readiness exercise."

I used the word CONSIDER in my sentence you quoted. I've
never claimed to know every procedure and protocol used by
each and every "EOC/ICP" in existance. I've considered lots of
things in my life.

Well, I'll have to rescind my consideration. I am so unworthy.
Besides, I don't reside in Oregon, not even close to it. If I were to
CONSIDER any REAL emergency preparedness group it would
be the Los Angeles Auxilliary Communications service. One of
their base stations is loaned to the ARRL VEC as a site for US
amateur radio license examinations. So far, nobody at "Old
Firehouse Number 77" has snarled at me for any reason.

I don't consider myself knowledgeable or trained enough to
"slip into the seat of an "EOC/ICP" position and "push traffic
through." I HAVE been good enough - without training - to
assist in communications of utility companies during a real
emergency on 17 January 1994. But, I don't claim that is
good enough to "slip into any [emergency comms] seat"
and do what is Right and Proper. I have been trained in the
military to do very portable communications under simulated
explosions and automatic gunfire common to combat
conditions. But that doesn't count towards being able to
push traffic according to protocol and procedure of any
particular civilian volunteer group.

>In an emergency or disaster situation, we need TRAINED "message
>passers", far more than untrained drop-in volunteers. We are always

>ready to train folks before anything happens, but we really don't have
>the time or resources to train folks when the stuff is flowing.

Now what have I been saying elesewhere about training? OF
COURSE there needs to be training, drills, observation of
effectiveness and revision of plans if that seems necessary.
That does go on down here and did before 17 January 1994.
it works. I've seen it work. In a real emergency.

>And our Team does run Field Day as a Readiness Exercise, complete with
>call-outs and dispersal assignments.

Well, good on "your Team." However, the ARRL-sponsored Field
Day is a Contest in its basic form. Will "your Team" get a good
score in that contest with everyone trained and motivated for
emergencies? Isn't a good score the epitome of any Field
Day outing?

Does "your Team" do its drilling and training and whatever on
NON-Field Day weekends? I hope they do. Readiness isn't a
holiday-sort of thing and exercises shouldn't planned months in
advance, advertised in national magazines. Real emergencies
can strike without any advance warning. QST won't know
about it until well after the fact.

Do real emergencies allow perfect protocol and procedure
to work? I'm not sure about that. Can everyone keep their
cool when a sudden aftershock trembles everything around
them? Some real emergencies can actually destroy some
comm nodes or the personnel to man them.

Hey, I apologize for ruffling feathers of other organizations
by directing my comments to the ARRL. So much so that
I don't think it is worthwhile to comment much on anything
any more in this newsgroup. Too many get all upset at
contrary-to-established-ideas. :-(

AF6AY
af6ay@arrl.net

1152. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-20 05:53:44 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1182312165.576898.170700@p77g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4204

On Jun 19, 8:48 pm, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:

>
> to prove they still "have what it takes to lead their membership."
>

But Newington (and the BoD) are not there to >>lead<< the membership (memberships don't need to be led). They are there to >>serve<< the membership.

In any case, engaging the FCC in court battles on hollow issues like BPL neither leads NOR serves the Amateur Radio service. It needlessly squanders what modest remaining remaining respect we have at the government agency we depend on for our continued existence. (Can you say "bite the hand which feeds us"?)

73, de Hans, K0HB

1153. Re: Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-20 05:54:00 UTC
From: Bryan <bryan.swadenerNOSPAM@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <z_CdnUlrZfFHOuXbnZ2dnUVZ_vqpnZ2d@giganews.com>
Source record: 4205

Jim N2EY wrote:
> Folks,
>
> What are people doing for Field Day this year?
>
> 73 de Jim, N2EY

I'm joining with the Machias Radio Group near Snohomish, WA:
http://www.geocities.com/bswadener/fd2007/. We'll be running in 2A + VHF/UHF (7 ops). I understand several other hams (and non-hams) may cruise by for short visits

One HF station will be using Zepps and a 2 element wire quad for 40m. Power will be from gas engine-driven generator. The other station will be using my 40' homebrew tiltup/rotatable mast w/ a "Crushcraft" A3S for 20/15/10m yagi on top. The top guyset will be 80 & 40m inverted vees. The 80m antenna will be a 4 wire cage -- 400KHz BW -- no tuner needed! Power will be from 4 x Group27 batteries in parallel w/ a homebrew DC-DC boost regulator to get 13.8V to the radio. The logging PC will have it's own homebrew DC-DC boost converter.

Vy 73,
Bryan WA7PRC

1154. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-20 14:43:23 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f5beae$1ekq$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4209

Kï¿½HB wrote:
> On Jun 19, 8:48 pm, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
>
>> to prove they still "have what it takes to lead their membership."
>>
>
> But Newington (and the BoD) are not there to >>lead<< the membership
> (memberships don't need to be led). They are there to >>serve<< the
> membership.

> In any case, engaging the FCC in court battles on hollow issues like
> BPL neither leads NOR serves the Amateur Radio service. It needlessly
> squanders what modest remaining remaining respect we have at the
> government agency we depend on for our continued existence. (Can you
> say "bite the hand which feeds us"?)

My assessment of the situation is that the efforts - especially the ones by W1RFI, have paid off.

There appears to have been a push for BPL that was based on other than technical rationale.

When other rationales than technology are used to promote a technical solution, we sometimes get white elephant solutions. Like BPL.

We have the luxury of looking at the situation as it exists now, not as it would be if no effort was spent in opposition to it.

I find the situation similar to childhood vaccinations. Children were dying or being harmed by various diseases, so we came up with vaccines. They worked, and many lives were saved. Now some people question just why we should be vaccinating children. "Gee, no one is getting sick, why do we have to do this?" Just a thought.

Without any ARRL protest, it is very likely that there would have been a lot more deployment of BPL. A lot of Amateurs would be having their service disrupted by BPL. A lot of BPL customers would be having their service disrupted by amateurs.

Problem is that management technique is to not step back and reassess, not to stop digging when they find themselves in a hole; but to stick to their guns.The promoters would ride BPL right into the ground.

With no opposition, (ARRL keeping out of the issue) what would be the response to the BPL promoters to the fact that we would shut down BPL every time we keyed up?

I'll bet it would be an attempt to disallow the Amateur communications. We can talk about licensed services and part 15, but that would not stop the issue from going to court. And if the ARRL kept out of that, is there any doubt of who would win? Maybe we could get a public defender to do something pro bono for us? A likely scenario would be an injunction against amateur operation in areas served by BPL until they figured things out.

At that point, Hams would be sending angry emails wondering "Just where on earth was the ARRL in this mess? They should have been doing something!"

So while I agree that BPL is a technical failure, and will eventually go away, it had/has the potential to wreak a lot of havoc over a long period, if not opposed.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1155. Re: A plea for civility

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-20 20:55:25 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1182366405.090985.84070@u2g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4210

On Jun 20, 2:43 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:

>
> My assessment of the situation is that the efforts - especially the
> ones by W1RFI, have paid off.
>

I agree to the point that the science and technical work done by Ed Hare was members money well spent. We (ARRL) should have spent more money in this area, the practical technical evaluation of the BPL. This was/is useful work.

But I stand on both sides of this issue, as a licensed Amateur, a former elected ARRL official, and as a technically involved member the telecommunications industry.

>From the aspect of a former elected ARRL official and a long-time loyal ARRL member, I view all the "whipping up the troops", long jeremiads in QST, nasty letters to the FCC Chair, Federal lawsuits, etc., as ill-advised posturing which has no practical influence on the business decisions of telecommunications providers, and only serves to alienate our regulators over a technology which is ALREADY DOA.

>From the aspect of a player in the telecommunications industry, I see K1ZZ and the BoD which supports his Quixotic crusade as comically amateur (in the Webster definition of "without skill") medlers in a game where they have only enough political power to be nothing more than a pest. This misbegotten adventure WILL be remembered in the wrong places when we need some favor down the road.

All of this, over a still-born technology without any practical possibility of gaining the traction necessary to become a market reality.

73, de Hans, K0HB

1156. Re: Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-20 22:01:15 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <PNOdnUWdg7wMPuTbnZ2dnUVZ_gGdnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4211

"AF6AY" <LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote in message
news:1182223631.882670.254980@e9g2000prf.googlegroups.com...
> On Jun 18, 6:50?pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>> Folks,
>>
>> What are people doing for Field Day this year?
>
> The CONTEST called a "Readiness Exercise" is just another contest.
> Always has been. If it's a Contest going on, there's little point in
> listening to "the bands" (the HF ones) since there is very little
> evidence of actual "Readiness" activity that is supposed to be a
> hallmark of an outing in the park with buddies.
>
> If "Field Day" were an ACTUAL Readiness Exercise I would consider
> joining in once I had some portable equipment. Since I don't and
> since it isn't, I'll just stay in my air conditioned home and "work on
> my code."
>
> PIC programming code, that is... :-)
>
> Y'all have fun, heah?
>
> 73, AF6AY
>

No need to have portable equipment. Many take down their base stations,
pack them up, take them out to the field day site, set them up and operate.
One guy brings out his full size Ten-Tec.

Dee, N8UZE

1157. Re: Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-21 12:10:44 UTC
From: jim <jimbo_not_jimbob@asdfjkl.net>
Message-ID: <467A68AB.7C4AFDDD@asdfjkl.net>
Source record: 4212

hi

our club runs a 7a field day setup at the farm of a member.

everyone is welcome to stop in and operate, log, have fun
and many stay overnight starting friday night.

we are running a GOTA station again this year, big success,
they scheduled groups of scouts (boy and girl), several chruch
youth groups, etc all stopped in and worked HF,
what a blast to see they young pups operate !

all our 7a stations have at least one extra class so anyone
can operate (club member or vistior) we just watch for third party
rules.

all our gear is fullsize base stations running off gensets
either the newer honda inverters (1.5 up to 10kw) or the generac types.

we also invite tv and elected officials to stop in and operate.

73 jimbo

1158. Welcome to rec.radio.info!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-22 06:00:04 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/welcome-1-1182492002@panix.com>
Source record: 4213
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.scanner,rec.radio.shortwave,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/welcome
Revision: 1.1 2007/02/24 19:44:46
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

*** Welcome to rec.radio.info! ***

Welcome to rec.radio.info, a group that aims to provide a noise-free
source of information and news for the entire rec.radio hierarchy.

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to the group
every month. You are now reading the first article, which explains what
rec.radio.info is, and answers some Frequently Asked Questions. The
second article is titled Posting Guidelines, and you only need to read
it if you want to submit an article to rec.radio.info.

You can skip to the next section of this article by searching for the
next
" -- " string. The sections available are:
- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?
- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?
- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?
- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.
- What type of material is considered inappropriate?
- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to
rec.radio.info?
- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?
- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to
speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

-- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?

The purpose or charter of rec.radio.info is to provide the Usenet
community with a resource for information, news, and facts about any and
all things radio.

All the other rec.radio groups are intended for discussions and general
chit chat about radio. Rec.radio.info will contain informational,
factual articles only. Follow-ups are redirected to an appropriate other
group, and further discussion (if any) will not take place in
rec.radio.info.

In order to ensure that rec.radio.info contains only appropriate
articles, it was decided to create the group as a moderated newsgroup.
```

-- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?

It provides a "tag" for each article to be assembled into a filtered presentation in rec.radio.info (even with cross-posting, only one message, with a unique Message-ID, is propagated across the net). This tag also facilitates a pre-existing method of dropping or canceling the articles locally within the discussion groups if you don't want to see them. This accommodates individuals who want to separate the bulletins from the discussions, discussions from the bulletins, as well as those who are adamant about not reading another newsgroup and wanted to see everything all in one basket.

With the total size of Usenet (in number of newsgroups and total traffic) doubling every year or so, this is no insignificant contribution to reducing information noise and chaos. Making the discussion groups a catch-all, and making extra newsgroups filters on that catch-all, is also the most realistic way to implement such a scheme (It's not intuitively obvious what the charter, contents, and general appropriate topics for each and every newsgroup are. Seeing FAQ's and charter/intro postings in the home newsgroup is beneficial for new readers).

By cross-posting one only is adding a few tens of bytes to each bulletin (to specify the extra group on the Newsgroups line), but are adding the capability for very powerful filtering features available on most news servers, listservers and readers. Your local news guru could probably explain these features in more detail.

In rn, for example, according to Leanne Phillips in her rn kill-file FAQ, add a line of the form:

/Newsgroups:.*[,]rec\.radio\.info/h:j

either in ~/News/KILL (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere) or ~/News/rec/radio/amateur/misc/KILL (if you don't want to see them just in rec.radio.amateur.misc). The latter method means your kill file will only be consulted during rec.radio.amateur.misc (and hence runs more efficiently), and will probably work for most people.

In nn, according to Bill Wohler in his nn FAQ, add a line of the form:

rec.radio.info:!s/:^

in ~/.nn/kill (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere), or put the following lines:

sequence
rec.radio.info
rec.radio.

at the end of ~/.nn/init in order to see all the rec.radio.info bulletins first, then read the remaining rec.radio.* without the bulletins.

-- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?

If you are new to Usenet and are not familiar with the terminology, you might want to read the general introductory articles found in the newsgroup news.announce.newusers. Doing so will make your life on the net much easier, and will probably save you from making silly beginner's mistakes.

If you think that at this moment you are reading an echo, a conference, or a bulletin board, I'd also strongly suggest a trip over to news.announce.newusers.

For the rest of this article, we will assume you have a basic knowledge of Usenet terminology and mechanics.

A moderated group means that any article that needs to be posted to the group has to be accepted by the moderator of the group. Since we need to ensure that followups to an article (discussion) do not show up in the rec.radio.info newsgroup, the `Followup-To:' header line contains a newsgroup that is appropriate for discussions about the specific article.

-- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.

Rec.radio.info is a moderated newsgroup, which means that all articles submitted to the group will have to be approved by the moderator first.

The current moderator of the group is the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team. Submissions to rec.radio.info can be posted, or e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Comments, criticisms, suggestions or questions about the group can be e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

But before you do so, please be sure to check out the "Posting Guidelines" article.

The influence of the moderator should be minimal and of an administrative nature, consisting chiefly of weeding out obviously inappropriate articles, while making sure correct headers etc. are used for the appropriate ones.

-- What type of material is considered inappropriate?

There are three broad categories of articles which will be rejected by the moderator:

1) Requests for information: rec.radio.info is strictly a one-way street. We receive information in our mailbox; we then post it to rec.radio.info. Requests for specific information belong in the normal discussion newsgroups. If your request gets answered, you might consider passing the answer on to rec.radio.info, though. Especially if you can edit it into a informational, rather than a discussion, format.

2) Obvious discussion articles, or articles that appear unsubstantiated.

3) Commercial stuff: a relatively unbiased test of a radio product would be accepted, but any hint of for-profit might be reason for rejection. For three reasons: This is not the purpose of the list, for-profit is a controversial topic, and this list may be passed onto Amateur Packet Radio (where for-profit is prohibited except under certain provisos).

rec.radio.swap may be more deserving of the posting in any matter.

Similarly, copyrighted material generally cannot be used. If it's TRULY worthwhile to the net, We would recommend obtaining permission from the copyright holder. Please note the source, and if permission was given. We reserve the right to make the final decision concerning appropriateness in all situations. In most cases, a brief summary of, or pointer to, the copyrighted information may be all we can allow.

-- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to rec.radio.info?

Google has an excellent web interface to Usenet newsgroups. It is available at:

http://groups.google.com

It supports both reading and posting.

-- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?

Yes. See Google Groups above.

Effectively this means that anything you post to rec.radio.info will be permanently stored, so your work will not be lost.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as time critical.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires co-operation and goodwill to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio hierarchy.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

1159. rec.radio.info Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-22 06:05:02 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines-1-1182492301@panix.com>
Source record: 4214
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.scanner,rec.radio.shortwave,rec.answers,news.answers

Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines
Revision: 1.5 2007/03/22 16:30:49
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

*** rec.radio.info - Posting Guidelines and Etiquette ***

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to this group
and to rec.answers/news.answers every month. You are now reading the
second article, which explains how to submit something to
rec.radio.info, and which answers some Frequently Asked Questions about
the submission process. The first article is titled "Welcome to
rec.radio.info", and it might be a good idea to check it out as well.

-- How do I submit something to rec.radio.info?

Two possibilities. You can use your newsreading software to just post
the article to rec.radio.info, as you would do with any other
newsgroup. The difference is that the software recognizes the special
status of rec.radio.info as a moderated group, and will e-mail your
article to us, the moderation team, instead of posting it to the group.

Alternatively, you can mail your article directly to us at the following
address:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Mailing us directly is probably (a wee bit) faster, but using the
transparency offered by the newsreading software is probably more
convenient.

If you have any questions, or wish to deal with some administrivia with
the moderation team, we suggest mailing to the following address:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

-- How soon will I see my article appear?

It depends on how busy we are. Your article reaches us as mail, we have
to read it first, give it the stamp of approval, and finally send it on
to the group. We will attempt to read and decide on all submissions
within 72 hours at the very least, though we will probably be able to
process submissions much faster in actual practice.

The site from which we moderate this newsgroup, "Public Access Internet
and Unix, NYC" (Panix), is directly connected to the Internet, and

articles posted at that site should appear at most major news sites, including Google Groups, the same day. The principal delay, therefore, will be the wait in the moderator's submission queue.

If you post a periodic article, and have shown to be trustworthy, we may allow you to post directly if the article is of a timely nature. See the section below on direct posting.

-- Should my article be in a specific format?

No. If it is not totally illegible, we will accept it, and if it does not have a correct subject-line we will correct it with your permission -- that's what a moderator is for.

However.

You could do us a big favor by making sure your article conforms to these simple requirements:

1) The article must present information, not discussion or requests, We will reject the article or require you to change the wording if it is worth it.
2) A good, descriptive Subject line.
3) Always mention what source you got the information from.
4) Don't forget to include a Followup-To header, at least if you don't want further discussion to automatically be forwarded to you, the poster, which is the default if the article is only posted to rec.radio.info.

As we said: if your article is appropriate we will post it even if you don't follow these guidelines, but then don't blame us for not processing it immediately. 'Perfect' articles we can send on with a couple of keystrokes. Stuff that needs minor editing is going to have to wait until we have time to do so.

Please do not waste both our and your time by posting requests, as this is an information only news group.

-- What about crossposting?

If you send something to rec.radio.info, just name any group you'd like to cross-post to in the Newsgroups field. Then, when we approve the article for rec.radio.info it will get automatically cross-posted to any other groups mentioned. This will also override the default Followup-To: poster, replacing it with the groups you cross posted to.

We would prefer if the group be cross-posted to the various discussion groups in the rec.radio.* hierarchy that are appropriate:

rec.radio.amateur.misc Amateur (ham) radio and related matters
rec.radio.amateur.packet Amateur Packet Radio discussions
rec.radio.amateur.policy Amateur Radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.noncomm Non commercial radio discussions
rec.radio.shortwave International broadcasting on the 'HF' bands

rec.radio.cb Citizens Band (27 MHz) discussion
rec.radio.scanner Scanner discussions (unsupported group)

or in one of the moderated groups:

rec.radio.amateur.moderated Amateur radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.broadcasting Discussion of *domestic* radio broadcasting

We will leave it up to the poster to decide which group(s) are appropriate, but reserve the right to add groups if we feel it has broader interest. We will consult with the poster first.

Notes on crossposting:

- rec.radio.broadcasting is also a moderated group. The rec.radio.broadcasting moderator prefers to review all articles himself before posting. Placing rec.radio.broadcasting before rec.radio.info on the Newsgroups line should accomplish this. We will typically abide by the rec.radio.broadcasting moderator's decision whether the article is appropriate for rec.radio.info.

- rec.radio.amateur.moderated is also a moderated group. As the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team manages both rec.radio.amateur.moderated and rec.radio.info, we can manage crossposting and approvals for both newsgroups. The rec.radio.amateur.moderated group does not allow crossposting to other discussion newsgroups, whether moderated or unmoderated. However, we would like to manage rec.radio.info as consistently as possible with how it was done by previous moderators, including the grandfathering of existing regular postings. Therefore, the submitter can choose rec.radio.amateur.moderated or the other unmoderated rec.radio.amateur.* discussion newsgroups for crossposting, but not both.

- Any FAQ or informational posting approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderation team that is also crossposted to any rec.radio.* newsgroup (besides just rec.radio.info) is also automatically pre-approved for rec.radio.info. See below for more information.

If you post to another moderated group, it may be better to make special arrangements with both moderators before posting by contacting us at our administrivia addresses.

In addition, cross-posts do not take up extra space; modern newsreaders can be configured to show you cross-posted articles only once anyway; not everybody reads rec.radio.info; and rec.radio.info was never meant to reduce the volume of the regular discussion newsgroups. But keep in mind that some of the mail gateways may filter out the informational postings (at request of the subscribers) to keep the load down.

You decide.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, can I make arrangements to help speed up delivery by posting directly from my site?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as timely.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires cooperation and good will to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio.* hierarchy.

If you are currently maintaining (or plan to maintain) a radio-related periodic information posting, you may wish to consider crossposting it to rec.answers/news.answers. Postings that are approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderators for this treatment are automatically pre-approved for crossposting to rec.radio.info (as the news.answers requirements are far more rigorous than the requirements this newsgroup ever plans to use). For more information about this option, consult the appropriate information articles and posting guidelines in rec.answers/news.answers.

Realize also, that even if your post is not approved for rec.answers/news.answers, it can still be approved for rec.radio.info. The intention is not so much to get every last bit of radio-related information on rec.answers/news.answers, but rather to provide an alternative avenue of approval (as well as grandfather existing maintainers of radio-related information and spare them additional bureaucratic hurdles). Again, crossposting to either rec.radio.info or rec.answers/news.answers, both, or neither, is at the discretion of the poster (subject to the approval of the moderators). You decide what is most appropriate for your article.

Please remember that as an information maintainer, you are not alone. There are many others on the net who maintain and post periodic information postings, using various intermediate-to-advanced features of Usenet (usually via automated tools). Various degrees of technical support and general hand-holding are available from many Usenet veterans. Send us some E-mail describing your needs to our administrative address below, and we'll try to help, or at least refer you to the right knowledgeable individual(s).

-- And Follow-ups?

If the only newsgroup you have specified is rec.radio.info, then the Followup-To: field will always be set to poster. If you do not want this, you must supply a Followup-To line of your own, and we will honor that one, as long as it is a subset of the original Newsgroups line.

If you specify newsgroups to cross-post to, then the Followup-To field will be set to include all the cross-posted groups, excepting rec.radio.info itself. Again, if you do not wish this behavior, supply your own Followup-To line.

We maintain other standards on the various RFC-1036 (news transport) header lines. For example, if the article is appropriate for passing into the Packet Radio Information Network, we encapsulate the Packet Bulletin Identifier (BID) in the Message-ID: news header line indicating the machine of origin as the ampr.org domain:

Message-ID: <$opa.55.1994@ampr.org>

where the Packet Radio BID, in this example, is `$OPA.55', and it was posted in the year 1994, because some of the Bid numbers are cycled yearly. Hopefully, this can be used as a key to re-introduce the articles for the Packet Radio network. Also, if the article is a repost of an already existing information article in the rec.radio heirarchy, we ensure that the References: header line is linked to that previously posted article. This also helps to tag articles, and may be used for additional filtering if needed.

Since the articles are archived, please use the Summary and Keywords header lines to help one search for your article.

-- Why have I received no reply from you?

We never reject anything in silence, and we make a point of it to answer all our mail. However, E-mail, like a brain cell, can and does get lost, every now and again.

So, if you send us something, and you don't see it appear it rec.radio.info, and you still have not heard from us in reply after say, five days, you can be pretty sure that either your mail never reached us, or that our answer has never reached you. In that case, please try again (We will filter out duplicates).

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

1160. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1558 - June 22, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-22 09:17:36 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <E1I1fDW-0005CP-Nd@elasmtp-masked.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 4215
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1558 - June 22, 2007

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1558 with a
release date of Friday, June 22, 2007 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. The RSGB restructures
to welcome digital repeaters, 6 meters opens for
some good D-X and the ARRL says that Congress may
mandate an investigation of B-P-L
interference. Find out the details on Amateur
Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1558 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

WORLDBEAT - UK: THE DIGITAL WORLD IS HERE

The world of digital ham radio comes another step
closer to reality. This as the Radio Society of
Great Britain is says that digital is the future
of ham radio and its restructuring some of its
committees so as to be ready. Jeramy Boot, G4NJH, has the details:

--

A study of the work of the Data Communications
Committee and the Repeater Management Committee
has revealed increasingly common ground,
especially where internet gateways and internet
linking to repeaters are concerned.

Advances are also being made towards the
introduction of digital modes such as D-Star and
APCO25 that amongst other newer technologies can
carry both voice and data streams.

With this in mind it has been agreed that a new
committee based on the Repeater Management
Committee structure and to be known as the
Emerging Technology Co-ordination Committee will
replace the DCCand RMC with immediate affect. The
new committee will be chaired by John McCullagh,
GI4BWM, with Iain Philipps, G0RDI, as
Vice-Chairman. Other committee members will
include current Regional Repeater Managers and

Steve Morton, G8SFR, who will continue to
co-ordinate Internet Gateway applications.

I'm Jeramy Boot, G4NJH and you are listening to the Amateur Radio Newsline.

--

What this means is that U-K hams involved in both
digital and analog relay communications or
transitioning from analog to digital now have one
central base of knowledge to work with. It also
puts the Radio Society of great Britain at the
forefront of political leadership in the U-K as
the changeover takes place. (GB2RS)

**

RESCUE RADIO: VK HAMS RESPOND AS FLOODS HIT

Hams from several Australian provinces have
responded in the wake of severe weather and
flooding that has hit the North Queensland
area. Graham Kemp, VK4BB, of the WIA News, has the details:

--

Mal VK4MAL is currently working with the Red
Cross Counter-Disaster division in the flooded
areas of the New South Wales Central Coast and Hunter Region.

Mal VK4MAL is Counter-Disaster Co-ordinator for
Red Cross in North Queensland and he and
hundreds of other volunteers were shipped in
from across VK to provide some help for flood
weary local volunteers and residents of the disaster zone.

VK2ATZ/portable the Westlakes AR Club were in
the thick of things, but were still able,
somehow, to score a vantage point to see
the container ship which was washed ashore at Nobby's Beach on the Friday
morning.

Saturday Westlakes Amateur Radio Club was
open....But not for usual business. It was open
to the few that braved the weather and answered
the calls for help to clean up the debris from
the horrible weather suffered the previous night.

Some helping included VK2YPW, VK2AFZ, VK2ZM and
Keith VK2PKT, Paul VK2BPL, and Richard VK2FRKO also John VK2FJKG

Then when the Hunter River in Maitland looked
like breaking its banks on Sunday, the Volunteer
Rescue Association wasted no time in securing

the specialist communications skills of WICEN (NSW).

Eight operators from the Hunter Region were
deployed at Rutherford, and they were tasked
with passing intelligence reports to the
services involved, along with monitoring and
reporting the river levels at 15 minute
intervals. This involved three teams, two at the
gauges and one at the control centre; all were
alert and busy throughout the night and into the next morning.

As well as this, teams were on stand-by in both
the Sydney North and Central Coast Regions, but
as the floods abated they were not required;
it is worth noting that although members in the
Central Coast Region also suffered from the
storm, some were still able to respond. Other
VRA squads such as CREST and Cave Rescue were also involved.

I'm Graham Kemp, VK4BB, of the WIA News reporting
for the amateur Radio Newsline.

--

The President of the Volunteer Rescue Association
is Ray Gill. He thanked the Australian ham
community for its prompt emergency service response.

**

THE BPL FIGHT: ARRL REPS HAM RADIO ON BPL TO ITU

A major meeting of the International
Telecommunications Union that could help
determine the future of ham radio world-wide is
taking place in Switzerland. It involves
BPL. Rob Mt. Barker, VK5MM, is here with the rest of the story:

--

ARRL Chief Executive Officer and IARU Secretary
David Sumner, K1ZZ, have been representing the
IARU at a meeting of ITU-R Working Party 1A in Geneva, Switzerland.

Working Party 1A is responsible for spectrum
engineering techniques within Study Group 1
(spectrum management) and has been working on a
document that may eventually become what's
called a "preliminary draft new report" on
the impact of power line telecommunications
(PLT, what we call BPL on this side of the
Pacific) on radiocommunication systems operating below 80 MHz.

Of course, the IARU's interest is in ensuring
that the report accurately reflects the
sensitivity of the amateur services to interference from this source.

Also meeting at about the same time (June
12-20), ITU-R Working Party 8A, which is
responsible for most of the land mobile services,
plus the amateur and amateur-satellite services.
WP 8A hopes to complete work on a "draft new
handbook for the amateur and amateur-satellite
services" to be published by the ITU.

I'm Rob, VK5MM

--

More on the outcome of these meetings in future
Amateur Radio Newsline reports. (WIA News, ARRL)

**

THE BPL FIGHT: CONGRESS MAY ORDER INVESTIGATION OF IJNTERFERENCE

The ARRL says that the United States Senate may
investigate Broadband Over Powerline's's
interference potential to Amateur Radio. This
after Senator Mark Pryor files a bill calling on
the Federal Communications Commission to conduct
a study on the interference caused by broadband
Internet transmission over power distribution
systems to customers homes. Amateur Radio
Newsline's David Black, KB4KCH, is here with more:

--

Senator Mark Pryor of Arkansas is a member of the
Senate's Committee on Commerce, Science, and
Transportation. If the measure he introduced
gains the needed support, then Senate Bill 1629
would call for the same studies to be performed
as does House Bill 462. That measure was
introduced on January 12th by Rep Mike Ross of
Arkansas. Both would require the FCC to conduct
and submit to that committee and to the House of
Representatives Committee on Energy and Commerce
a report on a study of interference potential of
systems for the transmission of broadband Internet services over power
lines.

According to the ARRL, there are to be four
required areas of inquiry. First is the
variation of field strength of BPL service
signals with distance from overhead power lines,
and a technical justification for the use of any

particular distance extrapolation factor.

Then, the depth of adaptive, or 'notch,'
filtering for attenuating normally permitted BPL
service radiated emission levels that would be
necessary and sufficient to protect the
reliability of mobile radio communications.

Also required would be a technical justification
for the permitted, radiated emission levels of
BPL signals relative to ambient levels of man-made noise from other sources.

Lastly such a report would require the FCC to
provide options for new or improved rules related
to the transmission of BPL service that, if
implemented, might prevent harmful interference
to public safety and other radio communications
systems. This is something that the FCC has been
reticent to do since it embraced B-P-L technology several years ago.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm David Black,
KB4KCH, at the South-East bureau in Birmingham, Alabama,

--

The ARRL is very thankful for this turn of events
in the BPL struggle. League President Joel
Harrison, W5ZN, said that the League is grateful
for Senator Pryor's support. He added that the
Senator's recognition of Amateur Radio's role in
emergency communications and public safety is also greatly appreciated.
(ARRL)

**

Break 1

From the United States of America, We are the
Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin
stations around the world including the N7VGS
repeater serving Star Valley Wyoming

(5 sec pause here)

**
ON THE AIR: 6 METERS TURNS SUMMER HOT

Six meters is showing signs of being the V-H-F
band of choice for this summers D-X season. We have more in this report:

--

That's right Don. 6 meters has been the band of
choice of VHF DX enthusiasts, with contacts like
this one becoming more and more commonplace.

--

Sound of VE3TMG working Hawaii: Hear it in the
MP3 version of the newscast downloadable at www.arnewsline.org

--

That's Terry Greenwood, VE3TMG, in Windsor,
Ontario, Canada working Fred Benardella, KH6FI,
Mountain View, Hawaii, recorded on June
18th. That's a path across land and sea of close to 4500 nautical miles.

But hams in the U-S-A are not the only ones
experiencing long haul contacts on the Magic
Band. Also on the 18th, Ev Tupis, W2EV, in
Holley New York reported over the V-H-F Reflector
that he was experiencing multi-hop from to EA8 on
6m. Ev also said that there were reports of 2
meter E skip contact taking place between Ohio to
Newfoundland. A bit later, John Fridenstine,
W8PAT, in Oberlin, Ohio, posted that worked or
heard all continents in a 12 hour period. For
him it was South America in the morning, Europe,
Afirca and Oceania in the a afternoon and Asia on EME in the evening.

We don't have any recordings of those, but we do
have of a truly rare south to north 6 meter
station. Heres Octavio Miranda, YN2N, in
Nicaragua trying to contact a W 5 station on what
was likely Trans-Equatorial propagation:

--

Sound of YN2N: Hear it in the MP3 version of the
newscast downloadable at www.arnewsline.org

--

The sation he was trying to work and eventually
did contract was Pat Dyer, WA5IYX, in San
Antonio, Texas. Pat tells Amateur Radio Newsline
that while not the greatest signal, Miranda was
the first Nicaraguan that he has heard or worked
in his 43 years operating 6 meters. The signals
were only 5 by 5 at WA5IYX but YN2N gave Pat a 10 db over S 9 report.

Getting on 6 meters is no longer very
expensive. The primary D-X mode is Upper
Sideband. The primary calling frequency is
50.125 Mhz and for casual operation a simple
dipole with a total length of 108 inches will
suffice. And with even that simple a set-up you
never know what you might work or hear.

--

Sound of V26HS: Hear it in the MP3 version of the
newscast downloadable at www.arnewsline.org

--

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill
Pasternak, WA6ITF, with the FT-847 tuned to
50.125, at the studio in Los Angeles.

--

For the latest, up to the minute 6 meter D-X news
take your web browser to the 6 Meter Prop
Logger. Its in cyberspace at http://www.dxworld.com/50prop.html

Also, if you operate on 6 meters, be sure to
switch it to A-M mode and tune up to 50.5 MHz now
and again. That's where a lot of old timers
using 1950's vintage gear hang out and you never
know who you might hear. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

ENFORCEMENT NEWS: FBI INVESTIGATING PHONY REPORTS TO THE NEWS

The FBI has entered into an investigation
surrounding bogus severe weather reports e-mailed
to the National Weather Service. The false
information has caused the to issue unnecessary
warnings that have taxed the resources of a number of communities.

The phony reports were sent to the NWS over its
Web page. Investigators have already traced the
Internet Protocol address of the computer sending the false reports.

Jeff Lanza,is the special FBI agent in charge of
the investigation. He says that the effort to
track down the source of bogus information to the
weather service could be the first in the
U.S. He adds that providing false information to
the federal government is punishable by up to
five years in jail. (Tech OnLine)

**

ENFORCEMNENT TECHNOLOGY: NEW CELLPHONE SENSORS

The Department of Homeland Security has
reportedly launched an initiative asking the
wireless industry about the potential for
equipping a new generation of cellular telephones
with technology. This, to scan and detect
harmful compounds in the environment and
automatically relay the readings to a central
monitoring point. The concept, known as

"Cell-All," is said to have attracted the
interest of several companies, and partnerships
with handset manufacturers are being discussed. More is on-line at
http://public.cq.com/docs/hs/hsnews110-000002524221.html (CGC)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: FCC CHAIRMAN AGAIN SAYS YES TO CABLE A LA CARTE

Federal Communications Commission Chairman Kevin
Martin has renewed a long simmering debate over
"a la carte" programming at a recent cable
industry gathering in Las Vegas,
Nevada. According to news reports, Martin told
the audience at the annual "Cable Show" that
consumers should be able to purchase what they
want without being forced to buy what they don't.

Martin has supported implementing "a la carte"
service, where consumers could choose and pay for
individual channels, rather than purchase them in
bundles from their cable companies. He said the
issue was increasingly important since the price
for "expanded basic" cable has doubled since 1996. (Published reports)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: HAM POLICE OFFICER INJURED IN THE LINE OF DUTY

A Southern California ham well known for his work
in helping to remove repeater jammer Jack
Gerritsen, the ex-KG6IRO, from the airwaves has
been injured in a traffic accident. This with
word that Los Angeles County Deputy Sheriff
Burton Brink, N6USO, was hurt in an on-duty
traffic collision the morning of June 6th.

The accident occurred when a driver tried to exit
the carpool lane on the Interstate 10
freeway. Driving in a carpool lane requires two
or more occupants in the vehicle. This driver
was alone and according to a report from the San
Gabriel Valley Radio Club, a California Highway
Patrol unit was ahead when the driver tried to
avoid a ticket for a carpool violation. The
driver did not check for a clear lane and
collided with Brink who was on motorcycle patrol.

N6USO was admitted to the County USC Medical
Center in Los Angeles where it was determined
that he had sustained multiple rib fractures, a
punctured lung, and lacerated spleen, as well as
associated road rash. His injuries, though

serious, do not appear to be life threatening.

A career law enforcement officer, Burton Brink has been with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department since 1989. Prior to that he was an Officer with Monterey Park Police Dept. from 1982 to 1989, and an Arcadia Police Explorer Cadet from 1977 to 1982.

N6USO is also the owner of the 145.440 MHz repeater located on Southern California's Sunset Ridge. This was one of many repeaters targeted for jamming and harassment by Jack Gerritsen during the years prior to his latest arrest and 7 year jail sentence that he is currently serving. A trained investigator, Brink stood his ground against Gerritsen and is among those credited as helping to bring Gerritsen before the bar justice.

Get well wishes can be sent to Burton Brink, N6USO, at his callbook address. (SGVARC, WA6ILQ)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: CATHERINE DEATON TO RETIRE FROM THE FCC

The FCC employee also generally credited with sending radio jammer Jack Gerritsen to prison will be retiring from the Commission on August 3rd. This with word that Catherine Deaton, who heads FCC Enforcement Bureau's Los Angeles field office will be leaving government service following 40 years that includes 10 years as an undercover narcotics agent and the past 27 years working at the FCC.

Bob Gonsett, W6VR, who writes the CGC Communicator calls Deaton a breath of fresh air for the L.A. field office. In his June 19th edition, he noted that ubder her guidance the Los Angeles bureau's door has been open to all inquiries and concerns, the attitude of the office has been positive and the results impressive.

After August 3, Deaton plans to do a bit of traveling, help her daughter in her medical services business and fully exercise her gym membership. If you'd like to send her your best wishes, e-mail her at Catherine.Deaton@fcc.gov (CGC)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: CONGRESS TO HONOR "MR WIZARD"

A follow up to our story last week on the passing of television's first ever teacher of science and

technology. On Monday, June 18th the U.S. House of Representatives honored Don Herbert, better known as "Mr. Wizard," in a resolution passed on the House floor.

Representative Vernon Ehlers of Michigan co-sponsored the resolution to honor Herbert, who died of cancer at the age of 89. In his sponsorship statement Ehlers said that the "Mr. Wizard" show laid the groundwork for the educational television genre that later spawned cable channels devoted to science, like the Discovery Channel. The show also created Mr. Wizard Science Clubs nationwide with 5000 such groups operating by 1995.

Ehlers stated that as a child, he didn't have TV, but he read science magazines his sister gave him that she would get from her high school science class. Ehlers said that he would then perform his own home experiments from the magazines. He closed by noting that he was happy to co-sponsor Don Herbert's official recognition by the Congress of the United States. (Published Reports)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

ON THE AIR: W8HC TO COMMEMORATE MARCONI

2007 marks the centennial of those first signals generated from Marconi's historic station in the United Kingdom. To commemorate this event, as well as radio's first-ever commercial venture, Hal Turley, W-8-H-C has announced a special amateur radio operation from two locations central to Marconi as a pioneer in wireless technology. Once again, Jeramy Boot, G4NJH, is in Nottingham, with more:

--

On Saturday and Sunday, August 4 and 5, Turley will operate portable G I from from Ballycastle. He will be also taking part in the

annual Marconi Festival at Ballycastle with the
Marconi Radio Group's special event station
MN0MRG on Sunday, August 5th. On Monday, August
6, Hal will ferry over to Rathlin Island and operate from East Lighthouse.

Leaving Northern Ireland, Hal will arrive in
Clifden on Wednesday, August 8 where he will
operate portable E I at the Derrygimla site on
August 9th and 10th. It is hoped that some
operating time can also occur from nearby
Letterfrack, site of an ancillary receive station
built in 1912 to allow for full duplex operation of the transatlantic
signals.

Contacts will be confirmed via Logbook to the
World and special QSLs from each of these
historic Marconi locations will be printed and
sent via the Global QSL system at
www.globalqsl.com. In addition, a specially
designed certificate will be issued to those
stations making contact with both GI and EI
operations from either Ballycastle or Rathlin and Derrygimla or Letterfrack.

I'm Jeramy Boot, G4NJH

--

In keeping with the historic accuracy of the
original Marconi transmissions, all QSOs from
these locations will be CW only. (GB2RS)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: MICROWAVE SDR RADIO BEING DEVELOPED

Radio amateurs interested in the microwave bands
may find the Microwave Software Defined Radio
project interesting. Its goal is to provide a
transceiver operating on the 144, 422, 1268, 2400
MHz and above bands, covering the whole of each
band. Full duplex cross-band operation is also
planned specifically for satellite use. More
details are on line at the Microwave Software
Defined Radio website. Its in cyberspace at
http://uwsdr.berlios.de (G8UBN for the uWSDR team)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: JPL CONGRATULATES AMSAT-DL ON VOYAGER 1 INTERCEPT

The Flight Team that oversees NASA's Voyager One
deep space probe has congratulated AMSAT Germany
on its reception of a signal from the
spacecraft. In March 2006, the signal from

Voyager 1 was received by the AMSAT D-L team
using the 20 meter dish in Bochum.

Voyager 1 is the furthest object away from earth
to be built by humans. As a token of their
collective appreciation, the controllers not
only confirmed the reception report. They also
sent Amsat Germany a photo of the Voyager
Flight That picture can be found on line at
http://www.amsat-dl.org//index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id2
&Itemid□
(Southgate, AMSAT-DL)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: ME AND MY BABY - MONITOR

An elementary school science teacher in this
Chicago suburb didn't have to turn on the news
for an update on the now concluded STS 117 space
shuttle mission. This was because her baby
monitor decided to become a shuttle mission video
delivery service of its very own.

Beginning on Sunday, June 10th, one of the two
channels on Natalie Meilinger's baby monitor
began picking up video from inside the space
shuttle Atlantis. Summer Infant Products which
manufactured the remote monitoring system said
that it is investigating what could be causing
the video to appear on Meilingers unit but is so
far baffeled. Company Communications Director
Cindy Barlow said that she never heard of anything similar happening.

Meantime, NASA had its say as well. Spokesperson
Brandi Dean issued a statement denying that the
signal Meilinger was seeing was not coming
directly from the shuttle. She noted that the
live video is available on NASA's Web site, so
it's possible the monitor was picking up a signal
from some localized rebroadcast.

So far it does not look as if any local hams or
ham radio retransmission of NASA video is
responsible. More likely it's a neighbor with
one of those in home television rebroadcast units
used to send cable or satellite delivered
television to other rooms. (Published reports)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: THE FLORIDA AMSAT NET WANTS SPEAKERS

The Florida AMSAT net is looking for satellite operators who are willing to be a guest speaker on their Thursday night net. The repeater network used in this network covers half the state of Florida. An echolink connection is available for all others. Please contact Drew Glasbrenner by e-mail to ko4ma@amsat.org if you are interested. (ANS)

**

WORLDBEAT - UK: HAM SCOUTING CLUB GETS GRANT

The U-K based Chesterfield and District Scouts Amateur Radio Club has recently received a National Lottery Grant from that bnations Awards for All Fund. The club was given the equivalent of $10,000 that it will use to purchase new radio equipment, computers, a portable generator and a mini marquee.

The club intends to support members who are Scouts in gaining their amateur radio licenses and in development of their skills. They also want to develop Amateur Radio Direction Finding techniques by purchasing equipment which will allow the club to demonstrate amateur radio within the scouting community in Derbyshire. (Southgate)

**

WORLDBEAT- SWEEDEN: THE ANNUAL SAQ ALTERNATOR ON JULY 1

The annual transmission on 'Alexanderson Day' with Sweden's Alexanderson alternator on the VLF frequency of 17.2 kHz will take place Sunday July 1st. The operation takes place at 09:00 U-T-C and will be repeated at 13:00 UTC. There will also be activity on amateur radio frequencies with the call SK6SAQ.

QSL cards are appreciated. They can go direct or via the Swedish Amateur Association QSL bureau. More is on-line at www.alexander.n.se (Southgate)

**

WORLDBEAT - USA: CARF ESTABLISHES ECHOLINK NET

Back in the United States, word from Lloyd Colston, KC5FM, that t the Christian Amateur Radio Fellowship has established a new network on Echolink. Using the K6JWN conference server number 127901, the net meets Saturday at 1400 UTC. Christian hams from around the world are invited to participate. More is on-line at www.carf.net (KC5FM)

**

DX

In DX, word from O-P-D-X that DL7DF will be leading a DXpediton team to East Africa. The group plans to be active as 9U0A between September 26th and October 9th. Operation will be on 160 through 6 meters using CW, SSB, SSTV and digital modes. There will be a special emphasis on the lower bands and digital operations Pilot station for this DXpedition is Bernd, DF3CB. QSL via DL7DF, either direct or by the German QSL Bureau.

Approval has been granted for the use of the Special Prefix VR10 in addition to VR2 for Hong Kong radio amateurs. This from July 1st of this year through June 20th 2008 to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Hong Kong's reunification with China. More details are available in the OFTA letter for HongKong Radio Amateurs, which can be found at www.ofta.gov.hk/en/amateur/ama-cir200706.pdf.

Lastly, the Southgate News says that the Scarborough Reef Dxpedition team has uploaded a partial log containing QSOs for those DXers who supported the BS7H operation to the ARRL Loogbook to the World website. The group says that this is a special 'Thank You' to those who made the effort to support their operation. The team adds that there will be additional periodic uploads Loogbook to the World as QSL'ing proceeds. A full upload will be done as soon as the bulk of the direct QSLs are answered. Direct cards are expected to start going out in early July. (Above from various DX news sources)

**

HAM RADIO ON THE WEB: REPEATER HISTORY - A VICARIOUS TRIP BACK TO WR6ABE

If you want to take a look back at repeater technology of the mid-1970's, have we got a website for you. Actually the website is YouTube.com and its where Steve Jensen, W6RHM, has posted some great video transfers shot on film in 1976 by his father, the late Bob Jensen, W6VGQ.

The four short movie clips feature a trip to California's original Mount Wilson two meter repeater, WR6ABE. Even better, the travelogue is hosted by the repeater's creator, Burt Weiner, K6OQK:

--

K6OQK audio here. Hear it in the MP3 version of
the newscast downloadable at www.arnewsline.org

--

Weiner narrates from two locations. Both the
actual repeater site overlooking the Los Angeles
basin and what you just heard from the control
point at his former home. As a bonus, you get to
meet many of the systems users from that era who
helped to make this obscure repeater into a
legend of the golden age of ham radio relay station development.

Its truly a trip back in time to an era when
tubes were still king and repeaters used a lot of them. Look for it at:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xb7r3_n1wBo
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_pjJfz8RHsg
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ik6LUs60S9c
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u7Udq98j0EM)

(Information supplied by W6RHM)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the
CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio
Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the
RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A
News, that's all from the Amateur Radio
Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is
newsline@arnewsline.org. More information is
available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only
official website located at
www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or
support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), P.O. Box
660937, Arcadia, California 91066.

Before we go, a reminder of our latest on-line
poll. It asks what is your favorite major U.S.
ham radio magazine. You vote at www.arnewsline.org.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the
editors desk, I'm Don Wilbanks, AA4DW, saying 73
and we thank you for listening.

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1161. BPL

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-22 14:31:40 UTC
From: Ralph E Lindberg <n7bsn@callsign.net>
Message-ID: <n7bsn-A8579D.07222322062007@individual.net>
Source record: 4216

In article <cgob73tupa281g2g4c4boecldgbbfc5emb@4ax.com>,
Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:

...
>
> My personal opinion is that BPL will self-destruct on economic grounds
> if we amateurs can just hold out long enough.
>
Not competitive is my take, other methods will bet it and it will die

--

Personal e-mail is the n7bsn but at amsat.org
This posting address is a spam-trap and seldom read
RV and Camping FAQ can be found at
http://www.ralphandellen.us/rv

1162. Re: Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-22 15:17:08 UTC
From: k8mn@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1182525397.607007.244940@w5g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4217

On Jun 19, 2:50 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> Folks,
>
> What are people doing for Field Day this year?
>
> 73 de Jim, N2EY

N8NN and I will be on the grounds of his place near Moundsville, WV. The Class 1B operation will be mostly CW. We've geared up to snag some of the bonus points. We'll be operating with my call.

We have a promise from a WV State Senator to visit. We'll have a sign, table with literature on amateur radio and a visitors log. We'll copy the annual FD message and pass a message via NTS.

It is highly likely that we'll have some hamburger prepared using emergency methods (on a propane grill). My wife and I will sleep in simulated emergency conditions in Bert's motor home. In an actual emergency, we'd have to fire up the motor home's 10 KW diesel generator. Radio power will come from a little 2 KW Honda gasoline generator.

We'll skip the extra hours of operation and put up our antennas this afternoon.

73,

Dave K8MN

1163. [DXNL] DXNL 1524 (Jun 20, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-22 22:07:36 UTC
From: Robert Busch - DL7VOA <dxnl@dxhf.darc.de>
Message-ID: <021624424.20070622193941@dxhf.darc.de>
Source record: 4218
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.dx,rec.radio.info

DXNL 1524 - Jun 20, 2007
DX Newsletter

a free and weekly service of
DARC Committee "DX and HF contesting"
(http://www.darcdxhf.de)

editor: Helmut Schlaffer, DL7MAE
(e-mail: dxnl@dxhf.darc.de)

translation by: Bob, DL7VOA
(e-mail: dl7voa@darc.de)

C5 - GAMBIA
Darren,G0TSM, is QRV as C52T mostly on 6m from Jun 19-29.QSL via G0TSM.

HB0 - LIECHTENSTEIN
On their way to the HAM RADIO in Friedrichshafen/Germany F2JD, F5JY, F6BFH and N6OX will make a stopover in Liechtenstein. They will be active as HB0/homecalls in CW/SSB on HF and 6m from Jun 19-22.

HP - PANAMA, NA-170
Bert,CX3AN, and Mario,CX4CR, are planning to activate an island in the San Blas archipelago (NA-170) signing HP2/homecalls or 3E2/homecalls from Jun 22-28. With this DXpedition Bert is going to celebrate his "DXCC Full House" which he accomplished with his BS7H QSO. This is already their 15th trip together after activating five continents over the past 20 years.

J7 - DOMINICA, NA-101
J79RM will be the callsign of Rod,NA9N, in CW and digital modes on HF between Jun 28 and Jul 5. QSLs via his homecall.

KH3 - JOHNSTON ISLAND, OC-023
Susan,KH3/W7KFI, should have appeared on the bands last weekend already but strong toothache forced her to return to Honolulu only shortly after leaving the port. She wrote this brings her a delay of two weeks but you can expect her to show up from Johnston (OC-023) for one week around Jun 30. Her preferred frequencies in CW are 36 kHz from the band edge and in SSB 14.236. Her QSL manager is K6FAF.

KH6 - HAWAII, OC-019
Setsu,JL1UXH (KK2H), and his XYL Maki,7L4FSR, are working from Oahu from Jun 19-22. The call of their "holiday style" DXpedition is KK2H/KH6 and can be found mainly on the WARC bands (also in RTTY) and on 6m. QSL via JL1UXH.

OZ - DENMARK
New prefixes have been issued in Denmark this March. Besides of OZ
following prefixes were assigned to amateur radio: OU, OV, 5P and 5Q.
The new call of Joergen,OZ8AE, will be OV3X. He has participated in
the WPX CW Contest as 5P1ER a few years ago and received many QSLs
for HP1ER afterwards.

3A - MONACO
Eli,N6PF, is celebrating his 60th birthday with a DX trip. He will be
guest OP of Laura,3A2MD, signing 3A/N6PF from Jun 25-30. QSLs via N6PF.

3V - TUNISIA
Matthias,DD9HK, will be guest OP at the clubstation 3V8SS from Jun 21
until Jul 5. QSLs ONLY for this operation of 3V8SS via DD9HK.

5B - CYPRUS, AS-004
Mike,G0HIO, will stay on Cyprus (AS-004) from Jun 23-30. He will work
with 100 watts and wires signing 5B/G0HIO in CW only. Skeds can be
arranged via e-mail to g0hio@tesco.net

FRANCE, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
TM0GP is working from the Formula 1 race course in Nevers Magny-Cours
between Jun 18 and Jul 1. QSLs will be sent via bureau automatically.

THE NETHERLANDS, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
The famous cheese city Edam is celebrating its 650th anniversary at
the moment and the special event station PC650EDAM (QSL via PD3BL)
is active until Jul 1. See also: http://www.veron.nl/afdeling/waterland

LINKS: Online logs of 3B7SP can be found at the following address:
http://3b6.godx.eu/index.php?option=com_searchlog&Itemid=68

Like every year there will be a DXCC checkpoint at the HAM RADIO in
Friedrichshafen. All information you need about that can be found at:
http://www.arrl.org/blog/DXCC%20Dialog

Current SOTA activities (mountain summits) are announced at:
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/activations.php or
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/spots.php

UPCOMING CONTESTS

Jun 23/24: King of Spain Contest

IOTA collected by Fredy,DE0MST (e-mail: iota@dxhf.darc.de)

Island activities:
EU-050, IL7, Tremiti Islands: Antonello,IL7/IK2DUW, is working from the
island San Domino (IIA FG-001) until Jun 23. QSL via homecall (d/b).

EU-102, UA1, Pechorskoye Sea Coast Centre Group: UE1RFF/1 (QSL via UA1RJ)
activated by Albert,UA1PBU, and Mike,UA1QV, is QRV from Jun 21-24.

EU-121, EI, Irish Coastal Islands: EI/G3ZAY/p, EI/M0HSW/p and EI/M0TJH/p
will be QRV from Inishbofin Island from Jun 25-27. QSLs via homecalls.

Announced operations for the IOTA Contest 2007 (July 28/29):
Callsign Island IOTA

IH9/IT9BLB Pantelleria AF-018
4X7AZ Akhziv AS-100
F5OGG/p Noirmoutier EU-064
GM0B Isle of Bute EU-123
DR6IOTA Usedom EU-129
4M5DX Grp Cayo Sombrero SA-089

Lighthouse activities (ARLHS/WLOTA):

IL7/IK2DUW LH 1284/ITA 245 -23.6.
WP4NRT LH 2802 30.6.-01.7.
ES0FTZ LH 1401 11.-21.7.
PY1ERR/p LH 0714/BRA 062 12.-15.7.
TO5J LH 1041 14.-28.7.
SX5AS LH 0393 17.-23.7.
TM7BA LH 0680 28.7.-04.8.
CU8T LH 0947 28./29.7.
IH9/IT9BLB LH 0041/ITA 110 28./29.7.
W6I LH 1300 28./29.7.
CT3MD LH 3365/MAD 009 resident
CT3FT LH 3365/MAD 009 resident

Bandspots of the last 7 days

160m
3B7SP 1.821 2350Z via SP9SX (B)

80m
YB1A 3.793 2040Z
3B7SP 3.520 2055Z via SP9SX (B)
9X0VB 3.502 2110Z via UA4WHX (B)

40m
3B7SP 7.019 2030Z via SP9SX (B)
9X0VB 7.001 2305Z via UA4WHX (B)

30m
FY/G3TXF 10.119 2225Z via G3TXF (B)
HI0C 10.126 2220Z RTTY, via ON4IQ
HV0A 10.102 2220Z via IK0FVC (d, L)
TR8CA 10.105 0518Z via F6CBC (d)
3B7SP 10.120 1840Z via SP9SX (B)
5H3EE 10.102 2045Z via DL4SM (B)
9X0VB 10.105 2258Z via UA4WHX (B)

20m
D44BS 14.218 1850Z see QRZ.com

FY/G3SXW 14.022 2155Z via G3SXW (B)
3B7SP 14.020 0620Z via SP9SX (B)
9X0VB 14.215 0610Z via UA4WHX (B)

17m
C31JM 18.121 1100Z
CO8LY 18.136 2310Z via EA7ADH (B)
HC7AE 18.121 2330Z via EA7FTR (B)
OY/PA3BAG 18.139 1253Z EU-018, via PA0VHA (B)
T77M 18.126 0920Z (B)
VP5KE 18.120 2339Z via N4KE
VQ9LA 18.084 1640Z see QRZ.com
3B7SP 18.081 0757Z via SP9SX (B)
9X0VB 18.068 2030Z via UA4WHX (B)

15m
CP6XE 21.280 2104Z via IK6SNR
3B7SP 21.084 1329Z RTTY, via SP9SX (B)

12m
A45WD 24.897 1536Z via YO9HP (B)
J28JA 24.935 1531Z via F5JFU (B)
YM3CC 24.958 1608Z via LX1CC (B)
9X0VB 24.940 1526Z via UA4WHX (B)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager

Preview

DATE CALL DXNL

25Jun-30Jun 3A/N6PF 1524 *
07Sep-24Sep 3B7C 1511
Nov/Dec 3D2AG/Rot. 1522
29Aug-2007 3XM6JR 1484
21Jun-05Jul 3V8SS 1524 *
02Jun-30Jun 5B/G3RWF 1521
23Jun-30Jun 5B/G0HIO 1524 *
-Apr/08 5H0RS 1515
-Apr/08 6W/EA4ATI 1515
01Apr-09Sep 8N3IAAF 1513
2007 9N7JO 1501
NOW 9X0VB 1523

-Apr/09 A52VE 1512
-Nov A61TX 1496
19Jun-29Jun C52T 1524 *
09Sep-14Sep CQ4IPY 1522
-Feb/08 DP0GVN 1496
2007/2008 EI100S(I) 1501

-30Nov EW905B 1523
01Jul-15Jul FV5VDM 1520
Mar 2008 FO/Clipp. 1521

19Jun-22Jun HB0/F2JD.. 1524 *
15Jun-22Jun HB0/PA0ABM 1523
14May-30Jun HF750C 1521
01Jun-30Jun HG7DANUBE 1522
22Jun-28Jun HP (NA-170) 1524 *
2006 -2008 J28JA 1484/85
28Jun-05Jul J79RM 1524 *
-Aug JA7QVK/DU7 1521

30Jun-07Jul KH3/W7KFI 1524 *
19Jun-22Jun KK2H/KH6 1524 *
15Jun-28Jun KP4/IT9OPR 1523
14Jun-23Jun NA6DF/HI7 1523
-Jun OD5/CT1EFS 1515
-Aug OD5/ON4JM 1522
-30Jul OX3PG 1501
14Jun-25Jun OX (DLs) 1523
19Jun-01Jul PC650EDAM 1524 *
16Jun-22Jun SY8WT 1523

12Jun-24Jun TA4/GI4FUE 1523
-30Jun TC800YOM 1522
NOW -2008 TL8QC 1459
18Jun-01Jul TM0GP 1524 *
NOW -Sep TU2/F5LDY 1486
Jan -Dec VI3SAA 1499
Feb 2008 VP6DX/Ducie 1521
May -Aug VP6TD 1517
Apr -Jul VQ9JC 1512
22Jun-24Jun YE7M 1523
07Jun-21Jun YM3CC 1521
-Sep ZD9BCB 1500

* = new
.. = and other calls

QSL information

CQ4IPY via CT1BWW (B)
CT/F5CWU via F5CWU (B)
EA8/G8BCG via G8BCG
EA8/PA3BWK via PA0ZE
EE1TEA via EA1UY
EG1SEM via EA1AUM (B)
GB2MOP via GW7EUL
GB2NWA via G0TOC (B)
GB4BP via G4HOY
GB4COS via G0KEV (B)

GB4EDS via G4TUA
GB4GS via GM0FSZ
GB4HSC via G0LUQ
GB4ICC via G8BLS
GB4NSR via G7VRK
GB4TVS via G0RVE
GB5COS via M0MRC
GB5CUB via G6CJR
GB5HCC via G3YPW
GB0ASG via GM0GOV
GB0BP via GW0RQS
GB0BWT via MM0DHQ
GB0CSD via G0KDB
GB0DDS via G4CXT (B)
GB0FCA via (B) or G3ELV
GB0FSA via G7EGQ
GB0HCS via M1BYQ
GB0HWC via G4LKW
GB0PP via G4LKW
GB0RSC via GW7VJK (B)
GB0WOR via G0WXJ
GP3GWB/p via M0DOL
GP8LED/p via M0DOL
GS3RCM via (B) or G4FAL (d)
GW4FUF via G4FUF (B)
GW0AAA/p via G3TXF (B)
HB0/DK4SFW via DK4SFW (B)
HF100SK via SP7ZIA (B)
HF30PIK via SP2FAX
HF500C via SP4GFG
HF750WS via SP9PKM (B)
HG46FC via HA5BSW (L)
HG7DANUBE via HA7VY
HI0C via ON4IQ (d, 6/2007)
HK3Q via (B) or W2GR (d)
HP1BYS via EA5KB (B)
HP1DCP via EA5KB (B)
IC8TO via IZ1GCZ (B)
IE9/I5HLK via I5HLK (B)
IG9/IW2NOD via IW2NOD (B)
IG9/IZ1HGP via IZ1HGP (B)
IM0/IQ5MT via IZ5GST (B)
IM0/K7QB via IN3QBR
IQ3UD via IV3DSH
IQ6CC via IZ8DDG (B)
IR1ALP via IK1AAS
IR1IPY via IZ1GJK (B)
IR2IPY via IK2DUW (B)
IR9DX via IW9HLM (B/L)
IS0/DL2RBB via DL2RBB (B)

IS0/DL8SBX via DL8SBX
IS0N via OK1MG (B)
IT9PQO (d)
IU9S via IT9BLB (B)
IU0IPY via I0YKN (B)
J48MDC via IZ8CCW (B)
JW/OZ0R via OZ1ING
JW1CCA via LA1CCA (B)
KH2RU/KP4 via KP4RD
KP4AH via WP4AYR
LA/DG0CH/p via DG0CH
LA/DL1DWR via DL1DWR
LS1D via LW9EOC
LU2FO via EA5KB (B)
LX9UN via LX1NJ (B)
LX0SAR via DK5VD
LY2AAM via DL3BQA (B)
LZ5FF via LZ1PM (B)
LZ07KM via LZ1PJ (B)
MM0AWJ via GM6OFO
M0VDX via M0PRO (d)
MQ0CDO via MW0CDO
MU5MUF via GU6AJE
MW1BGE via MW0CPZ
MW0CFF via JG1VGX
MW0EVS via GW1IOT (B, eQSL)
MX5CDS via G8GNZ
MX0RSC via G6OKU (B)
OD5/CT1EFS via CT1CJJ (B)
OL1B via OK1KOK
OL1C via OK1ONA
OL1CC via OK1CC
OL1HQ via OK1FLM (B)
OL1JDC via OK2RZ (B)
OL1S via OK2ER
OL1Z via OK2LC
OL3P via OK1DOH
OL3Z via OK1HMP
OL40RZ via OK2RZ (B)
OL5DX via OK1KCF
OL5L via OK1DXF

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = Logbook of the World (LotW)

QSLs arrived direct: N8S (via YT1AD), ZM8CW and 3D2RW (both via ZL1AMO),
9Q1D (SM5BFJ)

QSLs arrived via buro: C50I (via EA3BT), CT3/PA0RRS, EA6/DL6ERO, FP/W8MV,
HK6PIJ (EA5KB), J5UTM (HA7TM), KH2/K1IWD (HL1IWD),
LA/DL8RM (EU-055), LA/IK3GES/p (EU-076), OA4/DL5SE,
LA/DM2KL (EU-055), OY/PA2M, VU4AN/VU3RWP (JH4RHF),
SV5/OK1FCJ, YW4C (SA-058, IT9DAA), 3B8/OM2TW (OM2FY),
WP4L, 6W/HB9JOE

QSL via LotW: E21EIC, E51TUG, FY/G3TXF, TF/G4EDG/p, 9M6/JA1WPX,
YT6A

Many thanks for contributing to this issue of the DXNL are going to:
Carl Smith (QRZ DX), 425DXNews, OPDX Bulletin, DF6EX (for WIN-QSL), DJ5AV,
DK8JB, DL1SBF, DL7VOA, DO3ME, F5NQL, OZ8AE, SWL Norbert Maybaum, W7KFI etc.

The German PDF version can be found on the DARC homepage at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/bulls/dxmb/2007/dxmb1524.pdf

_____
Subscribe or unsubscribe to the DXNL mailing list yourself at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedxms.htm

1164. Ham Radio mfgr to merge with JVC

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-23 01:01:08 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1182545539.616623.70780@a26g2000pre.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4219
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Osaka, Japan - Kenwood has agreed to merge with Victor Co. of Japan (JVC), under a holding company in 2008, according to a Nikkei report Friday.

---more at---> http://www.twice.com/article/CA6454759.html

1165. The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 25 (Friday, June 22, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-23 02:31:04 UTC
From: ARRL Letter Mailing List <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <200706230228.l5N2S1hv026436@linux11676.dn.net>
Source record: 4220
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

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***************
The ARRL Letter
Vol. 26, No. 25
June 22, 2007
***************

IN THIS EDITION:

* + Field Day Is Here!
* + Field Day from the South Pole
* + Field Day from Space
* + Field Day from W1AW
* + ARRL Membership Numbers Climbing
* + July QST Hits the Streets
* Solar Update
* IN BRIEF:
This Weekend on the Radio
ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Course Registration
+ ARRL Staff Members Meet in Germany
+ The 2006 ARRL Annual Report Is Here
ARRL Editors Attend Conference
FCC Commissioner Gets Presidential Nod to Continue; Awaits
Confirmation
ARRL E-Mail Going Strong
Let Us Know
Corrections and Clarifications

+Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/>

============================================================
==>Delivery problems: First see FAQ
<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/faq.html#nodelivery>, then e-mail
<letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
==>Editorial questions or comments only: S. Khrystyne Keane,
<k1sfa@arrl.org>
============================================================

==> Field Day Is Here!

For almost 100 years, Amateur Radio operators across the country have
been providing emergency communications when other systems failed or
were overloaded in a crisis. Each year, operators take their equipment
into unusual locations to test communications capabilities and make sure
Amateur Radio will always be there to get the message through. This
year, more than 70 years after the very first Field Day, thousands of
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ham radio operators will be showing off their emergency capabilities this Field Day weekend. Field Day is the largest on-the-air operating event today.

Amateur Radio is about knowledge and growth. According to ARRL Field Day Coordinator Dan Henderson, N1ND, "Amateur Radio is a service that truly offers 'something for everyone.' It is a chance to learn and grow, but above all, Amateur Radio is about fun where we learn, share, and just have a good time. And for many, there is perhaps nothing more fun than ARRL Field Day. Old friendships are renewed and new ones created. We become both teacher and student during Field Day weekend -- sharing our experience while learning new things."

Henderson said that Amateur Radio "stands at a juncture where we can embrace both the old and new. While CW, or Morse code, may no longer be a testing element, it is still a strong and favorite operating mode of tens of thousands of operators." More and more operators are embracing digital technologies, from RTTY to the newer digital modes like PSK31 and Olivia. And phoneband expansion has brought about a growth in this traditionally popular mode.

Henderson calls Field Day "the time where we bring Amateur Radio to Main Street USA. By setting up in parking lots, malls, Emergency Operations Centers, parks and even at home, amateur operators learn skills that will allow them to better serve their communities. Setting up in these public venues gives added public relations value -- their friends and neighbors can see and experience the fun and public service capability that their 'ham radio' neighbors bring to their towns. High visibility helps get the Amateur Radio message out to the community."

Keep in mind two minor rule changes for Field Day 2007. First, while working for the satellite contact bonus, you are limited to making only one QSO when using any of the single-channel FM satellites. This will allow more stations to access this very limited resource.

The second change involves the bonus points for GOTA (Get-On-The-Air) stations. The number of QSOs required to attain the bonus changes from 50 down to 20, and continues in multiples of 20 up to 100 QSOs per GOTA operator -- 20 bonus points for each 20 QSOs completed. For more information on Field Day rules and procedures, check out the Field Day packet or go to the Field Day Web site available at <http://www.arrl.org/contests/forms/fd-2007-packet.pdf>.

==> Field Day from the South Pole

It's not just Field Day here on the continental United States - it's also Field Day on the South Pole! Robert Reynolds, Nï¿½QFQ, a ham down at Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station, said all three US bases on the Pole will be on the air for Field Day.

Amundsen-Scott, KC4AAA; Palmer Station, KC4AAC, and McMurdo Station, KC4/W1MRQ, will be operating on 40 meters around 7.235 MHz and on 20 meters around 14.243 MHz throughout the event. McMurdo will also be

operating CW on 7.028 MHz. Since the Pole at this time of year is in total darkness, Reynolds says 40 meters will be the better band.

Reynolds went on to say that Amundsen-Scott will be on the air throughout the entire 24 hour event. Palmer and McMurdo, he said, will be on the air "as much as possible."

Please send QSLs for Amundsen-Scott, Palmer and McMurdo to QSL Manager Larry Skilton, K1IED, 72 Brook St, South Windsor, CT 06074.

==> Field Day from Space

ARRL Field Day Coordinator Dan Henderson, N1ND, reports that he was contacted several weeks ago NASA regarding the International Space Station's participation during Field Day this year.

"As in past years, there is the usual 'soft' plan for at least one of the stations on the ISS being activated for a time during Field Day. As always, this is dependent on the astronauts' work schedule, and always subject to last minute change," Henderson said.

For each of the past five or six years, at least one of the residents of the ISS has made an appearance during Field Day. Stations should check the ISS passes - "No guarantees," Henderson said. "But if it happens, it sure builds the excitement at a Field Day site."

You can find out just when the ISS will pass over your Field Day site at spaceflight.nasa.gov/realdata/sightings/index.html.

==> Field Day from W1AW

The Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station, W1AW, located at ARRL Headquarters in Newington, Connecticut, will be hosting their own Field Day event. ARRL HQ staff and visitors will be operating W1AW the entire 24 hour Field Day period.

W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, said, "If you are in the area, please stop by and say hello. You are certainly welcome, and this is a wonderful chance to operate W1AW in a fun environment." W1AW will be open to visitors during Field Day on Saturday between 2-9 PM EDT and 9 AM-2 PM EDT on Sunday.

Carcia noted that there will be times during these hours when Field Day operations will be suspended in order for the scheduled Field Day bulletins to be sent. You can find the W1AW Field Day Bulletin schedule on the Field Day Web site <http://www.arrl.org/contests/forms/fd-2007-w1aw-sked.html>.

==> ARRL Membership Numbers on the Rise

With now close to 152,000 members, the ARRL is going, and growing, strong. ARRL Customer Service Manager Amy Hurtado, KB1NXO, says the "ARRL is a viable, up-to-date organization that every ham should be a part of."

Hurtado credits the rise in membership in part to the FCC rule changes earlier this year that eliminated Morse code testing for the General and Amateur Extra license classes. "Since more people were upgrading their licenses as a result of there being no Morse code requirement, we were successfully able to show them the benefits of being an ARRL member," she said.

One of the many benefits of ARRL membership, Hurtado said, is the monthly subscription to QST, the official journal of the ARRL. Other benefits of ARRL membership include a QST/QEX/NCJ index search on the ARRL Web site; operating awards; outgoing QSL service; access to the Technical Information Service; available ham radio equipment insurance program and more. Members can also get an arrl.net e-mail address through the ARRL e-mail forwarding service.

Hurtado went on to say that new, renewing and lapsed members can join the ARRL in many ways. "About 40-50 percent of membership enrollment is online. We also have people join after taking a licensing exam, by calling us on the phone, by answering a direct mail package or by joining up at their local hamfest."

If you are interested in joining the ARRL or renewing your present membership, please see the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/join>.

==> July QST Hits the Streets

If you haven't received the July issue of QST, just wait, because it's on its way! QST, the official journal of the ARRL, is the members-only magazine featuring all the latest Amateur Radio news and technology.

This month, QST and the ARRL get ready to head to Huntsville, Alabama, site of the 2007 ARRL National Convention, held in conjunction with the Huntsville Hamfest. The convention, scheduled for August 18-19, features the ARRL Expo, a special exhibit area with ARRL program representatives, activities, presentations and the huge ARRL bookstore.

On the technical side, the July issue offers articles on how to get on 24 GHz, a balloon-lifted full-wave loop antenna and a keyboard that lets you send CW when your fingers can't. QST Technical Editor Joel R. Hallas, W1ZR also reviews the new Ten-Tec Omni VII HF/6 meter transceiver.

For those interested in the latest in Amateur Radio news, you will be sure to find it in the July issue. Hallas and QST Managing Editor Joel Kleinman, N1BKE, report on the 2007 Dayton Hamvention, noting that it was "standing room only" at many of the forums and presentations. You can also read about a ham's QRP trek in Ireland, as well as the latest in ARRL and FCC news.

For you contesters out there, read the results articles for the 2006 ARRL 10 Meter Contest, 2007 ARRL RTTY Roundup and the 2007 ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes. Keep in mind that the 2007 ARRL August UHF Contest is coming up, so catch up on the latest rules and information on this contest in the July issue.

As in each and every QST, you will find a wide variety of articles and columns for all hams, covering DXing, vintage gear and cutting edge technology, public service, special events, as well as a schedule of upcoming hamfests, conventions and contests.

==>SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Walking on Sunshine" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: June 23-24 is ARRL Field Day, and it follows a week with no sunspots. As expected, there was a mild geomagnetic upset on Thursday, June 21 when a solar wind stream pushed against Earth's magnetic field. The planetary A index went to 14, a moderate level, but the mid-latitude A index, which affects most of us more directly, was only 8. That number comes from the Fredericksburg Geomagnetic Center near Corbin, Virginia, which is at 38.2 degrees north latitude. Boulder, Colorado provides the mid-latitude A index that we hear on WWV at 18 minutes after each hour, and at 40 degrees north latitude, it produced an A index of 12 for June 21. For the weekend, we might see another sunspot appear by Sunday, so it looks like any 10 meter propagation will be sporadic-E skip, not any great openings based on a higher MUF. Predicted planetary A index for June 22-24, Friday through Sunday, is 15, 10 and 8. Predicted solar flux is 68, 68 and 70. A solar flux value below 70 implies no sunspots, which you can observe along side zero sunspot days at <http://www.sec.noaa.gov/ftpdir/indices/DSD.txt>. Geophysical Institute Prague predicts unsettled to active conditions June 22, unsettled June 23 and quiet June 24-25, quiet to unsettled June 26 and back to quiet June 27-28. The A index and solar flux predictions referenced in the previous paragraph are available at <http://sec.noaa.gov/ftpmenu/forecasts/45DF.html>. After 2100 UTC on Friday, check this again for a June 22 update. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>.

==>IN BRIEF:

* This weekend on the radio: ARRL Field Day is this weekend, June 23-24, 1800-1800 UTC. This weekend also plays host to the following contests: NCCC Sprint Ladder and the Digital Pentathlon on June 22; the Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest, His Majesty King of Spain Contest, (SSB), Marconi Memorial HF Contest and the ARCI Milliwatt Field Day. The Quebec QSO Party has been cancelled. Coming up next weekend, June 30-July 1, the NCCC Sprint Ladder and the Digital Pentathlon are June 29. The WLOTA is June 30-July 1. The RAC Canada Day Contest and SKCC Weekend Sprint are July 1. During the week, the RSGB 80m Club Championship (CW) is July 2, and the ARS Spartan Sprint is July 3. Schedule the Michigan QRP July 4th CW Sprint around your hot dogs and fireworks on July 4-5. See the ARRL Contest Branch page http://www.arrl.org/contests/, the ARRL Contester's Rate Sheet <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rate-sheet/> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more info.

* ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration: Registration remains open through Sunday July 8 for these online courses beginning on Friday July 20: Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 2 (EC-002); Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 3 (EC-003); Antenna Modeling (EC-004); Radio Frequency Propagation (EC-011); HF Digital Communications (EC-005), and VHF-UHF (EC-008). To learn more, visit the CCE Course Listing page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html> or contact the CCE Department <cce@arrl.org>.

* ARRL Staff Members Meet in Switzerland, Germany: ITU-R Working Party 8A just finished up their meeting in Geneva. This group is responsible for most of the land mobile services, plus the amateur and amateur-satellite services, approved the Amateur Service and Amateur-Satellite Service Handbook, to be published by the International Telecommunication Union. The handbook is an overview of the activities of the amateur services, along with existing ITU texts that relate to the two services. This will be published by the ITU in the six official UN languages, and will be a useful guide to administrations in countries where the amateur services may not be well developed. IARU President Larry Price, W4RA, represented the IARU. ARRL Chief Technology Officer Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, is on the US delegation and is chairman of the working group that dealt with the handbook. ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, Price and Rinaldo will meet up with Membership and Volunteer Services Manager Dave Patton, NN1N, and ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, in Friedrichshafen, Germany, Europe's largest hamfest at HAM RADIO 2007. To find out more about HAM RADIO 2007, please see their Web site <http://www.hamradio-friedrichshafen.de/html/en/>.

* ARRL Annual Report: The ARRL's 2006 Annual Report has been published. Highlighting the "Hello" Campaign and other major events in 2006, the report contains information about all of the activities of the ARRL headquarters staff throughout the year as well as summaries by ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, and CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ. According to ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, "The Annual Report is not only useful for showing members the strength of the organization, but it is also a valuable tool in presentations to major public officials. At times they may know little about Amateur Radio, but when they see the quality of the annual report, even before they open it up, they know this is an organization to be taken very seriously. It is indeed a national association and very active. That gets their attention quickly." The 2006 Annual Report is available in both printed format and also on the ARRL Web site. <http://www.arrl.org/announce/annualreport/2006/Annual_Report_2006_web.pdf>

* ARRL Editors Attend Publishing Conference: QST Editor and Publications Manager Steve Ford, WB8IMY, and QST Managing Editor Joel Kleinman, N1BKE, attended the National Society of Association Publications (SNAP) conference in Washington, DC June 13-14. SNAP is an organization made up of nonprofit entities that publish books, magazines, Web sites and other media. The purpose of the conference is to facilitate the exchange of

ideas between organizations, with an eye to improving their media offerings. The conference, entitled "Offset, Online, On Message... Association Publishing on the Cutting Edge," included sessions on practices in corporate publishing, understanding digital readers, measuring reader satisfaction and how to use the Internet to reach a global audience. "Being at the SNAP conference gives us an excellent opportunity to share ideas with other nonprofits to improve our books, magazines and electronic media," said Ford.

* FCC Commissioner Gets Presidential Bid to Continue; Awaits Confirmation: President George W. Bush has announced his intention to nominate Deborah Taylor Tate to a full term as a Commissioner of the Federal Communications Commission. Tate is serving out the remainder of the term of former FCC Chairman Michael Powell. Current FCC Chairman Kevin Martin said of Bush's announcement, "If confirmed, I look forward to continuing to work closely with Commissioner Tate. She has served admirably at the Commission for the past year and a half, and I appreciate her continued dedication to public service. Debi brings important insight to the Commission, including her distinguished career as a leader in state government. Her thoughtfulness, dedication, and leadership have made Debi an invaluable member of the Commission." Among her many responsibilities, Tate serves as Chair of both the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service (Universal Service Joint Board) and the Federal-State Joint Board on Jurisdictional Separations.

* ARRL E-Mail Usage Going Strong: One of the many benefits of ARRL membership is the ARRL e-mail forwarding service, first offered in February 1999. This service allows ARRL members to set up an arrl.net alias e-mail address. When e-mail is sent you at your arrl.net address, it is forwarded to an e-mail address you have designated. According to ARRL Information Services Manager Don Durand, approximately 45 percent of ARRL members take advantage of the e-mail forwarding service. "Using the figures from Wednesday, June 20, we had 876,993 connection attempts and 148,400 actual e-mail deliveries," Durand said. "The difference of 728,593 represents spam that was trapped and not delivered to our members." Durand said the numbers show the e-mail filters do a "pretty good job eliminating spam. Using a combination of filtering software, as well as holding in-bound messages to the accepted standards of transmittal, we are able to remove approximately 90-95 percent of all spam before it reaches a user's inbox."

* Let Us Know: Do you have a favorite part of The ARRL Letter? What kind of stories would you like to see in the Letter? This is your chance to let your voice be heard. Please send your suggestions to ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, at k1sfa@arrl.org. Please title your e-mail "ARRL Letter Suggestions." We look forward to implementing positive suggestions into the Letter.

* Clarifications and Corrections: The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 24 (Friday, June 15, 2007), did not wish to imply the US Senate would be conducting an investigation into Broadband over Power Line issues ("US

Senate to investigate BPL's interference potential to Amateur Radio").
Senate Bill 1629, also known as the Emergency Amateur Radio Interference Protection Act of 2007, stresses the impact the Amateur Radio Service has with regard to emergency communication. The bill, if, and only if, it becomes law, would require the FCC to conduct a study on BPL and report back to House and Senate committees their findings regarding "the interference potential of systems for the transmission of broadband Internet services over power lines."

In the same edition, ElectroMagnetic Compatibility was referred to as Electromagnetic Capability ("ElectroMagnetic Capability Committee meets at ARRL HQ"); it should read "ElectroMagnetic Compatibility" throughout the article.

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The ARRL Letter is published Fridays, 50 times each year, by the American Radio Relay League: ARRL--the National Association for Amateur Radio, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111; tel 860-594-0200; fax 860-594-0259; <http://www.arrl.org>. Joel Harrison, W5ZN, President.

The ARRL Letter offers a weekly e-mail digest of essential and general news of interest to active radio amateurs. Visit the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org> for the latest Amateur Radio news and news updates. The ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/> also offers informative features and columns. ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> is a weekly "ham radio newscast" compiled and edited from The ARRL Letter. It's also available as a podcast from our Web site.

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==>ARRL News on the Web: <http://www.arrl.org>
==>ARRL Audio News: <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> or call 860-594-0384

==>How to Get The ARRL Letter

The ARRL Letter is available to ARRL members free of charge directly from ARRL HQ. To subscribe, unsubscribe or change your address for e-mail delivery:
ARRL members first must register on the Members Only Web Site <http://www.arrl.org/members/>. You'll have an opportunity during registration to sign up for e-mail delivery of The ARRL Letter, W1AW bulletins, and other material. To change these selections--including delivery of The ARRL Letter--registered members should click on the "Member Data Page" link (in the Members Only box). Click on "Modify

membership data," check or uncheck the appropriate boxes and/or change your e-mail address if necessary. (Check "Temporarily disable all automatically sent email" to temporarily stop all e-mail deliveries.) Then, click on "Submit modification" to make selections effective. (NOTE: HQ staff members cannot change your e-mail delivery address. You must do this yourself via the Members Only Web Site.)

The ARRL Letter also is available to all, free of charge, from these sources:

* ARRLWeb <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>. (NOTE: The ARRL Letter will be posted each Friday when it is distributed via e-mail.)

* The QTH.net listserver, thanks to volunteers from the Boston Amateur Radio Club: Visit Mailing Lists@QTH.Net <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/letter-list>. (NOTE: The ARRL cannot assist subscribers who receive The ARRL Letter via this listserver.)

1166. Re: Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-23 02:52:37 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1182567128.997260.199790@p77g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4221

On Jun 18, 10:50?pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>
> What are people doing for Field Day this year?

Thanks to all who answered my question - and good luck to all who participate in FD 2007.

This year I'll be going out with a club group, running 3A. This FD is part readiness-exercise, part training, part publicity, part contest, and part social event. The first 100 points are already in the log.

If my count is right, this will be FD number 40 for me. Haven't missed one since I was a Novice. Doesn't seem like four decades since those days. Been lucky enough to do FD with big clubs, small clubs, small nonclub groups of a couple hams, and even single-handed. Even had an FD story in QST some years back. Always a lot of fun.

73 es GL de Jim, N2EY

1167. Re: Ham Radio mfgr to merge with JVC

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-23 03:21:36 UTC
From: RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net>
Message-ID: <1182568871.254296.23020@k79g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4222

On Jun 23, 1:01 am, K&#65533;HB <groupk...@earthlink.net> wrote:
> Osaka, Japan - Kenwood has agreed to merge with Victor Co. of Japan
> (JVC), under a holding company in 2008, according to a Nikkei report
> Friday.

This could be interesting! If Kenwood gains access to the JVC distribution channel (including big-box retailers like Circuit City and Best Buy), amateur radio could accidentally get some much needed retail visibility.

As a teen, I got my first 2-meter mobile rig at Sears back in the 70's (actually my Mom bought it as a Xmas gift), an OEM'd version of a Midland 1510. Not sure she'd have been able to shop Henry Radio or AES, but Sears was right down at the local mall.

73,

RDW

1168. Re: Ham Radio mfgr to merge with JVC

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-23 11:09:04 UTC
From: Iitoi <Iitoi@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <f5i4k1$6te$1@aioe.org>
Source record: 4223

"RDWeaver" <weaver5511@mypacks.net> wrote in message
news:1182568871.254296.23020@k79g2000hse.googlegroups.com...

> As a teen, I got my first 2-meter mobile rig at Sears back
> in the 70's(actually my Mom bought it as a Xmas gift), an
> OEM'd version of a Midland 1510.

I think that was a re-badged Midland 13-510 (not 1510). Forget the model number they had on it, but it was only on the market a year or two.

Later (early 80's?) Sears private-labeled a couple of Yaesu 2M rigs, under Model # 3880 and # 3881.

The Man in the Maze
QRS from Baboquivari Peak, AZ

--
Iitoi

1169. Re: Ham Radio mfgr to merge with JVC

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-23 11:09:14 UTC
From: Alan WA4SCA <APBIDDLE@UNITED.NET>
Message-ID: <pdap735m13sogijsv744doq9fe3be6vogi@4ax.com>
Source record: 4224

In other places, there have been discussions about how poor the
Kenwood presentation and offerings were at Dayton. Perhaps there will
be a much needed boost here.

--
Alan
WA4SCA

1170. WIANEWS for week commencing JUNE 17 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-23 11:10:56 UTC
From: nationalnews@wia.org.au
Message-ID: <200706231000.l5NA09B29019@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4225
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,aus.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

This is WIANEWS for week commencing JUNE 17 2007

Mal VK4MAL is currently working with the Red Cross Counter-Disaster division in the flooded areas of the New South Wales Central Coast and Hunter Region.

Mal VK4MAL is Counter-Disaster Co-ordinator for Red Cross in North Queensland and he and hundreds of other volunteers were shipped in from across VK to provide some help for flood weary local volunteers and residents of the disaster zone.

VK2ATZ/portable the Westlakes AR Club were in the thick of things, but were still able, somehow, to score a vantage point to see the container ship which was washed ashore at Nobby's Beach on the Friday morning.

Saturday Westlakes Amateur Radio Club was open....But not for usual business. It was open to the few that braved the weather and answered the calls for help to clean up the debris from the horrible weather suffered the previous night.

Some helping included VK2YPW, VK2AFZ, VK2ZM and Keith VK2PKT, Paul VK2BPL, and Richard VK2FRKO also John VK2FJKG

Then when the Hunter River in Maitland looked like breaking its banks on Sunday, the Volunteer Rescue Association wasted no time in securing the specialist communications skills of WICEN (NSW).

Eight operators from the Hunter Region were deployed at Rutherford, and they were tasked with passing intelligence reports to the services involved, along with monitoring and reporting the river levels at 15 minute intervals. This involved three teams, two at the gauges and one at the control centre; all were alert and busy throughout the night and into the next morning.

As well as this, teams were on stand-by in both the Sydney North and Central Coast Regions, but as the floods abated they were not required; it is worth noting that although members in the Central Coast Region also suffered from the storm, some were still able to respond.

Other VRA squads such as CREST and Cave Rescue were also involved.

The President of the Volunteer Rescue Association, Ray Gill ESM[*], thanked WICEN for their prompt response.

(sourced to TARC Westlakes and Dave Horsfall VK2KFU WICEN (NSW))

[*]

Note: "ESM" is not a callsign, but refers to "Emergency Service Medal".

As shown in this recent Hunter Emergency, we amateur radio operators are community minded and are often keen to benefit our community and others with our equipment and skills. The development of the Wireless Institute of Australia National Network of Emergency Communications is a case in point.

Here is the Vice President of the WIA, Ewan McLeod VK4ERM.

The establishment of the Wireless Institute of Australia National Network of Emergency Communications or WIANNEC is progressing. This is the result of the IARU requirement to be able to provide initial emergency HF communications when required until government and other communications assets are operational and able to take over.

WIANNEC does not usurp the established role and capabilities of WICEN. However, it is anticipated there are WICEN operators and stations capable of satisfying the needs of WIANNEC as are well established stations and contest stations.

What can you do to assist in the planning, establishment and operation of this network in the unfortunate situation where our HF communications capability is required? Well, you must consider these five primary questions:

One. Are you in regular contact with Amateur Radio Stations in the Australasian region that is, is your station's capability proven?

Two. Are you able to support 24 hour operations with our neighbouring countries and nations?

Three. Is there a pool of experienced operators you can call on at short notice to assist in maintaining the 24 hour operation of your station?

Four. Do you have broadband and permanently on internet access?

Five. Are you prepared and able to make your station available for emergency communications in our region?

If you can answer in the affirmative for those five questions then I would appreciate hearing from you. My email address is vk4erm@wia.org.au

This is Ewan VK4ERM looking forward to your communication.

WIA PRESIDENT MICHAEL OWEN VK3KI

I would like to announce some changes that will take effect from 1 July.

>From 1 July 2007 the cost of Family Membership will drop from $40 to $30 per year.

A Family Member does not receive Amateur Radio and is a second or further person living at the same address as a Member or Concession Member receiving Amateur Radio.

The WIA Board hopes that this will encourage more people living at the same address to all become members of the WIA, particularly in this year of high expense associated with the ITU World Radiocommunication Conference next November in Geneva.

Also from 1 July 2007 the WIA will no longer offer membership without the magazine, Amateur Radio. Existing Non-AR memberships will continue.

The Board believes that while the WIA communicates in a number of ways, including broadcasts and the WIA website, the magazine is the only way that the WIA can directly communicate with all members who receive it, and so the non-AR membership is no longer appropriate.

The WIA has been forced to increase the cost of assessments.

Currently all assessment packs are $25. From 1 July 2007 the cost of packs used on or after that date will increase to $35 per pack, irrespective of when the pack was produced.

The assessment packs are for the Foundation qualification (which includes theory, regulations and a practical assessment), the Standard and Advanced Regulations and the Standard Theory and Advanced Theory. Each will cost $35, payable when the pack is used.

The only exception will be a practical assessment taken alone which will remain at $25.

A detailed cost review has revealed that the cost of producing and processing each pack is more than the amount we have been charging, and so other WIA income has been subsidising assessments.

Two reminders:

Please don't forget that the last date for nominations to be received for the Advisory Committees is 22nd June.

Currently we are reviewing the WIA's 'Assessment Instructions'.

That is, how we conduct the whole assessment process.

We have asked each Assessor to identify (with particularity) each part of the Instructions (including the forms) that have caused any difficulty or uncertainty or could be either clarified or simplified, and to make a precise suggestion as to change.

We remind the Assessors to respond and invite any one else who is interested to send your suggestions by post to Dianne Aston, WIA Examinations Officer, PO Box 2175, Caulfield Junction, VIC, 3161, or by email to nationaloffice@wia.org.au, marking your email Assessment Instructions Revision.

We have asked that all suggestions be at the office no later than tomorrow, 18 June 2007.

THE WIA NATIONAL QSL COLLECTION

The WIA QSL card collection contains cards donated by radio amateurs and Short-Wave Listeners from both Australia and overseas, the aim of which is to save 'something for the future'. We are all aware of the great interest shown in such items as vintage cars, antique furniture and heritage buildings. QSL cards also have an archival value in that old QSLs, through their description of radio equipment and comments made by our radio 'old timers', can depict the fascinating world of amateur radio in its early days.

Members of the WIA have reason to be proud of their WIA QSL Collection, for it contains some of the most valuable archival material in the world. The QSL of Reinhartz 1XAM of the USA De Loy of France are here. It was the amateur radio transmission between these two experimenters in November 1923 that bridged the Atlantic for the first time. The QSLs of Frank Bell Z4AA and Cecil Goyder G2SZ are here. It was these experimenters who made the first two-way amateur radio contact between New Zealand and England in 1924.

The Collection has also an excellent range of post war QSLs such as rare DX, IOTA, DOK, Prefix and USA County QSLs, in addition to a thematic collection and a pictorial collection containing some of the world's most attractively designed QSLs.

The WIA appeals to all amateur radio operators and executors of 'silent key' estates to donate QSLs to the Collection. Such donations are acknowledged in the WIA's Amateur Radio magazine, and postage is fully refunded.

Both radio clubs and individuals have the opportunity of purchasing at cost price a DVD portraying a wide range of both pre-war and post-war QSLs. These have proved very popular at Club evenings.

Would you care to help by becoming one of our QSL contributors or a QSL Curator Enquiries should be directed to:

Ken Matchett VK3TL Hon. Curator
Tel: (03 9728 5350
Email: wiaqslcollection@wia.org.au

Thanks Robert, now we have received a letter from Ken, in the letter Ken tells us the he has undergone major surgery and undergoes a period of Radio and Chemo therapy. Ken is urgently appealing to all radio Amateurs particularly those in VK3 to consider become involved in the QSL collection and to help maintain what is probably one of the most valuable QSL collections in the world.

Ken says that even a few hours a week would be helpful. Again the email address to contact Ken is wiaqslcollection@wia.org.au

Following the outstanding success of the Parkes AGM weekend in May and continuing requests for copies of the reports presented at the open forum, WIA Director Robert Broomhead has announced that copies of the bound Open Forum Report Booklet would be available to members and affiliated clubs for $10 per copy including Postage..

This booklet of some 66 pages with glossy front cover pictorial of the 'Dish" will give members who were not at Parkes a good idea of the range of activities that are encompassed within the work of the Wireless Institute on behalf of members and all amateurs", said Robert, "It gives a good overview of the when, where and why of current WIA act ivies"

This text edition is only authorised for re-publication in full on www.wia.org.au on the ax25 ww packet radio bulletin board system and in the early email editions sent from the vk1wia server at national office. Any subsequent copying on newsgroups is a blatant pirated activity.

Appointment of Karl Hennig VK6XW as Intruder Watch Coordinator

Karl Hennig VK6 XW has been appointed by the WIA Board to replace Glenn Dunstan VK4DU who retired at the recent WIA AGM.

The WIA has accepted responsibility as a central clearing house for reports on intrusions from non amateur activities. The WIA Intruder Watch Service is an agreed mechanism with the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA). The Service also links to the international intruder watch for amateur radio, specifically by linkages to the International Amateur Radio Union Region 3 covering our part of the world..

Full details of the WIA Intruder Watch system are available here on the WIA Web site.

The success of the Service in protecting the access of Australian amateurs to the HF depends heavily on the support of active amateurs willing to go that extra mile and submit formal reports about interference

Michael Owen VK3KI, President of the WIA and Phil Wait VK2DKN made special presentations at the NZART AGM June 2.

Michael spoke to the changes in the WIA since his visit two years ago at the New Plymouth Conference in 2005, whilst Phil spoke to Broadband over Power Line issue with a well presented and received presentation.

AROUND VK in 80 Seconds.
(4vks)

VK2

School radio club calling CQ IRLP

The Bishop Druit College Radio Club at Coffs Harbour on the mid-north coast of New South Wales is looking VK, ZL or Asia-Pacific contacts on IRLP.

The students who have been experimenting with building simple FM radio receivers are also keen to have some on air operating experiences.

IRLP contacts with interested parties or similar school electronic/radio groups would be great - but the club only has limited time during the local lunchtime period.

The station equipment has been provided by Peter McAdam VK2EVB - and the club is QRV Fridays 0315 - 0345 UTC, on the IRLP node 6625 which is via its local repeater VK2RDO.
(VK3PC)

VK4

FNNQARG was great !

The weather was beautiful during the day but a bit brisk at night, 65 hams and support crews attended, many experiments with canvas palaces and rapid deployment field poles and towers were undertaken and a heap of fun was had.

Oh, and some were lucky enough to purchase new transceivers and antennae and play with them in a tropical paradise PLUS sample some gastronomic resort delights.

This sums up the 2007 Far North and North Queensland Amateur Radio Get Together held over the Queens Birthday long weekend in June.

VK5

SERG have had a busy time, not only another successful Mt Gambier weekend, but would seem the hub of their extensive repeater network (VK5RNC) at Naracoorte received what seems to have been a direct lightning strike.

Took it all out; from antennae right through to UHF linking gear, meaning a complete rebuild.

Murphy lurking just before their convention again!!!

VK6

HAMFEST 2007 happens in Ashfield Sunday August 5 at 9am.

Northern Corridor Radio Group will even have interstate traders on the day with impressive specials!

Along with the usual features one experiences at hamfests, this "biggie" in Perth will feature 109 Signals Squadron and the Tesla Society.

Cyril Jackson Recreation Centre
Fisher Street
Ashfield.

EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO
PRESENTED BY KYLEA VK6FXYL

YOUTHDAY 2007
June 16 in ZS land saw many young people experience amateur radio by operating an amateur radio station under supervision and talking to other young people on the air.

The emphasis was on operating an amateur station, not on just handing the microphone to the young guest to say a few words.

More on the web
www.sarl.org.za

FUTURE EXAMS

To find out when a club in YOUR area is hosting assessments and/or training in Amateur Radio go to wia.org.au and check out the club pages.

Next Foundation Licence course, and Standard / Advanced assessments .....

NEW SOUTH WALES

ARNSW regularly holds Foundation Licence Assessments as well as Exams for Standard and Advanced Licences.
Held on the last weekend of each EVEN numbered month.
The next Assessment will be 30th June & 1st of July.

The Hunter Radio Group
They'll hold their next licence assessments on Saturday 23rd & Sunday the 24th of June at 9.00 am at the Print Makers Workshop, 27 Popran St Adamstown.

For further information, please contact the Examination Group Leader, Grahame O'Brien VK2FA on 02- 49548688. It is important that Foundation candidates have a copy of the foundation manual and have studied it before attempting an assessment.
Manuals are available from the Hunter Radio Group.

Some places will be available for candidates wanting to upgrade from foundation licences to standard or advanced licences and the Hunter Radio Group will be having a sausage sizzle on both days for lunch.

VICTORIA

Amateur Radio Victoria has announced its next two Foundation Licence training and assessment weekends - 23rd and 24th of June and the 21st and 22nd of July.

Held at Box Hill North these classes attracting candidates from Greater Melbourne and Victorian regional areas.

For inquiries or to enrol please contact Barry Robinson VK3JBR 0428 516 001 or arv@amateurradio.com.au

(Amateur Radio Victoria amateurradio.com.au)

ACMA NEWS

The Australian Communications and Media Authority is seeking public comment on proposed variations to the schemes that regulate the conversion of broadcast television from analogue to digital mode.
The full release can found at
www.acma.gov.au/WEB/STANDARD//pc=PC_310295

INTERNATIONAL NEWS READ BY Rob VK5MM

ARRL/IARU TEAM TO REPRESENT AMATEUR RADIO AT ITU MEETING IN GENEVA

ARRL Chief Executive Officer and IARU Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ, have been representing the IARU at a meeting of ITU-R Working Party 1A in Geneva, Switzerland.

Working Party 1A is responsible for spectrum engineering techniques within Study Group 1 (spectrum management) and has been working on a document that may eventually become what's called a "preliminary draft new report" on the impact of power line telecommunications (PLT, what we call BPL on this side of the Pacific) on Radiocommunication systems operating below 80 MHz.

Of course, the IARU's interest is in ensuring that the report accurately reflects the sensitivity of the amateur services to interference from this source.

Also meeting at about the same time (June 12-20), ITU-R Working Party 8A, which is responsible for most of the land mobile services, plus the amateur and amateur-satellite services. WP 8A hopes to complete work on a "draft new handbook for the amateur and amateur-satellite services" to be published by the ITU.
(arrl letter)

OPERATIONAL NEWS - CONTEST COLUMN - D A T E L I N E

VK/TRANSTASMAN CONTEST
160M Phone 7 July 2007
160M CW 21 July 2007

The Hunter Radio Group Contesters will be operating in the Trans Tasman 160 meter phone event on July 7th this year at Luskintyre Tiger Moth Airport

There will be some fun type foxhunt also held round the airport.

The group extends a cordial welcome to all operators.

This will be an ideal training event for the up coming RD contest at the same location.

Food, drinks and accommodation will be available.

Accommodation will be on a first to book basis

As in all Hunter Radio Group functions, having fun will be the main objective

For further information, or to confirm your attendance please contact Grahame VK2FA on 02 49-548-688 before June 24th 2007

NZART MEMORIAL CONTEST - 80M - SSB AND CW.
7 & 8 July 2007.

Times :- 2000 NZST - 2300 NZST, divided into 3 operating periods each evening.

Band :- 80M SSB and CW.

Contest Rules NZART Website. http://www.nzart.org.nz
(John Powell. ZL1BHQ, NZART Contest Manager)

JULY 14-15
The annual IARU HF World Championship is held on the second full weekend of July. This year it will be held during the 24-hour period from 1200 UTC Saturday, 14 July to 1200 UTC Sunday, 15 July.
Rules are at www.iaru.org/contest.html

Because this is unusually late in the month for the event to occur, there has been some confusion about the dates. The CORRECT dates are 14-15 July. Any references to 7-8July are INCORRECT.
(David Sumner, K1ZZ Secretary, IARU)

14th of July the Jack Files Contest.
0800 UTC - 1400 UTC
80 metres only.
Use 3.5MHZ - 3.7MHz
CW; SSB; or All Modes

Boat Anchor Sprints:
August (11), October (13).
Local ZL time: 2000 to 2100 hrs

Section 1: Old radios - all valves - i.e. ZC1, 19 set, Heathkits, any home brew set, but must have all valves.

Section 2: Any Hybrid transceiver (must have valve finals i.e. FT200, FTDX400/401, Drake, FT 101s, etc..

Amplitude Modulated signals only.

The overall winner shall be the entrant having the highest points score which will be published in the following New Zealand "Break-in".
(Jamie Pye ZL2NN, Editor NZART's InfoLine)

AUGUST 11/12 Remembrance Day Contest (The RD) wia.org.au

Today marks only 56 days to the 2007 RD contest.

Last years Audited results are now posted on the WIA website.

In the July issue of your AR magazine we will publish this years Rules (with some minor adjustments from the previous years).

On the WIA Website the rules are available along with associated documents.

Last year we saw a great rollup from all states including several of the then, newly licensed Foundation calls, we look forward to seeing and working many more of the F calls in this years contest.

For those using some of the computer logging programs PLEASE check that you have the current version, as many last year were using outdated programs which caused several headaches when checking the logs, and having to adjust the scores.

7th World HST Championship will be held in Belgrade Serbia September 19-23rd.
www.hst2007.org

NOVEMBER 17/18
Spring VHF-UHF Field Day - November 2007
For everyone who likes to plan ahead - please note the dates for this year's Spring VHF-UHF Field Day. It will be held on November 17/18, a week later than usual. This will prevent a clash with club activities in two states.

SPECIAL EVENTS, BEACON AND NET ADVICE
VK's longest continual net;
The Southern Cross DX Net has been running for 43 years, operates 7 days a week - propagation permitting - on a frequency of 14.238.5MHz at 1215 zulu.

Boat Anchor Net

A regular on air gathering of people interested in old commercial amateur transceivers takes place Sunday afternoons.

The VK5 Boat Anchor Net can be heard at 3.30pm Adelaide time or 4pm Australian Eastern Standard Time on 7.064MHz plus or minus QRM.

Get their old radio out of the cupboard, tune it up and give net controller Mark Kilmier VK5EME a call.

80 metres 3.645 The Odd Night Net.

This to assist new Foundation members get used to their equipment by talking about various issues which they have and would like to discuss.

You might wonder about the name but it means they meet on the odd nights of the calendar i.e. 1,3,5,7,9. Hence the name Odd Night Net.

It is open to all classes of licences but mainly aimed at the new comers.
(Richard Osborne)

Special Event Stations

GB25FC is the special event call sign that will be active until 18th June to commemorate 25 years since the end of the Falklands conflict. Up to four independent stations will be working from the Wyke Regis Amateur Radio Training Centre.

They will be using Morse, SSB, digital modes, RTTY, SSTV and UI-View, and there will also be a station working through the local radio internet links.

More info from gb25fc@wykeradio.org
(rsgb)

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- FINAL FRONTIER
VK5ZAI is the Australian Co-ordinator for ARISS.

AMSAT-VK UNOFFICIAL HF Net.
2nd Sunday each month.
November through March 0900 UTC 7.068 MHz
April through October 1000 UTC 3.685 MHz

ARISS MILESTONE: 300TH CONTACT

On Thursday, May 31, Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) made its 300th contact since its inception back in December 2000. This milestone QSO was to the NASA Teacher Conference in Houston, Texas. The first contact was on December 21, 2000 to Burbank School in Burbank, Illinois.

The United States leads in the number of ARISS contacts with 153. Japan is next with 25; Australia has 18, Canada has 16, Belgium has 10, the United Kingdom and Germany have 8 and France has 7 contacts. A total of 28 countries have made contact with the ISS through ARISS.
(ARRL LETTER)

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RADIO AMATEUR YOUNG TIMERS
A Youth Net meets Saturdays at 0100 UTC on IRLP Reflector #2.

Don't forget the Young Hams Net on 80 meters! It's on 3.590

This is the net with Cohen, VK3FCLL at the helm.

This is a net for both new hams in the hobby or just a weekly catch up and chat.

Now details for the net are - 7:30pm until 8:30pm Victoria time, on 3.590mhz.

For more information e-mail vk3fcll@hotmail.com

SOCIAL SCENE

July 7+8 - GippsTech
Conference for VHF, UHF & SHF enthusiasts in Australia.
Held at the Gippsland Campus of Monash University in Churchill, about two hours drive east of Melbourne.
www.qsl.net\vk3bez\index.htm

August 5 - HAMFEST 2007 happens in Perth at 9am.
Cyril Jackson Recreation Centre
Fisher Street
Ashfield.

SEPTEMBER 21-23
North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention
Happening in twin cities of Thuringowa and Townsville.

JANUARY 20 2008

The Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group invite all amateurs to attend the 2008 Mid North Coast Radio Expo to be held in Coffs Harbour on Sunday 20th January.

The Expo is held at the St Johns Church Hall, Mc Lean Street, Coffs Harbour. Gary VK2ZKT is the Radio Expo Coordinator on 02 66 55 2 990 or visit the Groups comprehensive web site at www.mncarg.org

THE FINAL FINAL

WALKS

Jeff VK4XJJ is still going strong on his walk across Australia.

Every Day, from 5:30pm Eastern on 40 meters, 7045 put out a call to
VK4XJJ

Jeff, VK4XJJ walking Gulf to Gulf, is doing fine, his position on Wednesday evening, 13th June, was 112 km northeast of Innamincka on the way to Birdsville.

For position and details see website - www.jeffswalk.com

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WIANews - we've reported...YOU decide.

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WIANews THANKS OUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS , OUR RELAY OPERATORS ACROSS THE WORLD FOR FORWARDING INFORMATION AND COMMENTS THEIR LISTENERS HAVE PASSED ON TO MAKE WIANews VK'S LEADING WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PROGRAM.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au
Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".
Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of QNEWS for the National WIA.
Thanks to to our dedicated band of broadcast volunteers who utilize their time and equipment in bringing you this weekly broadcast.
The purpose of "WIANews" is to rapidly provide news of interest to active amateurs residing in Australia and the globe.
We strongly encourage membership in the Wireless Institute of Australia and participation in the activities of local clubs.
Opinions expressed in "WIANews" are those of the writers who submit material and do not necessarily reflect those of the rebroadcasters, nor the National WIA.
Material may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, a credit to WIANews wouldn't go astray...
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1171. SARL News in English 23/6/2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-23 15:08:18 UTC
From: website@sarl.org.za
Message-ID: <737ECEE367334FBBB1CA81A6A6E753C5@toron>
Source record: 4226
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 24 JUNE 2007

You are listening to Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. This broadcast can also be heard on Echolink by connecting to ZS6FCS. To listen to a web stream go to www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links. This, and previous bulletins, can be downloaded from the web site of the SARL i.e. www.sarl.org.za. You can also read or download previous bulletins from there and subscribe to receive future bulletins by email.

This transmission is by Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with relays on 3,695, 10,135, 14,235 and 51,400 MHz as well as 438,825 MHz in the Pretoria area. (Other newsreaders please change to suit).

In the news today:

A YAESU VX-2R HANDHELD TRANSCEIVER TO BE WON THIS AFTERNOON

BLOEMFONTEIN RTA PROGRAMME NOW ON THE WEB

SA AMSAT SPACE CONFERENCE MOVED

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS NOW DUE

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

A YAESU VX-2R HANDHELD TRANSCEIVER TO BE WON THIS AFTERNOON

A YAESU VX-2R 2 m / 70 cm micro handheld transceiver is up for grabs this afternoon when the SARL Digital Contest takes to the air from 15:00 to 18:00 CAT on 40, 6 and 2 metres. The Centre of Activity on the three bands are 7,037 MHz, 50,225 MHz and 144,138 MHz. The exchange is a signal report plus QSO number, starting at 001. The rules have been sent out with HF Happenings and appear on page 8 of the SARL Contest Manual. Get your log to the Lichtenburg ARC as soon as possible after the end of the contest.

BLOEMFONTEIN RTA PROGRAMME NOW ON THE WEB

Bloemfontein is the next stop for the SARL Radio Technology in action road show. The technology day will be held on Saturday 21 July at the

Advanced Training Wing at the School of Armour. The programme includes the entire main programme as presented at the other venues plus two additional presentations.

Bernie van der Walt, ZS4TX, will talk about his experiences at the World Radio Sport Team Championships and share some of his secrets on how to be a successful DXer and Contester. Phillip Venter, ZS4PV, will take the lid off the WSJT software and discuss VHF antennas. The full programme is available on www.sarl.org.za/rta.htm.

Diarise 21 July now, if you live in the Free State, Northern Cape or Lesotho you do not want to miss this event.

PLT IS NOT AN ACCEPTABLE SYSTEM WHILE INTERFERENCE TO HF IS POTENTIALLY HIGH

Power Line Telecommunication is not an acceptable system to provide broadband connections while the interference potential to HF frequencies remains high. This was the message that the SARL delivered to the Broadband Conference held at the Sandton Convention Centre during the past week.

Proponents of 'PLT as the solution to bridging the digital divide' must think again, Hans van de Groenendaal, ZS6AKV, told delegates. Bridging the digital divide is about access to Personal Computers and computer literacy and not about cheap broadband delivery. He said that the SARL is not against new technologies as long as these technologies are not at the cost of the HF spectrum, which is a scarce national resource. He said that in fact Radio Amateurs are embracing new technologies all the time. It is part of being an experimenter.

With so many successful and more mature technologies, such as WiMAX and HSPDA available, it is difficult to understand why PLT is still pursued with such vigour. Currently there is no PLT equipment type approved by ICASA and no licenses have been issued.

SA AMSAT SPACE CONFERENCE MOVED TO 15 SEPTEMBER

Due to the delay in the launch of SumbandilaSat, SA AMSAT has decided to move the date of this year's Space Conference to 15 September at the National Amateur Radio Centre in Gauteng. This means that prospective speakers have until 20 July to submit papers for consideration. More details will be announced in the next few weeks.

SARL PRESIDENT TO REPORT BACK ON STRATEGY CONFERENCE NEXT SUNDAY

SARL President Graham Hartlett will report back on Sunday 1 July during the President's Net on the SARL Council strategic session held yesterday. Annually the SARL Council meets face to face to consider strategies for the new financial year, which starts on 1 July.

The net is on the air at 19:00 and is followed at 20:00 by the Intecnet which features an open discussion on home construction.

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS DUE NOW

The SARL Annual subscription accounts were mailed and emailed during the past few weeks. Please give the account your urgent attention and send in your payment as soon as possible. The fees have remained the same as last year with an once off special 20% reduction for pensioner members. If you pay by internet or electronic banking, please indicate your call sign and name on the transaction or fax a copy to the SARL Head Office. Please note the new fax number is 088 011 675 2793. Please use all 13 digits when faxing the SARL.

CONTESTING NEWS

The provisional results of the SARL 80 Metre QSO Party held in April have been released. The Contest Committee only received 2 logs out of a possible 51. First place goes to Jan, ZS4JAN, with 530 points and second place to the East Rand ARC, ZS6ERB, with 480 points.

The provisional results of the SARL Hamnet 40 Metre Contest held in March have been released. Eleven logs and one check log was received. The full results are, in the Single Operator Stationary Mobile category: 1st Andy, ZS6ADY, with 1 260 points followed by Barry, ZS2EC, with 984 points and Roger, ZR3EC, with 588 points. In the Single Operator Portable category Al, ZS2U, took first place with 1 980 points with Alan, ZR1AAH, on 1 386 points and Dennis, ZS4BS, on 1 188 points. In the Single Operator Base Station category, Jan, ZS4JAN, leads the field with 2 988 points, followed by Francois, ZS6BUU, with 1 836 points, Carel, ZS3OBE, with 1 638 points, David, ZS1LL, with 1 350 points and Jan, ZS1VDV, with 912 points.

The annual IARU HF World Championship will be held during the 24-hour period from 12:00 UTC Saturday 14 July to 12:00 UTC Sunday, 15 July. It is a phone and CW contest on 160 to 10 metres. The complete rules will be sent out with HF Happenings.

CLUB NEWS

The Sasolburg Radio club had a successful day providing radio communications support to the 1st Sasolburg Scouts on Youth Day.

An Echolink VHF link was set up from Vanderbijlpark to the Scout Hall in Sasolburg, and a connection was made to a Dutch Scouting station, operated by Scout leader and new ham Leo, PD1LEO. A large number of the youngsters had QSO's with Leo, and many interesting questions and answers were exchanged. The youngsters were enthralled and amateur radio received good publicity. Approach your local Scout group to find out how you could assist during their centenary celebrations in August and the 50th JOTA in October.

PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the expected solar activity will be at low to very low levels. The geomagnetic field is expected to be quiet in general while reaching active levels on 30 June until 1 July.

The expected Effective Sun Spot number for the coming week will be less than five.

20 and 40 metres will provide best opportunities for DX. There is a possibility of 20 metre openings towards India from about 15:30 CAT. 20 metres may open towards Australia from 08:00. From about 08:00 and again at 16:00, there may be 20 metre openings towards Europe. At about 16:00 short 20 metre openings towards the West Coast of the USA is possible. Otherwise, contacts to the USA are going to be very challenging. For the CW and digital enthusiasts, it will also be worth monitoring 10 MHz.

Locally, 40 metre is going to be the band to be on for the PSK31 contest with good propagation throughout South Africa until at least 16:00. Remember that HF always has the capability to surprise you. You will never know what you are missing unless you switch your rig on, listen and call CQ.

Please visit www.spaceweather.co.za for further information.

DIARY OF EVENTS

24 June - SARL Digital Contest; 30 June - Closing date for updating of SA DX Survey; ZS6PTA Flea Market; 1 July - President's Net and Intechnet; 20 July - Last day to submit papers for SA AMSAT Space Conference; 23 August - Class B RAE; 15 September - SA AMSAT Space Conference; 18 October - Class A RAE.

SARL News depends on clubs and individuals for news items of importance and interest to radio amateurs. The one and only way to ensure that your contribution will reach the SARL News team, is to place it in www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date. It will be appreciated if you will do it in both Afrikaans and English.

The SARL also invites all listeners to listen to the program Amateur Radio Mirror International this Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 695 kHz. Audio is also streamed on www.zs6mrk.org and on Echolink from ZS6FCS as for this bulletin. A repeat transmission takes place on Mondays at 21:00 on 3 215 kHz. Telkom and Sentech sponsor the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

You have been listening to a news bulletin by the South African Radio League, which was compiled by Dennis, ZS4BS.

A prosperous week to all, 73.

========== Message Ends ========== To edit or remove your entry from this mailing list go to www.sarl.org.za/members/admin/maildat.asp

1172. GB2RS NEWS Sunday 24 June 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-23 19:00:44 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200706231900.l5NJ0Tk09672@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4227
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

1 GB2RS NEWS Sunday 24 June

The news headlines

* RAG to exhibit at Space Centre

* Tony Hancock's The Radio Ham

* Foyle & District ARC on air at Jet World Masters Competition The Radio Astronomy Group (RAG) will have a stand at the annual British Astronomical Association (BAA) Exhibition Meeting to be held this year at the National Space Centre in Leicester, on 30 June.

The group intend to have a live demonstration of the latest Starbase software, with a connection to Martyn Kinder's VLF receiver, the GOES Xray satellite data feed, and some other examples of how it will work with the RAG developments. Past copies of the Circular and CD will be available for purchase.

The group currently have three university related projects still at the negotiation stage, but when they get the go ahead, they will announce these and will be looking for more eager volunteers! RAG should then have some significant external projects as well as their own developments, all of which will be accessible over the Starbase network.

For more information contact Laurence Newell RAG Coordinator via e-mail at radiogroup @btinternet.com and laurence.newell@bt.com.

The episode of the 1960 BBC TV comedy series 'Hancock's Half Hour' starring Tony Hancock and in particular, the infamous bungling radio ham segment containing those now classic lines "It is are not raining in Tokyo" and "GLK London calling the world" is available on YouTube.

This classic episode shows Hancock as a ham radio enthusiast who receives a mayday call from a ship in distress but keeps getting distracted just before he can take down its position.

The episode is split into three parts. To view log onto YouTube and type in Tony Hancock. Foyle and District Amateur Radio Club (FADARC) will be heading to St Angelo Airport, Enniskillen for the 2007 Jet World Masters competition. The competition runs from 5 July to 14 July the club will be on the air during the final two days of the event with its call sign MN0AKU/P.

This event showcases model aircrafts capable of flying at up to 250 mph. In attendance will be 100 pilots from some 31 countries

demonstrating their skills in what has been described as the ultimate radiocontrolled model aircraft competition. More details can be viewed at www.jwm2007.com.

The MSF 60 KHz time and frequency signal broadcast by VT Communications on behalf of NPL is occasionally taken off the air to allow maintenance work to be carried out in safety.

The next scheduled maintenance break will be at 0900 on 26 June until 1800 on 27 June BSP. Please be aware that during this period the signal will not be broadcast. If you have any questions please email time@npl.co.uk.

Help is still needed for the British leg of the Tour de France. Kent RAYNET requires a large number of RAYNET members being able to pass third party traffic on 8 July. If you can help contact Dennis Spalding, Kent County Controller, on dennis@spalding.freeserve.co.uk or by telephone on 01795 876091 as soon as possible.

2

A new 70cm repeater situated near Bromley in Kent entered service on 16 June. GB3LK, a new wide split 70cm repeater became operational on RU72. Co-located with GB3OK on 2 metres, coverage will include parts of London, north Kent and south Essex. More information can be found on the repeater group's website www.gb3ok.com.

And now for the details of rallies and events for the coming week

[Note to newsreaders: please exercise your judgement on which of the 24 June events to read, based on your service area and time of transmission]. On Sunday 24 June the West of England Radio Rally takes place from 1000 at the Cheese & Grain, Bridge Street, Frome, and Somerset. Details from Shaun, G8VPG, on 01225 873 098, or email rallymanager@westrally.org.uk. On Sunday 1 July the Barford radio rally takes place from 0900 at Barford, 9 miles southwest of Norwich, close to the A11 and A47. Contact David, G7URP, on 01953 457322/458844 or email radio@dcpmicro.com. On Sunday 7 July the Reddish Rally takes place from 1030 at St Mary's Parish Church Hall, Reddish Road,

Stockport. Details from Bernard, G3SHF, on 01625 850088 (daytime) or on the web at www.m5mdx.com/reddishrally. More details of these and future events can be found on pages 88 and 89 of the July edition of RadCom. Now for the news of special events

Special event station 9A07P will be active on all bands and modes until 31 December to celebrate the city of Djurdjevac. All QSOs will be confirmed automatically via the bureau. GB1EPC will be active until 28 June to celebrate the European PSK Club 1st birthday. The station will be setup at Bridge Street in Glasgow. Anyone is welcome to operate at the station, PSK modes only of course. QSL cards via MM0DFV. The annual transmission on Alexanderson Day with the Alexanderson alternator on VLF 17.2 kHz will take place Sunday 1 July at 0900 UTC. Tuning up will

be from 0815 UTC and the transmission will be repeated at 1300 UTC, tuning up from 1215 UTC. The station will be open to visitors. There will be activity on amateur radio frequencies with the call SK6SAQ. For more information log onto www.alexander.n.se/. QSL reports are very welcome. A veterans' weekend using call sign GB2VET will be held on 3 to 5 August at the East Park, Holderness Road, Hull. All veterans from the Navy, Army and Air force along with members of the public are invited to the event. The show will include outdoor displays by all the three services, military equipment and a veteran Spitfire from WW2. Working will be VHF and HF depending on the conditions at the time. Any person willing to help with this event, or for more information contact G0SWO, RAFARS 2912, telephone 01482 351907. And now the HF DX news compiled from 425 DX News, the Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin and other sources. Look for Jan-Ole, DB8JO, Juergen, DJ5HD and Wolfgang, DJ5ZWS to be active on 10 to 80 metres as OX/homecall from Nuuk, Greenland (NA-018) until 25 June. QSL via home calls.

3 Pietro, IT9OPR, reports he will be active holiday style from Puerto Rico (NA-099) until 28 June. He will operate from the QTH of Flavio, KP4AWX, as well as mobile with Pedro, WP4CCQ. Jan, PA4JJ, will be active as 9A/PA4JJ/p from Porec, Croatia until 7 July. Operating on WARC bands using RTTY and PSK. QSL direct or via bureau. A QSL request form for bureau cards can be found at www.pa4jj.nl. Look for RV3ATS, RV3ATT and RU3AVF to operate on 10, 15, 20, 40, 80 and 2 metres as RV3ATS/p from 16 mountains located in various different Russian Districts until 21 July. They also plan to participate in a number of contests on the VHF and HF bands. QSL via RV3ATS, direct or bureau. Francois, ON4LO, will be active as CT/ON4LO/p from Portuguese lighthouses Cabo de Sao Vincente and Ponta Sagres until 29 June. He plans to operate SSB and digital modes on 10 to 40 metres. Celebrating the 750th anniversary of Krakow's city rights is HF750C, which will be active until 30 June. QSL via SP9BRP. Expect also a large number of local operators to use special prefix SN0 during the year. Zhang, BD3APX, will be active as BD3APX/2 from Juhua Island from 29 June to 1 July. Activity will be on 40 to 10 metres CW, SSB and digital modes. QSL via home call. Darren, G0TSM, will be active again as C52T from The Gambia until 29 June. This will only be a part time operation, and Darren plans to operate mostly on 6 metres. QSL via home call. G3ZAY, M0HSW and M0TJH, will be QRV as EI/homecall/P from Inishbofin Island (EU-121) until 25 June 10 UTC on the 27, then from Inishmore (EU-006) from 20 UTC on 27 June to 10 UTC on the 29 June. They will also try to operate for a few hours weather permitting, from the Blasket Islands (EU-007) on 30 June. QSL to home calls. Phil, F5OGG, will be active on 20 metres SSB and CW as F5OGG/p from the lighthouse on Noirmoutier Island (EU-064) on 30 June. He will participate in the WLOTA Contest. For more information log onto www.wlota.com. Special event station TM0GP will be active until 1 July for the French Formula 1 Grand Prix at Nevers Magny-Cours. All QSOs will be confirmed automatically via the bureau. A Swedish expedition to Market Reef (EU-053) is planned to take place on 5 to 9 July. Three or four operators will be active as

OJ0/homecall on 160 to 2 metres CW, SSB and digital modes. More information will follow. Now the contest news

His Majesty the King of Spain Contest takes place between 1200 on 23 June to 1200 on 24 June on 1.8MHz to 28MHz bands, SSB mode. The exchange takes the form of RS and serial number. The RSGB 50mhz activity takes place between 2000 and 2230 local on 26 June on the 50MHz band, all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator.

Now the solar factual data for the period from the 11 to 17 of June, compiled by Neil Clarke, G0CAS.

4 Solar activity was very low with no significant solar flares taking place. The solar disc became spotless on the 14th. Solar flux levels declined from 73 units on the 11th to 67 by the 17th. The average was 70 units. The 90 day solar flux average on the 17th was the same level as last week at 74 units. X-ray flux levels declined from A2.1 units on the 11th to below the A1 level by the 14th. Geomagnetic activity was quiet except for the 14th, which increased due to a small coronal hole when the Ap index was 20 units. The average was Ap 8 units. The ACE spacecraft saw solar wind speeds increase from 290 kilometres per second to 630 during the disturbance. Particle densities were low except for the 13th, which increased to 16 particles per cubic centimetre on the 13th. Bz varied little on the quiet days and between minus 11 and plus 10 nanoTeslas on the 14th. HF propagation was mildly degraded when the geomagnetic field was active but, for the most part it followed the pattern of recent weeks. Sporadic-E was prominent at 28 and 50MHz. 50MHz openings were reported to Guyana and the Caribbean. There was at least one 144MHz opening to south-east Europe. There were no reports of auroral activity. The Venezuela multi-band beacon, YV5B, returned to service after a gap of six months and was heard in the UK on all five frequencies with good signals. And finally the solar forecast. This week the quiet side of the Sun is expected to rotate out of view. Solar activity should be very low. However, there is a small chance that activity could increase towards next weekend. Solar flux levels are expected to increase and by next weekend could be into the 80's. Geomagnetic activity should be mostly quiet until next weekend when a small recurring coronal hole disturbance should take place. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitude should be 19MHz for the south and 16MHz for the north. The darkness hour lows should be around 10MHz. Paths this week to South Africa should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success rate of around 23MHz. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success rate will be about 18MHz. The best time to try this path will be between 0800 and 1700 hours UTC. Sporadic-E is expected to take place on some days. Now that we are at the peak of the sporadic-E season expect some openings up to 144MHz. And that's all from the propagation team for another week.

5

Next, the Local News:

Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses

and website links where known.

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your

transmission.]

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST

and EAST ANGLIA On Sunday 24 June Basingstoke Amateur Radio Club is conducting a foxhunt. Contact Frank, M0AEU, by email to barc@2lo.info.

On Sunday 24 June Colchester Radio Amateur Club is holding a Foundation Licence assesment day. Contact Kevan, 2E0WMG, on 07766 543 784 or email colchesterradioamateurs@hotmail.co.uk .

On Sunday 24 June Horndean and District Amateur Radio Club is running a coach trip to London museums. Contact Stuart, G0FYX, on 023 9247 2846, or on the web at www.hdarc.co.uk.

On Monday 25 June Basingstoke Amateur Radio Club is holding a Club Night. Contact Frank, M0AEU, by email to barc@2lo.info.

On Tuesday 26 June Horndean and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk by John Silman 'The history of the art of milling'. Contact Stuart, G0FYX, on 023 9247 2846, or on the web at www.hdarc.co.uk.

On Tuesday 26 June Stevenage and District Amateur Radio Society is operating on HF. Contact Neil, M0ARH, on 01438 217 077.

On Wednesday 27 June Crawley Amateur Radio Club is having a slide and video presentation on "Friedrichshafen 2007 The Hamtronic Experience" by G3YSX, G4ANN and G3LHZ. Contact John, G3VLH, on 01342 714 402.

On Wednesday 27 June Dover Radio Club is running a portable evening at the Dover Patrol Memorial. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk.

On Wednesday 27 June Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is running VHF NFD Preparation. Contact Ken, M0KLS on 02392 797240.

On Wednesday 27 June Farnborough and District Radio Society is running Morse One (appreciation) by Derek, G3HEJ. Contact Colin, M3IHS on email m3ihs@yahoo.co.uk

On Wednesday 27 June Newbury and District Amateur Radio Society is holding a talk on health and safety. Contact Richard, G3ZGC, on 01635 46241or by email to richard.jolliffe@vodafone.com.

On Wedneday 27 June Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is running a Bright Sparks DF Hunt. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

On Wednesday 27 June Worthing and District Amateur Radio Club is holding a PME earthing and technical evening. Contact Roy, G4GPX, on 01903 753 893.

On Thursday 28 June Bittern Dx Group is holding its AGM followed by "G2B" RSGB IOTA 2007 contest entry detailed planning. Bittern DX Group will be operating GB4NSR from Felbrigg Hall, Norfolk at the North

6 East Norfolk District's Centenary Scout Camp. Contact Keith, G0GFQ, on 01263 588 506, keith@g0gfq.com, or on the web at www.bittern-dxers.org.uk.

On Thursday 28 June Echelford Amateur Radio Society is having a valve equipment evening. Contact John Osborne, G4GSC, on 01784 451898.

On Thursday 28 June Horsham Amateur Radio Club is holding a social meeting at The Blue Ship, The Haven. For more information log onto www.harc.org.uk.

On Thursday 28 June Shefford and District Amateur Radio Society is conducting VHF NFD final planning. Contact David, G8UOD, on 01234 742 757.

On Friday 29 June Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is running a radio night and table top sale. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Friday 29 June Torbay Amateur Radio Society is having an education and training evening. Contact Dave, G6FSP, by email to g6fsp@tars.org.uk.

On Friday 29 June Wimbledon and District Amateur Radio Society is running on air and construction. Contact Jim, M0CON, on 020 8874 7456.

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST

On Tuesday 26 June Flight Refuelling Amateur Radio Society is running Intermediate training from 1900 to 2130. Contact Tony, G3PFM, on 01202 622 262.

On Tuesday 26 June Taunton and District Amateur Radio Club is operating club station. Contact William, G3WNI, on 01823 666 234, or by email to g3wni@btinternet.com.

On Wednesday 27 June South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is giving a talk on Project OSS - Session 4. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282.

On Wednesday 27 June Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is presenting a slide show of Stan's travels. Contact Tony, G0WMB, by email to tonytsgarc@beeb.net.

On Thursday 28 June Yeovil Amateur Radio Club Station is on air. Contact Derek, on 01935 414 452, or by email to m0wob@tiscali.co.uk.

On Friday 29 June Guernsey Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on "what electronic log to use?" by GU0SUP. Contact Phil, GU0SUP.

On Friday 29 June Jersey Amateur Radio Society is working outside on the antennas, towers and building. Contact Phil, MJ0JER, by email to gj3dvc@gj3dvc.org.je .

On Saturday 30 June Appledore and District Amateur Radio Club is operating a special event station at the Abbotsham Fete. Callsigns G2FKO and GX2FKO. Contact Beryl, G1SVP.

NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS

On Monday 25 June Stourbridge and District Amateur Radio Society is running an open shack night. Contact John, M1EJG, on 01562 700 513.

On Monday 25 June Stratford Upon Avon District Radio Society is having a BBQ and will be on the air. Contact Jack, G3VYE, on 01926 641 988.

7 On Tuesday 26 June Derby and District Amateur Radio Society is holding a night on the air. Contact Martin, G3SZJ, on 01332 556 875.

On Tuesday 26 June Loughborough and District Amateur Radio Club is on the air. Contact Chris, G1ETZ, on 01509 504 319.

On Tuesday 26 June Worcester Radio Amateurs Association is having a natter night and CSO Talk. Request details by email to info@wraa.co.uk.

On Tuesday 26 June Wythall Radio Club is visiting LF Droitwich at 1930 for 2000. Contact Chris, G0EYO, on 07710 412 819, or by email to g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk, or on the web at www.wythallradioclub.co.uk.

On Wednesday 27 June Lincoln Short-Wave Club is running news and views. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

On Wednesday 27 June Telford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a VHF Field Day planning meeting. Contact Mike, G3JKX, on 01952 299 677, or by email to mjstreetg3jkx@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Thursday 28 June Stafford and District Amateur Radio Society is running an Isle of Anglesey Field Trip. Contact Graeme, G4NVH, on 01785 604 534, or by email to graeme.boull@ntlworld.com.

On Thursday 28 June Stafford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a shack night. Contact Graeme, G4NVH, on 01785 604 534, or by email to graeme.boull@ntlworld.com.

On Friday 29 June Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is having an internal quiz night. Contact Carl, M0XBE, on 07979 092 447, or on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

On Sunday 24 June Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is having a foxhunt. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Sunday 24 June Wakefield and District Amateur Radio Society is taking part in the HM King of Spain contest at the portable site at

Woolley Edge. Contact Dave, G4CLI, on 07748 221 855, or by email to g4cli@hotmail.co.uk.

On Monday 25 June Macclesfield and District Radio Society is having a presentation on "QSLing the short wave broadcast bands" by Tom Read, M1EYP. Contact Tom, M1EYP, on 01625 612 916, tommyread@hotmail.com, or on the web at www.gx4mws.com.

On Monday 25 June Thornton Cleveleys Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on "protect your PC from Viruses" . Contact Jack, G4BFH, by email to jack.duddington@btinternet.com.

On Tuesday 26 June Chester and District Radio Society is running a visit to Liverpool Coastguard station. Details on the web at www.chesterdars.org.uk, info@chesterdars.org.uk.

On Tuesday 26 June Halifax and District Amateur Radio Society is having an on the air evening at Rishworth School. Contact Brenda, 2E0YKS, by email to wrenuk10@yahoo.com.

On Tuesday 26 June Morecambe Bay Amateur Radio Society is running the Annual DF Competition. Contact Chris, M5XYZ.

On Tuesday 26 June Wakefield and District Amateur Radio Society is having a surplus equipment sale. Contact Dave, G4CLI, on 07748 221 855, or by email to g4cli@hotmail.co.uk.

8 On Wednesday 27 June Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is on the air. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Thursday 28 June Grimsby Amateur Radio Society is running a DF Hunt. Contact Brian, G4DXB, on 01472 231 383.

On Friday 29 June South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is having a demonstration on oscilloscopes and their use. Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999.

On Friday 29 June Tynemouth Radio Club is having a pie and pea supper and quiz. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

NEWS FOR SCOTLAND

On Monday 25 June Lothians Radio Society is having a BBQ. Contact Toby, MM0TSS, on 07739 742 367, or by email to enquiries@lothiansradiosociety.com, or on the web at www.lothiansradiosociety.com.

On Friday 29 June Banff and Buchan Amateur Radio Club is running 10GHz Microwave equipment. Contact Gerald, gerald@aol.com.

On Friday 29 June Cockenzie and Port Seton Amateur Radio Club is having a club night. Contact Bob, GM4UYZ, on 01875 811 723.

NEWS FOR WALES

The RSGB has a vacancy in Region 7 for a Deputy Regional Manager covering Monmouthshire and Newport. If you live in the area and would like to help the RSGB's Regional Team to strengthen relationships between the Society and its membership contact Regional Manager Gareth Price at gw3mpp@rsgb.org.uk or 01633 880 081.

And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast, prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

1173. WIANEWS for week commencing JUNE 24 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-23 21:34:53 UTC
From: nationalnews@wia.org.au
Message-ID: <200706232133.l5NLXq603689@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4228
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,aus.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

This is WIANEWS for week commencing JUNE 24 2007

This is an appeal again to all WIA members for assistance with the WIA QSL Collection. Members will already know that this collection of nearly one million QSLs is one of the finest QSL Collections in the world, containing thousands of modern QSLs and very valuable archival QSLs dating back to 1921. It would be a tragedy indeed if this collection were to fall in a heap.

Listeners who heard last weeks VK1WIA news expressed sorrow at hearing Honorary Curator of this Collection, Ken VK3TL has recently undergone surgery for a cancerous tumour of the brain. He still maintains the Collection, which gives him a great deal of pleasure. However he has been forced to work on the Collection at rather short intervals and cannot give his full-time attention to it.

For this reason we are appealing for help from WIA members, especially those in the Melbourne area. No knowledge of DX is necessary for the sorting of QSLs, the placing of QSLs in albums and similar tasks.

Would you care to lend a hand for an hour or two?

Contact Ken on 9728 5350.

WALKS

In this weeks audio edition we hope to make contact and hear from Jeff VK4XJJ who is still going strong on his walk across Australia, around Birdsville and still 60 days plus to walk and talk on 40 meters.

He still wants to hear from YOU, and it is these calls in particular that keep him going! Every Day, from 5:30pm Eastern on 40 meters, 7045 put out a call to VK4XJJ

www.jeffswalk.com

AMATEUR RADIO - HOME OF THE GOOD GUYS

The Potomac Valley Radio Club in Americas mid-Atlantic has shown that it takes ethics very seriously, by winning a major contest and then voluntarily forfeiting the victory because it was outside the rules.

Club President Jim Nitzberg WX3B examined the result closely to find that the club's score included measurable activity of members who were outside the required 175 mile radius stipulated in the ARRL Sweepstakes contest rules.

The Potomac Valley Radio Club began 60 years ago and requires members to participate in at least two of ten specified contests a year to maintain their membership.

And in a true demonstration of the motto the buck stops here, Club President Jim WX3B accepted full responsibility for the inadvertent rules breach, and extended congratulations to the new winner of the 2006 contest.
(VK3PC, ARRL & various)

BPL INTERFERENCE - THE BATTLE CONTINUES

A simple test conducted by a ham radio operator in Manassas, Virginia, USA has provided proof positive that even flea-power Q-R-P ham radio operations can shut down Broadband Over Powerline Internet access operation.

Amateur Radio Newsline's Don Carlson, KQ6FM, reports:

The revelation comes on the website of George Tarnovsky, K4GVT. On it, Tarnovsky shows the results of tests made using only 40 watts and QRP at 2 watts on the 80 through 10 meter bands.

The gear used in his test was an Icom 706 transceiver, with Outbacker Perth antenna on his car parked curb side. The vehicle was approximately 70 feet from his house, and more than 100 feet from the BPL power pole interface. Inside the home a laptop with BPL interface repeatedly downloading a 40 Megabyte file.

Tarnovsky: "Well, what we found is that when we were within reasonably close proximity -- I would say within 100 feet or so of any of the BPL installations -- when we transmitted on E-CARS on 7.225 that we actually had an affect on them. The way ewe knew that we had an affect was that as soon as you released the microphone (PTT), rather than hearing the typical BPL noise, you knew the system was backed up with data and consequently became very aggressive and just blanked (the band). If you looked at a spectrum display of it -- it just covered the entire spectrum. Its almost as though all the stops were off. In other words the band stops were off. Just rip and get the data out and that's exactly what it did."

What K4GVT found was that on all bands the connection suffered at least a major slowdown when he transmitted at the 40 watt level. On 80 through 15 meters the 40 watts caused the download to stop altogether and requiring it to be restarted. But the biggest surprise was on 40 meters where 2 watts of R-F rendered the BPL connection numb. He says that the 2 watts at 7 MHz caused the BPL data transfer to stop.

Tarnovsky: " With the original G1 installation, 2 watts would have an affect on it. Since then they have made some changes in their firmware to the G1. The G2 has agile notching so they can go in and they can notch it (the spectrum), but being agile they can also remove them and that's the problem that we are facing here."

Tarnovsky notes that regardless of what carriers a BPL provider might notch out of a system, the system operator cannot filter its input. As such, R-F ingress to the BPL system is wide open, and susceptible to all near field RF from 2 to 29 MHz. Even one that only 2 watts and more than 100 feet away.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Don Carlson, KQ6FM, in Reno.

More on the BPL ingress experiment by K4GVT including a band by band results chart is on his website. Its in cyberspace at www.k4gvt.com/bpl/bplweakness.html
(ARNewslineT, QRZ.com)

AROUND VK in 80 Seconds.
(vk5nz)

VK1

Next Meeting - Tomorrow, Monday 25th June, a "Radio Check" night.

There will be a number of Radio Test Sets available, along with people who know how to use them. Club will check your Transmit Power, Frequency, Modulation, RX sensitivity, etc, to see if they are within "spec" for your UHF & VHF radio's, plus low power AM sets as well.

They will also have access to the Antenna Analysers so you can check your mobile antennas tuning.

And the CRARC is busy as usual on the WICEN scene, with their next WICEN event the L.CCC. BRM Silverstone Safari rally on Saturday 7th July .

VK2

Westlakes Amateur Radio members and visitors to the club Michael Owen VK3KI WIA President will be attending your club on Saturday the 30th of June.

Although our notification advises "be at the club by 1am on the day", even poor old VK3KI has to sleep sometime, so we'll tell you it's 1PM June 30.

VK3

Over the last few months some of members of Melbournes Eastern and Mountain District Radio Club have undertaken proactive approach to their health by joining the local weight loss club.

One member John VK3ARK simply refused to join and said the only way HE would become a member of the weight loss club was if his wife Jean got her Amateur Radio ticket, so guess what ... his wife Jean now VK3FJYL sits in the warm shack with the Alarm group whilst her OM John is down at the weight loss club!

A competition broke out amongst those involved with a prize offered for he who can loose the most weight. To accelerate the weight loss process it was suggested some decent walks may be of benefit, so last Saturday morning morning half a dozen EMDRC members undertook a 8 kilometre round trip walk with a tea and coffee break at the Strictly Ham Amateur Radio shop along

the way. Who turns out to be the biggest looser still remains to be seen, but one things for sure it won't be Ross from Strictly Ham who sold quite a bit of gear that morning.

VK4
Problems for 2 meter simplex operators in the Wide Bay area with at least one echo link station operating outside of our gentlemans agreement band plans, heard on 146.5 the VK national calling frequency. If you see this station on Echlin you might wish to pop up and advise him of the "error of his ways".

VK7

Optical Extravaganza Night

REAST have held a great night of optical history, optical show and tell and practical calibration.

In fact, the clubrooms were so full of optical transceivers and test equipment with four transceivers, five separate transmitters, one dedicated receiver and six pieces of optical test equipment with calibrated transmitters and receivers that there was hardly any room for the people attending...HIHI.

Mike VK7MJ their optical guru initially took REAST through a brief history of optical communications which started back with Alexander Graham Bell who patented the Photo-phone back in 1880s, THEN through the various developments prior to the development of electronics as we know it, through the use of different types of lamps from incandescent, arc, vapour and into lasers and ending in LEDs and finally the recent development of the Luxeon.

All in all a fantastic hands on night.

There are some great photos of the night available on the REAST Website.

http://reast.asn.au/events.php#opticalcalibration

EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO
PRESENTED BY KYLEA VK6FXYL

A NEW AMATEUR RADIO club FORMS, AT Roxby Downs.

Several months ago there were no radio amateurs in Roxby Downs a remote mining town in northern South Australia

Michael Wright (now a scout leader) decided to do his Foundation Licence by remote assessment and training. Shortly after that Michael when on to do his Standard licence using R&ES self training resources.

Michael is now VK5MCW.

Michael also arranged a arrange a talk to a group of scouts and leaders to be given remotely by Ron VK2DQ.

The hook up lasted about an hour with communications be done by Radio, EchoLink and Video displayed by VOIP.

Multimedia materials were used and a remote Q&A session conducted remotely.

Since then as in excess of 10 Scouts and leaders have decided to do their Foundation Licence and the Roxby Amateur Radio Club is growing.

Michael is now studying for his Advanced Licence and hopes to be successful and then become a WIA assessor

Amateur Radio NewsLine are reporting how Rescue Radio meets Education.

This a very positive story with word that 47 eighth grade students in California are now prepared to serve their community in time of crisis using Amateur Radio.

Representatives of the City of Calabasas, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, the American Radio Relay League and other agencies were on hand recently to congratulate 47 eighth-graders at A.C. Stelle Middle School. This, after they completed a class that lead to their getting the Amateur Radio licenses as a part of the American Radio Relay League's educational incentive known better as The Big Project.

Meantime, emergency services groups are supporting this project with hopes that it will provide a source of communications volunteers.

Sheriff's Department Reserve Captain, Tom Fakehany, N6FDR, says that these students are likely the next generation of emergency volunteers who will provide communications when all else fails. County Disaster Communications Service member Norm Goodkin, K6YXH, says that the plan is to help organize these new hams into a youth group. One with the ability to provide emergency communications services to the school and to the community in the City of Calabasas.

Next semester, the 47 students plan to start an amateur radio club at Calabasas High School, along with the 17 new hams already there from last year's project. According to Beutel, his school nearly tripled the number of students who earned their licenses from the program's inception last year.

FUTURE EXAMS

To find out when a club in YOUR area is hosting assessments and/or training in Amateur Radio go to wia.org.au and check out the club pages.

Participating clubs keep this site up to date and post the latest information for all to see.

Next Foundation Licence course, and Standard / Advanced assessments .....

NEW SOUTH WALES

ARNSW regularly holds Foundation Licence Assessments on the last weekend of each EVEN numbered month. The next Assessment will be 30th June & 1st of

July.

WEST AUSTRALIA
Foundation course:-
Assessment on the 28th of July.
VK6 Exams for Standard and Advanced are on June 30th.
Contact Neil VK6BDO.

MEDIA WATCH

Peter Berrett VK3PB is a member of the Eastern & Mountain District Radio Club, a member of the Wireless Institute of Australia and is a keen ATV enthusiast famous for his electronic Fish Bowl on Melbournes VK3RTV repeater.

This month Peter joins the team at Amateur Logic TV as their Australian news presenter and Australian news reporter.

Amateur Logic TV is a Television program made by Radio Amateurs for Radio Amateurs. It is an IPTV program which in simple terms means you download it from the internet and watch it on your PC.

You can download Amateur Logic edition 13 from the following web address. www.amateurlogic.com/downloads.htm

In this latest edition of the show, two of the team members Tommy and Jim visit the Dayton Hamvention, the worlds largest amateur radio gathering and brings back some great coverage of the event, including an interview with the infamous Tom, WA5KUB and his live helmet cam.

Peter Berrett brings to the show some Aussie content with footage of the Moorabbin and District Radio Club Hamfest held recently in Melbourne. The show also contains many practical do it yourself type tips with the current episode showing you how to building your own Homebrew Crimpers for RG213 and LMR400 cable...

All in all its 50 minutes of solid Amateur Radio televisionVisit the website today http://www.amateurlogic.com/downloads.htm

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

NEW ZEALAND - NZART

Highlights from their AGM included the event being opened
by the Honourable Steve Maharey local MP for the Manawatu,
and also Minister of Education, Minister of Broadcasting,
Minister of Research, Science and Technology, Minister for Crown Research Institutes and Minister responsible for the Education Review Office.

Concerns were expressed by the Evan Sayer NZART Treasurer, of the falling numbers in membership, with a critical membership number of 1800 mention. If membership drops below this number then Break-In and NZART Headquarters is seriously at risk.
He urged members to try to get non-members signed up to NZART to

ensure these two valuable asserts are retained.

Mike Newman ZL1BNB was awarded the title Amateur of the Year.
Award was presented by the President of NZART Bruce Douglas Zl2WP,
as recognition of his work as Local Government Liaison Officer.

OPERATIONAL NEWS - READ BY ROBERT VK5MM
CONTEST COLUMN - D A T E L I N E

VK/TRANSTASMAN CONTEST
160M Phone 7 July 2007
160M CW 21 July 2007

NZART MEMORIAL CONTEST 80M SSB AND CW.
7 & 8 July 2007.

Times :- 2000 NZST 2300 NZST, divided into 3 operating periods each
evening.

Band :- 80M SSB and CW.

Contest Rules NZART Website. http://www.nzart.org.nz
(John Powell. ZL1BHQ, NZART Contest Manager)

14th of July the Jack Files Contest.
0800 UTC 1400 UTC
80 metres only.
Use 3.5MHZ 3.7MHz
CW; SSB; or All Modes

JULY 14-15
The annual IARU HF World Championship is held on the second full weekend of
July. This year it will be held during the 24-hour period from 1200 UTC
Saturday, 14 July to 1200 UTC Sunday, 15 July.
Rules are at www.iaru.org/contest.html

Because this is unusually late in the month for the event to occur, there
has been some confusion about the dates. The CORRECT dates are 14-15 July.
Any references to 7-8July are INCORRECT.
(David Sumner, K1ZZ Secretary, IARU)

Boat Anchor Sprints:
August (11), October (13).
Local ZL time: 2000 to 2100 hrs

Section 1: Old radios - all valves - i.e. ZC1, 19 set, Heathkits, any
home brew set, but must have all valves.

Section 2: Any Hybrid transceiver (must have valve finals i.e. FT200,
FTDX400/401, Drake, FT 101s, etc..

Amplitude Modulated signals only.

The overall winner shall be the entrant having the highest points score
which will be published in the following New Zealand "Break-in".

(Jamie Pye ZL2NN, Editor NZART's InfoLine)

AUGUST 11/12 Remembrance Day Contest (The RD) wia.org.au

Counting down to the 11th Aug and it is now only 48 days to the 2007 RD contest.

We suggest that you take the time between now and the contest, to check that your gear is up to the marathon contest, apart from the Radio equipment check the caffeine machine, or plenty of match sticks for the eyes.

On the WIA Website the rules are available along with associated documents.

Another reminder for those using computer logging programs PLEASE check that you have the current version, your final score will depend on it.

For those using hand written logs I suggest that you look at the logging forms on the WIA website in the Rd section.

7th World HST Championship will be held in Belgrade Serbia September 19-23rd.
www.hst2007.org

NOVEMBER 17/18
Spring VHF-UHF Field Day - November 2007
For everyone who likes to plan ahead - please note the dates for this year's Spring VHF-UHF Field Day. It will be held on November 17/18, a week later than usual. This will prevent a clash with club activities in two states.

SPECIAL EVENTS, BEACON AND NET ADVICE
VK's longest continual net;
The Southern Cross DX Net has been running for 43 years, operates 7 days a week - propagation permitting - on a frequency of 14.238.5MHz at 1215 zulu.

Centenary of Marconi's Clifden station

This year marks the centennial of those first sparks generated from Marconi's historic Clifden station. To commemorate this event W8HC has announced a special amateur radio operation from both locations central to Marconi's fame and success as a pioneer in wireless technology.

Ballycastle-Rathlin was his first wireless telegraph station and the Clifden station was his last, ceasing operation in 1922. In 1907, Guglielmo Marconi's dream of fixed point-to-point wireless telegraph stations linking North America and Europe became a reality. Derrygimla near Clifden, County Galway served as the site of his wireless station. Over the next 15 years, spark-induced blue flashes generated by the station's massive 20 kV generators sent tens of thousands of wireless messages across the Atlantic, linking to its North American counterpart at Glace Bay, Nova

Scotia.

On 4th and 5th August Hal, W8HC, will operate from Ballycastle as GI/W8HC/P. He will also be taking part in the annual Marconi Festival at Ballycastle with the Marconi Radio Group's MN�MRG special event station on 5th and 6th August, he will move to Rathlin Island (EU-122) and operate from East Lighthouse (ARLS designator NTI 011). He will arrive in Clifden on 8th August where he will operate as EI/W8HC/P at the Derrygimla site on 9th and 10th August.

It is hoped that some operating time can also occur from nearby Letterfrack, site of an ancillary receive station built in 1912 to allow for full duplex operation of the transatlantic signals.

All QSOs will be confirmed via Log of The World and special QSLs from each of these historic Marconi locations will be printed and sent via www.globalqsl.com. In addition, a specially designed certificate will be issued to those stations making contact with both GI and EI operations from either Ballycastle or Rathlin and Derrygimla or Letterfrack.
(rsgb)

D X A C T I V I T Y A N D D A T E S

Prefixes for Montenegro and Serbia

When Montenegro first became an independent country, the prefix YU6 was tentatively allocated to it. However, it now has a call sign block of its own. The ITU now lists 4O (thats four Oscar) as Montenegros prefix. This means Montenegro stations may use 4O0 through 4O9, while Serbian stations will continue to use YT and YU prefixes for all call districts, 0 through 9. The ITU reportedly wants the two nations to complete the transition to new call sign blocks as soon as possible.

The ITU has taken back the former 4N and YZ prefixes for future reassignment.

Members that use computer logging software should update their software to reflect these new prefix allocations
(IRTS)

AFRI 75 DXpedition QSL Update

The QSL Manager of the recent Swaziland DXpedition, Peter EI7CC, reports that over the past few weeks QSL cards in respect of over 1000 QSOs have been sent to those who requested a direct QSL. The remaining 200 or so requests should be dealt with in the coming week, sent via the bureau.

Hong Kong Special Prefix

Approval has been granted for the use of the Special Prefix "VR10" in addition to "VR2" for Hong Kong Radio Amateurs starting from July One 2007 to the 30th of June 2008 for the 10th anniversary of Hong Kong's

reunification with China.

More details are available in the OFTA letter for Hong Kong Radio Amateurs, which can be found at www.ofta.gov.hk/en/amateur/ama-cir200706.pdf.

HARTS is also going to use the special callsign "VR10HK" as HARTS HQ Station during the IARU HF Contest (14-15/7/2007).

excom2007@harts.org.hk if you want more detail.

WIRELESS WEATHER

In VK6 Graham Rogers reports that the VE7CC cluster and WWV is reporting the solar flux on the 20th June 2007 was 66, if correct, this means that means on Wednesday we reached the bottom of this cycle!!

at last we are there/here.

OR ARE WE?

I guess we now drag along the bottom for a while and the slowly move up

OR

enter a Maunder minimum

INTRUDER WATCH - ENFORCEMENT ZONE

Exclusive amateur only spectrum world wide
7.050 to 7.100
14.000 to 14.250
14.250 to 14.350 No broadcasters
21.000 to 21.450
24.890 to 24.990
28.000 to 29.700

ARISS warns of pirate activity:

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) reports a rumour that the ISS was making direct contacts on the 40 meter band.

ARISS stresses this is not happening, as there is no HF radio equipment on board the space station, although the HF antenna is mounted.

Sometimes the Goddard Amateur Radio Club, WA3NAN, retransmits shuttle audio.

Also in INTRUDER WATCH - ENFORCEMENT ZONE this week, The ARRL has sent out more than 100 letters to repeater owners/trustees who have repeaters affected by the "Pave Paws" radars.

Citing an increasing number of interference complaints, the US Air Force has asked the FCC to order dozens of repeater systems to either mitigate interference to the Pave Paws radars or shut down.

The ARRL is working with the US Department of Defence to develop a plan to mitigate alleged interference from 70 cm ham radio repeaters to this

military radar system on both US coasts.

A mother of two in a suburb of Chicago does not have to turn on the news for an update on NASA's space mission.

She just turns to "on" her baby monitor.

Live video of the mission is available on NASA's Web site, so it's possible the monitor is picking up a signal from somewhere close by.

Officials from NASA have said the signal is not coming straight from the shuttle, according to NASA spokeswoman Brandi Dean.

Summer Infant, the monitor's manufacturer, was looking into what could be causing the transmission, said communications director Cindy Barlow. She said she's never heard of anything similar happening.

"Not even close," she said. "Gotta love technology."
(packet bulls)

NOW ROBERT BROOMHEAD - VK3KRB.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- Internet Linking of Repeaters

How often, especially when travelling do you need a map of IRLP/EchoLink nodes?

Well Roger VK7ARN has prepared a map of the Tasmanian amateur repeater network designed primarily for Amateur visitors to the State it provides repeater location, frequency, offset, access tone if needed and linking information.

It's all on one page, in colour but prints OK in black and white.

It can be viewed on the WICEN South web site where it will be kept up to date.

Or downloaded as a PDF file at the address that can be found the email and internet editions of this broadcast.
http://wicen.taswireless.net/SOPs/Rpt_Map.htm

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RADIO SCOUTING
http://www.scouts.com.au
http://www.scout.org/jota
http://www.wiaq.com/nationalnews/jotahead.htm

SCOUT JOTA HF Voice Calling Frequencies
3590, 7090, 14190, 21190, 28590 kHz
14290, 18140, 21360, 24960, 28390 kHz (DX)

This years 50th JOTA will run from October 19th at 22:00 hours to October 21st at 24:00 hours YOUR local time.

An official start will be given by the World Scout Bureau radio station in Geneva, Switzerland on October 19th at 21:00 h UTC with a transmission in the 20 and 80 meter bands and on EchoLink.

Scouting's Sunrise with Amateur Radio

On 24th July to 8th August both the 21st World Scout Jamboree in Chelmsford in the United Kingdom and Brownsea Island will be on the air with their own fully equipped amateur radio stations.

Both will offer a radio programme to the participating Scouts. The stations are operated by an international team of Scout radio amateurs.

During the Sunrise Ceremony on 1st August, GB100J will have a central role in connecting the world together. It will be part of the Sunrise Network.

The staff at GB100J offer a full radio-scouting set of activities to all Jamboree participants. The station is located at the Central Plaza of the camp site and will be active on all HF bands. Arrangements are being made for a contact with the International Space Station on one of its passes over the Jamboree.
(rsgb)

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RESCUE RADIO

EMERGENCY FREQUENCIES REGION ONE
21.360 - 18.160 - 14.300 - 7.060 - 3.760 MHz.

Canberra Region Amateur Radio Club have just successfully assisted with the Rally of Canberra.

A full on weekend, with Friday seeing 3 people undertake duties at 3 field locations, and 3 persons rostered thru HQ

Saturday saw 29 people undertake duties at 32 field locations, and 8 persons rostered thru HQ

Sunday again saw 29 people undertake duties at 35 field locations and 8 rostered thru HQ

A Total of some 44 plus individuals across the entire event, (Most whom hold CAMS officials licences for either Rally, Communications and/or Flags)

Some 772 Man-hours undertaken on the weekend of the Rally, and 267 Man-hours undertaking Pre / Post event work. a staggering 1039 Man-hours in total.

Well done C.R.A.R.C.

SOCIAL SCENE

July 7+8 - GippsTech
Conference for VHF, UHF & SHF enthusiasts in Australia.
Held at the Gippsland Campus of Monash University in Churchill, about two hours drive east of Melbourne.
www.qsl.net\vk3bez\index.htm

August 5 - HAMFEST 2007 happens in Perth at 9am.
Cyril Jackson Recreation Centre
Fisher Street

Ashfield.

SEPTEMBER 21-23
North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention
Happening in twin cities of Thuringowa and Townsville.

JANUARY 20 2008

The Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group invite all amateurs to attend the 2008 Mid North Coast Radio Expo to be held in Coffs Harbour on Sunday 20th January.

The Expo is held at the St Johns Church Hall, Mc Lean Street, Coffs Harbour. Gary VK2ZKT is the Radio Expo Coordinator on 02 66 55 2 990 or visit the Groups comprehensive web site at www.mncarg.org

REWIND - A LOOK BACK IN HISTORY
(Will McGhie VK6UU is WIA National Historian)

National Film & Sound Archive - 01 - 1896 - The Hen Convention

1896 - The Hen Convention - The earliest known Australian recording, made by Dr Thomas Rome of a novelty song featuring imitations of a chook.

This recording is known to have been made prior to 15th January 1897 at the Warnambool Industrial and Art Exhibition.

www.nfsa.afc.gov.au/soundsofaustralia

==========

WIANews - we've reported...YOU decide.

HOP TO SPECIFIC WIANews TOPICS

WIA WEB ZONE, www.wia.org.au

WIANews THANKS OUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS , OUR RELAY OPERATORS ACROSS THE WORLD FOR FORWARDING INFORMATION AND COMMENTS THEIR LISTENERS HAVE PASSED ON TO MAKE WIANews VK'S LEADING WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PROGRAM.

E-mail WIANews WITH VK STORIES.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".

Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of QNEWS for the National WIA.

Thanks to to our dedicated band of broadcast volunteers who utilize their time and equipment in bringing you this weekly broadcast.

The purpose of "WIANews" is to rapidly provide news of interest to
active amateurs residing in Australia and the globe.

We strongly encourage membership in the Wireless Institute of Australia
and participation in the activities of local clubs.

Opinions expressed in "WIANews" are those of the writers who submit
material and do not necessarily reflect those of the rebroadcasters,
nor the National WIA.

Material may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, a credit
to WIANews wouldn't go astray...

1174. Re: Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-24 19:43:14 UTC
From: Pat Cook <pchamster@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <Vf6dnWNf3axjEuPbnZ2dnUVZ_h2pnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4229

Hi everyone:
"Mike Andrews" <mikea@mikea.ath.cx> wrote in message
news:f57h7l$r2o$1@puck.litech.org...
> On Mon, 18 Jun 2007 22:50:50 EDT, N2EY@aol.com wrote in
> <1182220609.914641.260340@p77g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>:
>> Folks,
>
>> What are people doing for Field Day this year?
>
> Staying home. The local club has talked the talk two years running,
> telling my wife and others that they were welcome to operate, but
> failed to walk the walk and actually let them operate when they asked
> to. "Fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice, shame on me." The
> crowning glory was the club president and the repeater trustee jumping
> her at a meeting because she dared to bring up the problems with the
> repeater during bad weather, precisely when the repeater is most
> needed. I've been on the club repeater since then only to run my
> weekly net, and that'll die when my dues and membership expire.
>
> I'll be catching up on house maintenance. Y'all have fun.
This will undoubtedly be past tense by the time most people read this but I
worked Field Day from home BUT I did so with a twist.

What I did was take my webcam and point it at the display of my ICOM IC-706
MKII-G and put that out on the Internet (Complete with audio) as I worked
mainly 2 meter SSB (My only antenna was a 2m/440 Mhz. vertical mag mount
which was mounted outside on the patio railing and up 7 floors).

On Saturday Night, I also put together a little video describing what Ham
Radio is and some of the many facets of the hobby (I also made sure to
mention Field Day and its purpose too :)). I plan to make this a streaming
video in Windows Media format and made available via video podcast as well.

On Saturday, I was in the chat room on my website, but everyone who logged
into the chat room just simply came and went, so I didn't even bother
logging on today.

>From what I hear, there was LOTS of 6 meter activity, but alas, it would be
just my luck to NOT have a suitable antenna (Not even a 5/8 2 meter vertical
mag mount antenna) to work any of the stations on the band. :(

Oh well. There's always next year....

Who knows, I might even have something for 10 meters next year too.

Oh well....What I wished would've & could've been.....

Cheers & 73 :D

Pat Cook, KB0OXD
Denver, Colorado
WEBSITE - http://www.qsl.net/kb0oxd/
**NEW VIDEO SECTION - http://www.qsl.net/kb0oxd/cybershacktv/

1175. Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-24 19:43:40 UTC
From: Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-20793A.06145024062007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 4230

The world of ham radio seems to have left the ARRL behind. It was inexcusably slow to accept the obsolescence of Morse code and, in the process, its curmudgeonly foot dragging alienated most of its potential future members. Its web site suggests that it has no vision of any future beyond the preservation of the status quo. In short, it is so mired in the past that it has no future.
That said, it seems imperative that hams have some sort of functioning and EFFECTIVE membership organization. Is there some existing organization that could serve as the nucleus of a new membership organization or would it make more sense to form a new association from scratch?

--

A recent, no-code Amateur Extra

1176. Re: Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-24 19:44:03 UTC
From: Pat Cook <pchamster@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <dNadnQYP3-ZWD-PbnZ2dnUVZ_t6qnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4231

Hi everyone:
"Mike Coslo" <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net> wrote in message
news:Xns995426BE5661mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136...
> It's always a little interesting trying to talk the local pizza places
> into delivering to a field outside of town. Sometimes they do, and
> sometimes they won't.

Well that's because of (And in response to) what happened to that one pizza
delivery guy who wound up taking part in a bank robbery with a bomb strapped
to him. Remember that?

I wonder if they caught the mastermind moron responsible
for that...

> Of course Field Day isn't for everyone.

Hey...Not all of us are in love with the gnats ya know! :) *LOL!*

Cheers & 73 :D

Pat Cook, KB0OXD
Denver, Colorado
WEBSITE - http://www.qsl.net/kb0oxd/
**NEW VIDEO SECTION - http://www.qsl.net/kb0oxd/cybershacktv/

1177. Re: Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-24 19:45:53 UTC
From: Pat Cook <pchamster@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <ILCdnYDcW53SA-PbnZ2dnUVZ_vmqnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4232

Hi everyone:
"Bryan" <bryan.swadenerNOSPAM@comcast.net> wrote in message
news:z_CdnUlrZfFHOuXbnZ2dnUVZ_vqpnZ2d@giganews.com...
> The logging PC will have it's own homebrew DC-DC >boost converter.

Out of curiosity (Yes I know what it does to cats :) *LOL!*), why not just
simply use A LAPTOP? You can always replace the batteries in a laptop.

Again....Just out of curiosity (At the risk of feline death I might add :)
LOL!)

Cheers & 73 :D

Pat Cook, KB0OXD
Denver, Colorado
WEBSITE - http://www.qsl.net/kb0oxd/
**NEW VIDEO SECTION - http://www.qsl.net/kb0oxd/cybershacktv/

1178. Re: Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-24 20:50:28 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1182718200.618480.68940@c77g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4233

On Jun 24, 3:45?pm, "Pat Cook" <pchams...@gmail.com> wrote:

> > The logging PC will have it's own homebrew DC-DC
> >boost converter.

> Out of curiosity
> why not just
> simply use A LAPTOP? You can always replace the
> batteries in a laptop.

I think they are using a laptop, because I don't know any desktops that run on 12 volts DC (though there are probably some). It sounds to me like what they did was to use a laptop with a charging cord meant to go into an auto accessory power socket. That way, the primary power comes from the 12 volt power system they need for the rig, and the laptop's internal battery is used for backup in case there is some sort of power interruption.

FD lasts more than 24 hours, and I don't know any laptops whose batteries will run that long. Using external power means no interruptions.

73 de Jim, N2EY

just got back from FD

1179. Four Months After FCC 06-178

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-24 22:03:50 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1182722608.650590.188710@j4g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4234

U.S. License Changes on After/Before 23 February 2007
from www.hamdata.com:

Hamdata information of four-month period 24 Feb 07 to 24 Jun 07

New Licensees 11,022 \......Positive growth of 671
Expirations 10,351 /
Class Changes 18,603
Call Changes 3,679

By comparison, the SIX-month periods ending 25 Jan 07 and 24 Jun 07
[inside square brackets] show a more averaged effect of FCC 06-178:

New Licensees 10,095 [15,002]
Expirations 12,815 [15,041]
Class Changes 5,921 [20,814]
Call Changes 2,815 [4,621]

The major change was in the ability of "lower" classes to upgrade,
indicated by the Class Changes. There is a slight upturn in Callsign
changes of June v. January which is probably prompted by the ability
to change Class. While new licensees are up by about 50%, the
expirations also rose in June v. January. For the two six-month
periods there is still a difference of new licensees not quite
offsetting the expirations.

Note that the period ending 25 January 2007 includes the FCC 06-178
announcement on 15 December 2006. That may or may not have
some slight bias on numbers. But the six-month period ending
24 June 2007 includes one month where code testing was required
for General and Extra classes, also a slight bias on numbers.

In the comparison of 24 June 2007 to 24 June 2006 the total
individual licensees (exclusive of Club calls) is down, 711,828 in
2007 compared to 728,431 in 2006 for a deficit of 6,603 for one
year. The slow shrinkage of total numbers continues as it has for
four years.

73, Len AF6AY

1180. IRTS Radio News Bulletin, Sunday June 24th 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-24 23:02:02 UTC
From: news at irts dot ie <devnull@panix.com>
Message-ID: <200706242000.l5OK0Eb03017@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4235
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Irish Radio Transmitters Society
Radio News Bulletin

Sunday June 24th 2007

Condolences

We are very sorry to have to tell you of the death of Maurice Moore of Kilmeedy Co. Limerick the father of Dave EI4BZ. Maurice was taken ill and died suddenly in hospital early on Friday the 15th of June.

Dave was on his way by car to the continent for a holiday, which would have included the Friedrichshafen rally. He was just outside London early on the Friday morning when he got a telephone call about the sudden death of his father. He returned home and the funeral was held on Monday last. To Dave and to his family we extend our deepest sympathy and may Maurice rest in peace.

International Museums Weekend

International Museums Weekend took place on Saturday and Sunday last. The Howth Martello Radio Group activated EI0MAR from the vintage radio museum in Howth. Band conditions weren't good, however those who attended enjoyed a very sociable event. After the station went QRT on Saturday, some of the group QSYed to the Yacht in Clontarf to end the day suitably with a meal.

The Howth Peninsula Festival takes place next weekend and EI0MAR will once again be active on Sunday and possibly Saturday. Many of the events taking place during the festival are family orientated with open-air music, dancing, magic and puppet shows. A full listing of events is available at howthpeninsula.com.

AFRI75

During the IRTS Jubilee expedition to Swaziland the team met with the Scout Association and agreed to

support their Thirst for Life Programme, which helps Aids orphans in Swaziland. You will find details of the project on the Afri75 page of the IRTS website. The team is pleased to announce that the first initial funding for the project of 350 Euro is on its way to Swaziland and this will fund the purchase of chickens for their farm. The money was raised by donations included with direct QSL cards received from stations worked around the world, together with funds raised from the sale of Afri75 caps at the AGM in Cork. The team are still anxious to continue support for the project, and if you think you can help please contact Paul EI2CA.

Hong Kong Special Prefix

Approval has been granted for the use of the Special Prefix "VR10" in addition to "VR2" for Hong Kong Radio Amateurs starting from the 1st of July 2007 to the 30th of June 2008 for the 10th anniversary of Hong Kong's reunification with China.

More details are available in the OFTA letter for Hong Kong Radio Amateurs, which can be found at www.ofta.gov.hk/en/amateur/ama-cir200706.pdf.

HARTS is also going to use the special callsign "VR10HK" as HARTS HQ Station especially during the IARU HF Contest (14-15/7/2007).

For further information, please contact the Award and Contest Manager VR2XNG (Dawood Ng) through email at
�excom2007 at harts dot org dot hk�.

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2 Metre News Bulletin

Tony, EI5EM paid a visit to Sean, EI5GH regular Sunday two-metres newsreader last Friday. Sean has been ill now for several months in St. Vincent's Hospital in Dublin. Sean was in good form and was glad to receive all the latest news from Tony who passed on the good wishes of all those who listen to the news. Sean sends his regards to all and hopefully he will be well enough soon to return home.

Tony and John EI7JG have been trying to keep the news going during Sean's absence on an ad hoc basis. Unfortunately, both will be away next weekend and this means that there probably will be no two-metre news next Sunday. Normal service should be resumed the

following week. Perhaps there are some other operators out there who would like to assist in keeping this long-standing service going. The IRTS would be glad to hear from any volunteers.

Limerick Radio Club

Limerick Radio Club has been invited by the Foynes Flying-Boat Museum to operate a special Amateur Radio Station in conjunction with the commemorative Transatlantic Re-Enactment Flight 1937 from Newfoundland Canada to Foynes Ireland. A special call sign has been allocated to the station EI-70-FOY. The station will be on the air from the 6th to the 8th of July 2007. On HF the station will operate from 80 to 10 metres. It will also operate on VHF / UHF using the EI70FOY call sign.

A special QSL card, commemorating the Re-Enactment Flight, will be sent to all stations worked over the three-day event. All QSL cards should be sent to the Club's QSL Manager Alan Cronin EI8EM at QTHR. Limerick Radio Club can be contacted at ei4lrc at eircom dot net or at www.qsl.net/ei4lrc.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group

The next general meeting will take place on Monday the 25th of June at 8.00 p.m. in the Roanmore Centre, Waterford.

A portion of the meeting will be for all operators who have volunteered their services for the cycle race on the 1st of July and those operators who will be assisting are urged to attend so that radio protocol and equipment requirements etc. can be discussed.

Foyle and District Amateur Radio Club

Foyle and District Amateur Radio Club, Bready, Strabane, Co. Tyrone will be heading to St. Angelo Airport, Enniskillen for the 2007 Jet World Masters competition. The competition itself runs from the 5th to the 14th of July. The club station will be on the air during the weekend July the 13th and 14th using the club's callsign MN0AKU/P.

This event is the ultimate radio-controlled model aircraft competition. These model planes are capable of speeds up to 250 miles per hour. One hundred pilots

from 31 countries will be taking part in this competition. More information can be found on their website www.jwm2007.com

The club wishes to express its gratitude to all the operators who contacted them during the 2 days of their Amelia Earhart special event station on May the 20th and 21st. A sepia-tone photo of the aviator has been used for a unique QSL card and these will soon be sent out via the buro. Foyle and District Amateur Radio Clubs web address is www.mn0aku.org.uk.

Comeragh Cycle Race

The national under 23 road racing championship will take place in Waterford on the 1st of July. Richie EI9HR is event Co-ordinator and he is being assisted by John EI8JA. This year's race will be on a greater scale with over 160 riders taking part. The Civil Defence have come on board this year to help with marshalling and RTE will be filming the event.

AREN will provide the communications for safe traffic management and accident reporting. There will be more radio reporting points and mobile stations than last year so more radio operators are required. Again newcomers are welcome and training will be provided on the morning of the race. This is an excellent opportunity for operators to put their radio skills to good use in a very enjoyable and rewarding way for the benefit of the Community. All operators irrespective of experience are welcome.

Please contact Richie on mobile 085-1465465 or evenings on 051-854315. You can also contact Richie by e-mail at "ei9hr at yahoo dot com". Those who have volunteered to assist with this event are asked to attend the meeting in Waterford on Monday the 25th.

Rally's

The Cork Radio Club Rally will take place on Sunday the 23rd of September in the Blarney Park Hotel, Blarney, Co. Cork, the Waterford Rally will take place on the 21st of October 2007 in the Woodlands Hotel, Waterford and the Mayo Radio Rally will be on Sunday the 18th of November in the Belmont Hotel, Knock, Co. Mayo.

A full listing of upcoming rally's is available on www.irts.ie.

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall, EI7IS at QTHR or by phone to 051-853806 or 087-6302026. Items for the radio news can also be faxed to 087 5 6302026. News should be submitted via e-mail to ﷺnews at irts dot ieﷺ for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Friday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday ﷺs bulletin.

1181. Re: Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-25 02:00:01 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns9959D2CABD68Dmcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 4236

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote in news:1182718200.618480.68940
@c77g2000hse.googlegroups.com:

> I think they are using a laptop, because I don't know any desktops
> that run on 12 volts DC (though there are probably some). It sounds to
> me like what they did was to use a laptop with a charging cord meant
> to go into an auto accessory power socket. That way, the primary power
> comes from the 12 volt power system they need for the rig, and the
> laptop's internal battery is used for backup in case there is some
> sort of power interruption.
>
> FD lasts more than 24 hours, and I don't know any laptops whose
> batteries will run that long. Using external power means no
> interruptions.

An awful lot of laptops run on 18 Volts DC. My IBM's Dells, snd most recently, a Toshiba. (actually it is 19 Volts) If you aren't going to run them off 120 volts and their own power supply, you'll need to run a DC to DC p.s.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1182. Re: Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-25 02:24:01 UTC
From: Jerseyj <jerseyj69@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <jerseyj69-585D8F.22061724062007@comcast.dca.giganews.com>
Source record: 4237

Hi all,
Hope you all had a great FD, I certainly did. I started out by helping with setup, and then also worked as a VE in a test session we began at 10AM, had one person go from no license to Extra in that one session! The test session really worked out well and we're eager to do that again next year. Got some new club members out of it too *smile*.

I came back at 8pm (an hour earlier than scheduled) with the unlicensed YL who once more worked as my logger (though I had to bribe her with some ice cream on the way *smile) and we had a great time, including contacting W1AW! We also enjoyed contacting many VE3 sations as my wife is Canadian/American.

We headed home for the night and on the spur of the moment I decided to head back and help out, so I ended up logging for 3 more hours then made the last 2 contacts of the event.

All in all , it was a great event for all (with much better weather than last year when I was working the righ with rain water running down my back from a hole in the tent...what a deluge).

Wonder if I worked any of you ? We were using our club call of W3QBD, in Delaware.

Jerry

1183. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-25 03:46:51 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <137tqojdnl97m56@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 4238

"Klystron" wrote

> The world of ham radio seems to have left the ARRL behind. It was
> inexcusably slow to accept the obsolescence of Morse code and, in the
> process, its curmudgeonly foot dragging alienated most of its potential
> future members.

Morse is obsolete? Hmmm.....

N7SO

1184. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-25 04:11:25 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <467f0138$0$321$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 4239

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

In <xxx-20793A.06145024062007@news.verizon.net> Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz> writes:

> The world of ham radio seems to have left the ARRL behind. It was
>inexcusably slow to accept the obsolescence of Morse code and, in the
>process, its curmudgeonly foot dragging alienated most of its potential
>future members. Its web site suggests that it has no vision of any
>future beyond the preservation of the status quo. In short, it is so
>mired in the past that it has no future.
> That said, it seems imperative that hams have some sort of
>functioning and EFFECTIVE membership organization. Is there some
>existing organization that could serve as the nucleus of a new
>membership organization or would it make more sense to form a new
>association from scratch?

>--
>----
>A recent, no-code Amateur Extra

This is a quite well-trodden subject. I refer you to many, many threads
on the subject in the past in the newsgroups archives. Go to Google
Groups at http://groups.google.com and search for:

ARRL "new organization"

for a start.

Many past efforts at a replacement organization have been tried, and
failed. Most notably was an organization led by "73" Magazine Editor
Wayne Green, W2NSD (the "Institute of Amateur Radio"). Sometimes the
leadership was just too controversial or confrontational. In the case
of Glenn Baxter, K1MAN (American Amateur Radio Association,
International Amateur Radio Network), it's hard to set a good example,
and encourage those to follow you, when you're constantly in trouble
with the FCC and hiding behind the alleged endorsements of many people
who want nothing to do with you, and repeatedly disavow such endorsement
(e.g., Walter Cronkite KB2GSD and Leo Meyerson W0GFQ).

Some organizations are very worthwhile, such as QCWA, AMSAT, TAPR, etc.,
but are too specialized to have very large membership rolls. Some
organizations are for the purpose of seeking specific changes or
political reforms, and lose traction once those reforms have been
achieved (e.g., NCI).

It's been pointed out that many ARRL Director and Section Manager elections run unopposed. Why go to the trouble to build a new organization from the ground up, if getting involved with the ARRL and changing from within might be a better strategy?

It might also be reasonable to assume that those who find fault with the ARRL would find as much, or worse, fault with a new organization. Such an organization can never be perfect, and will not be able to avoid disagreeing with someone on some point of view. Practical administration of such an organization, particularly if it encompasses a large cross-section of amateurs, will likely involve some negotiation and compromises. Organizations also have to be for things, in addition to just being against things. Are the complainers and non-joiners up to the task?

Part of taking the lead in any new effort, whether it be a new newsgroup, a new local club, or a new national organization, is to step up, introduce yourself, and try to build others' trust, such that they would want to follow you. One good first step for such a leader or leaders would be to step out of the shadows of anonymity and identify themselves, IMHO.

- --
73, Paul W. Schleck, K3FU
pschleck@novia.net
http://www.novia.net/~pschleck/
Finger pschleck@novia.net for PGP Public Key
-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v1.4.5 (SunOS)

iD8DBQFGfwDy6Pj0az779o4RAt8SAKCgNHG/oV6xK09bIzcnnBCPN7026ACgh5Hm
2owUCBl4QkLRb+cgGQdU00o=
=E+Ia
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----

1185. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-25 08:55:42 UTC
From: Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-0A8F5B.00242625062007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 4240

Jim Higgins <invalid@invalid.invalid> wrote:
>
> We already have a membership organization so what you must be talking
> about is a different membership organization that appeals to a
> different set of members. So... exactly which different set of
> members would that be?

75% of all hams are NOT members of the ARRL. I'd start with them.

1186. Re: Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-25 08:58:17 UTC
From: Bryan <bryan.swadenerNOSPAM@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <jfednQDZFIKnyeLbnZ2dnUVZ_t-mnZ2d@giganews.com>
Source record: 4241

Mike Coslo wrote:
> N2EY wrote:
>
> > I think they are using a laptop, because I don't know any desktops
> > that run on 12 volts DC (though there are probably some). It sounds to
> > me like what they did was to use a laptop with a charging cord meant
> > to go into an auto accessory power socket. That way, the primary power
> > comes from the 12 volt power system they need for the rig, and the
> > laptop's internal battery is used for backup in case there is some
> > sort of power interruption.
> >
> > FD lasts more than 24 hours, and I don't know any laptops whose
> > batteries will run that long. Using external power means no
> > interruptions.
>
> An awful lot of laptops run on 18 Volts DC. My IBM's Dells, snd most
> recently, a Toshiba. (actually it is 19 Volts) If you aren't going to run
> them off 120 volts and their own power supply, you'll need to run a DC to
> DC p.s.
>
> - 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

I so do dislike quoting myself but, "The logging PC will have it's own
homebrew DC-DC boost converter."
The laptop PC's AC power supply produces 16VDC @ 4A. The DC-DC boost
converter produces regulated 16VDC @ 4.5A. The boost converter for the rig
similarly produces 14VDC @ 25A. Both units are dead quiet in terms of EMI,
and aren't upset in the presence of RF.
Bryan WA7PRC

1187. Re: Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-25 08:59:45 UTC
From: Bryan <bryan.swadenerNOSPAM@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <O_Odnaa28r9SzOLbnZ2dnUVZ_rqhnZ2d@giganews.com>
Source record: 4242

Pat Cook wrote:
> Hi everyone:
> Bryan wrote:
> > The logging PC will have it's own homebrew DC-DC >boost converter.
>
> Out of curiosity (Yes I know what it does to cats :) *LOL!*), why not just
> simply use A LAPTOP? You can always replace the batteries in a laptop.
>
> Again....Just out of curiosity (At the risk of feline death I might add :)
> *LOL!*)
>
> Cheers & 73 :D
>
> Pat Cook, KB0OXD
> Denver, Colorado

We *did* use a laptop. The batteries won't run 24 hrs continuously w/o being changed which, in the middle of a pileup, you don't want to have to do. On the other hand, 4 x 80 Ah 12V lead-acid batteries in parallel can more than handle the load of a 100W HF xcvr + the laptop's meager power requirement. We used this unit in Tent2, with zero issues. Tent1 used AC-powered equipment and they had to keep an eye on the generator fuel level... while listening to the drone of the engine.
Bryan WA7PRC

1188. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-25 13:20:26 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f5oehu$1esk$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4243

Klystron wrote:
> Jim Higgins <invalid@invalid.invalid> wrote:
>> We already have a membership organization so what you must be talking
>> about is a different membership organization that appeals to a
>> different set of members. So... exactly which different set of
>> members would that be?
>
>
> 75% of all hams are NOT members of the ARRL. I'd start with them.

Respectfully, I would suggest that you start the new organization, Klystron. If the present situation is unacceptable, then go out and change it.

I might caution you that reading that 75 percent figure that a person can get a distorted perspective. Are all those Hams active? Are they from the group of Hams who came in during the so called "honeydo era" when repeaters functioned as a sort of public cell phone for a lot of folks? They started dropping off a few years ago, and will likely continue for several more years.

It is just about a sure thing that most members of the ARRL are a group that is actively involved in amateur radio. So they pay their dues, vote, and get something for their money (in their opinion)

> That said, it seems imperative that hams have some sort of
> functioning and EFFECTIVE membership organization. Is there some
> existing organization that could serve as the nucleus of a new
> membership organization or would it make more sense to form a new
> association from scratch?

I would suggest that you start the process of forming a new organization.

I would respectfully suggest that you might think about omitting statements about the obsolescence of Morse code. Give some consideration to your statement:

>>It was inexcusably slow to accept the obsolescence of Morse code and,
>> in the process, its curmudgeonly foot dragging alienated most of its
>> potential future members.

You are alienating the users of the mode - who are also more likely to be Active Hams, IMO. As well as those of us who are presumably at least somewhat satisfied with the ARRL's performance, witness our continued writing of dues checks.

After all is said and done, your task is to organize a group that includes inactive Hams, disinterested Hams, Hams who are content to make use of the ARRL's benefits without getting involved personally, and those who are frugally noncommittal to the whole thing.

When you do start this new organization, it might be helpful to provide a monthly post to the newsgroups in the same manner that we have in r.r.a.info and r.r.a.moderated.

As a start,an outline statement about what your organization is going to do for us would be helpful.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1189. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-25 15:28:55 UTC
From: Iitoi <Iitoi@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <f5ohl7$d1e$1@aioe.org>
Source record: 4244

"Klystron" <xxx@yyy.zzz> wrote in message
news:xxx-20793A.06145024062007@news.verizon.net...

> That said, it seems imperative that hams have some sort of
> functioning and EFFECTIVE membership organization. Is there some
> existing organization that could serve as the nucleus of a new
> membership organization or would it make more sense to form a new
> association from scratch?

Dear "xxx",

ARRL is just one of several amateur radio clubs which I am a member of, each for various reasons. (And I think it is important to note that ARRL is just another amateur radio club, although larger than most.)

I belong to CADXA to associate with others who work DX.
I belong to NCCC to associate with other contesters.
I belong to SOC to associate with other hams who don't take themselves too seriously.
I belong to ARRL because they once gave me a scholarship, and to associate with others who read QST.
If you start a new radio club, maybe I'll find a reason to join it also.

The Man in the maze
QRV at Baboquivari Peak, AZ

--
Iitoi

1190. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-25 15:29:12 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <ZoCdnebOuuikUOLbnZ2dnUVZ_ternZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4245

"Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
news:f5oehu$1esk$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...
> Klystron wrote:
>> Jim Higgins <invalid@invalid.invalid> wrote:
>>> We already have a membership organization so what you must be talking
>>> about is a different membership organization that appeals to a
>>> different set of members. So... exactly which different set of
>>> members would that be?
>>
>>
>> 75% of all hams are NOT members of the ARRL. I'd start with them.
>
> Respectfully, I would suggest that you start the new organization,
> Klystron. If the present situation is unacceptable, then go out and change
> it.
>
> I might caution you that reading that 75 percent figure that a person can
> get a distorted perspective. Are all those Hams active? Are they from the
> group of Hams who came in during the so called "honeydo era" when
> repeaters functioned as a sort of public cell phone for a lot of folks?
> They started dropping off a few years ago, and will likely continue for
> several more years.
>

In addition, there are a significant number of people who simply are not
joiners regardless of what they may think of an organization. Of those who
are active but not members of the ARRL, I'd bet the majority of them simply
fall into the "non-joiner" class.

Dee, N8UZE

1191. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-25 19:16:24 UTC
From: RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net>
Message-ID: <1182781052.718891.119640@o61g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4246

On Jun 24, 7:43 pm, Klystron <x...@yyy.zzz> wrote:

> That said, it seems imperative that hams have some sort of
> functioning and EFFECTIVE membership organization. Is there some
> existing organization that could serve as the nucleus of a new
> membership organization or would it make more sense to form a new
> association from scratch?

Have you considered AARA, which bills itself as "your alternative to
ARRL".

Website at http://members.aol.com/_ht_a/iarntraffic/myhomepage/business.html

73,

RDW

1192. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-25 19:18:43 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1182797220.636506.179120@a26g2000pre.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4247

Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote on Mon, 25 Jun 2007 09:20:26 EDT:

>Klystron wrote:
>> Jim Higgins <inva...@invalid.invalid> wrote:
>>> We already have a membership organization so what you must be talking
>>>about is a different membership organization that appeals to a
>>> different set of members. So... exactly which different set of
>>> members would that be?
>
>> 75% of all hams are NOT members of the ARRL. I'd start with them.

> I might caution you that reading that 75 percent figure that a person
>can get a distorted perspective. Are all those Hams active? Are they
>from the group of Hams who came in during the so called "honeydo era"
>when repeaters functioned as a sort of public cell phone for a lot of
>folks? They started dropping off a few years ago, and will likely
>continue for several more years.

I would caution you not to ask unanswerable questions. :-(

The Publisher's Sworn Statement, the only document able to yield a
direct number of ARRL members to any public individual, has been
missing from their website for over a half year. It is available only
by
surface mail...if they choose to send it to a requestor. From
elesewhere in QST one can glean an approximate membership
number of 152 thousand...which may or may not be accurate.
Assuming it is -

As of 23 June 2007 the FCC database contained 711,828 individual
amateur radio licensees (i.e., exclusive of Clubs). As a percentage
of
those, the ARRL membership is 21.4%. The ARRL's US license
totals page for 23 June 2007 indicates 654,616 individual licensees
NOT in their Grace Period for renewal. Compared to those, the ARRL
membership is 23.2%. Grace Period licensees number are apparently
57,212 total for that database date. That is inferred by subtracting
non-
grace-period individual licensee totals from the grand total of all
individual licensees.

The use of "active" versus "inactive" licensees is incorrect,
disinformative.
It should be Non-Grace-Period versus In-Grace-Period. A licensee may
or not be active in radio operation during their license Non-Grace-
Period;

there is no Poll or other data to prove their radio operation
activity. Those
licensees in their Grace Period may be ill, deceased, on active duty
with
the military, relocated for work purposes, or somewhere off-planet not
on
NASA duty. There is no data available to indicate which or what on
those.
Neither is there any data on the number of "honey-do" licensees. Such
remarks are highly subjective, hearsay, or simply specious.

> It is just about a sure thing that most members of the ARRL are a group
>that is actively involved in amateur radio. So they pay their dues,
>vote, and get something for their money (in their opinion)

The "sure thing" cannot be proven and is merely subjective. There are
many fraternal orders active in the USA with active dues income,
voting,
and so forth but most members do not really concern themselves with
the actions of those fraternal orders.

If all your amateur radio news comes from ARRL sources (as their
origin),
are you getting news in the objective journalistic manner or are you
getting subjective news that is slanted to favor the ARRL? Recall
that
ARRL membership is LESS than a quarter of any 'popular' grouping of
US amateur radio licensees. Since the publishing side of the ARRL
'house' has to make most of the operating income for the League, the
League wants the most positive picture of US amateur radio possible...
and to convince others that League publications are the best to buy.

> You are alienating the users of the mode - who are also more likely to
>be Active Hams, IMO. As well as those of us who are presumably at least
>somewhat satisfied with the ARRL's performance, witness our continued
>writing of dues checks.

"Users of the [CW] mode are the most active hams?!? Just how do you
go about proving that? There are still over 300 thousand US amateur
radio licensees in the no-code-test Technician Class as of 24 June
2007.
Are you not considering that the pro-coders have ALIENATED the no-
coders for years?

> As a start,an outline statement about what your organization is going
>to do for us would be helpful.

Would a Formal Business Plan with Attachments of Monetary Support for
initial start-up be sufficient help? Or have you considered that
"Klystron's"
remarks might be irritation at what the ARRL has NOT done for many or
that their 'support' for certain activities of amateur radio is NOT

there in the
abundance claimed by the League?

The ARRL is the *ONLY* national organization for US amateur radio.
Only
in that sense is it logical to belong. Let me know when the ARRL has
any
national competition for US amateur radio "representation."

AF6AY (dues-paid voting member of the ARRL)

1193. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-25 19:18:51 UTC
From: Iitoi <Iitoi@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <002a01c7b759$b90ba930$0100a8c0@BigGuyII>
Source record: 4248

"Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
news:f5oehu$1esk$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...

>
> Respectfully, I would suggest that you start the new organization,
Klystron.
>

>
> I would suggest that you start the process of forming a new
organization.
>

Mike,

These suggestions to "go start your own organization" from you and other
sources strikes most debaters as dismissive sophistry.

ARRL has on the order of many millions of dollars and over 100,000 loyal
members, making your position obviously untenable. Except perhaps on
some narrowly defined issue, the idea that "xxx" ("Klystron"?) could
challenge that pervasive influence by "forming a new organization" is
absurd on its face. We have a new fresh arena here in
rec.radio.moderated to engage in fair discussion and debate of ham
issues. Please don't debase this new newsgroup with messages of such
patronizing tone.

In contrast, I thought that the suggestions from K3FU to "change the
system from within" far more realistic and with more reasonable chances
for success by an individual or relatvely-smaller-than-ARRL groups of
people.

The Man in the Maze
QRL on Baboquivari Peak, AZ

--
Iitoi

--- StripMime Report -- processed MIME parts ---
multipart/alternative
text/plain (text body -- kept)
text/html

1194. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-25 19:19:29 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1182797710.773798.319640@e9g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4249

Paul W. Schleck wrote on 24 June 2007:

>It might also be reasonable to assume that those who find fault with the
>ARRL would find as much, or worse, fault with a new organization. Such
>an organization can never be perfect, and will not be able to avoid
>disagreeing with someone on some point of view. Practical
>administration of such an organization, particularly if it encompasses a
>large cross-section of amateurs, will likely involve some negotiation
>and compromises.

The ARRL is more Publishing House than a membership organization.
That part brings in the majority of a reported income to the IRS of
greater than $10 Million US annually. Can one "negotiate" with a
business? There is NO competitor for the ARRL to work against.

>... Are the complainers and non-joiners up to the task?

I am a voting member of the ARRL. I joined via Internet a couple
days after my name and callsign appeared on the FCC database.
Indeed, at the same time of day as joining, I was in private e-mail
with Ed Hare, W1RFI.

First problem: Someone at ARRL offices added an "Apartment 33"
to my QST address. I live in a single-family residence and have for
44 years. The Fullfillment Office at the ARRL did eventually correct
that. They may not be talking to their ARRL VEC side at Newington.
Not a big problem but it amused our USPS deliverer.

Second problem: Two weeks after receiving my ARRL membership
card in the mail, a "Ham Kit" of literature was in my mailbox,
offering
"my choice of a book 'free' if I were to join." I contacted ARRL by e-
mail
and was - essentially - shined off. Since I had already joined by my
own volition, TS, the 'free offer' doesn't apply to me. Am I happy
with
that? No. Can I do anything about it? No. Did I know about this
'free offer' ahead of time? No. Was the ARRL VEC side of ARRL
talking to the ARRL Membership people? Apparently not.

That's just one small sampling of one very new member of the ONLY
national amateur radio membership organization in the USA. It has
had many variations of problems with many others.

However, it would seem that one should NOT complain about the
League, am I correct? "Bad Form," yes? :-(

AF6AY

1195. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-25 21:04:00 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f5p7i9$1dao$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4250

Iitoi wrote:
> "Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
> news:f5oehu$1esk$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...
>
>> Respectfully, I would suggest that you start the new organization,
> Klystron.
>
>
>> I would suggest that you start the process of forming a new
> organization.
>
> Mike,
>
> These suggestions to "go start your own organization" from you and other
> sources strikes most debaters as dismissive sophistry.

I'm not certain about the sophistry part. But it could be considered
dismissive from my experience in amateur radio as well as life.

There are doers, and there are those who talk about doing things. I
really don't think this person is going to do anything about the
egregious wrongs s/he sees coming from Newington.

>
> ARRL has on the order of many millions of dollars and over 100,000 loyal
> members, making your position obviously untenable. Except perhaps on
> some narrowly defined issue, the idea that "xxx" ("Klystron"?) could
> challenge that pervasive influence by "forming a new organization" is
> absurd on its face.

Why? I'm not naive enough to believe that Klystron is going to form an
organization and topple the ARRL in a year. But all organizations are
formed of men and women who want to do something. They all have to start
somewhere.

If enough people are as "alienated" as he says, it should be possible
to compete however, and build a new alternative to ARRL membership. I've
given enough reasons that I don't think it will work, but I don't mind
being proven wrong.

We have a new fresh arena here in
> rec.radio.moderated to engage in fair discussion and debate of ham
> issues.

Discussion is great, discussion is good. Without someone actually doing
something, it doesn't accomplish much.

I'm much more impressed by discussion followed by action. Sad to say, there isn't much of that.

When someone gets in a leadership position, they are often assailed by other folks who know just exactly what is "wrong". I've had people haranguing me for hours, and evening visits at the front door from people who want to bend my ear to correct some egregious wrong they have suffered.

Those who complain the loudest, and who have the biggest punch list of "things that I have to do", always things that will benefit the person making the demands to the detriment of everyone else, have one thing in common - the second I ask them for help, They disappear.

Please don't debase this new newsgroup with messages of such
> patronizing tone.

My message is pretty simple. Take away all the "sophistry" and it is:

- "If you don't like what is happening, get involved. Change it."

I hope that no one thinks that is a bad idea! 8^)

Talk is pretty inexpensive, action is what gets things done. Many people really dislike that message.

> In contrast, I thought that the suggestions from K3FU to "change the
> system from within" far more realistic and with more reasonable chances
> for success by an individual or relatvely-smaller-than-ARRL groups of
> people.

Of course. Perhaps "Klystron" would like to join the ARRL and work his/her way up through the ranks and if enough people agree with Klystron, change will be made. Now that's good advice!

But at the same time I would say "If it is so bad, start your own organization" is also good advice.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1196. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-25 21:04:47 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f5p8mt$1elm$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4251

AF6AY wrote:

>> I might caution you that reading that 75 percent figure that a person
>> can get a distorted perspective. Are all those Hams active? Are they
>>from the group of Hams who came in during the so called "honeydo era"
>> when repeaters functioned as a sort of public cell phone for a lot of
>> folks? They started dropping off a few years ago, and will likely
>> continue for several more years.
>
> I would caution you not to ask unanswerable questions. :-(

Perhaps. The point is that even if 75 percent of Amateurs are not
members of the ARRL, they should be in a different organization if they
are inclined to be in any organization at all.

We can speculate on the reasons, but it is educated guesses.

>> It is just about a sure thing that most members of the ARRL are a group
>> that is actively involved in amateur radio. So they pay their dues,
>> vote, and get something for their money (in their opinion)
>
> The "sure thing" cannot be proven and is merely subjective. There are
> many fraternal orders active in the USA with active dues income,
> voting, and so forth but most members do not really concern themselves with
> the actions of those fraternal orders.

Just personal experience from my area. The active hams "round here" are
almost all members, and the inactive ones aren't.

>> You are alienating the users of the mode - who are also more likely to
>> be Active Hams, IMO. As well as those of us who are presumably at least
>> somewhat satisfied with the ARRL's performance, witness our continued
>> writing of dues checks.
>
> "Users of the [CW] mode are the most active hams?!? Just how do you
> go about proving that? There are still over 300 thousand US amateur
> radio licensees in the no-code-test Technician Class as of 24 June
> 2007.

More personal experience here. Everyone else's mileage may vary.

>
>> As a start,an outline statement about what your organization is going
>> to do for us would be helpful.
>
> Would a Formal Business Plan with Attachments of Monetary Support for
> initial start-up be sufficient help? Or have you considered that

> "Klystron's"
> remarks might be irritation at what the ARRL has NOT done for many or
> that their 'support' for certain activities of amateur radio is NOT
> there in the abundance claimed by the League?

As I wrote to another, if he is irritated enough, he might think of
doing something about it.

That's what I do. Seems to work too.

> The ARRL is the *ONLY* national organization for US amateur radio.
> Only in that sense is it logical to belong. Let me know when the ARRL has
> any national competition for US amateur radio "representation."

Let me ask the question a different way, one in which I'm not the
discussion stompin' bad guy.

Given that 75 percent of Amateurs are not members of the ARRL, why is
there not another organization that represents this majority of Hams?

I have my opinion, and it is that with the exception of a small
percentage, those Hams don't care to be part of any group.

But my advice is the same as when an amateur wants to build an antenna
that obviously won't work. "Give it a try, and tell us how it works
out". 8^)

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1197. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-25 21:05:07 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f5p8uc$1elo$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4252

AF6AY wrote:

> and was - essentially - shined off. Since I had already joined by my
> own volition, TS, the 'free offer' doesn't apply to me. Am I happy
> with
> that? No. Can I do anything about it? No.

It is also a great example of how giving something away is never ever a good idea. There has been more anger generated over the years by free offers that probably anything else. 8^(

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1198. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-25 21:32:51 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1182806578.320666.179490@e9g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4253

On Jun 25, 1:05?pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> AF6AY wrote:
> > and was - essentially - shined off. Since I had already joined by my
> > own volition, TS, the 'free offer' doesn't apply to me. Am I happy
> > with that? No. Can I do anything about it? No.
>
> It is also a great example of how giving something away is never ever a
> good idea. There has been more anger generated over the years by free
> offers that probably anything else. 8^(

That was NOT my irritant. Here were three separate office groups
at Newington (VEC, Fulfillment, Membership) NOT in apparent
communications with one another. Membership was the slowest;
based on a five-day worst-case surface mailing diagonally across
the contiguous USA, they were still lagging the VEC section by a
week. Here I was, a new member, joining of my own volition, and
they don't seem to appreciate that.

If the office staff can make such mistakes with one member, what
could they do to 152 thousand others? What of bigger issues such
as "Regulation by Bandwidth" proposal? [which was withdrawn]

AF6AY

1199. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-25 22:47:02 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <46803376$0$270$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 4254

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

In <f5p7i9$1dao$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu> Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> writes:

>Iitoi wrote:

[...]

>> In contrast, I thought that the suggestions from K3FU to "change the
>> system from within" far more realistic and with more reasonable chances
>> for success by an individual or relatvely-smaller-than-ARRL groups of
>> people.

>Of course. Perhaps "Klystron" would like to join the ARRL and work
>his/her way up through the ranks and if enough people agree with
>Klystron, change will be made. Now that's good advice!

> But at the same time I would say "If it is so bad, start your own
>organization" is also good advice.

> - 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

For the record, I agree that Mike's alternative is valid also. If you
want to change the largest amateur radio membership organization in the
U.S., consider getting involved in its elected leadership. If you feel
that that's not possible for some reason, then help create an
alternative. A little healthy competition can be a good thing, also.
As I hinted at previously, this involves leadership, trust, and
certainly even a bit of marketing. Sometimes the suggester is the best
initiator, because he has the most passion, and stake in the outcome.

There's many alternatives. Lead, follow, or get out of the way. What
is your choice?

More to the point, there's been lots of talk on this issue over the
years, but very little substantive action. Talk is extremely cheap.
For some topics that have been beaten to death over the years, without
practical solutions being offered, sometimes talk is too cheap for the
valuable time of others, including the readers of this newsgroup.

- --
73, Paul W. Schleck, K3FU
pschleck@novia.net
http://www.novia.net/~pschleck/
Finger pschleck@novia.net for PGP Public Key

```
-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v1.4.5 (SunOS)

iD8DBQFGgDM46Pj0az779o4RAkQgAJ9z0hGmU87pxJNibpxjJU5AtETCBACgiHly
mz2ERGQCVBP/w8/qnR2Tykk=
=/m0q
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----
```

1200. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-25 22:48:39 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <46803162$0$270$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 4255

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

In <1182781052.718891.119640@o61g2000hsh.googlegroups.com> RDWeaver
<weaver5511@mypacks.net> writes:

>On Jun 24, 7:43 pm, Klystron <x...@yyy.zzz> wrote:

>> That said, it seems imperative that hams have some sort of
>> functioning and EFFECTIVE membership organization. Is there some
>> existing organization that could serve as the nucleus of a new
>> membership organization or would it make more sense to form a new
>> association from scratch?

>Have you considered AARA, which bills itself as "your alternative to
>ARRL".

>Website at http://members.aol.com/_ht_a/iarntraffic/myhomepage/business.html

>73,

>RDW

Note that this is Glenn Baxter's (K1MAN) organization, as I noted in my
original article in this thread.

Before anyone sends Mr. Baxter any money, joins any organization he
runs, or even seeks technical or operating advice from him, they may
wish to check out the following site:

http://www.ve7kfm.com/baxter/

- --
73, Paul W. Schleck, K3FU
pschleck@novia.net
http://www.novia.net/~pschleck/
Finger pschleck@novia.net for PGP Public Key
-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v1.4.5 (SunOS)

iD8DBQFGgDFM6Pj0az779o4RAtApAKC0CaBSPWi+VLR6bQ1UVOMXP4g4oACbBFZc
4kchg6H5EReu9LQsK0hUpM8=
=O/NH
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----

1201. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-25 22:50:01 UTC
From: Iitoi <Iitoi@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <008601c7b771$da8ba200$0100a8c0@BigGuyII>
Source record: 4256

"Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
news:f5p7i9$1dao$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...

>
> If enough people are as "alienated" as he says, it should be possible
to
> compete however, and build a new alternative to ARRL membership. I've
given
> enough reasons that I don't think it will work, but I don't mind being
proven
> wrong.
>

I've read that paragraph several times, and it remains
self-contradictory.

(A) "it should be possible", but (B) you've "given enough reasons that I
don't think it will work". So which of those won't you "mind being
proven wrong", A or B?

>
> My message is pretty simple. Take away all the "sophistry" and it is:
>
> - "If you don't like what is happening, get involved. Change it."
>

That's Paul's clear message. But yours is wrapped in condescending
patronization.

The Man in the Maze
QRO from Baboquivari Peak, AZ

--
Iitoi

--- StripMime Report -- processed MIME parts ---
multipart/alternative
text/plain (text body -- kept)
text/html

1202. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-25 22:52:55 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1182808732.277949.241930@j4g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4257

On Jun 25, 1:04?pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> AF6AY wrote:

> > The ARRL is the *ONLY* national organization for US amateur radio.
> > Only in that sense is it logical to belong. Let me know when the ARRL has
> > any national competition for US amateur radio "representation."
>
> Let me ask the question a different way, one in which I'm not the
> discussion stompin' bad guy.
>
> Given that 75 percent of Amateurs are not members of the ARRL, why is
> there not another organization that represents this majority of Hams?

The have tried in the past. It is difficult to compete in anything
which
has a Monopoly on US amateur radio news and opinion.

The ARRL was NOT the first radio club in the USA. They were
incorporated 5 years after the first one, RCA. The Radio Club of
America still exists, by the way, it doesn't bother much with
amateurism now.

ARRL leaders saw early-on that its survival meant some kind of
amateur-radio-related business needed to be done to enable
monies for growth as well as sustenance. Publishing was a
natural since a periodical would be a regular members' information
source. Texts followed. Publishing grew until it sustained ARRL
and QEX and the contest journal; QST manages to support itself
on advertising space sales.

Think about this: Any publisher has Total Control over what is
printed. Absolute power. Now, from what source does all the
US amateur radio news flow? CQ and Pop Comm reprint news
from the ARRL. Both are independents of lesser financial backing.

Profit from publications supports all of the 'free-to-members'
services, the legal counsel billings in DC, the expense vouchers
for executives traveling to Switzerland, lots of things. Even with
170 thousand paying members, annual dues would NOT be
enough to cover much more than the heating bills of Newington
offices in wintertime.

A larger membership number and the more the ARRL can charge
for advertising space in their publications. More profit. But, it is
also a capability to reach More US amateurs to influence their
thinking, their decision-making. Power.

The old "Change It From Within" ploy revisited: It can't be done in much less than half a lifetime. Not with an established oligarchy, a virtual monopoly on publications. Case in point is the eventual FCC 06-178 Report and Order. That was NOT "changed from within the ARRL" at all. The ARRL hierarchy was dead-set against abolishing the code test or even reducing the test rate back in 1998. ARRL was against it even though the IARU recommended the changes to S25.5 at WRC-03. League hierarchy was adamant despite members' pleas to go along with change. The "use member voting power to get elected officials in there who see one's point" corollary: Twaddle in itself. Most offices have no competition. Elected office terms are too long to handle immediate problems. Even if there is SOME change effected, the reporting of such elections, board meetings, etc., is all provided only by the ARRL itself.

The League is a juggernaut of an organization that can eat any start-up competitor as a light snack and never worry about indigestion. It would take massive amounts of cash to mount any campaign for a new start-up national membership organization, more to keep it going.

AF6AY

1203. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-25 22:55:39 UTC
From: RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net>
Message-ID: <1182810706.168317.96420@o61g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4258

On Jun 25, 1:20 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:

> I might caution you that reading that 75 percent figure that a person
> can get a distorted perspective. Are all those Hams active? Are they
> from the group of Hams who came in during the so called "honeydo era"
> when repeaters functioned as a sort of public cell phone for a lot of
> folks? They started dropping off a few years ago, and will likely
> continue for several more years.

I have no idea what the "honeydo era" refers to, but the notion that active hams are (or aren't) members of ARRL is not proven here.

I became licensed about 35 years ago as a teen, and joined ARRL the same day I got their "welcome to ham radio" letter and membership solicitation. There was some discount because I was a teenager. For the rest of my teen years, through college, I was barely off-and-on active as a ham, mostly as a visiting operator at contest stations. Out of college I went completely QRT until just a few months ago, the intervening years being spent in a career with frequent moves and little free time for hobby activities. Recently a career change made it possible for me to look at ham radio again. Over all that time, out of habit, I kept the license current and my ARRL membership intact. So much for "ARRL members are active hams".

On the inverse side of the coin, I don't think that non-membership in ARRL correlates in any meaningful manner with "non-active ham". To some, being a ham is an individual experience with no corresponding "membership in a fraternal group" motivation or inclination. I drive a Corvette, but don't belong to a Corvette club. I'm a military veteran but I don't belong to any vets organizations. Couldn't I be a very active ham without belonging to ARRL? Personally, I think that is the case with many licensees, but that belief is just as unfounded as your unfounded presumption that ARRL non-members are "dropping off and will likely continue".

73,

RDW

1204. June 24, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-26 00:44:18 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1182814309.704919.86590@w5g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4259

These are the number of current,
unexpired FCC-issued amateur
radio licenses held by individuals
on the stated dates, and the
percentage of the total number
of active licenses that class contains.

Percentages may not add up to exactly
100.0% due to rounding.

These totals do not include licenses
that have expired but are in the grace
period, nor do they include club, military
and other station-only licenses.

Effective April 15, 2000, FCC no longer issued
new Novice, Technician Plus and Advanced
class licenses, so the numbers of those license
classes have declined steadily since then.

Also since April 15, 2000, FCC has renewed all
existing Technician Plus licenses as Technician.
It is therefore informative to consider the totals of
the two classes, since the Technician class
includes a significant number of Technician Plus
licenses renewed as Technician.

On February 23, 2007, the last Morse Code
test element, the 5 wpm receiving test, was
eliminated as a requirement.

The ARS License Numbers:

As of May 14, 2000:

Novice- 49,329 (7.3%)
Technician - 205,394 (30.4%)
Technician Plus - 128,860 (19.1%)
General - 112,677 (16.7%)
Advanced - 99,782 (14.8%)
Extra - 78,750 (11.7%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 334,254 (49.5%)

Total all classes - 674,792

As of February 22, 2007:

Novice - 22,896 (3.5%)
Technician - 293,508 (44.8%)
Technician Plus - 30,818 (4.7%)
General - 130,138 (19.9%)
Advanced - 69,050 (10.5%)
Extra - 108,270 (16.5%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 324,326 (49.5%)

Total all classes - 654,680

As of June 2, 2007:

Novice - 21,940 (3.3%)
Technician - 287,530 (43.9%)
Technician Plus - 27,197 (4.2%)
General - 140,044 (21.4%)
Advanced - 67,809 (10.4%)
Extra - 110,428 (16.9%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 314,727 (48.1%)

Total all classes - 654,948

As of June 24, 2007:

Novice - 21,781 (3.3%)
Technician - 287,037 (43.8%)
Technician Plus - 26,507 (4.0%)
General - 141,042 (21.5%)
Advanced - 67,552 (10.3%)
Extra - 110,697 (16.9%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 313,544 (47.9%)

Total all classes - 654,616

Changes:

>From May 14, 2000, to February 22, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 26,433
Technician - increase of 88,114
Technician Plus - decrease of 98,042
General - increase of 17,461
Advanced - decrease of 30,732
Extra - increase of 29,520

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 9,928

Total all classes - decrease of 20,112

>From May 14, 2000, to June 2, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 27,389
Technician - increase of 82,136
Technician Plus - decrease of 101,663

General - increase of 27,367
Advanced - decrease of 31,973
Extra - increase of 31,678

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 19,527

Total all classes - decrease of 19,844

>From May 14, 2000, to June 24, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 27,548
Technician - increase of 81,643
Technician Plus - decrease of 102,353
General - increase of 28,365
Advanced - decrease of 32,330
Extra - increase of 31,947

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 20,710

Total all classes - decrease of 20,176

>From February 22, 2007, to June 2, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 956
Technician - decrease of 5,978
Technician Plus - decrease of 3,621
General - increase of 9,906
Advanced - decrease of 1,241
Extra - increase of 2,158

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 9,599

Total all classes - increase of 268

>From February 22, 2007, to June 24, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 1,115
Technician - decrease of 6,471
Technician Plus - decrease of 4,311
General - increase of 10,904
Advanced - decrease of 1,498
Extra - increase of 2,427

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 10,782

Total all classes - decrease of 64

73 de Jim, N2EY

1205. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-26 00:44:58 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1182816950.762535.53030@q69g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4260

On Jun 25, 6:52?pm, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:

> The ARRL hierarchy was dead-set against
> abolishing the code test or even reducing the test rate
> back in 1998.

That's simply untrue. You are mistaken, Len.

Here's what really happened back then:

In its 1998 restructuring proposal to FCC, the ARRL proposed the
following changes to Morse Code testing:

1) The General Class code test rate reduced from 13 wpm to 5 wpm

2) The Advanced Class code test rate reduced from 13 wpm to 12 wpm

3) The Extra Class code test rate reduced from 20 wpm to 12 wpm

That's a significant reduction in code testing for both General and
Extra class licenses. The proposal was in development for more than a
year before it was released in late 1998.

In addition, ARRL proposed in 1998 that all existing Novice and
Technician Plus licensees be given free and automatic upgrades to
General.

ARRL also proposed in 1998 that all Technician licensees have some HF
operating priviliges *without a code test*. This was seen by many as a
first step towards code test elimination for all HF amateur licenses

Those are the facts.

The ARRL hierarchy was *not* dead-set against
reducing the Morse Code test rate back in 1998, because they proposed
doing just that for both General.and Extra class licenses.

> ARRL was against it even though the IARU recommended
> the changes to S25.5 at WRC-03.

Incorrect.

In early 2001, ARRL changed its policy of support for S25.5 from
supporting continued code testing to no opinion.

In its proposal to FCC after ITU-R S25.5 was revised, ARRL proposed
that all Morse Code testing for all amateur radio licenses except
Extra be eliminated.

> League hierarchy was adamant
> despite members' pleas to go along with
> change.

The League proposed changes in both cases cited above. They did not support the status quo. They were not "adamant".

ARRL's proposals, and the comments to them, can be downloaded from the FCC website.

Do you have any solid evidence that the majority of ARRL members wanted all Morse Code testing eliminated, Len?

It should be noted that when the comments to the 2000 restructuring were counted, the majority of those commenting supported at least two code test speeds. And when the comments to the 2006 restructuring were counted, the majority of those commenting supported at least some code testing be retained.

In 1999, reduction of all Morse Code testing to 5 wpm was not the majority opinion of those who bothered to comment.

In 2005, complete elimination of all Morse Code testing was not the majority opinion of those who bothered to comment.
.
In both cases, FCC went *against* what the majority of those who voiced an opinion wanted.

Should ARRL have ignored what the majority wanted, too?

Jim, N2EY

1206. Re: Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-26 01:25:59 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1182821128.233884.134740@p77g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4261

On Jun 22, 10:52?pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:

> This year I'll be going out with a club group, running 3A. This FD is
> part readiness-exercise, part training, part publicity, part contest,
> and part social event. The first 100 points are already in the log.

Results of the above operation:

We had 3 HF stations on the air, and one VHF/UHF. HF rigs were all
100-watt-class middle-of-the-line transceivers, with various dipole
antennas (OCF and G5RVs). N3FJP computer logging with networked
computers at each setup.

We made 470 CW and 342 'phone QSOs, with just one HF station on CW vs.
two HF and one VHF/UHF on 'phone. Bonus points for 100% emergency
power, "natural" power, W1AW message, SM message, information table,
public location, publicity, and electronic log submittal.

Great wx, lots of new and old friends, good food and lots of good
times. Some folks dropped by for a few minutes, some were there
beginning to end, and everything in between. Setup and takedown were
done in record time due to good planning and experience.

Only 368 days till the next one!

73 de Jim, N2EY

1207. Re: Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-26 03:13:46 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1182825730.461354.59430@k79g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4262

On Jun 19, 2:50 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> Folks,
>
> What are people doing for Field Day this year?
>
> 73 de Jim, N2EY

K0HB/K0CKB operated diesel power for about 4 hours in the coach at the lake..... no contest..... no readiness..... no flies or bats..... cool 807's during..... walleye dinner after..... purists hate us..... too bad for them.....

K0HB 1E MN

472 CW contacts
2 phone contacts

73, de Hans, K0HB

1208. Re: Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-26 03:36:13 UTC
From: Bryan <bryan.swadenerNOSPAM@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <qbOdnXer6YNfGx3bnZ2dnUVZ_tCtnZ2d@giganews.com>
Source record: 4263

Jim N2EY wrote:
>
> > This year I'll be going out with a club group, running 3A. This FD is
> > part readiness-exercise, part training, part publicity, part contest,
> > and part social event. The first 100 points are already in the log.
>
> Results of the above operation:
>
> We had 3 HF stations on the air, and one VHF/UHF. HF rigs were all
> 100-watt-class middle-of-the-line transceivers, with various dipole
> antennas (OCF and G5RVs). N3FJP computer logging with networked
> computers at each setup.
>
> We made 470 CW and 342 'phone QSOs, with just one HF station on CW vs.
> two HF and one VHF/UHF on 'phone. Bonus points for 100% emergency
> power, "natural" power, W1AW message, SM message, information table,
> public location, publicity, and electronic log submittal.
>
> Great wx, lots of new and old friends, good food and lots of good
> times. Some folks dropped by for a few minutes, some were there
> beginning to end, and everything in between. Setup and takedown were
> done in record time due to good planning and experience.
>
> Only 368 days till the next one!
>
> 73 de Jim, N2EY

Considering the poor solar activity, that sounds pretty good! Though I haven't seen the exact tally for the Machias Radio Group (W7MRG) running 2A + VHF, I think we'll come pretty close to your's.

We had CW & fone tents (I stayed w/ the fone tent). The CW guys forgot to bring the 80m antenna and had to make-do w/ the 40m antenna + tuner. Still, they had just over 400 Qs. The fone tally was 360 Qs. We also had the usual bonus points... emergency power, public location, info table, publicity, and W1AW message.

We had some snafus w/ setup of the fone antennas so, we weren't operational until late Friday night. An interfacing problem w/ the intended DVK made us switch to Plan B. I'm glad it worked... we didn't have a Plan C! The wx here in the Pacific "Northwet" cooperated, for the most part. The rain didn't happen until we had the tents up, and then abated until *after* we were packed up for the drive home. :))

Vy 73,
Bryan WA7PRC

1209. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-26 04:06:32 UTC
From: Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-089BA7.23201025062007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 4264

Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:
> Klystron wrote:

[...]

> I would suggest that you start the process of forming a new organization.
>
> I would respectfully suggest that you might think about omitting
> statements about the obsolescence of Morse code. Give some consideration
> to your statement:
>
> >>It was inexcusably slow to accept the obsolescence of Morse code and,
> >> in the process, its curmudgeonly foot dragging alienated most of its
> >> potential future members.
>
> You are alienating the users of the mode - who are also more likely to
> be Active Hams, IMO. As well as those of us who are presumably at least
> somewhat satisfied with the ARRL's performance, witness our continued
> writing of dues checks.
>
> After all is said and done, your task is to organize a group that
> includes inactive Hams, disinterested Hams, Hams who are content to
> make use of the ARRL's benefits without getting involved personally, and
> those who are frugally noncommittal to the whole thing.

[...]

I do not mind offending the old-timers who are living in the past
and struggling to hold ham radio captive (they have never minded
offending new or future hams). The future of ham radio is likely to
include digital (possibly D-star, possibly others). It is likely to make
extensive use of computers and the Internet. It is just not likely to
include much along the lines of Morse. The Morse zealots have already
lost the fight for the issue that means the most to them - code testing.
The reduction of the dedicated CW segments is probably a harbinger of
things to come. My guess is that they know (and have always known) that
anything that Morse can do, digital can do better. For that reason, they
have fought to stop digital (I remember when it was dismissed and
disparaged as wideband "pulse").
Do this simple calculation: multiply what you consider to be a good
sending rate in words per minute by the number of letters in a word by 7
(there are 7 bits to an ASCII character). The result will be bits per
minute. Divide that by 60 to get bits per second. The result will be
quite laughable. I have seen people throw in the garbage old modems that
were capable of 1,000 times that speed.

As far as starting a new organization by myself is concerned, I have started a small business, a political action committee and an Internet users group. Be careful what you ask for; you just might get it. My guess is that a new group could be started in a single region and then bootstrapped into a national organization, within five to ten years. The obvious constituency would be people who would, more or less, agree with my (admittedly inflammatory) comments above. I would make no attempt to capture the telegraph key cohort of the ARRL, but the more progressive members might change sides. Nevertheless, people who are dissatisfied with an existing organization are always the greatest asset of a new or rival organization. The prospect of offending the core loyalists of the old group is just not an issue.

1210. Re: Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-26 05:36:58 UTC
From: k8mn@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1182836182.253963.275820@m36g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4265

Our 1B WV K8MN operation (K8MN + N8NN) used a single HF transceiver
with TR for logging on a laptop computer. Our primary antenna was a
200' flattop which varied in height--60 feet at one end and about 40
feet at the other. It was fed with ladder line through a Johnson
Matchbox. Our bonus points were for the information table, publicity,
local emergency personnel visit,
SM message, emergency power and electronic submittal.

We made 1070 FD QSOs (957 on CW) for 2027 points.

Dave K8MN

1211. LoTW vs FD

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-26 12:18:43 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1182832751.425019.76210@u2g2000hsc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4266

Most tests result in around a 15% LoTW return within the first 24-
hours.

FD this weekend returned about 3% on LoTW.

What's up with that?

73, de Hans, K0HB
--

<*}}}}}>< http:/.www.home.earthlink.net/~k0hb

1212. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-26 13:05:36 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f5r2jd$1g9s$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4267

Iitoi wrote:
> "Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
> news:f5p7i9$1dao$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...
>
>> If enough people are as "alienated" as he says, it should be possible
> to
>> compete however, and build a new alternative to ARRL membership. I've
> given
>> enough reasons that I don't think it will work, but I don't mind being
> proven
>> wrong.
>>
>
> I've read that paragraph several times, and it remains
> self-contradictory.
>
> (A) "it should be possible", but (B) you've "given enough reasons that I
> don't think it will work". So which of those won't you "mind being
> proven wrong", A or B?

I'm not particularly worried about either one. I won't comment more
about that, because you are swinging the topic toward me, and away from
the ideas regarding forming a new organization.

>
>> My message is pretty simple. Take away all the "sophistry" and it is:
>>
>> - "If you don't like what is happening, get involved. Change it."
>>
>
> That's Paul's clear message. But yours is wrapped in condescending
> patronization.

Illitoi, would I do better to tell the guy, "Give up, you can't do
anything about it?

Let me tell you a little story, then see how condescending you think I
am. In our local club, we were dying the death of a thousand cuts.
Membership was down, interest was disappearing quickly. We were lucky if
we got 10 members to a club meeting. Field day might get 4 of us.

I got together with another officer, and said Let's change this.
Initially there was lots of resistance by members. "Hams are getting old
and don't care any more. "Testing requirements are letting in rifraff,
and that's why no one is interested. "Ham Radio is dying, and our
generation is the last". On and on and on.

My reply was that "All that is possible, but I want to try something".

First thing I demanded was a change in attitude. No Morse code supremacy. A person might know that he is better than other Hams because he took a Higher speed test, but let's keep it to ourself for a while. Morse code proficiency is really cool, and I respect that a lot, but it doesn't make me a better Ham than the Technician who volunteers for all the public service work. Respect for ALL the Hams is Job One.

Second thing is everyone was reminded that they were once newbies, and didn't come into radio knowing everything. We set up training classes in the basics, and even put together a workbench for training at our "shack".

Third was "Quit complaining, daggonit!" Does the new guy really need to hear about how much you hate (insert topic here) within five minutes of meeting him? Give it a break, it isn't a good way to attract new folks, and those it might attract are likely to be complainers.

Fourth was institute testing before club meetings. We did this as soon as the F.C.C. rules changed to allow it. Works wonderfully. Test applicants get a round of applause, and another if they pass. Those who do not are offered help to be sure to pass the nest time.

Finally, and this one takes constant watching, is that members have to avoid being an "UberHam". You may have a hundred foot tower with a 40 meter beam, and Yaesu's fine 12K offering running into an Alpha, but the guy with a Swan into a dipole is doing okay too.

Results? The quixotic quest that was doomed to failure, trying to regenerate interest resulted in local growth in new Hams at the 2 percent rate, increased membership in the club, and at least a quadrupling of Field day competition. We have alternating weekend breakfasts and weekend mountaintop days, all heavily attended.

So while some might think that I am being condescending when I tell someone to get out and do something, I have to note that I am dead serious. Maybe my reasons that I think it will fail are wrong, just like I proved the local naysayers wrong. But unless the guy gets moving and proves me wrong, it just ends up being another Ham complaining in a newsgroup, or eHam, or QRZ.com, or on the air. And that really doesn't accomplish much.

Thunder is impressive, but it is lightning that does the work.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1213. Re: LoTW vs FD

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-26 16:00:38 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f5r90q$18ro$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4268

Kï¿½HB wrote:
> Most tests result in around a 15% LoTW return within the first 24-
> hours.
>
> FD this weekend returned about 3% on LoTW.
>
> What's up with that?

I for one was exhausted, not much sleep, and a lot of physical labor.
Maybe those Ops are waiting until they feel human again. ;^)

About this time, I think I might try one of your style Field days next
year. 807's sound a lot better than all those Mountain Dew's I drank.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1214. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-26 17:46:42 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f5r3o3$1ak6$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4269

RDWeaver wrote:
> On Jun 25, 1:20 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>
>> I might caution you that reading that 75 percent figure that a person
>> can get a distorted perspective. Are all those Hams active? Are they
>> from the group of Hams who came in during the so called "honeydo era"
>> when repeaters functioned as a sort of public cell phone for a lot of
>> folks? They started dropping off a few years ago, and will likely
>> continue for several more years.
>>
>
> I have no idea what the "honeydo era" refers to, but the notion that
> active hams are (or aren't) members of ARRL is not proven here.

At one point a lot of husband and wife teams got their licenses and used local repeaters to call each other at lunchtime or on the way home from work in order to exchange info on say stopping off at the grocery store to pick up something for dinner, or at the hardware store to pick up something.

Hence the name "Honey, do this, Honey, do that. 8^)

Many people in that group kind of dropped out of the picture as cell phones became ascendent.

> out of habit, I kept the license current and my ARRL membership
> intact. So much for "ARRL members are active hams".

That is a sample of one.

> is the case with many licensees, but that belief is just as unfounded
> as your unfounded presumption that ARRL non-members are "dropping off
> and will likely continue".

RDW (Can't we all get some names here? If a person wants to be anonymous, fine, but it seems a little odd to be seriously discussing anything with "Klystron" "illitoi" and RDW)

I most emphatically did not say that non members are dropping off and likely to continue. You should quote the whole statement if you mean to take something from the words.

I did say that those hams in the group that I referred to as "Honeydo" hams were dropping off and would probably continue to do so.

I'm not sure how we can have a meaningful discussion if you try to debunk my points first with a sample of one, and then try to debunk

another point by quoting out of context, then extrapolating it to an entire group.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1215. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-26 17:47:17 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f5r4fo$1fhu$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4270

Klystron wrote:

> As far as starting a new organization by myself is concerned, I have
> started a small business, a political action committee and an Internet
> users group. Be careful what you ask for; you just might get it. My
> guess is that a new group could be started in a single region and then
> bootstrapped into a national organization, within five to ten years.

Well there ya go! I wish you success. If I could offer a little advice, it would be that it is time to get a name here. I can understand anonymity, but if you are going to be a leader, you'll need to be known.

My whole point in this discussion has been that too many Hams spend way too much time complaining, some to the extent that they are unpleasant to be around. Then they don't do anything.

Thunder is impressive, but it is lightning that does the work.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1216. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-26 20:28:17 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1182883416.112087.161090@i13g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4271

N...@AOL.COM wrote on Mon, 25 Jun 2007 20:44:58 EDT:

>On Jun 25, 6:52?pm, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
>
>> The ARRL hierarchy was dead-set against
>> abolishing the code test or even reducing the test rate
>> back in 1998.
>
>That's simply untrue. You are mistaken, Len.

I stated an opinion. Opinions aren't "test" answers. There are no
"incorrect" or "correct" lables except from one's own subjective
viewpoints. You subjective viewpoint does not over-rule mine. :-)

I used the "code thing" as illustrative of the ARRL's conservative
attitudes towards code testing. It was not an attempt to revive
some ages-old argument over just code testing. It was an
illustration,
an example.

>Here's what really happened back then:

What "really happened back then" is history. It is documented.
By others.

>In its 1998 restructuring proposal to FCC, the ARRL proposed the
>following changes to Morse Code testing:

The ARRL has never given up on trying to KEEP code testing for at
least Amateur Extras up to and including NPRM 05-235. That is
also documented. At the FCC.

>> ARRL was against it even though the IARU recommended
>> the changes to S25.5 at WRC-03.
>
>Incorrect.
>
>In early 2001, ARRL changed its policy of support for S25.5 from
>supporting continued code testing to no opinion.

How is having "no opinion" a "support?" :-)

Incidentally, MOST of ITU-R S25 was rewritten at WRC-03; S25.5
only applied to administrations' license testing requirements in
regards to international morse code.

>In its proposal to FCC after ITU-R S25.5 was revised, ARRL proposed
>that all Morse Code testing for all amateur radio licenses except

>Extra be eliminated.

The ARRL refused to bend on code testing for Amateur Extra...they
HAD to have it in there. :-) That is only natural. The ARRL
represents its membership. The ARRL's core membership is made
up of long-time amateurs favoring morse code skill as the epitome of
US amateur radio skills.

ITU-R S25 does not directly apply to United States radio regulations.
It has no force of law. The United States is obliged to follow the
decisions of this UN body on the basis of Foreign Policy and all
treaties made by the United States to others.

As rewritten, ITU-R Radio Regulation S25.5 removed the requirement
that all adminstrations mandate code testing for all administrations'
licenses yielding amateur operating privileges below 30 MHz to
making it Optional for each administration to do as it wished. There
is no direct relationship between S25 and whatever the ARRL wanted.

>In 2005, complete elimination of all Morse Code testing was not the
>majority opinion of those who bothered to comment.

Comments on Notices of Proposed Rule Making (NPRMs) are not a
"vote." They never had such a definition. The Commission issues a
Notice of Proposed Rule Making, then invites Comments on same.
The FCC is not, nor has it ever, been "required" to obey any
"majority" opinion of Comments. The Commission will, after the
official end of the Comment period, consider all such Comments
and make a final decision on the NPRM. That final decision then
becomes a Memorandum Report and Order, colloquially known as
an "R&O." Once that R&O is published in the Federal Register, it
become law.

Anyone who wishes to look can go to the FCC's ECFS and Search
under 05-235 and 25 November 2005. On that date I submitted an
EXHIBIT done after the end of official Comment period on 05-235 and
offered solely as an Exhibit. In that I made tallies day-by-day of
each
and every Comment and Replies to Comments totaling 3,795 made
from 15 July 2005 to past the official end of 14 November 2005. I
read
each and every one of the 3,795 documents. Note that nearly half of
the documents were posted before the official start of the Comment
period on 05-235. I commented on that fact in the Exhibit.

That Exhibit has been argued before and I will not reprise it. The
Exhibit document stands on its own and was done over a year and a
half ago. The FCC accepted it enough to post it for public viewing
on their ECFS.

The ARRL is not obliged to publish my views on anything despite my
being a dues-paid voting member. That is as it should be. The ARRL
is a private membership organization and is NOT a part of the

government of the United States. The FCC is a part of the government. The FCC is obliged to answer to all citizens of the USA. ARRL membership is less than a quarter of all licensed US radio amateurs. ARRL members cannot constitute a "majority" of amateur licensees.

AF6AY

1217. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-26 20:30:17 UTC
From: RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net>
Message-ID: <1182885309.500894.136730@q69g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4272

On Jun 26, 5:46 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:

>
> That is a sample of one.
>

I'm only one guy. The sample proves the point, that being an ARRL
member does not always correlate to your "sure thing" active ham.

>
> RDW (Can't we all get some names here? If a person wants to be
> anonymous, fine, but.....
>

My friends call me "RDW". (My mom calls me "Danny Boy"). On most
newsreaders, a glance at the message header will show my name as R D
Weaver. Is that enough "name" for your purposes?

73,

RDW

1218. Re: LoTW vs FD

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-26 21:34:08 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1182893624.741864.326010@c77g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4273

On Jun 26, 12:00 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> K&#65533;HB wrote:
> > Most tests result in around a 15% LoTW return within the first 24-
> > hours.
>
> > FD this weekend returned about 3% on LoTW.
>
> > What's up with that?
>
> I for one was exhausted, not much sleep, and a lot of physical la
bor.
> Maybe those Ops are waiting until they feel human again. ;^)
>
That's one factor.

There's also the fact that most FD operations are club or group efforts, rather than those of individuals. Also, the FD entry is somewhat more complex than just sending in the log, since many of the bonus points require documentation. End result is that it may be a while before the "paperwork" gets done.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1219. Re: Field Day?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-26 21:39:40 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1182893956.953033.169720@m36g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4274

On Jun 25, 11:13 pm, K&#65533;HB <groupk...@earthlink.net> wrote:
> On Jun 19, 2:50 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>
> > Folks,
>
> > What are people doing for Field Day this year?
>
> > 73 de Jim, N2EY
>
> K0HB/K0CKB operated diesel power for about 4 hours in the coach at the
> lake..... no contest..... no readiness..... no flies or
> bats..... cool 807's during..... walleye dinner after.....
> purists hate us..... too bad for them.....

Well, Hans, I'm about as much of a "Field Day purist" as you'll ever
run into,
but I see nothing to hate.

Coupla hams went out in the field, followed all the applicable rules,
operated using emergency power, made a bunch of QSOs, had a lot of
fun.

Sounds like a 'pure' FD operation to me.

> K0HB 1E MN

> 472 CW contacts
> 2 phone contacts

73 de Jim, N2EY

1220. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-26 23:15:51 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1182893299.638134.313540@c77g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4275

On Jun 26, 4:28 pm, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote on Mon, 25 Jun 2007 20:44:58 EDT:
>
> >On Jun 25, 6:52?pm, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
>
> >> The ARRL hierarchy was dead-set against
> >> abolishing the code test or even reducing the test rate
> >> back in 1998.
>
> >That's simply untrue. You are mistaken, Len.
>
> I stated an opinion.

You stated:

"The ARRL hierarchy was dead-set against
abolishing the code test or even reducing the test rate
back in 1998."

How is that an opinion? It sure looks like an attempt to state a fact
- except that it's not true.

> Opinions aren't "test" answers. There are no
> "incorrect" or "correct" lables except from one's own subjective
> viewpoints.

All opinions are not equally valid. A person can have, and state the
opinion that the moon is made of green cheese, or that the sun
rises in the west and sets in the east, but that is clearly not the
case.

> You subjective viewpoint does not over-rule mine. :-)

The objective facts prove that your statement about the ARRL
hierarchy in 1998 is false. It is simply not true. Your belief in it
does not make it valid.

> I used the "code thing" as illustrative of the ARRL's conservative
> attitudes towards code testing.

The facts prove the opposite. In 1998 the ARRL proposed across the
board reductions in Morse Code testing for General, Advanced and
Extra class licenses. Hardly a "conservative attitude". Yet you
stated:

"The ARRL hierarchy was dead-set against abolishing the code test or
even reducing the test rate back in 1998."

If they were "dead-set against...reducing the test rate back in
1998.",
then why, in 1998, did ARRL propose those reductions?

> It was not an attempt to revive
> some ages-old argument over just code testing. It was an
> illustration, an example.

Your example was faulty, because it was not based on what
actually happened.

> >Here's what really happened back then:
>
> What "really happened back then" is history. It is documented.
> By others.

And those documents prove that you were mistaken about
the ARRL's position on Morse Code testing in 1998. They prove
that what I wrote is what actually happened.

> >In its 1998 restructuring proposal to FCC, the ARRL proposed the
> >following changes to Morse Code testing:

> The ARRL has never given up on trying to KEEP code testing for at
> least Amateur Extras up to and including NPRM 05-235. That is
> also documented. At the FCC.

Not the point, Len.

> >> ARRL was against it even though the IARU recommended
> >> the changes to S25.5 at WRC-03.
>
> >Incorrect.
>
> >In early 2001, ARRL changed its policy of support for S25.5 from
> >supporting continued code testing to no opinion.
>
> How is having "no opinion" a "support?" :-)

You wrote that "ARRL was against it.". But ARRL wasn't against it
at all. The policy changed more than two years before WRC-03.

> Incidentally, MOST of ITU-R S25 was rewritten at WRC-03; S25.5
> only applied to administrations' license testing requirements in
> regards to international morse code.

Not the point, Len.

> >In its proposal to FCC after ITU-R S25.5 was revised, ARRL proposed
> >that all Morse Code testing for all amateur radio licenses except
> >Extra be eliminated.

> The ARRL refused to bend on code testing for Amateur Extra...they
> HAD to have it in there. :-) That is only natural. The ARRL
> represents its membership. The ARRL's core membership is made

> up of long-time amateurs favoring morse code skill as the epitome of
> US amateur radio skills.

Should a membership organization not do what the membership wants?

> >In 2005, complete elimination of all Morse Code testing was not the
> >majority opinion of those who bothered to comment.

> Comments on Notices of Proposed Rule Making (NPRMs) are not a
> "vote."

Nobody says their a vote, Len.

What the comments are is the voice of those who bother to express an opinion to FCC. And when those comments were counted, the majority opinion did not support the reductions and elimination of Morse Code testing that were later enacted by FCC.

The comments are not limited to those with amateur licenses, or even those who intend to get amateur licenses.

> Anyone who wishes to look can go to the FCC's ECFS and Search
> under 05-235 and 25 November 2005. On that date I submitted an
> EXHIBIT done after the end of official Comment period on 05-235 and
> offered solely as an Exhibit. In that I made tallies day-by-day of
> each
> and every Comment and Replies to Comments totaling 3,795 made
> from 15 July 2005 to past the official end of 14 November 2005. I
> read
> each and every one of the 3,795 documents. Note that nearly half of
> the documents were posted before the official start of the Comment
> period on 05-235. I commented on that fact in the Exhibit.
>
> That Exhibit has been argued before and I will not reprise it.

You just did.

> The
> Exhibit document stands on its own and was done over a year and a
> half ago. The FCC accepted it enough to post it for public viewing
> on their ECFS.

FCC does that with practically all comments or exhibits sent in. That does not mean the comments or exhibits are valid or correct, or that FCC agrees with them.

But that's all besides the point.

In 1998, the ARRL hierarchy was not against reductions in Morse Code testing. That is proved by the ARRL's proposal to reduce the Morse Code test speeds for General, Advanced and Extra licenses from 13 wpm, 13 wpm and 20 wpm to 5 wpm, 12 wpm, and 12 wpm, respectively.

Fact - not opinion.

Jim, N2EY

1221. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-27 03:44:57 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <v3l3839kcm8aq7o61ffnsn7o6v7of45s9p@4ax.com>
Source record: 4276

On Mon, 25 Jun 2007 15:19:29 EDT, AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote:

> Did I know about this
>'free offer' ahead of time? No. Was the ARRL VEC side of ARRL
>talking to the ARRL Membership people? Apparently not.

Did you discuss this with your Division Director? The DD is your
"Senator" when it comes to dealing with the Newington Mob. Things
like this get resolved to your satisfaction many times through that
route.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1222. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-27 03:45:57 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <uum383d2rajvmb1gv50b939ddvuh4usvug@4ax.com>
Source record: 4277

On Tue, 26 Jun 2007 16:28:17 EDT, AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote:

> That final decision then
>becomes a Memorandum Report and Order, colloquially known as
>an "R&O." Once that R&O is published in the Federal Register, it
>become law.

The MO&O is only one type of Order used in both rulemaking and
adjudicative proceedings.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1223. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-27 04:31:00 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <0km38351luq6dmcc8apka6nu3388pi78h3@4ax.com>
Source record: 4278

On Tue, 26 Jun 2007 13:46:42 EDT, Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:

> At one point a lot of husband and wife teams got their licenses and
>used local repeaters to call each other at lunchtime or on the way home
>from work in order to exchange info on say stopping off at the grocery
>store to pick up something for dinner, or at the hardware store to pick
>up something.
>
>Hence the name "Honey, do this, Honey, do that. 8^)

We used to call that "The Kenny and Michelle Show" in honor of the
stars of that on our repeater... <g>
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1224. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-27 04:47:05 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1182919348.847343.232950@i13g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4279

On Jun 26, 7:44?pm, Phil Kane <Phil.K...@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:
> On Mon, 25 Jun 2007 15:19:29 EDT, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
> > Did I know about this
> >'free offer' ahead of time? No. Was the ARRL VEC side of ARRL
> >talking to the ARRL Membership people? Apparently not.
>
> Did you discuss this with your Division Director?

No. It was not that big a deal to me.

However, it indicates that three separate office groups at
Newington have some lack of internal communications.
<shrug>

>The DD is your
> "Senator" when it comes to dealing with the Newington Mob.

Thank you. I will keep that in mind.

> Things
> like this get resolved to your satisfaction many times through that
> route.

How? I found and corrected my address for QST...and it got
righted after three issues. I wrote personally to Membership folks.
I was only interested in one 'free' item, the Repeater Directory. I
found lots of Repeater listings on the web for no cost.

I am of the mindset that small problems can be handled
personally without resorting to "representative" assistance. If
that is the wrong approach, I apologize.

AF6AY

1225. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-27 04:58:48 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1182919775.139273.243130@i13g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4280

On Jun 26, 7:45?pm, Phil Kane <Phil.K...@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:
> On Tue, 26 Jun 2007 16:28:17 EDT, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
> > That final decision then
> >becomes a Memorandum Report and Order, colloquially known as
> >an "R&O." Once that R&O is published in the Federal Register, it
> >become law.
>
> The MO&O is only one type of Order used in both rulemaking and
> adjudicative proceedings.

Thank you for the additional information. I was not trying to
write a treatise on law, just making a simple explanation of
how the FCC does its thing for the benefit of those who are
less informed.

Never fear, I shall endeavor to keep quiet on "adjudicative
proceedings" until I have been admitted to the Bar. [when
do they open and close?]

AF6AY

1226. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-27 12:55:21 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <1384n2q6vabk146@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 4281

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:

> Should a membership organization not do what the membership wants?

Pardon my taking a single line from your article, but it's the topic I want to discuss.

The first problem is figuring out "what the membership wants". What do you do when the membership is split into approximately equal factions with opposite opinions and both feel passionately that their position is Right? Do you develop a position that pleases one faction and is completely unacceptable to the other, or a compromise that no one agrees with 100% but most folks can accept?

But the second problem is that "what the membership wants" may not be the best course of action. It is perhaps arrogant of the management of an organization to think that they are more qualified to set a policy than the members, but sometimes that's the case. Back in the 1960s the ARRL lost a lot of support from their membership when they supported incentive licensing; this seems to be a case of the organization doing the opposite of "what the membership wants". I suppose we'll be debating forever whether the ARRL support for incentive licensing was the Right Thing to do for the hobby, but I'm only trying to use it as an illustration that there are cases in which a membership organization does *not* set policy based on membership consensus.

Setting policy for a large national organization is a complex task. I don't agree with everything that the ARRL does, but I don't expect to. I suppose I have a mental threshold and as long as I agree with "enough" of what the organization espouses, I'll continue to be a member.

The other aspect for the ARRL is that there's a Field Organization that provides support for various aspects of the hobby. At various points in my ham radio career, I have used that support structure and been a part of it, adding to my enjoyment of the hobby. I find it a significant disappointment that this organization does not exist in my current ARRL section, and this may have more to do with whether I maintain my ARRL membership than the organization's position on national issues.

Before someone says, "If you're upset that the ARRL Field Organization is broken, why don't you fix it?", let me explain my position on that. When I moved here, I did the same sorts of things that I've done on other occasions in terms of getting involved in the local organizations. It became quickly apparent that the ARRL officials at the section level had no interest in actually *doing* anything. (There was one exception, but with no support from the Section Manager, even that

individual was unable to accomplish much.) So where does this leave me? I considered the option of trying to "fix" things, but it would require many hours of work to accomplish anything. Ham radio is a hobby, and I'm not inclined to invest that amount of effort into it. So I have contented myself with helping at the local club level. Maybe there are lots of other hams in this ARRL section who would like to see an effective Field Organization, and if we all worked together it would happen, but I have no way of knowing if that's the case.

73, Steve KB9X

1227. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-27 15:13:43 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f5ttcm$1en8$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4282

Phil Kane wrote:
> On Tue, 26 Jun 2007 13:46:42 EDT, Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:

>> Hence the name "Honey, do this, Honey, do that. 8^)
>
> We used to call that "The Kenny and Michelle Show" in honor of the
> stars of that on our repeater... <g>

Yeah, we have a few of those yet locally. One is an elderly couple staying in touch with their son as he does his rounds. Its actually great that the old folk can do that.

Sometimes it's good for a few chuckles, as when the mother calls the son to ask his location, and he answers "I'm in the driveway, Ma! Bless 'em all.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1228. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-27 16:41:20 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f5tvvk$17pm$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4283

Steve Bonine wrote:
> N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
>
>> Should a membership organization not do what the membership wants?
>
> Pardon my taking a single line from your article, but it's the topic I
> want to discuss.
>
> The first problem is figuring out "what the membership wants". What do
> you do when the membership is split into approximately equal factions
> with opposite opinions and both feel passionately that their position is
> Right? Do you develop a position that pleases one faction and is
> completely unacceptable to the other, or a compromise that no one agrees
> with 100% but most folks can accept?

I hear ya Steve! In a former life as a President of a Youth athletic organization, I had just that situation. Hockey parents are at least as passionate as Amateurs, and more shrill, since their dealing with their children.

The association had to carry multiple insurance policies on my person as well as liability for any decisions made by the BOD and myself. Its a little disconcerting when the two sides of any argument each threaten lawsuits if your decision goes against their wishes.

There were times I got to stand and deliver to a room in which at least half of the people wanted me dead (seriously). I was glad that I am a fairly formidable physical presence.

Somewhere along the line, compromise became a dirty word.

> But the second problem is that "what the membership wants" may not be
> the best course of action. It is perhaps arrogant of the management of
> an organization to think that they are more qualified to set a policy
> than the members, but sometimes that's the case.

One of the less pleasant parts of being on a board of directors is that you occasionally have to make one of those painful decisions that will really split the troops. But you have to make a decision, so you do it, and sometimes you take the heat.

Even worse, sometimes you get in a hard place where the BOD makes a decision that is so out of touch with the desires of most of the members that you get to a crisis (one of the times I feared a bit for my health)

In that case, I did the right thing in the case, in defiance of the board, 'fessed up, then offered my resignation. It wasn't accepted -

they were actually glad I got them out of a real jam.

Sorry for digressing - this was just a small example of some of the
issues that people on the other side don't get to see or think about.
All jobs are easy for those who don't have to do them. 8^)

> Setting policy for a large national organization is a complex task. I
> don't agree with everything that the ARRL does, but I don't expect to. I
> suppose I have a mental threshold and as long as I agree with "enough"
> of what the organization espouses, I'll continue to be a member.

There will be disagreements in any organization. If everyone agrees, we
can get rid of all but one person. 100 percent lockstep in opinion is
just not realistic.

> The other aspect for the ARRL is that there's a Field Organization that
> provides support for various aspects of the hobby. At various points in
> my ham radio career, I have used that support structure and been a part
> of it, adding to my enjoyment of the hobby. I find it a significant
> disappointment that this organization does not exist in my current ARRL
> section, and this may have more to do with whether I maintain my ARRL
> membership than the organization's position on national issues.

Steve, where is that? It seems really odd that they don't have a Field
Org there.

> to invest that amount of effort into it. So I have contented myself
> with helping at the local club level. Maybe there are lots of other
> hams in this ARRL section who would like to see an effective Field
> Organization, and if we all worked together it would happen, but I have
> no way of knowing if that's the case.

Not everyone can "lead the charge" so to speak. I would think that this
is a case for gentle persistent pressure by as many people as you can
muster. Then the ARRL might either acquiesce because it is a good idea,
or if that doesn't work, just to get your folks to "go away"

I didn't say that last sentence! ;^)

- 73 d eMike KB3EIA -

1229. Personal data

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-27 16:41:58 UTC
From: RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net>
Message-ID: <1182961748.274477.224980@q75g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4284

Recently I was chided here by one of the managers for being anonymous (even though my name appears in the "from" line of every message I've posted here), and some others have also been gigged (Klystron, Iitoi) for the same reason.

I think it's commonly accepted that on the internet some people prefer not to disclose their personal data (in the Army we call that "OPSEC"). As long as the information posted meets the rules, I think we should refrain from such scolding.

73,

RDW

1230. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-27 22:02:48 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1182980851.611492.151850@d30g2000prg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4285

Steve Bonine wrote on Wed, 27 Jun 2007 08:55:21 EDT:

>N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>> Should a membership organization not do what the membership wants?
>
>Pardon my taking a single line from your article, but it's the topic I
>want to discuss.
>
>The first problem is figuring out "what the membership wants". What do
>you do when the membership is split into approximately equal factions
>with opposite opinions and both feel passionately that their position is
>Right? Do you develop a position that pleases one faction and is
>completely unacceptable to the other, or a compromise that no one agrees
>with 100% but most folks can accept?

A quandry worthy of Soloman. Natuarally, the organization splits
into two and each organization can then rightly claim to "represent"
its
membership. Every organization meeting night will be equitable as to
opinions. :-)

Everyone in both camps thinks they are "doing things" until they
need assistance from outside of a club group and run into
competition for assistance services from the other club. Then the
"battle" of wills begins anew, just at a different venue.

>Setting policy for a large national organization is a complex task. I
>don't agree with everything that the ARRL does, but I don't expect to.
>I suppose I have a mental threshold and as long as I agree with "enough"
>of what the organization espouses, I'll continue to be a member.

The ARRL is the *ONLY* national organization of radio amateurs.
It has no competition...which can lead to a very small minority
directing or strongly influencing what the majority wants. But,
without any national competition for a long time, the ARRL has
gained a reputation with the FCC and has some status of some
representation. It must be blatantly obvious to the FCC that the
ARRL does NOT represent any sort of majority of US amateur
radio licensees, just less than a quarter of those.

But, in trying to discuss the matter of efficacy of the ARRL, we all
run into the League Zeolots to whom the ARRL is perfect, without
flaw, and get denounced for daring to negatively criticize their idol.
That clouds the issue and destroys any possible discussion.

73, Len AF6AY

1231. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-27 22:03:55 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1182981282.057793.261780@o61g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4286

On Jun 27, 8:55 am, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> > Should a membership organization not do what the membership wants?
>
> Pardon my taking a single line from your article, but it's the topic I
> want to discuss.

Works for me!
>
> The first problem is figuring out "what the membership wants". What do
> you do when the membership is split into approximately equal factions
> with opposite opinions and both feel passionately that their position is
> Right? Do you develop a position that pleases one faction and is
> completely unacceptable to the other, or a compromise that no one agrees
> with 100% but most folks can accept?

I say you do the latter. It's called consensus. Since there is no way
to give everyone everything they want, you work out a scheme that
gives everyone *some* of what they want.

And that's pretty much what ARRL has done.

But there's a couple of other steps. For one thing, it's important to
actively seek out what the membership wants. For another, it's
important to publish that information so that the membership and
others can see what the actual results are.

> But the second problem is that "what the membership wants" may not be
> the best course of action.

In whose judgement?

> It is perhaps arrogant of the management of
> an organization to think that they are more qualified to set a policy
> than the members, but sometimes that's the case.

If so, then the management has to make their case to the membership.

The recent "regulation by bandwidth" fiasco is a clear example of how
not to do a proposal, IMHO. ARRL did a lot of things right, and the
proposal had lots of good points. But the BoD did not do a good job of
explaining the proposal, nor of getting widespread membership support
before submitting it to FCC. The end result was it got
overwhelmingly negative comments - mostly because 'phone ops don't
want wide data signals all over the 'phone subbands. Particularly
robot data signals.

> Back in the 1960s the
> ARRL lost a lot of support from their membership when they supported
> incentive licensing; this seems to be a case of the organization doing
> the opposite of "what the membership wants".

I was a ham back then, and it was a lot more complicated than that.

What happened was that, in 1963, the ARRL BoD proposed a return to the pre-1953 system, which required an Advanced or Extra to operate 'phone on the bands between 3 and 25 MHz. They claimed to have majority support of their membership and the amateur community as a whole. And perhaps they did.

But there was a vocal minority who loudly opposed the 1963 proposal. There were also others who supported the *concept* but wanted a different implementation. There were no less than 10 alternative proposals that got RM numbers, comments, etc.

After several *years* of comments, arguments, proposals, counterproposals, information and misinformation, FCC changed the rules. The final rules changes bore little resemblance to the 1963 proposal from ARRL.

> I suppose we'll be
> debating forever whether the ARRL support for incentive licensing was
> the Right Thing to do for the hobby, but I'm only trying to use it as an
> illustration that there are cases in which a membership organization
> does *not* set policy based on membership consensus.

Good example. Even if there was majority support for incentive licensing, there wasn't a consensus.

> Setting policy for a large national organization is a complex task. I
> don't agree with everything that the ARRL does, but I don't expect to.
> I suppose I have a mental threshold and as long as I agree with "enough"
> of what the organization espouses, I'll continue to be a member.

Agreed.

> The other aspect for the ARRL is that there's a Field Organization that
> provides support for various aspects of the hobby. At various points in
> my ham radio career, I have used that support structure and been a part
> of it, adding to my enjoyment of the hobby. I find it a significant
> disappointment that this organization does not exist in my current ARRL
> section, and this may have more to do with whether I maintain my ARRL
> membership than the organization's position on national issues.

One of the main problems with the Field Organization is that it's all volunteers. If nobody steps up to those jobs, they go vacant.

> Before someone says, "If you're upset that the ARRL Field Organization
> is broken, why don't you fix it?", let me explain my position on that.
> When I moved here, I did the same sorts of things that I've done on
> other occasions in terms of getting involved in the local organizations.
> It became quickly apparent that the ARRL officials at the section

> level had no interest in actually *doing* anything. (There was one
> exception, but with no support from the Section Manager, even that
> individual was unable to accomplish much.) So where does this leave me?
> I considered the option of trying to "fix" things, but it would
> require many hours of work to accomplish anything. Ham radio is a
> hobby, and I'm not inclined to invest that amount of effort into it. So
> I have contented myself with helping at the local club level. Maybe
> there are lots of other hams in this ARRL section who would like to see
> an effective Field Organization, and if we all worked together it would
> happen, but I have no way of knowing if that's the case.

That's the classic "bell the cat" problem facing any volunteer
organization.
My suggestion would be to take one small part of the Field
Organization and make it your own.

Out of curiousity - what is it that needs fixing in your section?

73 de Jim, N2EY

1232. [DXNL] DXNL 1525 (Jun 27, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-28 01:32:32 UTC
From: Robert Busch - DL7VOA <dxnl@dxhf.darc.de>
Message-ID: <13-1486292726.20070628010925@dxhf.darc.de>
Source record: 4287
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.dx,rec.radio.info

DXNL 1525 - Jun 27, 2007
DX Newsletter

a free and weekly service of
DARC Committee "DX and HF contesting"
(http://www.darcdxhf.de)

editor: Helmut Schlaffer, DL7MAE
(e-mail: dxnl@dxhf.darc.de)

translation by: Bob, DL7VOA
(e-mail: dl7voa@darc.de)

HB0 - LIECHTENSTEIN
Pierre,HB9QQ, will go on top of the Sareiserjoch in Malbun (2015m asl) from Jun 29 until Jul 2 and again from Jul 6-9. Pierre will be active as HB0/HB9QQ on HF, 6m, 2m and via meteor scatter. QSLs via HB9QQ.

HL7 - SOUTH KOREA
Since Mar 30 HL7WR is handing out the prefix HL7 for the first time on the bands (until Jul 2). This special event station has been put up for the "World Rafting Championships 2007" (http://www.2007wrc.com) which takes place in Sangdong-Ri/Inje from Jun 27 until Jul 2.
HL7WR is working in SSB/CW/FM/digital modes on 80-6m.
The QSL Manager DS2UAL confirms the QSLs direct or via the bureau.

HZ - SAUDI-ARABIA
After the deregulation of amateur radio there are about 100 licensed amateurs in Saudia-Arabia now. Class 1 licensees (HF and VHF) are using the prefixes HZ1 or 7Z1, HZ2 stations have licenses class 2 (VHF only). They are also allowed to work on HF when using the station of a license class 1 holder. Operation on 6m, 30m and 80m is not allowed in Saudi-Arabia. If you have worked 7Z1AB, HZ1AB, HZ1HZ or members of the royal family in former times you do not have to worry about your DXCC credit because these stations had a special permission until 2004. The same applies to 7Z5OO who was working as a private teacher for the royal family and had a special license as well. Only few HAMs are really active on the bands but most of them are foreign nationals. There is no amateur radio society or a QSL bureau in Saudi-Arabia.

KH3 - JOHNSTON ATOLL, OC-023
A second try of Susan,W7KFI, to leave Honolulu for the Johnston atoll had to be cancelled again. The lusty 73-year old yachtswoman had to return to the island again to attend a dentist. However she has to leave Honolulu before the hurricane season starts in August. Now Susan

thinks that she may show up as KH3/W7KFI during the last week of Juli
or the first week of August.Her preferred QRGs are 14036 and 14236 kHz.

OJ0 - MARKET REEF, EU-053
Three to four different OPs will be QRV in CW/SSB/digital modes on
160-2m. They will sign OJ0/homecall from Market Reef (EU-053) from
Jul 5-9. More information is not available yet.

R1F - FRANZ JOSEF LAND, EU-019
Victor,UA4RC, the QSL manager of R1FJT writes that a few scientists
will do some researches on Franz Joseph Land from Jul 15 until Aug 20.
Eugene,R1FJT, will give his complete log to a scientist. As soon as
Victor has the logs he will start sending out the QSLs. R1FJT is
operating a beacon on 24.898 and 28.012 MHz running in 15min intervals
every day from 1830 UTC.

SV9 - CRETE, EU-015
Theo,SV9/SV1EJD, announced to be QRV in SSB and RTTY on 80-10m from
Jul 3-17. His QSL manager is IZ8CCW, via bureau or direct.

VP2E - ANGUILLA, NA-022
Common trends are not for everyone. This applies also to Jim,WB2REM,
who is expected to show up in CW/SSB on 80-10m signing VP2EREM from
Anguilla (NA-022) between Jun 28 and Jul 8. QSL via homecall.

3A - MONACO
Slavo,3A/SP2JMB, is working in CW/SSB on 40m-70cm from Jun 26-28.

5X - UGANDA
Vladimir,UA4WHX, has left Ruanda and is now active from Uganda signing
5X1VB. Last weekend he appeared mostly in CW on 80/17/12m. The length
of his stay is unknown. QSLs via UA4WHX, direct or via bureau after his
return.

N1DL SOUTH PACIFIC TRIP
Karl,N1DL, is sailing with his yacht through the South Pacific between
Jun 27 and Jul 11. He starts working in CW/SSB as FO/N1DL from several
islands in French Polynesia and will hit the airwaves as E51ADL from
Rarotonga (OC-013, South Cook) later. QSLs via his homecall.

RUSSIA, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
Gerhard,DL6XK, will operate from a clubstation in Swerdlowsk signing
UE9CXK from Jul 1-15. QSLs via DL6XK (ONLY via bureau).

LINKS: If you are looking for more information about a specific call try
this site of collected callbooks: http://ac6v.com/callbooks.htm#DXCALL

Current SOTA activities (mountain summits) are announced at:
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/activations.php or
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/spots.php

UPCOMING CONTESTS

July 1: RAC Canada DX RTTY Contest

IOTA collected by Fredy,DE0MST (e-mail: iota@dxhf.darc.de)

Island activities:
AF-104, 7X, Grand Cavallo Island/Mediterranean Sea Coast East Group: This new IOTA counter is activated by 7U5CI in all modes on 6-160m until Jun 28. The team of Ivan,OM3CGN, Robert,OM1KW, Afif,7X2RO, Yves,7X0MT, Youcef,7X2HF, Sofiane,7X2GF, Faouzi,7X2FB, and Frantise,7X0RY, is working with three stations, spider beams and wires. QSL via OM3CGN.

AS-100, 4X, Israel Group: The Holyland DX Group (4Z4KX, 4Z5LA, 4X6HP, 4Z5FI, 4X1VF) will be QRV as 4X7AZ from Akhziv Island on Jul 28/29 including participation in the IOTA Contest. QSL via 4Z5LA.
More information can be found on: http://www.4z5la.net/4x7az

AS-151, BY2, Liaoning Prov. W. Group: Zhang,BD3APX, will be QRV as BD3APX/2 from Juhua Island from Jun 29 until Jul 1. QSL via homecall.

EU-006, EI, Aran Islands: EI/G3ZAY/p, EI/M0HSW/p and EI/M0TJH/p are working from Inishmore Island from Jun 27-29. QSLs via homecalls.

NA-091, VE7, BC Prov. South Group: Heinz,VA7AQ, is very active from Quadra Island (BC-006) between Jul 26 and Aug 1. QSL via homecall.

John,VE7JZ, is working from Minstrel Island in SSB and digital modes on 20m/15m until Aug 1. QSL via VE7JZ.

NA-196, VY0, Nunavut Group: VE3IKV and W4TAA plan to hit the airwaves in CW/SSB on all bands signing VF0X from CQ zone 2 between Jun 29 and Jul 4. QSL via VE3IKV (d/b).

JIIA: If you want more information about the "JIIA Activity Year" lasting until the end of 2007 please ask Yuki,JI6KVR (ji6kvr@dance.ocn.ne.jp). This is to celebrate the 5th birthday of the "Japanese IOTA Islands Award" (JIIA). The JIIA diploma is awarded for at least ten contacts with Japanese islands.

Lighthouse activities (WLOTA/ARLHS):

IA5/IZ4DYQ LH 0609/ITA022 Jul 2-13
PJ2HQ LH 0942 Jul 14/15
PJ2/DL6LAU LH 0942 Jul 9-16
PJ2/DJ8NK LH 0942 Jul 9-16
PJ2/DL8OBQ LH 0942 Jul 9-16
GM2T LH 2232 Jul 28/29
MM0CPS/p LH 2232 Jul 27-29
CU8T LH 0947/AZO016 Jul 28/29
J48IO LH 4036 Jul 26-31
J48YL LH 4036 Jul 26-31
WP4NRT LH 2802/PUR002 Jun 30-Jul 1

Bandspots of the last 7 days

80m
3B7SP 3.765 2057Z via SP9SX (B)

40m
HB0/N6OX 7.065 2317Z via N6OX
HB0/PA0ABM 7.095 2313Z via PA0ABM (B/L)
7U5CI 7.050 1914Z AF-104, via OM3CGN (B)

30m
OD5/ON4JM 10.107 1911Z via ON4JM (B)

20m
3B7SP 14.021 0512Zvia SP9SX (B)
7U5CI 14.031 0640Z AF-104, via OM3CGN (B)
7U5CI 14.269 1251Z AF-104, via OM3CGN (B)

17m
SY8WT 18.135 1831Z via SV2HPP (B)
7U5CI 18.151 1126Z via AF-104, OM3CGN (B)

15m
3B7SP 21.021 0543Z via SP9SX (B)
SY8WT 21.257 1100Z via SV2HPP (B)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager

Preview

DATE CALL DXNL

25Jun-30Jun 3A/N6PF 1524
26Jun-28Jun 3A/SP2JMB 1525 *
07Sep-24Sep 3B7C 1511
Nov oder Dec 3D2AG/Rot. 1522
29Aug-2007 3XM6JR 1484
21Jun-05Jul 3V8SS 1524
02Jun-30Jun 5B/G3RWF 1521
23Jun-30Jun 5B/G0HIO 1524
-Apr/08 5H0RS 1515
NOW 5X1VB 1525 *
-Apr/08 6W/EA4ATI 1515
23Jun-28Jun 7U5CI 1525 *
01Apr-09Sep 8N3IAAF 1513
2007 9N7JO 1501

-Apr/09 A52VE 1512
-Nov A61TX 1496
19Jun-29Jun C52T 1524
09Sep-14Sep CQ4IPY 1522
-Feb/08 DP0GVN 1496

2007/2008 EI100S(I) 1501
-30Nov EW905B 1523
01Jul-15Jul FV5VDM 1520
Mar 2008 FO/Clipp. 1521
29Jun-02Jul HB0/HB9QQ 1525 *
14May-30Jun HF750C 1521
01Jun-30Jun HG7DANUBE 1522
-02Jul HL7WR 1525 *
22Jun-28Jun HP (NA-170) 1524

2006 -2008 J28JA 1484/85
28Jun-05Jul J79RM 1524
-Aug JA7QVK/DU7 1521
Jul -Aug KH3/W7KFI 1525 *
15Jun-28Jun KP4/IT9OPR 1523
27Jun-11Jul N1DL/Pazif 1525 *
-Jun OD5/CT1EFS 1515
-Aug OD5/ON4JM 1522
05Jul-09Jul OJ0 1525 *
-30Jul OX3PG 1501
19Jun-01Jul PC650EDAM 1524
03Jul-17Jul SV9/SV1EJD 1525 *

-30Jun TC800YOM 1522
NOW -2008 TL8QC 1459
18Jun-01Jul TM0GP 1524
NOW -Sep TU2/F5LDY 1486
29Jun-04Jul VF0X 1525 *
Jan -Dec VI3SAA 1499
28Jun-08Jul VP2EREM 1525 *
Feb 2008 VP6DX/Ducie 1521
May -Aug VP6TD 1517
Apr -Jul VQ9JC 1512
-Sep ZD9BCB 1500

* = new or updated
.. = and other calls

QSL information

C52T via G0TSM (B)
CX3CCC via CX2ABC (B)
EA6/I1RSA via I1RSA
HB0/F6BFH via F6AJA (B)
HB0/N6OX via N6OX
LZ1DMC via LB9JE (B)
M3OPG (d)
MC0EVS via GW1IOT (B, eQSL)
MM/OQ9E/p via ON7IDX (B)
MM0BNN/p via M0BNN (B)
OL3R via OK1VWK (d)

OL5LUP via OK2KOV
OL5MCP via OK1KBS
OL5MDF via OK1FR
OL5Q via OK1HRA (B)
OL5SCT via OK5SCT
OL5TEN via OK1KJA
OL5Z via OK2ZI
OL6M via OK2BOB (B)
OL60PZKO via OK2BIQ (B)
OL6P via OK2WTM
OL6W via OK2FB
OL7BBS via OK2PMG
OL7G via OK1DCS
OL7HC via OK1HC
OL7M via OK1CU (B)
OL7N via OK1DUO
OL7OO via OK1ALZ
OL70NR via OK1NR
OL8O via OK1MD (B)
OL0E via OK2ZU (B)
OM7DX via W3HNK (d)
OM8A via OM2VL
ON1000B via ON5LL
ON50EU/p via ON7YX (B)
ON60AF via ON6KN
OR7C via ON7CL
OR7T via ON7YD
OS7A via ON7APG
OT6H via ON4AAM
OX/NA1SA via NA1SA or R7C
OX3PG via WA0SMQ (d)
OY/PA3BAG via PA0VHA
OZ3KD via DK3KD (d)
P4/W1XP via W1XP (B)
PA6BF via PA1WLB (B)
PC650EDAM via PD3BL (B)
PR2A via PY2OE (d)
PR5W via PY5FB (B)
PX2T via PY2DN (d)
R3SC via RW3WW
R41WP via RA3LBA
R50MG via RV3LZ
R50NG via RV3LZ
R6SC via RW3WWW
RA70PD via RK3DYB (B)
RA70PD via RV3DUT (d)
RA9CFH via RX9DC
RA9FNV/mm via RA9FDR
RP1WPP via RA1WU
RP3AB via RL3AB

RP3D via RA3FO
RP3EOD via RU3EJ
RP3NPP via RA3NZ
RP3RTK via RN3RQ (B)
RP3W via RW3WWW
RP3XMV via UA3XAC
SC300VL via SK6HD
TC1919ATA via TA-Bureau
TC100FB via TA1HZ (B)
TC57ALAY via TA1HZ (B)
TC800YOM via TA1HZ (B)
TM5LM via F6KAT
TM5MRP via F5KGR
TM6LM via F6KFT
TM6MG via PA7FM (B)
TM7AJ via F6KSU (B)
TM7LM via F6KFH
TM0A via F5OIU (B)
UA9ZZ via RW3RN (B)
UA0KBA/3 via RL3DZ
VQ97JC via ND9M (B)
W2W via W3HEM
YB3DIK via IZ8CCW (B)
YB9AQH via PA0HOP (B)
YL5T via YL3DQ (B)
YM3CC via LX1CC (B)
YV5GRV via EA5KB (B)
ZA/UT7DW via DK6CW (d)
3V/UT6UA via UT6UA
4L6VV via UA6EZ
5B/G3RWF via G3RWF
7U5CI via OM3CGN (B)
9A/DK2CH via DK2CH
9A/OK1DSM via OK1DSM (B)
9Q1EK via SM5DQC (d)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = Logbook of the World (LotW)

QSLs arrived bureau: EA9AM (QSO of 1995) MD4K, TK/DL7UCK, 4X17I, 4Z17B,4Z17C

New QSL manager for 4J7WMF: Roman,RX3RC, is the new QSL manager for 4J7WMF
and his special call 4J60WMF. His address is Roman A. Novikov, Box 21,
392000 Tambov, Russia but he promises to confirm bureau QSLs as well.

Many thanks for contributing to this issue of the DXNL are going to:
Carl Smith (QRZ DX), 425DXNews, OPDX Bulletin, DF6EX (for WIN-QSL), DJ5AV,
DG4YGW, DK8JB, DL1SBF, DL6UAA, DL6XK, DL7VOA, DL8RJ, F5NQL, HZ1IK.

The German PDF version can be found on the DARC homepage at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/bulls/dxmb/2007/dxmb1525.pdf

_____
Subscribe or unsubscribe to the DXNL mailing list yourself at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedxms.htm

1233. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-28 01:33:10 UTC
From: RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net>
Message-ID: <1182991304.851467.115380@m36g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4288

On Jun 27, 10:02 pm, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:

>
> The ARRL is the *ONLY* national organization of radio amateurs.
>

There are many radio amateur organizations in the US with national scope. AMSAT, TAPR, NCI, and FISTS are a few which immediately come to mind.

But none of those is the size of ARRL nor has it's financial strength, and each of them is of narrower focus. So ARRL remains without anyone to seriously challenge it's tagline of "The national association for Amateur Radio".

The model of a single dominant national radio club isn't unique to the US --- in fact it seems to be the worldwide model. Britain has RSGB, Germany has DARC, Japan has JARL, Australia has WIA, China has CSRA, France has REF-Union, Russia has SSR, and so on. These are all large countries with healthy populations of licensees, but each with only one "substantial" national radio club.

The only example of a country with two "large" radio clubs was Canada during the period that both CARF and CRRL were in existence. That period was quite short lived, and the two clubs merged to become RAC, so now even Canada has just one large national radio club.

It would be an interesting study to determine why this worldwide model of a single dominant national radio club has so consistently evolved.

73, de Hans, K0HB

1234. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-28 04:12:34 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13866hcrhqujm96@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 4289

Michael Coslo wrote:

> Steve, where is that? It seems really odd that they don't have a
> Field Org there.

The organization exists in the sense that people are assigned to the statewide positions. The "latest news" on the state ARES web page is from September, 2006. The section traffic net summary includes the slow speed net, which hasn't existed for years. There's no EC for some important metro areas; in fact, there's a non-ARRL organization that coordinates ham radio emergency response for that area.

So I suppose I shouldn't have used the phrase "does not exist". Perhaps "nonfunctional" would have been more accurate.

1235. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-28 04:14:29 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1183000710.907541.160860@x35g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4290

On Jun 27, 5:33?pm, RDWeaver <weaver5...@mypacks.net> wrote:
> On Jun 27, 10:02 pm, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
>
> > The ARRL is the *ONLY* national organization of radio amateurs.

> The model of a single dominant national radio club isn't unique to the
> US --- in fact it seems to be the worldwide model. Britain has RSGB,
> Germany has DARC, Japan has JARL, Australia has WIA, China has CSRA,
> France has REF-Union, Russia has SSR, and so on. These are all large
> countries with healthy populations of licensees, but each with only
> one "substantial" national radio club.

That was not my point. My point was about Who controls the
dissemination of news and information and, most importantly,
the subtle influence of a very very few on the vaster majority of
amateur radio licensees. The major income of the ARRL is from
publishing. RSGB does that to some extent and may someday
pose a real competition for League publications. With the virtual
monopoly on influence comes the clear and present danger of
youknowwhat of a certain fictional year.

> The only example of a country with two "large" radio clubs was Canada

The population of the state of California is approximately that
of all Canada. Have you counted the number of licensees just
in California lately? Note that the ARRL's daily tally of licensees
doesn't lump California with Hawaii or other places of the USA
even though all must be in "six land."

> It would be an interesting study to determine why this worldwide model
> of a single dominant national radio club has so consistently evolved.
>
> 73, de Hans, K0HB

Well, "RDW," it is a matter of convenience for a SMALL group
of hobbyists. You stated not too long ago that amateur radio
in the USA was merely a fractional percentage of the population.

The Radio Club of America was incorporated five years before
the ARRL. They are still in existance. While some members
of the RCA are licensed radio amateurs, their prime interest
focus is no longer on amateurism. Neither is RCA in the
publishing business simultaneous with membership doings.

If you have read Thomas H. White's remarkable history of
early radio in the USA, you will find out more about how the
ARRL got their first steps up the ladder.

AF6AY

1236. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-28 16:30:45 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1183026672.797689.103280@q69g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4291

On Jun 27, 9:33?pm, RDWeaver <weaver5...@mypacks.net> wrote:

> There are many radio amateur organizations in the US with national
> scope. AMSAT, TAPR, NCI, and FISTS are a few which immediately come
> to mind.
>
> But none of those is the size of ARRL nor has it's financial strength,
> and each of them is of narrower focus. So ARRL remains without anyone
> to seriously challenge it's tagline of "The national association for
> Amateur Radio".

Yep. Other organizations have come and gone, usually centered on a
single issue or a few issues. None since the end of WW1 has ever
really been a contender.
>
> It would be an interesting study to determine why this worldwide model
> of a single dominant national radio club has so consistently evolved.

Here's my theory, at least about ARRL:

>From at least the WW1 restart, ARRL has aimed to be a "general
purpose" amateur radio organization. ARRL publishes a wide range of
books and periodicals, has the Maxim Memorial station on the air every
day, sponsors a wide variety of contests and operating activities, is
present at most major hamfests, is constantly involved with FCC, has
the QSL bureau, ARRL VEC, and a host of other things, all amateur
radio related.

That doesn't mean ARRL always does the best possible job in every
possible area, or that other organizations don't also do those things.
What it does mean is that ARRL offers something of value to more hams
than any other national organization. And it means ARRL's focus is
amateur radio *only*, which is as it should be.

The result is that more US hams join ARRL than any other amateur radio
organization.

IOW, the real question is "why doesn't a rival organization arise?" I
think the answer is that no other organization wants to take on all
the tasks ARRL does, or even the majority of them. Nor do rival
organizations want to deal with the challenge of balancing all the
various interests and opinions of a general membership organization.
Other organizations focus on a limited number of areas, which
naturally limits the number of hams who will join those organizations.
Narrow focus also avoids having to make the kinds of compromises
needed in a general-purpose organization.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1237. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-28 16:31:54 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1183028409.100507.321280@n60g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4292

On Jun 28, 12:14?am, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:

>My point was about Who controls the
> dissemination of news and information and, most importantly,
> the subtle influence of a very very few on the vaster majority of
> amateur radio licensees. The major income of the ARRL is from
> publishing. RSGB does that to some extent and may someday
> pose a real competition for League publications. With the virtual
> monopoly on influence comes the clear and present danger of
> youknowwhat of a certain fictional year.

Except that ARRL does not have a monopoly of any kind on publishing to the amateur radio community. There's CQ, Worldradio, and other non-ARRL periodicals. There are other publishers such as RSGB as well.

There are also the vast resources of the internet, where ARRL has one website. (An extensive website, but still just one).

Before the internet there were more US amateur radio publications that were independent of ARRL, such as 73, ham radio, and the Howard W. Sams books, yet none of them ever reached the popularity of QST and ARRL publications.

> The population of the state of California is approximately that
> of all Canada. Have you counted the number of licensees just
> in California lately? Note that the ARRL's daily tally of licensees
> doesn't lump California with Hawaii or other places of the USA
> even though all must be in "six land."

What's the point? There are a lot of people in California, and a lot of hams. Does California need its own amateur radio organization?

> Well, "RDW," it is a matter of convenience for a SMALL group
> of hobbyists. You stated not too long ago that amateur radio
> in the USA was merely a fractional percentage of the population.
>
> The Radio Club of America was incorporated five years before
> the ARRL. They are still in existance.

How many members does the Radio Club of America have today?

What does that organization do for amateur radio?

>While some members
> of the RCA are licensed radio amateurs, their prime interest
> focus is no longer on amateurism. Neither is RCA in the
> publishing business simultaneous with membership doings.

No one has claimed that ARRL is older than the Radio Club of America.

> If you have read Thomas H. White's remarkable history of
> early radio in the USA, you will find out more about how the
> ARRL got their first steps up the ladder.
>
I've read it, and it goes something like this:

In 1914, ARRL arose out of the Radio Club of Hartford, led by Hiram Percy Maxim.

There were other amateur radio organizations then, such as Hugo Gernsback's Radio League of America (RLA). Some were regional, some were national. All were new, because radio itself was new.

The term "radio amateur" wasn't even well defined back then. To many, anyone interested in radio that wasn't commercial or government was "a radio amateur". This included folks with only receivers, folks who were primarily experimenters, etc.

The coming of mandatory licensing for transmitters in 1912 had a major effect, but the biggest effect was the 1917 WW1 shutdown of non-government/commercial radio, including receiving. The shutdown could have meant the end of amateur radio.

Most of the pre-WW1 radio organizations, including ARRL and RLA, simply disappeared or continued to exist only on paper, as their members and officers went to war, antennas were lowered, equipment was sealed or confiscated, and even listening was banned.

When WW1 ended, some of the prewar radio organizations reappeared. ARRL did, and sent people to Washington in order to get the bans on receiving and transmitting lifted. Some other organizations did the same thing. But in the post-WW1 broadcasting boom, none of the other organizations remained strictly focused on amateur radio. Gernsback's RLA focused more on broadcasting, for example, and quickly vanished from the amateur scene.

What really cemented ARRL's position was what happened at the various international radio conferences of the 1920s, culminating in the 1927 conference which made amateur radio a separate and distinct radio service, with amateur bands as part of international treaty, rather than at the mercy and good graces of national governments.

Did the Radio Club of America send anyone to represent the interests of amateur radio operators at the Paris conferences of 1924, 1925 and 1927?

73 de Jim, N2EY

1238. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-28 21:43:38 UTC
From: Pat Cook <pchamster@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <9sGdnX4t-tscvRnbnZ2dnUVZ_sWdnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4293

Hi everyone:
"Jim Higgins" <invalid@invalid.invalid> wrote in message
news:atov73dt1ecc2bvnqd5h3989o6aoqkrq92@4ax.com...
> On Mon, 25 Jun 2007 04:55:42 EDT, Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz> wrote:
>
>> Jim Higgins <invalid@invalid.invalid> wrote:
>>>
>>> We already have a membership organization so what you must be talking
>>> about is a different membership organization that appeals to a
>>> different set of members. So... exactly which different set of
>>> members would that be?
>>
>>
>> 75% of all hams are NOT members of the ARRL. I'd start with them.
>
>
> Why start with them? First of all most aren't even active. Secondly,
> which of their primary interests would you cater to that would cause
> them to join your new organization when they don't join ARRL?
>
> What would your new organization offer that ARRL doesn't offer and
> that would cause them to join other than it isn't the ARRL?
>
> Offered as an example, not as a point of debate,

I'd offer it as a point of debate Jim (Curiously of course :D). What
would your new organization offer that ARRL & the many, many other
worldwide clubs don't already offer, Klystron & Iitoi?

I'm a member of one of the local clubs here in Denver. I'm also one of
those hams who IS NOT a member of ARRL itself. It's NOT because I don't
want to be. It's just that, with a fixed income, if I were to go pluncking
down PRECIOUS $$$ left and right for each and every organization covering
each and every interest of mine, I'd not only go insane, but I'd also GO
BROKE. As such, I have to ask myself WHERE DOES IT END? I don't *need* QST
Magazine to keep me updated on the world of Amateur Radio. Besides...Quite
frankly, compared to Newsline and ARRL Audio News & the ARRL Newsletter,
ANYTHING in QST Magazine would be DATED INFORMATION by the time I got it
anyway.

True, ARRL does do some valuable things for the Amateur Radio Service and
since I *am* a validly licensed Ham, they *do* represent me in various
political and legal capacities (For which I am eternally grateful BTW), I
still see a reason to join them if they're going to represent me anyway.
They know my position on various issues because much the same sentiment is

shared by SCORES of Hams like me. And many of those Hams have made their sentiments public. I don't need to submit what would sound like a broken record in the eyes of ARRL because they've heard it many times before.

Well...I could go on and on, but I think you get the idea. So I ask again....What *would* your new organization offer that ARRL & the many, many other worldwide clubs don't already offer, Klystron & Iitoi? I'm really curious.

Cheers & 73 :D

Pat Cook, KB0OXD
Denver, Colorado
WEBSITE - http://www.qsl.net/kb0oxd/
**NEW VIDEO SECTION - http://www.qsl.net/kb0oxd/cybershacktv/

1239. ARRL JUNE VHF Contest Log Help

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-28 21:45:00 UTC
From: Matthew <nhl_devils.no-spam@yahoo.com>
Message-ID: <TUVgi.241649$p47.18829@bgtnsc04-news.ops.worldnet.att.net>
Source record: 4294

I am having trouble getting a straight answer I am hoping someone here can help me.

How do I submit my 4 band log to the ARRL and a 5th band as a checklog for the same June VHF contest?

>From the General Rules for ARRL Contests on Bands Above 50 MHz: http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/rules-vhf.html

2.4.2.Limited Multioperator: Stations submit logs with a maximum of four bands used. (Logs from additional bands used, if any, should be included as checklogs.)

I am trying to follow this rule, but I do not know how to accomplish the task. We will get killed in the Multi-Multi category, Limited Multi is where we want to be with our 4 bands, the other band as a checklog.

Thanks for any help and 73,

Matthew

1240. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-28 22:29:11 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <83c88356s7tl7h0j2jun5k2mk0qf0e3f4j@4ax.com>
Source record: 4295

On Wed, 27 Jun 2007 21:33:10 EDT, RDWeaver <weaver5511@mypacks.net>
wrote:

>The model of a single dominant national radio club isn't unique to the
>US --- in fact it seems to be the worldwide model. Britain has RSGB,
>Germany has DARC, Japan has JARL, Australia has WIA, China has CSRA,
>France has REF-Union, Russia has SSR, and so on. These are all large
>countries with healthy populations of licensees, but each with only
>one "substantial" national radio club.

I still hold membership in the Israel Amateur Radio Club, the
voluntary-membership national club (I was 4X4UQ in the '60s).

>It would be an interesting study to determine why this worldwide model
>of a single dominant national radio club has so consistently evolved.

It is interesting to note that in some of those countries, one has to
be a member of the club to be licensed, and only the club gave the
license exams.

When the question of privatizing the license testing came up at the
FCC in the 80s, I pointed out this anomaly to the manager who was
dealing with it (Elliot Ours, one of the best folks whom I had the
opportunity to work with) and questioned whether we were going down
that route. I was told to "shut up and deal" to use a common humorous
phrase of the time. The agency was hell-bent to privatize as much as
it could and "damn the torpedoes".
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1241. Re: ARRL JUNE VHF Contest Log Help

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-28 22:33:35 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <KoednYcd-pmwqhnbnZ2dnUVZ_qupnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4296

"Matthew" <nhl_devils.no-spam@yahoo.com> wrote in message
news:TUVgi.241649$p47.18829@bgtnsc04-news.ops.worldnet.att.net...
>I am having trouble getting a straight answer I am hoping someone here can
> help me.
>
> How do I submit my 4 band log to the ARRL and a 5th band as a checklog for
> the same June VHF contest?
>
>>From the General Rules for ARRL Contests on Bands Above 50 MHz:
> http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/rules-vhf.html
>
> 2.4.2.Limited Multioperator: Stations submit logs with a maximum of four
> bands used. (Logs from additional bands used, if any, should be included
> as
> checklogs.)
>
> I am trying to follow this rule, but I do not know how to accomplish the
> task. We will get killed in the Multi-Multi category, Limited Multi is
> where
> we want to be with our 4 bands, the other band as a checklog.
>
> Thanks for any help and 73,
>
> Matthew
>

Call the ARRL.

Otherwise simply submit them individually per the rules below. I.e. the four band log as one submittal and the single band log as a check log. Specifically state in your submission that the single bander is a check log.

Or simply don't submit the 5th band at all. There really is no need to. The stations you contacted will still get their points even if you don't submit a log.

"6.1.1. Electronic submissions in the Cabrillo format may be emailed to JuneVHF@arrl.org
6.1.2. Hand written paper logs or diskettes mailed to June VHF, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

6.1.3. Web entries submitted via the web-based applet at:
http://www.b4h.net/cabforms/ "

1242. Re: ARRL JUNE VHF Contest Log Help

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-28 23:01:55 UTC
From: Matthew <nhl_devils.no-spam@yahoo.com>
Message-ID: <_UWgi.241920$p47.36642@bgtnsc04-news.ops.worldnet.att.net>
Source record: 4297

>>> Call the ARRL.<<<

I was e-mailing them and they don't have an answer.

>>> Or simply don't submit the 5th band at all. There really is no need to. The stations you contacted will still get their points even if you don't submit a log.<<<

This is not true anymore, if the contact is not in both logs it is no longer counted. The log checking reposrts will show this.

I was hoping the robot was smart enough to remove my 5th band if I submit as a limited multi-op station but the ARRL person said nothing in response to this question.

Matthew

1243. Re: ARRL JUNE VHF Contest Log Help

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-28 23:41:45 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <rcqdnfWjCvW02hnbnZ2dnUVZ_segnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4298

"Matthew" <nhl_devils.no-spam@yahoo.com> wrote in message
news:_UWgi.241920$p47.36642@bgtnsc04-news.ops.worldnet.att.net...
>
>>>> Call the ARRL.<<<
>
> I was e-mailing them and they don't have an answer.
>

Try the telephone.

>>>> Or simply don't submit the 5th band at all. There really is no need
>>>> to.
> The stations you contacted will still get their points even if you don't
> submit a log.<<<
>
> This is not true anymore, if the contact is not in both logs it is no
> longer
> counted. The log checking reposrts will show this.
>

Please cite that rule. I find nothing on any of the ARRL rules sites
(neither contest specific nor general rules).

> I was hoping the robot was smart enough to remove my 5th band if I submit
> as
> a limited multi-op station but the ARRL person said nothing in response to
> this question.
>
> Matthew

Submit your 5th band after the due date. That should automatically make it
a check log.

Dee, N8UZE
>

1244. Re: June 24, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-29 00:34:20 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <peqdnQhEqKXszhnbnZ2dnUVZ_jKdnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4149

<N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote in message
news:1182814309.704919.86590@w5g2000hsg.googlegroups.com...

[snip]

>From February 22, 2007, to June 24, 2007:
>
> Novice - decrease of 1,115
> Technician - decrease of 6,471
> Technician Plus - decrease of 4,311
> General - increase of 10,904
> Advanced - decrease of 1,498
> Extra - increase of 2,427
>
> Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 10,782
>
> Total all classes - decrease of 64
>
>
> 73 de Jim, N2EY
>

So far an "effective change" of 0% but we'll see what the rest of the year
brings.

Dee, N8UZE

1245. Re: ARRL JUNE VHF Contest Log Help

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-29 02:51:21 UTC
From: Matthew <nhl_devils.no-spam@yahoo.com>
Message-ID: <Fk_gi.128891$Sa4.110864@bgtnsc05-news.ops.worldnet.att.net>
Source record: 4150

>>> Try the telephone.<<<

I will call tomorrow.

>>> Please cite that rule. I find nothing on any of the ARRL rules sites (neither contest specific nor general rules).<<<

I have submitted several logs that have results that fall into the "log checking reports" category, below is a sample from the report:

*** Not In Log ('N') ***
Lines beginning with the letter 'N' are judged to be 'Not In Log'. This means
we have the other station's log, and your call, or a call close to it, does not appear in that log on this band. This QSO is removed from the log and an extra one qso penalty is assessed.

>>> Submit your 5th band after the due date. That should automatically make it a check log.<<<<

I fear if you submit a second log at any time it will invalidate the old log.

Matthew

1246. Re: June 24, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-29 10:40:21 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1183113596.371054.7570@w5g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4151

On Jun 28, 8:34?pm, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:
> So far an "effective change" of 0% but we'll see what the rest of the year
> brings.

We're only 1/3 of the way through the first year, though. And the numbers have taken ups and downs all over the place.

A couple of things to remember when looking at these numbers:

- Any time a rules change is being considered, or is pending, there will probably be an effect on licensing behavior. Just like the announcement of an upcoming sale at a store. If the pending change makes it easier to get a license, people who were considering getting that license may simply wait until the change occurs. I suspect that more than a few people who were planning to get amateur licenses, or to upgrade, before February 23, 2007 decided to wait until after the rules change.

- News like the rules change travels slowly, and its effects even slower.

- While the rules changes have not resulted in steady new growth, it appears to me that the decline has at least slowed, and probably stopped.

My prediction, IIRC, was that in the first year we would see anywhere from 0 to +1% growth in the total number of currently licensed US hams.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1247. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1559 - June 29, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-29 12:24:15 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <E1I4BwQ-0007DX-BJ@elasmtp-galgo.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 4152
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1559 - June 29, 2007

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1559 with a
release date of Friday, June 29, 2007 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. Ham operating mobile
in New Jersey win an exemption from a tough new
cellphone law, hams in California practice their
emergency communications skills in a mock bird
flu exercise and on the FCC dismisses a pair of
Regulation by Bandwidth petitions but leaves the
door open to future requests. Find out more on
Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1559 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RADIO LAW: HAMS WIN MOBILE IN MOTION EXEMPTION IN NEW JERSEY

Amateur Radio has won an important exemption in
New Jersey. One that should keep the states hams
running mobile for a long time. Amateur Radio
Newsline's Henry Feinberg, K2SSQ, reports:

--

New Jersey Assembly Bill A 4146 and Senate Bill S
1099/2764 were introduced in the New Jersey
legislature to restrict cell phone use and text
messaging while driving. The twin measures were
passed on June 21st and await the governor's signature.

As originally introduced, the bills would have
prohibited the use of any and all electronic
communications devices for talking, listening or
text messaging while driving. This could have
meant that New Jersey hams would have effectively
been banned from operating while mobile in motion.

But that won't be the case. This is because the
combined measure as passed includes a sentence
that makes Amateur Radio the only service exempt
from the all inclusive ban. That hard fought for
exemption reads -- and we quote: "For the
purposes of this section an 'electronic

communication device' shall not include an Amateur Radio".

Talk about getting a broadly worded exemption
that covers every aspect of Amateur Service
communications. More important it means that use
Amateur Radio while driving will continue to be
permitted in New Jersey. The only caveat is that
it is done safely and the ham operator is not engaging in inattentive
driving.

The new law goes into effect four months after
the governor signs it. From that point on, hams
are advised to keep a copy of the measure and
their Amateur Radio license in your glove
compartment if you drive in the Garden State.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Henry
Feinberg, K2SSQ, in West Orange, New Jersey.

--

The exemption for Amateur Radio came about thanks
to the work the hams in the Northern New
Jersey and Southern New Jersey ARRL sections who
contacted their legislators. This, to make sure
that Amateur Radio mobile operations weren't
adversely affected by the then pending legislation (Published reports)

**

RADIO LAW: REGULATION BY BANDWIDTH PETITIONS DISMISSED BY FCC

With little fanfare, the FCC granted separate
requests to recall two petitions for rulemaking
dealing with Regulation by Bandwidth. On June
25th the commission approved requests from the
Communications Think Tank and the American Radio
Relay League to withdraw petitions RM-11305 and
RM-11306 respectively. In a brief notice issued
on June 27th, the FCC stated that both Petitions
for Rulemaking are dismissed without prejudice.

Without prejudice is legal term. It means that a
claim, lawsuit, or law proceeding has been
brought to a temporary halt but that no legal
rights or privileges have been determined,
waived, or lost by the result. In this case it
means that these two parties can file petitions
on this matter again, if they choose to do so. (FCC)

**

RESCUE RADIO: MOCK EPEDEMIC CHALLENGES CA HAMS

The scenario of a mock bird flu a pandemic was
the basis of a simulated emergency exercise,
called "Operation Kung Flu." This, involving
about 200 Santa Barbara California County public
health and disaster planning officials along with
medical service representatives and of coarse a
number of ham radio volunteer
communicators. Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, has the rest of the story:

--

The drill took place on June 20th. In past
exercises members of the Santa Barbara Amateur
Radio Emergency Service have played an important
role in the Health Department's backup
communications between it and the local
hospitals. In this drill officials realized the
only contact they had with medical clinics and
facilities for the was by telephone and cell
phone. Neither would be very reliable if all
members of the community were to try to use these
services at the same time. So they requested the
ARES group conduct a communications survey during
the exercise to evaluate how effective it could be as a backup.

ARES members identified 34 facilities in the area
and sent a team out to each location to record
G-P-S coordinates. They also drew a map of
directions to each location, conducted a radio
check using mobile and handheld gear and sent
back a slow scan television picture of the site.
The exercise proved ARES could establish solid
communications at all locations tested. The data
will be used to develop an information packet
containing details on each facility for ARES
members to use should they be deployed in an emergency.

During the actual drill, the County's Emergency
Operations Center was activated. It dealt with
the challenges of coordinating health, logistics,
communications, law enforcement, and information
distribution to the media and public. Because of
this the ARES radio station at the E-O-C was
itself brought on line. It was used for both
voice communications and to receive slow scan
pictures from the teams in the field.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

--

Following the exercise Bruce Carter, the Manager
of the Office of Emergency Services for the

County of Santa Barbara issued a letter praising the ARES hams. He said and we quote: "ARES is always there, willing and up to any task." (N6ZKJ)

**

RESCUE RADIO: MORE HAMS MAY BE NEEDED IF WEATHER SAT FAILS

Ham radio severe weather spotters could have additional responsibilities come their way. This, if an aging weather satellite crucial to accurate predictions on the intensity and path of hurricanes fails.

According to published news reports, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's chief said the failure of the QuikScat satellite could bring more uncertainty to forecasts. Also that it could force his agency to widen the areas that are placed under hurricane watches and warnings.

If the QuikScat were to die on-orbit, then forecasters may have to rely on less accurate satellite observations and alternate sources of data. Experts estimate that the accuracy of two-day forecasts could suffer by 10 percent and three-day forecasts by 16 percent. This could translate into miles of coastline and the difference between a city being evacuated or not.

As of now, plans to launch a replacement satellite have been pushed back seven years to 2016. And if QuikScat dies before that launch takes place it will likely also mean that many more severe weather storm spotters would be needed along coastal areas of the United states. This is a job that has traditionally fallen to ham radio volunteers. (Science Online)

**

HAM RADIO TRENDS: LEAGUE CITES NO-ODE AS REASON FOR MEMBERSHIP GROWTH

Thee ARRL Letter says that its membership in the League is up and the trend is toward continued growth. With now close to 152,000 members, Customer Service Manager Amy Hurtado, KB1NXO, says the League is a viable, up-to-date organization that every ham should be a part of.

Hurtado credits the rise in membership in part to the FCC rule changes earlier this year that eliminated Morse code testing for the General and Amateur Extra license classes. She says that

since more people are upgrading their licenses as
a result of there being no Morse code
requirement, the League is now successfully able
to show them the benefits of being an ARRL member. (ARRL)

**

BREAK 1

From the United States of America, We are the
Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin
stations around the world, including the Antelope
Valley Amateur Radio Net serving Lancaster, California.

(5 sec pause here)

**

THE BPL FIGHT: SARL SPEAKS OUT IN OPPOSITION TO BPL

Broadband over Powerline Internet access is not
an acceptable system while interference to High
Frequency communications is potentially high. So
says one of the worlds most respected national
ham radio societies. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, has more:

--

Broadband over Powerline is not an acceptable
system to provide Internet access
connections. This, while the interference
potential to High Frequency communications remains high.

This was the message that the South African Radio
League delivered to a Broadband Conference held
last week. One where the proponents of B-P-L
see it as the solution to bridging the digital divide.

These people must think again, says the S-A-R-L's
Hans van de Groenendaal, ZS6AKV. van de
Groenendaal told delegates that bridging the
digital divide is about access to Personal
Computers and computer literacy and not about cheap broadband delivery.

ZS6AKV said that the South African Radio League
is not against new technologies. This, as long
as these technologies are not at the cost of the
High Frequency spectrum which he terms as a scarce national resource.

van de Groenendaal said that radio amateurs are
always embracing new technologies. It is part of
being an communications experimenter.

With so many successful and more mature
technologies available, ZS6AKV concluded by

saying that it is difficult to understand why PLT
is still pursued so vigorously.

At the studio in Los Angeles, I'm Bill Pasternak
reporting for the amateur Radio Newsline.

--

Currently there is no Broadband over
Powerline equipment "type approved" by for use
in South Africa and no licenses for it have been
issued. The South African Radio League and the
South Africa ham community are hopeful to keep it that way. (Southgate)

**

ENFORCEMENT: SAN DIEGO FCC OFFICE JUMPS ON THE
LATEST 96.9 MHZ UNLICENSED STATION

Back in the United States, the San Diego FCC
field office lost no time in going after the
latest unlicensed broadcast operation on 96.9
MHz. A Notice of Unlicensed Operation was issued
June 12th to Jose Partida of Chula Vista. In it
the regulatory agency warned Partida to cease
operation at once or face sanctions that could
include heavy fines, seizure of station
equipment and criminal sanctions including
imprisonment. Partida was given ten days from
the June 12th date of the notice to respond. (CGC)

**

RADIO LAW: FCC DENIES UFO CALLSIGN

The FCC has denied a request that the call sign
NM5UFO be assigned to the New Mexico's Saucer
Ridge Amateur Radio Association. In filing its
request the club had maintained that the
assignment of NM5UFO would be in keeping with the
theme that Roswell, New Mexico which has been
known since 1947 as the site of a UFO crash. In
denying the request the FCC simply said that the
requested call did not follow the
agency's sequential callsign assignment system. (HandiHam News)

**

HAM RADIO TRENDS: THE ICOM ON-LINE SURVEY

Icom is conducting an on-line survey to find out
how, where and when hams operate their
stations. And as an incentive for taking part
you will be entered to a drawing to win one of two IC-R5 portable receivers.

The survey is quite simple and takes only a few moments to complete. And you do not have to own or use any Icom brand gear to take part. All you need to do is take your web browser over to www.icomamerica.com/amateur/survey and follow the simple instructions. According to Icom your opinions are very important to its Product Development Team.

Again, the URL for the Icom survey is www.icomamerica.com/amateur/survey Just fill it in and one of these days you might find yourself listening to an IC-R5 that you won for simply taking part. (Icom Release, WB9QZB)

**

HAM RADIO BUSINESS: KENWOOD SAYS ITS HERE TO STAY

Once again the bloggers are wrong. Contrary to what some hams have conjectured on the Internet, Kenwood Communications has no plans to leave the ham radio marketplace. Amateur Radio Newsline's Fred Vobbe, W8HDU, has the rest of the story:

--

Kenwood, which has just announced that is acquiring famed consumer electronics manufacturer J-V-C from Matsushita Electric says that it sees ham radio as an important part of its overall future business plan. And in a letter to the Amateur Radio community, Phil Parton , N4DRO, who is the Kenwood's National Sales Manager for Amateur Products makes it clear that the company is in ham radio to stay.

Parton writes -- and we quote: "I would like to take a moment of your time with this open letter and help dispel rumors, and falsehoods that have been stated as fact. I have been assured from Top Management in Japan and the U.S. and I can assure you that the Kenwood Communications Sector has no intention of exiting the Amateur Radio Marketplace. It is a viable market. The Amateur Division has been running in the black since our restructuring several years ago. In fact, even with the loss of models over the last four years the Amateur Division has grown in market, speaking highly of Kenwood quality and the loyalty of our customers." -- End quote.

Parton goes on to say that at the recent Dayton Hamvention, Kenwood introduced its new dual band TM-V71A and that dealers report many were sold at the show. The TM-V71A is billed as the worlds

first Echolink ready transceiver with ten dedicated Echolink memory channels as well as Echolink sysop mode of operation.

Parton also notes that the company also had a pre-production prototype of the Dual Band TM-D710A was under Plexiglas. This radio, due out in late August, will serve as a replacement for the soon to be discontinued TM-D700A.

In his letter, Parton also touches on the reason Kenwood has been taking its time in bringing our new models. He says that a good portion of the delay is because Europe has already adopted a Restriction of Hazardous Substances Directive and the rest of the world is likely soon to follow their lead. The directive sets collection, recycling and recovery targets for electrical goods and is part of a legislative initiative to solve the problem of huge amounts of toxic electronic waste. This means that all new consumer electronics that you will buy in the coming years will have to meet the directives criteria. Developing products to meet the new standard has taken a bit of time, but since ham radio gear is a world wide market Kenwood believes that it is imperative that any new products it brings to that marketplace do comply.

The bottom line says Parton is that Kenwood is very much alive, well committed to serving the needs of the world-wide Amateur Radio community for years to come. He ends by saying to please standby for more quality products bearing the Kenwood name.

For the amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Fred Vobbe, W8HDU, in Lima, Ohio.

--

One thing you can be sure about. Whatever new products Kenwood introduces will be environmentally friendly. Phil Parton says that some of them will soon be coming your way soon. (ARNewsline(tm) from Kenwood open letter to all hams.)

**

NEW PRODUCTS: HEIL SOUND ANNOUNCES THE PR-R

Another new product from ham radios own Mr. Audio. This with word that Bob Heil, K9EID, the president of Heil Sound has announced the model PR-R omnidirectional microphone designed

specifically for Electronic News Gathering and news reporting.

The PR-R is 12 inches long and features a moving-coil dynamic element with an internal shock mount that reduces handling noise. It also has a non-glare, slim profile; and zinc die-cast body construction. The latter means that it can withstand physical and environmental conditions encountered during field production operations.

Frequency response is 50 Hz to 16.5 kHz, sensitivity is -68 dB and output impedance is 600 ohm balanced. Additional features include a foam pop shield and extended frequency response with rising high end.

Heil Sound says the mic is now in production with delivery expected in August. Amateur Radio Newsline had a chance to try out a pre-production unit at the recent Dayton Hamvention. Even just connected to our $30 G-E microcassette recorder the PR-R really proved its ability to make interview audio easy to understand even in the noisy environment of the Hara Arena. To us, that says a lot. (RW)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: WB4GCS WINS TECH AWARD

Some names in the news. First up is Jim Sanford, WB4GCS, who has been named as this years ARRL Atlantic Division Technical Achievement Award winner.

Sanford was selected for this honor in recognition of his involvement with AMSAT where he is currently serving as the Project Manager for the OSCAR Eagle project. Eagle is the next generation high earth orbit satellite under construction now by AMSAT North America. (K3IO, Southgate)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: PAVEK MUSEUM HONORED FOR PRESERVING ELECTRONIC MEDIA

Meantime, Minnesota's Pavek Museum of Broadcasting has been presented with the Richard M. Uray Alpha Epsilon Rho Award for Excellence for its efforts and achievements in preserving the history of electronic communication.

The museum is said to feature one of the world's finest collections of early radio, television, broadcasting and recording equipment, as well as an archive of regional radio and television program material. Pavek also is home to the

Museum of Broadcasting Hall of Fame.

The award is given by the National Broadcasting Society and Alpha Epsilon Rho. The latter is a national honor society of electronic media students. (RW)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: GOOGLE MAP IMAGRY GOES TO THE STREETS

Want to see your antenna farm from street level from the comfort of your hamshack? Well Google has announced that it will soon be introducing street-level map views of various U.S. cities, giving Web surfers a panoramic, 360 degree images as well as the overhead views Google Maps has offered.

With the new "Street View" feature in Google Maps, street level images will be available for maps of the San Francisco area, New York, Las Vegas, Denver and Miami. The service will then expand to other metropolitan regions nationwide.

Users looking at Google Maps through a Web browser will be able to navigate around a city,. This will mean web surfers can virtually walk the streets, check out restaurants and landmarks and even zoom in on street signs to make travel plans.

No word as to how often the street level images will be updated or if they will be clear enough to pick out rusty mounting hardware on your tri-band quad. (Google)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: APPLE SAFARI BROWSER NOW FOR WINDOWS

Apple has released a new version of its Safari Web browser for Windows-based PC. The free program is the latest move by Apple to expand its reach beyond its Macintosh computers and, at the same time, attract new converts to its products.

Safari, was released a few years ago for Apple's Macintosh computers. It has so far captured about 5 percent of the world's market share for Internet browsers with more than 18 million users. Microsoft's Internet Explorer is the dominant browser with a 78 percent share, while Mozilla's Firefox has rapidly climbed to gain about 15 percent of the market.

The release of Safari for Windows is seen as yet another part of Apples multi-pronged encroachment of what has long been held to be Microsoft's almost private turf. (Published news reports)

**

WORLDBEAT - AUSTRALIA: VK6XW NEW WIA INTRUDER WATCH COORDINATOR

Karl Hennig VK6XW has been appointed by the Wireless Institute of Australia Board as its new Intruder Watch Coordinator. The WIA operates the Intruder Watch program as a centralized regional clearing house for reports on intrusions from non amateur activities in the ham radio bands. Hening replaces Glenn Dunstan, VK4DU, who retired from that post at the recent Wireless Institute of Australia annual general meeting. (WIA News)

**

WORLDBEAT - JAPAN: TOKYO TO HOST WORLDS TALLEST TOWER

Wired.com says the tallest broadcasting tower ever built is coming to Tokyo, Japan.. The 2001 foot high structure, which still doesn't have a name, will host the digital radio and television transmissions plus a mobile TV network. When completed in 2011 the concrete-and-steel tower will be the highest free-standing antenna in the world. (RW)

**

WORLDBEAT - UK: VOLUNTEER COMMUNICATORS NEEDED FOR THE TOUR DE FRANCE

The United Kingdom's Raynet emergency communications system says that ham radio volunteers needed for the British leg Tour de France bicycle race. Hams free on July 8th are invited to apply. If you can help contact Dennis Spalding, by e-mail to dennis@spalding.freeserve.co.uk as soon as you possibly can possible. (GB2RS)

**

WORLDBEAT - UK: GB2RS TO DISCONTINUE PACKET NEWS

Call this one the end of an era. This with word that the Radio Society of Great Britain's GB2RS News Service will no longer be distributed via Packet Radio. This, after Roger Harris, G3ZFR, is no longer in a position to distribute the weekly GB2RS news bulletin via that early digital mode.

The GB2RS news will continue to be distributed with scheduled on-the-air broadcasts and via the Internet. The RSGB also hosts a subscription remailer on yahoogroups for those who want their news to come to them by electronic mail. (GB2RS)

**

WORLDBEAT - UK: HAM RADIO COMEDY ON YOUTUBE

Still in the U-K, an episode of the 1960 BBC TV comedy series 'Hancock's Half Hour' starring Tony Hancock as a bungling ham radio operator is now on YouTube. This classic episode shows Hancock as a ham radio enthusiast who receives a mayday call from a ship in distress but keeps getting distracted just before he can take down its position. The episode is split into three parts. To view this and other classic Hancock clips, go to www.youtube.com and enter Tony Hancock in the search box. (GB2RS)

**

ON THE AIR: SCHEDULE CHANGE FOR WEST COAST QUALIFYING RUN

On the air, the ARRL has announced that there will be a slight change to the July 2007 West Coast Qualifying Run schedule. The Run will be transmitted by the Maritime Radio Historical Society station using the call KPH stroke K6KPH. This station is the same one that sends out the W1AW Field Day Bulletin for the benefit of West Coast amateurs.

Look for K6KPH to transmit the West Coast Run on three bands on July 12 at 0400 UTC. That computes as 9 PM PDT on July 11th. The Morse code speeds will remain at 10 to 40 Words Per Minute with transmission made on 3.590, 7.047.5 and 14.047.5 MHz.

All Qualifying Run submissions should still be sent to the ARRL for processing. (ARRL)

**

DX

In D-X, UA4WHX is once again active from Uganda
as 5X1VB. As always there is no indication on
how long he will be there but he has been heard
this past weekend on 80, 17 and 12 meters mostly
CW. QSL via his home callsign, direct or by the bureau. It is recommend
to send direct cards after he has gotten home from his travels.

And word that the 3B7 Dxpedition to the Brandon
Islands was expected to have gone Q-R-T on June
21st. If you worked this one please QSL via SP9SX.

EA5RM, has announced that a multi-national team
is planning to be on the air from Kigali, Rwanda
later this summer. Details will be shortly.
Susan Meckley, W7KFI, who is sailing her boat the
USS Dharma to Johnston Island has been forced to
return to Honolulu because of a bad
toothache. She told the O-P-D-X newsletter that
the pain was so unbearable that decided to return
to Hawaii to see an oral surgeon.

Meckley tells the OPDX that she will again
attempt her trip to Johnston Island in less than
two weeks. It will take about a week to travel
there. Listen out for her on C-W 36 Kilohertz
above any High Frequency ham band edge and on SSB
on selected voice frequencies. She plans on
visiting a number of rare DX spots over next 3 years in the South Pacific.

Lastly, HB9QQ, will be active portable HB0 from Lichtenstein between
June 29th and July 2nd and again between July 6th
to the 9th. Activity will be on the High
Frequency bands along with 6 and 2 meters. QSL via his home callsign
address.

(Above DX news from various DX sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: FIELD DAY 2007

And finally this week, Field Day 2007 seems to
have been a mixed bag. Most hams report less
than good conditions with the upper High
Frequency bands fairly quiet over the entire
operating event. The opposite was true on the
lower bands like 40 and 75 where contact runs
like this one were common in the hours after dark:

--

Contact audio here

--

While the ARRL bills Field Day as an operating event to test the emergency preparedness skills of radio amateurs, hams themselves have other reasons for taking part. Some look at it as yet another contest to see how many stations they can contact from a location away from home. Others look at it as a public relations event to make the public aware that Amateur Radio is out there, ready and willing to serve in time of crisis. Many like James Osment, W6OZZ, of the Santa Clarita Amateur RadioClub in California have another reason for taking part. They see it as a chance to share time with some very special friends:

--

Osment: "For me, I guess its about comoradory. The people I have met in Amateur Radio are to me long lasting friends, I mean that they are forever-lasting friends and to me that's very important. Its very important in your lifetimre to have friends that you can turn to for any problem in the world, and they are there itt seems to help you, no matter what."

--

It will be a few months before the scores are tallied and we all know who won in each operating category. No matter. With Field Day all who take part win something, in one way or another. And this operator is already looking forward to Field Day, 2008. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline@arnewsline.org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), P.O. Box 660937, Arcadia, California 91066.

Before we go, a reminder of our latest on-line poll. It asks what is your favorite major U.S. ham radio magazine. You vote at www.arnewsline.org.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the
editors desk, I'm Jim Davis, W2JKD, saying 73 and we thank you for
listening.

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1248. Re: ARRL JUNE VHF Contest Log Help

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-29 12:58:42 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f62v02$1bm6$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4153

Matthew wrote:
>>>> Try the telephone.<<<
>
> I will call tomorrow.
>
>
>>>> Please cite that rule. I find nothing on any of the ARRL rules sites
> (neither contest specific nor general rules).<<<
>
> I have submitted several logs that have results that fall into the "log
> checking reports" category, below is a sample from the report:
>
> *** Not In Log ('N') ***
> Lines beginning with the letter 'N' are judged to be 'Not In Log'. This
> means
> we have the other station's log, and your call, or a call close to it, does
> not appear in that log on this band. This QSO is removed from the log and an
> extra one qso penalty is assessed.

Hi Matt,

That isn't unusual. There might be some confusion that 2 logs are
needed to give out points though. In many (most) contests not everyone
submits a log. The one that I have the most experience with is the PAQSO
party. I estimate that 50 percent of the participants send in logs.

We can see who hasn't sent in a log, because their call signs show up
in a lot of logs.

If an Ops log has QSO's with other Ops who submitted logs, they can be
cross referenced for accuracy.

If an Ops log has contacts who didn't send in a log, they are still
counted. You won't be penalizing anyone if you don't send in the log.

There is one exception to this: Occasionally a log will come in that
has a high percentage of "uniques", who don't show up in any one else's
logs. We scrutinize those logs carefully, because it just isn't very
likely that that many people who just make one QSO are going to be
having that single QSO with that one station.

>
>>>> Submit your 5th band after the due date. That should automatically make
> it a check log.<<<<
>
> I fear if you submit a second log at any time it will invalidate the old

> log.

Your best bet if you are concerned, is to just submit your good logs.
You won't be penalizing anyone.

Hope this helps.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1249. Re: June 24, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-29 22:02:39 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <AOadnbLtA5P5HBjbnZ2dnUVZ_gqdnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4154

<N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote in message
news:1183113596.371054.7570@w5g2000hsg.googlegroups.com...
> On Jun 28, 8:34?pm, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:
>> So far an "effective change" of 0% but we'll see what the rest of the
>> year
>> brings.
>
> We're only 1/3 of the way through the first year, though. And the
> numbers have taken ups and downs all over the place.
>
> A couple of things to remember when looking at these numbers:
>
> - Any time a rules change is being considered, or is pending, there
> will probably be an effect on licensing behavior. Just like the
> announcement of an upcoming sale at a store. If the pending change
> makes it easier to get a license, people who were considering getting
> that license may simply wait until the change occurs. I suspect that
> more than a few people who were planning to get amateur licenses, or
> to upgrade, before February 23, 2007 decided to wait until after the
> rules change.
>

Absolutely. We had a test session scheduled for February 23rd and had a
monster turnout. All but two were for upgrades.

> - News like the rules change travels slowly, and its effects even
> slower.
>

Yes I still get people asking about the General credit for the pre-March,
1987 Tech and that has been in effect for 7 years now.

> - While the rules changes have not resulted in steady new growth, it
> appears to me that the decline has at least slowed, and probably
> stopped.
>

That may be only temporary though. It will probably take more than a year
to see if that is real or temporary. Yes it will be interesting to see the
results on the one year anniversary.

> My prediction, IIRC, was that in the first year we would see anywhere
> from 0 to +1% growth in the total number of currently licensed US
> hams.
>
> 73 de Jim, N2EY

>

Well I predicted -1% to +1%.

By the way, your "official guess" on the list I was running was +1% to +2%.
Would you like to change it or just stand on your existing numbers?

Here's the list as it stands right now:

N8UZE: 1% less to 1% more
N2EY: 1% more to 2% more
KH6HZ: 1% less to 0% change
N3KIP: 2% more to 6% more
KH6O: 6% more to 10% more
KK6J: 12% more to 14% more
KC2HMZ: 5% more
K8BSG: 2% to 3% more <--- Added 02/18/06

Dee, N8UZE

1250. The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 26 (Friday, June 29, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-30 07:03:58 UTC
From: ARRL Letter Mailing List <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <200706300500.l5U50K6x020730@linux11676.dn.net>
Source record: 4155
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

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***************
The ARRL Letter
Vol. 26, No. 26
June 29, 2007
***************

IN THIS EDITION:

* + ARRL Diamond Terrace Nears Completion
* + Field Day at W1AW: "It Was a Blast!"
* + FCC Enforcement Actions for the Week of June 25, 2007
* + Amateur Radio and ARES Assist Flood Victims in Central Texas
* + Kenwood Purported to Merge with JVC in 2008
* + Astronaut Suni Williams, KD5PLB, Back on Terra Firma
* Solar Update
* IN BRIEF:
This Weekend on the Radio
ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Course Registration
+ Magic Band Opens Wide to Allow Cross-Band Transatlantic Contact
+ North Carolina Governor Signs Antenna Bill
Ducie Island, VP6, DXpedition Gears Up
FCC Dismisses Petitions for Rule Making
North Carolina Governor Signs Antenna Bill
ARRL Congratulates Two New Top of Honor Roll Recipients
Duncan McArthur, GM3TNT (SK)
Let Us Know

+Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/>

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==>Delivery problems: First see FAQ
<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/faq.html#nodelivery>, then e-mail
<letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
==>Editorial questions or comments only: S. Khrystyne Keane,
<k1sfa@arrl.org>
============================================================

==> ARRL Diamond Terrace Nears Completion

With only a few more steps to go, the Diamond Terrace at ARRL
Headquarters is just about complete. The building has had a new paint
job and looks spiffier than ever. The bricks for the Terrace have been
laid, creating a pleasing panorama at the entrance to HQ. Soon granite
benches will grace the Diamond Terrace, providing a resting place on a
lovely summer's afternoon for visitors, friends and staff alike.
```

ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH, said, "It's wonderful to see the transformation of ARRL Headquarters building after the months of planning. We have all been watching the progress of the painting, sidewalk construction and finally the laying of the bricks in the Diamond Terrace."

Hobart said that the benches, "the capstone of the Terrace," will be installed in the next several weeks. "Six garden benches of Vermont granite will be put into place on the Terrace, thanks to the contributions of six incredibly generous hams," she said. Bench donors include Larry Price, W4RA; Dick Isely, W9GIG, and Paul Rinaldo, W4RI.

Besides the benches, the Terrace will host up to 5000 personalized, 4x8-inch laser-engraved bricks. Gracing the new entrance to ARRL Headquarters, the Diamond Terrace will recognize donors wishing to venerate their own call signs or to honor or memorialize the call sign of a family member, club or "Elmer" (mentor). "I have heard wonderful stories from donors who are honoring their Elmer or a family member, and clubs who are honoring a founder or influential leader. There is no limit to the reasons why bricks are placed to honor a call sign," Hobart said.

Hobart continued, "We already had plans to refurbish the Headquarters entrance area, so this was an ideal opportunity to invite our members to participate in the project and support League programs at the same time. We want to grow the Diamond Club, which enables the ARRL to continue programs that require revenue above and beyond what annual dues provide, ensuring their long-term health and enabling the League to do more on behalf of Amateur Radio."

A total of 168 personalized bricks were laid this week, the first set of bricks to grace the Terrace. "Many people have requested more than one brick through their donations. Some have requested five bricks," Hobart said. "There is room for everyone at the Diamond Terrace."

ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, was the first in line to buy a Diamond Terrace brick. Others can join President Harrison with a $250 annual Diamond Club membership contribution. The Diamond Club now has more than 2100 members, and the unrestricted funds it takes in support such ARRL activities as spectrum defense, educational initiatives, field services, DXCC, publications, contesting and the ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator program, among others, Hobart points out. "You pick an area that's near and dear to your heart, and Diamond Club revenue is very likely supporting it."

The bricks placed in the Diamond Terrace are treated to withstand Connecticut's weather and placed in a sand setting. The list of bricks will be posted on the ARRL Web site and will be available to visitors at ARRL Headquarters who wish to locate their brick in the Diamond Terrace. Brick requests will be accumulated throughout the year and placed in the Diamond Terrace starting in late spring of each year.

The staff has followed the progress of the Diamond Terrace, built by Robert Antonello and Son, under the watchful eye of ARRL Building Manager Greg Kwasowski, W1GJK, and Hobart. "I hope that those who are fortunate to visit ARRL Headquarters this summer and in the future will enjoy the new look of their Amateur Radio home. It has been a pleasure to work with each Diamond Club donor to craft the engraving for their brick, and I hope many can come and see the terrace personally," Hobart said.

If members are not able to stop by ARRL Headquarters and see the Diamond Terrace in person, they can view the almost 200 photos taken by ARRL News Editor Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, that document the construction <http://www.arrl.org/development/donations/diamondclub/terrace/photos.html >. To find out more about the ARRL Diamond Terrace, please visit the Diamond Terrace Web site <https://www.arrl.org/forms/development/donations/diamondclub/terrace.html>.

==> Field Day at W1AW: "It Was a Blast!"

With the 2007 Field Day now a part of history, it's time to begin planning for 2008. With that in mind, ARRL Regulatory Information Branch Manager and Field Day Coordinator Dan Henderson, N1ND, said, "From the phone calls and e-mails I have received, people all over the country had a great Field Day. It was a blast. Now it's time to get started planning for next year!"

W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, said, "Field Day conditions were weak, but we managed some good contacts, nonetheless. All the W1AW Field Day bulletins were sent without a hitch."

Henderson agreed. "Propagation was not the best up here in New England. But we managed to pull through, and had a lot of fun doing so." W1AW made a total of 804 contacts: 317 on CW, 466 on Phone and 21 on the digital modes; each mode ran at 100 W. Taking into account all the bonus points available, W1AW's claimed score is 2284. "We ran Field Day as 4F. Since W1AW is an EOC station, we are allowed the 'F' designator. Although we didn't make any satellite contacts, we did demonstrate it to staff and visitors," Carcia said.

W1AW managed to make contacts with 42 of the 50 US states. Unfortunately, operators were not able to make contact with South Dakota, Wyoming, Alaska, Hawaii, New Mexico, Nevada, Oregon or Kansas. "We're okay with that, because at W1AW, we view Field Day as more of a teaching, or educational, experience. There are times where we are not operating, or not operating that much, because we are showing new or prospective hams what Amateur Radio is all about," Carcia said.

Carcia noted that just as during regular W1AW operating hours, visitors were "more than welcome" to come by W1AW on Field Day. "We had one visitor from Hawaii. He and his family were in Connecticut on family business, and he operated pretty much both days. In addition to visitors, we had 11 ARRL HQ staffers show up to both operating and to

conduct a VE test session on Saturday," Carcia said. A total of eight people took exams, with six passing.

Carcia said that the W1AW 60 kW diesel generator suffered "some nastiness" the Saturday before Field Day, but was repaired in the days prior to the operating event. "As near as we can tell," Carcia said, "lightning struck a power line a street over, inducing voltage in the line. We are guessing the induced voltage arced across from the neutral side in the transfer switch and 'whacked' the solenoid coil and control board in the transfer switch. We think this only because the coil is about an inch away from neutral buss." The generator story, as well as pictures from W1AW's Field Day, are on the ARRL Field Day Web blog <http://www.arrl.org/blog/Field%20Day%202007>. Post your Field Day experiences on the Field Day Soapbox < http://www.arrl.org/contests/soapbox/?con_id=133>.

==> FCC Enforcement Actions for the Week of June 25, 2007

In May and June of this year, the FCC's Enforcement Bureau, Spectrum Enforcement Division, sent out radio amateur enforcement correspondence via certified mail to four hams and one commercial company regarding alleged misuse of Amateur Radio activities.

In two unrelated cases, letters were sent to William E. Westley, Jr, AF4GC, of New Port Richey, Florida, and Donald E. Ellis, KB0TVP, of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, for repeater interference and included warnings to stay off certain repeater systems. Westley was asked by the licensee of the W4FLG repeater to stop using the repeater. Ellis was requested by the licensees of W0MXW and K0RGR to refrain from using said repeaters. According to the FCC, requests to Westley and Ellis were issued both verbally and in writing. The FCC said both Westley and Ellis were cited for "failure to follow operational rules set forth by the licensee/control operators of the repeater system."

Oscar Resto, KP4RF, of San Juan, Puerto Rico, was cited by the FCC from a complaint originating with the Puerto Rico Virgin Islands Volunteer Frequency Coordinators, Inc. They allege Resto caused "interference from your station operating at 145.450 MHz to coordinated repeater KP4IA, operating at 144.770 MHz." According to the FCC, PVRI has found and coordinated another frequency pair for Resto "that would cure the present interference problem, as well as another interference situation involving other coordinated repeater stations." The FCC requests that Resto "either resolve the interference problem or comply with the frequency' coordinator's recommended frequency change by midnight July 1, 2007."

The FCC also sent a letter to Mark F. Hubeny, N9ZHW, citing the "operation of your Amateur Radio station on non-Amateur Radio frequencies," resulting in "deliberate interference. Although the complaints relate to non-Amateur operation, if true they raise serious question regarding your qualifications to remain an Amateur licensee." The FCC requested Hubeny to respond to the FCC within 20 days of receipt

of the letter to fully address the complaint. He was also asked to clarify his mailing address for his amateur license.

In a complaint against Tennessee Steel Haulers of Nashville, Tennessee, the FCC notes that "one of your drivers has been operating radio equipment without a license on 28.085 MHz and causing interference to licensed stations in the Ten Meter Amateur Band." The letter goes on to state that the driver was observed operating on May 3, 2007 on Interstate 85 in Gastonia, North Carolina. The penalty for such actions include fine or imprisonment, as well as seizure of any non-certified radio transmitting equipment. Fines can range from $7500-$10,000.

To read the correspondence in its entirety, please see the Enforcement Bureau's Web site <http://www.fcc.gov/eb/AmateurActions/Welcome.html>. Address all inquiries regarding this correspondence to Riley Hollingsworth <riley.hollingsworth@fcc.gov>.

==> Amateur Radio and ARES Assist Flood Victims in Central Texas

In floods that have ravaged across central and north Texas for more than 11 days, Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) members were activated to assist those in need. In those 11 days, 11 people were killed due to the severe weather conditions. More than 10 inches of rain was predicted to fall Thursday; the area only received three inches, but more rain was expected Thursday and Friday, and flash flood warnings were in effect.

In Williamson County, north of Austin, a search has been under way for two motorists apparently swept off a road. According to the Williamson County Sherriff's office, a search was underway for a woman and her boyfriend after their car was found abandoned; the car appeared to have been swept off the road by flood waters. Almost a week of nonstop rain -- including 18 inches near Marble Falls in Burnet County, about 40 miles northwest of Austin, on Wednesday morning -- left dozens of people stranded on rooftops, cars and in trees.

According to Williamson County ARES member Tom Whiteside, N5TW, "The regular communication infrastructure has been working well, but we are participating mostly 'just in case.' We have had the Williamson County EOC staffed since Wednesday morning, and then continuously since 1 AM Thursday. In that time, we have provided communications at two shelters -- one at the Georgetown Recreational Center and one at the Liberty Hill Middle School. We are using both conventional voice and portable Winlink at the EOC. The Winlink connection is quite handy for sensitive messages, as well as for passing more complicated intelligence in and out than could be done efficiently with voice." Williamson County ARES was activated.

Jim Taylor, NQ5L, Emergency Coordinator for Williamson County, concurred. "The Williamson County EOC was opened due to the severe rains in Burnet County, with spill over into Williamson. Rain fall has slowed with several roads closed and some water rescue efforts. So far, there have been no reports of fatalities here, but people are still driving

into dangerous situations." Authorities also closed several impassable roads in Williamson County. Some cars stalled in the high water, but the occupants escaped.

Saying that helicopter reconnaissance would commence during daylight hours, Taylor added that two major storm systems to the west are expected to merge and create a situation with up to 10 inches of rain expected.

A good deal of damage occurred in Marble Falls and Highland Lakes (Llano County), according to the National Weather Service and Rick Chapman, K5RIK, Emergency Coordinator for Highland Lakes. "There are extensive rains in the area, with a measured rainfall of 1.5 feet over the past 24 hours. This has resulted in many flooding situations in the low areas. Marble Falls and Kingsland were particularly hard hit. People have been forced out of their homes by the high water, and low water crossings were dangerous yesterday, with some still having high levels of water today."

Chapman added that thus far, "Our served agencies have not requested ARES/SKYWARN communications support, and we do not deploy without specific requests. With the saturated soil conditions and expected additional rainfall, our deployment status may change quickly."

The Texas National Guard dispatched troops and vehicles to Central Texas, as well as other areas hit by storms from the Oklahoma border to the Rio Grande Valley. About 150 troops and 50 vehicles were mobilized. This has been the wettest year on record in Austin, where more than 30 inches of rain has fallen since January, and Dallas-Fort Worth, Waco and Wichita Falls have near-records. The rainfall has more than compensated for a drought that much of Texas had been experiencing since 2005, the National Weather Service said.

==> Kenwood Purported to Merge with JVC in 2008

A consumer electronic magazine, This Week in Consumer Electronics (TWICE), reports that Kenwood has agreed to merge in 2008 with Victor Company of Japan (JVC) under a holding company. JVC is owned by Matsushita Electric Industrial Company. Japan's Nikkei business newspaper reports that the final details should be worked out by the end of the month, and that under the plan, Kenwood will buy 20 billion yen ($161,469,466) in JVC shares as early as this summer, raising its stake to 13 percent. Matsushita will also sell part of its 52.7 percent of JVC to Kenwood's top shareholder, the Sparx Group. When JVC and Kenwood integrate operations under the holding company in 2008, Matsushita will sell the rest of its JVC shares to the holding company to complete the transaction. The holding company's stock will be listed instead of Kenwood and JVC, according to Nikkei. Combined, Kenwood's and JVC's sales are $7.3 billion dollars annually for their fiscal year that ended March 31.

==> Astronaut Suni Williams, KD5PLB, Back on Terra Firma

Suni Williams, KD5PLB, International Space Station (ISS) Expedition 15 Flight Engineer, came back to Earth Saturday, June 23 on the space shuttle Atlantis (STS-117), wrapping up a six month stay during which she became the new record holder for the longest single spaceflight by a woman. While on the ISS, Williams participated in 33 Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) contacts. ISS Expedition 12 Commander Bill McArthur, KC5ACR, holds the record for the most ARISS school contacts in a single mission at 37.

Williams launched with the crew of the space shuttle Discovery (STS-116) on December 9, 2006. She docked with the ISS on December 11. Clay Anderson, KD5PLA, part of STS-117, replaced Williams as ISS Flight Engineer. STS-117 was launched from Florida June 8 and docked with the ISS June 10. Its mission lasted almost 14 days.

"The space station's just a stepping-stone to get us to understand space, and how to live and work in space, and then potentially get back to the moon is the next stepping-stone. How to work in a low-gravity environment and how to work in an environment that is not habitable for us that will take us to the next place, maybe Mars and then beyond," Williams said.

While in space, Williams, a US Navy helicopter pilot who holds the rank of Commander (O5), worked with robotics operation on the ISS and participated in four spacewalks. She was also NASA ISS Science Officer for part of her time in space. The primary focus of US science on the ISS is research on how people can live and work safely in weightlessness.

Williams participated in the 2007 Boston Marathon from the ISS. She competed as an official entrant in the annual Patriots Day event from 210 miles above Earth. Williams ran on an ISS exercise treadmill, circling Earth at least twice in the process and going as fast as 8 MPH while flying more than 5 miles per second. "I [hope to] encourage kids to start making physical fitness part of their daily lives," she said. "I think a big goal like a marathon will help get this message out there."

==>SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Don't Let the Sun(spots) Go Down on Me" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: We are seeing new sunspots over the past few days after 11 days with none at all. Lack of solar activity made Field Day this year (June 23-24) a real cycle minimum experience. Most areas saw very little 10 and 15 meter activity, so 80, 40 and 20 meters were the places to be. Sunspot numbers for June 25-28 were 11, 11, 15 and 27. The numbers may edge a little higher over the next few days, with more zero sunspot days possible around mid-July. Geomagnetic activity is expected to remain quiet. Sunspot numbers for June 21 through 27 were 0, 0, 0, 0, 11, 11 and 15 with a mean of 5.3. 10.7 cm flux was 65.5, 65.3, 65.9, 66.9, 67.6, 70.5, and 73.2, with a mean of 67.8. Estimated planetary A indices were 14, 16, 11, 6, 5, 5 and 5 with a mean of 8.9. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 8, 12, 8, 4, 3, 4 and 5, with a mean of 6.3.

For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>.

==>IN BRIEF:

* This weekend on the radio: This weekend, the NCCC Sprint Ladder and the Digital Pentathlon are June 29. The WLOTA is June 30-July 1. The RAC Canada Day Contest and SKCC Weekend Sprint are July 1. During the week, the RSGB 80m Club Championship (CW) is July 2, and the ARS Spartan Sprint is July 3. Schedule the Michigan QRP July 4th CW Sprint around your hot dogs and fireworks on July 4-5. Next weekend is VK/Trans-Tasman 160m Contest (SSB) on July 7. The Venezuelan Independence Day Contest, the DL-DX RTTY Contest and the Original QRP Contest are scheduled for July 7-8. On July 8, look for the DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest and the ARCI Summer Homebrew Sprint. Later in the week on July 11, the SKCC Sprint and RSGB 80m Club Championship (SSB) are on the air. See the ARRL Contest Branch page http://www.arrl.org/contests/, the ARRL Contester's Rate Sheet <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rate-sheet/> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more info.

* ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration: Registration remains open through Sunday July 8 for these online courses beginning on Friday July 20: Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 2 (EC-002); Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 3 (EC-003); Antenna Modeling (EC-004); Radio Frequency Propagation (EC-011); HF Digital Communications (EC-005), and VHF-UHF (EC-008). To learn more, visit the CCE Course Listing page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html> or contact the Continuing Education Program Coordinator <cce@arrl.org>.

* Magic Band Opens Wide to Allow Cross-Band Transatlantic Contact: On Monday, June 25, there was a big opening to Europe on 6 meters (50 MHz), also known as the "magic band." In most areas, the opening started in the local US mid-morning, lasting until dark. According to QST column author of "The World Above 50 MHz" Gene Zimmerman, W3ZZ, "Many areas of the country that do not normally work Europe, including the Midwestern states, West Texas and Colorado, worked stations in Europe. At one point near the end of the opening, stations on the East Coast of the US were working stations in Hawaii on the Big Island." In this opening, Mike Smith, VE9AA, in New Brunswick was on 50 MHz when he worked Nigel Coleman, G7CNF, on CW cross-band; Coleman was on the 70 MHz band (4 meters) in England. Zimmerman said, "Though a few cross-band contacts were made via F2 propagation during the sunspot maximum period in the 1970s, this is believed to be the first 50/70 transatlantic cross-band contact ever made on multi-hop sporadic-E propagation." RSGB VHF/UHF Manager David Butler, G4ASR, concurred: "It certainly isn't the first United Kingdom-North America 4 meter/6 meter cross-band QSO, but it probably is the first via multi-hop sporadic-E." In North America, 70

MHz is channel 4 on television sets. Watch a YouTube video of the contact posted by VE9AA at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kVlVWPJWcPo>, and G7CNF's version with some audio enhancements at <http://uk.youtube.com/watch?v=X0wel14KAD0>.

* North Carolina Governor Signs Antenna Bill: On Friday, June 29, North Carolina Governor Mike Easley signed HB1340, the "Amateur Radio Antenna" bill into law. North Carolina becomes the 25th state to pass a state model of the FCC's 1985 PRB-1 regulation, and becomes the halfway point for all 50 states having some kind of state antenna legislation. The bill was introduced for the first time in February and passed unanimously in both the House and the Senate. The law takes effect October 1 and permits antennas up to 90 feet in height in areas regulated solely by municipal (county and city) ordinances.

* Ducie Island, VP6, DXpedition Gears Up: The Daily DX reports that the Ducie Island DXpedition Team, VP6DX, has been busy behind the scenes preparing for the much anticipated February 2008 DXpedition. It was also announced that the VP6DX team decided to extend the duration of the DXpedition. Plans are to depart Mangareva Island, part of the Gambier Islands in French Polynesia, via ship on February 5, 2008 and head for Pitcairn Island; this trip normally takes about 36 hours. The ops will spend a few hours on Pitcairn before taking another 36 hour trip boat ride to Ducie Island; they plan to arrive at sunrise on February 9, and hope to be up and running within 24 hours. The team needs to be back on Mangareva by March 3. If all goes well, including the weather, they will have VP6 on the air for as long as 19 days. There is a slight chance of a short visit to another uninhabited island if things on Ducie slow down. Henderson Island (also VP6, not a separate DXCC entity) is the only island on the way to and from Ducie Island.

* FCC Dismisses Petitions for Rule Making: The FCC today granted requests to withdraw two Petitions for Rule Making (PRM) concerning "spectrum deregulation in the Amateur Service," as well as a vanity call sign request for a call sign outside the Commission parameters. In the Order, the FCC first granted a request to withdraw a PRM by the Communications Think Tank (CTT), filed June 20, 2005, that requested the FCC "discontinue mandatory segmentation of emission modes and the activities using these modes in the Amateur Service, and substitute a voluntary system of coordination to achieve greater, and more efficient, utilization of frequency allocations within the amateur radio bands." On November 6, 2006, CTT requested its PRM be withdrawn. On November 14, 2005, the ARRL requested the FCC "comprehensively modify the means by which the extremely varied emission modes in the Amateur Radio Service are developed, experimented with, implemented and regularly utilized in the course of normal Amateur Radio communications." On April 27, the ARRL requested its petition be withdrawn. In the Order, the FCC agreed to drop both PRMs, saying they will take "no further action with respect to these petitions for rulemaking or the comments filed in response thereto." The Commission went on to say in the Order that both PRMs are "dismissed without prejudice," meaning the subject may be revisited at a

later date.

* ARRL Congratulates Two New Top of Honor Roll Recipients: Dave Brindle, K1WER, of Nashua, New Hampshire and Bob Hall, W8QHG, of Barboursville, West Virginia, achieved Top of Honor Roll after completing confirmed contacts with BS7H, the Scarborough Reef DXpedition. Hall will turn 91 this October. By special arrangement with the ARRL DXCC Desk and West Virginia DX Association, Hall received the first #1 Honor Roll Award issued following the BS7H operation.
Top of Honor Roll is awarded to those who complete confirmed contacts with each of the current DXCC entities. As of this date, there are 337 DXCC entities. According to DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, there are currently 869 Top of Honor Roll recipients. More than 25,000 people participate in the DXCC awards program, and more than 40,000 awards have been bestowed since the inception of the DXCC awards program in 1945. For more information on ARRL DXCC awards, please see the DX Century Club Web page < http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc/>.

* Duncan McArthur, GM3TNT (SK): Duncan McArthur, GM3TNT died suddenly at his home in Avalon, Peninver, Scotland on June 19, 2007. He was 65. McArthur was the "Scottish link" in last year's "Hello" campaign, celebrating 100 years of voice over radio. During the "Hello" finale when three stations -- W1AW in Connecticut, W100BO/W1F in Brant Rock, Massachusetts and GB1FVT in Machrihanish, Scotland -- were on the air the last weekend in December 2006, McArthur manned GB1FVT. This station, built by Reginald Fessenden in 1905, received the first voice transmissions sent across the Atlantic. Until then, this site had only been using Morse code when, by accident, a voice transmission which was only intended to go between Brant Rock and Cobb Island was received at Machrihanish. ARRL Public Relations and Media Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, said, "I never met Duncan in person, but we talked a lot about the "Hello" campaign and I really liked him. He was pure Scot (never English!) and the brogue was most pleasant -- like my grandmother. He was willing to do whatever he could -- and came through on his promises; that always counts a lot with me. I liked knowing people like that were still in my world -- and now he's gone. I will miss him." McArthur is survived by daughter Diane and son-in-law Morris, granddaughter Hannah and mother Alexina. The funeral service took place in Campbeltown, Scotland on June 22, 2007.

* Let Us Know: What's your favorite part of The ARRL Letter? What kind of stories would you like to see in the Letter? Would you prefer the Letter in an HTML format? This is your Letter and your chance to let your voice be heard. Please send your suggestions to ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, at k1sfa@arrl.org, with the subject line "ARRL Letter Suggestions." All messages will be read and discussed, and we look forward to implementing positive suggestions into the ARRL Letter.

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The ARRL Letter is published Fridays, 50 times each year, by the American Radio Relay League: ARRL--the National Association for Amateur

Radio, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111; tel 860-594-0200; fax
860-594-0259; <http://www.arrl.org>. Joel Harrison, W5ZN, President.

The ARRL Letter offers a weekly e-mail digest of essential and general news of interest to active radio amateurs. Visit the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org> for the latest Amateur Radio news and news updates. The ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/> also offers informative features and columns. ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> is a weekly "ham radio newscast" compiled and edited from The ARRL Letter. It's also available as a podcast from our Web site.

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The ARRL Letter is available to ARRL members free of charge directly from ARRL HQ. To subscribe, unsubscribe or change your address for e-mail delivery:
ARRL members first must register on the Members Only Web Site <http://www.arrl.org/members/>. You'll have an opportunity during registration to sign up for e-mail delivery of The ARRL Letter, W1AW bulletins, and other material. To change these selections--including delivery of The ARRL Letter--registered members should click on the "Member Data Page" link (in the Members Only box). Click on "Modify membership data," check or uncheck the appropriate boxes and/or change your e-mail address if necessary. (Check "Temporarily disable all automatically sent email" to temporarily stop all e-mail deliveries.) Then, click on "Submit modification" to make selections effective. (NOTE: HQ staff members cannot change your e-mail delivery address. You must do this yourself via the Members Only Web Site.)

The ARRL Letter also is available to all, free of charge, from these sources:

* ARRLWeb <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>. (NOTE: The ARRL Letter will be posted each Friday when it is distributed via e-mail.)

* The QTH.net listserver, thanks to volunteers from the Boston Amateur Radio Club: Visit Mailing Lists@QTH.Net <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/letter-list>. (NOTE: The ARRL cannot assist subscribers who receive The ARRL Letter via this listserver.)

1251. Re: June 24, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-30 11:04:12 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1183201427.938830.62090@c77g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4156

On Jun 29, 6:02?pm, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:
> <N...@AOL.COM> wrote in message
news:1183113596.371054.7570@w5g2000hsg.googlegroups.com...

> We had a test session scheduled for February 23rd and had a
> monster turnout. All but two were for upgrades.

IMHO, the major effect of the rules changes have been to increase
upgrades rather than to bring in lots of new hams. But it's only been
four months.

> > - News like the rules change travels slowly, and its effects even
> > slower.
>
> Yes I still get people asking about the General credit for the pre-March,
> 1987 Tech and that has been in effect for 7 years now.

I still encounter people who think they can get a new Novice, Tech
Plus or Advanced license.

> > My prediction, IIRC, was that in the first year we would see anywhere
> > from 0 to +1% growth in the total number of currently licensed US
> > hams.
>
> Well I predicted -1% to +1%.
>
> By the way, your "official guess" on the list I was running was +1% to +2%.
> Would you like to change it or just stand on your existing numbers?

Obviously I didn't recall correctly! Thanks for the right numbers.
I'll stick with my original guess. of +1 to +2%.

btw, you might want to run the prediction "contest" rules again in a
new thread so folks who haven't seen it before will know what it
means.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1252. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-30 11:49:18 UTC
From: Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-3E9C45.07200030062007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 4157

"Pat Cook" <pchamster@gmail.com> wrote:

> I'd offer it as a point of debate Jim (Curiously of course :D). What
> *would* your new organization offer that ARRL & the many, many other
> worldwide clubs don't already offer, Klystron & Iitoi?

The objective would be to provide an organization to those hams who wish to make ham radio innovative and progressive (again). By comparison, the ARRL exists to serve those hams who wish to keep ham radio retrogressive, insular and xenophobic. Certain technologies would be championed (digital voice, digital data, e.g.) while other technologies would be abandoned to their fate (Morse).

> I'm a member of one of the local clubs here in Denver. I'm also one of
> those hams who IS NOT a member of ARRL itself. It's NOT because I don't
> want to be. It's just that, with a fixed income, if I were to go pluncking
> down PRECIOUS $$$ left and right for each and every organization covering
> each and every interest of mine, I'd not only go insane, but I'd also GO
> BROKE. As such, I have to ask myself WHERE DOES IT END? I don't *need* QST
> Magazine to keep me updated on the world of Amateur Radio. Besides...Quite
> frankly, compared to Newsline and ARRL Audio News & the ARRL Newsletter,
> ANYTHING in QST Magazine would be DATED INFORMATION by the time I got it
> anyway.
>
> True, ARRL does do some valuable things for the Amateur Radio Service and
> since I *am* a validly licensed Ham, they *do* represent me in various
> political and legal capacities (For which I am eternally grateful BTW), I
> still see a reason to join them if they're going to represent me anyway.
> They know my position on various issues because much the same sentiment is
> shared by SCORES of Hams like me. And many of those Hams have made their
> sentiments public. I don't need to submit what would sound like a broken
> record in the eyes of ARRL because they've heard it many times before.

If you look at those organizations that are EFFECTIVE in representing their members and advancing the members' agenda (NRA, teachers' union, tobacco lobby, trade associations that represent defense contractors, etc.), certain patterns emerge, regardless of the nature of the organization or the type of agenda. Such organizations tend to be politically astute when dealing with government. They use PAC's, they organize letter writing campaigns, they advise their members on the voting records of their elected officials, they can deliver votes in support of those who help them and in support of the OPPONENTS of those who oppose them. Further, such constituencies often have MULTIPLE organizations that pursue their agenda separately and with varying levels of militancy (you will recall the fiasco when the NRA tried to

pull even with its more militant rivals by speaking of "jackbooted thugs," which was a rare misstep by private-sector Beltway insiders). By comparison, the ARRL's approach of being the FCC's lapdog is laughable. If we haven't lost as much spectrum as we might have, it is certainly not the result of astute lobbying.

> Well...I could go on and on, but I think you get the idea. So I ask
> again....What *would* your new organization offer that ARRL & the many, many
> other worldwide clubs don't already offer, Klystron & Iitoi? I'm really
> curious.

Long story short: Once upon a time, hams were viewed as 'rocket scientists' and were a force for progress and innovation. Now, they're viewed as cranky old geezers who are living in the past and pounding Samuel Morse' old telegraph key while whining about young whippersnappers who don't respect their elders. A new organization would break free of that past and move forward. It goes without saying that ARRL types will not want this and will try to stop it.

1253. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-30 11:49:50 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1183203425.307589.264710@k79g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4158

On Jun 28, 12:30?pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>
> ARRL publishes a wide range of books and
> periodicals, has the Maxim Memorial station
> on the air every day, sponsors a wide variety
> of contests and operating activities, is
> present at most major hamfests, is constantly
> involved with FCC, has the QSL bureau, ARRL
> VEC, and a host of other things, all amateur
> radio related.

One more thing ARRL does: in-depth, Consumer-Reports-style Product
Reviews.

The ARRL Lab runs Amateur-Radio-related products
through a wide variety of independent lab tests and
on-the-air operating environments, and publishes detailed
reports of the results. They've been that sort of review
for over 25 years, and the Product Reviews from all that time are
available to members free.

Want to know the difference between a TS-950SD
and a TS-950SDX, or compare them to a current-
production rig? Just download the reviews.

In some cases, such as the Elecraft K2, there is an expanded review at
the website.

The way I figure it, if a Product Review from ARRL helps me make
better-informed choices, the whole cost of membership may be recouped
in savings. One Maxcom
Matcher situation can spare a lot of hams a lot of expense
and wasted effort. (A Maxcom Matcher cost about as much
as an ARRL Life Membership at the time).

Yes, there are product reviews on websites like eham.net.
They are valuable because they are owner's opinions and experiences.
But AFAIK, nobody does extensive
independent lab testing of amateur gear except ARRL.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1254. WIANEWS for week commencing JULY 1 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-30 11:51:36 UTC
From: nationalnews@wia.org.au
Message-ID: <200706301000.l5UA09m10984@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4159
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,aus.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

This is WIANEWS for week commencing JULY 1 2007

The WIA offers to it's members a range of services, including a personalised WIA email address..

Since the start of the year, the WIA has added over 120 member email address to our mailserver, taking the total number of people who have availed themselves of this member service to around 800.

So what does it all mean and how does it work?? .... well ...the WIA email server allows you to establish "yourcallsign@wia.org.au" with all emails sent to this address automatically forwarded to either your home or work email account..

So what benefits does really provide?

Well, firstly it provides YOU with ONE consistent email address. If at some time you choose to change your ISP, (for one with a better plan) then by having a WIA email address, means your friends and colleague will still be able to email you after you have changed ISP meaning you don't have to contact them all and advise them of your new address. When you change ISP all you need to do is advise the WIA via a simple form on the WIA website and we do the rest.

It couldn't not be any easier !!

A second benefit of the WIA email address, is in receiving informative Amateur Radio news as it breaks sent directly to YOUR email box..

To obtain your own WIA email address today, visit our website www.wia.org.au and simply click on member services, then select email address, and fill out the application form.

WIA Director Trevor Quick says that on 25 June 2007 WIA President Michael Owen VK3KI and WIA Director Peter Young VK3MV met with Mark Loney, Executive Manager Pricing and Policy, Alan Jordan and John Kington at the ACMA Central Office in Canberra.

The meeting was initiated at the request of the WIA for a briefing on the delays in dealing with a number of matters, particularly arising out of the Amateur Service Review Outcomes Paper. The ACMA acknowledged the delays and sought to work with the WIA in addressing its concerns.

Of particular concern to the WIA was the delay in the making of the further amending Determination to give effect to the balance of the matters identified in the Outcomes paper, now a delay of 3 years. The WIA also raised the delay in finalising the arrangements with CEPT to allow

Australian amateurs travelling overseas the privilege of operating in other countries without the need to obtain an individual authorisation in those countries, and the delay in the issue of a Class Licence to enable amateurs visiting Australia to operate here without the need for an individual licence.

Another concern was the delay in the finalisation of the issue or re-issue of 2 letter callsigns.

The WIA is also concerned at the continuing uncertainty about the future of the management of the amateur examination and the related certificate issue, as well as the callsign management function.

The WIA pointed out that the delay in the LCD meant that uncertainty prevailed over the power Foundation licensees permitted, the privileges of Foundation licensees and also that the WIA's publication "The Foundation Licence Manual" was running short and it could not be reprinted until the regulations could be up dated.

While the WIA accepted that the current delay in the LCD was beyond the direct control of ACMA, Mr Loney offered to do all he could to achieve a speedy finalisation of that, and that other immediate solutions would be investigated to address a number of the other problems faced by the WIA and its members. Mr Loney indicated that more resources would commence next week to address these outstanding issues with the view to finalisation as soon as possible.

In particular, work on the visiting/visitor licence issues has commenced and will be completed as soon as the enabling legislation is drafted.

The ACMA advised that a statement on the allocation process for the issue of two-letter callsigns would be made shortly, and the announcement may be made within a statement addressing the broader issues surrounding callsign management.

In relation to the outsourcing arrangements, the WIA was given a briefing on the process the ACMA intends to follow.

The WIA representatives felt that the meeting was positive and conducted in a constructive manner with a commitment to explore a range of options to meet the concerns expressed by the WIA on behalf of its members.

Jeff VK4XJJ is still going strong on his walk across Australia, and again this

week we'll talk to Jeff as he leaves Birdsville, the half way point in his trek.

But he still wants to hear from YOU, and it is these calls in particular that keep him going!!

Every Day, from 5:30pm Eastern on 40 meters, 7045 put out a call to VK4XJJ

>From Wednesday 20th to Tuesday 26th June Jeff walked 165 Kms to Birdsville.

Arrived at 11:45, just in time for lunch.

During one evening sked he said " I am going like a train".

Temperatures have ranged between 8 to 25 degrees C.

Not always warm enough early in the morning but comfortable in the tent.

Jeff sent over 600 pictures, we will pick out 40 for the web pages.

Single pictures are free to download.

He will stay in Birdsville for a few days to catch up on emails, phone calls to family and collect some supplies posted in.

179 Kms after Birdsville will be half way on this great walk.

On this walk to Karumba in the Gulf and on the return drive to Port Augusta Jeff's goal is to raise $10,000.

All proceeds to DeafBlind (NSW) Inc. to aid the purchase of a small bus with some places for wheelchairs.

Regards,

Bill Johnson VK2FWGJ

for Jeff Johnson VK4XJJ Walking for DeafBlind awareness

Web design & relay station Roger Stierli VK4BNQ

www.jeffswalk.com

AMATEUR RADIO - HOME OF THE GOOD GUYS

AFRI75

During the IRTS Jubilee expedition to Swaziland the team met with the Scout Association and agreed to support their Thirst for Life Programme, which helps Aids orphans in Swaziland.

The team is pleased to announce that the first initial funding for the project of 350 Euro is on its way to Swaziland and this will fund the purchase of chickens for their farm.

The money was raised by donations included with direct QSL cards received from stations worked around the world, together with funds raised from the sale of Afri75 caps at the IRTS AGM in Cork.

The team are still anxious to continue support for the project, and if you think you can help please contact Paul EI2CA. You will find details of the project on the Afri75 page of the IRTS website.

BPL INTERFERENCE - THE BATTLE CONTINUES

VK7news says Owen Duffy VK1OD has prepared some notes on his interpretation of the ACMA Mt Nelson report that was recently released.

Owen suggests that the background measurement are most likely the reporting instrument's internal noise as they do not match expected ambient noise levels.

The BPL emission levels are up to 55dB above the expected ambient noise levels and even within the notch on the 20m band emissions are 37dB above the expected ambient noise level.

Notch depth is on average about 22dB less on 20m band, 21dB on average in the 17m band and on average about 18dB on the 15m band.

Owen concludes that the measurements taken using Conrad's 20m quad once you take into account the difference in test receiver and amateur receiver bandwidth results in a noise floor degradation in the order of 11.4dB within the 20m notched segment.

It is an interesting read and I encourage everyone interested in BPL to take a look. The notes can be found at the address on the email and internet editions of this broadcast.

http://www.vk1od.net/bpl/HobartBPLTrial.htm .
(vk7news)

AROUND VK in 80 Seconds.
(vk6fxyl)

VK2

Allan VK2 JED is asking those in the Westlakes club and region to fossick through their gear to see if there is anything that they would like to donate to the club Market/Field day organised for the 14th of July.

If you find anything, you may leave it at the club premises on either Tuesday nights or Saturday afternoons.

July 14 again is the date, the time 8am.

VK3

July 21 - Gippsland Gate Radio & Electronics HamFest - 10am

David Ryan VK3LOZ says the EMDRC has a propposal for a club project, construction and tuning of a wire dipole for use on the 80 metre amateur band.

For those who require it they'll will be making a "Ugly Balun" to match the antenna to the feed wire. (Those who wish to use a commercial Balun are also welcome to do so, or omit the Balun altogether.)

Following construction they will demonstrate the various methods used to tune antennas:-

1/ with a SWR meter
2/ with a Grid dip Oscillator
3/ with an MJF 259B HF/VHF SWR Analyzer

The proposed date of the make day is Saturday July 28 10.00 AM to 4.00 PM at the EMDRC Burwood club rooms. Register interest at VK3AMN@wia.org.au

VK4

The Annual general Meeting of the Dalby & District ARC will be held on Sunday August 5th at 2PM at the 4DDD FM studios 107 Drayton street Dalby.

All members are encouraged to attend, and visitors are welcome. Also please note that the postal address for the club is 15 Bunya Street Dalby, and all correspondence should be directed to this address. All Emails should be sent to HYPERLINK holmzie@bigpond.com
(Neil VK4NF).

VK5

Saturday 23 June, the VK5 VHF/UHF beacons VK5VF fell silent, after some 44 years of operation from their Mt Lofty broadcasting site.

The 52.450 MHz, 144.450 MHz, 432.450 MHz and 145.650 MHz Morse transmitters were switched off at 0215UTC and the equipment removed at the request of the national owners of the site.

1296.450 MHz has not been on air recently.

Mark VK5AVQ told us "The beacons have been a reliable signal source across much of South Australia and Western Victoria since their commissioning in June 1963. The only significant down time was following the 1983 Ash Wednesday fires.

Thanks to VK5ACE, VK5KK and VK5KDK and the many others who have supported the project, even those just offering reports.

Hopefully we will find another suitable site, but the current one will be a hard act to follow.

VK6

August 5 - HAMFEST 2007 happens in Perth at 9am.
Cyril Jackson Recreation Centre Fisher Street Ashfield

Also in the State of Excitement VK6 Next Monday... Tomorrow is the Monthly Meeting of the West Australian Repeater Group, 1930 h @ the 1st Hillview Scout Hall, crn Gibbs St and Welshpool Rd East Cannington...
Visitors welcome.

VK7

Coming up in the apple isle over the next few months:

AUSRADIO FoxHunt • Tuesday the 3rd July at 7pm meet at Parks St Launceston.

REAST • Independence Day Mid-Winter Feast on July 4th at 6:30pm at the Domain.

NTARC • Meeting - Wednesday July 11th at 7:30pm at Block B Alanvale
TAFE College Launceston.

EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO
PRESENTED BY KYLEA VK6FXYL

The Wireless Institute of Australia's Foundation Licence Manual is a
full colour manual consisting of 95 pages of information for those
studying, or those who would just like a reference book for
Foundation Licence Operators.

The manual contains the all relevant information you will need to know to
successfully complete a training course to obtain our foundation licence.

It also contains a wealth of information a Foundation Licence operator will
need. Items like Band Plans, Electrical Safety information, operating
procedures such as the Q code, how to contact you local radio club, the
WIA and much more.

For more information on obtaining the foundation licence manual please
visit wia.org.au
(Alan VK4YAR)

FUTURE EXAMS

To find out when a club in YOUR area is hosting assessments and/or
training in Amateur Radio go to wia.org.au and check out the club pages.

Participating clubs keep this site up to date and post the latest
information for all to see.

Also check the text edition of each news edition, where we do keep a
secondary listing.

On the audio broadcast we will continue to give new information when
it is received, but just in case you miss it one week, you can always
access our text

Help amateur radio continue to grow

Do you know someone who could be interested in joining our hobby? Then
encourage them to enrol in a Foundation Licence training course.

Next Foundation Licence course, and Standard / Advanced assessments .....

NEW SOUTH WALES

ARNSW regularly holds Foundation Licence Assessments as well as Exams for
Standard and Advanced Licences.
Held on the last weekend of each EVEN numbered month.

Waverley Amateur Radio Society (SYDNEY)
They hold Foundation Licence courses regularly, email the club at
exams@vk2bv.org
OR visit vk2bv.org or call Simon, VK2UA on 9328 7141.

VICTORIA

At Bendigo classes and licence assessments are conducted by Ross Pittard VK3FCE who can be contacted via email vk3fce@internode.on.net

The Central Goldfields Amateur Radio Club, Maryborough regularly holds classes. Contact Peter Rafferty VK3CC on 5460 4387 or email majorca49@hotmail.com

QUEENSLAND

On the Gold Coast and want to talk to the world through their IRLP and EchoLink systems? Or already licensed and wish to upgrade Foundation to Standard? Well classes are held at the Nerang Clubhouse of the GCARS, ring Roy VK4IG on 5539 3530 Exams can be taken at a time to suit you.

TARC WIA Exams Information
Exam sessions are held on demand with WIA Assessors and assessment packs available for all 3 levels of licensing.
Contact theTARCinc WIA Exams Regional Co-ordinator Roger/VK4CD 0417 638366.
www.tarc.org.au/tarcexam.htm

Tablelands Radio and Electronics Club
TREC WIA Exams Information
TREC will conduct exam sessions as required, at a time to suit the candidate. WIA Assessors and assessment packs are available for all 3 levels of licensing.
Contact the TREC WIA Exams Co-ordinator Dale VK4DMC on 4091 3700 or vk4dmc@wia.org.au for further information.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Adelaide Hills Amateur Radio Society will run Foundation licence's at the Aviation Museum, 56 Lipson Street Port Adelaide, 2 weekends August 4th and 5th then November 3rd and 4th.
Contact the course convenor, Sasi Nayar on 0417 858 547

Examinations are hosted by South Coast Amateur Radio Club.
Those interested in sitting for foundation or license upgrades, please contact by email
vk5kbj@internode.on.net

TASMANIA

Radio and Electronics Association of Southern Tasmania

For more information or enroll please contact Reg Emmett VK7KK by emailing regemm@ozemail.com.au or calling 0417 391 607

And remember Foundation Licence Manuals and CD's are available for purchase at McCann's Model World in Elizabeth St. Hobart at $20.

A quick reminder about "Intro to the Standard Licence" sessions on a Saturday afternoons from 1:00 to 4:00pm in the Domain clubrooms.

These sessions are an introduction to the standard licences and
attempt to de-mystify the upgrading process.
(Ken VK7DY/Reg, VK7KK)

DISCUSSION POINT

Further on the reported intrusion of an echolink node on the vk 2 meter fm
calling frequency in VK4.

gLENN vk4bg/TZL drew our attention to some Amateurs in the Bundaberg /
Hervey Bay Region in Queensland operating on the node in this important
and nationally approved segment of our band.

Although allegedley suggesting perhaps 146.500 was not the spot for such
activities he apparently has not gotten the positive result he expected.

These days 146.500 is totally useless for the purpose it was 'gazzetted'.

Glenn was told that the node had existed for some 4 years
...and NOT ONE Amateur had seen fit to complain on the Band Plan issue.

So, as there are always 2 sometimes 3 sides (hihi) to every story,

Gordon VK4KGS is in Bundaberg and Rob vk4mod setup the node some 4 years ago
and the reason they chose 146 500 was because they monitored quite a few
different frequencies over a couple of months and found 146 500 did not get
ANY traffic on it as opposed to adjacent simplex channels.

Also another reason for ch50 being chosen is that any hams travelling in the
area in simplex range of the node will hear the echolink node id on ch50,
which quite a few hams sit on while travelling), and when they hear the
echolink ident they will know that they can use it to call back home or
anywhere else in the world.

The echolink node is also used daily by locals in Bundaberg and in fact there
is a ex navy net on it daily connecting ex navy hams all over the world.

Also it is busy at night with VK and international contacts.

VK4KGS told WIANational News this simplex node id's every 10mins and has a
3min time out and abides by all of the determinations set out in the LCD as
well as the rad ACT.

Back to the south, in the Wide Bay members of the MERG(e) group when asked
said they were a little puzzled by the item last week as in the Wide Bay
neither President, nor any of the MERG members he asked, have any
recollection of ever hearing such on 146.500.

Moreover, no-one recalls ever hearing ANYTHING on 146.500 in Maryborough
and they generally use 146.550 as a local listening and working frequency.

Ray went on to tell WIA National news there could even be argued a case for
146.500 to be designated as a nation-wide Echolink frequency so that
travellers would not need to change frequency for each town they came to in
order to maintain contact with "Home Base".

This of course would not work if the node was connected to, say live streaming ot NASA's Shuttle Missions or similar, but thereby hangs a different tale.

So what do YOU think?

Is this "out of our bandplan activity, in this case a good idea? OR do you think it could be the start of caos as far as who does what where?

As in our sign off each week..... we've reported, you decide.

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NEWS FROM ARNEWSLINE

MICROWAVE SDR RADIO BEING DEVELOPED

Radio amateurs interested in the microwave bands may find the Microwave Software Defined Radio project interesting. Its goal is to provide a transceiver operating on the 144, 422, 1268, 2400 MHz and above bands, covering the whole of each band. Full duplex cross-band operation is also planned specifically for satellite use. More details are on line at the Microwave Software Defined Radio website. Its in cyberspace at http://uwsdr.berlios.de

JPL CONGRATULATES AMSAT-DL ON VOYAGER 1 INTERCEPT

The Flight Team that oversees NASA's Voyager One deep space probe has congratulated AMSAT Germany on its reception of a signal from the spacecraft. In March 2006, the signal from Voyager 1 was received by the AMSAT D-L team using the 20 meter dish in Bochum.

Voyager 1 is the furthest object away from earth to be built by humans. As a token of their collective appreciation, the controllers not only confirmed the reception report. They also sent Amsat Germany a photo of the Voyager Flight That picture can be found on line at
http://www.amsat-dl.org//
index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=142&Itemid=97

COMMEMORATING 70 YEARS OF TRANS ATLANTIC FLIGHT

To commemorate the 70th anniversary of the first transatlantic passenger test flight, a special re-enactment flight is planned by Captain Patrick White and his son Ian. The two will be flying their "Vintage Lady", a PBY Catalina Flying Boat, from Botwood Newfoundland to Foynes, Ireland, on the 5th and 6th of July. To celebrate this event, Ireland's Limerick Radio Club has been invited by the Foynes Flying Boat Museum to operate a special Amateur Radio station in conjunction with the commemorative reenactment of the 1937 flight. EI70FOY will be on the air from the 6th to the 8th of July on 80 throughh10 meters as well as locally on VHF and UHF. A special QSL card, commemorating the flight, will be sent to all stations worked over the three days . All QSL cards should be sent to the Club's QSL Manager Alan Cronin EI8EM at his callbook address.

FIGHTING THE 10 METER FREEBAND INVASION
If you are wondering what all those conversations without call signs are on 28.085 MHz, well it appears to be a small invasion of unlicensed truckers and so called Freeband operators of our 10 meter band.

We have more in this report:

Originally confined to portions of the mid-West, the pirate trucker and Freeband epidemic appears to be spreading nationwide. This, as more and more of these illegal operators are making their unauthorized home on 28.085 Megahertz and several other 10 meter frequencies.

And what is the Amateur Radio community doing about this invasion? On the surface at least, very little. With the upper High frequency bands not offering very much D-X these days, the majority of hams are sticking to 20, 40 and 80 meters with few stations heard in the 15, 12 and 10 meter spectrum. So the truckers and Freebanders see this is fair game for their unlawful operations and are busy establishing squatters rights in these bands.

What about the FCC? Well its doing what it can. There have been several well publicized violation notices sent to trucking firms. They request owners to instruct their drivers to curtail any operations for which they are not licensed and threatening punitive action such as fines. But that's about it. With the FCC enforcement folks stretched thin and Freeband operations being among the lowest of priorities on the enforcement agenda, there is no reason to believe that there is going to be any sort of massive sweep by the Federal government to clear these pirate operators out of the ham radio bands.

In the end, it will be the ham radio community that will have to defend these frequencies. And it does that by using them. If hams load up 10 meters or any band with legitimate Amateur Radio operations, there will be no place for the illegals to play and they will go elsewhere.

In the case of 28.085, there have been suggestions that this frequency become a national C-W or RTTY Calling Channel. That's a pretty good approach. Another is for every ham with the capability of operating 10 meters to start holding QSO's on that frequency. As any Morse enthusiast will tell you, C-W can get through even when faced with all sorts of QRM including pirate operators using voice.

The bottom line. if licensed radio amateurs fill up 10 meters even for local chats, the truckers and Frreebanders will soon be looking elsewhere for a new home.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Evi Simons, in New York.

About two decades ago, then 73 Magazine editor Wayne Green, W2NSD, coined the phrase "Use it or loose it." Back then it was applied to the pending transfer of 220 to 222 MHz away from Amateur Radio. Today the same words ring important in fighting those without licenses who are trying to take 10 meters forcibly from hams.

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NEWS SOURCED TO THE RSGB NEWS SERVICE AND READ BY G4NJH FROM GB2RS NEWS

Foyle and District Amateur Radio Club (FADARC) will be heading to St Angelo Airport, Enniskillen for the 2007 Jet World Masters competition.

The competition runs from 5 July to 14 July the club will be on the air during the final two days of the event with its call sign MN0AKU/P.

This event showcases model aircrafts capable of flying at up to 250 mph.

In attendance will be 100 pilots from some 31 countries demonstrating their skills in what has been described as the ultimate radio-controlled model aircraft competition. More details can be viewed at www.jwm2007.com.

Help is still needed for the British leg of the Tour de France. Kent RAYNET requires a large number of RAYNET members being able to pass third party traffic on 8 July.

Special event station 9A07P will be active on all bands and modes until 31 December to celebrate the city of Djurdjevac. All QSOs will be confirmed automatically via the bureau.

The annual transmission on Alexanderson Day with the Alexanderson alternator on VLF 17.2 kHz will take place Sunday 1 July at 0900 UTC. Tuning up will be from 0815 UTC and the transmission will be repeated at 1300 UTC, tuning up from 1215 UTC. The station will be open to visitors. There will be activity on amateur radio frequencies with the call SK6SAQ. For more information log onto www.alexander.n.se/. QSL reports are very welcome.

OPERATIONAL NEWS - CONTEST COLUMN - D A T E L I N E

VK/TRANSTASMAN CONTEST
160M Phone 7 July 2007
160M CW 21 July 2007

NZART MEMORIAL CONTEST • 80M • SSB AND CW.
7 & 8 July 2007.

Times :- 2000 NZST • 2300 NZST, divided into 3 operating periods each evening.

Band :- 80M SSB and CW.

Contest Rules NZART Website. http://www.nzart.org.nz
(John Powell. ZL1BHQ, NZART Contest Manager)

14th of July the Jack Files Contest.
0800 UTC • 1400 UTC
80 metres only.
Use 3.5MHZ • 3.7MHz
CW; SSB; or All Modes

JULY 14-15

Rules are at www.iaru.org/contest.html

Participation in the IARU HF World Championship has grown steadily for the past four years, despite solar activity trending in the wrong direction. The creation of Low Power and QRP categories has contributed to increasing both the popularity and the competitiveness of the event.

The ARRL administers the HF World Championship on behalf of the IARU. At its May 2007 meeting the IARU Administrative Council discussed various issues related to the event and asked that the ARRL devote the resources necessary to maintain a high standard of adjudication.

A condition of entry in the IARU HF World Championship is that each entrant agrees to be bound by the provisions of the announced rules, by the regulations of his/her licensing authority, and by the decisions of the ARRL Awards Committee acting for the IARU International Secretariat.Leading competitors should expect their entries to be carefully scrutinized. If exceptional results are claimed, entrants must be prepared to explain how they were achieved.

Reminder: In addition to the zone and "HQ station" multipliers there are four additional multipliers available per band by contacting members of the IARU Administrative Council and the regional IARU executive committees. Administrative Council members may send "AC" instead of their zone, while regional executive committee members may send "R1," "R2" or "R3" as appropriate.

See you on the air for the 24 hours beginning at 1200 UTC Saturday, July 14! - David Sumner, K1ZZ, IARU Secretary

Boat Anchor Sprints:
August (11), October (13).
Local ZL time: 2000 to 2100 hrs

Section 1: Old radios - all valves - i.e. ZC1, 19 set, Heathkits, any home brew set, but must have all valves.

Section 2: Any Hybrid transceiver (must have valve finals i.e. FT200, FTDX400/401, Drake, FT 101s, etc..

Amplitude Modulated signals only.

The overall winner shall be the entrant having the highest points score which will be published in the following New Zealand "Break-in".
(Jamie Pye ZL2NN, Editor NZART's InfoLine)

AUGUST 11/12 Remembrance Day Contest (The RD) wia.org.au

Well the month of June is gone and we are counting down to the 11th Aug and is now only 41 days to the 2007 RD contest.

An email query that came across the desk this week, concerns the use of Computers within the RD.

Within the rules in paragraph 10b reads :
Automated operation is not permitted. The operator must have physical control of the station for each contact. However CW and voice keyers are

permitted, although the use of computers is restricted to logging purposes only.

The keywords here are ‘Automated Operation’ I believe is self explanatory, and that Computers is restricted to logging purposes.

On the WIA Website the rules are available along with associated documents.

7th World HST Championship will be held in Belgrade Serbia September 19-23rd. www.hst2007.org

NOVEMBER 17/18
Spring VHF-UHF Field Day - November 2007
For everyone who likes to plan ahead - please note the dates for this year's Spring VHF-UHF Field Day. It will be held on November 17/18, a week later than usual. This will prevent a clash with club activities in two states.

MEDIA WATCH

North West Tasmanian Amateur Radio Interest Group

http://www2.vk7ax.id.au/nwtarig/

Night Broadcast Update

Now that there has been a vast improvement in the speed and capacity of the Internet services at Club Host Station VK7AX, testing is now under way with video streaming from this facility.

Shortly it is anticipated the Amateur Broadcasts emanating from Club Station VK7NW on 70CM ATV during the week will be available world-wide using video streaming. The facility is currently being tested and listeners will be advised when and where the stream is available as soon as the tests are completed and the performance is rated as acceptable.

Also being planned is a audio stream of the broadcasts via the Sydney IRLP Reflector on proposed Channel 5907.

Listeners will also be advised when the feed is being sent to the reflector.

Stay Tuned for further updates.

(73's until next time... Tony VK7AX, President, NWTARIG)

The episode of the 1960 BBC TV comedy series 'Hancock's Half Hour' starring Tony Hancock and in particular, the infamous bungling radio ham segment containing those now classic lines "It is ah not raining in Tokyo" and "GLK London calling the world" is available on YouTube.

This classic episode shows Hancock as a ham radio enthusiast who receives a mayday call from a ship in distress but keeps getting distracted just before he can take down its position.

The episode is split into three parts.

To view log onto YouTube and type in Tony Hancock.
(rsgb)

WIRELESS WEATHER

Last week we brought you the new courtesy of Graham Rogers in VK6 that the solar flux figure of 66 was reached June 20 and maybe we were at the bottom of the cycle, Graham said maybe we drag along the bottom for awhile OR enter a 'Maunder minimum'.

So what is a Maunder minimum I hear you ask.

Justin VK7TW in the VK7 news explains it thus:-

"The Maunder Minimum is the name given to the period roughly from 1645 to 1715, when sunspots became exceedingly rare, as noted by solar observers of the time. It is named after the solar astronomer Edward W. Maunder (1851–1928) who discovered the dearth of sunspots during that period by studying records from those years. During one 30-year period within the Maunder Minimum, for example, astronomers observed only about 50 sunspots, as opposed to a more typical 40,000–50,000 spots."

NOW ROBERT BROOMHEAD - VK3KRB.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS - FAITH.
Churches and Chapels on the Air

CARF ESTABLISHES ECHOLINK NET

In the United States, word from Lloyd Colston, KC5FM, that the Christian Amateur Radio Fellowship has established a new network on Echolink.

Using the K6JWN conference server number 127901, the net meets Saturday at 1400 UTC.

Christian hams from around the world are invited to participate.

More is on-line at www.carf.net
(ARNEWSLINE)

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- FEMALES IN RADIO
ALARA - AUSTRALIAN LADIES AR ASSOCIATION
http://alara.org.au
Net is held each Mondays on 3.580 MHz, commencing at 1030 UTC.
(1000utc during daylight saving)
geencee@picknowl.com.au

Kaye VK4VKS has passed on word that the Queenslanders of ALARA will celebrate, on 14th of July, ALARA's 32nd Birthday.
This AT THE Gold Coast Amateur Radio Society club room, 85 Harper Street Nerang.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RADIO AMATEUR OLD-TIMERS
http://www.raotc.org.au

OLD TIMERS
Members and friends of the Radio Amateurs Old Timers Club Australia are reminded that the next news and information broadcast will take place on the first Monday of the Month.

using the RAOTC callsign of VK3OTN.

10.00 am Victorian time on 7.060 and 3.650 MHz plus 1.843 MHz AM, and 145.700.

On 14.150 MHz at 01.00 UTC beaming north and 02:00 UTC west from Melbourne

For those not yet retired, 8.30 PM Victorian time tune 80 mtrs 3.650 MHz

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RESCUE RADIO

EMERGENCY FREQUENCIES REGION ONE
21.360 - 18.160 - 14.300 - 7.060 - 3.760 MHz.

Bharat Balsavar VU2BDX has put the call out in India, a suggestion/reminder all local ham groups get themselves equipped for emergencies particularly weather related events.

"With the monsoon setting in, we are again in that part of the year when floods and cyclones will quite likely hit some places.

We should ideally have two types of volunteers - one that is prepared to move to and rough it out in the vicinity of such emergencies and the other those that are prepared to provide com support from their homes for relaying messages and coordinating with local authorities.

Also a list of items to be kept ready as 'emergency kits' - equipment, batteries, mobile/portable antennas, solar cells, personal protection equipment (PPEs), medicines - preventive and curative, etc. irrespective of whether one is working out of home or mobile at the emergency site.

73, Bharat, VU2BDX"

BB's DIARY ROOM - THE FUTURE, IN AMATEUR RADIO

2008

Sept 13 Alarameet 2008 will be held in Ulverstone Tasmania on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th September 2008. Susan VK7LUV for details.

2009
International Telecommunication Union's Telecom World 2009.

SOCIAL SCENE

July 7+8 - GippsTech
Conference for VHF, UHF & SHF enthusiasts in Australia.
Held at the Gippsland Campus of Monash University in Churchill, about two hours drive east of Melbourne.

www.qsl.net\vk3bez\index.htm

July 21 - Gippsland Gate Radio & Electronics HamFest - 10am
Well, we have done it again. Its another total sellout of tables
for the GGREC Hamfest on July 21 at Cranbourne, South of
Melbourne. This year all 41 tables were booked well in advance
of our expected timetable and all reports suggest this will be
our busiest Hamfest yet. With buyer numbers expected to reach
the 350 plus mark, the organizers are going to be kept on their
feet . Great Door Prizes will be won on the day and it will be
worth the $6.00 entry fee. All of your favorite stall holders
will be present and a variety of Commercial sellers will be happy
to parade their latest equipment. We look forward to seeing you
there AND BY THE WAY-- the Hamfest will be in the Cranbourne
Public Hall in High St -- Corner of Cameron St.
Be early for pole position at the 10am stampede.
73s Albert -- Hamfest 07 Co ordinator

August 5 - HAMFEST 2007 happens in Perth at 9am.
Cyril Jackson Recreation Centre
Fisher Street
Ashfield.

SEPTEMBER 21-23
North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention
Happening in twin cities of Thuringowa and Townsville.

JANUARY 20 2008

The Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group invite all amateurs to attend the
2008 Mid North Coast Radio Expo to be held in Coffs Harbour on Sunday 20th
January.

The Expo is held at the St Johns Church Hall, Mc Lean Street, Coffs Harbour.
Gary VK2ZKT is the Radio Expo Coordinator on 02 66 55 2 990 or visit the
Groups comprehensive web site at www.mncarg.org

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This is WIANEWS for week commencing JUNE 24 2007

This is an appeal again to all WIA members for assistance with the WIA QSL
Collection. Members will already know that this collection of nearly
one million QSLs is one of the finest QSL Collections in the world,
containing thousands of modern QSLs and very valuable archival QSLs
dating back to 1921. It would be a tragedy indeed if this collection were
to fall in a heap.

Listeners who heard last weeks VK1WIA news expressed sorrow at hearing
Honorary Curator of this Collection, Ken VK3TL has recently undergone
surgery for a cancerous tumour of the brain. He still maintains the
Collection, which gives him a great deal of pleasure. However he has been
forced to work on the Collection at rather short intervals and cannot give

his full-time attention to it.

For this reason we are appealing for help from WIA members, especially those in the Melbourne area. No knowledge of DX is necessary for the sorting of QSLs, the placing of QSLs in albums and similar tasks.

Would you care to lend a hand for an hour or two?

Contact Ken on 9728 5350.

AMATEUR RADIO - HOME OF THE GOOD GUYS

The Potomac Valley Radio Club in America's mid-Atlantic has shown that it takes ethics very seriously, by winning a major contest and then voluntarily forfeiting the victory because it was outside the rules.

Club President Jim Nitzberg WX3B examined the result closely to find that the club's score included measurable activity of members who were outside the required 175 mile radius stipulated in the ARRL Sweepstakes contest rules.

The Potomac Valley Radio Club began 60 years ago and requires members to participate in at least two of ten specified contests a year to maintain their membership.

And in a true demonstration of the motto "the buck stops here", Club President Jim WX3B accepted full responsibility for the inadvertent rules' breach, and extended congratulations to the new winner of the 2006 contest.
(VK3PC, ARRL & various)

BPL INTERFERENCE - THE BATTLE CONTINUES

A simple test conducted by a ham radio operator in Manassas, Virginia, USA has provided proof positive that even flea-power Q-R-P ham radio operations can shut down Broadband Over Powerline Internet access operation.

Amateur Radio Newsline's Don Carlson, KQ6FM, reports:

The revelation comes on the website of George Tarnovsky, K4GVT. On it, Tarnovsky shows the results of tests made using only 40 watts and QRP at 2 watts on the 80 through 10 meter bands.

The gear used in his test was an Icom 706 transceiver, with Outbacker Perth antenna on his car parked curb side. The vehicle was approximately 70 feet from his house, and more than 100 feet from the BPL power pole interface. Inside the home a laptop with BPL interface repeatedly downloading a 40 Megabyte file.

Tarnovsky: "Well, what we found is that when we were within reasonably close proximity -- I would say within 100 feet or so of any of the BPL installations -- when we transmitted on E-CARS on 7.225 that we actually had an affect on them. The way ewe knew that we had an affect was that as soon as you released the microphone (PTT), rather than

hearing the typical BPL noise, you knew the system was backed up with data and consequently became very aggressive and just blanked (the band). If you looked at a spectrum display of it -- it just covered the entire spectrum. Its almost as though all the stops were off. In other words the band stops were off. Just rip and get the data out and that's exactly what it did."

What K4GVT found was that on all bands the connection suffered at least a major slowdown when he transmitted at the 40 watt level. On 80 through 15 meters the 40 watts caused the download to stop altogether and requiring it to be restarted. But the biggest surprise was on 40 meters where 2 watts of R-F rendered the BPL connection numb. He says that the 2 watts at 7 MHz caused the BPL data transfer to stop.

Tarnovsky: " With the original G1 installation, 2 watts would have an affect on it. Since then they have made some changes in their firmware to the G1. The G2 has agile notching so they can go in and they can notch it (the spectrum), but being agile they can also remove them and that's the problem that we are facing here."

Tarnovsky notes that regardless of what carriers a BPL provider might notch out of a system, the system operator cannot filter its input. As such, R-F ingress to the BPL system is wide open, and susceptible to all near field RF from 2 to 29 MHz. Even one that only 2 watts and more than 100 feet away.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Don Carlson, KQ6FM, in Reno.

More on the BPL ingress experiment by K4GVT including a band by band results chart is on his website. Its in cyberspace at
www.k4gvt.com/bpl/bplweakness.html
(ARNewslineT, QRZ.com)

AROUND VK in 80 Seconds.
(vk5nz)

VK3

Over the last few months some of members of Melbourne's Eastern and Mountain District Radio Club have undertaken proactive approach to their health by joining the local weight loss club.

One member John VK3ARK simply refused to join and said the only way HE would become a member of the weight loss club was if his wife Jean got her Amateur Radio ticket, so guess what ... his wife Jean now VK3FJYL sits in the warm shack with the Alarm group whilst her OM John is down at the weight loss club!

A competition broke out amongst those involved with a prize offered for he who can loose the most weight. To accelerate the weight loss process it was suggested some decent walks may be of benefit, so last Saturday morning morning half a dozen EMDRC members undertook a 8 kilometre round trip walk with a tea and coffee break at the Strictly Ham Amateur Radio shop along

the way. Who turns out to be the biggest looser still remains to be seen, but one things for sure it won't be Ross from Strictly Ham who sold quite a bit of gear that morning.

VK4
Problems for 2 meter simplex operators in the Wide Bay area with at least one echo link station operating outside of our gentleman's agreement band plans, heard on 146.5 the VK national calling frequency. If you see this station on Echlin you might wish to pop up and advise him of the "error of his ways".

VK7

Optical Extravaganza Night

REAST have held a great night of optical history, optical show and tell and practical calibration.

In fact, the clubrooms were so full of optical transceivers and test equipment with four transceivers, five separate transmitters, one dedicated receiver and six pieces of optical test equipment with calibrated transmitters and receivers that there was hardly any room for the people attending...HIHI.

Mike VK7MJ their optical guru initially took REAST through a brief history of optical communications which started back with Alexander Graham Bell who patented the Photo-phone back in 1880s, THEN through the various developments prior to the development of electronics as we know it, through the use of different types of lamps from incandescent, arc, vapour and into lasers and ending in LEDs and finally the recent development of the Luxeon.

All in all a fantastic hands on night.

There are some great photos of the night available on the REAST Website.

http://reast.asn.au/events.php#opticalcalibration

EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO
PRESENTED BY KYLEA VK6FXYL

A NEW AMATEUR RADIO club FORMS, AT Roxby Downs.

Several months ago there were no radio amateurs in Roxby Downs a remote mining town in northern South Australia

Michael Wright (now a scout leader) decided to do his Foundation Licence by remote assessment and training. Shortly after that Michael when on to do his Standard licence using R&ES self training resources.

Michael is now VK5MCW.

Michael also arranged a arrange a talk to a group of scouts and leaders to be given remotely by Ron VK2DQ.

The hook up lasted about an hour with communications be done by Radio, EchoLink and Video displayed by VOIP.

Multimedia materials were used and a remote Q&A session conducted remotely.

Since then as in excess of 10 Scouts and leaders have decided to do their Foundation Licence and the Roxby Amateur Radio Club is growing.

Michael is now studying for his Advanced Licence and hopes to be successful and then become a WIA assessor

Amateur Radio NewsLine are reporting how Rescue Radio meets Education.

This a very positive story with word that 47 eighth grade students in California are now prepared to serve their community in time of crisis using Amateur Radio.

Representatives of the City of Calabasas, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, the American Radio Relay League and other agencies were on hand recently to congratulate 47 eighth-graders at A.C. Stelle Middle School. This, after they completed a class that lead to their getting the Amateur Radio licenses as a part of the American Radio Relay League's educational incentive known better as The Big Project.

Meantime, emergency services groups are supporting this project with hopes that it will provide a source of communications volunteers.

Sheriff's Department Reserve Captain, Tom Fakehany, N6FDR, says that these students are likely the next generation of emergency volunteers who will provide communications when all else fails. County Disaster Communications Service member Norm Goodkin, K6YXH, says that the plan is to help organize these new hams into a youth group. One with the ability to provide emergency communications services to the school and to the community in the City of Calabasas.

Next semester, the 47 students plan to start an amateur radio club at Calabasas High School, along with the 17 new hams already there from last year's project. According to Beutel, his school nearly tripled the number of students who earned their licenses from the program's inception last year.

MEDIA WATCH

Peter Berrett VK3PB is a member of the Eastern & Mountain District Radio Club, a member of the Wireless Institute of Australia and is a keen ATV enthusiast famous for his electronic Fish Bowl on Melbourne's VK3RTV repeater.

This month Peter joins the team at Amateur Logic TV as their Australian news presenter and Australian news reporter.

Amateur Logic TV is a Television program made by Radio Amateurs for Radio Amateurs. It is an IPTV program which in simple terms means you download it from the internet and watch it on your PC.

You can download Amateur Logic edition 13 from the following web address.
www.amateurlogic.com/downloads.htm

In this latest edition of the show, two of the team members Tommy and Jim visit the Dayton Hamvention, the worlds largest amateur radio gathering and brings back some great coverage of the event, including an interview with the infamous Tom, WA5KUB and his live helmet cam.

Peter Berrett brings to the show some Aussie content with footage of the Moorabbin and District Radio Club Hamfest held recently in Melbourne. The show also contains many practical do it yourself type tips with the current episode showing you how to building your own Homebrew Crimpers for RG213 and LMR400 cable...

All in all its 50 minutes of solid Amateur Radio television Visit the website today http://www.amateurlogic.com/downloads.htm

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

NEW ZEALAND - NZART

Highlights from their AGM included the event being opened by the Honourable Steve Maharey local MP for the Manawatu, and also Minister of Education, Minister of Broadcasting, Minister of Research, Science and Technology, Minister for Crown Research Institutes and Minister responsible for the Education Review Office.

Concerns were expressed by the Evan Sayer NZART Treasurer, of the falling numbers in membership, with a critical membership number of 1800 mention. If membership drops below this number then Break-In and NZART Headquarters is seriously at risk.
He urged members to try to get non-members signed up to NZART to ensure these two valuable asserts are retained.

Mike Newman ZL1BNB was awarded the title Amateur of the Year.
Award was presented by the President of NZART Bruce Douglas Zl2WP, as recognition of his work as Local Government Liaison Officer.

OPERATIONAL NEWS -

AUGUST 11/12 Remembrance Day Contest (The RD) wia.org.au

Counting down to the 11th Aug and it is now only 48 days to the 2007 RD contest.

We suggest that you take the time between now and the contest, to check that your gear is up to the marathon contest, apart from the Radio equipment check the caffeine machine, or plenty of match sticks for the eyes.

On the WIA Website the rules are available along with associated documents.

Another reminder for those using computer logging programs PLEASE check that you have the current version, your final score will depend on it.

For those using hand written logs I suggest that you look at the logging forms on the WIA website in the Rd section.

7th World HST Championship will be held in Belgrade Serbia September 19-23rd.
www.hst2007.org

NOVEMBER 17/18
Spring VHF-UHF Field Day - November 2007
For everyone who likes to plan ahead - please note the dates for this year's Spring VHF-UHF Field Day. It will be held on November 17/18, a week later than usual. This will prevent a clash with club activities in two states.

SPECIAL EVENTS, BEACON AND NET ADVICE
VK's longest continual net;
The Southern Cross DX Net has been running for 43 years, operates 7 days a week - propagation permitting - on a frequency of 14.238.5MHz at 1215 zulu.

Centenary of Marconi's Clifden station

This year marks the centennial of those first sparks generated from Marconi's historic Clifden station. To commemorate this event W8HC has announced a special amateur radio operation from both locations central to Marconi's fame and success as a pioneer in wireless technology.

Ballycastle-Rathlin was his first wireless telegraph station and the Clifden station was his last, ceasing operation in 1922. In 1907, Guglielmo Marconi's dream of fixed point-to-point wireless telegraph stations linking North America and Europe became a reality. Derrygimla near Clifden, County Galway served as the site of his wireless station. Over the next 15 years, spark-induced blue flashes generated by the station's massive 20 kV generators sent tens of thousands of wireless messages across the Atlantic, linking to its North American counterpart at Glace Bay, Nova Scotia.

On 4th and 5th August Hal, W8HC, will operate from Ballycastle as GI/W8HC/P. He will also be taking part in the annual Marconi Festival at Ballycastle with the Marconi Radio Group's MN&#65533;MRG special event station on 5th and 6th August, he will move to Rathlin Island (EU-122) and operate from East Lighthouse (ARLS designator NTI 011). He will arrive in Clifden on 8th August where he will operate as EI/W8HC/P at the Derrygimla site on 9th and 10th August.

It is hoped that some operating time can also occur from nearby Letterfrack, site of an ancillary receive station built in 1912 to allow for full duplex operation of the transatlantic signals.

All QSOs will be confirmed via Log of The World and special QSLs from each of these historic Marconi locations will be printed and

sent via www.globalqsl.com. In addition, a specially designed certificate will be issued to those stations making contact with both GI and EI operations from either Ballycastle or Rathlin and Derrygimla or Letterfrack.
(rsgb)

D X A C T I V I T Y A N D D A T E S

Prefixes for Montenegro and Serbia

When Montenegro first became an independent country, the prefix YU6 was tentatively allocated to it. However, it now has a call sign block of its own. The ITU now lists 4O (that's "four Oscar") as Montenegro's prefix. This means Montenegro stations may use 4O0 through 4O9, while Serbian stations will continue to use YT and YU prefixes for all call districts, 0 through 9.
The ITU reportedly wants the two nations to complete the transition to new call sign blocks as soon as possible.

The ITU has taken back the former 4N and YZ prefixes for future reassignment.

Members that use computer logging software should update their software to reflect these new prefix allocations
(IRTS)

AFRI 75 DXpedition QSL Update

The QSL Manager of the recent Swaziland DXpedition, Peter EI7CC, reports that over the past few weeks QSL cards in respect of over 1000 QSOs have been sent to those who requested a direct QSL. The remaining 200 or so requests should be dealt with in the coming week, sent via the bureau.

Hong Kong Special Prefix

Approval has been granted for the use of the Special Prefix "VR10" in addition to "VR2" for Hong Kong Radio Amateurs starting from July One 2007 to the 30th of June 2008 for the 10th anniversary of Hong Kong's reunification with China.

More details are available in the OFTA letter for Hong Kong Radio Amateurs, which can be found at www.ofta.gov.hk/en/amateur/ama-cir200706.pdf.

HARTS is also going to use the special callsign "VR10HK" as HARTS HQ Station during the IARU HF Contest (14-15/7/2007).

excom2007@harts.org.hk if you want more detail.

WIRELESS WEATHER

In VK6 Graham Rogers reports that the VE7CC cluster and WWV is reporting the solar flux on the 20th June 2007 was 66, if correct, this means that means on Wednesday we reached the bottom of this cycle!!

at last we are there/here.

OR ARE WE?

I guess we now drag along the bottom for a while and the slowly move up

OR

enter a Maunder minimum

INTRUDER WATCH - ENFORCEMENT ZONE

Exclusive amateur only spectrum world wide
7.050 to 7.100
14.000 to 14.250
14.250 to 14.350 No broadcasters
21.000 to 21.450
24.890 to 24.990
28.000 to 29.700

ARISS warns of pirate activity:

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) reports a rumour that the ISS was making direct contacts on the 40 meter band.

ARISS stresses this is not happening, as there is no HF radio equipment on board the space station, although the HF antenna is mounted.

Sometimes the Goddard Amateur Radio Club, WA3NAN, retransmits shuttle audio.

Also in INTRUDER WATCH - ENFORCEMENT ZONE this week, The ARRL has sent out more than 100 letters to repeater owners/trustees who have repeaters affected by the "Pave Paws" radars.

Citing an increasing number of interference complaints, the US Air Force has asked the FCC to order dozens of repeater systems to either mitigate interference to the Pave Paws radars or shut down.

The ARRL is working with the US Department of Defence to develop a plan to mitigate alleged interference from 70 cm ham radio repeaters to this military radar system on both US coasts.

A mother of two in a suburb of Chicago does not have to turn on the news for an update on NASA's space mission.

She just turns to "on" her baby monitor.

Live video of the mission is available on NASA's Web site, so it's possible the monitor is picking up a signal from somewhere close by.

Officials from NASA have said the signal is not coming straight from the shuttle, according to NASA spokeswoman Brandi Dean.

Summer Infant, the monitor's manufacturer, was looking into what could be causing the transmission, said communications director Cindy Barlow. She said she's never heard of anything similar happening.

"Not even close," she said. "Gotta love technology."
(packet bulls)

NOW ROBERT BROOMHEAD - VK3KRB.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- Internet Linking of Repeaters

How often, especially when travelling do you need a map of IRLP/EchoLink nodes?

Well Roger VK7ARN has prepared a map of the Tasmanian amateur repeater network designed primarily for Amateur visitors to the State it provides repeater location, frequency, offset, access tone if needed and linking information.

It's all on one page, in colour but prints OK in black and white.

It can be viewed on the WICEN South web site where it will be kept up to date.

Or downloaded as a PDF file at the address that can be found the email and internet editions of this broadcast.
http://wicen.taswireless.net/SOPs/Rpt_Map.htm

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RADIO SCOUTING
http://www.scouts.com.au
http://www.scout.org/jota
http://www.wiaq.com/nationalnews/jotahead.htm

SCOUT JOTA HF Voice Calling Frequencies
3590, 7090, 14190, 21190, 28590 kHz
14290, 18140, 21360, 24960, 28390 kHz (DX)

This years 50th JOTA will run from October 19th at 22:00 hours to October 21st at 24:00 hours YOUR local time.

An official start will be given by the World Scout Bureau radio station in Geneva, Switzerland on October 19th at 21:00 h UTC with a transmission in the 20 and 80 meter bands and on EchoLink.

Scouting's Sunrise with Amateur Radio

On 24th July to 8th August both the 21st World Scout Jamboree in Chelmsford in the United Kingdom and Brownsea Island will be on the air with their own fully equipped amateur radio stations.

Both will offer a radio programme to the participating Scouts. The stations are operated by an international team of Scout radio amateurs.

During the Sunrise Ceremony on 1st August, GB100J will have a central role in connecting the world together. It will be part of the Sunrise Network.

The staff at GB100J offer a full radio-scouting set of activities to all Jamboree participants. The station is located at the Central Plaza of the camp site and will be active on all HF bands. Arrangements are being made for a contact with the International Space Station on one of its passes over the Jamboree.
(rsgb)

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RESCUE RADIO

EMERGENCY FREQUENCIES REGION ONE
21.360 - 18.160 - 14.300 - 7.060 - 3.760 MHz.

Canberra Region Amateur Radio Club have just successfully assisted with the Rally of Canberra.

A full on weekend, with Friday seeing 3 people undertake duties at 3 field locations, and 3 persons rostered thru HQ

Saturday saw 29 people undertake duties at 32 field locations, and 8 persons rostered thru HQ

Sunday again saw 29 people undertake duties at 35 field locations and 8 rostered thru HQ

A Total of some 44 plus individuals across the entire event, (Most whom hold CAMS officials licences for either Rally, Communications and/or Flags)

Some 772 Man-hours undertaken on the weekend of the Rally, and 267 Man-hours undertaking Pre / Post event work. a staggering 1039 Man-hours in total.

Well done C.R.A.R.C.

REWIND - A LOOK BACK IN HISTORY
(Will McGhie VK6UU is WIA National Historian)

National Film & Sound Archive - 01 - 1896 - The Hen Convention

1896 - The Hen Convention - The earliest known Australian recording, made by Dr Thomas Rome of a novelty song featuring imitations of a chook.

This recording is known to have been made prior to 15th January 1897 at the Warnambool Industrial and Art Exhibition.

www.nfsa.afc.gov.au/soundsofaustralia

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WIANews - we've reported...YOU decide.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".

Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of the National WIA.

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WIANews THANKS OUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS , OUR RELAY OPERATORS ACROSS THE WORLD FOR FORWARDING INFORMATION AND COMMENTS THEIR LISTENERS HAVE PASSED ON TO MAKE WIANews VK'S LEADING WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PROGRAM.

_____

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".

Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of QNEWS for the National WIA.

Thanks to to our dedicated band of broadcast volunteers who utilize their time and equipment in bringing you this weekly broadcast.

The purpose of "WIANews" is to rapidly provide news of interest to active amateurs residing in Australia and the globe.

We strongly encourage membership in the Wireless Institute of Australia and participation in the activities of local clubs.

Opinions expressed in "WIANews" are those of the writers who submit material and do not necessarily reflect those of the rebroadcasters, nor the National WIA.

Material may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, a credit to WIANews wouldn't go astray...

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1255. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-30 14:48:38 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns995F58183B409mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 4160

Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz> wrote in
news:xxx-3E9C45.07200030062007@news.verizon.net:

> "Pat Cook" <pchamster@gmail.com> wrote:
>
>> I'd offer it as a point of debate Jim (Curiously of course :D). What
>> *would* your new organization offer that ARRL & the many, many other
>> worldwide clubs don't already offer, Klystron & Iitoi?
>
>
> The objective would be to provide an organization to those hams who
> wish to make ham radio innovative and progressive (again). By
> comparison, the ARRL exists to serve those hams who wish to keep ham
> radio retrogressive, insular and xenophobic. Certain technologies
> would be championed (digital voice, digital data, e.g.) while other
> technologies would be abandoned to their fate (Morse).

Now that you have made the rather strong claims, will you be able
to provide some evidence? If you start your organization, you'll be asked
to "prove it" by people who will be a lot less kindly than me.

What are some examples of ARRL catering to retrogressive Hams?

ARRL caters to a large and varied group of Hams. While some issues
deal with vintage radio, others deal with antennas, all kinds of
subjects.

Some examples of catering to insular Hams?

ARRL is constantly experimenting with methods to attract new blood.
I've used some of the material to attract new Ham in my area. I couldn't
disagree more with your assertion. The results are a 2 percent growth in
our area.

Some examples of Xenophobia?

I really don't know how to approach this one.

> If you look at those organizations that are EFFECTIVE in
> representing their members and advancing the members' agenda (NRA,
> teachers' union,
> tobacco lobby, trade associations that represent defense contractors,
> etc.), certain patterns emerge,

<snip>

What is your fund raising approach? All of those groups have some
pretty deep pockets. You are going to have to raise a lot of money in

order to operate as they do. There are 625,000 of us, and with all due respect, you're present approach alienates a lot of them. So you are going to have to generate those funds from say 300.00 people tops; probably a lot less.

>
>> Well...I could go on and on, but I think you get the idea. So I ask
>> again....What *would* your new organization offer that ARRL & the
>> many, many other worldwide clubs don't already offer, Klystron &
>> Iitoi? I'm really curious.
>
>
> Long story short: Once upon a time, hams were viewed as 'rocket
> scientists' and were a force for progress and innovation. Now, they're
> viewed as cranky old geezers who are living in the past and pounding
> Samuel Morse' old telegraph key while whining about young
> whippersnappers who don't respect their elders. A new organization
> would break free of that past and move forward. It goes without saying
> that ARRL types will not want this and will try to stop it.

Might I respectfully suggest that you are engaging is some serious profiling? In addition, some proof would go a long way to advance your argument.

I haven't been able to find any evidence of ARRL's "serving" of the amateurs you've mentioned above. The closest thing to it is on the QST opinion pages, and people are entitled to their opinions. A look at their web pages doesn't show any evidence of what you are accusing them of, nor does their magazine.

I haven't found anyone with the opinion that Hams are "cranky old geezers who are living in the past and pounding Samuel Morse' old telegraph key while whining about young whippersnappers who don't respect their elders" except for certain Hams who have an axe to grind, for whatever reason. The general public doesn't have much of an idea about us one way or the other IMO.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1256. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-30 14:48:56 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <ehnc83hg9vo1ubbb1dhme7htjcdkn0ual8@4ax.com>
Source record: 4161

On Sat, 30 Jun 2007 07:49:18 EDT, Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz> wrote:

> Long story short: Once upon a time, hams were viewed as 'rocket
>scientists' and were a force for progress and innovation. Now, they're
>viewed as cranky old geezers who are living in the past and pounding
>Samuel Morse' old telegraph key while whining about young
>whippersnappers who don't respect their elders. A new organization would
>break free of that past and move forward. It goes without saying that
>ARRL types will not want this and will try to stop it.

Why, when I read stuff like this, and I reminded of Robert Heinlein's
classic short story "The Roads Must Roll" ? (If you are not familiar
with it, READ IT before your next posting.)

This "cranky old geezer" was licensed with that call sign since 1952
and is on the air daily with HF and VHF digital data and voice while a
WW-II J-38 telegraph key sits next to a modern kit-built HF SSB and
data transmitter with all the bells and whistles. I've mentored more
hams than I can think of and have testified for and represented quite
a number of hams in hearings and court trials over their right to
operate their stations.

None of that would have happened without the ARRL teaching me, helping
me, and backing me. None of it.

"Cranky old geezer" ? Hardly. And there's a lot more folks like me
out there.

If you think that the League is "static" then you aren't looking in
the right places. It's your problem, not the League's.
--
73 de K2ASP -- Phil Kane
k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

ARRL Life Member
ARRL Volunteer Counsel
ARRL Volunteer Consulting Engineer
ARRL Northwest Division Assistant Director
Trustee of several radio club stations

1257. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-30 14:49:11 UTC
From: KH6HZ <kh6hzA@Tarrl.net>
Message-ID: <FMthi.182288$dC2.159210@newsfe13.lga>
Source record: 4162

"Klystron" <xxx@yyy.zzz> wrote:

> The objective would be to provide an organization to those hams who
> wish to make ham radio innovative and progressive (again). By
> comparison, the ARRL exists to serve those hams who wish to keep ham
> radio retrogressive, insular and xenophobic. Certain technologies would
> be championed (digital voice, digital data, e.g.) while other
> technologies would be abandoned to their fate (Morse).

>From my viewpoint of this discussion, what it really seems like you are championing is an organization consisting of people who hate morse code.

That's ok, I guess, but I think you should simply be upfront and honest about it, by calling it the "We hate Morse Code Ham Radio Society", rather than attempting to veil it in bogus atruistic poppycock.

> It goes without saying that
> ARRL types will not want this and will try to stop it.

I suppose it is easier to blame your own failure on others, rather than acknowledge the fact that your idea is faulty from the onset.

kh6hz

1258. Re: June 24, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-30 17:08:04 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <1dGdnSr9na5bEBvbnZ2dnUVZ_gidnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4163

<N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote in message
news:1183201427.938830.62090@c77g2000hse.googlegroups.com...
[snip]
> btw, you might want to run the prediction "contest" rules again in a
> new thread so folks who haven't seen it before will know what it
> means.
>
> 73 de Jim, N2EY
>

Yes, I've been meaning to do that.

Dee, N8UZE

1259. SARL News in English 30/6/2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-30 17:19:58 UTC
From: website@sarl.org.za
Message-ID: <66A2E9D917AF4AD5A5B38FCF036A50E5@toron>
Source record: 4164
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 01 JULY 2007

You are listening to ZS6SRL the official Radio Station of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is transmitted every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. To listen to a web stream or Echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links for details.

This, and previous bulletins, can be downloaded from www.sarl.org.za and you can also subscribe there to receive future bulletins by email.

This transmission is by Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with relays on 3,695, 10,135, 14,235 and 51,400 MHz as well as 438,825 MHz in the Pretoria area. (Other newsreaders please change to suit).

In the news today:

SARL PRESIDENT TO DISCUSS SOME MAJOR CHANGES ON TONIGHT'S NET

SA AMSAT CHANGES ITS CONFERENCE DATE AGAIN

HELP US SAVE ON OUR TELEPHONE BILLS

GET READY FOR THE IARU HF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP, JULY 14-15

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

SARL PRESIDENT TO DISCUSS SOME MAJOR CHANGES ON TONIGHT'S NET

At last weekend's strategic session the Council of the SARL agreed on some major changes that will enhance the development of Amateur Radio and increase the benefits that will accrue to members. Graham Hartlett will during this evening's President's Net discuss the new proposals and implementation dates. Some changes will be implemented almost immediately while others will be phased in over the next 6 - 9 months. Join Graham at 19:00 this evening on a repeater near you.

The President's Net will be followed at 20:00 by the INTECNET featuring a discussion on the SARL transceiver project by Andrew Roos. The objective is to design and industrialise an entry-level HF transceiver that can be produced at low cost to facilitate access to HF by new amateurs, including the youth. Join Andrew as he takes the lid off this

exciting project.

Visit www.sarl.org.za and click on ARMI for full details, frequencies and a link to internet streaming and echolink. Clubs are encouraged to link up to the conference bridge. Send telephone number and details of the repeater to be used to armi@sarl.org.za by not later than noon today, 1 July.

SA AMSAT CHANGES ITS CONFERENCE DATE AGAIN

Due to venue constraints SA AMSAT had to change the date of its 2007 Space Symposium. It will now be held on 6 October. More details can be found on the web at www.amsatsa.org.za. The September date announced last week clashed with another conference being held at the Sentech venue.

A synopsis for proposed papers are invited and should be of a technical or operational nature and cover any of the following subjects: satellite communication, weak signal communication, orbital mechanics, software applications and exploration of space such as SETI. Other related subjects will be considered. The deadline for the submission of a synopsis is 15 August 2007.

HELP US SAVE ON OUR TELEPHONE BILLS

The SARL Treasurer has highlighted the dramatic increase in our monthly communications cost which on analysis points to outgoing cellphone calls. Please, when leaving a message at the NARC, leave your landline number or if it is a request for information your email address. The saving is almost three fold per call which, when calculated over a month, amounts to a substantial sum of money which could be better utilised for other amateur radio projects and member services.

The office telephone is answered between 09:00 and 13:00 Mondays to Fridays which are our public office hours. The rest of the time the office administrator is attending to administrative matters. Emails and faxes can be sent at any time, day or night. Also remember to use the full 13 digit number 088 011 675 2793 when sending a fax.

GET READY FOR THE IARU HF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP, JULY 14-15

According to the Secretary of the IARU, Dave Sumner, participation in the IARU HF World Championship has grown steadily over the past four years, despite solar activity trending in the wrong direction. The creation of Low Power and QRP categories has contributed to increasing both the popularity and the competitiveness of the event.

The ARRL administers the HF World Championship on behalf of the IARU. At its May 2007 meeting the IARU Administrative Council discussed various issues related to the event and asked that the ARRL devote the resources necessary to maintain a high standard of adjudication.

A condition of entry in the IARU HF World Championship is that each entrant agrees to be bound by the provisions of the announced rules, by

the regulations of his/her licensing authority and by the decisions of the ARRL Awards Committee acting for the IARU International Secretariat. Leading competitors should expect their entries to be carefully scrutinized. If exceptional results are claimed, entrants must be prepared to explain how they were achieved.

Reminder: In addition to the zone and "HQ station" multipliers there are four additional multipliers available per band by contacting members of the IARU Administrative Council and the regional IARU executive committees. Administrative Council members may send "AC" instead of their zone, while regional executive committee members may send "R1," "R2" or "R3" as appropriate.

CONTEST NEWS

The Durban ARC Midwinter 80 metre Sprint will be run on Wednesday 4 July 2007 starting at 19:00 CAT and ending at 20:00 CAT. It is a phone and CW/PSK sprint and the exchange is a RS or RST report and your age, ladies may use 21.

Contacts with stations in the same ZS call area or Southern African country is worth 2 points and contacts with stations in different ZS call areas or Southern African countries are worth 4 points. Log sheets must be sent by e-mail to zs5lp@sharksden.co.za or by snail mail to the Durban Amateur Radio Club, 17 Brownlee Place, Bluff, Durban, 4052.

On Sunday 22 July, the Boland ARC 40 Metre Contest will be on the air from 15:00 to 18:00 CAT.

The SARL HF Phone Contest will be run on Sunday 5 August 2007.

Provisional Contest Results:

The 80 Metre QSO Party Contest Committee has notified SARL News that the name of Jan, ZS1VDV, must be added to the results of the April leg of the 80 Metre QSO Party. Jan made 480 points which places him in second place with the East Rand ARC.

There was a typing error in the English results of the SARL Hamnet Contest. For the Single Operator Stationary Mobile category, Theunis, ZS2EC, and not Barry as reported took the second place. The results in the Afrikaans version are correct.

PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the expected solar activity will be at low to very low levels. The geomagnetic field is expected to be quiet in general while reaching active levels on 11 till 12 July. The expected Effective Sun Spot number for the coming week will be less than 10.

20 m and 40 m will provide best opportunities for DX. There is a possibility of 20 m openings towards India from about 15:30 CAT. 40 m may open towards Australia from 18:00. From about 17:00, there may be

20 m openings towards Europe. At about 16:00 short 20 m openings towards the West Coast of the USA are possible. Otherwise contacts to the USA are going to be very challenging. For the CW and digital enthusiasts it will also be worth monitoring 10 MHz.

Locally 40 m is going to be the band to be on for the PSK31 contest with good propagation throughout South Africa till at least 16:00. It is once again time to work on your 80 m WAZS award in the evenings. Remember that HF always has the capability to surprise you. You will never know what you are missing unless you switch your rig on, listen and also call CQ.

Please visit www.spaceweather.co.za for further information.

CLUB NEWS

The Port Elizabeth Amateur Radio Society (PEARS) held its AGM on Saturday 23 June, and the following members were elected to the committee:

Chairman: Donovan, ZS2DL; Vice-Chairman: Chris, ZS2AAW; Treasurer: Clive, ZS2RT; Secretary: Beavan, ZS2RL; Members: Anthony, ZS2BA, Barry, ZS2EZ, Bill, ZS2ABZ, and Eric ,ZS2ECH.

The meeting was followed by the traditional bring-'n-braai,

The Hibiscus Coast ARC also held the AGM recently and the following members were elected to serve on the committee:

Chairman: Garnett, ZS5ZT; Secretary /Treasurer: Brian, ZS5AZH; Committee Members: Jan, ZR5JAN, Sid, ZS5AYC, Peter, ZS5SK, Gawie, ZS5R, Mervyn, ZS5QI and Rob, ZS5XS.

DIARY OF EVENTS

1 July, tonight - President's Net and Intechnet; 4 July - Durban ARC Midwinter 80 m Sprint; 14 - 15 July - IARU HF World Championship; 22 July - Boland ARC 40 m Contest; 5 August - SARL HF Phone contest; 15 August - Last day to submit synopsis of proposed papers for SA AMSAT Space Conference; 23 August - Class B RAE; 6 October - SA AMSAT Space Conference; 18 October - Class A RAE.

SARL News invites clubs and individuals to submit news stories of interest to radio amateurs and shortwave listeners. Submit news stories if possible in both English and Afrikaans to www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date.

The SARL also invites you to listen to the programme Amateur Radio Mirror International, on the air every Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 695 kHz. For the web stream and echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links. A repeat transmission can be heard Mondays at 21:00 CAT on 3 215 kHz. Sentech sponsors the ARMI

transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

Today's South African Radio League news bulletin was compiled by Roger Conroy, ZR3RC ,and transmitted by (your name and call sign)

Thank you for listening. 73.

/EX

========== Message Ends ========== To edit or remove your entry from this mailing list go to www.sarl.org.za/members/admin/maildat.asp

1260. GB2RS NEWS Sunday 1 July 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-06-30 19:25:53 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200706301900.l5UJ0LG03366@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4165
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

1 GB2RS NEWS Sunday 1 July

The news headlines

* RSGB President opens Friedrichshafen show

* Red Sands Radio to broadcast RSL operation

* Special call signs for 50th JOTA Last weekend RSGB President Angus Annan was given the rare honour of making the opening address at the annual Friedrichshafen radio show. His speech, delivered to an invited audience and relayed to a giant screen, covered the recent successes and tribulations of the amateur radio scene.

A ten day Restricted Service Licence (RSL) operation will take place from 14 to 23 July from the same Fort used by British offshore broadcaster Radio 390 in 1964 to 1967.

The location is Red Sands Fort, seven nautical miles off Whitstable in Kent. Ofcom has allocated 1278kHz for the operation. For those outside the local area, the programmes will be streamed online.

Red Sands Radio will pay tribute to the pirate radio stations of the 1960's that influenced how commercial radio developed in Britain. There will also be some of the original programmes and radio documentaries with a mix of the best of yesterday and today.

Red Sands Radio is part of the overall Project Redsand who have long term plans to preserve the last full set of Army Forts for future generations.

Ofcom has agreed to issue special call signs to all UK JOTA stations this year in recognition of the role that the event has played in enabling scouts to talk to other scouts around the world by amateur radio.

When applying for one of these licences you must observe the following instructions that are associated with this special event call sign.

* The call sign is only available for the 50 hours of JOTA, from 19 October 2200 local time to 21

October 2400 local time.

* All applications must be made within 28 days of the event, no late applications will be accepted.

* All applications must, in keeping with the SSES policy, be accompanied by a supporting letter signed

by the scout leader or equivalent from the troop that the SSES will be representing. Applications should be made on the usual form, OfW287 that can be found on the Ofcom website. During the Irish Radio Transmitters Society's Jubilee expedition to Swaziland, the team met with the Scout Association and agreed to support their Thirst for Life Programme, which helps Aids orphans in Swaziland.

Details of the project are on the Afri75 page of the IRTS website. The team is also pleased to announce that the first initial funding for the project of 350 Euro is on its way to Swaziland and this will fund the purchase of chickens for their farm.

The money was raised by donations from direct QSL cards received from stations around the world, together with the sale of Afri75 caps at the AGM in Cork.

The team is still anxious to continue support for the project, and if you think you can help please contact Paul, EI2CA.

2 Nominations for the 2007 AMSAT Board of Directors have closed. The list of qualified candidates is: Barry Baines, WD4ASW, Drew Glasbrenner, KO4MA, Rick Hambly, W2GPS, Lee McLamb, KU4OS, Gunther Meisse, W8GSM.

The terms of four directors are up this year. Directors serve a two year term. Ballots and biographical information submitted by each candidate will be in the mail to current AMSAT members by 15 July and completed ballots must be received at the AMSAT office in Silver Spring no later than the close of business on 15 September. Terms of the new directors start upon certification of the election.

Gloucester County RAYNET Team has now received clearance for the use of two VHF frequencies during their support for the Royal International Air Tattoo at Fairford on 10, 12, 14 and 15 July.

The choice of working frequencies at any operational RAF base has always been agreed with MoD to avoid any possibility of interference with vital communications traffic. This year, Gloucestershire has been allocated 144.650 voice and 144.625 data.

They intend to use directional antennas to try to minimise problems for other RAYNET Groups working in the area, but advise that they will not be allowed to QSY in the event of co-channel interference and ask for the cooperation and understanding of other groups in their choice of working frequencies.

The Maidstone ARS has recently carried out two special event days one for the Windmills On The Air and another for the 30 years of sailing at Bewl Water in Lamberhurst, Kent.

These two events were well supported by two other clubs, The Weald and North Kent ARS. Both stations operated on 2 meters and HF and in the

case of Bewl Water over 400 QSOs were made. This excellent site which is surrounded by plenty of water demonstrated how propagation can be improved. Two particular contacts were VP8LP Bob in Stanley on the Falkland Islands and to keep the sailing connection EA0SAT was the special event station for The Americas Cup.

The World Scout Jamboree, GB100J, will be held in Hylands Park, Chelmsford from 24 July to 8 August. It is expected that over 40,000 scouts from all over the world will attend the event.

The Chelmsford Echolink Node MB7IDA, node number 265297, on 144.8375 MHz, 110.9 Hz CTCSS, covers 8 seperate scouting camp sites in Essex. It is the closest node to the Jamboree site and it is requested that scouts be given priority on the node during this event.

On Sunday 1 July the RSGB will be supporting British Wireless for the Blind with the participation by Angus Annan, MM1CCR, RSGB President and Marilyn Slade, 2E1GKR, Financial Controller in the British London 10K run. For more details contact British Wireless for the Blind at www.blind.org.uk.

RAYNET groups in many parts of the country were placed on standby at the weekend as torrential rains caused rivers to overflow.

The RSGB Sheffield and Rotherham RAYNET Group were called out on Sunday to provide point to point communications and finally stood down on Tuesday evening. Controller Mark Harrison, G6NVT, commented that it had been an exhausting 30 hours.

And now for the details of rallies and events for the coming week

[Note to newsreaders: please exercise your judgement on which of the 24 June events to read, based on your service area and time of transmission]. On Sunday 1 July the Barford radio rally takes place from 0900 at Barford, 9 miles southwest of Norwich, close to the A11 and A47. Contact David, G7URP, on 01953 457322/458844 or email radio@dcpmicro.com.

3 On Sunday 7 July the Reddish Rally takes place from 1030 at St Mary's Parish Church Hall, Reddish Road, Stockport. Details from Bernard, G3SHF, on 01625 850088, daytime or on the web at www.m5mdx.com/reddishrally.

More details of these and future events can be found on pages 88 and 89 of the July edition of RadCom. Now for the news of special events

Special event station 9A07P will be active on all bands and modes until 31 December to celebrate the city of Djurdjevac. All QSOs will be confirmed automatically via the bureau. The annual transmission on Alexanderson Day with the Alexanderson alternator on VLF 17.2 kHz will take place Sunday 1 July at 0900 UTC. Tuning up will be from 0815 UTC and the transmission will be repeated at 1300 UTC, tuning up from 1215 UTC. The station will be open to visitors. There will be activity on

amateur radio frequencies with the call SK6SAQ. For more information log onto www.alexander.n.se/. QSL reports are very welcome. On the 7 and 8 July, the Sudbury and District Radio Amateurs, SAnDRA, will be putting on special event station GB4LMR. It will take place at the Long Melford Rally, at the Farm Machinery Preservation Society's steam rally at Melford Hall, Long Melford in Suffolk. Operation will be from 80m to 10m and possibly 160m on SSB and digimodes. QSL via M0MJH direct or via bureau. Finchampstead Scout Group will be putting on a special event station GB1FSG on 22 July to 30 July on the scouting HF bands (SSB) on either 3.690, 3.940, 7.090, 7.190 or 14.290MHz + or - QRN. The station will be operated from the Lake District. And now the HF DX news compiled from 425 DX News, the Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin and other sources.

Pierre, HB9QQ, will operate as HB0/HB9QQ from Liechtenstein until 2 July and again on 6 to 9 July. Jan, PA4JJ, will be active as 9A/PA4JJ/p from Porec, Croatia until 7 July. Operating on WARC bands using RTTY and PSK. QSL direct or via bureau. A QSL request form for bureau cards can be found at www.pa4jj.nl. A Swedish expedition to Market Reef, is planned to take place on 5 to 9 July. Three or four operators will be active as OJ0/homecall on 160 to 2 metres CW, SSB and digital modes. More information will follow. Jim, WB2REM, will be operating the special 4 letter suffix call sign VP2EREM from Anguilla, NA-022 until 8 July. Expect him to be active on 80 to 10 metres CW and SSB. QSL via home call. Art, KG6ZWD, will be active as SV1/KG6ZWD/p from mainland Greece on 11 to 15 and 24 to 25 July. He will also operate as SV8/KG6ZWD/p from Andros Island, EU-067, on 17 to 23 July. Expect holiday style activity on 10 to 40 meters SSB and PSK31. QSL via home call, director bureau. Hank, W0CZE, will be active as YJ0CZE from Vanuatu on 14 to 21 July. He will operate on 10 to 80 meters SSB, 28495, 24950, 21295, 18150, 14190 & 14250, 7082 and 3795 kHz and CW 28020, 24895, 21025, 18075, 14020, 10105, 7010 and 3505 kHz. Rod, YJ8RN, of the Vanuatu Amateur Radio Society, is helping with preparations on site. QSL via W0FF.

4 Marq, CT1BWW, Juan Carlos, EA3GHZ and Tomas, EA5YH, will operate as FS/home call and PJ7/home call from Saint Martin and Sint Maarten on 15 to 25 July. They plan to be active on 80 to 6 meters CW, SSB and digital modes with two stations. Further information can be found on their web site www.dxciting.com/index.htm. Jose, CT1EHX, Toze, CT1GFK, Goncalo, CT1GPQ, Miguel, CT1IUA, Rui, CT2IHP, Jose, CT1DVG, Jose, CT1EPS, Arnaldo, CT2IOV and Antonio, CT2IOU will operate SSB, CW and RTTY on 160 to 6 meters as CS26X on 1 to 22 July for the 26th International Motorcycle Rally in Faro. QSL via CT1EHX, direct or bureau. Look for RV3ATS, RV3ATT and RU3AVF to operate on 10, 15, 20, 40, 80 and 2 metres as RV3ATS/p from 16 mountains located in various different Russian Districts until 21 July. They also plan to participate in a number of contests on the VHF and HF bands. QSL via RV3ATS, direct or bureau. Pete, W2GJ, C6APR, Ed, K3IXD, C6AXD and Randy, K4QO, C6AQO, will be active from Crooked Island, NA-113, ARLHS BAH-005 on 26 to 30 July. They will operate CW, SSB, and RTTY on 80 to 6 meters and will participate in the IOTA Contest as C6APR. All QSLs

via K3IXD. Now the contest news

The RSGB 80m Club Championship takes place between 1900 and 2030 on 2 July on the 3.5 MHz band, CW. The exchange takes the form of RST and serial number. The RSGB 144MHz activity and Club Championship takes place between 2000 and 2230 local on 3 July on 2 metres, all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. The RSGB VHF Field Day takes place between 1400 on 7 July to 1400 on 8 July on the 50MHz to 1.3GHz bands, all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator.

Now the solar factual data for the period from the 18 to 24 of June, compiled by Neil Clarke, G0CAS.

The Sun was spotless every day. Solar activity was very low. Solar flux levels declined from 67 units on the 18th to 65 by the 22nd, levels then returned back to 67 by the 24th. The average was 66 units. The daily solar flux figure on the 22nd was 65 units. This would appear to be as low as the solar flux can go. During the last solar minimum only three days saw the solar flux at 65 units, they took place in July 1996. The 90 day solar flux average on the 24th remained at 74 units. X-ray flux levels remained well below the A1 level throughout. Geomagnetic activity started at quiet levels but as expected increased on the 21st due to a recurring coronal hole. The most disturbed day was the 22nd with an Ap index of 16 units. The average was Ap 9 units. The ACE spacecraft saw solar wind speeds increase from 370 kilometres per second to 580 by the 22nd. Particle densities were low except for the 21st, which increased to 38 particles per cubic centimetre late on the 21st. Bz varied between minus 2 and plus 4 nanoTeslas on the quiet days and between minus 9 and plus 10 nanoTeslas during the disturbance. In a week of typical summer propagation the principal feature was again sporadic-E, with several strong 6- metre openings to the northern fringe of South America, the Caribbean and the Gambia, and smaller ones to the North-East USA.

5 And now the solar forecast. This week the active side of the Sun is expected to be looking our way. On the last solar rotation, activity increased to moderate on some days, however, this rotation activity should only be low. Solar flux levels are expected to slowly decline and by next weekend be in the low 70's. Geomagnetic activity should be quiet all week. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitudes should be around 19MHz for the south and 16NHz for the north. The darkness hour lows are expected to be about 10MHz. Paths this week to Japan should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success rate of about 18MHz. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success rate will be around 14MHz. The best time to try this path will be between 1000 and 1500 hours UTC. Sporadic-E should take place most days this week with the possibility of openings up to 70MHz and to a lesser extent to 144MHz. And that's all for this week from the propagation team.

6 Next, the Local News:

Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses

and website links where known.

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your

transmission.]

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST

and EAST ANGLIA On Sunday 1 July Harwich Amateur Radio Interest Group is running a 70cms DF hunt in the Harwich area. Contact James, M0ZZO, on 01255 242 746.

On Sunday 1 July Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is attending Barford Radio Rally. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

On Sunday 1 July Radio Society of Harrow is operating De Havilland Heritage station GB2DHH. Contact Linda, G7RJL, on 020 8386 8586, or on the web at www.g3efx.org.uk or Chris 01895 621 310.

On Sunday 1 July Torbay Amateur Radio Society is operating GB60TR. Contact Dave, G6FSP, by email to g6fsp@tars.org.uk.

On Monday 2 July Braintree and District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on navigating the Chelmer by Colin Edmond. Contact John, M5AJB, on 01787 460 947.

On Monday 2 July Cray Valley Radio Society is taking part in the 80m CW club championship. Contact Bob, BRS32525, on 020 8265 7735 after 8pm.

On Monday 2 July Felixstowe and District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on contesting followed by a visit to the MRS shack, Steve M1ACB and Keiron M0HKB. Contact Paul, G4YQC, by email to paul.whiting@bt.com.

On Monday 2 July Southdown Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on foxhunting by Peter, G6GVM. Contact John, G3DQY, on 0124424319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

On Monday 2 July Surrey Radio Contact Club is having its construction contest. Contact Ray, G4FFY, on 020 8644 7589.

On Tuesday 3 July Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society is having a talk by Robin Butcher. Contact Martyn, G1EFL, on 01245 469 008.

On Tuesday 3 July Cray Valley Radio Society is taking part in the 2m Club Championship. Contact Bob, BRS32525, on 020 8265 7735 after 8pm.

On Tuesday 3 July Horndean and District Amateur Radio Club is having a social evening. Contact Stuart, G0FYX, on 023 9247 2846, or on the web at www.hdarc.co.uk.

On Tuesday 3 July Leiston Amateur Radio Club is having a foxhunt antenna construction evening. Contact Dave, G4HUP, on 01473 737 717, g4hup@btinternet.com.

On Wednesday 4 July Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is having a general meeting. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

On Wednesday 4 July Dover Radio Club is having a presentation on amateur radio and disabilities by Catherine, M1CVF. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk.

7 On Wednesday 4 July Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is having a natter night and club station operating evening with G3VEF and G8KGI. Contact Jim, M1JJN.

On Wednesday 4 July Havering and District Amateur Radio Club is having a business meeting review of the second quarter of 2007. Contact Dave, 2E0EBV, on 07956 594 514.

On Wednesday 4 July Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on traps with David, G0PFN. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

On Wednesday 4 July Southdown Amateur Radio Society is operating slow scan TV from Halisham shack. Contact John, G3DQY, on 0124424319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

On Wednesday 4 July Worthing and District Amateur Radio Club is having members talks on the subject of 'my other hobbies'. Contact Roy, G4GPX, on 01903 753 893.

On Thursday 5 July Cray Valley Radio Society is having a talk on antenna analysers by G3SPJ. Contact Bob, BRS32525, on 020 8265 7735 after 8pm.

On Thursday 5 July Horsham Amateur Radio Club is watching the Peter 1 Island DXpedition 2006 video. Contact or on the web at www.harc.org.uk.

On Thursday 5 July Shefford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a mobile direction finding event. Contact David, G8UOD, on 01234 742 757.

On Friday 6 July Cambridge and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on getting started with FPGA devices and retro-computing by Andrew, M0BXT. Contact David, G8JKV.

On Friday 6 July Loughton and Epping Forest Amateur Radio Society is having a review of the Friedrichshafen 2007 rally by John, G8DZH. Contact Marc, G0TOC, on 020 8502 1645, or by email to info@lefars.org.uk.

On Friday 6 July Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is making preparations for NFD weekend. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Friday 6 July Wey Valley Amateur Radio Group is having a club night. Contact or on the web at www.weyvalleyarg.org.uk.

On Saturday 7 July Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is taking part in the VHF National Field Day. Contact Jim, M1JJN.

On Saturday 7 July Horndean and District Amateur Radio Club is operating the special event station GB4QES at the Queen Elizabeth Country Park Show, near Petersfield. Contact Stuart, G0FYX, on 023 9247 2846, or on the web at www.hdarc.co.uk.

On Saturday 7 July Loughton and Epping Forest Amateur Radio Society is having its annual club field weekend at Old Harlow, Essex. Contact Marc, G0TOC, on 020 8502 1645, or by email to info@lefars.org.uk.

On Saturday 7 July Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is taking part in the VHF National Field Day. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Saturday 7 July Shefford and District Amateur Radio Society is taking part in the VHF National Field Day. Contact David, G8UOD, on 01234 742 757.

On Sunday 8 July Felixstowe and District Amateur Radio Society is operating special event station GB2FX at Felixstowe Museum, Landguard Fort, with Iain G0OZS. Contact Paul, G4YQC, by email to paul.whiting@bt.com.

On Sunday 8 July Southdown Amateur Radio Society is operating at the Beachy Head Site. Contact John, G3DQY, on 0124424319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

8

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST

On Monday 2 July Cornish Radio Amateur Club is having a committee meeting. Contact Ian, on 01872 561 058.

On Tuesday 3 July Flight Refuelling Amateur Radio Society is running intermediate training. Contact Tony, G3PFM, on 01202 622 262.

On Wednesday 4 July Cornish Radio Amateur Club is having a talk by Bob, G4EIK on switch mode power supplies at the new club venue, Perranarworthal Church Hall. Contact Ian, 01872 561 058.

On Wednesday 4 July South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is preparing for VHF NFD. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282.

On Wednesday 4 July Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is on the air for an Independence Day HF special. Contact Tony, G0WMB, by email to tonytsgarc@beeb.net.

On Wednesday 4 July Trowbridge and District Amateur Radio Club is having its annual 2m DF hunt from club HQ. Contact Ian, G0GRI, on 01225 864 698, E/W.

On Thursday 5 July Saltash and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk and video by Joe Pengelly on his experiences with the BBC. Contact Brian, M0BHG, on 01752 844 321.

On Thursday 5 July Yeovil Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on 'my first year as an amateur' by 2E0BFJ. Contact Derek, 01935 414 452, or by email to m0wob@tiscali.co.uk.

On Friday 6 July Bournemouth Radio Society is having a talk by David Wright, G4BKE, on magnetic loops. Contact G0HAT on 07719 700771.

On Saturday 7 July Taunton and District Amateur Radio Club is running a 'Rocket Day' special event station at St Augustine School Fete. Contact William, G3WNI, on 01823 666 234, or by email to g3wni@btinternet.com.

On Sunday 8 July Cornish Radio Amateur Club is taking part in the rally at Penair School, Truro. Contact Ian, 01872 561 058.

NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS

On Sunday 1 July Stourbridge And District Amateur Radio Society is attending Stourbridge Carnival with a demonstration station. Contact John, M1EJG, on 01562 700 513.

On Monday 2 July Stourbridge and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air. Contact John, M1EJG, on 01562 700 513.

On Tuesday 3 July Derby and District Amateur Radio Society is having a junk sale. Contact Martin, G3SZJ, on 01332 556 875.

On Tuesday 3 July Wythall Radio Club is taking part in the 2m Club Championship from shack. Contact Chris, G0EYO, on 07710 412 819, or by email to g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk, or on the web at www.wythallradioclub.co.uk.

On Wednesday 4 July Lincoln Short-Wave Club is having a news and views evening. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

On Thursday 5 July Stafford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a chat and shack night. Contact

9 Graeme, G4NVH, on 01785 604 534, or by email to graeme.boull@ntlworld.com. On Friday 6 July Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is on the air on VHF and UHF. Contact Carl, M0XBE, on 07979 092 447, or on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

On Saturday 7 July and Sunday 8 July Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is taking part in the RSGB VHF National Field Day at Crich, Derbyshire. Contact Carl, M0XBE, on 07979 092 447, or on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

On Saturday 7 July Lincoln Short-Wave Club is taking part in the VHF National Field Day. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

On Saturday 7 July Sandwell Amateur Radio Club is running special event station GB0FFL. Contact Dave, G4JSR, on 0121 552 1820.

On Saturday 7 July Telford and District Amateur Radio Society is taking part in the VHF National Field Day at Long Mynd. All welcome, set-up on Saturday 10am. Contact Mike, G3JKX, on 01952 299 677, or by email to mjstreetg3jkx@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Saturday 7 July Wythall Radio Club is taking part in the RSGB VHF National Field Day. Contact Chris, G0EYO, on 07710 412 819, or by email to g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk, or on the web at www.wythallradioclub.co.uk.

NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

On Monday 2 July Sheffield Amateur Radio Club is having an open table meeting and planning meeting for IOTA Contest, plus an HF night, taking part in the RSGB 80m CW Club Championship. Contact Trevor, M0TWS.

On Monday 2 July Thornton Cleveleys Amateur Radio Society is having a natter night and show and tell evening. Contact Jack, G4BFH, by email to jack.duddington@btinternet.com.

On Tuesday 3 July Stockport Radio Society is having a presentation and demonstration of slow scan television with Sean Amesbury, 2E0BAX. Contact David, M1ANT, on 0161 456 7832.

On Wednesday 4 July Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is on the air. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Friday 6 July South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is having a talk on "Wimnax" by G3ZDM. Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999.

On Friday 6 July Tynemouth Radio Club is having an operating and Morse night. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Saturday 7 July Sheffield Amateur Radio Club is having an open table meeting and planning meeting for the IOTA Contest and an HF Night, taking part in the RSGB 80m CW Club Championship. Contact Trevor, M0TWS.

NEWS FOR SCOTLAND

On Thursday 5 July Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is having a junk sale. The club is closed on 12 and 19 July. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

On Thursday 5 July Borders Amateur Radio Society is having a club night. Contact Ray,GM0CDV, on 01573 228730.

10 On Saturday 7 July Cockenzie and Port Seton Amateur Radio Club is taking part in the VHF Field Day. Contact Bob, GM4UYZ, on 01875 811 723.

On Saturday 7 July and Sunday 8 July Dundee Amateur Radio Club is taking part in the VHF National Field Day. Contact Martin, MM0DUN, on mm0dun@dundee-amayeur-radio.co.uk, or on the web at www.dundeeamateur-radio.co.uk.

NEWS FOR WALES

On Tuesday 3 July Carmarthen Amateur Radio Society is having a club meeting. Contact Les, GW8PSJ, on 01239 811 922.

On Wednesday 4 July Conwy Valley Amateur Radio Club is having a talk by Brian Davies, GW4KAZ, on the filters used by Arfon Repeater Group. Contact Wynne, GW6PMC, on 01745 855 068.

NEWS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

No news items have been received for northern Ireland this week. And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast,

prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

1261. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-01 04:13:22 UTC
From: "Dr.Ace" <Ace@WH2T.com>
Message-ID: <644d3$4687161d$4e0b13a$17571@DIALUPUSA.NET>
Source record: 4166

"Phil Kane" <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote in message
news:ehnc83hg9vo1ubbb1dhme7htjcdkn0ual8@4ax.com...
> On Sat, 30 Jun 2007 07:49:18 EDT, Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz> wrote:
>
>> Long story short: Once upon a time, hams were viewed as 'rocket
>>scientists' and were a force for progress and innovation. Now, they're
>>viewed as cranky old geezers who are living in the past and pounding
>>Samuel Morse' old telegraph key while whining about young
>>whippersnappers who don't respect their elders. A new organization would
>>break free of that past and move forward. It goes without saying that
>>ARRL types will not want this and will try to stop it.
>
>
> If you think that the League is "static" then you aren't looking in
> the right places. It's your problem, not the League's.
> --
> 73 de K2ASP -- Phil Kane
> k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net
>
> ARRL Life Member
> ARRL Volunteer Counsel
> ARRL Volunteer Consulting Engineer
> ARRL Northwest Division Assistant Director
> Trustee of several radio club stations
>

LEAGUE CITES MEMBERSHIP GROWTH

Thee ARRL Letter says that its membership in the
League is up and the trend is toward continued
growth. Customer Service Manager Amy Hurtado, KB1NXO,
says the League now has close to 152,000 members.

Hurtado credits the rise in membership in part to
the FCC rule changes earlier this year that
eliminated Morse code testing for the General and
Amateur Extra license classes. She says that
since more people are upgrading their licenses as
a result of there being no Morse code
requirement, the League is now successfully able
to show them the benefits of being an ARRL member.
73, Ace - WH2T

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1262. Re: Ideas needed for a new organization

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-01 04:19:20 UTC
From: Pat Cook <pchamster@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <hoadnQNHwPf2hhrbnZ2dnUVZ_jOdnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4167

Hi everyone:
"Klystron" <xxx@yyy.zzz> wrote in message
news:xxx-3E9C45.07200030062007@news.verizon.net...
> "Pat Cook" <pchamster@gmail.com> wrote:
>
>> I'd offer it as a point of debate Jim (Curiously of course :D). What
>> *would* your new organization offer that ARRL & the many, many other
>> worldwide clubs don't already offer, Klystron & Iitoi?
>
>
> The objective would be to provide an organization to those hams who
> wish to make ham radio innovative and progressive (again). By
> comparison, the ARRL exists to serve those hams who wish to keep ham
> radio retrogressive, insular and xenophobic. Certain technologies would
> be championed (digital voice, digital data, e.g.) while other
> technologies would be abandoned to their fate (Morse).

Okay, so it's true they were somewhat relunctant to allow digital
communications such as, and perhaps namely, packet to take place on the
bands. But look what's happened in the end. Not only have digital
communications become an acceptable form of communications (Thankfully
spearheaded by the work of TAPR BTW), digital communications have been
EMBRACED as a means of PROMOTING Amateur Radio. When was the last time you
proudly told someone that you can work the International Space Station? My
last time was just this afternoon while on the bus enroute back home from
the "candy store" (Hi...Hi).

>> True, ARRL does do some valuable things for the Amateur Radio Service and
>> since I *am* a validly licensed Ham, they *do* represent me in various
>> political and legal capacities (For which I am eternally grateful BTW), I
>> still see a reason to join them if they're going to represent me anyway.
>> They know my position on various issues because much the same sentiment
>> is
>> shared by SCORES of Hams like me. And many of those Hams have made their
>> sentiments public. I don't need to submit what would sound like a broken
>> record in the eyes of ARRL because they've heard it many times before.
>
>
> If you look at those organizations that are EFFECTIVE in representing
> their members and advancing the members' agenda (NRA, teachers' union,
> tobacco lobby, trade associations that represent defense contractors,
> etc.), certain patterns emerge, regardless of the nature of the
> organization or the type of agenda. Such organizations tend to be
> politically astute when dealing with government. They use PAC's, they
> organize letter writing campaigns, they advise their members on the

> voting records of their elected officials, they can deliver votes in
> support of those who help them and in support of the OPPONENTS of those
> who oppose them.

That's because ARRL *IS* a PAC (And a SIG). I doubt ARRL denies that.

>> Well...I could go on and on, but I think you get the idea. So I ask
>> again....What *would* your new organization offer that ARRL & the many,
>> many
>> other worldwide clubs don't already offer, Klystron & Iitoi? I'm really
>> curious.
>
> Long story short: Once upon a time, hams were viewed as 'rocket
> scientists' and were a force for progress and innovation. Now, they're
> viewed as cranky old geezers who are living in the past and pounding
> Samuel Morse' old telegraph key while whining about young
> whippersnappers who don't respect their elders. A new organization would
> break free of that past and move forward. It goes without saying that
> ARRL types will not want this and will try to stop it.

SOME ARRL types. Not all.

And despite your efforts to "break free" from ARRL, you will ALWAYS have members who will gleefully rush out to their mailbox to retrieve that shiny new edition of QST each month. And there's NO WAY you will EVER be able to stop that.

Just my honest opinion....

Cheers & 73 :D

Pat Cook, KB0OXD
Denver, Colorado
WEBSITE - http://www.qsl.net/kb0oxd/
**NEW VIDEO SECTION - http://www.qsl.net/kb0oxd/cybershacktv/

1263. TUNER-CALL SWITCH

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-01 12:30:06 UTC
From: John Doe <hgorden@adelphia.net>
Message-ID: <P7CdnRppybvLFRrbnZ2dnUVZ_vqpnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4168

question: on the ORIGINAL IC706 is the TUNER/CALL SWITCH active or do I need to switch something under the hood to get it to work? I am using an ICAH4 tuner (80m-6m) and it does not work with the original 706 (same plug and wiring), but works OK with the 706MK2g!
73's

1264. Re: TUNER-CALL SWITCH

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-01 19:22:16 UTC
From: Fred McKenzie <fmmck@aol.com>
Message-ID: <fmmck-29EE03.14474101072007@nntp.aioe.org>
Source record: 4169

In article <P7CdnRppybvLFRrbnZ2dnUVZ_vqpnZ2d@comcast.com>,
"John Doe" <hgorden@adelphia.net> wrote:

> question: on the ORIGINAL IC706 is the TUNER/CALL SWITCH active or do I need
> to switch something under the hood to get it to work? I am using an ICAH4
> tuner (80m-6m) and it does not work with the original 706 (same plug and
> wiring), but works OK with the 706MK2g!

John-

I think it should work but my 706 is kaput, so I can't try it.

When I bought the IC 7000, the old IC 180 tuner wouldn't work with it
until I did a reset with the tuner attached. I don't recall how, but it
may be mentioned in the manual.

Fred
K4DII

1265. IRTS Radio News Bulletin, Sunday June 24th 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-01 20:21:58 UTC
From: news at irts dot ie <devnull@panix.com>
Message-ID: <200707012000.l61K0C514047@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4170
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Irish Radio Transmitters Society
Radio News Bulletin

Sunday June 24th 2007

Condolences

We are very sorry to have to tell you of the death of Maurice Moore of Kilmeedy Co. Limerick the father of Dave EI4BZ. Maurice was taken ill and died suddenly in hospital early on Friday the 15th of June.

Dave was on his way by car to the continent for a holiday, which would have included the Friedrichshafen rally. He was just outside London early on the Friday morning when he got a telephone call about the sudden death of his father. He returned home and the funeral was held on Monday last. To Dave and to his family we extend our deepest sympathy and may Maurice rest in peace.

International Museums Weekend

International Museums Weekend took place on Saturday and Sunday last. The Howth Martello Radio Group activated EI0MAR from the vintage radio museum in Howth. Band conditions weren't good, however those who attended enjoyed a very sociable event. After the station went QRT on Saturday, some of the group QSYed to the Yacht in Clontarf to end the day suitably with a meal.

The Howth Peninsula Festival takes place next weekend and EI0MAR will once again be active on Sunday and possibly Saturday. Many of the events taking place during the festival are family orientated with open-air music, dancing, magic and puppet shows. A full listing of events is available at howthpeninsula.com.

AFRI75

During the IRTS Jubilee expedition to Swaziland the team met with the Scout Association and agreed to

support their Thirst for Life Programme, which helps Aids orphans in Swaziland. You will find details of the project on the Afri75 page of the IRTS website. The team is pleased to announce that the first initial funding for the project of 350 Euro is on its way to Swaziland and this will fund the purchase of chickens for their farm. The money was raised by donations included with direct QSL cards received from stations worked around the world, together with funds raised from the sale of Afri75 caps at the AGM in Cork. The team are still anxious to continue support for the project, and if you think you can help please contact Paul EI2CA.

Hong Kong Special Prefix

Approval has been granted for the use of the Special Prefix "VR10" in addition to "VR2" for Hong Kong Radio Amateurs starting from the 1st of July 2007 to the 30th of June 2008 for the 10th anniversary of Hong Kong's reunification with China.

More details are available in the OFTA letter for Hong Kong Radio Amateurs, which can be found at www.ofta.gov.hk/en/amateur/ama-cir200706.pdf.

HARTS is also going to use the special callsign "VR10HK" as HARTS HQ Station especially during the IARU HF Contest (14-15/7/2007).

For further information, please contact the Award and Contest Manager VR2XNG (Dawood Ng) through email at
�excom2007 at harts dot org dot hk�.

---

2 Metre News Bulletin

Tony, EI5EM paid a visit to Sean, EI5GH regular Sunday two-metres newsreader last Friday. Sean has been ill now for several months in St. Vincent's Hospital in Dublin. Sean was in good form and was glad to receive all the latest news from Tony who passed on the good wishes of all those who listen to the news. Sean sends his regards to all and hopefully he will be well enough soon to return home.

Tony and John EI7JG have been trying to keep the news going during Sean's absence on an ad hoc basis. Unfortunately, both will be away next weekend and this means that there probably will be no two-metre news next Sunday. Normal service should be resumed the

following week. Perhaps there are some other operators out there who would like to assist in keeping this long-standing service going. The IRTS would be glad to hear from any volunteers.

Limerick Radio Club

Limerick Radio Club has been invited by the Foynes Flying-Boat Museum to operate a special Amateur Radio Station in conjunction with the commemorative Transatlantic Re-Enactment Flight 1937 from Newfoundland Canada to Foynes Ireland. A special call sign has been allocated to the station EI-70-FOY. The station will be on the air from the 6th to the 8th of July 2007. On HF the station will operate from 80 to 10 metres. It will also operate on VHF / UHF using the EI70FOY call sign.

A special QSL card, commemorating the Re-Enactment Flight, will be sent to all stations worked over the three-day event. All QSL cards should be sent to the Club's QSL Manager Alan Cronin EI8EM at QTHR. Limerick Radio Club can be contacted at ei4lrc at eircom dot net or at www.qsl.net/ei4lrc.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group

The next general meeting will take place on Monday the 25th of June at 8.00 p.m. in the Roanmore Centre, Waterford.

A portion of the meeting will be for all operators who have volunteered their services for the cycle race on the 1st of July and those operators who will be assisting are urged to attend so that radio protocol and equipment requirements etc. can be discussed.

Foyle and District Amateur Radio Club

Foyle and District Amateur Radio Club, Bready, Strabane, Co. Tyrone will be heading to St. Angelo Airport, Enniskillen for the 2007 Jet World Masters competition. The competition itself runs from the 5th to the 14th of July. The club station will be on the air during the weekend July the 13th and 14th using the club's callsign MN0AKU/P.

This event is the ultimate radio-controlled model aircraft competition. These model planes are capable of speeds up to 250 miles per hour. One hundred pilots

from 31 countries will be taking part in this competition. More information can be found on their website www.jwm2007.com

The club wishes to express its gratitude to all the operators who contacted them during the 2 days of their Amelia Earhart special event station on May the 20th and 21st. A sepia-tone photo of the aviator has been used for a unique QSL card and these will soon be sent out via the buro. Foyle and District Amateur Radio Clubs web address is www.mn0aku.org.uk.

Comeragh Cycle Race

The national under 23 road racing championship will take place in Waterford on the 1st of July. Richie EI9HR is event Co-ordinator and he is being assisted by John EI8JA. This year's race will be on a greater scale with over 160 riders taking part. The Civil Defence have come on board this year to help with marshalling and RTE will be filming the event.

AREN will provide the communications for safe traffic management and accident reporting. There will be more radio reporting points and mobile stations than last year so more radio operators are required. Again newcomers are welcome and training will be provided on the morning of the race. This is an excellent opportunity for operators to put their radio skills to good use in a very enjoyable and rewarding way for the benefit of the Community. All operators irrespective of experience are welcome.

Please contact Richie on mobile 085-1465465 or evenings on 051-854315. You can also contact Richie by e-mail at "ei9hr at yahoo dot com". Those who have volunteered to assist with this event are asked to attend the meeting in Waterford on Monday the 25th.

Rally's

The Cork Radio Club Rally will take place on Sunday the 23rd of September in the Blarney Park Hotel, Blarney, Co. Cork, the Waterford Rally will take place on the 21st of October 2007 in the Woodlands Hotel, Waterford and the Mayo Radio Rally will be on Sunday the 18th of November in the Belmont Hotel, Knock, Co. Mayo.

A full listing of upcoming rally's is available on www.irts.ie.

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall, EI7IS at QTHR or by phone to 051-853806 or 087-6302026. Items for the radio news can also be faxed to 087 5 6302026. News should be submitted via e-mail to ﷺnews at irts dot ieﷺ for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Friday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday ﷺs bulletin.

1266. Re: TUNER-CALL SWITCH

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-01 21:05:08 UTC
From: xpyttl <xpyttl_NOSPAM@earthling.net>
Message-ID: <3xUhi.28$7g7.25@newsfe03.lga>
Source record: 4171

The Tuner button needs a signal on the 4 pin Molex connector before it will do anything. The connector is looking for the tuner to tell the rig it is tuned. There was a circuit on the net a while back that could fool the rig into thinking it has a tuner attached, I think it involved one transistor, but it seems like it disappeared from the net a few years back. Perhaps there is another.

..

"Fred McKenzie" <fmmck@aol.com> wrote in message
news:fmmck-29EE03.14474101072007@nntp.aioe.org...
> In article <P7CdnRppybvLFRrbnZ2dnUVZ_vqpnZ2d@comcast.com>,
> "John Doe" <hgorden@adelphia.net> wrote:
>
>> question: on the ORIGINAL IC706 is the TUNER/CALL SWITCH active or do I
>> need
>> to switch something under the hood to get it to work? I am using an ICAH4
>> tuner (80m-6m) and it does not work with the original 706 (same plug and
>> wiring), but works OK with the 706MK2g!
>
> John-
>
> I think it should work but my 706 is kaput, so I can't try it.
>
> When I bought the IC 7000, the old IC 180 tuner wouldn't work with it
> until I did a reset with the tuner attached. I don't recall how, but it
> may be mentioned in the manual.
>
> Fred
> K4DII
>

1267. QRS PSE

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-04 04:19:32 UTC
From: Iitoi <Iitoi@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <f6f3r7$15j$1@aioe.org>
Source record: 4172

Nostalgic web site http://www.novice.bappy.com/index.html

The Man in the Maze
QRP from Baboquivari Peak, AZ

--
Iitoi

1268. [DXNL] DXNL 1526 (Jul 4, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-04 18:36:18 UTC
From: Robert Busch - DL7VOA <dxnl@dxhf.darc.de>
Message-ID: <992130433.20070704203255@dxhf.darc.de>
Source record: 4173
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.dx,rec.radio.info

DXNL 1526 - Jul 4, 2007
DX Newsletter

a free and weekly service of
DARC Committee "DX and HF contesting"
(http://www.darcdxhf.de)

editor: Helmut Schlaffer, DL7MAE
(e-mail: dxnl@dxhf.darc.de)

translation by: Bob, DL7VOA
(e-mail: dl7voa@darc.de)

A2 - BOTSWANA
Frosty,K5LBU, is the organizer of a DXpedition to Botswana which is going to hit the airwaves from Jul 6-20. His call will be A25CF, the other participants John,A25OOK (GM3OOK), Wayne,A25KDJ (W5KDJ), Jay,A25SL (W5SL), Lee,A25LT (WA8QFE), Dick,A25BUN (ZS6BUN), Dan,A25DW (ZS6JR), Jan,A25OB (ZS6OB), and Hal,A25HL (ZS6WB). During the IARU HF World Championship Contest (Jul 14/15) they will use the special call A25HQ. The QSL route for A25OOK is via M5AAV, all other QSLs should be sent to the appropriate homecalls. They will be QRV in in CW/SSB/digi modes on 6-160m and via EME on 2m/70cm, antennas include a 22m vertical for 80m/160m and a 4 square array for 40m.
More information can be found at: http://www.tdxs.net/A2.html
These operating frequencies have been announced (in MHz):
SSB/TX SSB/RX CW/TX
1.840 1.845-1.850 1.816-1.825
3.790 3.800-3.810 3.516
7.075 7.185-7.195 7.016
14.220 14.225-14.230 10.116
14.265 14.270-14.275 14.026
18.145 18.150-18.155 18.076
21.270 21.275-21.280 21.026
24.935 24.940-24.945 24.895-24.926
28.450 28.455-28.460 28.026
50.110 50.110 50.096
In CW they are going to listen 5-10 kHz up.

CE - CHILE
Claudio,CE1VIL, is very active as 3G100S until Aug 1 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the scout movement in Chile.
QSL via bureau or direct to XQ1KY.

CN - MOROCCO
Claude,F5OGE, will be active as CN2GE/m making a roundtrip through
Morocco from Jul 13-29. His trip starts in Tangier and will lead him
to Rabat, Marrakech, Benni Mellal, Fes, Tetouane and back to Tangier.
Claude will be QRV mainly in CW/SSB on 7 and 14 MHz during the early
morning or late evening hours. QSLs direct or via bureau to F5OGE.

DU - PHILIPPINES
Chris,VK3FY/DU1, will be QRV from Luzon (OC-042) from Jul 5-9.
He might show up also as VK3FY/DU8 from Mindanao (OC-130) and maybe
also from OC-235 if he finds some transportation possibilities.

J8 - ST VINCENT, NA-109
J8/W6JKV is active on the air until Jul 11. This operation takes place
on the "magic band" (6m) only. QSL via homecall.

OJ0 - MARKET REEF, EU-053
While OJ0/OH3RM (QSL via homecall) and OJ0VR (QSL via OH1VR) should be
active until July 3, the calls of the next DXpedition to Market Reef
taking place from Jul 5-9 (see last DXNL) have been announced lately:
Peter,SM0BSO, Stellan,SM0LQB, Jan,SM5XGJ, Eric,SM1TDE, and Lars,OH0RJ,
will run 3-4 stations in CW/SSB/digital on 2-160m signing OJ0/homecall.

PJ2 - NETHERLAND ANTILLES, CURACAO, SA-006 (WLOTA LH 0942)
Jan,PJ2/DJ8NK, Carsten,PJ2/DL6LAU, and Joachim,PJ2/DL8OBQ, will be QRV
from Curacao Island (SA-006) from Jul 9-16. They will sign PJ2HQ during
the IARU HF World Championship on Jul 14/15.
QSLs via the operator's homecalls, PJ2HQ via N9AG or LotW.

Salvatore,PJ2/DH7SA, will show up on the bands also from Jul 9-16.
QSL via homecall.

SV5 - DODEKANES, EU-001
SX5RHO is a special event station during the "12th Island Games" active
in all modes on all bands until Jul 7. QSLs will be sent automatically
via the bureau and the manager SV5FRD will upload the logs to the LotW.

V2 - ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA, NA-100
Frank,K3TRM, is working in SSB/CW/RTTY on 80-6m signing V26RM from
Jul 4-10. Furthermore he was the first one to obtain a license for 60m.

YA - AFGHANISTAN
Dejan,YA/9A4ZD, is a new operator in Afghanistan. He has been spotted
on 20m (14.300 MHz) and 17m (18.130 MHz) already. QSLs via homecall.

4O - MONTENEGRO
David,OK1FJD, is going to be QRV as 4O6DJ on 6-160m from Jul 7-14.
QSL via OK6DJ.

5X - UGANDA / UA4WHX QRT
Uganda was the last stop of the trip of Vlad,UA4WHX. After logging
more than 310.000 QSOs from 21 African DXCC entities in 26 months
Vlad released his QSL guidelines now. Vlad held the following calls:
3DA0VB, 4K0VB, 4L0B, 5H3VMB, 5H3VMB/3 (AF-075), 5H3VMB/5 (AF-074),

5R8VB, 5X1VB, 5Z4/UA4WHX, 5Z4/UA4WHX/p (AF-067), 5Z4BU, 7P8VB, 7Q7VB,
9J2VB, 9U0VB, 9X0VB, A25VB, C91VB, C91VB/4 (AF-103), C91VB/6 (AF-088),
D20VB, D60VB, J20VB, OD5/UA4WHX, ST2KSS, ST2VB, V51VV, V51VV/p (AF-070)
and Z2/UA4WHX. These are his QSL guidelines:
1) Vlad accepts QSLs via the Russian QSL bureau, but also shipments
from national QSL bureaus to his private address (Vladimir M. Bykov,
PO Box 2040, Izhevsk, 426000, Russia).
2) However he prefers and recommends direct QSLs.
3) Please send no money bills, only IRCs. Vlad can send up to 7 QSLs
with one IRC.
4) The best choice for Vlad is a deduction via Visa or Mastercard.
Vlad states that this way of billing is 100% safe and is handled by
the "Svezhy Veter Travel Agency".
5) If you had more than one QSO with him, please send only one QSL and
list the other QSOs on an enclosed sheet of paper.
6) Vlad has no computer log. There are only paper logs and a few OMs
will assist him with confirming the QSLs. Vlad will make another
announcement as soon as the shipment of the QSLs has started.

8Q - MALEDIVES, AS-013
Al,JA9APS, will spend his family holidays on the Maldives from Jul 6-9.
Listen for 8Q7NK in SSB/CW/RTTY on 40-6m running a TS-570S into a R8
vertical. QSL via homecall, Narumi Kawai, 1-10-14 Suwanokawara, Toyama,
930-0088 Japan.

HONG KONG, SPECIAL EVENT CALLSIGN
Ten years after Hong Kong has been handed back to the People's Republic
of China all radio amateurs may use the prefix VR10 (instead of VR2)
between July 1,2007, and June 30,2008.

IRELAND, SPECIAL EVENT CALLSIGN
70 years ago the very first commercial transatlantic test flight with
passengers on board flew from Botwood/Newfoundland to Foynes/Ireland.
Members of the Limerick Radio Club (http://www.qsl.net/ei4lrc) will use
the special event call EI70FOY on 10-80m from Jul 6-8. QSL via EI8EM.
More information can be found at: http://www.transatlanticflightpby.com

BELARUS, SPECIAL EVENT CALLSIGN
The oldest town in Belarus is Orha which celebrates its 940th anniver-
sary this year. This is the reason for the activation of EU940OR until
Jul 26. QSL via UA3FDX.

LINKS: The New York Times published a very interesting article about Navassa
which belongs to the US for 150 years now. Please follow this link:
http://www.nytimes.com/2007/06/30/opinion/30widmer.html

Current SOTA activities (mountain summits) are announced at:
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/activations.php or
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/spots.php

UPCOMING CONTESTS

Jul 1: RAC Canada DX RTTY Contest
Jul 7/8: DL DX RTTY Contest, Original QRP Contest
Jul 8: DARC Digital Contest Corona

IOTA collected by Fredy,DE0MST (e-mail: iota@dxhf.darc.de)

Island activities:
EU-034, ES0, Saaremaa County Group: Frank,DL1FT, will show up as ES0FTZ
from Saaremaa Island from Jul 11-21. Please check also his website at:
http://www.funkexpedition.de/estland

NA-073, V3, Corozal/Belize District Group: Dennis,K7BV, will be active from
Caye Caulker from Jul 7-17. The callsign is not known. QSL via W1JJ.

SA-077, PY1, Rio de Janeiro State East Group: A team of seven PY operators
led by OM Lima,PY1NEZ, will be QRV from Santana Island signing PY1ERR/p
from Jul 12-15. QSLs via PY1NEZ, direct or via bureau.

Announced activities for the IOTA Contest 2007 (Jul 28/29):
Callsign Island IOTA

BV9G Lu Tao AS-155
GM2T Tiree EU-008
MM0CPS/p Tiree EU-008
IC8R Procida EU-031
DF7FC/p Langeness EU-042
J48IM Zakynthos EU-052
SV8/HA0IM Zakynthos EU-052
DL5KUD/p Ruegen EU-057
OZ8MW/p Anholt EU-088
CU8T Flores EU-089
EI9JQ Irland EU-115
DA0T/p Neuwerk EU-127
DL5AUA/p Neuwerk EU-127
DL5XAT/p Fehmarn EU-128
DL0KWH/p Usedom EU-129
DR6IOTA Usedom EU-129
PA1BX/p Schouwen Duiveland EU-146
J48IO Proti EU-158
J48YL Proti EU-158
9A9Z/p Pasman EU-170
J48NAR Thassos EU-174
SV8/HA0NAR Thassos EU-174
UX2IQ/p Zmeiny EU-182
UT9IO/p Zmeiny EU-182
UT3IB/p Zmeiny EU-182
K1VSJ/p Martha's Vineyard NA-046
J79RM Dominica NA-101
W6I Anacapa Island NA-144
YB3MM/9 Lombok OC-150
PP5VX Sao Francisco SA-027

Lighthouse activities (ARLHS/WLOTA):

EA7/DH6DAO SPA 219 Jun 30-Jul 13
OJ0/SM1TDE LH 0542/MAR 001 Jul 1-7
IA5/IZ4DYQ LH 0609 Jul 2-13
ES0FTZ LH 1401 Jul 11-21
P40W LH 0033 Jul 14/15
EA8/DF8AA/p LH 2005/CAI-052 Jul 14-28
TO5J LH 1041 Jul 14-28
SG60RK LH 2969 until Dec 31

Bandspots of the last 7 days

80m
OJ0/OH3RM 3.510 2303Z via OH3RM
7U5CI 3.507 2213Z AF-104, via OM3CGN (B)

40m
CQ1C/p 7.032 0725Z via ON4ON (B)
ON7ZM/p 7.013 0719Z (B)
7S100ALA 7.037 2235Z PSK, via SK7CN (B)
7U5CI 7.006 0709Z AF-104, via OM3CGN (B)
9A2AA/p 7.059 1038Z EU-170

30m
LX2007L 10.117 1922Z via LX bureau
7U5CI 10.106 2133Z AF-104, via OM3CGN (B)

20m
DL40RRDXA 14.278 1917Z via DL1YFF (B)
DR9L/p 14.255 0633Z
HB0/DK8OL/p 14.255 1553Z via DK8OL (B)
HZ1MD/p 14.260 2052Z AS-193, via PA2V (B)
J79RM 14.274 2300Z via NA9N
OH0/ON5RZ/p 14.263 0715Z via ON5RZ (B)
OJ0VR 14.195 0753Z EU-053, via OH1VR
PC650EDAM 14.215 0715Z via PD3BL (B)
PJ4/PA3CNX 14.195 0033Z via PA3CNX (B)
SD1B/7 14.262 1519Z EU-138, via DL8AAV (B)
SJ9WL 14.270 1519Z via LA4LKA (B)
SM3LF 14.040 1547Z EU-087, via SM1LF
SV8/DJ5KZ/p 14.060 1107Z
2E0HJD/p 14.290 1134Z
4O3DX 14.283 0627Z via YU1FW (B)

17m
HP2/CX2AM 18.073 2243Z via CX2AM (B)
LX2007L 18.091 0901Z via LX bureau
OH0/DL2GAC 18.127 1011Z via DL2GAC (B)
SJ9WL 18.126 0828Z via LA4LKA (B)
OJ0VR 18.072 0755Z EU-053, via OH1VR
5P5CW 18.072 0857Z via DL5SE
7U5CI 18.151 1126Z via OM3CGN (B)

15m
4O3DX 21.260 1045Z via YU1FW (B)

12m
SV9/DL6NBR 24.950 0821Z via DL6NBR (B)
7U5CI 24.895 1027Z AF-104, via OM3CGN (B)

10m
A52AM 28.497 1606Z via JA0JHA (B)
7U5CI 28.500 1100Z AF-104, via OM3CGN (B)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager

Preview

DATE CALL DXNL

07Sep-24Sep 3B7C 1511
Nov/Dec 3D2AG/Rotuma 1522
-01Aug 3G100S 1526 *
29Aug-2007 3XM6JR 1484
21Jun-05Jul 3V8SS 1524
07Jul-14Jul 4O6DJ 1526 *
-Apr/08 5H0RS 1515
-Apr/08 6W/EA4ATI 1515
01Apr-09Sep 8N3IAAF 1513
06Jul-09Jul 8Q7NK 1526 *
2007 9N7JO 1501

06Jul-20Jul A25CF.. 1526 *
-Apr/09 A52VE 1512
-Nov A61TX 1496
13Jul-29Jul CN2GE/m 1526 *
09Sep-14Sep CQ4IPY 1522
-Feb/08 DP0GVN 1496
06Jul-08Jul EI70FOY 1526 *
2007/2008 EI100S(I) 1501
11Jul-21Jul ES0FTZ 1526 *
-30Nov EW905B 1523
-26Jul EU940OR 1526 *

01Jul-15Jul FV5VDM 1520
Mar/08 FO/Clipperton 1521
29Jun-02Jul HB0/HB9QQ 1525
2006 -2008 J28JA 1484/85
28Jun-05Jul J79RM 1524
-11Jul J8/W6JKV 1526 *
-Aug JA7QVK/DU7 1521
Jul -Aug KH3/W7KFI 1525
27Jun-11Jul N1DL/Pazifik 1525

-Aug OD5/ON4JM 1522
05Jul-09Jul OJ0 1526 *
-30Jul OX3PG 1501
09Jul-16Jul PJ2/DH7SA 1526 *
09Jul-16Jul PJ2/DJ8NK.. 1526 *
03Jul-17Jul SV9/SV1EJD 1525
-07Jul SX5RHO 1526 *
-30Jun TC800YOM 1522
NOW -2008 TL8QC 1459
NOW -Sep TU2/F5LDY 1486

04Jul-10Jul V26RM 1526 *
07Jul-17Jul V3 (K7BV) 1526 *
Jan -Dec VI3SAA 1499
05Jul-09Jul K3FY/DU 1526 *
28Jun-08Jul VP2EREM 1525
Feb/08 VP6DX/Ducie 1521
May -Aug VP6TD 1517
Apr -Jul VQ9JC 1512
-Sep ZD9BCB 1500

* = new or updated
.. = and other calls

QSL information

A25HQ via K5LBU (B)
AO5FKQ via EA5FKQ (B)
CN8ZG via EA7FTR (B)
D2EEX via CT1EEX
EJ/M0HSW via M0HSW
EK3GM via IK2QPR (B)
EU940OR via UA3FDX (B)
HB0/F2JD via F6AJA (B)
HB0/F5JY via F6AJA (B)
HB0/F6BFH via F6AJA (B)
HB0/HB9QQ via HB9QQ (B)
HB0/N6OX via F6AJA (B)
HB0/OK1AVG via OK1AVG
HF90HT via SP2ZBS
HK4OBA via EA5KB (B)
HP2/CX3AN via CX2AM (B)
T80K via JN3JBC (B)
V25TK via G3TKK
V8MQM via W3HNK (*/d)
VE2IDX via VA3YDX (d)
VF0X via VE3IKV
VK4FAQ via DF6FJ
VK4TPT (d)
VP2EDH via W7XU (B)
VP2EREM via WB2REM (B)
VR10XMQ via VR2XMQ (B)

XE2HUM (d)
XU7AAJ via IW3SNW (d)
ZB2FX via G3RFX (B)
3A/N6PF via N6PF
3G100S via XQ1KY
4O3DX via YU1FW (B)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = Logbook of the World (LotW)

QSLs arrived direct: 4W6GH (via CT1EGH, several months),
N8S (via GDXF QSL service)

QSLs arrived via buro: A45WD (via YO9HP), A6/OD5TX (W4SJ), A61AX (SP9MRO),
C50I (EA3BT), D2DX (OH2BAD), DP1ANF (RK1PWA),
FS/DL2AU (DL7UFR), HZ1AN (DJ6ZB), J5UTM (HA7TM),
N6ZZ/6Y5, P29VR (W7LFA), R1MVW (UA2FF), V5/DL8JS,
V55OP/p (IZ8EDJ), XU7TAS, ZD8A (N6CW), 5H1CM (DL7CM),
8R1K (via OH0XX)

Many thanks for contributing to this issue of the DXNL are going to:
Carl Smith (QRZ DX), 425DXNews, OPDX Bulletin, DF6EX (fuer WIN-QSL), DH6DAO,
DJ5AV, DJ9ZB, DK8JB, DL1SBF, DL2BQV, DL3IE, DL7VOA, F5NQL,K5LBU,NN7A,PY1NEZ.

The German PDF version can be found on the DARC homepage at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/bulls/dxmb/2007/dxmb1526.pdf

_____
Subscribe or unsubscribe to the DXNL mailing list yourself at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedxms.htm

1269. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1560 - July 6, 2007 - Prefeed - Final

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-06 09:58:50 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <E1I6k0K-0001sA-Qs@elasmtp-banded.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 4174
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1560 - July 6, 2007

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1560 with a
release date of Friday, July 6, 2007 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. The mystery signal that
put space shuttle video on a Chicago baby monitor
did come from ham radio. Also, North Carolina's
governor signs a ham radio antenna protection
bill, D STAR goes into space and Amateur Radio
Newsline announces its choice for 2007 Young Ham
of the Year. Find out who gets a free trip to
Spacecamp this year on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm)
report number 1560 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: ME AND MY BABY - MONITOR - MYSTERY SOLVED

Ham radio is responsible for the NASA video seen
over an Illinois mothers baby monitor during the
recently concluded STS 117 space shuttle
flight. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, reports:

--

A radio club in Schaumburg, Illinois says it is
likely responsible for the NASA spaceflight video
over baby monitor. But it turns out that the
signal seen only by suburban Chicago teacher
Natalie Meilinger was not on 2.4 GHz as originally thought.

It happened this way. The club was
re-transmitting STS 117 mission video on
it's 910.25 MHz amateur television
repeater. The system runs 100 watts out into a
par of horizontal yagis. These antennas are at
70 feet with one pointed north and the other to the west.

And it turns out that not all baby monitors
operate on 2.4 GHz as everyone first
thought. Some are in the 900 Mhz spectrum while
others are dual band units. If you do the math
it mean that a more than receivable signal could

easily reach the Meilinger home and be displayed on the monitor receiver.

So why was no I-D noted by the Meilinger family? During the mission the transmitter had the call sign K9MOT displayed in the lower right corner of active video every 10 minutes - per FCC identification regulations. Any properly aligned video monitor like those used in Amateur Television stations would have displayed it because the I-D fell inside what broadcast engineers call the video safe zone. That's the screen area you are supposed to see in off air television viewing.

But a baby monitor is not a broadcast quality monitor. In reality, most are low-end consumer products that tend to overscan the picture tube face. That's fine for watching the kids at play but not for trying to see the whole picture. And that was likely the case with Natalie Meilinger's baby monitor as well.

The K9MOT identifier was there, but the baby monitor had to much picture width. That put it out of the picture area her unit could display so she and anyone else looking at the monitor screen couldn't see it.

Mystery solved thanks to some good sleuthing on the part of some Illinois hams.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the studio in Los Angeles.

--

By the way, this is the 5th year the club has been re-broadcasting NASA video over its K9MOT repeater but only the first time to their knowledge that its been received by a non ham. (ARNewsline(tm) with information provided by K1ATV and others)

**

RADIO LAW: N.C. ENACTS HAM RADIO ANTENNA PROTECTION LAW

North Carolina is the latest state to adopt legislation that guarantees most hams can erect and use antennas. Amateur Radio Newsline's

On Friday, June 29th, North Carolina Governor Mike Easley signed HB1340, also known the "Amateur Radio Antenna bill" into law. The measure which is crafted to follow the guidelines set forth in the FCC's Federal Preemption Order PRB-1. It permits antennas up to 90 feet in height in areas regulated solely by municipal ordinances.

However like in other states, the North Carolina measure does not override those Conditions, Covenants and Restrictions which might preclude antennas or even the ownership or use of radio transmitting gear by those who have signed deeds with those restrictions built in. Such CCR's are still deemed to be personal contracts between a buyer and a seller. As such, they remain outside the realm of federal or state regulation. They were also specifically excluded when PRB-1 was enacted.

The North Carolina bill was introduced in February. It passed unanimously in both the House and the Senate and takes effect October 1st. With this action, North Carolina becomes the 25th state to enact laws that guarantee the rights of its ham radio operators to have the antennas they need to go on the air. (N2COP)

**

RESCUE RADIO: BARSTOW CA SHERIFF WANTS HAMS FOR EMCOMMS

A California Sheriff is recruiting ham radio operators in Barstow. This, to be a part of a local emergency communication system. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, has more:

--

Sgt. Tim Lotspeich, KI6GH, of the Barstow sheriff station says that he watched as hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans. He also saw that it was Amateur Radio operators who rushed in to take over for the crippled the high tech communication system left in ruins the storm's wake.

That's when Lotspeich decided to adopt the old technology of ham radios into a new emergency-communication program in the California's High Desert. He also notes that during the fires in the San Bernardino mountains, it is always Amateur Radio operators who have traditionally helped fire officials with communications. KI6GH wants to expand that role.

KI6GH notes that there are a couple hundred people in the Barstow area are licensed radio amateurs. He is hoping to get about 10 of them to volunteer.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, reporting from Los Angeles..

--

Anyone interested in volunteering can contact
Sargent Lotspeich by e-mail to deputysheriff@verizon.net (Desert Dispatch)

**

RESCUE RADIO: RAYNET ACTIVATES AS STORMS HIT GREAT BRITAIN

In emergency communications news from around the
world, word that RAYNET groups in many parts
of Great Britain were placed on standby last
weekend. This, as torrential rains caused rivers to overflow.

The Radio Society of Great Britain's Sheffield
and Rotherham RAYNET groups were called out on
Sunday, June 24th to provide point to point
communications. They operated for two days
before finally standing down on Tuesday evening, June 26th.

Net control station operator Mark Harrison,
G6NVT, commented that it had been an exhausting
30 hours for the ham radio volunteers. RAYNET is
the U-K equivalent of our A-R-E-S and RACES, combined. (GB2RS)

**

RESCUE RADIO: GERMANY TRAINS INDIA'S EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS HAMS

An Emergency Communications training session has
been held in Vorarlberg, Austria. This, to
assist hams from India in learning the required techniques.

Eight hams from India selected by that nations
selected by National Institute of Amateur Radio
took part in the training sessions. Participants
from India included VU2MY, VU2JMA, VU2YOR, VU2SAX, VU2JOS and VU2MYH.

The Vorarlberg regional section of the Austrian
Amateur Radio Federation organized a four day
training exercise that was carried out by
Austrian and one German radio amateurs. The event
was featured in news reports by Austrian television.

The decision to send the hams to this special
emergency communications training event was
supported by many leading politicians of India. (DL3SBB)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: D-STAR RELAYED THROUGH AO-27

D-STAR has gone into space. Well at least a
D-STAR signal has and it has been successfully
relayed back to mother Earth by a ham radio satellite.

On July 1st, during the 20:00 UTC pass over North
America, the AO-27 Easy Sat ham radio satellite

was used by Michael Wyrick, N3UC, in Haymarket
Virginia and Robin Cutshaw, AA4RC, in Atlanta
Georgia, for what's believed to be the first
ever space relay communications using D-STAR radios at both ends of the
path.

All radios used in this contact were made by
Icom. IC-2200's were utilized on the uplink by
both N3UC and AA4RC. On the downlink side N3UC
used an IC-2820 while at AA4RC it was an IC-91AD.

Doppler shift did prove to be a minor
problem. Even so, the digital QSO was completed with comparative ease.

Thirteen years ago, AO-27 became the first Easy
Sat by putting an FM repeater in space. One that
has provided many hams the ability to
use satellite relay without the expense of multi
mode radios. Now that same bird has proven that
D-STAR can also be relayed through its on-orbit
system and opening up a whole new world of
digital ham radio in space for anyone with D-STAR
gear to enjoy. And according to N3UC, the AO-27
control operators fully support and encourage the
use of D-STAR via satellite on that ham radio bird. (WB9QZB, KA9SCF)

**

Break 1

From the United States of America, We are the
Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin
stations around the world including the W4GSO
repeater serving Greensboro, North Carolina.

(5 sec pause here)

**

TECHNOLOGY FRONT: D-STAR FIRST EVER NATIONAL MEETING

Still on the subject of D-STAR, an event for
enthusiasts of this emerging technology has been
announced to be held in conjunction with the
upcoming Huntsville Hamfest and ARRL National
Convention. This, with word that the first-ever
national meeting of D-STAR users will be held in
Huntsville, Alabama. Amateur Radio Newsline's
David Black, KB4KCH, is at our South-East Bureau
in nearby Birmingham with more:

--

The first-ever national gathering of D-STAR users is set for the Embassy Suites Hotel adjacent the Von Braun Center, the traditional home of the Huntsville Hamfest and this year's ARRL National Convention.

The meeting takes place Saturday August 18th, from 6 until 8 P.M. It will allow hams involved and interested in D-STAR to gather with counterparts from across the U-S. Some of the topics to be covered will include emerging D-STAR networks, innovations, new ideas, hardware and the fun side of D-STAR operation. Refreshments, door prizes and handouts are planned. Huntsville will also be the site of GAREC, the Global Amateur Radio Emergency Conference, set for August 16th and 17th at the Embassy Suites. Greg Sarratt, W4OZK, is the ARRL's Section Manager for Alabama and a D-STAR promoter:

--

W4OZK: "It is bringing a lot of world wide players in one room, so we can get to know one another, build relationships and swap ideas. We are also going to do a D-STAR presentation for 'em."
--

And what better place for that to occur than in Alabama, which Sarratt sez is setting the pace for other states to follow in implementing D-STAR:

W4OZK: "I am really proud of the fact that Alabama leads the nation in the number of D-STAR systems, the number of repeaters. users and activity."

--

More and more Alabama ham repeaters are taking their first steps to digital by augmenting traditional F-M operation with D-STAR. The state also hosts the fastest growing D-STAR user community anywhere in the nation. D-STAR, Digital Smart Technologies for Amateur Radio, is a new frontier for hams. It was born from research by the Japan Amateur Radio League investigating digital technologies for ham radio. D-STAR is a digital voice and data protocol specification developed for use on VHF and UHF Amateur Radio frequencies.

In addition to the over-the-air protocol using D-STAR compliant radios, D-STAR also provides specifications for network connectivity -- that enables these next generation radios to be connected to the Internet or other networks. And

because of the growing interest among VHF and UHF relay enthusiasts, three D-STAR forums are planned during the Huntsville Hamfest in addition to the national users meeting. A D-STAR Hamfest booth and demonstrations of the technology are also planned.

With D-STAR likely to become the successor to today's analog F-M repeaters, whether you just want to learn the basics, or whether you're wanting to take the technology further, the Huntsville Hamfest promises D-STAR opportunities galore.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm David Black, KB4KCH, at the Southeast Bureau in Birmingham, Alabama.

--

Again, that's Saturday, August 18th, from 6 to 8 P.M. local time for the first-ever National D-STAR Users Meeting at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Huntsville, Alabama. We hope to see you there.

Information on additional events, hotels and hamfest can be found at: www.arrl.org/announce/nc/2007/huntsville.html, http://www.hamfest.org/ and www.arrl-al.org/Alabama_link.htm (ARNewsline(tm), WB9QZB, W4OZK)

**

ENFORCEMENT: 10 METER UNLICENSED TRUCKER DINGED BY THE FCC

A follow-up to our story two weeks ago about the invasion of 10 meters by Freeband operators and truckers using illegal C-B radio gear. The FCC has now acted in one case where truckers have been found to have illegally taken up operation on 28.085 MHz and is warning the company it will face stiff fines if the pirate operation does not cease.

The target of the FCC enforcement action is Tennessee Steel Haulers of Nashville, Tennessee. In a letter to the company the FCC says that it has evidence that at least one of Tennessee Steel Haulers drivers had been operating radio equipment on 28.085 MHz without a license and causing interference to licensed stations in the Ten Meter Amateur Band. Specifically that this past May 3rd the driver was observed on Interstate 85 in Gastonia, North Carolina, at 6:40 P.M. while operating the radio gear.

Tennessee Steel Haulers were warned that this type of unlicensed operation is a direct violation of Section 301 of the Communications Act of 1934. The penalty for such operations includes the possibility of seizure of any non-certified radio transmitting equipment along with a hefty fine or even time in jail. The company was also instructed to contact FCC Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth to discuss the issue with him. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: HAMTRONICS RECEIVER INTERFERES WITH SARSAT

The FCC has issued a Citation to a California resident whose U-H-F radio receiver caused accidental interference a radio frequency used by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Henry Feinberg, K2SSQ, reports:

--

In its June 18th notification to Fred Caughell of Bakersfied, the regulatory agency noted that in response to a complaint from NOAA, an investigation by the Enforcement Bureau's Los Angeles Office took place. It revealed that last May 10th Caughell operated a Hamtronics R901 receiver that produced an emission on 406.086 MHz with a field strength greater than the limit allowed under the FCC rules. It also noted that the radiated emission on 406.086 MHz is within the 406.0-406.1 MHz band, which is reserved for use by low power satellite emergency position-indicating radio beacons.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration operates the Search & Rescue Satellite Aided Tracking System better known by the acronym SarSat. That agency had complained to the FCC that a 406.086 MHz signal in Bakersfield had the potential to cause interference to their life-saving system.

In the Citation, Caughell was told that violations of the Communications Act or the Commission's Rules may subject the violator to substantial monetary forfeitures, seizure of equipment and criminal sanctions, including imprisonment. He was also told to call the Los Angeles area FCC office to schedule an interview with a field engineer or to submit a detailed written response within 14 days of the issuance of the Citation order.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Henry Feinberg, K2SSQ.
--

The FCC says that Caughell's response will be
used by the agency to determine if further
enforcement action is required. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: WAYWARD SAFETY LIGHT BRINGS FCC CITATION

A malfunctioning security light has brought a New
Mexico resident a citation from the FCC. In its
June 18th action, the regularity agency wrote to
Fred Grant of Albuquerque citing him for
operating a security light located atop the
garage of his residence that was interfering with
wireless car remote keys being used near his residence.

Agents from the Denver Office investigated the
complaint and found that wireless remotes
operating on 315 MHz did not function in the area
immediately near Grant's residence. The agents
located the interfering signal as coming from
Grant's single family residence. Further
investigation this past May 7th revealed that
the source of the interfering signal was the security light.

Grant was given 14 days from the date of the FCC
action to y request an interview at the closest
FCC Office or to submit a written statement to
specify what actions have been taken to correct
the violation . He was also told that any
statement or information provided may be used by
the Commission to determine if further
enforcement action is required. Such action
could include government seizure of the
interfering lighting system and a fine of up to $10,000 for using it.
(FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: YOU CANT USE THOSE REPEATERS

A pair of hams who refused repeater owner
requests to not operate on their systems have
been ordered to comply by the FCC. In two
separate cases the FCC notified Donald Ellis,
KB0TVP, of Sioux Falls, South Dakota and William
Westley, Jr, AF4GC, of New Port Richey, Florida,
that they must not operate on certain repeaters in their geographic areas.

Prior to the FCC acting, Ellis was requested by
the licensees of W0MXW and K0RGR repeaters to

stop from using them. Westley had been asked by the licensee of the W4FLG repeater to stop using that machine. The FCC said it took the enforcement action because neither ham would follow the user operational guidelines as set forth by the licensees and the control operators of the two systems. (FCC)

**

NEW PRODUCTS: RDL INTRODUCED 18 WATT STICK-ON AUDIO AMP

Need some extra audio in a small space? Radio Design Labs is offering the ST-PA18 18-watt utility power amplifier as part of the company's line of Stick-On products. The ST-PA18 features a balanced line-level input that may be connected unbalanced. The gain control range accommodates standard unbalanced levels as well as professional balanced levels. The module bridges the input signal.. Now heres the best part. The bottom adhesive permits permanent or removable mounting. The amplifier can also be used with RDL's racking accessories. More is on line at www.rdlnet.com/ (RW)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: RSGB PRESIDENT AND THE LONDON 10K RUN

Some names in the news. First are RSGB President Angus Annan, MM1CCR, and Financial Controller Marilyn Slade, 2E1GKR, who have taken part in the British London 10K run. The event was held on Sunday the 1st July with the RSGB in support of the British Wireless for the Blind organization. More is on-line at www.blind.org.uk. (GB2RS)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: VK5ZAI NAMED AUSTRALIAN ARISS COORDINATOR

And congratulations Tony Hutchison, VK5ZAI, who has been named to the newly created WIA board position of Australian National Coordinator for Amateur Radio on the International Space Station. The official recognition of Hutchison's work took place at the recent Wireless Institute of Australia annual meeting. That's where he had gone to addresses board members with an outline of the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station educational program and its aims. (K1STO)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

WORLDBEAT - HUNGARY: TEMPORARY 70 MHZ ALLOCATION APPROVED

Hams in Hungary have a new albeit temporary band to experiment on. This, with word that the nations telecommunications regulator has issued an experimental radio license to the Haros Radioklub which permits radio use of the Region 1 exclusive 70 MHz band for a period of 30 days that began on July 1st.

The license permits 30 Hungarian hams from the club to use the frequency range of 70.000 to 70.500 MHz, using all operating modes. This means CW, SSB, narrow band FM as well as digital modes like JT6M. The maximum effective radiated power is limited to 1 kilowatt.

The aim of the experiment is to study propagation in the 70 MHz band where all commercial FM broadcasting was ended this past February. The long term goal is to contribute to the joint effort to help create a 70 MHz amateur radio service allocation for Hungary and eventually expand it worldwide. (Skywaves, Southgate)

**

CONTEST CORNER: CQ WW VHF CONTEST JULY 21-22

Turning to radio sports news, the 2007 CQ World Wide VHF Contest will take place this year on July 21st to the 22nd. The objectives of this competition is for amateurs around the world to contact as many other hams as possible in the contest period. Its also a vehicle to promote VHF operations, to allow VHF operators the opportunity to experience the enhanced propagation available at this time of year, and for interested amateurs to collect VHF Maidenhead grid locators for awards credits.

All authorized Amateur Radio frequencies on 50 MHz and 144.00 MHz ham radio bands may be used as authorized by local law and license class. The

complete rules appeared in the June issue of CQ
magazine. They are also posted online
http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/VHFContest_Rules200741107.pdf (CQ)

**

DX

In D-X, word that HB9QQ, will operate portable
HB0 from Liechtenstein until 2nd July and again
on July 6th to the 9th. Please use the normal QSL routes for this one.

And PA4JJ, will be active slash 9A from Porec,
Croatia until the 7th of July. He will be
operating mainly on the WARC bands using RTTY and PSK. QSL direct
or via bureau.

Lastly, a Swedish expedition to Market Reef, is
planned to take place from the 5th to 9th
July. Three or four operators will be active
using their home calls portable OJ0. Listen out
for them on 160 to 2 meters using CW, SSB and
digital modes and QSL as directed on the air.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

RADIO HONORS: ARNEWSLINE NAMES GRANT MORINE,
W4GHM, AS 2007 YOUNG HAM OF THE YEAR

Finally this week, A 17 year old from North
Carolina, who carried out a major project to help
hospitals in his hurricane-prone area has been
chosen as the 2007 Amateur Radio Newsline Young
Ham of the Year. Mark Abramovich, NT3V, who
happens to head up the awards judging committee is here with the details:

--

W4GHM: "This is so cool. I'm smiling from ear-to-ear right now."

--

That's Grant Morine of Wilmington, N.C., who was
ecstatic to learn first that he had been
nominated and then recognized as the top
selection of the Young Ham of the Year judges.

Morine is W4GHM, a Technican, and the son of Bill
and Pam Morine. He's going into his senior year
at New Hanover High School's Lyceum Academy where
he's enrolled in several advanced placement courses.

Bill Morine is N2COP and an American Radio Relay
League Public Information Coordinator in Wilmington.

Grant and his dad are active members of the
Carolinas Amateur Radio Emergency Services which
provided the impetus for his Eagle Scout service
project helping the Coastal Carolinas Health Alliance.

That organization covers seventeen hospital
campuses throughout North and South Carolina.

--

W4GHM: "I was looking at the Katrina disaster
down in New Orleans and how there was a lack of
communications and how amateur radio operators
stepped up to the plate down there and helped
relay the emergency traffic," Morine recalls.
"And, I was talking to my dad, who is in on the
CARES and CCHA, and he was saying there's a need
for emergency communications systems in the CCHA.

"So, I said, 'Why can't I build some antennas and
give them out to the 22 hospitals and five Red
Cross chapters?' So I did that, and I made some
spares and I found a design on the Internet - 220Mhz J-pole."

--

Grant, his father, and mentor Paul Magnabosco,
AD4HZ, tweaked the design. Grant says he then
went to the local Lowe's and got them to donate
enough PVC pipe to build 30 antennas.

He says he bought the rest of the materials with
his own money and was reimbursed by the Coastal Carolinas Health Alliance.

Grant says he enlisted a number of fellow Scouts
in Troop 215 in Wilmington to help him build the
antennas and then they were distributed to the
hospitals and Red Cross chapters.

Grant, a National Honor Society member who also
runs track and cross country and plays lacrosse,
says his interest in amateur antennas and how
they work started some six years ago - after he got his ham ticket.

--

W4GHM: "Kids were doing all sorts of weird
projects and such and I had just gotten my
license back in 2001 when I was going into sixth
grade," Morine says. "I remember I was looking
for an idea to do my first science fair project
because I never had to do it before and I was

like, 'Man, this sounds hard.' And, my dad was
like, 'Hey, you just got your ham radio license
and you can operate, you'll be the only kid who
can do that. Why don't you do a topic in ham radio?

"I said, 'All right.' So, the first project, we
made a copper Cactus J-pole and that was the
first science fair project and I got to like it
and I was like, 'Hmm, I can build all sorts of
things that can talk to people all over the world
out of copper piping that a plumber would use. This is pretty cool.'

"So then we started building more and more
antennas and then next year I built it was like
four Quads like made of wood with four copper
wires bent into diagonal cubes, he continues.
"And, then eighth-grade year we got a chili can
and stuck a clothes hanger out of the top and I
can't remember how far we got off that but I
actually won the state science fair with that and I got first place."

--

Grant says he's active when he can be in
emergency communications and likes to rag-chew.

Besides school and ham radio, Grant says Scouting
is a big part of his life. He has served as a
senior patrol leader in his troop, is a
brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow, and
has earned 41 merit badges - 21 of those required for Eagle.

He says he's planning to earn the Bronze, Silver and Gold palms.

Grant says Scouting also has provided him with many great outdoor
experiences.

--

W4GHM: "In 2004, I went to the Philmont National
Scout Ranch out in Cimarron, New Mexico, and I
hiked 74 miles out there in July 2004," Grant
says. "In 2005, I attended the National Scout
Jamboree (outside Winchester, VA) which went on
for 11 days and it let me try so many different
things like scuba-diving, and snorkeling and
kayaking, and it was just a really cool experience."

--

When he grows up and eventually gets married,
Grant says Scouting will continue to be a part of his life.

--

W4GHM "I'm definitely going to put my children,
whether they be boy or girl, into the Scouting
program and I'll probably become a leader in that
because Scouting has given me so much in my life."

--

With high school graduation closing in, Grant says he already has a game
plan.

--

W4GHM: "Right now, I'm looking at attending the
Naval Academy and from there going to Duke Law
School," Grant says. "And, then being a JAG in
the Navy or the Marines, I haven't determined which one, yet.
"And, then I don't know if I'd be a civilian
lawyer or continue to serve in the military. But,
right now, I want to pursue law."

--

Grant says a recent experience solidified his career goal.

--

W4GHM "I went to Boys State recently and I
participated in the Moot Court. And, I passed the
bar there and got sixth highest out of 44 kids.
And, then I won the position of attorney general
and we got to prosecute and defend a make-believe
case about a rape and a murder. I really enjoyed that."

And, finally, what does receiving the Young Ham
of the Year Award mean to Grant?

--

W4GHM "It would mean that in the eyes of the ham
radio community I've done a lot of things as a
youth ham like all the science projects and such
and the Eagle project and that I'm being honored
for it and it's kind of luck a thank you for
promoting the hobby and what we do, especially
when it comes to the emergency services," he
says. "And, I just think it would be a good honor to have."

--

We, the judges, think so, too, Grant. Congratulations!

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, in Philadelphia.

--

As 2007 Young Ham of the Year, Grant Morine, W4GHM, will receive an expense paid trip to the 2007 Huntsvile Hamfest and ARRL National Convention. This, courtesy of corporate underwriter Vertex-Standard corporation which will also present Grant with a gift of the company's Yaesu brand Amateur Radio gear. Grant will also get to spend a week at Spacecamp compliments of corporate underwriter C-Q Magazine. The Huntsville Hamfest and ARRL National Convention is slated for August 18th and 19th at the Von Braun Center in Huntsville, Alabama. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline@arnewsline.org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), P.O. Box 660937, Arcadia, California 91066.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Jim Damron, N8TMW, and I'm Jeff Clark, K8JAC, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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1270. ARNewsline(tm) Names Grant Morine, W4GHM, 2007 the Year

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-06 17:44:55 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <E1I6roy-0006FV-KK@elasmtp-kukur.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 4175
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release (July 5, 2007)

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714-827-7600 / d.motschenbacher@vxstdusa.com
Rich Moseson, (W2VU) / CQ Communications, Inc.
516-681-2922 / w2vu@cq-amateur-radio.com

GRANT H. MORINE, W4GHM, NAMED RECIPIENT OF THE
2007 AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE(tm) "YOUNG HAM OF THE YEAR" AWARD

(Los Angeles, CA) -- Grant H. Morine (W4GHM), a 17-year-old from Wilmington, N.C., has been named the 2007 "Young Ham of the Year," according to ham radio operators and Award Administrator Bill Pasternak (WA6ITF) and Award Committee Chairman Mark Abramowicz (NT3V).

Grant Morine was selected based on his commitment to Amateur Radio along with his work in public service and in promoting the hobby/service to others through the Boy Scouts of America program.

The son of Bill (N2COP) and Pamela Morine, and the brother of Reid, W4RSM, Grant was first licensed in June of 2001 at age 10 and holds a Technician class license. He was nominated largely based on a far-reaching public service project he spearheaded to earn the rank of Eagle Scout, which was to construct and donate thirty (30) 220 MHz. J-Pole antennas to the CARES (Carolinas Amateur Radio Emergency Services). The antennas are indoor back-ups for the CARES network of hospitals in some of the storm-prone coastal Carolinas.

To make this project a reality, Grant successfully solicited the donation of the needed raw materials from the Orchard Supply Hardware Company. He then organized a group of three adults and ten scouts to assemble the antenna systems at his home. After completion, each was tested for proper performance before being handed over to CARES managers in October 2006 for distribution to the needed locations.

Grant's antennas were recently proofed by CARES when they were utilized in test run in South Carolina.

Antenna design and construction is not new to Grant Morine. In 2006, he took First Place in the North Carolina Science Fair with an environmentally inspired project that he called "Can Homemade Antennas Made From Recyclable Materials Work As Well As Commercially Made Antennas?" He proved that they could by designing and constructing a dual-band 2 meter and 70 cm antenna from a steel can, a soda can and a wire coat hanger. Grant had previously won county and regional science fairs in 7th and 8th grades, also using ham radio antenna projects.

Aside from ham radio, Grant has served as a Page in the North Carolina legislature in the summer of 2006; he was also appointed by County Commissioners in 2006 to serve on the Junior Crime Prevention Council of New Hanover County. During his tenure he was the sole representative under age 18 on this government panel.

Grant is currently in his senior year at the Lyceum Academy which is best described as a school within a school. It was created in 1998 by educator Gordon Massengill at New Hanover High School in Wilmington, North Carolina and trains Junior and Senior high school students in an accelerated college preparatory program. (See https://www.edline.net/pages/Lyceum)

For his long-term future, Grant hopes to enroll in the United States Naval Academy, after which he plans to attend Duke University's School of Law with an eye toward a long-term career as a military Judge Advocate General (JAG).

The 2007 Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) "Young Ham of the Year Award" will be presented on Saturday, August 18th, 2007 at the Huntsville Hamfest in Huntsville, Alabama. As the 2007 "Young Ham of the Year," Grant will receive -- courtesy of Vertex-Standard -- an expense-paid trip to the Huntsville Hamfest, along with a gift of Yaesu brand ham radio equipment. CQ magazine will treat him to an expense-paid week at Spacecamp Huntsville, and will present him with a variety of CQ products. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) will provide Grant with a commemorative plaque at the award ceremony. Once again, the cost of year's plaque has been underwritten by Dave Bell (W6AQ), President of DBA Entertainment Inc., Hollywood California.

The presentation of the award as a regular feature of the Huntsville Hamfest has been made possible through the generosity and kindness of the event's Planning Committee. This year's Huntsville Hamfest also hosts the 2007 ARRL National Convention. In addition, the International Amateur Radio Union's Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference (GAREC-07) will take place in conjunction with the Huntsville Hamfest. (See http://www.hamfest.org)

This year's award ceremony will be co-hosted by Bill Pasternak (WA6ITF) and Don Wilbanks (AE5DW) of Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) along with representatives of corporate underwriters Vertex-Standard and CQ Communications, Inc.

Award Program Background

The Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) "Young Ham of the Year" award program, (formerly the Westlink Report Young Ham of the Year Award) is now entering its 21st consecutive year. It is presented annually to a licensed radio amateur (Ham) who is 18 years of age or younger and who has provided outstanding service to the nation, his/her community or the betterment of the state of the art in communications through the Amateur Radio hobby/service. It maintains a website will full information on the award program and background material located at http://www.yhoty.org.

Award Sponsors

The award program is jointly sponsored by the Los Angeles, California-based Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) with corporate support from Vertex-Standard Corporation of Cerritos, California and CQ Magazine of Hicksville, NY.

Since 1976, Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) and its predecessor, the Westlink Radio Network, have been providing radio amateurs around the world with up-to-the-minute news at no cost to them. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) also sponsors the "Roy Neal, K6DUE, Amateur Radio Mentoring Project" that serves as a clearinghouse to match radio amateurs in need of educational assistance on the hobby with those able to aid them. (See http://www.arnewsline.org)

The awards two corporate underwriters are world leaders in their respective areas of Amateur Radio product support.

Vertex-Standard Corporation is considered the trailblazer in the design, manufacture and distribution of high quality Vertex-Standard commercial two-way radio, monitoring and air-band communications equipment along with its Standard Horizon marine electronics line and Yaesu brand Amateur Radio equipment. The Yaesu name is known world-wide among ham radio aficionados and is synonymous with premium quality ham radio gear. (See http://www.vertexstandard.com)

CQ Magazine and its sister publications, CQ VHF and Popular Communications, are published by CQ Communications, Inc., and are considered the trend-setting publications serving today's modern radio amateur. (See http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com)

Past Recipients

Past recipients of the "ARNewsline Young Ham of the Year Award" include Shawn Alan Wakefield, WK5P, of Bartlesville, OK (1986); David Rosenman, KA9PMK, of Muncie, IN (1987); Jonathan Binstock, NK3D, of Potomac, MD (1988); Erin McGinnis, KAOWTE, of Topeka, KS (1989); Mary

Alestra, KB2IGG, of Staten Island, NY (1990); Richard S. "Sammy" Garrett, AAOCR, of St. Louis, MO (1991); Angela (Angie) Fischer, KBOHXY, also of St. Louis (1992); Kevin Boudreaux, N5XMH, of New Orleans, LA (1993); Allison Daneen Zettwoch, KD4CKP, of Louisville KY (1994); Adam Weyhaupt, N9MEZ, of Alton IL (1995); Toby Metz, KB7UIM, of Boise ID (1996); Brian Mileshosky, N5ZGT, of Albuquerque NM (1997); Richard Paczkowski, Jr., KF4BIA, of Edgewater, FL (1998); Michelle Swann, KE4EZI, of Warner-Robins, GA (1999); Christopher Arthur, KT4XA, of Russelville, AL (2000); Patrick Clark, KC8BFD, of Elkwood, WV (2001); Josh Abramowicz, KB3GWY, of Reading, PA (2002); Jay Thompson, W6JAY, of Santa Ana, CA (2003); Andrea Hartlage, KB4IUM, of Grayson, GA (2004), and Rebekah Dorff, WG4Y, of Hoover, AL (2005), Catherine Ferry, NC8F, of Streetville, OH. (2006).

-30-

1271. IARU Championship NOT this weekend

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-06 21:25:13 UTC
From: Iitoi <Iitoi@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <f6mbji$i8d$1@aioe.org>
Source record: 4176

> [Original Message]

> From: ARRL Web site <memberlist@www.arrl.org>

> Date: 7/5/2007 10:20:18 PM

> Subject: ARLD027 DX news

>

> [severe clippage]

>

>

> THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The IARU HF World Championship....

The Championship is NOT this weekend. It is next weekend.....

Check ARRL website for correct info.

The Man in the Maze

QRX from Baboquivari Peak, AZ

--

Iitoi

1272. Re: IARU Championship NOT this weekend

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-07 03:32:27 UTC
From: litoi <litoi@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <f6mcpdljm1@aioe.org>
Source record: 4177

SB DX @ ARL $ARLD028
ARLD028 Correction to ARLD027

ZCZC AE28
QST de W1AW
DX Bulletin 28 ARLD028
>From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT July 6, 2007
To all radio amateurs

SB DX ARL ARLD028
ARLD028 Correction to ARLD027

DX Bulletin ARLD027 incorrectly listed the IARU HF World Championship for this coming weekend. The correct dates are July 14-15. Good luck to all participants.
NNNN
/EX

1273. New website and webpage

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-07 03:34:53 UTC
From: lapdog <jeabwjw@yahoo.com>
Message-ID: <1183769814.966681.116380@o61g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4178

I just added a new project webpage that has a lot of projects/info on
it.
Go to the projects link.
Check it out at: http://www.amateurradios.info

Thanks,
Bill

1274. The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 27 (Friday, July 6, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-07 05:09:54 UTC
From: ARRL Letter Mailing List <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <200707070458.l674wERi010172@linux11676.dn.net>
Source record: 4179
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter
Vol. 26, No. 27
July 06, 2007
****

IN THIS EDITION:

* + FCC Responds to ARRL's BPL Brief
* + Huntsville to Host Global EmComm Conference in August
* + ARRL In Action: What Have We Been Up to Lately?
* + Amateurs Play Key Role in Tennessee Earthquake Exercise
* + North Carolina Eagle Scout Named 2007's Young Ham of the Year
* + New Section Manager Appointed in Sacramento Valley
* Solar Update
* IN BRIEF:
This Weekend on the Radio
ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Course Registration
+ Solar Flux to Bottom Out This Month as Cycle 24 Gets Closer
+ Get Ready for the IARU HF World Championship, July 14-15
Walt Legowski, WA1KKM, wins June QST Cover Plaque Award
ARRL VEC Team Keeps Busy!
Emma Berg, W0JUV/AAR7AX (SK)
Let Us Know
Corrections and Clarifications

+Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/>

==========
==>Delivery problems: First see FAQ
<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/faq.html#nodelivery>, then e-mail
<letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
==>Editorial questions or comments only: S. Khrystyne Keane,
<k1sfa@arrl.org>
==========

==> FCC Responds to ARRL's BPL Brief

On Monday, July 2, the FCC filed its reply brief with the US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. The FCC attempted to rebut the ARRL's challenge to the FCC's Broadband over Power Line (BPL) rules enacted in late 2004 and affirmed by the agency in 2006. According to ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, "The FCC's brief does not accurately describe ARRL's arguments concerning harmful interference."

Given what is in essence a 100 percent probability of interference from BPL systems to fixed and mobile HF facilities at significant distances from power lines, Imlay said Section 301 of the Communications Act does not allow unlicensed BPL systems to operate in the HF bands. "Basically, Section 301 says you can not operate a radio frequency emitting device without a license. The legislative purpose of Section 301 is clearly to avoid interference. FCC's Part 15 rules have assumed that certain very low power devices and systems can operate without predictable interference, thus allowing them to operate without a license, notwithstanding Section 301. But with BPL, the FCC has ignored conclusive record evidence which shows that there will be, and in fact our experience conclusively demonstrates, that BPL causes severe interference to licensed services," Imlay said.

The FCC claims that it has the authority to permit unlicensed BPL under Section 302 of the Act; this section allows the FCC to regulate the interference potential of RF devices. What Section 302 does not do, Imlay said, is to create a loophole in, or modify, or invalidate Section 301.

"It is the ARRL's position," Imlay said, "that the FCC can regulate and authorize BPL with certain safeguards, consistent with the terms of Section 301; however, the FCC simply cannot honestly maintain the position that BPL has an inherently low interference potential. It has a high interference potential, and the rules they have enacted to date are woefully inadequate and insufficient to address it." The ARRL has long maintained that BPL, when not adequately "notched," causes harmful interference to Amateur Radio operations. In its brief, the FCC claims BPL does not cause significant interference and the Courts must defer to the FCC's expertise to decide this issue.

ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, said, "The FCC misrepresents the ARRL's position as being that the FCC has no authority to allow unlicensed devices that pose any risk whatsoever of causing interference to licensed services. That's not our position at all. Our position is that the FCC possessed clear evidence, at the time it made its BPL decisions, that the limits it was adopting would allow the deployment of BPL systems with a near-100 percent probability of causing harmful interference to radio receivers hundreds of feet from the power lines. Yet, despite this evidence it characterized the likelihood of harmful interference as 'low.'"

The brief goes on to say that, in the FCC's view, mobile stations and fixed stations are protected against harmful interference from BPL. But with respect to mobile stations complaining of interference, the FCC requires only that BPL operators reduce the radiated emission levels to 20 dB below the Part 15 maximum levels for radiated emissions. This, in the HF bands, still permits BPL noise at levels that preclude communications entirely. It offers mobile stations no protection whatsoever, Imlay stated.

Sumner explained, "The FCC claims that it continues to protect mobile stations from harmful interference, but it does so simply by defining

whatever interference a mobile station might encounter from a notched BPL system as not harmful! None of the steps to limit the interference potential of BPL systems that the FCC took in this rulemaking proceeding reduce the likelihood of interference to the amateur service, and to this day the FCC has declined to enforce its rules even when protracted violations and interference have been documented."

The FCC's brief also attempted to justify its presumption that a BPL radiated interfering signal decays at a rate of 40 dB per decade of distance. "A 'decade of distance' is a factor of 10," Imlay explained. "For example, if a victim receiver moves from 3-30 feet from the power lines (10 times farther away), that is one decade of distance. For each decade of distance, the FCC believes that there is a 40 dB signal decay. In the HF bands, however, the evidence in the record shows that the signal decay is closer to 20 dB than 40 dB per decade of distance from the power lines. The FCC's brief claimed that there was conflicting evidence on the subject, but ARRL's view is that the FCC merely avoided consideration of the overwhelming evidence favoring the more conservative decay factor."

Imlay said the ARRL has asked the Court to order the FCC to "rethink the rules governing BPL and for the first time to take into account the evidence on the record concerning harmful interference to Amateur Radio." ARRL's reply brief is due for filing with the Court July 28, 2007. There is no date set yet for oral argument before the three-judge panel in Washington, DC.

==> Huntsville to Host Global EmComm Conference in August

The 2007 Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference (GAREC-07) is scheduled for Thursday and Friday, August 16-17 in Huntsville, Alabama. GAREC-07 registrants will participate in emergency communications-themed presentations, discussions and demonstrations. The conference will be held just before the 2007 ARRL National Convention and annual Huntsville Hamfest, which take place on Saturday and Sunday, August 18-19.

In 2005, current IARU Region 1 Emergency Communications Coordinator Seppo Sisatto, OH1VR, organized the first GAREC meeting in Tampere, Finland. Tampere was the site of a 1998 intergovernmental meeting where the Tampere Convention was adopted -- an international treaty that facilitates the use of telecommunications in humanitarian assistance. In 2006, GAREC met in Tampere for the second time, in connection with the International Conference on Emergency Communications (ICEC-2006) and the United Nations Working Group on Emergency Telecommunications.

According to IARU International Coordinator for Emergency Communications Hans Zimmermann, F5VKP/HB9AQS, "...GAREC wants to be a forum for the exchange of information. Many IARU Member Societies and specialized emergency communications groups have developed and implemented emergency concepts. Many others want to benefit from their technical, operational and, not the least, their administrative or even 'political' experiences

when establishing the necessary cooperation with partners in emergency and disaster response. GAREC also developed new concepts, such as the 'Center of Activity Frequencies,' meanwhile adopted by the IARU Region 1 and 3 conferences."

The packed GAREC-07 agenda includes reviews of advanced digital technologies and their applications to emergency telecommunications. The ARRL Alabama Section, Zimmermann said, "leads the way" with respect to D-STAR repeater systems, activities and users. There will also be a demonstration of the Automatic Packet Reporting System (APRS), another capability of the Amateur Radio Services. Zimmermann noted, "A demonstration of [APRS'] capabilities found much interest among the delegates of the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in Turkey last November."

Zimmermann added that EchoLink and eQSO are "yet more such tools, and specialized groups have developed emergency applications for these modes. More technologies are being developed or have become available already. The two days in August will be packed with practical information, and experts will arrange demonstrations of the capabilities of 21st century Amateur Radio!" Emergency communication vehicles and equipment will be on hand throughout the conference.

Details for GAREC-2007 are now being finalized. Information about GAREC-07 and the related events is available at these Web sites: <http://www.arrl-al.org/GAREC07.htm> and <http://www.iaru.org/emergency/. The sites will be updated as more information becomes available. To register for GAREC-07, please see the registration page <https://www.arrl.org/forms/misc/garec07.html>. GAREC-07's tentative agenda <http://www.arrl-al.org/garec_schedule.htm>is also available.

==> ARRL In Action: What Have We Been Up to Lately?

In June, ARRL HQ staffers, officers and directors were busy. ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, expressed his appreciation to Arkansas Senator Mark Pryor after the senator introduced a BPL-related bill in the US Senate. ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH, oversaw the installation of the Diamond Terrace at ARRL Headquarters. Several members of the ARRL HQ staff, area hams and out of state visitors activated W1AW during Field Day weekend.

The ARRL sent out more than 100 letters to repeater owners/trustees who have repeaters affected by the Pave Paws radars. The letters provided an update on the ongoing negotiations with the US Air Force. In response, most have reported that they have voluntarily reduced power.

The ARRL Worked All States (WAS) award has been redesigned. The August issue of QST and the July/August issues of QEX and NCJ have been printed and mailed. The 2006 Annual Report is available electronically or, upon request, in printed form.

ARRL Field and Regulation Correspondent Chuck Skolaut, K0BOG, compiled and forwarded the ARRL Monitoring System/Intruder Watch report to the IARU Region 2 Coordinator. US Virgin Islands Section Manager John Ellis, NP2B, is serving as the main liaison between the Hurricane Watch Net and ARRL HQ staff during the 2007 hurricane season.

ARRL Education Project Coordinator Mark Spencer, WA8SME, led two Teachers Institutes, one in Rocklin, California and one in Spokane, Washington. Mark and his wife Doris spent a good part of a week in EmComm support for a local wildfire emergency in Coleville, California, including offering their home as shelter. The Executive Committee has approved seven new grants to Education & Technology Program schools.

The new editions of The ARRL General Class License Manual and General Q&A are available for sale. Jon Bloom, KE3Z, managed the process of switching the massive Logbook of The World QSO repository over to a more robust server. Several staff members helped reorganize the ARRL HQ lobby publications and apparel display.

ARRL HQ staff traveled internationally and domestically promoting and advocating on behalf of Amateur Radio. On behalf of the IARU, ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, took part in a meeting of International Telecommunication Union-Radio Communication Sector (ITU-R) Working Party 1A in Geneva, Switzerland. IARU President Larry Price, W4RA, ARRL Chief Technology Officer Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, and Sumner also took part in a meeting of ITU Working Party 8A in Geneva. Dan Henderson, N1ND, took part in the ARRL Forum at the Georgia State Convention/Atlanta Hamfest, as well as the Iowa State Convention in South Sioux City, Nebraska. Mary Hobart took part in the Northwestern Division Convention at Seaside, Oregon. Katie Breen, W1KRB, attended the New York State Convention in Rochester. David Sumner, Dave Patton, NN1N, and Maria Somma, AB1FM, Joel Harrison, W5ZN, and Rod Stafford, W6ROD,represented the ARRL at HAM RADIO 2007 at Friedrichshafen, Germany. Steve Ewald, WV1X, attended the National Citizen Corps Conference in Alexandria, Virginia. ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, gave a presentation at the West Gulf Division Convention/HamCom 2007 in Plano, Texas.

==> Amateurs Play Key Role in Tennessee Earthquake Exercise

Almost 100 radio amateurs participated in TNCAT '07, the largest and most comprehensive exercise ever conducted by the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency (TEMA). The exercise, conducted over a 3 day period from June 19-21, was based on a presumed 7.7 magnitude earthquake along the New Madrid Seismic Zone.

TEMA's Operations Chief Hank Koebler, Jr, N3ORX, said he was very impressed with the response from the amateur community. "I anticipated a top-notch performance from them, but they exceeded those expectations by far."

Throughout the exercise, ARES and MARS continued to provide the bulk of the emergency communications. At the State Emergency Operations Center

in Nashville, ARES and MARS operators were set up side-by-side to handle the communications load -- ARES handled voice on VHF/UHF and HF links into the disaster area, while MARS handled all Winlink traffic via HF. In the affected counties in West Tennessee, ARES operators performed damage assessments, provided the sole means of communications for the county Emergency Operations Centers and were the communications workhorses for TEMA's Regional Center in Jackson, Tennessee.

==> North Carolina Eagle Scout Named 2007's Young Ham of the Year

Grant H. Morine, W4GHM, a 17 year old from Wilmington, North Carolina, has been named the 2007 Young Ham of the Year (YHOTY), announced YHOTY Award Administrator Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, and Award Committee Chairman Mark Abramowicz, NT3V. Grant was selected based on his commitment to Amateur Radio, along with his work in public service and his promotion of the Amateur Radio Service to others through the Boy Scouts of America. Grant will receive his award as part of the Huntsville Hamfest, held in conjunction with the 2007 ARRL National Convention.

The son of Bill, N2COP, and Pamela Morine, and the brother of Reid, W4RSM, Grant was first licensed in June of 2001 when he was 10; he holds a Technician class license. His nomination told of the public service project that he spearheaded to earn the rank of Eagle Scout -- the construction and donation of 30 220-MHz J-pole antennas to the Carolinas Amateur Radio Emergency Services (CARES). The antennas are indoor back-ups for the CARES network of hospitals, located in some of the storm-prone coastal areas of the Carolinas.

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Aside from ham radio, Grant served as a Page in the North Carolina legislature in the summer of 2006. He was also appointed to serve on the Junior Crime Prevention Council of New Hanover County in 2006 by the County Commissioners. During his tenure, he was the sole representative under age 18 on this government panel.

Grant is currently in his senior year at the Lyceum Academy. Grant hopes to enroll in the United States Naval Academy, after which he plans to attend Duke University's School of Law with an eye toward a long-term career as a military Judge Advocate General (JAG).

The 2007 Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award will be presented on Saturday, August 18, 2007 at the Huntsville Hamfest in Huntsville, Alabama. As the 2007 Young Ham of the Year, Grant will receive a trip to the Huntsville Hamfest, ham radio equipment, various books and magazines and an all-expense-paid week at Spacecamp in Huntsville. Amateur Radio Newsline will award Grant with a commemorative plaque at the ceremony.

The presentation of the YHOTY award is a regular feature of the Huntsville Hamfest and has been made possible through the generosity and kindness of the event's Planning Committee. In addition to the 2007 ARRL National Convention, the International Amateur Radio Union's Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference (GAREC-07) will take place at the Huntsville Hamfest. This year's YHOTY award ceremony will be co-hosted by Pasternak and Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, of Amateur Radio Newsline, along with representatives of corporate underwriters Vertex-Standard and CQ Communications, Inc.

The Amateur Radio Newsline "Young Ham of the Year" award program (formerly the Westlink Report Young Ham of the Year Award), is now entering its 21st consecutive year. It is presented annually to a licensed radio Amateur Radio operator who is 18 years of age or younger and who has provided outstanding service to the nation, his/her community or the betterment of the state of the art in communications through the Amateur Radio hobby/service.

==> New Section Manager Appointed in Sacramento Valley

Ron Murdock, W6KJ, of Yuba City, California, has been appointed Section Manager of the Sacramento Valley Section. Dave Patton, NN1N, Manager of ARRL's Membership and Volunteer Programs Department, made the appointment effective July 2 since outgoing Section Manager Casey McPartland, W7IB, will be moving out the section soon. Murdock was scheduled to become Section Manager on October 1. "I have been looking forward to this for some time," Murdock said after getting the word that his term is starting three months early. He comes to the position with strong recommendations from McPartland, as well as former Sacramento Valley Section Manager Jettie Hill, W6RFF. Murdock is active with the Yuba-Sutter Amateur Radio Club, and has also served as ARRL Bulletin Manager and ARRL Emergency Coordinator. Licensed since 1967, he has been involved in public service events and emergency communications since 1969, helping out with earthquakes, wildfires and floods. Murdock and his wife Jo Anne, N6YLO, have two grown sons.

==>SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "You Are the Sun(spot) of My Life" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: The average daily sunspot number for this week rose nearly 18 points

from the previous seven days. On July 4, the A index was moderately elevated due to a solar wind stream. Expect to see a similar increase around July 11, and a much greater increase in geomagnetic activity from July 16-19. Geophysical Institute Prague predicts quiet conditions for July 6-9, quiet to unsettled July 10, and unsettled conditions for July 11. Monthly averages of daily sunspot numbers for April 2006 through June 2007 were 55.2, 39.6, 24.4, 22.6, 22.8, 25.2, 14.7, 31.5, 22.2, 28.2, 17.3, 9.8, 6.9, 19.8 and 20.7. Monthly averages of daily solar flux for the same period were 88.9, 80.9, 76.5, 75.8, 79, 77.8, 74.3, 86.3, 84.4, 83.5, 77.7, 72.2, 72.4, 74.4 and 73.7. Sunspot numbers for June 28 through July 4 were 27, 29, 36, 30, 13, 12 and 13 with a mean of 22.9. 10.7 cm flux was 74.9, 75.3, 74, 74.3, 72.6, 71.7, and 72.4, with a mean of 73.6. Estimated planetary A indices were 6, 13, 6, 5, 3, 9 and 16 with a mean of 8.3. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 5, 5, 4, 4, 2, 6 and 13, with a mean of 5.6. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>.

==>IN BRIEF:

* This weekend on the radio: This weekend, look for the VK/Trans-Tasman 160 Meter Contest (SSB) on July 7. The Venezuelan Independence Day Contest, the DL-DX RTTY Contest and the Original QRP Contest are scheduled for July 7-8. On July 8, look for the DARC 10 Meter Digital Contest and the ARCI Summer Homebrew Sprint. Later in the week on July 11, the SKCC Sprint and RSGB 80 Meter Club Championship (SSB) are on the air. Next weekend, the big event is the IARU HF World Championship, from 1200 UTC July 14-1200 UTC July 15. On July 13, the NCCC Sprint Ladder is on the air, and on July 14, look for the FISTS Summer Sprint. The Colorado QSO Party is on July 15-16, while the Run for the Bacon QRP Contest is on July 16. The NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint and the RSGB 80 Meter Club Championship (Data) are on July 19. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests/>, the ARRL Contester's Rate Sheet <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rate-sheet/> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more info.

* ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Course Registration: Registration remains open through Sunday, July 22 for these online courses beginning on Friday August 3: Technician License Course (EC-010); Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 1 (EC-001); Radio Frequency Interference (EC-006); Antenna Design and Construction (EC-009); Analog Electronics (EC-012) and Digital Electronics (EC-013). To learn more, visit the CCE Course Listing page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html> or contact the Continuing Education Program Coordinator <cce@arrl.org>.

* Solar Flux to Bottom Out in July as Cycle 24 Gets Closer: The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Space Environment Center (SEC) released their monthly forecasts of sunspot number and 10.7 cm

radio flux, including high and low bounds to their forecasts. The SEC forecasts that the smoothed sunspot number reached its low value of 11.7 in March 2007, and predicts that the solar flux will reach its low of 75.4 this month. This is the fourth month in a row that the SEC predicts the solar flux will bottom out in July. Based on the SEC predictions, this is probably at the bottom of Cycle 23 and extremely close to the beginning of Cycle 24. Two events will mark the beginning of the next sunspot cycle: The observation of the first opposite magnetic polarity sunspots compared to Cycle 23 sunspot polarity, and the observation high solar latitude sunspots -- the Cycle 23 sunspots are now very near the solar equator. The SEC predictions table <http://www.sec.noaa.gov/ftpdir/weekly/Predict.txt> and sunspot number and solar flux prediction graphs <http://www.sec.noaa.gov/SolarCycle/> are available on the SEC's Web site.

* Get Ready for the IARU HF World Championship, July 14-15: Participation in the IARU HF World Championship has grown steadily for the past four years, despite solar activity trending in the wrong direction. The creation of Low Power and QRP categories has contributed to increasing both the popularity and the competitiveness of the event. The ARRL administers the HF World Championship on behalf of the IARU. At its May 2007 meeting the IARU Administrative Council discussed various issues related to the event and asked that the ARRL devote the resources necessary to maintain a high standard of adjudication. A condition of entry in the IARU HF World Championship is that each entrant agrees to be bound by the provisions of the announced rules, by the regulations of his/her licensing authority, and by the decisions of the ARRL Awards Committee acting for the IARU International Secretariat. Leading competitors should expect their entries to be carefully scrutinized. If exceptional results are claimed, entrants must be prepared to explain how they were achieved. Reminder: In addition to the zone and "HQ station" multipliers there are four additional multipliers available per band by contacting members of the IARU Administrative Council and the regional IARU executive committees. Administrative Council members may send "AC" instead of their zone, while regional executive committee members may send "R1," "R2" or "R3" as appropriate. See <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2007/iaru.html> for more information.

* Walt Legowski, WA1KKM, wins June QST Cover Plaque Award: The winner of the QST Cover Plaque Award for June is Walt Legowski, WA1KKM, for his article "AARA 1, Murphy 0: Our Linux Logging Program at Field Day." Congratulations, Walt! The winner of the QST Cover Plaque award -- given to the author or authors of the best article in each issue -- is determined by a vote of ARRL members on the QST Cover Plaque Poll Web page <http://www.arrl.org/members-only/qstvote.html?pidx=1>. Cast a ballot for your favorite article in the July issue by Tuesday, July 31.

* ARRL VEC Team Keeps Busy!: July 23 marks the 5 month anniversary of the FCC's elimination of the 5 WPM Morse code exam requirement. Since February 23, the ARRL VEC reports that test session registration and

attendance has been steady and strong. The average number of test sessions per month is up from last year (602 in 2007 compared to 472 in 2006), as is the average number of examinees per session (8 candidates in 2007 compared to 5 candidates in 2006). Of the nearly 700 test sessions registered for June, more than 600 sessions have been received and processed by the VEC staff. ARRL booth traffic was brisk at the International Ham Radio Exhibition held June 22 to 24 in Friedrichshafen, Germany. More than 18,000 people from 36 countries attended. An ARRL VEC exam session was held on Saturday morning at the convention. Thirty-one exams were given, with 25 achieving an upgrade or new license. Packages were mailed last month to more than 900 ARRL VEC volunteer examiner teams. These teams have now been provided with test materials. The packages contained the new General Class Element 3 exams to be used at test sessions beginning July 1. For ARRL VE teams who are using the ExamWin Software, the updated version was released on June 18 and is available on our ExamWin Web page <http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examwin>. A VE Express Newsletter was emailed on June 18 to more than 5500 subscribers. To view the current VE Newsletter or to view previous editions, visit the "ARRL VEC News Briefs, Announcements, Newsletters" Web page <http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/announcements.html>.

* Emma Berg, W0JUV/AAR7AX (SK): Emma Berg, 102, died June 7 at Lawrence Presbyterian Manor in Lawrence, Kansas. Mrs Berg remained active in the Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) on a daily basis. A member of the Douglas County Amateur Radio Club since 1942 and a member of the American Radio Relay League as well as Army MARS, "She was very spry for her age," said Kansas State MARS Director John Halladay, AAA7KS. "Always busy -- a person we could be proud to emulate in our own aging." Over the years, Mrs Berg served as net control operator on Kansas CW nets and was a First Lieutenant in the Civil Air Patrol. Mrs Berg edited the Sunflower Seeds, the Kansas MARS quarterly newsletter, in her younger years -- when she was in her 90s - and later penned the publication's "Fun & Relaxation" articles. Outside of radio, Mrs Berg was a teacher and administrator in Douglas County before she retired in 1962. She also taught and was principal at several rural schools, and served as Douglas County superintendent of public instruction from 1949 to 1959. Survivors include two nieces, Jane Semple Cox of Phoenix, Arizona, and Nancy Semple Menchen of Las Vegas, Nevada. The family suggests memorials to Heart of America Hospice, 1420 Wakarusa, Suite 202, Lawrence, KS 66049.

* Let Us Know: What's your favorite part of The ARRL Letter? What kind of stories would you like to see in the Letter? Would you like to see pictures in the Letter? This is your Letter and your chance to let your voice be heard. Please send your suggestions to ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, at k1sfa@arrl.org, with the subject line "ARRL Letter Suggestions." All messages will be read and discussed, and we look forward to implementing positive suggestions into the ARRL Letter.

* Corrections and Clarifications: In last week's ARRL Letter (Vol 26, No 26), it was reported that the Emergency Coordinator for Williamson

County, Texas was Jim Taylor, NQ5L. Williamson County's EC is Jim Russell, NQ5L.

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The ARRL Letter offers a weekly e-mail digest of essential and general news of interest to active radio amateurs. Visit the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org> for the latest Amateur Radio news and news updates. The ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/> also offers informative features and columns. ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> is a weekly "ham radio newscast" compiled and edited from The ARRL Letter. It's also available as a podcast from our Web site.

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The ARRL Letter is available to ARRL members free of charge directly from ARRL HQ. To subscribe, unsubscribe or change your address for e-mail delivery:
ARRL members first must register on the Members Only Web Site <http://www.arrl.org/members/>. You'll have an opportunity during registration to sign up for e-mail delivery of The ARRL Letter, W1AW bulletins, and other material. To change these selections--including delivery of The ARRL Letter--registered members should click on the "Member Data Page" link (in the Members Only box). Click on "Modify membership data," check or uncheck the appropriate boxes and/or change your e-mail address if necessary. (Check "Temporarily disable all automatically sent email" to temporarily stop all e-mail deliveries.) Then, click on "Submit modification" to make selections effective. (NOTE: HQ staff members cannot change your e-mail delivery address. You must do this yourself via the Members Only Web Site.)

The ARRL Letter also is available to all, free of charge, from these sources:

* ARRLWeb <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>. (NOTE: The ARRL Letter will be posted each Friday when it is distributed via e-mail.)

* The QTH.net listserver, thanks to volunteers from the Boston Amateur Radio Club: Visit Mailing Lists@QTH.Net <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/letter-list>. (NOTE: The ARRL cannot assist subscribers who receive The ARRL Letter via this listserver.)

1275. WIANEWS for week commencing JULY 8 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-07 13:22:24 UTC
From: nationalnews@wia.org.au
Message-ID: <200707071000.l67A0FM20028@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4180
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,aus.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

This is WIANEWS for week commencing JULY 8 2007

Good morning I'm Jim Linton VK3PC.

Amateur Radio & the Gippsland floods

Providing communications support during the flood disaster in eastern Victoria were seven radio amateurs, members of RECOM the communications arm of the Australian Red Cross.

John Patterson VK3ATQ of RECOM reports its role was centred on emergency relief centres at Paynesville, Sale, Bairnsdale and Lakes Entrance.

There the team registered 361 flood evacuees and transmitted this information back to the Red Cross Headquarters in Melbourne using data communications.

RECOM also provided other reliable communications of administrative traffic for the Red Cross.

The operators involved included VK3ATQ, VK3AUO, VK3BQS, VK3BPD, VK3EK, VK3GBJ and VK3XSW.

The floods at some locations cut power or put it at risk and RECOM was fully prepared with self-reliant auxiliary power.

John VK3ATQ found himself being interviewed numerous times by the ABC as part of its public information coverage as the flood disaster unfolded.

The RECOM guys with their communications 'go-kits' and four wheel drive vehicles were activated for five-days in the flood areas.

RECOM which began in Victoria is now nation-wide and through its excellent voluntary work has achieved credibility and increasing recognition.

Now we cross to TREVOR QUICK VK5ATQ...

WIA - ACMA

25 June 2007 WIA President Michael Owen VK3KI and WIA Director Peter Young VK3MV met with Mark Loney, Executive Manager Pricing and Policy, Alan Jordan and John Kington at the ACMA Central Office in Canberra.

The meeting was initiated at the request of the WIA for a briefing on the delays in dealing with a number of matters, particularly arising out of the Amateur Service Review Outcomes Paper. The ACMA acknowledged the delays and sought to work with the WIA in addressing its concerns.

Of particular concern to the WIA was the delay in the making of the further amending Determination to give effect to the balance of the matters identified in the Outcomes paper, now a delay of 3 years. The WIA also raised the delay in finalising the arrangements with CEPT to allow Australian amateurs travelling overseas the privilege of operating in other countries without the need to obtain an individual authorisation in those countries, and the delay in the issue of a Class Licence to enable amateurs visiting Australia to operate here without the need for an individual licence.

Another concern was the delay in the finalisation of the issue or re-issue of 2 letter callsigns.

The WIA is also concerned at the continuing uncertainty about the future of the management of the amateur examination and the related certificate issue, as well as the callsign management function.

The WIA pointed out that the delay in the LCD meant that uncertainty prevailed over the power Foundation licensees permitted, the privileges of Foundation licensees and also that the WIA's publication "The Foundation Licence Manual" was running short and it could not be reprinted until the regulations could be up dated.

While the WIA accepted that the current delay in the LCD was beyond the direct control of ACMA, Mr Loney offered to do all he could to achieve a speedy finalisation of that, and that other immediate solutions would be investigated to address a number of the other problems faced by the WIA and its members. Mr Loney indicated that more resources would commence to address these outstanding issues with the view to finalisation as soon as possible.

In particular, work on the visiting/visitor licence issues has commenced and will be completed as soon as the enabling legislation is drafted.

The ACMA advised that a statement on the allocation process for the issue of two-letter callsigns would be made shortly, and the announcement may be made within a statement addressing the broader issues surrounding callsign management.

In relation to the outsourcing arrangements, the WIA was given a briefing on the process the ACMA intends to follow.

The WIA representatives felt that the meeting was positive and conducted in a constructive manner with a commitment to explore a range of options to meet the concerns expressed by the WIA on behalf of its members.

BAND PLANS AND Spectrum Management.

Amateur Self-Regulation
Amateurs use a wide variety of different modes. Within one amateur band, activity can include CW, voice, satellite and EME activity, and ATV.
The best way of avoiding clashes is to set aside different band segments for each of these activities, so that all amateurs can pursue their interests without interference.

Amateur band plans are voluntary agreements, often known as "Gentlemen's Agreements". They are sponsored by the WIA, but they are for the benefit of all amateurs. Most amateurs, WIA members or not, abide by the band plans because it makes sense to give everyone a fair go.

Clashes still occur at times, and the usual reason is lack of awareness of the band plans. Most amateurs are willing to change frequency if the problem is explained to them politely.

Band plans should satisfy a number of conflicting criteria:

They should take local conditions into account, but they should be consistent with international usage.

They should encourage spectrum efficiency, but they should also ensure that all modes have their fair share of spectrum space.

They should take the popularity of each mode into account, while still providing enough spectrum space for less popular activities. For example, ATV requires far more bandwidth per operator than other modes; and activities such as EME are of major importance regardless of the number of stations involved.

Band plans must be flexible enough to adapt to changing needs, but they tend to lose support if they are changed too often. The aim must be to think ahead and to make sure that future options are not closed off.

On the VHF-UHF bands, three main groups are:

CW/SSB: the preferred modes for weak signal work.

FM: not suitable for weak signal work and not compatible with SSB or CW. This category also includes digital modes such as packet, which usually use FM mode on the VHF bands.

ATV: requires a very large bandwidth but has a very low power density, so it needs an exclusive interference-free band segment.

Calling Frequencies
On the VHF bands, the band plans include calling frequencies. These frequencies are "meeting places" and should be used only to make initial contact before moving to another frequency. If you "hog" the calling frequency you will prevent others from making calls or hearing more distant stations that may appear on the frequency.

For further check out bandplans at www.wia.org.au

TRIPPING.

Last weekend saw Michael Owen the National WIA President and Phil Waite the National WIA Director at Westlakes, a meeting arranged by the Immediate Past President of Westlakes Club, Frank VK2FJL

Mr. Owens held discussions with Westlakes President Russell VK2KEG, QSL Manager Alex VK2ZM, Vice President Barry VK2BZ and Treasurer Les VK2 ZPA.

He also talked with many members and visitors to the club.

There was a great turn out for this occasion, hearing first hand VK3KI discussing the role of the WIA, while Mr. Waite discussed BPL.
(Westlakes News Release)

BPL INTERFERENCE - THE BATTLE CONTINUES
THE BPL FIGHT: SARL SPEAKS OUT IN OPPOSITION TO BPL

Broadband over Powerline Internet access is not an acceptable system while interference to High Frequency communications is potentially high. So says one of the worlds most respected national ham radio societies. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF from Amateur Radio Newsline, has more:

Broadband over Powerline is not an acceptable system to provide Internet access connections. This, while the interference potential to High Frequency communications remains high.

This was the message that the South African Radio League delivered to a Broadband Conference held last week. One where the proponents of B-P-L see it as the solution to bridging the digital divide.

These people must think again, says the S-A-R-L's Hans van de Groenendaal, ZS6AKV. van de Groenendaal told delegates that bridging the digital divide is about access to Personal Computers and computer literacy and not about cheap broadband delivery.

ZS6AKV said that the South African Radio League is not against new technologies. This, as long as these technologies are not at the cost of the High Frequency spectrum which he terms as a scarce national resource.

van de Groenendaal said that radio amateurs are always embracing new technologies. It is part of being an communications experimenter.

With so many successful and more mature technologies available, ZS6AKV concluded by saying that it is difficult to understand why PLT is still pursued so vigorously.

At the studio in Los Angeles, I'm Bill Pasternak reporting for the amateur Radio Newsline.

Currently there is no Broadband over Powerline equipment "type approved" by for use in South Africa and no licenses for it have been issued. The South African Radio League and the South Africa ham community are hopeful to keep it that way.

EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO

FUTURE EXAMS

To find out when a club in YOUR area is hosting assessments and/or training in Amateur Radio go to wia.org.au and check out the club pages.

Help amateur radio continue to grow
Next Foundation Licence course, and Standard / Advanced assessments .....

VICTORIA

The North East Radio Group will be conducting Foundation Licence training and examinations on the weekend of 14-15 July at their Club rooms situated At 126 Mountain View Rd. Briar Hill, starting at 0800 each day.

Examinations for Standard, and regulations will also be available on Sunday 15 July.

For further information and bookings contact John VK3ZRV on 03 9431 0667 or Mobile 0427 316 431.
(zzrvelec@bigpond.net.au)

Enrolments are open for this month's Foundation Licence training and assessment session held by Amateur Radio Victoria on the weekend of the 21st and 22nd of July, at Box Hill North.
For inquiries contact Barry Robinson VK3JBR 0428 516 001 or email arv@amateurradio.com.au

WIA PRESIDENT - ASSESSOR INSTRUCTIONS

About a week ago the WIA released a revised Assessor Instructions, that is the basic document that governs the WIA amateur qualification assessment process.

We told all the WIA Assessors about it by email, through an Assessor Alert. We put it and the new or revised forms on the WIA website.

Let me say a few words about the WIA Exam Service.

We announced some weeks ago that by the end of the year we hope to replace all the Invigilators with what we have called Learning Facilitators.

Unlike the Invigilator, the Learning Facilitator is a person qualified by the WIA and registered and accredited by the WIA. Now, I think that if you look at the Learning Facilitator Instructions which are on the WIA website, you will see that it will be pretty easy for most people to qualify.

A number of very loyal supporters of the WIA Exam Service have expressed some concern at some of the new requirements.

One is the requirement for a card, such as the Working with Children check in Victoria, the blue card in Queensland, the Western Australian Card or just the requirement for a national police check in other places. The WIA doesn't trust us.

Please understand that in many parts of Australia the WIA has to comply with local laws, and insist on such checks. Everywhere in today's world the WIA has to take reasonable care in the suitability of the people it appoints to work with children. No, we don't distrust you, but yes, we do have to take these steps to protect the WIA and its members.

Yes, we do require Learning Facilitators like Assessors to be WIA members. We must be sure that these important volunteers are covered by the WIA's public liability policy.

I know it is a burden for some, but remember you can pay $17.50 every 3 months to be a member if you are a Concession Member. If that sounds attractive, please ring the WIA office.

Oh, and for the sake of clarity, it is a matter for clubs who they appoint to train potential amateurs, though I hope that the Assessors and Learning Facilitators will be able to assist.

And also, please remember this: the WIA has no certainty that it will retain the examination management function, but the more we seek to act responsibly on all things, and recognise current community concerns, the better placed we are to retain that function.

I know that many Invigilators have now qualified as Assessors or are seeking to qualify as Assessors. But please, if your club has people willing to assist the WIA Assessors in organising and conducting exam events as Learning Facilitators, please make sure that they send their application for qualification to the WIA national office, as soon as possible.

Hold the presses! Extra Extra Extra Hams Across Australia!

Rex Newsome VK4 LR has offered to match donations to Jeff's Walk.

To match donations to date, Rex has deposited $2000.

He said it is to give Jeff "a boot along".

Jeff VK4XJJ is our intrepid lone travellor, walking across Australia raising monies and awareness of the Deaf/Blind.

Rex you have given us all a boot along!

With other amounts promised Jeff's DeafBlind walk is half way on his journey and now half way to the target of $10,000 towards a small bus with wheelchair access.

Rex heard about the DeafBlind awareness walk on the WIA Sunday news, thank you WIA. He respectfully sends out a challenge to listeners to hit the tin and again he will match any donations.

Every Day, from 5:30pm Eastern on 40 meters, 7045 put out a call to VK4XJJ

url is very simple go to
www.jeffswalk.com

HAMS ACROSS AUSTRALIA.
(7tw)

VK3

Gippsland Gate Radio & Electronics Club News

Well, we have done it again. Its another total sell-out of tables for the GGREC Hamfest on July 21 at Cranbourne, South of Melbourne. This year all

41 tables were booked well in advance of our expected timetable and all reports suggest this will be our busiest Hamfest yet. With buyer numbers expected to reach the 350 plus mark, the organizers are going to be kept on their feet . Great Door Prizes will be won on the day and it will be worth the $6.00 entry fee. All of your favourite stall holders will be present and a variety of Commercial sellers will be happy to parade their latest equipment. We look forward to seeing you there AND BY THE WAY--
the Hamfest will be in the Cranbourne Public Hall in High St --
Corner of Cameron St.
Be early for pole position at the 10am stampede.
(73s Albert -- Hamfest 07 Co ordinator)

VK4

The Historical Wireless Society of South-East Queensland celebrated its tenth anniversary on the weekend of 16/17 June.

73 members and guests attended a dinner at the Mansfield Tavern on Saturday night. HWS president Peter VK4APD spoke about incidents and personalities in the club history. Guest speaker Mike VK3ZCZ, president of the Historical Radio Society of Australia spoke to a 1920s advertisement for a 3 valve regen receiver, supposedly better than a 5 valve TRF Neutrodyne, illustrating that sales pitches haven't changed much. He also outlined the future for HRSA.

The club put on a display of old domestic radios at Mt Gravatt showground Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning. Dave VK4KDP displayed his collection of WW II military and Comfort Fund (Amenities) radios with assistance from Brisbane Amateur Radio Club members Col VK4ACG and Les VK4ZLP. Not forgetting a display of gramophones by another avid collector.

Queensland Museum lent a locally-made Soladyne receiver, plus Traeger receiver and pedal-wireless generator.

This weekend was courtesy of 4MBS-fm, Breville, and the Brisbane City Council who provided a much appreciated grant.
(Peter Hadgraft)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS READ BY Rob VK5MM

When the weather gets bad, Mumbai's Ham radio operators get cracking.

But Mumbai's Ham radio operators, who quietly, resolutely and efficiently were in their element during the weekend's downpour and floods, are unperturbed.

Operating from Mumbai vu2zrs, vu2hit, vu2lnz and vu2axn from the Mumbai Ham Radio Association were out in the field, doing their bit for the safety of the public.

As we heard several weeks ago from the Hunter, and this week from Gippsland and India, the value of Ham Radio in emergencies is a real asset to the community.

Still in India, Ray VU3ORN reports that at the International Amateur Radio Union leaders meeting recently in Vienna, they came up with a definition of what constitutes a valid Amateur Radio contact.

At least on the VHF and UHF bands in ITU Region 1.

According to the newly crafted regulation, the minimum requirement for a valid QSO on VHF and higher bands is a contact is one where both operators during the contact have mutually identified each other, received a report, and received a confirmation of the successful identification and the reception of the report.

The report emphasizes that the responsibility always lies with the operator for the integrity of the contact. It also says that this ruling is 'technology neutral' and applies to all analogue and digital modes.

WEIRD N WONDERFUL

power puzzle

>From the weird and wonderful file, we report on a mysterious energy source at Bendigo and central Victoria which has been dubbed a 'power puzzle'.

Local factory owners in Prospect Road Bendigo East have claimed that thousands of dollars worth of equipment has been destroyed and the cause is unidentified.

Energy Safe Victoria reports receiving examples of incidents that include fires at power points not connected to the electric supply and equipment blowing fuses when not connected to any supply point. Very strange indeed!

Apparently this first occurred when the industrial estate was being set up a decade ago. There were incidents of unplugged power tools operating or being damaged and new fluorescent tubes lighting up while still in their boxes.

Energy Safe Victoria has set up chart recorders within the factories in the latest in an attempt to track down and solve the mystery.

Where might this all lead, perhaps the discovery of a new source of energy, perhaps not. Indeed we'll try and keep plugged into this investigation and illuminate everyone on the findings.

I'm Jim Linton VK3PC and you're listening to VK1WIA.

OPERATIONAL NEWS - READ BY FELIX VK4FUQ

VK/TRANSTASMAN CONTEST
160M CW 21 July 2007

14th of July the Jack Files Contest.
0800 UTC – 1400 UTC
80 metres only.
Use 3.5MHZ – 3.7MHz
CW; SSB; or All Modes

JULY 14-15
The annual IARU HF World Championship, Trevor Quick joins us from Adelaide:-

Get Ready for the IARU HF World Championship, July 14-15!

Participation in the IARU HF World Championship has grown steadily for the past four years, despite solar activity trending in the wrong direction. The creation of Low Power and QRP categories has contributed to increasing both the popularity and the competitiveness of the event.

The ARRL administers the HF World Championship on behalf of the IARU. At its May 2007 meeting the IARU Administrative Council discussed various issues related to the event and asked that the ARRL devote the resources necessary to maintain a high standard of adjudication.

A condition of entry in the IARU HF World Championship is that each entrant agrees to be bound by the provisions of the announced rules, by the regulations of his/her licensing authority, and by the decisions of the ARRL Awards Committee acting for the IARU International Secretariat. Leading competitors should expect their entries to be carefully scrutinized. If exceptional results are claimed, entrants must be prepared to explain how they were achieved.

Reminder: In addition to the zone and "HQ station" multipliers there are four additional multipliers available per band by contacting members of the IARU Administrative Council and the regional IARU executive committees. Administrative Council members may send "AC" instead of their zone, while regional executive committee members may send "R1," "R2" or "R3" as appropriate.

See you on the air for the 24 hours beginning at 1200 UTC Saturday, July 14
(David Sumner, K1ZZ Secretary, IARU)

AUGUST 11/12 Remembrance Day Contest (The RD) wia.org.au

With an update, here is the "birthday boy" Peter Harding.

Hello listeners, yesterday marks another aging year for me, and a lot closer to being called snowy, in my youth I was auburn then grey and well what is left has faded to a snow colour, enough about me we are still counting down to the 11th Aug and is now only 37 days to the 2007 RD contest.

This week saw some clarification required for some rules, in Paragraph 15 relates to logs, here we have confirmed that a separate log is required for the HF bands, that is, all Freq's below 50mHz are to be sequentially numbered, irrespective of what frequency on the HF band, likewise a separate sequential numbered log will be required for operation above 50mHz.

On page 5 of the rules under the declaration section some software writers are including an area that requires you to tick as your declaration certification.

Hand written logs will still be require a hand written, signed declaration.

And as before ANY LOGS THAT ARE RECEIVED AFTER THE CLOSING TIME WILL BE RETURNED.

On the WIA Website the rules are available along with associated documents.

Thanks Peter, well that's the RD now let's rewind to some highlights of the 2007 VK/ trans-Tasman 80 meter Contests

Over-all participation was up slightly on last year's record, due to an increase of mainly VK4's.

Phone - 12th May:

The 80M Phone was won by ZL1FF Trevor Buckeridge, scoring 2653.
VK3FRC (Frankston & Mornington Peninsular ARC), came in 2nd, scoring 2612.

QRP Phone Category was won by VK2ENG Mike, from Gundaroo, NSW.

CW - 26th May:

1st place went to VK3TSN, scoring 796.
2nd was VK3MV on 468,

QRP logs were received, with VK5BLS winning the Category.

That's the contesting scene, I'm Felix VK4FUQ.

NOW ROBERT BROOMHEAD - VK3KRB.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- FINAL FRONTIER

Astronaut Suni Williams, KD5PLB, Back on Terra Firma

Suni Williams, KD5PLB, International Space Station (ISS) Expedition 15 Flight Engineer, came back to Earth Saturday, June 23 on the space shuttle Atlantis (STS-117), wrapping up a six month stay during which she became the new record holder for the longest single spaceflight by a woman. While on the ISS, Williams participated in 33 Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) contacts. ISS Expedition 12 Commander Bill McArthur, KC5ACR, holds the record for the most ARISS school contacts in a single mission at 37.

Williams launched with the crew of the space shuttle Discovery (STS-116) on December 9, 2006. She docked with the ISS on December 11. Clay Anderson, KD5PLA, part of STS-117, replaced Williams as ISS Flight Engineer. STS-117 was launched from Florida June 8 and docked with the ISS June 10. Its mission lasted almost 14 days.

"The space station's just a stepping-stone to get us to understand space, and how to live and work in space, and then potentially get back to the moon is the next stepping-stone. How to work in a low-gravity environment and how to work in an environment that is not habitable for us that will take us to the next place, maybe Mars and then beyond," Williams said.

While in space, Williams, a US Navy helicopter pilot who holds the rank of Commander (O5), worked with robotics operation on the ISS and participated in four spacewalks. She was also NASA ISS Science Officer for part of her time in space. The primary focus of US science on the ISS is research on how people can live and work safely in weightlessness.

Williams participated in the 2007 Boston Marathon from the ISS. She competed as an official entrant in the annual Patriots Day event from 210 miles above Earth. Williams ran on an ISS exercise treadmill, circling Earth at least twice in the process and going as fast as 8 MPH while flying more than 5 miles per second. "I [hope to] encourage kids to start making physical fitness part of their daily lives," she said. "I think a big goal like a marathon will help get this message out there."

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RADIO AMATEUR YOUNG TIMERS

Two youth nets to make a note of,

A Youth Net meets Saturdays at 0100 UTC on IRLP Reflector #2.

Young Hams Net 3.590 - 7:30pm Victorian time.

BB's DIARY ROOM - THE FUTURE, IN AMATEUR RADIO

2008

Sept 13 Alarameet 2008 will be held in Ulverstone Tasmania on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th September 2008. Susan VK7LUV for details.

2009
International Telecommunication Union's Telecom World 2009.

SOCIAL SCENE

July 7+8 - GippsTech
Conference for VHF, UHF & SHF enthusiasts in Australia.
Held at the Gippsland Campus of Monash University in Churchill, about two hours drive east of Melbourne.
www.qsl.net\vk3bez\index.htm

July 21 - GGREC Hamfest at Cranbourne, South of Melbourne - 10am

August 5 - HAMFEST 2007 happens in Perth at 9am.
Cyril Jackson Recreation Centre
Fisher Street
Ashfield.

SEPTEMBER 21-23
North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention
Happening in twin cities of Thuringowa and Townsville.

JANUARY 20 2008

The Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group invite all amateurs to attend the 2008 Mid North Coast Radio Expo to be held in Coffs Harbour on Sunday 20th January.

The Expo is held at the St Johns Church Hall, Mc Lean Street, Coffs Harbour. Gary VK2ZKT is the Radio Expo Coordinator on 02 66 55 2 990 or visit the Groups comprehensive web site at www.mncarg.org

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This is WIANEWS for week commencing JULY 1 2007

The WIA offers to it's members a range of services, including a personalised WIA email address..

Since the start of the year, the WIA has added over 120 member email address to our mailserver, taking the total number of people who have availed themselves of this member service to around 800.

So what does it all mean and how does it work?? .... well ...the WIA email server allows you to establish "yourcallsign@wia.org.au" with all emails sent to this address automatically forwarded to either your home or work email account..

So what benefits does really provide?

Well, firstly it provides YOU with ONE consistent email address. If at some time you choose to change your ISP, (for one with a better plan) then by having a WIA email address, means your friends and colleague will still be able to email you after you have changed ISP meaning you don't have to contact them all and advise them of your new address. When you change ISP all you need to do is advise the WIA via a simple form on the WIA website and we do the rest.

It couldn't not be any easier !!

A second benefit of the WIA email address, is in receiving informative Amateur Radio news as it breaks sent directly to YOUR email box..

To obtain your own WIA email address today, visit our website www.wia.org.au and simply click on member services, then select email address, and fill out the application form.

WIA Director Trevor Quick says that on 25 June 2007 WIA President Michael Owen VK3KI and WIA Director Peter Young VK3MV met with Mark Loney, Executive Manager Pricing and Policy, Alan Jordan and John Kington at the ACMA Central Office in Canberra.

The meeting was initiated at the request of the WIA for a briefing on the delays in dealing with a number of matters, particularly arising out of the Amateur Service Review Outcomes Paper. The ACMA acknowledged the delays and sought to work with the WIA in addressing its concerns.

Of particular concern to the WIA was the delay in the making of the further amending Determination to give effect to the balance of the matters

identified in the Outcomes paper, now a delay of 3 years. The WIA also raised the delay in finalising the arrangements with CEPT to allow Australian amateurs travelling overseas the privilege of operating in other countries without the need to obtain an individual authorisation in those countries, and the delay in the issue of a Class Licence to enable amateurs visiting Australia to operate here without the need for an individual licence.

Another concern was the delay in the finalisation of the issue or re-issue of 2 letter callsigns.

The WIA is also concerned at the continuing uncertainty about the future of the management of the amateur examination and the related certificate issue, as well as the callsign management function.

The WIA pointed out that the delay in the LCD meant that uncertainty prevailed over the power Foundation licensees permitted, the privileges of Foundation licensees and also that the WIA's publication "The Foundation Licence Manual" was running short and it could not be reprinted until the regulations could be up dated.

While the WIA accepted that the current delay in the LCD was beyond the direct control of ACMA, Mr Loney offered to do all he could to achieve a speedy finalisation of that, and that other immediate solutions would be investigated to address a number of the other problems faced by the WIA and its members. Mr Loney indicated that more resources would commence next week to address these outstanding issues with the view to finalisation as soon as possible.

In particular, work on the visiting/visitor licence issues has commenced and will be completed as soon as the enabling legislation is drafted.

The ACMA advised that a statement on the allocation process for the issue of two-letter callsigns would be made shortly, and the announcement may be made within a statement addressing the broader issues surrounding callsign management.

In relation to the outsourcing arrangements, the WIA was given a briefing on the process the ACMA intends to follow.

The WIA representatives felt that the meeting was positive and conducted in a constructive manner with a commitment to explore a range of options to meet the concerns expressed by the WIA on behalf of its members.

Jeff VK4XJJ is still going strong on his walk across Australia, and again this

week we'll talk to Jeff as he leaves Birdsville, the half way point in his trek.

But he still wants to hear from YOU, and it is these calls in particular that keep him going!!

Every Day, from 5:30pm Eastern on 40 meters, 7045 put out a call to VK4XJJ

>From Wednesday 20th to Tuesday 26th June Jeff walked 165 Kms to Birdsville.

Arrived at 11:45, just in time for lunch.

During one evening sked he said " I am going like a train".

Temperatures have ranged between 8 to 25 degrees C.

Not always warm enough early in the morning but comfortable in the tent.

Jeff sent over 600 pictures, we will pick out 40 for the web pages.

Single pictures are free to download.

He will stay in Birdsville for a few days to catch up on emails, phone calls to family and collect some supplies posted in.

179 Kms after Birdsville will be half way on this great walk.

On this walk to Karumba in the Gulf and on the return drive to Port Augusta Jeff's goal is to raise $10,000.

All proceeds to DeafBlind (NSW) Inc. to aid the purchase of a small bus with some places for wheelchairs.

Regards,

Bill Johnson VK2FWGJ

for Jeff Johnson VK4XJJ Walking for DeafBlind awareness

Web design & relay station Roger Stierli VK4BNQ

www.jeffswalk.com

AMATEUR RADIO - HOME OF THE GOOD GUYS

AFRI75

During the IRTS Jubilee expedition to Swaziland the team met with the Scout Association and agreed to support their Thirst for Life Programme, which helps Aids orphans in Swaziland.

The team is pleased to announce that the first initial funding for the project of 350 Euro is on its way to Swaziland and this will fund the purchase of chickens for their farm.

The money was raised by donations included with direct QSL cards received from stations worked around the world, together with funds raised from the sale of Afri75 caps at the IRTS AGM in Cork.

The team are still anxious to continue support for the project, and if you think you can help please contact Paul EI2CA. You will find details of the project on the Afri75 page of the IRTS website.

BPL INTERFERENCE - THE BATTLE CONTINUES

VK7news says Owen Duffy VK1OD has prepared some notes on his interpretation of the ACMA Mt Nelson report that was recently released.

Owen suggests that the background measurement are most likely the reporting instrument's internal noise as they do not match expected ambient noise levels.

The BPL emission levels are up to 55dB above the expected ambient noise levels and even within the notch on the 20m band emissions are 37dB above the expected ambient noise level.

Notch depth is on average about 22dB less on 20m band, 21dB on average in the 17m band and on average about 18dB on the 15m band.

Owen concludes that the measurements taken using Conrad's 20m quad once you take into account the difference in test receiver and amateur receiver bandwidth results in a noise floor degradation in the order of 11.4dB within the 20m notched segment.

It is an interesting read and I encourage everyone interested in BPL to take a look. The notes can be found at the address on the email and internet editions of this broadcast.

http://www.vk1od.net/bpl/HobartBPLTrial.htm .
(vk7news)

AROUND VK in 80 Seconds.
(vk6fxyl)

VK2

Allan VK2 JED is asking those in the Westlakes club and region to fossick through their gear to see if there is anything that they would like to donate to the club Market/Field day organised for the 14th of July.

If you find anything, you may leave it at the club premises on either Tuesday nights or Saturday afternoons.

July 14 again is the date, the time 8am.

VK3

July 21 - Gippsland Gate Radio & Electronics HamFest - 10am

David Ryan VK3LOZ says the EMDRC has a propposal for a club project, construction and tuning of a wire dipole for use on the 80 metre amateur band.

For those who require it they'll will be making a "Ugly Balun" to match the antenna to the feed wire. (Those who wish to use a commercial Balun are also welcome to do so, or omit the Balun altogether.)

Following construction they will demonstrate the various methods used to tune antennas:-

1/ with a SWR meter
2/ with a Grid dip Oscillator

3/ with an MJF 259B HF/VHF SWR Analyzer

The proposed date of the make day is Saturday July 28 10.00 AM to 4.00 PM at the EMDRC Burwood club rooms. Register interest at VK3AMN@wia.org.au

VK4

The Annual general Meeting of the Dalby & District ARC will be held on Sunday August 5th at 2PM at the 4DDD FM studios 107 Drayton street Dalby.

All members are encouraged to attend, and visitors are welcome. Also please note that the postal address for the club is 15 Bunya Street Dalby, and all correspondence should be directed to this address. All Emails should be sent to HYPERLINK holmzie@bigpond.com
(Neil VK4NF).

VK5

Saturday 23 June, the VK5 VHF/UHF beacons VK5VF fell silent, after some 44 years of operation from their Mt Lofty broadcasting site.

The 52.450 MHz, 144.450 MHz, 432.450 MHz and 145.650 MHz Morse transmitters were switched off at 0215UTC and the equipment removed at the request of the national owners of the site.

1296.450 MHz has not been on air recently.

Mark VK5AVQ told us "The beacons have been a reliable signal source across much of South Australia and Western Victoria since their commissioning in June 1963. The only significant down time was following the 1983 Ash Wednesday fires.

Thanks to VK5ACE, VK5KK and VK5KDK and the many others who have supported the project, even those just offering reports.

Hopefully we will find another suitable site, but the current one will be a hard act to follow.

VK6

August 5 - HAMFEST 2007 happens in Perth at 9am.
Cyril Jackson Recreation Centre Fisher Street Ashfield

Also in the State of Excitement VK6 Next Monday... Tomorrow is the Monthly Meeting of the West Australian Repeater Group, 1930 h @ the 1st Hillview Scout Hall, crn Gibbs St and Welshpool Rd East Cannington...
Visitors welcome.

VK7

Coming up in the apple isle over the next few months:

AUSRADIO FoxHunt Tuesday the 3rd July at 7pm meet at Parks St Launceston.

REAST • Independence Day Mid-Winter Feast on July 4th at 6:30pm at the Domain.

NTARC • Meeting - Wednesday July 11th at 7:30pm at Block B Alanvale TAFE College Launceston.

EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO
PRESENTED BY KYLEA VK6FXYL

The Wireless Institute of Australia's Foundation Licence Manual is a full colour manual consisting of 95 pages of information for those studying, or those who would just like a reference book for Foundation Licence Operators.

The manual contains the all relevant information you will need to know to successfully complete a training course to obtain our foundation licence.

It also contains a wealth of information a Foundation Licence operator will need. Items like Band Plans, Electrical Safety information, operating procedures such as the Q code, how to contact you local radio club, the WIA and much more.

For more information on obtaining the foundation licence manual please visit wia.org.au
(Alan VK4YAR)

FUTURE EXAMS

To find out when a club in YOUR area is hosting assessments and/or training in Amateur Radio go to wia.org.au and check out the club pages.

Participating clubs keep this site up to date and post the latest information for all to see.

Also check the text edition of each news edition, where we do keep a secondary listing.

On the audio broadcast we will continue to give new information when it is received, but just in case you miss it one week, you can always access our text

Help amateur radio continue to grow

Do you know someone who could be interested in joining our hobby? Then encourage them to enrol in a Foundation Licence training course.

Next Foundation Licence course, and Standard / Advanced assessments .....

NEW SOUTH WALES

ARNSW regularly holds Foundation Licence Assessments as well as Exams for Standard and Advanced Licences.
Held on the last weekend of each EVEN numbered month.

Waverley Amateur Radio Society (SYDNEY)
They hold Foundation Licence courses regularly, email the club at

exams@vk2bv.org
OR visit vk2bv.org or call Simon, VK2UA on 9328 7141.

VICTORIA

At Bendigo classes and licence assessments are conducted by Ross Pittard VK3FCE who can be contacted via email vk3fce@internode.on.net

The Central Goldfields Amateur Radio Club, Maryborough regularly holds classes. Contact Peter Rafferty VK3CC on 5460 4387 or email majorca49@hotmail.com

QUEENSLAND

On the Gold Coast and want to talk to the world through their IRLP and EchoLink systems? Or already licensed and wish to upgrade Foundation to Standard? Well classes are held at the Nerang Clubhouse of the GCARS, ring Roy VK4IG on 5539 3530 Exams can be taken at a time to suit you.

TARC WIA Exams Information
Exam sessions are held on demand with WIA Assessors and assessment packs available for all 3 levels of licensing.
Contact theTARCinc WIA Exams Regional Co-ordinator Roger/VK4CD 0417 638366.
www.tarc.org.au/tarcexam.htm

Tablelands Radio and Electronics Club
TREC WIA Exams Information
TREC will conduct exam sessions as required, at a time to suit the candidate. WIA Assessors and assessment packs are available for all 3 levels of licensing.
Contact the TREC WIA Exams Co-ordinator Dale VK4DMC on 4091 3700 or vk4dmc@wia.org.au for further information.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Adelaide Hills Amateur Radio Society will run Foundation licence's at the Aviation Museum, 56 Lipson Street Port Adelaide, 2 weekends August 4th and 5th then November 3rd and 4th.
Contact the course convenor, Sasi Nayar on 0417 858 547

Examinations are hosted by South Coast Amateur Radio Club.
Those interested in sitting for foundation or license upgrades, please contact by email
vk5kbj@internode.on.net

TASMANIA

Radio and Electronics Association of Southern Tasmania

For more information or enroll please contact Reg Emmett VK7KK by emailing regemm@ozemail.com.au or calling 0417 391 607

And remember Foundation Licence Manuals and CD's are available for purchase at McCann's Model World in Elizabeth St. Hobart at $20.

A quick reminder about "Intro to the Standard Licence" sessions
on a Saturday afternoons from 1:00 to 4:00pm in the Domain clubrooms.

These sessions are an introduction to the standard licences and
attempt to de-mystify the upgrading process.
(Ken VK7DY/Reg, VK7KK)

DISCUSSION POINT

Further on the reported intrusion of an echolink node on the vk 2 meter fm
calling frequency in VK4.

gLENN vk4bg/TZL drew our attention to some Amateurs in the Bundaberg /
Hervey Bay Region in Queensland operating on the node in this important
and nationally approved segment of our band.

Although allegedley suggesting perhaps 146.500 was not the spot for such
activities he apparently has not gotten the positive result he expected.

These days 146.500 is totally useless for the purpose it was 'gazzetted'.

Glenn was told that the node had existed for some 4 years
...and NOT ONE Amateur had seen fit to complain on the Band Plan issue.

So, as there are always 2 sometimes 3 sides (hihi) to every story,

Gordon VK4KGS is in Bundaberg and Rob vk4mod setup the node some 4 years ago
and the reason they chose 146 500 was because they monitored quite a few
different frequencies over a couple of months and found 146 500 did not get
ANY traffic on it as opposed to adjacent simplex channels.

Also another reason for ch50 being chosen is that any hams travelling in the
area in simplex range of the node will hear the echolink node id on ch50,
which quite a few hams sit on while travelling), and when they hear the
echolink ident they will know that they can use it to call back home or
anywhere else in the world.

The echolink node is also used daily by locals in Bundaberg and in fact there
is a ex navy net on it daily connecting ex navy hams all over the world.

Also it is busy at night with VK and international contacts.

VK4KGS told WIANational News this simplex node id's every 10mins and has a
3min time out and abides by all of the determinations set out in the LCD as
well as the rad ACT.

Back to the south, in the Wide Bay members of the MERG(e) group when asked
said they were a little puzzled by the item last week as in the Wide Bay
neither President, nor any of the MERG members he asked, have any
recollection of ever hearing such on 146.500.

Moreover, no-one recalls ever hearing ANYTHING on 146.500 in Maryborough
and they generally use 146.550 as a local listening and working frequency.

Ray went on to tell WIA National news there could even be argued a case for
146.500 to be designated as a nation-wide Echolink frequency so that

travellers would not need to change frequency for each town they came to in order to maintain contact with "Home Base".

This of course would not work if the node was connected to, say live streaming ot NASA's Shuttle Missions or similar, but thereby hangs a different tale.

So what do YOU think?

Is this "out of our bandplan activity, in this case a good idea? OR do you think it could be the start of caos as far as who does what where?

As in our sign off each week..... we've reported, you decide.

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NEWS FROM ARNEWSLINE

MICROWAVE SDR RADIO BEING DEVELOPED

Radio amateurs interested in the microwave bands may find the Microwave Software Defined Radio project interesting. Its goal is to provide a transceiver operating on the 144, 422, 1268, 2400 MHz and above bands, covering the whole of each band. Full duplex cross-band operation is also planned specifically for satellite use. More details are on line at the Microwave Software Defined Radio website. Its in cyberspace at http://uwsdr.berlios.de

JPL CONGRATULATES AMSAT-DL ON VOYAGER 1 INTERCEPT

The Flight Team that oversees NASA's Voyager One deep space probe has congratulated AMSAT Germany on its reception of a signal from the spacecraft. In March 2006, the signal from Voyager 1 was received by the AMSAT D-L team using the 20 meter dish in Bochum.

Voyager 1 is the furthest object away from earth to be built by humans. As a token of their collective appreciation, the controllers not only confirmed the reception report. They also sent Amsat Germany a photo of the Voyager Flight That picture can be found on line at
http://www.amsat-dl.org//
index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=142&Itemid=97

COMMEMORATING 70 YEARS OF TRANS ATLANTIC FLIGHT

To commemorate the 70th anniversary of the first transatlantic passenger test flight, a special re-enactment flight is planned by Captain Patrick White and his son Ian. The two will be flying their "Vintage Lady", a PBY Catalina Flying Boat, from Botwood Newfoundland to Foynes, Ireland, on the 5th and 6th of July. To celebrate this event, Ireland's Limerick Radio Club has been invited by the Foynes Flying Boat Museum to operate a special Amateur Radio station in conjunction with the commemorative reenactment of the 1937 flight. EI70FOY will be on the air from the 6th to the 8th of July on 80 throughg10 meters as well as locally on VHF and UHF. A special QSL

card, commemorating the flight, will be sent to all stations worked over the three days . All QSL cards should be sent to the Club's QSL Manager Alan Cronin EI8EM at his callbook address.

FIGHTING THE 10 METER FREEBAND INVASION
If you are wondering what all those conversations without call signs are on 28.085 MHz, well it appears to be a small invasion of unlicensed truckers and so called Freeband operators of our 10 meter band.

We have more in this report:

Originally confined to portions of the mid-West, the pirate trucker and Freeband epidemic appears to be spreading nationwide. This, as more and more of these illegal operators are making their unauthorized home on 28.085 Megahertz and several other 10 meter frequencies.

And what is the Amateur Radio community doing about this invasion? On the surface at least, very little. With the upper High frequency bands not offering very much D-X these days, the majority of hams are sticking to 20, 40 and 80 meters with few stations heard in the 15, 12 and 10 meter spectrum. So the truckers and Freebanders see this is fair game for their unlawful operations and are busy establishing squatters rights in these bands.

What about the FCC? Well its doing what it can. There have been several well publicized violation notices sent to trucking firms. They request owners to instruct their drivers to curtail any operations for which they are not licensed and threatening punitive action such as fines. But that's about it. With the FCC enforcement folks stretched thin and Freeband operations being among the lowest of priorities on the enforcement agenda, there is no reason to believe that there is going to be any sort of massive sweep by the Federal government to clear these pirate operators out of the ham radio bands.

In the end, it will be the ham radio community that will have to defend these frequencies. And it does that by using them. If hams load up 10 meters or any band with legitimate Amateur Radio operations, there will be no place for the illegals to play and they will go elsewhere.

In the case of 28.085, there have been suggestions that this frequency become a national C-W or RTTY Calling Channel. That's a pretty good approach. Another is for every ham with the capability of operating 10 meters to start holding QSO's on that frequency. As any Morse enthusiast will tell you, C-W can get through even when faced with all sorts of QRM including pirate operators using voice.

The bottom line. if licensed radio amateurs fill up 10 meters even for local chats, the truckers and Frreebanders will soon be looking elsewhere for a new home.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Evi Simons, in New York.

About two decades ago, then 73 Magazine editor Wayne Green, W2NSD,
coined the phrase "Use it or loose it." Back then it was applied to
the pending transfer of 220 to 222 MHz away from Amateur Radio. Today
the same words ring important in fighting those without licenses who
are trying to take 10 meters forcibly from hams.

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NEWS SOURCED TO THE RSGB NEWS SERVICE AND READ BY G4NJH FROM GB2RS NEWS

Foyle and District Amateur Radio Club (FADARC) will be heading to St Angelo
Airport, Enniskillen for the 2007 Jet World Masters competition.

The competition runs from 5 July to 14 July the club will be on the air
during the final two days of the event with its call sign MN0AKU/P.

This event showcases model aircrafts capable of flying at up to 250 mph.

In attendance will be 100 pilots from some 31 countries demonstrating their
skills in what has been described as the ultimate radio-controlled model
aircraft competition. More details can be viewed at www.jwm2007.com.

Help is still needed for the British leg of the Tour de France. Kent RAYNET
requires a large number of RAYNET members being able to pass third party
traffic on 8 July.

Special event station 9A07P will be active on all bands and modes until
31 December to celebrate the city of Djurdjevac. All QSOs will be confirmed
automatically via the bureau.

The annual transmission on Alexanderson Day with the Alexanderson alternator
on VLF 17.2 kHz will take place Sunday 1 July at 0900 UTC. Tuning up will be
from 0815 UTC and the transmission will be repeated at 1300 UTC, tuning up
from 1215 UTC. The station will be open to visitors. There will be activity
on amateur radio frequencies with the call SK6SAQ. For more information log
onto www.alexander.n.se/. QSL reports are very welcome.

OPERATIONAL NEWS - CONTEST COLUMN - D A T E L I N E

VK/TRANSTASMAN CONTEST
160M Phone 7 July 2007
160M CW 21 July 2007

NZART MEMORIAL CONTEST • 80M • SSB AND CW.
7 & 8 July 2007.

Times :- 2000 NZST • 2300 NZST, divided into 3 operating periods each evening.

Band :- 80M SSB and CW.

Contest Rules NZART Website. http://www.nzart.org.nz
(John Powell. ZL1BHQ, NZART Contest Manager)

14th of July the Jack Files Contest.
0800 UTC • 1400 UTC
80 metres only.

Use 3.5MHZ • 3.7MHz
CW; SSB; or All Modes

JULY 14-15

Rules are at www.iaru.org/contest.html

Participation in the IARU HF World Championship has grown steadily for the past four years, despite solar activity trending in the wrong direction. The creation of Low Power and QRP categories has contributed to increasing both the popularity and the competitiveness of the event.

The ARRL administers the HF World Championship on behalf of the IARU. At its May 2007 meeting the IARU Administrative Council discussed various issues related to the event and asked that the ARRL devote the resources necessary to maintain a high standard of adjudication.

A condition of entry in the IARU HF World Championship is that each entrant agrees to be bound by the provisions of the announced rules, by the regulations of his/her licensing authority, and by the decisions of the ARRL Awards Committee acting for the IARU International Secretariat.Leading competitors should expect their entries to be carefully scrutinized. If exceptional results are claimed, entrants must be prepared to explain how they were achieved.

Reminder: In addition to the zone and "HQ station" multipliers there are four additional multipliers available per band by contacting members of the IARU Administrative Council and the regional IARU executive committees. Administrative Council members may send "AC" instead of their zone, while regional executive committee members may send "R1," "R2" or "R3" as appropriate.

See you on the air for the 24 hours beginning at 1200 UTC Saturday, July 14! - David Sumner, K1ZZ, IARU Secretary

Boat Anchor Sprints:
August (11), October (13).
Local ZL time: 2000 to 2100 hrs

Section 1: Old radios - all valves - i.e. ZC1, 19 set, Heathkits, any home brew set, but must have all valves.

Section 2: Any Hybrid transceiver (must have valve finals i.e. FT200, FTDX400/401, Drake, FT 101s, etc..

Amplitude Modulated signals only.

The overall winner shall be the entrant having the highest points score which will be published in the following New Zealand "Break-in".
(Jamie Pye ZL2NN, Editor NZART's InfoLine)

AUGUST 11/12 Remembrance Day Contest (The RD) wia.org.au

Well the month of June is gone and we are counting down to the 11th Aug and is now only 41 days to the 2007 RD contest.

An email query that came across the desk this week, concerns the use of Computers within the RD.

Within the rules in paragraph 10b reads :
Automated operation is not permitted. The operator must have physical control of the station for each contact. However CW and voice keyers are permitted, although the use of computers is restricted to logging purposes only.

The keywords here are ‘Automated Operation’ I believe is self explanatory, and that Computers is restricted to logging purposes.

On the WIA Website the rules are available along with associated documents.

7th World HST Championship will be held in Belgrade Serbia September 19-23rd.
www.hst2007.org

NOVEMBER 17/18
Spring VHF-UHF Field Day - November 2007
For everyone who likes to plan ahead - please note the dates for this year's Spring VHF-UHF Field Day. It will be held on November 17/18, a week later than usual. This will prevent a clash with club activities in two states.

MEDIA WATCH

North West Tasmanian Amateur Radio Interest Group

http://www2.vk7ax.id.au/nwtarig/

Night Broadcast Update

Now that there has been a vast improvement in the speed and capacity of the Internet services at Club Host Station VK7AX, testing is now under way with video streaming from this facility.

Shortly it is anticipated the Amateur Broadcasts emanating from Club Station VK7NW on 70CM ATV during the week will be available world-wide using video streaming. The facility is currently being tested and listeners will be advised when and where the stream is available as soon as the tests are completed and the performance is rated as acceptable.

Also being planned is a audio stream of the broadcasts via the Sydney IRLP Reflector on proposed Channel 5907.

Listeners will also be advised when the feed is being sent to the reflector.

Stay Tuned for further updates.

(73's until next time... Tony VK7AX, President, NWTARIG)

The episode of the 1960 BBC TV comedy series 'Hancock's Half Hour' starring Tony Hancock and in particular, the infamous bungling radio ham segment containing those now classic lines "It is ah not raining in Tokyo" and

"GLK London calling the world" is available on YouTube.

This classic episode shows Hancock as a ham radio enthusiast who receives a mayday call from a ship in distress but keeps getting distracted just before he can take down its position.

The episode is split into three parts.

To view log onto YouTube and type in Tony Hancock.
(rsgb)

WIRELESS WEATHER

Last week we brought you the new courtesy of Graham Rogers in VK6 that the solar flux figure of 66 was reached June 20 and maybe we were at the bottom of the cycle, Graham said maybe we drag along the bottom for awhile OR enter a 'Maunder minimum'.

So what is a Maunder minimum I hear you ask.

Justin VK7TW in the VK7 news explains it thus:-

"The Maunder Minimum is the name given to the period roughly from 1645 to 1715, when sunspots became exceedingly rare, as noted by solar observers of the time. It is named after the solar astronomer Edward W. Maunder (1851 1928) who discovered the dearth of sunspots during that period by studying records from those years. During one 30-year period within the Maunder Minimum, for example, astronomers observed only about 50 sunspots, as opposed to a more typical 40,000 50,000 spots."

NOW ROBERT BROOMHEAD - VK3KRB.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS - FAITH.
Churches and Chapels on the Air

CARF ESTABLISHES ECHOLINK NET

In the United States, word from Lloyd Colston, KC5FM, that the Christian Amateur Radio Fellowship has established a new network on Echolink.

Using the K6JWN conference server number 127901, the net meets Saturday at 1400 UTC.

Christian hams from around the world are invited to participate.

More is on-line at www.carf.net
(ARNEWSLINE)

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- FEMALES IN RADIO
ALARA - AUSTRALIAN LADIES AR ASSOCIATION
http://alara.org.au
Net is held each Mondays on 3.580 MHz, commencing at 1030 UTC.
(1000utc during daylight saving)
geencee@picknowl.com.au

Kaye VK4VKS has passed on word that the Queenslanders of ALARA will
celebrate, on 14th of July, ALARA's 32nd Birthday.
This AT THE Gold Coast Amateur Radio Society club room, 85 Harper Street
Nerang.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RADIO AMATEUR OLD-TIMERS
http://www.raotc.org.au

OLD TIMERS
Members and friends of the Radio Amateurs Old Timers Club Australia are
reminded that the next news and information broadcast will take place on the
first Monday of the Month.

using the RAOTC callsign of VK3OTN.

10.00 am Victorian time on 7.060 and 3.650 MHz plus 1.843 MHz AM, and
145.700.

On 14.150 MHz at 01.00 UTC beaming north and 02:00 UTC west from Melbourne

For those not yet retired, 8.30 PM Victorian time tune 80 mtrs 3.650 MHz

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RESCUE RADIO

EMERGENCY FREQUENCIES REGION ONE
21.360 - 18.160 - 14.300 - 7.060 - 3.760 MHz.

Bharat Balsavar VU2BDX has put the call out in India, a suggestion/reminder
all local ham groups get themselves equipped for emergencies particularly
weather related events.

"With the monsoon setting in, we are again in that part of the year when
floods and cyclones will quite likely hit some places.

We should ideally have two types of volunteers - one that is prepared to
move to and rough it out in the vicinity of such emergencies and the other
those that are prepared to provide com support from their homes for
relaying messages and coordinating with local authorities.

Also a list of items to be kept ready as 'emergency kits' - equipment,
batteries, mobile/portable antennas, solar cells, personal protection
equipment (PPEs), medicines - preventive and curative, etc. irrespective of
whether one is working out of home or mobile at the emergency site.

73, Bharat, VU2BDX"

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WIANews - we've reported...YOU decide.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to
the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may
lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might

even get a "cheerio call".

Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of the National WIA.

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WIANews THANKS OUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS , OUR RELAY OPERATORS ACROSS THE WORLD FOR FORWARDING INFORMATION AND COMMENTS THEIR LISTENERS HAVE PASSED ON TO MAKE WIANews VK'S LEADING WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PROGRAM.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au
Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".
Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of QNEWS for the National WIA.
Thanks to to our dedicated band of broadcast volunteers who utilize their time and equipment in bringing you this weekly broadcast.
The purpose of "WIANews" is to rapidly provide news of interest to active amateurs residing in Australia and the globe.
We strongly encourage membership in the Wireless Institute of Australia and participation in the activities of local clubs.
Opinions expressed in "WIANews" are those of the writers who submit material and do not necessarily reflect those of the rebroadcasters, nor the National WIA.
Material may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, a credit to WIANews wouldn't go astray...
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1276. GB2RS NEWS Sunday 8 July 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-07 19:37:54 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200707071900.l67J0KY24047@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4181
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

1 GB2RS NEWS Sunday 8 July

The news headlines

* New Islands on the Air website

* Dick Biddulph, M0CGN / G8DPS becomes Silent Key

* Sheffield and Rotherham RAYNET Group to the rescue

* Hungarian amateurs get experimental licence for 70 MHz

The RSGB Islands on the Air scheme, sponsored by ICOM, launched its new website on 21 June. The new site includes many innovative improvements, and contains also many new features including the ability to view one's own record of confirmed island groups. Soon it will be possible for participants to claim additional credits on line and even to claim credit for IOTA Contest QSOs without the need for QSL card verification.

The site at www.rsgbiota.org has already proved to be a great success. Within the first week, 34,308 pages had been viewed an average of about 4,900 per day by users in 64 different countries. The homepage, search page and island group information pages being the most popular. About 383 users have registered to use the QSO credits part of the site, of which 163 are new to the IOTA programme, proving the value of moving to an on line management system.

The site was developed primarily by Dominic Smith, M0BLF, with Martin Atherton, G3ZAY, acting as the liaison between the project team and the IOTA Committee. Enquires about the website can be emailed to IOTA.online@rsgb.org.uk.

The RSGB is saddened to announce the death of Dick Biddulp, M0CGN/G8DPS. Dick served two terms on the RSGB Council in the mid 1990's, was the long standing chairman of the former RSGB Publications committee and editor of the RSGB Handbook. Dick passed away on Monday 25 June and his funeral took place on Friday 6 July.

Sheffield and Rotherham RAYNET Group were activated during the week in response to the flooding in South Yorkshire. The main concern was the Ulley dam, amid fears it could collapse and swamp nearby villages. The group were stood down at 9pm on Tuesday evening, but contingency plans were put in place to reactivate the group should the need arise.

An experimental radio licence has been issued to Haros Radioklub in Hungary that permits its 30 members to use the 70MHz band. This is the

first time that the band has been made available to amateurs in that country.

The licence started on 1 July and is valid for 30 days. The aim of the experiment is to study propagation of radio waves in the 70 MHz band. Until February this year the band was used for FM broadcasting. The frequency range permitted for the experiment is 70.000 - 70.500 MHz and the licence is valid for all operating modes including CW, SSB, narrow band FM and digital modes like JT6M. Maximum effective radiated power (ERP) is limited to 1kW.

The original request was submitted in April and the National Communications Authority responded quickly and cooperatively. In the experiment the amateurs have to identify themselves by a "call name" as

2 well as their normal callsign. The call name is composed by a prefix "70m" and a suffix of the amateur radio callsign, for example 70M1BVC HG1BVC 70012.5kHz JN87FI beacon.

The long term goal for the club is to contribute towards the joint efforts of gaining a 70MHz allocation for amateur radio service in Hungary and worldwide.

AMSAT-UK will be holding their 22nd International Space Colloquium at the University of Surrey, Guildford, from 20 to 22 July.

The Colloquium keynote lecture will be given by Pat Norris, Chairman of the Royal Aeronautical Society Space Group, entitled "Spies in the Sky: Surveillance Satellites in War and Peace". Starting with Sputnik 1 and the impact of its launch 50 years ago both on the Soviets and on the West, Pat will also discuss the social, economic and scientific benefits of satellites today in our daily lives. His presentation will take place on 20 July and will be followed by the SSC Research Poster Exhibition and tours of the satellite ground station.

The event is open to all. The RSGB GB4FUN van will be present throughout the event to allow visitors to work the satellites. A Beginners Workshop will be held on 20 July and an RSGB bookstall will be available on 21 July. For further details see www.uk.amsat.org/Colloquium/.

Participation in the IARU HF World Championship due to take place on 14 to 15 July has grown steadily for the past four years, despite solar activity trending in the wrong direction. The creation of Low Power and QRP categories has contributed to increasing both the popularity and the competitiveness of the event.

The ARRL administers the HF World Championship on behalf of the IARU. At its May meeting this year the IARU Administrative Council discussed various issues related to the event and asked that the ARRL devote the resources necessary to maintain a high standard of adjudication.

A condition of entry in the IARU HF World Championship is that each entrant agrees to be bound by the provisions of the announced rules, by the regulations of his or her licensing authority. Also by the decisions of the ARRL Awards Committee acting for the IARU International Secretariat. Leading competitors should expect their entries to be carefully scrutinised. If exceptional results are claimed, entrants must be prepared to explain how they were achieved.

The RSGB will be fielding a new call sign this year for the IARU HF Championship: GB7HQ. The contest takes place from 1200Z on 14 July to 1200Z on 15 July, GB7HQ intends to be active on all the HF contest bands on both CW and SSB. A list of the operators and host stations can be found at the station website, www.gb7hq.com.

The team are particularly keen to contact as many RSGB members on as many bands as possible and on both CW and SSB. They are also aiming to recognise contacts with GB7HQ. G3LZQ has agreed again to manage an awards program, with a series of attractive certificates on offer. These are

* Bronze award - for contacting GB7HQ on three band or modes

* Silver award - for contacting GB7HQ on six band or modes

* Gold award - for contacting GB7HQ on nine band or modes

* Platinum award - for contacting GB7HQ on twelve band or modes

Any operator on any station will be able to tell you the run frequency of all the other stations, irrespective of band or mode. The QSL manager for GB7HQ will be Nigel, G3TXF, either direct, via the bureau or Log of the World.

The EU Commission has adopted a Communication establishing the EU's positions on what needs to be achieved at this year's International Telecommunication Union, World Radiocommunication Conference, WRC-07.

3 At the conference, 191 countries will decide how they will share the radio spectrum, particularly for important application sectors including mobile communications, broadcasting and air transport.

The Commission highlighted a number of EU objectives that Member States negotiating at WRC-07 should achieve, including:

* Accommodating the spectrum demands of future terrestrial mobile systems

* Ensuring the effective protection of Earth Exploration and other scientific services from harmful

interference

* Satisfying the necessary spectrum requirements for digital radio broadcasting and for maritime

services in the 4 to 10 MHz bands

* Providing enough spectrum for aviation applications

* Preparing actions to support Community policies for the next WRC Conference due in 2011,

concerning spectrum flexibility, climate change and the Single European Sky.

And now for the details of rallies and events for the coming week

[Note to newsreaders: please exercise your judgement on whether to read the 8 July event, based on your service area and time of transmission]. On Sunday 8 July the York Radio Rally takes place from 10.30 at York racecourse. Details from Arthur, G8IMZ, on 07841 120 738. On Sunday 15 July the McMichael Rally and Boot Sale takes place from 9.30 at Reading Rugby club, just off the A4, east of Reading. Details from G0JMS, on 01189 723504 or on the web at www.McMichaelRally.org.uk. More details of these and future events can be found on pages 88 and 89 of the July edition of RadCom. Now for the news of special events

On 8 July, the Sudbury and District Radio Amateurs will be putting on special event station GB4LMR. It will take place at the Long Melford Rally, at the Farm Machinery Preservation Society's steam rally at Melford Hall, Long Melford in Suffolk. Operation will be from 80m to 10m and possibly 160m on SSB and digimodes. QSL via M0MJH direct or via the bureau. The Yeovil Amateur Radio Club will be operating GB2MBS Marconi Beam Station on HF throughout the day at New Barn Centre, Bradford Peverell, near Dorchester, on 15 July. It will be commencing at 1000 BST to mark the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the passing away of Guglielmo Marconi. On the day contact Derek, M0WOB, on 07974759669. Finchampstead Scout Group will be putting on a special event station GB1FSG on 22 to 30 July on SSB on the scouting HF bands on either 3.690, 3.940, 7.090, 7.190 or 14.290MHz + or - QRN. The station will be operated from the Lake District. Special event station 9A07P will be active on all bands and modes until 31 December to celebrate the city of Djurdjevac. All QSOs will be confirmed automatically via the bureau. And now the HF DX news compiled from 425 DX News, the Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin and other sources.

David, OK1FJD, will operate on the HF bands and 6 metres as 4O6DJ from Montenegro until 14 July. QSL via OK6DJ.

4 UA9, Asiatic Russia, DL6XK, Gerhard, will operate the special station UE9CXK from Sverdlovsk, until 15 July. QSL via DL6XK via bureau. A Swedish expedition to Market Reef, is taking place until 9 July. Three or four operators will be active as OJ0/homecall on 160 to 2 metres CW, SSB and digital modes. More information will follow. Claude, F5OGE, will be active as CN2GE and CN2GE/m from Morocco between 13 and 29 July. He will be travelling from Tangiers to Rabat, Marrakech, Benni Mellal, Fes, and Tetouane and again Tangiers. Claude will operate CW and SSB, mainly on 40 and 20 metres, early in the morning and late in the evening (local time). QSL via home call, direct or bureau. Art, KG6ZWD, will be active as SV1/KG6ZWD/p from mainland Greece on 11 to 15

and 24 to 25 July. He will also operate as SV8/KG6ZWD/p from Andros Island, EU-067, on 17 to 23 July. Expect holiday style activity on 10 to 40 meters SSB and PSK31. QSL via home call, director bureau. Announced SSB frequencies where the 5 to 20 July operation from Botswana might be on are: 1840, 3790, 7075, 14220, 14265, 18145, 21270, 24935, 28450 and 50110. The team will be signing A25HQ during the IARU HF World Championship. Hank, W0CZE, will be active as YJ0CZE from Vanuatu on 14 to 21 July. He will operate on 10 to 80 meters SSB, 28495, 24950, 21295, 18150, 14190 & 14250, 7082 and 3795 kHz and CW 28020, 24895, 21025, 18075, 14020, 10105, 7010 and 3505 kHz. Rod, YJ8RN, of the Vanuatu Amateur Radio Society, is helping with preparations on site. QSL via W0FF. Marq, CT1BWW, Juan Carlos, EA3GHZ and Tomas, EA5YH, will operate as FS/home call and PJ7/home call from Saint Martin and Sint Maarten on 15 to 25 July. They plan to be active on 80 to 6 meters CW, SSB and digital modes with two stations. Further information can be found on their web site www.dxciting.com. Jose, CT1EHX, Toze, CT1GFK, Goncalo, CT1GPQ, Miguel, CT1IUA, Rui, CT2IHP, Jose, CT1DVG, Jose, CT1EPS, Arnaldo, CT2IOV and Antonio, CT2IOU, will operate SSB, CW and RTTY on 160 to 6 meters as CS26X until 22 July for the 26th International Motorcycle Rally in Faro. QSL via CT1EHX, direct or bureau. Look for RV3ATS, RV3ATT and RU3AVF to operate on 10, 15, 20, 40, 80 and 2 metres as RV3ATS/p from 16 mountains located in various different Russian Districts until 21 July. They also plan to participate in a number of contests on the VHF and HF bands. QSL via RV3ATS, direct or bureau. Pete, W2GJ, C6APR, Ed, K3IXD, C6AXD and Randy, K4QO, C6AQO, will be active from Crooked Island, NA-113, ARLHS BAH-005 on 26 to 30 July. They will operate CW, SSB, and RTTY on 80 to 6 meters and will participate in the IOTA Contest as C6APR. All QSLs via K3IXD. Now the contest news

The RSGB 80m Club Championship takes place between 1900 and 2030 on 11 July on the 3.5 MHz band, SSB mode. The exchange takes the form of RST and serial number. The IARU HF Championship takes place between 1200 on 14 to 1200 on 15 July on 1.8MHz to 28MHz bands, CW and SSB modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, ITU Zone.

5 The RSGB 144MHz Backpackers Contest takes place between 1100 to 1500 on 8 July on the 144MHz band, all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. The RSGB 432MHz activity Contest takes place between 2000 to 2230 local on 432MHz band on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. The RSGB 50MHz Backpackers takes place between 1100 to 1500 on the 50MHz band, all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number, locator and postcode. Now the solar factual data for the period from 25 June to 1 July, compiled by Neil Clarke, G0CAS.

During the second half of the period the solar disc had two sunspot groups visible. However, solar activity was very low except for the 29th when a single low strength C class solar flare took place. Solar flux levels increased from 68 units on the 25th to 75 by the 28th and the 29th. The average was 73 units. The 90 day solar flux average on

the 1st was the same level as last week at 74 units. X-ray flux levels remained below the A1 for the majority of the time. Geomagnetic activity was quiet except for the 29th when activity increased due to a small recurring coronal hole. The Ap was 13 units. The average was Ap 6 units. Solar wind speeds increased from 330 kilometres per second on the 26th to 570 by the 30th. Particle densities started around 3 particles per cubic centimetre but on the 28th densities increased to 32 particles per cubic centimetre. A further increase to 57 particles per cubic centimetre took place the next day. Bz varied between minus and plus 4 nanoTeslas on the quiet days and between minus 12 and plus 9 nanoTeslas during the coronal hole disturbance. The past week saw the best VHF sporadic-E of the current season. There was a morning opening to Japan at 50MHz, which favoured stations in the north of England and Scotland. This was probably attributable to Short-path Summer Solstice Propagation, featured in G3FPK's VHF column in the current issue of Radcom. There were also good 50MHz openings to North America on several days, at times reaching the mid-west and the southern states. Multi-hop sporadic-E from North America was also reported on Ten metres. And G7CNF reported an interesting contact with VE9AA, cross-band between four and six metres on the 25th. And finally the solar forecast. This week the quiet side of the Sun is expected to be looking our way. Solar activity should be very low. The solar disc could be spotless on some days. Solar flux levels are expected to decline and be in the 60's for most of the week. Geomagnetic activity should be quiet except for around midweek when a small recurring coronal hole disturbance could take place. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitudes should be around 19MHz for the south and 16MHz for the north. The darkness hour lows should be around 10MHz. Paths this week to the East Coast of North America should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success rate of about 19MHz. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success rate will be around 15MHz. The best time to try this path will between 1300 and 2200 hours UTC. Sporadic-E should take place most days this week. Also during any good openings on 50MHz, look for multi-hop openings to North America, several have took place over recent weeks. Also openings to southern Europe on 144MHz are still a possibility.

And that's all for this week from the propagation team.

6 Next, the Local News:

Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses

and website links where known.

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your

transmission.]

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST

and EAST ANGLIA On Sunday 8 July Felixstowe and District Amateur Radio Society is running special event station GB2FX for Felixstowe Museum at Landguard Fort. Contact Paul, G4YQC, by email to paul.whiting@bt.com.

On Sunday 8 July Southdown Amateur Radio Society is operating at the Beachy Head Site. Contact John, G3DQY, on 0124424319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

On Monday 9 July Basingstoke Amateur Radio Club is having a club meeting. Contact Frank, M0AEU, by email to barc@2lo.info.

On Monday 9 July Coulsdon Amateur Transmitting Society is having a DF hunt discussion and contest planning, plus Concorde video. Contact Andy, G8JAC, on g8jac@btinternet.com.

On Monday 9 July Surbiton Heritage Amateur Radio and Electronics Society will be welcoming new members and having an on the air evening. Contact Tony, G7DGW, on g7dgw@shares.uk.net, or on the web at www.shares.uk.net.

On Wednesday 11 July Aylesbury Vale Radio Society is having a BBQ hosted by Gerry and Mandy. Contact Roger, G3MEH, on 01442 826 651, or by email to roger@g3meh.com.

On Wednesday 11 July Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is planning for the McMichael Rally. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

On Wednesday 11 July Dover Radio Club is having a talk on fox hunting by Brian, G4SAU. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk.

On Wednesday 11 July Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is having a debate: "this house believes that the internet will kill off amateur radio". Contact Jim, M1JJN.

On Wednesday 11 July Farnborough and District Radio Society is having a talk on PSK31 by Derek, G3OFA. Contact Colin, M3IHS.

On Wednesday 11 July Harwich Amateur Radio Interest Group is having a BBQ and magnetic loop on-air night. Contact James, M0ZZO, on 01255 242 746.

On Wednesday 11 July Havering and District Amateur Radio Club is having an informal evening. Contact Dave, 2E0EBV, on 07956 594 514.

On Wednesday 11 July Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is having a briefing for members on the DF Trophy. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

On Wednesday 11 July South Essex Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on the history of codes by Ken, G0BBN. Contact Dave, G4UVJ, on 01268 697 978, or by email to southessex.ARS@btinternet.com.

7 On Wednesday 11 July Worthing and District Amateur Radio Club is having a video evening. Contact Roy, G4GPX, on 01903 753 893.

On Thursday 12 July Horsham Amateur Radio Club is having a fox hunt. Contact or on the web at www.harc.org.uk.

On Thursday 12 July Radio Society of Harrow is putting G3EFX on the air. Contact Linda, G7RJL, on 020 8386 8586, or on the web at www.g3efx.org.uk or Chris 01895 621 310.

On Thursday 12 July Reading and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk previewing the St Brandon DXpedition by Don Field, G3XTT. Contact Pete, G8FRC, on 01189 695 697, or on the web at www.radarc.org.

On Thursday 12 July Shefford and District Amateur Radio Society is having the club BBQ at Summerfields. Contact David, G8UOD, on 01234 742 757.

On Friday 13 July Hilderstone Radio and Electronics Club is having a talk by Don, G4TKR, on D-Star and PCB design with Eagle software. Contact Mike, G4MIX, on 01304 813 175, g4mix@waitrose.com.

On Friday 13 July Itchen Valley Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on ships communications by Vic, G3NVB. Contact Liz, M0ACL.

On Friday 13 July Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is having a radio night. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Friday 13 July Wimbledon and District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk and demonstration of the magnetic dip circle. Contact Jim, M0CON, on 020 8874 7456.

On Saturday 14 July Felixstowe and District Amateur Radio Society is having a field activity day at Hallowtree Scout Camp, Nacton. Contact Paul, G4YQC, by email to paul.whiting@bt.com.

On Sunday 15 July Radio Society of Harrow is operating GB2DHH. Contact Linda, G7RJL, on 020 8386 8586, or on the web at www.g3efx.org.uk or Chris 01895 621 310.

On Sunday 15 July Reading and District Amateur Radio Club is running the McMichael Radio Rally at Reading Rugby Football Club. Contact Pete, G8FRC, on 01189 695 697, or on the web at www.radarc.org.

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST

On Sunday 8 July the Cornish Radio Amateur Club is running its rally at Penair School, Truro. Contact Ian, 01872 561 058.

On Monday 9 July Cornish Radio Amateur Club is having a computer section meeting. Contact Ian, on 01872 561 058.

On Tuesday 10 July Flight Refuelling Amateur Radio Society is running Intermediate training. Contact Tony, G3PFM, on 01202 622 262.

On Wednesday 11 July South Bristol Amateur Radio Club Debriefing of the CHF NFD Team. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282.

On Wednesday 11 July Taunton and District Amateur Radio Club is operating the club station. Contact William, G3WNI, on 01823 666 234, or by email to g3wni@btinternet.com.

On Wednesday 11 July Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is on the air. Contact Tony, G0WMB, by email to tonytsgarc@beeb.net.

8 On Thursday 12 July Yeovil Amateur Radio Club is having an introduction to Morse by G3MYM. Contact Derek, 01935 414 452, or by email to m0wob@tiscali.co.uk.

On Sunday 15 July Yeovil Amateur Radio Club Sunday afternoon is having a club BBQ at Ham Hill. Contact Derek, 01935 414 452, or by email to m0wob@tiscali.co.uk.

NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS

On Sunday 8 July Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is taking part in the RSGB VHF National Field Day at Crich, Derbyshire. Contact Carl, M0XBE, on 07979 092 447, or on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

On Monday 9 July Stourbridge and District Amateur Radio Society is having an open shack night. Contact John, M1EJG, on 01562 700 513.

On Monday 9 July Stratford Upon Avon District Radio Society is having a surplus sale. Contact Jack, G3VYE, on 01926 641 988.

On Tuesday 10 July Loughborough and District Amateur Radio Club is sorting out the club equipment ready for the move. Contact Chris, G1ETZ, on 01509 504 319.

On Wednesday 11 July Lincoln Short-Wave Club is having its summer quiz and BBQ. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

On Wednesday 11 July Telford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a purchases night to decide what the society needs. Contact Mike, G3JKX, on 01952 299 677, or by email to mjstreetg3jkx@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Thursday 12 July Salop Amateur Radio Society is working on the SARS Power Meter. Contact Glenda, G1YJB, on 01939 235 412.

On Thursday 12 July Stafford and District Amateur Radio Society is working on the "El Beano project" at Cannock Chase. Contact Graeme, G4NVH, on 01785 604 534, or by email to graeme.boull@ntlworld.com.

On Friday 13 July Coventry Amateur Radio Society is on the air and having a BBQ. Contact John, G8SEQ, on 02476 273 190, or by email to johng8seq@ntlworld.com.

On Friday 13 July Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is having a members forum evening. Contact Carl, M0XBE, on 07979 092 447, or on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

On Saturday 14 July Lincoln Short-Wave Club is visiting Boultham Park Gala. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

On Sunday 15 July Coventry Amateur Radio Society is having a visit to Bletchley Park. Contact John, G8SEQ, on 02476 273 190, or by email to johng8seq@ntlworld.com.

NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

On Monday 9 July Thornton Cleveleys Amateur Radio Society is having an inquest on VHF Field Day. Contact Jack, G4BFH, by email to jack.duddington@btinternet.com.

On Tuesday 10 July Halifax and District Amateur Radio Society is having a members technical evening at Rishworth School. Contact Brenda, 2E0YKS, by email to wrenuk10@yahoo.com.

9 On Wednesday 11 July Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is having a talk and video by Gary Wilkinson on Atlantic 252. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Thursday 12 July Morecambe Bay Amateur Radio Society is having a film night. Contact Chris, M5XYZ. On Friday 13 July South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is on the air. Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999.

On Friday 13 July Tynemouth Radio Club is having a crystal set competition. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

NEWS FOR SCOTLAND

On Sunday 8 July Dundee Amateur Radio Club is taking part in VHF National Field Day. Contact Martin, MM0DUN, on mm0dun@dundee-amayeur-radio.co.uk, or on the web at www.dundee-amateur-radio.co.uk.

NEWS FOR WALES

No news items have been received for Wales this week. NEWS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

No news items have been received for Northern Ireland this week.

And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast, prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

1277. IRTS Radio News Bulletin, Sunday July 8th 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-08 20:00:27 UTC
From: news at irts dot ie <devnull@panix.com>
Message-ID: <200707082000.l68K0Ar16631@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4182
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Irish Radio Transmitters Society
Radio News Bulletin

Sunday July 8th 2007

Silent Key Se&#65533;n Cooney EI5GH

The many friends of Se&#65533;n Cooney EI5GH will be saddened to hear of his death on Friday after a period of illness. Se&#65533;n was very well known in amateur radio circles and up to this year had the distinction of never having missed an AGM for more years than any of us would care to remember. All of those who went to Baggot Street in the early mid 1960's will have had along association with Se&#65533;n. After Baggot Street Se&#65533;n was a founder member of the City of Dublin Radio Club with Dermot EI9BT and John EI8DE both now also sadly deceased. He served as Treasurer of the Society for quite a number of years and up to the time of his illness he had been one of the readers of the two metre FM news bulletins in the Dublin area. His distinct voice and humour will be sadly missed on the two-metre news and on the NDR net on Monday nights.

We extend our deepest sympathy to his family. May he rest in peace.

Theory Examination

Last Thursday week forty-five candidates sat the theory examination for the experimenters licence at centres in Dublin and Carrigtwohill. The examination papers have been checked and the results were delivered to ComReg on Tuesday last. ComReg have been very efficient in sending out the results but it takes time as each candidate gets a breakdown of their results in each of the three sections of the paper. We appeal to candidates not to contact ComReg about the results, as results will not be given over the phone or by e-mail. The official letters will issue in due course. There is also no point in contacting the IRTS about results. The papers are checked by IRTS but the issue of results and the HAREC certificate to successful candidates is a

matter exclusively for ComReg.

CQIR

Great interest is being expressed worldwide in the Society's 75th Anniversary Contest CQIR, which will take place on the last weekend in September. The contest is a celebration of Ireland and the Irish, throughout the world and with 40 million people in the United States alone claiming Irish forefathers; we expect that CQIR will be one of the largest 'one off' contests ever aired on the Amateur Bands. It is a 24-hour single operator contest with the emphasis on participation rather than winning and to this end every participant gains an entry ticket for a spectacular draw for every 75 QSO's made during the Contest.

The ticket drawn out of the EI/GI drum will win an all expenses paid long weekend in New York City for two people. ARRL have confirmed that this will include a visit to their national headquarters hosted by ARRL. Kinnitty Castle in Offaly will host the international winners for a week with flights for two from anywhere in the world. The prizes have been fully sponsored at no cost to the Society and this is really an excellent opportunity to celebrate the Society and its 75 years of service to Irish experimenters. We would encourage all Irish operators to be active during the Contest. So ring fence the last weekend of September in your diary, make an effort to have that new antenna up for the event and lets ensure a good show from the local Irish operators to support the international Irish who will no doubt come on the bands in their thousands for the contest. Full rules are on the IRTS website.

Limerick Radio Club

Limerick Radio Club has been invited by the Foynes Flying-Boat Museum to operate a special Amateur Radio Station in conjunction with the commemorative Transatlantic Re-Enactment Flight 1937 from Newfoundland Canada to Foynes Ireland. A special call sign has been allocated to the station EI-70-FOY. The station will be on the air from the 6th to the 8th of July 2007. On HF the station will operate from 80 to 10 metres. It will also operate on VHF / UHF using the EI70FOY call sign.

A special QSL card, commemorating the Re-Enactment Flight, will be sent to all stations worked over the

three-day event. All QSL cards should be sent to the Club's QSL Manager Alan Cronin EI8EM at QTHR. Limerick Radio Club can be contacted at ei4lrc at eircom dot net or at www.qsl.net/ei4lrc.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group

The next general meeting will take place on Monday the 30th of July at 8.00 p.m. in the Roanmore Centre, Waterford. All are welcome.

Road Racing Championships

On the 1st of July last, the National road racing championships took place in Waterford city and the event was hosted by Comeragh Cycling Club. The 13.3-mile course took in some of the busiest junctions and roundabouts in the city, a huge entry saw over 120 riders entered for the senior race and 30 for the junior. The senior race took in eight laps and the juniors five, Local operators (all AREN members) who had been involved in a similar type race last year were again asked to get involved in the traffic management side of things and readily agreed. AREN were then consulted and a course of action agreed.

First and foremost a site needed to be found for the AREN repeater that would provide radio coverage over the entire course and a site was subsequently found and tests proved satisfactory. Following this a decision was taken to use signs at all junctions and roundabouts which meant that mobile operators not familiar with the course could identify their precise location and also ensured that net control could pinpoint any segment of the race at any time as this was vital for traffic management. Also a very simple radio protocol was adopted for the day, which ensured that all communications were kept short, and to the point with 14 operators involved on the day this was vital.

Race day saw all operators meet at race HQ at the W.I.T campus, firstly five mobiles were fitted with radios and antennas, mobile operators were Richie - EI9HR, John - EI7IG, EI7JS, Robbie - EI8FZB and Nicky - EI3JB. John, EI8JA then departed for the repeater site to set up the repeater aided by SWL David Gainda. John - EI2GN departed for the start/finish line to act as net controller while Conor - EI4JN was deployed as motorcycle mobile which enabled him to be deployed quickly anywhere on the course that he was needed. Mick

- EI3IQ, Gareth - EI7FZB, John - EI8FRB, Aidan - EI2CTB and SWL David went to their positions at various round-abouts and junctions. The senior race started promptly at noon followed ten minutes later by the juniors. Both races were accompanied by service cars also present on the course were officials of the cycling federations, Gardai, Ambulance service and Civil Defence.

Radio communications for the duration of the race was intense as the senior race was over in just more than four hours. Richie - EI9HR would like to thank all who helped out on the day also a big thank you to Neil - EI3JE for the loan of the equipment.

Foyle and District Amateur Radio Club

Foyle and District Amateur Radio Club, Bready, Strabane, Co. Tyrone will be heading to St. Angelo Airport, Enniskillen for the 2007 Jet World Masters competition. The competition itself runs from the 5th to the 14th of July. The club station will be on the air during the weekend July the 13th and 14th using the club's callsign MN0AKU/P.

This event is the ultimate radio-controlled model aircraft competition. These model planes are capable of speeds up to 250 miles per hour. One hundred pilots from 31 countries will be taking part in this competition. More information can be found on their website www.jwm2007.com

The club wishes to express its gratitude to all the operators who contacted them during the 2 days of their Amelia Earhart special event station on May the 20th and 21st. A sepia-tone photo of the aviator has been used for a unique QSL card and these will soon be sent out via the buro. Foyle and District Amateur Radio Clubs web address is www.mn0aku.org.uk.

Rally&#65533;s

The Cork Radio Club Rally will take place on Sunday the 23rd of September in the Blarney Park Hotel, Blarney, Co. Cork, the Waterford Rally will take place on the 21st of October 2007 in the Woodlands Hotel, Waterford and the Mayo Radio Rally will be on Sunday the 18th of November in the Belmont Hotel, Knock, Co. Mayo.

A full listing of upcoming rally&#65533;s is available on www.irts.ie.

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall, EI7IS at QTHR or by phone to 051-853806 or 087-6302026. Items for the radio news can also be faxed to 087 5 6302026. News should be submitted via e-mail to ﷺnews at irts dot ieﷺ for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Friday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday ﷺs bulletin.

1278. SARL News in English 9/7/2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-09 10:34:04 UTC
From: website@sarl.org.za
Message-ID: <8016BC12508B4EADBFC11EEF88ECD43C@toron>
Source record: 4183
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 08 JULY 2007

You are listening to ZS6SRL the official Radio Station of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is transmitted every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. To listen to a web stream or Echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links for details. This, and previous bulletins, can be downloaded from the www.sarl.org.za. You can also read or download previous bulletins from there and subscribe to receive future bulletins by email.

This transmission is by Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with relays on 3,695, 10,135, 14,235 and 51,400 MHz as well as 438,825 MHz in the Pretoria area. (Other newsreaders please change to suit).

SILENT KEYS

It is with regret that we have to announce that the keys of two radio amateurs became silent recently. They are:

Llew Strydom, ZSL-0062, who passed away 15th June 2007. Our sincerest condolences to his spouse Pat, other relatives and friends.

Ossie Osborne, ZS1KP, passed away on Friday 6th July. Our sincerest condolences to his relatives and friends.

(PAUSE)

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

It seems that the SARL web is having a problem with the acceptance and forwarding of news items for the bulletin and that may be why there is no news from clubs in this bulletin. We apologise for this inconvenience. We trust that the webmaster will soon get rid of this problem and that news will soon start to flow smoothly again.

In the news today:

SARL ANNOUNCES A REDUCTION IN RAE EXAM FEES

MORE FOR MEMBERS

ITCHEN VALLEY RADIO CLUB BURSARIES AWARDED

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

SARL ANNOUNCES A REDUCTION IN RAE EXAM FEES

During the President's Net last Sunday SARL President Graham Hartlett announced a substantial reduction in the RAE fees. The reduction has been made possible as ICASA has agreed that in future the SARL, as the national body for Amateur Radio, will be authorised to issue the RAE certificate. Effective immediately, the registration fee for both the class A and Class B examination will be an inclusive R300. There is an additional reduction for students under the age of 25 who can prove that they are full time students or learners. The fee will be R200. The fee will include one re-write should the candidate fail the first attempt at the examination, however no refunds will be considered.

The process for registering for the examination has also been streamlined. Candidates can download the necessary forms from the SARL website or request copies from the SARL administrator and after completion fax or mail the completed forms and required documentation to the SARL. It is important that candidates carefully follow the checklist on the RAE registration form to ensure that all the required documentation is submitted. Failing to do so may result in unnecessary delays.

The SARL is currently working with ICASA on combining the RAE certificate with the HAREC certificate as specified in the radio regulations. Once this has been finalised, candidates who pass the class A examination will receive a HAREC certificate which will be valid for application of an amateur radio license in CEPT countries and other countries which has contracted into the HAREC system. HAREC is the acronym for Harmonised Amateur Radio Examination certificate. This process may take a few weeks.

MORE FOR MEMBERS

Graham Hartlett also discussed the issue of more benefits for members. He said that the Council had accepted the principle that members should derive maximum benefit from their membership. As the National Body for Amateur Radio, a number of services must be available to all radio amateurs for which the SARL will in future charge an admin fee. He cited the example of the upgrade process from ZR to ZS. The process will be free for SARL members, but non-members will be charged an admin fee of R100. The SARL will also relook at the various services on the web and, where necessary, upgrade the website and increase the members only content.

He said that not all changes will be made immediately but will be an ongoing process over a period of time.

ITCHEN VALLEY RADIOCLUB BURSARIES AWARDED

The South African Amateur Radio Development Trust has awarded the three YARP - Young People in Amateur Radio Programme - bursaries sponsored by

the UK Itchen Valley Radio Club. The successful candidates are: Bongani Mondlana, Nfumo Khoza and Suzette van Wyk. They will study for the class A examination and write in October. Congratulations to the three students, we wish them success in their studies.

BAND PLANS AND SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT

Due to the shortage of local news we include and item taken from WIA News which is applicable to all radio amateurs world wide and which we may well take note of. (Read SARL where WIA appears in the text).

Amateur Self-Regulation.

Amateurs use a wide variety of different modes. Within one amateur band, activity can include CW, voice, satellite and EME activity, and ATV. The best way of avoiding clashes is to set aside different band segments for each of these activities, so that all amateurs can pursue their interests without interference.

Amateur band plans are voluntary agreements, often known as "Gentlemen's Agreements". They are sponsored by the WIA, but they are for the benefit of all amateurs. Most amateurs, WIA members or not, abide by the band plans because it makes sense to give everyone a fair go.

Clashes still occur at times, and the usual reason is lack of awareness of the band plans. Most amateurs are willing to change frequency if the problem is explained to them politely.

Band plans should satisfy a number of conflicting criteria:

They should take local conditions into account, but they should be consistent with international usage.

They should encourage spectrum efficiency, but they should also ensure that all modes have their fair share of spectrum space.

They should take the popularity of each mode into account, while still providing enough spectrum space for less popular activities. For example, ATV requires far more bandwidth per operator than other modes; and activities such as EME are of major importance regardless of the number of stations involved.

Band plans must be flexible enough to adapt to changing needs, but they tend to lose support if they are changed too often. The aim must be to think ahead and to make sure that future options are not closed off.

On the VHF-UHF bands, three main groups are:

CW/SSB: the preferred modes for weak signal work.

FM: Not suitable for weak signal work and not compatible with SSB or CW. This category also includes digital modes such as packet, which usually use FM mode on the VHF bands.

ATV: Requires a very large bandwidth but has a very low power density, so it needs an exclusive interference-free band segment.

Calling Frequencies

On the VHF bands, the band plans include calling frequencies. These frequencies are "meeting places" and should be used only to make initial contact before moving to another frequency. If you "hog" the calling frequency you will prevent others from making calls or hearing more distant stations that may appear on the frequency.

PROPAGATION CONDITIONS

Probably due to the web site problem and the fact that we could not contact our regular contributer, ZS6BZP, by telephone, Marten, ZS6ZY, acquired the information which follows for us.

At present the sun spot number is 12 with an associated sun flux figure of 71, which is evidence of very low sun activity. The geomagnetic conditions will be quiet to unsettled with sporadic active periods during the coming week.

Propagation graphs show that communication with Europe on 14 MHz may be successful between 09:00 and 17:00 UTC and sporadically on 21 MHz between 09:00 and 16:00 UTC.

To the Far East 7 MHz contacts may be successful between 02:00 and 18:00 UTC and on 21 MHz between 17:00 and 23:00 UTC. It is interesting that no data is shown for 14 MHz.

DIARY OF EVENTS

14 - 15 July - IARU HF World Championship; 22 July - Boland ARC 40 m Contest; 5 August - SARL HF Phone contest; 15 August - Last day to submit synopsis of proposed papers for SA AMSAT Space Conference; 23 August - Class B RAE; 6 October - SA AMSAT Space Conference; 18 October - Class A RAE.

SARL News invites clubs and individuals to submit news stories of interest to radio amateurs and shortwave listeners. Submit news stories if possible in both English and Afrikaans to www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date.

The SARL also invites you to listen to the programme Amateur Radio Mirror International, on the air every Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 695 kHz. For the web stream and echolink by ZS6FCS, visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links. A repeat transmission can be heard Mondays at 21:00 CAT on 3 215 kHz. Sentech sponsor the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

Today's South African Radio League news bulletin was compiled by Roger, ZR3RC, and transmitted by (your name and call sign)

Thank you for listening. 73

/EX

========== Message Ends ========== To edit or remove your entry from this mailing list go to www.sarl.org.za/members/admin/maildat.asp

1279. Which DX Spot list?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-11 14:16:23 UTC
From: jdp <k4jdp@bellsouth.net>
Message-ID: <5i5li.1530$O9.1349@bignews6.bellsouth.net>
Source record: 4184

Which listing gives the spotter and DX with a drop down tab telling the location of the station, what is the link?

73's,
K4JDP

1280. Re: Which DX Spot list?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-11 15:20:48 UTC
From: Fabian Kurz <usenet@fkurz.net>
Message-ID: <5fk7ntF3cd0s0U1@mid.dfncis.de>
Source record: 4185

jdp wrote:
> Which listing gives the spotter and DX with a drop down tab telling the
> location of the station, what is the link?

http://www.dxwatch.com/dxsd1.php

When moving the mouse curser over a spotted callsign, it shows
the name of the DXCC entity, continent, CQ- and ITU-Zones.

The site is loaded with Google ads and loads pretty slow here;
nothing like a real telnet cluster ;-)

73,
--
Fabian Kurz, DJ1YFK * Dresden, Germany * http://fkurz.net/
Online Log: http://dl0tud.tu-dresden.de/~dj1yfk/log.html

1281. Re: Which DX Spot list?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-11 16:42:45 UTC
From: The Shadow <Repose@Zilch.com>
Message-ID: <cM6li.263435$Fk2.24396@newsfe08.phx>
Source record: 4186

"jdp" <k4jdp@bellsouth.net> wrote in message
news:5i5li.1530$O9.1349@bignews6.bellsouth.net...
> Which listing gives the spotter and DX with a drop down tab telling the
> location of the station, what is the link?
>
> 73's,
> K4JDP

DX WATCH At URL:
http://www.dxwatch.com/dx
73 es gd dx -- Lamont

1282. [DXNL] DXNL 1527 (Jul 11 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-11 19:22:04 UTC
From: Robert Busch - DL7VOA <dxnl@dxhf.darc.de>
Message-ID: <41451198999.20070711211922@dxhf.darc.de>
Source record: 4187
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.dx,rec.radio.info

DXNL 1527 - Jul 11 2007
DX Newsletter

a free and weekly service of
DARC Committee "DX and HF contesting"
(http://www.darcdxhf.de)

editor: Helmut Schlaffer, DL7MAE
(e-mail: dxnl@dxhf.darc.de)

translation by: Bob, DL7VOA
(e-mail: dl7voa@darc.de)

FM - MARTINIQUE, NA-107
Alain,F5LMJ, will be active from Martinique (NA-107) signing TO5J from Jul 14-28. No further information has been released but Alain prefers working mainly in CW and digital modes. Alain usually sends the QSLs automatically via bureau and his log will be uploaded to the LotW, too.

FS/PJ7 - ST MARTIN, NA-105
Marq,CT1BWW, John,EA3GHZ, and Tomas,EA5YH, and their XYLs will spend their holidays on St. Martin (NA-105) from Jul 15-25. They will be QRV as FS/homecall working with two stations simultaneously in CW/SSB and digital modes on 80-6m. They will also make a trip to the Dutch side of the island from where they may show up as PJ7/homecall. All QSL cards should be sent to the OP's homecall. More information can be found on: http://www.dxciting.com

KH0 - NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, OC-086
Kay,JH0MRP (AC5TB) and Nao,JK1FNL (NA8O), will activate Saipan (OC-086) mainly on the WARC bands and 6m as AC5TB/KH0 (QSL via JH0MRP) and NA8O/KH0 (QSL via JK1FNL) from Jul 13-16. They intend to participate in the IARU HF Championship Contest (Jul 14/15) as well.

SV9 - CRETE, EU-015
Paolo,SV9/IK2MLS, will be QRV from his holidays working in SSB on HF, 6m and 2m from Jul 15-27. QSL via homecall.

T8 - PALAU, OC-009
Hide,T80W (JM1LJS), Motoaki,T88EK (JE1EKS), and Koya, T88PT (JI5RPT), will be active from the "IMPAC Palau Rental Shack" in SSB/CW on 40-6m and via satellite from Jul 13-18. QSLs via homecalls. The websites are: http://radio-dream.com/t80w and http://www.ji5rpt.com/t88pt
A view of the shack is here: http://palau.rental-shack.com/english

TA - TURKEY
Another special event station to celebrate the 100th birthday of the sports club Fenerbahce Istanbul will be YM1907FB from Jul 19-26. The call will be aired by Berkin,TA3J, on 2-160m. QSLs via bureau or direct to TA3YJ. If you send direct QSLs please enclose no money bills but IRCs. There will be no eQSLs and SWL reports are welcome. Feel free to check these two links: http://www.qsl.net/ta3j/ym1907fb and http://www.geocities.com/qslservice/ta3yj
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TA1FR, TA1HZ and TA2RX are working as TC25SG (25 years coast guard) on all bands from Jul 11-15. QSL via TA1HZ, direct or via bureau!

V3 - BELIZE
V31BV is the call of Dennis,K7BV, who is active from Caye Caulker (NA-073) until Jul 16 as printed in the last DXNL. He is also using the special callsign V36M exclusively on 6m and you can watch the QRG 50106 kHz where he runs a beacon. Both QSLs are managed by W1JJ.

Colin,KU5B, announces his operation as V31UB from Jul 12-17. He is going to spend most of the nights at the radio in CW and SSB and also considers a participation in the IARU HF Championship. QSL via KU5B.

V8 - BRUNEI, OC-088
Steve,9M6DXX, is staying in Brunei (OC-088) from Jul 11-15. He is QRV as V8FEO (QSL via M5AAV) in SSB on 10-80m and will take part in the upcoming IARU HF World Championship as well.

VP2M - MONTSERRAT, NA-103
Frank,K3TRM, applied for the callsign VP2MRM which he plans to activate on the volcano island Montserrat (NA-103) in SSB/CW/RTTY on 80-6m from Jul 11-14.

VP2V - BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS, NA-023
Nancy,WZ8C, Bob,WB5IUU, Cal,WF5F, Paul,W5PF, and Bill,K5WAF, are going to stay on Tortola Island (NA-023) from Jul 11-18. They will hit the airwaves as VP2V/homecall in SSB/CW/RTTY and also during the contest. QSL cards for all calls should be sent via bureau to W5PF.

YJ - VANUATU
Hank,W0CZE, and possibly a second OP will shop up as YJ0CZE from Jul 13-21. The QSL manager for YJ0CZE is W0FF.
Operation will take place on following frequencies (in MHz):
band CW SSB
10m 28.020 28.495
12m 24.895 24.950
15m 21.025 21.295
17m 18.075 18.150
20m 14.020 14.190/14.250
30m 10.105 ---
40m 7.010 7.082
80m 3.505 3.795

ZF - CAYMAN ISLANDS, NA-016
Eddie,N2EK, will spend his holidays on Grand Cayman (NA-016) and
will use the callsign ZF2EK from Jul 13-20. QSL via N2EK.

1A0 - SOVEREIGN MILITARY ORDER OF MALTA
Francesco,IK0FVC, will be the leader of a multinational team (OH2BH,
DL5MAE, DL6RAI, G3SXW, G3TXF, K5AB, KO4RR, N4WV (YL), I2UIY, I8NHJ,
IK0DWN, IK0FTA, IK0PRG, IW0GIV, IW0GPN, I0JBL) activating 1A0KM from
Jul 12-22. They will work on all bands from 23cm-160m and also via EME
for the very first time. Their QSL manager will be IK0FTA.
The log will be uploaded to the LotW and an online log can be found at:
http://1a0km.splinder.com

8Q - MALEDIVES, AS-013
8Q7JP is the callsign of James,M1DST, from Jul 9-16. He is working in
SSB on 80/40/20/15/10m without any stress since this is his honeymoon
and his wife comes first! QSL via his homecall.

PORTUGAL, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
Josu,CT1EHX, Toze,CT1GFK, Goncalo,CT1GPQ, Miguel,CT1IUA, Rui,CT2IHP,
Josu,CT1DVG, Jose,CT1EPS, Arnaldo,CT2IOV, and Antonio,CT2IOU, will
activate the special event station CS26X in SSB/CW/RTTY on 6-80m from
the 26th International Motard Meeting of Faro on Jul 16-22.
QSL via CT1EHX, direct or via bureau.

IARU HF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP, more announcements:
The IARU HF World Championship will be held on the weekend of Jul 14/15
this year. Additional activity announcements are listed below:
call class QSL route

AM1HQ 80m CW/SSB EA4URE
AM2HQ SB 160m (CW) EA4URE
AM3HQ SB 160m (SSB) EA4URE
AM4HQ 15m/40m EA4URE
AM5HQ 10/20/40m EA4URE
AM7HQ 10m CW EA4URE
FG5KC unknown FG bureau
GB7HQ Multi/Multi RSGB bureau
HS0AC Multi/? HS0ZFZ
LN2HQ Multi/Multi LA bureau
LR4A Multi/Multi LU4AA
LX0HQ Multi/Multi LX1KQ
OE1A Multi/Multi OE bureau
P40W SOAB N2MM
RW1AI/0 SOAB RW1AI
S50HQ Multi/Multi S5 bureau
VY2/KV8Q SOAB KC8UR
ZL1V Multi/Multi N3SL
8N1HQ Multi/Multi JARL (automatically)
8N3HQ Multi/Multi JARL (automatically)
8N4HQ Multi/Multi JARL (automatically)
9M4DXX unknown 9M2TO

LINKS: The video of C6ARI has been uploaded to Youtube and can found at:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8wTkbywWcdk

Current SOTA activities (mountain summits) are announced at:
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/activations.php or
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/spots.php

UPCOMING CONTESTS

Jul 7/8: DL DX RTTY Contest, Original QRP Contest
Jul 8: DARC Digital Contest Corona
Jul 14/15: IARU HF World Championship Contest

IOTA collected by Fredy,DE0MST (e-mail: iota@dxhf.darc.de)

Island activities:
AF-004, EA8, Canary Islands: OM Wolfgang,DF8AA, will spend his holidays on
the island El Hierro and will also activate several lighthouses as
DF8AA/EA8/p from Jul 14-28. QSLs via homecall.

AS-060, HL4, Cholla-Namdo Province Group: Members of the Gwangju DX Club
plan to be QRV from Ch'ung Island from Jul 14-17. QSL via HL4XM.

EU-112, GM, Shiant Islands: A few members of the Grantham ARS are activating
House Island (Eilean an Tighe) as GC0GRC/p and GS0GRC/p from Jul 10-13.
QSL via bureau.

NA-092, W5, Texas State West Group: Rick,N5EYT, will be on holiday as well
on Mustang Island (USI TX-001S) from Jul 14 until Aug 5. He also plans
activities from the IOTA islands Padre and Harbor during this time.
QSL via homecall.

NA-206, KL7, Barren Islands: Marvin,KL1YY, Bob,NF7E, and Art,NN7A, will be
QRV from Ushagat Island working with two stations (100W and verticals)
on 160-10m from Jul 12-17. NN7A/NL7 is going be QRV in CW, Marvin and
Bob in SSB. QSL via the appropriate homecalls, bureau is ok.

Announced activities for the IOTA Contest 2007 (Jul 28/29):
Callsign Island IOTA

IH9/IT9BLB Pantelleria AF-018
G7N Wight EU-120
GS3RCM Arran EU-123
MM3M Arran EU-123
GW8K Flatholm EU-124
IC8DI Dino EU-144
UT9FJ/p Berezan EU-179
UR5FCZ/p Berezan EU-179
UR5FEL/p Berezan EU-179
UA6AF/p Sudzhuk EU-185
W7ASF/KL7 Prince of Wales NA-041
KM5VI North Padre NA-092
N5LYG North Padre NA-092

C6APR Bird Rock NA-113
W1/VA3RMF Bailey NA-137
NY3A James NA-140

Lighthouse activities (ARLHS/WLOTA):

VA7MJR/p LH 1908/CAN 171 Jun 30-Jul 15
EA8/G7COD/A LH 0969 Jul 1-7
P3CA LH 0051/CYP 001 Jul 7/8
PY1ERR/p LH 0714/BRA 062 Jul 12-15
FG5KC LH 0644 Jul 14/15
SX5AS LH 0393 Jul 17-23
SV8/KG6ZWD/p LH 0212 Jul 17-23
ZF2DK LH 1042 Jul 22-29
CT3MD LH 3365/MAD 009 resident
CT3FT LH 3365/MAD 009 resident

Bandspots of the last 7 days

160m
OJ0/SM1TDE 1.825 2001Z via SM1TDE (B)

80m
A25OOK 3.506 2335Z via M5AAV (B)
TK/DJ5MX 3.780 2036Z via DJ5MX (B)
ZS6HA 3.799 2051Z
4S7N 3.794 2040Z see QRZ.com

40m
OJ0/OH3RM 7.001 2233Z via OH3RM (B)
OY/G3SXW 7.004 0616Z via G3SXW (B)
SN100S 7.057 0727Z via SP9ZHR
SV5/OE2LCM 7.005 1837Z
3Z50KCR 7.073 0703Z via SP5KCR (B)

30m
OJ0/SM0LQB 10.108 1225Z via SM0LQB
OJ0/SM1TDE 10.105 1615Z via SM1TDE (B)
OY/G3SXW 10.106 0626Z via G3SXW (B)

20m
OM/OK1CRM 14.019 2131Z
OJ0/SM0LQB 14.205 0722Z via SM0LQB
3Z50KCR 14.205 2220Z via SP5KCR (B)

17m
ID9/IZ0EHO 18.155 0630Z EU-017 (B)
OJ0/SM1TDE 18.070 1216Z via SM1TDE (B)
OY/G3TXF 18.082 0833Z via G3TXF (B)
P3CA 18.145 1327Z see QRZ.com

15m
E51JD 21.223 0627Z see QRZ.com

12m
A25OOK 24.896 1244Z via M5AAV (B)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = LotW

Preview

DATE CALL DXNL

12Jul-22Jul 1A0KM 1527 *
07Sep-24Sep 3B7C 1511
Nov/Dec 3D2AG/Rotuma 1522
-01Aug 3G100S 1526
29Aug-2007 3XM6JR 1484
07Jul-14Jul 4O6DJ 1526
-Apr/08 5H0RS 1515
-Apr/08 6W/EA4ATI 1515
01Apr-09Sep 8N3IAAF 1513
2007 9N7JO 1501

06Jul-20Jul A25CF.. 1526
-Apr/09 A52VE 1512
-Nov A61TX 1496
13Jul-16Jul AC5TB/KH0.. 1527 *
13Jul-29Jul CN2GE/m 1526
09Sep-14Sep CQ4IPY 1522
-Feb/08 DP0GVN 1496
2007/2008 EI100S(I) 1501
11Jul-21Jul ES0FTZ 1526
-30Nov EW905B 1523
-26Jul EU940OR 1526
01Jul-15Jul FV5VDM 1520
15Jul-25Jul FS/PJ7 1527 *

2006 -2008 J28JA 1484/85
-11Jul J8/W6JKV 1526
-Aug JA7QVK/DU7 1521
Jul -Aug KH3/W7KFI 1525
27Jun-11Jul N1DL/Pazif 1525
12Jul-17Jul NN7A/NL7 1527 *
-Aug OD5/ON4JM 1522
-30Jul OX3PG 1501

09Jul-16Jul PJ2/DH7SA 1526
09Jul-16Jul PJ2/DJ8NK.. 1526
15Jul-27Jul SV9/IK2MLS 1527 *
03Jul-17Jul SV9/SV1EJD 1525
13Jul-18Jul T80W.. 1527 *
11Jul-15Jul TC25SG 1527 *
NOW -2008 TL8QC 1459

14Jul-28Jul TO5J 1527 *
NOW -Sep TU2/F5LDY 1486

07Jul-17Jul V31BV (K7BV) 1527 *
12Jul-17Jul V31UB 1527 *
11Jul-15Jul V8FEO 1527 *
Jan -Dec VI3SAA 1499
11Jul-14Jul VP2MRM 1527 *
11Jul-18Jul VP2V/WZ8C.. 1527 *
Feb/08 VP6DX/Ducie 1521
May -Aug VP6TD 1517
Apr -Jul VQ9JC 1512
13Jul-21Jul YJ0CZE 1527 *
19Jul-26Jul YM1907FB 1527 *
-Sep ZD9BCB 1500
13Jul-20Jul ZF2DK 1527 *

* = new or updated
.. = and other calls

QSL information

A25SL via W5SL
CS25BWU via CT1BWU (B)
CS7HQ via CT1REP (B)
DR1COTA via DL1ATR (B)
EM75IG via UR7IA (B)
EM75ISI via UT5SI (B)
J8/W6JKV via W6JKV
MJ0ASP via F5SHQ (B)
MN5ALJ via MI3NMG
OH0Z via W0MM (B)
OJ0/SM1TDE via SM0LQB (B)
OJ0/SM0BSO via SM0BSO (B)
OJ0/SM0EPO via SM0EPO
OJ0/SM0LQB via SM0LQB (B)
OL160FK via OK1VRF (B)
OL160VRF via OK1VRF (B)
OY/G3SXW via G3SXW (B)
OY/G3TXF via G3TXF (B)
SE2T via SM2YIZ
SE3WMU via SM3WMU
SG60RK via SK1BL
SG7BBO via DL1BBO
T88NN via JI0NNM
T93J via OE1EMS
T93T via 9A2AJ (B)
T960ARA via T94GB
T99D via DJ2MX (B)
TA/OO6C via ON6CC (B)
TA1/HB9DUR via HB9DUR (B)

TA3/LZ1NK via LZ1NK (B)
TA4/OO6C via ON6CC (B)
TA4CW via F8CVR (B)
TC1919ATA via TA bureau
TC100FB via TA1HZ (B)
TC57ALAY via TA1HZ (B)
TC800YOM via TA1HZ (B)
VR10BG via VR2BG (d)
VR10UW via VR2UW (B)
VR10VAC via VR2VAC (B)
VR10XLN via VR2XLN
W1UE/VE1 via W1UE
ZY5P via PP5BZ
8J7VENUS/7 via JH7YES

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = Logbook of the World (LotW)

QSLs arrived direct: N8S (via YT1AD), VP8LP

Many thanks for contributing to this issue of the DXNL are going to:
Carl Smith (QRZ DX), 425DXNews, OPDX Bulletin, DF6EX (WIN-QSL), DJ5AV,DJ5MN,
DJ9ZB, DK8JB, DL1SBF, DL2BQV, DL3OCH, DL5MAE, DL6RAI, DL7VOA, F5NQL, HA0HW,
JI5RPT, LX2A, OE7AJT, SU9GD and others.

The German PDF version can be found on the DARC homepage at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/bulls/dxmb/2007/dxmb1527.pdf

Subscribe or unsubscribe to the DXNL mailing list yourself at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedxms.htm

1283. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1561 - July 13, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-13 18:36:40 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <E1I9OoU-0007nf-Bv@elasmtp-galgo.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 4188
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1561 - July 13, 2007

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1561 with a
release date of Friday, July 13, 2007 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. Hams down-under
respond as flood waters rise, wildfires won't
stop the fall Amateur Radio Direction Finding
Championship and the FCC says no to special
military call sign designators requeasted by the
QCWA. Find out the details on Amateur Radio
Newsline(tm) report number 1561 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RESCUE RADIO: VK HAMS VS. THE GIPPSLAND FLOODS

Ham radio proved to be an important channel of
communications as flood waters ravaged the
Gippsland area of Australia's Victoria
state. Jim Linton, VK3PC, of the WIA News has the details:

--

Providing communications support during the flood
disaster in eastern Victoria were seven radio
amateurs, members of RECOM the communications arm of the Australian Red
Cross.

John Patterson VK3ATQ of RECOM reports its role
was centered on emergency relief centers at
Paynesville, Sale, Bairnsdale and Lakes Entrance.

There the team registered 361 flood evacuees and
transmitted this information back to the Red
Cross Headquarters in Melbourne using data communications.

RECOM also provided other reliable communications
of administrative traffic for the Red Cross. The
operators involved included VK3ATQ, VK3AUO,
VK3BQS, VK3BPD, VK3EK, VK3GBJ and VK3XSW.

The floods at some locations cut power or put it
at risk and RECOM was fully prepared with self-reliant auxiliary power.

John VK3ATQ found himself being interviewed numerous times by the ABC as part of its public information coverage as the flood disaster unfolded.

The RECOM guys with their communications 'go-kits' and four wheel drive vehicles were activated for five-days in the flood areas.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Jim Linton, VK3PC.

--

According to VK3PC, RECOM began in Australia's Victoria state. Its is now grown to become a nation-wide service group with ever increasing recognition. (WIA News)

**

RESCUE RADIO: EAS MISTAKE IN ILLINOIS

Several hundred radio and television stations in Illinois were affected by an E-A-S mistake the morning of June 26th. This, when the Illinois Emergency Management Agency was testing new equipment in what was supposed to be a closed-circuit test of the 10-minute presidential alert message from FEMA.

Between 7:30 and 8 a.m., depending on when each station in the chain got the message, their programming was taken over for 10 minutes. A monthly test would have lasted for two minutes, as opposed to the 10-minute presidential alert.

The Illinois Emergency Management Agency said it had no advance warning of the test and that the federal government used a hot or active code rather than a test code for the test message. Chicago, Rockford, Quincy, and Springfield were among the affected areas.

FEMA says it's trying to upgrade EAS with satellite delivery, and the snafu occurred in Illinois because a contractor improperly installed equipment and basically created an open loop. The system was not supposed to be on line at the time. (RW, listerner reports)

**

RADIOSPORTS: WILDFIRES WONT HAMPER ARDF CHAMPIONSHIPS

The recent wildfire near Lake Tahoe on the Nevada and California border has not put an end to the planning for this year's hidden transmitter hunting championship games. They will take place

as planned. Amateur Radio Newsline's Joe Moell K0OV, has the story.

--

It's full speed ahead with preparations for the Seventh Annual Championships of Amateur Radio Direction Finding, or ARDF. This year's championships will take place on the weekend of September 14 through 16 in the El Dorado Forest near Lake Tahoe. That's in the Sierra Mountains near the California/Nevada border. Primary sponsor is the Santa Barbara Amateur Radio Club. Marvin Johnston KE6HTS is General Chair of the organizers.

Most of the competitors will be staying at Camp Concord, a rustic but comfortable facility that's two miles west of the city of South Lake Tahoe, near the shore of Fallen Leaf Lake. Camp staff will provide meals during the events, and everyone can walk to the competition courses from there.

Registration opened in early June and plans for the championships were proceeding. Then on the afternoon of June 24, a forest fire broke out south of Fallen Leaf Lake. Fanned by high winds, it moved rapidly northeast into a nearby residential area. Over 550 firefighters worked diligently around the clock to slow the expansion of the burn area and prevent further structure damage.

Full containment of the Angora fire, as it was called, was achieved just before Independence Day. It destroyed 3100 acres, 242 homes and 67 commercial buildings. Total loss has been estimated at 11.7 million dollars.

Camp Concord is 1.6 miles from the edge of the burn area and has reopened for the summer camping season. The entire burn area is closed until at least November 30 to protect the fragile environment. But the forest land near the shores of Fallen Leaf Lake has mostly been spared.

With a few minor map revisions, everything looks good to go. Early Bird registration was scheduled to end on July 14, but because of the delay, that deadline has been extended to July 31

You and your family are invited to the championships this year. Anyone with reasonable physical abilities can participate. A ham license is not required and there are no age limits, but you must be able to run or walk

through the forest and carry your DF gear for
five to ten kilometers. You might even win a
spot on USA's team to the next ARDF World
Championships. Read more about the
championships, and international-style
transmitter hunting, at the usual
place: homingin.com. Homing In is entered as one word, homingin.com.

From southern California, this Joe Moell,
K-zero-O-V for Amateur Radio Newsline.

--

Again, this year's ARDF Championship games will
take place on the weekend of September 14 through
16 in the El Dorado Forest near Lake Tahoe. And
as Joe said, more is on-line at www.homingin.com. (K0OV, ARNewsline(tm))

**

RADIO SPORTS: IARU WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

The International Amateur Radio Union's High
Frequency World Championship operating event is
taking place as this newscast goes to air. RSGB
News Reader Jeramy Boot, G4NJH, has some
background on the event and how its scoring security is enforced:

--

Participation in the IARU HF World Championship
due to take place on 14 to 15 July has grown
steadily for the past four years, despite solar
activity trending in the wrong direction. The
creation of Low Power and QRP categories has
contributed to increasing both the popularity and
the competitiveness of the event.

A condition of entry in the IARU HF World
Championship is that each entrant agrees to be
bound by the provisions of the announced rules,
by the regulations of his or her licensing
authority. Also by the decisions of the ARRL
Awards Committee acting for the IARU International Secretariat.

Leading competitors should expect their entries
to be carefully scrutinised. If exceptional
results are claimed, entrants must be prepared to
explain how they were achieved.

Im Jeramy Boot, G4NJH

--

According to the ARRL Letter, the League
administers the High Frequency World Championship
on behalf of the IARU. (GB2RS)

**

REGULATORY NEWS: FCC TO RESCIND E-MAIL FILING SYSTEM

Starting this September, there will be no filing
at the FCC by fax or e-mail. Radio World reports
that the regulatory agency is doing away with
interim procedures it adopted in 2001 to allow
electronic filing of certain pleadings.

The procedure in question came into being
following an anthrax scare on Capitol Hill and
some U.S. Postal Service processing
facilities. This disrupted mail delivery and
required certain documents to be filed via fax or
e-mail, by an overnight delivery service other
than the U.S. Postal Service, or by hand-delivery
to the commission's Capitol Heights,
Maryland location. Since that time, mail
delivery in the Washington areas has improved and
the FCC has implemented its own processes to
combat the threat of contamination of incoming
mail. The commission also has expanded its online filing capabilities.

Based on this, the agency decided to rescind the
interim procedures effective September
25th. After that date, filings will no longer be
accepted by facsimile or e-mail unless otherwise
authorized by the FCC's rules. Its not clear if
this decision to revert back to the old system
will affect ham radio operators filing of rules
change requests or those making comments on them. (Published reports)

**

Break 1

From the United States of America, We are the
Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin
stations around the world including the AA5RO
repeater of the Alamo Area Radio Association, serving San Antonio Texas.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RERGULATORY NEWS: VEC MISTAKE LEADS TO PROPOSED
LICENSE DOWNGRADE

The FCC says that a clerical error made by the
W5YI VEC has resulted in Joseph K. Lewis, N1LNV,

being granted an un-earned upgrade. Now the agency wants to take it back. And it will do so unless Joseph K. Lewis files an objection to the regulatory agency within the next several days. Amateur Radio Newsline's Henry Feinberg, K2SSQ, has more:

--

According to an FCC release, back on April 10th of this year the W5YI Volunteer Examiner Coordinator sent an electronic data file to the Commission, One requesting that Joseph K. Lewis's operator license for station N1LNV be upgrade to General Class operator privileges. Based on this application, the Commission granted the request the same day.

Then on dated May 16th, the W5YI V-E-C notified the Commission that it had made a typographical error in the April 10th data filing and that Lewis had not qualified for a General Class operator license. It urged the FCC to modify Lewis's license to correct the Technician Class operator privileges for which he was actually authorized.

The FCC says that right now the W5YI V-E-C's request is most properly characterized as an informal request for Commission action under Section 1.41 of the Commission's Rules. However, based on the information now before it now, the FCC says that it appears to it that the grant of General Class operator privileges to Lewis was erroneous. This is because he did not pass the examination necessary to qualify for a General Class operator license. Rather, he appears to be currently authorized to operate with General Class operator privileges only due to a typographical error made during the application process.

So here's what happens now. The FCC says that it believes that a modification of the license for amateur station N1LNV to Technician is appropriate. That said, it is giving Lewis 30 days to file a statement opposing this action. If no objection is forthcoming from Lewis, he will be considered having waived his right to protest and will be deemed to have given the FCC his consent for the FCC action to change his license to Technician class to proceed.

For the Amateur radio Newsline, I'm Henry Feinberg, K2SSQ, reporting from New York.

--

The FCC order proposing the license modification was issued on July 9th. We will let you know the outcome of this one in about a month. (FCC)

**

RADIO LAW: QCWA MILITARY CALL SIGN PETITION DISMISED

The FCC has dismissed a rules change request asked by the Quarter Century Wireless Association. One that would have permitted hams who were currently a member of, or those who have been honorably discharged member of the United States military to include a unique indicator with the station's call sign identification announcement.

In saying no to this one, the FCC noted that its rules already permit the inclusion of indicators with the call sign during station identification. This, provided that no self-assigned indicator conflicts with any indicator specified by the Commission's rules or with any prefix assigned to another country. As such, the FCC says that Amateur Radio operators who are in current service or who have been honorably discharged already are permitted to identify their stations in the way that the QCWA suggests. As such, it deems this rule change as unnecessary. (FCC)

**

REGULATIORY NEWS: FCC WILL NOT CHANGE ID TIME PERIOD RULES

The FCC has said no to a pair of hams who sought to change the time period in which it requires an Amateur station to identify. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, has more:

--

There were two I-D time limit filings. In the first, Glen Zook, K9STH, of Richardson, Texas, had asked the regulatory agency require that hams transmit their callsign at the beginning and end of each single transmission and at other times involving short interval communications.

On the other side of the call sign issues was Murray Green, K3BEQ, of Cheverly, Maryland. Green had petitioned the FCC to reduce the required frequency of station identification

period to every 30 minutes, rather than once every 10 minutes as it is now.

In denying both petitions the FCC said that the present rule has not been shown to be burdensome or unreasonable. The agency said that it agreed with the comments that say that the problem of operators who do not comply with the current identification rule is better addressed by enforcement rather than another rules change.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the studio in Los Angeles.

--

The bottom line: The FCC sees nothing wrong with the current 10 minute I-D requirement and plans to keep it that way. (FCC)

**

RADIO LAW: A NEW PUSH FOR LPFM

Low Power FM station backers in Congress are pushing again to make the FCC ease restrictions on low-power stations. Proponents want the commission to eliminate third-adjacent minimum distance separation requirements between L-P-F-Ms and other full power F-M stations.

Backers say that when Congress authorized the FCC to issue L-P-F-M licenses in 2000, it attached an unnecessary rule that limited these stations to rural areas. Since then, thousands who submitted applications with the FCC to operate their own stations have been blocked.

But proponents point out that the FCC's own MITRE Study. In 2003 the Commission found that increasing the number of Low Power FM stations would not cause significant interference and that the FCC then urged Congress to repeal the restrictions. (RW)

**

RADIO HELP: NEW SHORTWAVE TRANSMITTER USERS REMAILER

Stephen Lockwood of Hatfield and Dawson Consulting Engineers has set up e-mail list servers on the Society of Broadcast Engineers Chapter 16 server to help shortwave transmitter users. According to the National Association of Shortwave Broadcasters, the servers are a forum for suggestions for maintenance and operation of Continental 418 and Harris SW 100 transmitters. For questions e-mail

lockwood@hatdaw.com. (Radio Remailer)

**

SPECIAL EVENTS: AIR VENTURE 2007 FROM WISCONSIN

Ham radio and flight will be coming together
later this month in Wisconsin. This, at one of
the worlds largest and best known fly-in
events. Amateur Radio Newsline's Jeff Clark, K8JAC, has more:

--

The Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club station ,W9ZL.
will once again run a special event
station. This. from Thursday July 26th through
Sunday July 29th from the grounds of the
AirVenture 2007 fly-in in Oskosh, Wisconsin.

The station will run from 1300 to 2100 U-T-C
each day on 14.270 and 7.250, as well as locally
on 146.520 and over the 146.760 repeater. The
latter requires a 100 hertz access tone. All
hams attending AirVenture are encouraged to stop
by to visit and be a guest operator at our station

A certificate will be sent to all High
Frequency contacts who QSL first with a 9" x 12"
Self Addressed Stamped Envelope. Send your QSL
info to Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club, Attn:
N9YMC at PO Box 5233, Appleton, Wisconsin, 54912.

--

Details about AirVenture 2007 are on-line at
www.airventure.org Information about the Fox
Cities Amateur Radio Club is in cyberspace at www.fcarc.us (N9MYC)

**

COMMUNICATIONS BUSINESS: BLOCKBUSTER SAYS YES TO BLU RAY DVD

Blockbuster Video rentals has chosen the Sony
backed Blu Ray high definition DVD as its next
generation video rental product. The move gives
significant weight to predictions that stores and
other retail outlets would begin to have a say in
the Blu Ray versus HD DVD format war.

Blockbuster came to its decision after test
marketing both emerging DVD formats in 250 of its
stores. After analyzing consumer response, it
decided to stock only Blu Ray disks in its next
1,450 stores to get high-def movies. HD DVD will

still be available online and at the locations
that Blockbuster used in testing rentals of both formats.

So far, the new high definition video disks
account for less than 1 percent of today's DVD sales. (Future Trends)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: AMSAT-UK SPACE COLLOQUIUM - JULY 20 - 22

AMSAT-UK will be holding its 22nd annual
International Space Colloquium at the University
of Surrey, Guildford, from July 20th to the
22nd. This years keynote speaker is Pat
Norris. Norris is the Chairman of the Royal
Aeronautical Society Space Group. His talk is
titled "Spies in the Sky: Surveillance Satellites in War and Peace."

Also, a Satellite Beginners Workshop will be held
on July 20th For further details take your web
browser to www.uk.amsat.org/Colloquium/. (GB2RS)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: DCC PAPERS DEADLINE JULY 31ST

Technical papers are solicited for presentation
at the 26th Annual ARRL and TAPR Digital
Communications Conference. That event is slated
to be held September 28th to the 30th in
Hartford, Connecticut. These papers will also be
published in the Conference Proceedings. Papers
will be published exactly as submitted and authors will retain all rights.

The submission deadline is July 31st. Please
send papers to Maty Weinberg, ARRL, 225 Main
Street, Newington, Connecticut, 06111. Or you
can make your submission via e-mail to: maty@arrl.org (ARRL, TAPR)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio
amateur. From the United States of America, We
are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the
world from our only official website at
www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the
volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: NEW HIGH SENSITIVITY CAMERA CHIPS

A new image sensor could revolutionize the way
you take pictures. Even those you send via A-T-V. Jim Davis, W2JKD, has
more:

--

Eastman Kodak says it's developed a color filter
technology that will at least double the
sensitivity to sensors used in digital
cameras. Kodak expects to provide samples of the
new chips to a variety of camera manufacturers in the first quarter of 2008.

The new technology is likely to be quickly
incorporated into mass-market point-and-shoot
cameras and camera-equipped cellular telephones
phones beginning sometime next year.

I'm Jim Davis, W2JKD.

--

The new sensors are not quite see in the dark
devices, but are the next step in getting there. (Science On-Line)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: AMSAT TO ELECT NEW LEADERS

Nominations for the 2007 AMSAT Board of Directors
have closed. The list of qualified candidates
includes Barry Baines, WD4ASW, Drew Glasbrenner,
KO4MA, Rick Hambly, W2GPS, Lee McLamb, KU4OS and Gunther Meisse, W8GSM.

The terms of four directors are up this
year. Ballots and biographical information
submitted by each candidate will be in the mail
to current AMSAT members by July 15th. Return
ballots are due back at the AMSAT office in
Silver Spring, Maryland no later than the close
of business on the 15th of September.

The winners names will be announced shortly
thereafter. Terms of the new directors start
upon certification of the election. AMSAT
Directors serve a two year term. (ANS)

**

WORLDBEAT - SWITZERLAND: HD RADIO DAYS IN OCTOBER

The second HD Radio Days event is taking place in
Lucerne, Switzerland in October. The gathering,
at Hotel Radisson SAS Lakefront, will include a
presentation of the final report on the Swiss HD
Radio field trial reported above. A variety of
test vehicles equipped with HD Radios will be on

hand for participants to drive. Separate workshops will demonstrate a frequency assignment simulation, plus receivers. A detailed program and registration information will be posted in August. (Media Net)

**

WORLDBEAT - SOUTH AFRICA: NEW LOWER HAM TEST FEES

The cost of taking a ham radio test in South Africa is going down, This, according to South African Radio League President Graham Hartlett, ZS6GJH who has announced a substantial reduction in the cost of taking that nations Radio Amateur Exam.

According to Hartlett, the reduction has been made possible because the nations telecommunications regulator has agreed that the South African Radio League, as the national body for Amateur Radio, will be authorized to issue the Radio Amateur Exam certificates. This takes a major expense off the governments shoulders. The new lower fee will include one re-test should the candidate fail the first attempt at the examination. (Southgate)

**

WORLDBEAT - UK: NEW IOTA WEBSITE OPENS

The RSGB's premier DX award program has launched its new website. Devoted entirely to the Islands on the Air or IOTA program, the spot in cyberspace came on-line on Thursday, June 21st.

The new web pages feature many innovative improvements including the ability to view one's own record of island groups confirmed. In the near future it will be possible for participants to claim additional credits on-line and even to claim credit for IOTA Contest QSOs without the need for QSL card verification.

The site is located at www.rsgbiota.org. It was developed by Dominic Smith, M0BLF, with Martin Atherton, G3ZAY, acting as the liaison between the project team and the IOTA Committee. (GB2RS)

**

WORLDBEAT - UK: ANALONG MAY END IN 2015

According to an article in the Sunday Telegraph newspaper, commercial radio companies in the

United Kingdom are looking to set a firm end date for analog radio.

The industry body RadioCentre was expected to approach the British broadcast regulator, Ofcom, about setting a shutoff date for analog radio that could be as early as 2015.

An analog shutdown would mirror the transition path being followed by the U-K television industry, which will see an end to terrestrial analog broadcasting in 2012.

There is a concern, according to the Telegraph report, that only a firm analog shutoff date will ensure continued investment and development of digital radio, although there are political concerns about making millions of analog receivers obsolete. (RW)

**

WORLDBEAT - UK: NEW IOTA WEBSITE OPENS

In other news from around the world, word that the RSGB's premier D-X award program has launched a new website. Devoted entirely to the Islands on the Air or IOTA program, the spot in cyberspace came on-line on Thursday, June 21st.

The new web pages feature many innovative improvements including the ability to view one's own record of island groups confirmed. In the near future it will be possible for participants to claim additional credits on-line and even to claim credit for IOTA Contest QSOs without the need for QSL card verification.

The site is located at www.rsgbiota.org. It was developed by Dominic Smith, M0BLF, with Martin Atherton, G3ZAY, acting as the liaison between the project team and the IOTA Committee. (Southgate)

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DX

In DX, word that A multinational team lead by Francesco, IK0FVC, will activate 1A0KM from the Sovereign Military Order of Malta between July 12th to the 22nd. Activity is planned for 160 meters through 23 centimeters on all modes. There will be a possibility of some EME activity during the first weekend of operations. QSL via IK0FTA.

Also, A25CF, and his team of operators are active from Botswana until July the 20th. Activity is on

160 through 6 meters on CW and SSB, with operations also on 6 and 2 meters along with 70 centimeter EME. QSL as directed by each operator.

Worldradio magazine editor Nancy Kott, WZ8C, and several others are operating from the island of Tortola through July 18th. The group is participating in the FISTS CW Club summer sprint on Friday July 13 and the IARU contest the weekend of the 14th. Operation during the rest of the time will be on SSB, RTTY and CW with an emphasis on straight key operation. QSL via the FISTS bureau or W5PF

Lastly, listen out for EA1FCH, will be active portable CU2 from Sao Miguel in the Eastern Island Group from July 27th through August 5th. Activity will be on the lower bands and WARC bands, mainly CW and the Digital modes. QSL EA1FCH direct or via the bureau.

(Above from various DX newsletters and other sources)

**

THE NEWSLINE ON-LINE SURVEY: JUNE RESULTS AND A NEW ONE FOR JULY

And finally this week, we have the results of the past months on-line Newsline website survey that asked you what your favorite ham radio magazine is. Coming in as the most read was the ARRL's Q-S-T Magazine with 63.3% of the vote. In second place among our listeners is Worldradio. It garnered 18% of the vote. Third place in went to CQ with 13.5%. The rest of you voted "other" and accounted for 5.2% of those who responded.

As we have said in the past, these surveys are not meant to be a scientific sampling. Rather, it's a fun way for those of you interested to tell the rest of the world your choice.

And in keeping with the fun theme of our surveys, the new one now on-line asks a follow up question. This one asks where in your home do you read your favorite ham magazine.

Again, you have four choices. Please go to www.arnewsline.org and cast your vote right now. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline@arnewsline.org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), P.O. Box 660937, Arcadia, California 91066.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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1284. The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 28 (Friday, July 13, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-14 08:14:27 UTC
From: ARRL Letter Mailing List <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <200707140354.l6E3sZG4027388@linux11676.dn.net>
Source record: 4189
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter
Vol. 26, No. 28
July 13, 2007
***************

IN THIS EDITION:

* + FCC Releases Post-Katrina Order, "Final Rule"
* + ARRL EXPO at 2007 National Convention in Huntsville
* + Amateur Radio Now Legal in all Texas Public Schools
* + FCC Dismisses Three Amateur Station Identification Change Requests
* + ARES Members Serve Firefighting Efforts in California
* + Oklahoma ARES Members Assist with Floods
* Solar Update
* IN BRIEF:
+ ARRL Board Meets July 20-21
This Weekend on the Radio
ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Course Registration
+ VE2XPO on the Air Again 40 Years Later
DXCC Honor Roll, DX Phone Contest Coverage in QST
ARRL Membership Newsletters, Bulletins and Notifications
Field Day a PR Success
Howard Lester, W2ODC (SK)
Let Us Know

+Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/>

==========================================================
==>Delivery problems: First see FAQ
<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/faq.html#nodelivery>, then e-mail
<letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
==>Editorial questions or comments only: S. Khrystyne Keane,
<k1sfa@arrl.org>
==========================================================

==> FCC Releases Post-Katrina Order, "Final Rule"

On July 11, the FCC released their Order regarding the recommendations
of the independent panel reviewing the impact of Hurricane Katrina on
communications networks (the Katrina Panel). It contained their
conclusions following a review of the comments filed in response to the
FCC's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM). The Commission asked for
comments a week after the release of the report and recommendations of
the Katrina Panel and directed the Public Safety & Homeland Security
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Bureau (PSHSB) to implement several of the recommendations. The FCC also adopted rules requiring some communications providers to have emergency/back-up power and to conduct analyses and submit reports on the redundancy and resiliency of their 911 and E911 networks. The FCC's actions are to go into effect August 10.

The Commission noted that "the amateur radio community played an important role in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and other disasters," and instructed the PSHSB to "include the amateur radio community in its outreach efforts."

The FCC invited comments on the Katrina Panel's recommendation that the FCC "act to enhance the public safety community's awareness of non-traditional emergency alternative technologies that might be of value as back-up communications systems in a crisis." Several commenters suggested that the public safety community be educated about the applicability of Amateur Radio in a crisis. The FCC agreed with these comments, saying that improving the public safety community's knowledge of, and training in, alternative technologies would improve preparedness for future crises. They directed the PSHSB to "develop and implement an awareness program to educate public safety agencies about alternative technologies and to encourage agencies to provide regular training on any alternative technologies to be used," including educating public safety agencies about alternative technologies.

The recommendations said that several Amateur Radio operators recommended changes to Part 97 of the FCC's rules; Part 97 is the section that covers Amateur Radio. Many of the suggestions, the report said, have already been implemented, and as such, require no further action. For example, "the Commission recently eliminated Morse Code proficiency as a license qualification requirement, an action supported by several commenters in this proceeding."

The FCC once again made clear that Part 97 "does not prohibit Amateur Radio operators who are emergency personnel engaged in disaster relief from using their amateur radio bands while in a paid duty status." This changed this past December in WT Docket 04-140, the "Omnibus" Amateur Radio Report and Order (R&O).

The Commission also previously decided to phase out RACES station licenses, "making proposed changes to rules relevant to these licenses moot." ARRL Regulatory Information Specialist Dan Henderson, N1ND, notes that the FCC "is not phasing out the RACES program, just the RACES station licenses."

In his comments to the Katrina Panel, W. Lee McVey requested that the FCC initiate a rulemaking to create a new radio service in the 148-150 MHz band "to facilitate interoperability between different first responders during and following a national emergency." The FCC noted that the 148-149.9 MHz band is allocated on a primary basis for the federal mixed, mobile and mobile satellite (Earth-to-space) service, and the 149-150.05 MHz segment is allocated on a co-primary basis for

federal and non-federal mobile satellite (Earth-to-space) and radio navigation.

The FCC's report said "[This] petition does not address this use nor does it explain what rules would be necessary to govern access to this spectrum. Given the potential impact of McVey's proposal to spectrum allocated for federal use, we direct PSHSB, together with the Office of Engineering and Technology (OET), to seek feedback from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) on this petition."

The FCC said that when it receives the feedback, they will direct PSHSB and OET to make a determination on the appropriate action to be taken on McVey's petition.

==> ARRL EXPO at 2007 National Convention in Huntsville

Join the ARRL in Huntsville, Alabama the weekend of August 18-19, 2007 for the ARRL National Convention, held at the Huntsville Hamfest, in the all air-conditioned Von Braun Center. The Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communication Conference (GAREC) will meet in Huntsville prior to the hamfest on Thursday and Friday, August 16-17.

This year, the ARRL is pulling out all the stops in planning the National Convention. According to ARRL Sales and Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, "ARRL will have a big exhibit on the convention floor for ARRL EXPO 2007. The ARRL EXPO was first introduced as a major component of the 2005 National Convention in Dayton, Ohio. We're excited to bring this exposition to Huntsville." This special exhibit area will feature ARRL program representatives, activities, presentations and the huge ARRL bookstore.

Get a free gift when you join or renew your ARRL membership at the ARRL EXPO. Plan on picking up a free 2007 National Convention button and frequency chart, as well as free copies of QST, NCJ and QEX (while supplies last). See live presentations every half hour at the ARRL Stage, and hear from ARRL volunteers and staff on a variety of topics. ARRL EXPO is equipped with wireless Internet. Any laptop or device equipped for wireless will enjoy Internet access within the ARRL EXPO vicinity. ARRL EXPO will also include a small Internet cafe with computers set up to browse. Access your e-mail and the Internet. Surf away -- compliments of ARRL.

Last year, more than 4000 people attended the Huntsville Hamfest; organizers expect 2007's attendance to top 5000, with more than 40 vendors displaying their Amateur Radio wares. Almost 400 tables will be available for rental. Unlike many other hamfests, the flea market is in an air-conditioned building, something much appreciated in Alabama in August.

An exciting forums schedule is in store. Dr David Hathaway, a nationally known and well-respected expert on Sunspot activity and solar cycles, will be speaking. Also, Dr Monte Bateman will return to the hamfest this

year. He's NASA's "Go-to Guy" when it comes to weather, specializing in lightning strike predictions and prevention. In the past, his forums have been standing-room only as he discusses lightning prevention as a it applies to Amateur Radio.

Along with, and in conjunction with the National Young Ham of the Year awards, Rebekah Dorff, WG4Y (2006's National YHOTY), will host Alabama's YHOTY activities, including a youth lounge for young hams, and prospective or new hams. The YHOTY for 2007, Grant Morine, W4GHM, is expected to be on hand to receive his award.

On Saturday, August 18, The ARRL Alabama Section will host a reception for Southeastern Division Director Frank M. Butler Jr, W4RH, honoring Frank's dedication and longtime service to ARRL and Amateur Radio. There will also be a D-STAR users' meeting and reception on Saturday evening from 6-8, hosted by the Alabama D-STAR Group. New and experienced D-STAR users are invited to attend to learn about D-STAR networks and to meet other users and digital technology experimenters. A DX Banquet is also planned for Saturday at 6:30 PM. Bob Allphin, K4UEE, will speak on the VU7 Lakshadweep DXpedition. Tickets are $29 per person.

For more information on the ARRL National Convention, please see <http://www.arrl.org/announce/nc/2007/huntsville.html>. To find out more about the Huntsville Hamfest, please see <http://www.hamfest.org/>.

==> Amateur Radio Now Legal in all Texas Public Schools

In what can only be termed a huge victory for the future of Amateur Radio in Texas, Governor Rick Perry signed Senate Bill 11 (SB11) into law in June. Among many disaster response specifications, the new law contains two important Amateur Radio-related provisions: State employees who are ham radio operators may to take up to 10 days of paid leave while participating in a disaster response or training exercise, and Amateur Radio is now allowed in all Texas public schools.

A single sentence in Article 2 of SB11 modifies the legal definition of a banned paging device by adding the following ham radio exception: "The term does not include an Amateur Radio under the control of an operator who holds an Amateur Radio Station License issued by the Federal Communications Commission."

Texas is the first state to enact such a sweeping change allowing school-based ham radio programs statewide. It is hoped that similar measures will be enacted in other states. Local clubs in Texas are urged to contact their school boards and encourage them to bring school policies regarding student possession of RF devices into compliance with the new law.

A decades-old provision in the Texas Education Code (Section 37.082) long ago granted Texas schools blanket authority to ban student possession of all RF devices, including ham radios. The old law was originally enacted with the best of intentions, but had unintended negative consequences both for student safety and for the cause of

Amateur Radio. More than 20 years ago Texas -- like many states at the time -- passed a law granting schools sweeping authority to ban student possession of "paging devices." The original intent of the law was to prevent on-campus drug dealers from communicating with one another using now-obsolete numeric pagers. Cut off their communication, the logic went, and drugs on campus would be seriously curtailed.

The old law broadly defined a prohibited "paging device" as any RF device which had the ability to vibrate, emit a sound, display a message, or in any way convey a communication to the possessor. There was no exception for school-based Amateur Radio programs or clubs. Practically all Texas schools immediately exercised their newly granted right by banning all RF devices to the maximum extent allowed by law -- and sometimes to a greater extent than the law allowed.

The result of the old law was that in most Texas schools, starting a ham radio club was simply out of the question. Existing ham radio programs were even removed from some San Antonio area schools as a direct result of the old law.

Although schools can still have basic rules of classroom decorum to insure that ham radio activities do not disturb academic instruction, SB 11 effectively puts ham radio programs on the same legal footing with all other student-initiated clubs and activities. Texas school teachers are now free to start ham radio programs. Students are now free to form school-based ham radio clubs. Individual students who have a ham license are even legally allowed to possess ham radios at school regardless of whether a club exists yet. SB11 takes effect on September 1. -- James Alderman, KF5WT

==> FCC Dismisses Three Amateur Station Identification Change Requests

On July 10, the FCC dismissed three separate petitions to Section 97.119 of the Commission's Rules. These petitions requested changes to the way amateur stations are identified. Two of the petitions requested that the time interval between required identification announcements be changed, while the third petition requested that certain combinations of letters be reserved for use by current or former members of the armed forces when identifying their amateur service stations.

The FCC said that "[b]ecause the petitioners seek to amend the rules to permit activity that the current rules already permit, or do not present sufficient evidence to justify altering the current rules, we are dismissing all three petitions." Section 97.119(a) of the Commission's Rules provides that an amateur station "must transmit its assigned call sign on its transmitting channel at the end of each communication, and at least every 10 minutes during a communication, for the purpose of clearly making the source of the transmissions from the station known to those receiving the transmissions."

Murray Green, K3BEQ, of Cheverly, Maryland, filed a Petition for Rulemaking (PRM) asking the FCC to amend Section 97.119(a), requesting

the FCC to reduce the required frequency of station identification to every 30 minutes, rather than once every 10 minutes.

Green's petition received approximately 100 comments, with the majority of those commenting in opposition to the petition.

The FCC, on finding that the present rule has not been shown to be burdensome or unreasonable, said they were not persuaded by comments that support expanding the interval between required identification to 15 or 20 minutes.

The FCC's response went on to say "that requiring a station receiving another station's transmission to listen for up to 30 minutes to determine the call sign of the transmitting station would compromise the ability of the amateur service to self-police, especially in light of the fact that other methods of identifying the station, such as looking up the station call sign based on the operating frequency, are not available because amateur stations do not operate on specifically assigned frequencies. It therefore is reasonable to require amateur station identification more frequently than is required of stations in other services."

The Commission noted that "a hallmark of enforcement in the amateur service is 'self-policing,' which depends on an amateur station hearing a message being able to determine the call sign of the transmitting station." The FCC concluded that "proposing to increase the time between required station identification transmissions would not improve or enhance the operation of amateur service stations or otherwise be in the public interest," and dismissed Green's petition.

Glen Zook, K9STH, of Richardson, Texas, filed a separate PRM, requesting that the Commission amend Section 97.119(a) to require that the call sign be transmitted at the beginning and end of each single transmission, as well as at the beginning and end of a series of transmissions between stations having established communications when each transmission is less than three minutes in duration. He also requested that the FCC amend the rule to require that the call sign be preceded by the words "this is" or "from" when voice communication is being transmitted, and require that the call sign be preceded by the prosign "de" when telegraphy is being transmitted.

The FCC agreed with the majority of commenters in the Zook petition, calling the proposed rules change "unnecessary and...burdensome." Saying that identifying before every transmission could "lead to congestion, such as during a contest when many amateur operators are trying to contact a distant station," the petition "does not demonstrate that so revising the station identification requirement would address the primary concern expressed by the petitioner -- that many Amateur Radio operators do not identify their station timely or at all."

The FCC said they agreed with the comments that say, in various ways, "that the problem of station operators not complying with the present

rule is better addressed by enforcement of the present rule, rather than a rule change. Finally, we note that while the current rule does not require identification at the beginning of a communication, many amateur stations already routinely begin a transmission with their call sign." As such, the Zook petition was dismissed.

The Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA) filed a PRM requesting that Section 97.119(c) be amended to permit an Amateur Radio operator who is a "current or honorably discharged member of the United States military to include a unique indicator with the station's call sign identification announcement." Section 97.119(c) of the Commission's Rules permits the inclusion of indicators with the call sign during station identification, provided that no self-assigned indicator conflicts with any indicator specified by the Commission's rules or with any prefix assigned to another country.

The QCWA, in support of their proposal, noted that "many Amateur Radio operators are serving or have served in the United States military, or became Amateur Radio operators during or following their military training in communications and electronics, and it states that this proposal would afford those individuals the option to advise others of their military service when they identify their amateur stations on the air."

Specifically, QCWA requested that the indicators AF, AA, NA, NM and ACG be reserved for use by current or honorably discharged members of the United States Air Force, Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard, respectively.

The FCC dismissed this petition, saying that "Amateur Radio operators who are current or honorably discharged members of the United States military already are permitted to identify their stations in the way QCWA suggests." The Commission went on to say that the QCWA "seeks to regularize the use of its proposed indicators to increase their recognition, the amateur community may do so without any change to the amateur service rules." As such, the FCC deemed such a rule change unnecessary and dismissed the QCWA's petition.

==> ARES Members Serve Firefighting Efforts in California

Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) members are assisting firefighters on the Zaca Fire, in Los Padres National Forest. More than 6500 acres of the forest are affected. The forest stretches across almost 220 miles from the Big Sur Coast in Monterey County to the western edge of Los Angeles County. ARES members from Santa Maria, in Santa Barbara County, are staffing roadblocks at the intersection of Figueroa Mountain Road and SR 154 and at the intersection of Happy Cyn and Baseline Roads. The roadblocks were established at the request of Santa Barbara County Fire Department.

The fire, which began July 4, is believed to be human caused, according to the US Forest Service. As of now, it is 37 percent contained. The

fire has now burned into the San Rafael wilderness, with the north flank of the fire currently burning in heavy, 40 year old fuels with a high dead to live ratio. Fuel moisture levels are extremely low and at a point that is usually not seen until late summer. Humidity is high, hovering at around 78 percent.

According to Donna Tooth of the US Forest Service, the fire is continuing to back down to the Sisquoc River. Plans are in the works to contain this portion of the fire, preventing it from spreading into areas that have not been burned since 1966. On its eastern side, the fire is burning along the Manzana Creek and has hit a portion of the Marre Fire of 1993. Firefighters are taking advantage of the younger vegetation and are attempting to "turn the corner" by applying direct line construction techniques. Firefighters are holding the fire on the north side of the San Rafael Ridge, south of the Sisquoc River and east of School House Canyon. The fire is threatening the Cody Cabin and the historic Manzana School House.

Fire commanders say the fire could grow significantly larger in the next 12-24 hours, and project containment will require 14 days or more.

==> Oklahoma ARES Members Assist with Floods

Due to record rainfall in June and July in Oklahoma, Texas and Kansas, many rivers and streams were already swollen or flooding. On July 2, nearly 15 inches of rain fell in southern Kansas, causing widespread flooding and damage and sending torrents of floodwater downstream into northeastern Oklahoma. On July 5, the American Red Cross requested the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) to provide communications support for their damage assessment teams in those flooded areas of Northeast Oklahoma.

The Caney River, which flows through the city of Bartlesville, Oklahoma, 60 miles north of Tulsa, overflowed its banks, causing flood damage to homes and businesses within the city, as well as widespread flooding in the farm lands in other parts of Washington County. In Miami, Oklahoma, 70 miles east of Bartlesville, the Neosho River crested as it snaked in and around the community. Water up to 10 feet deep filled homes and businesses and blocked roads and highways.

ARES set up a Net Control Station, and Amateur Radio operators equipped with handheld transceivers and magnet mount antennas rode along with each Red Cross Damage assessment team as they surveyed the flood damage in Northeastern Oklahoma. An ARES Rapid Response Team (RRT) from Tulsa, led by Larry Holden, KC5KLM, began the operation and the primary group assisting with the response. Operations to survey to damage began on July 6 in Bartlesville and continued July 7 in Miami.

The ARES team used the Bartlesville Amateur Radio Club's repeater and set up a temporary repeater in Miami to aid with communications between the teams in the field and the Net Control Station. Jeff Lawson, American Red Cross team leader for the damage assessment teams, praised

the ARES team's professional communication work.

==>SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Sun(spot) on My Shoulders" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: The average of daily sunspot numbers for this reporting week, July 5-11, were about the same as the previous seven days, declining slightly by less than two points. We've seen no zero sunspot days since an 11-day spotless period ended on June 25. If sunspot numbers continue at this level and higher, it will become easier to convince ourselves that the sunspot minimum is already behind us. Predicted planetary A index for July 13-19 is 8, 10, 8, 8, 8, 15 and 20. For the same period, Geophysical Institute Prague predicts quiet to unsettled conditions for July 13, unsettled July 14, quiet July 15-17 and unsettled July 18-19. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>.

==>IN BRIEF:

* ARRL Board of Directors to Meet July 20-21: The ARRL Board of Directors will be in Windsor, Connecticut for the second 2007 meeting. ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, said that the Board will be looking at the progress toward achieving the League's legislative objectives, among other things. On Thursday, July 19 at 1900 UTC, there will be a brief and informal dedication of the ARRL Diamond Terrace at ARRL HQ. ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, and Sumner will be on hand to assist with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

* This weekend on the radio: This weekend, the big event is the IARU HF World Championship, from 1200 UTC July 14-1200 UTC July 15. On July 13, the NCCC Sprint Ladder is on the air, and on July 14, look for the FISTS Summer Sprint. The Colorado QSO Party is on July 15-16, while the Run for the Bacon QRP Contest is on July 16. The NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint and the RSGB 80 Meter Club Championship (Data) are on July 19. Next week, look for the NCCC Sprint Ladder on July 20 and the VK/Trans-Tasman 160 Meter Contest (CW) on July 21. The North American QSO Party (RTTY) and the CQ World Wide VHF Contest are July 21-22. On July 22, the SKCC Weekend Sprint and RSGB Low Power Field Day are on the air. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests/>, the ARRL Contester's Rate Sheet <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rate-sheet/> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more info.

* ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Course Registration: Registration remains open through Sunday, July 22 for these online courses beginning on Friday August 3: Technician License Course (EC-010); Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 1 (EC-001); Radio Frequency Interference (EC-006); Antenna Design and Construction

(EC-009); Analog Electronics (EC-012) and Digital Electronics (EC-013). To learn more, visit the CCE Course Listing page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html> or contact the Continuing Education Program Coordinator <cce@arrl.org>.

* VE2XPO on the Air Again 40 Years Later: Forty years ago, in April 1967, more than 50 million people from five continents visited the Universal and International Exhibition (Expo 67), the World's Fair, in Montreal, Quebec Canada. Roland Masse, VE2PX, and the Radio Amateurs of Quebec (RAQI) set up and operated Amateur Radio station VE2XPO from Ste-Helene Island at the exhibition. Their first contact was with W1AW. More than 6000 contacts were made during the exhibition. Now, 40 years later, VE2XPO will be on the air again on all bands from July 13-29 using CW and SSB. It is planned for the first contact to be W1AW, just as it was 40 years ago. Masse, now 85 years old, and VE2XPO are looking to contact many US Amateur Radio stations. There will be a special QSL card -- QSL via Jacques Dube, VE2QK, 875 St-Severe, Trois Rivieres, Quebec G9A 4G4, Canada.

* DXCC Honor Roll, DX Phone Contest Coverage in QST: The DXCC Honor Roll listing, which normally appears in the August issue, will be in the September 2007 issue of QST. In addition, the ARRL International DX Phone Contest Results that normally appear in the September issue will instead appear in October.

* ARRL Membership Newsletters, Bulletins and Notifications: Did you know the ARRL offers more newsletters than just The ARRL Letter? One of the many ARRL membership benefits includes other newsletters, such as the ARRL Contest Rate Sheet (a bi-weekly contest newsletter), the ARES E-Letter (sent monthly, containing public service and emergency communications news), the ARRL Club News (monthly club news), the ARRL Instructor/Teacher E-Letter and the IARU E-Letter. You can also elect to receive news and information from your Division Director and Section Manager (keep in mind that not all Divisions/Sections send notices), as well as W1AW bulletins that relate to DX, propagation, satellites and Keplerian reports. The ARRL also offers a free notification service to members, letting them know when their membership and license are due to expire. Sign up for these newsletters, bulletins and notifications on the Member Data page of the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/members-only/memdata.html>.

* Field Day a PR Success: If you happen to be familiar with ARRL HQ, you may remember a very large bulletin board in the downstairs hallway. It is currently wallpapered with listings of Field Day media hits -- not even the items themselves, just lists of them: newspapers, radio, TV, blogs, Web sites, videos and special Public Service Announcements. ARRL Media and PR Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, said "The problem is that there is not enough space to put everything up because there are even more pages of listings to post and they are still coming in! In addition, not only were there more hits than ever, the quality of the hits was significantly improved. Articles and stories were longer, and had

pictures and better information. The credit for this avalanche goes directly to the hundreds of Public Information Officers and club members who took the time to advocate Amateur Radio for us all. It seems that clubs and groups were out for more than just the FD publicity points -- they wanted real PR this year, and they got it!"

* Howard Lester, W2ODC (SK): Howard Lester, W2ODC, died on April 16, 2007, in Alplaus, New York. He was 83. A Fellow of the Radio Club of America, he was one of the inventors of color television at RCA, and one of the inventors of tracking radar that locks onto moving targets. He worked with General Electric and Ericsson of Sweden to develop the basis of much of today's cellular telephone networking technology. A US Navy veteran, Lester taught radio and radar classes at the Navy Pier in Chicago during World War II. Lester was a member of the Schenectady Amateur Radio Association and the ARRL; he had an Amateur Extra class license and a First Class Radiotelephone license from the FCC. Lester was a 51-year member of the Alplaus Volunteer Fire Company, and served for many years as a firefighter, as well as on the Fire District Board of Commissioners and in the Fire Police. He frequently consulted on radio communications for the fire service in and around Schenectady County. Lester is survived by his wife Ruth; his brother Donald and sister Margaret Dalheim; sons, Carl, David, Donald and Eric; eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

* Let Us Know: What's your favorite part of The ARRL Letter? What kind of stories would you like to see in the Letter? Would you prefer the Letter in an HTML format? This is your Letter and your chance to let your voice be heard. Please send your suggestions to ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, at k1sfa@arrl.org, with the subject line "ARRL Letter Suggestions." All messages will be read and discussed, and we look forward to implementing positive suggestions into the ARRL Letter.

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The ARRL Letter is published Fridays, 50 times each year, by the American Radio Relay League: ARRL--the National Association for Amateur Radio, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111; tel 860-594-0200; fax 860-594-0259; <http://www.arrl.org>. Joel Harrison, W5ZN, President.

The ARRL Letter offers a weekly e-mail digest of essential and general news of interest to active radio amateurs. Visit the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org> for the latest Amateur Radio news and news updates. The ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/> also offers informative features and columns. ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> is a weekly "ham radio newscast" compiled and edited from The ARRL Letter. It's also available as a podcast from our Web site.

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==>ARRL News on the Web: <http://www.arrl.org>
==>ARRL Audio News: <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> or call
860-594-0384

==>How to Get The ARRL Letter

The ARRL Letter is available to ARRL members free of charge directly
from ARRL HQ. To subscribe, unsubscribe or change your address for
e-mail delivery:
ARRL members first must register on the Members Only Web Site
<http://www.arrl.org/members/>. You'll have an opportunity during
registration to sign up for e-mail delivery of The ARRL Letter, W1AW
bulletins, and other material. To change these selections--including
delivery of The ARRL Letter--registered members should click on the
"Member Data Page" link (in the Members Only box). Click on "Modify
membership data," check or uncheck the appropriate boxes and/or change
your e-mail address if necessary. (Check "Temporarily disable all
automatically sent email" to temporarily stop all e-mail deliveries.)
Then, click on "Submit modification" to make selections effective.
(NOTE: HQ staff members cannot change your e-mail delivery address. You
must do this yourself via the Members Only Web Site.)

The ARRL Letter also is available to all, free of charge, from these
sources:

* ARRLWeb <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>. (NOTE: The ARRL Letter will
be posted each Friday when it is distributed via e-mail.)

* The QTH.net listserver, thanks to volunteers from the Boston Amateur
Radio Club: Visit Mailing Lists@QTH.Net
<http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/letter-list>. (NOTE: The ARRL
cannot assist subscribers who receive The ARRL Letter via this
listserver.)

1285. SARL News in English 14/7/2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-14 15:08:05 UTC
From: website@sarl.org.za
Message-ID: <ACBE871F2D37464DBE6DDD8D6CA7970F@toron>
Source record: 4190
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 15 JULY 2007

You are listening to ZS6SRL the official Radio Station of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is transmitted every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. To listen to a web stream or Echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links for details.

This, and previous bulletins, can be downloaded from the www.sarl.org.za. You can also read or download previous bulletins from there and subscribe to receive future bulletins by email.

This transmission is by Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with relays on 3,695, 10,135, 14,235 and 51,400 MHz as well as 438,825 and 1 297 MHz in the Pretoria area. (Other newsreaders please change to suit).

SILENT KEY

It is with regret that we must announce the passing of J.J. Joubert (Jody), ZS6BLW, on Thursday 5 July 2007. Following his retirement from the Navy, he was involved with the Air Force Museum at AFB Swartkops and the National Military Museum in Johannesburg.

We extend our condolences to his wife Faith, family and friends.

PAUSE

In the news today:

SEE YOU IN BLOEMFONTEIN THIS COMING SATURDAY

WHEN NORTH IS NOT NORTH!

MEMBERSHIP CARDS ON THEIR WAY

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

SEE YOU IN BLOEMFONTEIN THIS COMING SATURDAY

The SARL Technology in Action programme hits Bloemfontein this coming Saturday, 21 July at the Advanced Training Wing at the School of Armour. Registration is at 08:30 with the official opening at 09:00. The programme is packet with interesting presentations. Tony Voorvelt

will open the presentations with "The mystery of the frog's thigh" - the story of the invention of the battery". Other presentations include "Cognitive Radio, an emerging technology that may make more intelligent use of the available radio spectrum", "Research in ionospheric radio propagation", "World Radio Sport Team Championships and DXpeditions", "WJST Software and Antennas for Long Distance VHF Work" and BACAR 2007 style, a fun project to take into school or for a club outing. Entrance fee is R 20 per person, learners and students enter free. The entrance ticket includes entry into the attendance prize draw.

Full details can be found by clicking on RTA on the SARL Web pages at www.sarl.org.za.

WHEN NORTH IS NOT NORTH!

Have you ever considered that if you align your beam heading on north using a compass that in fact you are way off target and that the further south you live the worse the error will be? Join Pieter Kotze of the Geomagnetism Group of the Hermanus Magnetic Observatory at the next Intecnet on Sunday 29 July for an interesting discussion. Before that you may want to read the science fiction novel Polar Shift by the author Clive Cussler. When will the poles flip and north become south? Clive Cussler has created a second to none fiction drama, Pieter Kotze will take us to the reality and discuss when it is likely to happen. Should we worry about it or should we rather get our antenna rotators properly aligned? The Intecnet discussion is on the air at 20:00, after the President's Net, on Sunday 29 July.

Clubs wishing to join their local repeaters for both the President's Net and the Intecnet should send an email to armi@sarl.org.za with details of the telephone number to be linked to the conference bridge.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS ON THEIR WAY

Members who have paid their 2007/2008 subscription will soon be receiving their membership card. Some final logistics are being sorted out. This year members will have to cut out the membership card which will be printed at the bottom of an acknowledgement letter. A credit card size plastic holder will be provided so that the card will fit snugly into your wallet or credit card holder. The SARL Administrator expects that she will be starting to mail the cards towards the end of this week.

The SARL thanks all members who have so promptly paid their 2007/2008 membership fees. An additional reminder invoice will be mailed to members who may have mislaid their invoice and who have not yet remitted.

If you are not a member yet, it is now a good time to join. The membership fee is less than R6 per week or R305 per year for full members. Seniors over 65 years of age pay R184 per year with an additional discount of 20% for this financial year putting it at R147.

CONTEST NEWS

THE BOLAND ARC 40-METRE CONTEST

This is a fun activity to promote contacts on 40 metres between radio amateurs in Southern African countries and will be on the air on Sunday 22 July from 15:00 to 18:00 CAT. The exchange is a RS report and postal code. Only wire antennas and a maximum output of 100 watt may be used.

Contacts with Southern African stations are worth 1 point. The Boland ARC club station, ZS1BAK, will be activated and a contact with this station counts 5 points, only one contact is allowed. Log sheets shall be submitted within 15 days after the contest and can be sent by e-mail to zs1bak@mailbox.co.za or by snail mail to BARK, PO Box 2105, Dennesig, 7601.

The contest committee for the SARL Digital Contest has only received five logs and it has been decided to extend the closing date to Monday 23 July 2007. Log submissions can be sent by e-mail to zs6bne@nwinternet.za.org or by normal mail to The Lichtenburg ARC, Box 410, Lichetenburg, 2740. Remember the winner of this competition will receive a Yaesu VX-2R Handheld.

CLUB NEWS

PEARS to provide radio communications.

The annual Volkswagen Rally (one in the series of national events) will take place on 20 and 21 July, in the general area of Port Elizabeth, Uitenhage and Jeffreys Bay. Some of the special stages will be run in the Longmore Plantation near Loerie in the Gamtoos Valley, and these have tremendous spectator appeal, with stones and dirt flying in all directions.

As usual, the Port Elizabeth Amateur Radio Society will provide radio communications for rally control and the passing of stage times - PEARS has been associated with this event for close on twenty years. Besides serving to sharpen the operating skills of members, it is also tremendous fun, and is one of the highlights of PEARS' annual calendar of events.

PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the expected solar activity will be at low to very low levels. The geomagnetic field is expected to be quiet in general while reaching active levels on 19 July. The expected Effective Sun Spot number for the coming week will be less than 15. 20 m and 40 m will provide best opportunities for DX. There is a possibility of 20 m openings towards India from about 15:30 CAT. 20 m may open briefly at 08:00 to Australia and 40 m from 18:00. From 17:00 there may be a 20 m opening towards Europe. At about 16:00 short 20 m openings towards the West Coast of the USA are possible. Otherwise contacts to the USA are going to be very challenging. For the CW and digital enthusiasts it will also be worth monitoring 10 MHz.

Locally 40 m is going to be the band to be on during day time and 80 m after sunset. It is once again time to work towards your 80 m WAZS award in the evenings. Remember that HF always has the capability to surprise you. You will never know what you are missing unless you switch your rig on, listen and also call CQ.

Please visit www.spaceweather.co.za for further information.

DIARY OF EVENTS

22 July - Boland ARC 40 m Contest; 5 August - SARL HF Phone contest; 15 August - Last day to submit synopsis of proposed papers for SA AMSAT Space Conference; 23 August - Class B RAE; 6 October - SA AMSAT Space Conference; 18 October - Class A RAE.

SARL News invites clubs and individuals to submit news stories of interest to radio amateurs and shortwave listeners. Submit news stories if possible in both English and Afrikaans to www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date.

The SARL also invites you to listen to the programme Amateur Radio Mirror International, on the air every Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 695 kHz. For the web stream and echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za click on ARMI and follow the links. A repeat transmission can be heard Mondays at 21:00 CAT on 3 215 kHz. Sentech sponsor the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

Today's South African Radio League news bulletin was compiled by Roger, ZR3RC, and transmitted by (your name and call sign)

Thank you for listening. 73

/EX

========== Message Ends ========== To edit or remove your entry from this mailing list go to www.sarl.org.za/members/admin/maildat.asp

1286. WIANEWS for week commencing JULY 15 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-14 16:33:20 UTC
From: nationalnews@wia.org.au
Message-ID: <200707141633.l6EGX0N24807@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4191
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,aus.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

This is WIANEWS for week commencing JULY 15 2007

Amateur Licence Fee Increased.

The ACMA has increased the cost of the amateur licence from $58 to $61 with effect from 1 July 2007.

The WIA was unaware of this increase until the 9th July.

It was not advised of any increase by the ACMA.

The cost of amending an existing licence has not changed.

It is understood that where the old fee has already been sent to ACMA it will be accepted, and the next renewal date will be brought forward to a slightly earlier date to reflect the slight underpayment.

Also forms in the new Assessor Instructions on the WIA website have been updated - the file can be identified as "Rev 5-01.pdf", and the forms on the website have also been updated. Assessors are asked to download and use the new forms.

'It's that Wintry time of year again and the snow gods have been kind down vk2/3 way. The alpine regions of south-eastern Australia are recording some of the best dumps of the white stuff for quite a while.

In accordance with established tradition, several VK3 amateurs are heading 'back-country' to the Bogong High Plains for a cross-country ski expedition.

Amongst those heading to the mountains this year will be VK3JPA, VK3HFI and VK3SN, who are all strapping on skis to spend four days away from civilisation in the Victorian alps from the second to the fifth of August.

Their ultra-light solar powered multimode-multiband station will be in action each afternoon and into the late evening, so listen out on all bands from HF through to the local 70cm repeaters for the fellas camping in the snow.'
(Stephen VK3SN)

BARC, The Brisbane Amateur Radio Club's news letter is reporting how GPS has come to the rescue of the elderly and overcome the problems of radio in a hilly terrain to provide a unique bus service in Toowoomba, South East Queensland.

Buses now run door to door and on demand, following no set route, and the scheme is the result of collaboration between Queensland Transport and Transit Australia using know-how from Belengo which produced the flexible

transport system called Kan-go.

Kan-go responds to the requirements of the individual passenger and provides the same convenience as a taxi but is as affordable as a bus.

Passengers book a bus trip by using the web-based job booking system. The system handles bookings and amendments, tracks the buses and optimises the route that the buses will take.

The route organization engine calculates the most efficient route to each of the pick-up or drop locations and the driver is guided to each point via the onboard GPS navigation system.

The bus only responds to people who have booked a service, and therefore only operates when there are passengers to be picked up.

www. Belengo. Com

WIA PRESIDENT MICHAEL OWEN VK3KI

The WIA exam service forms on the website, both as incorporated in the Assessor Instructions Revision 5 and the downloadable forms have been updated.

ACMA increased the amateur licence fee from $58 per year to $61 per year, an increase of $3 per year, with effect from 1 July.

On 21 January last we reported on the submission that had been lodged by the WIA with ACMA contesting some of the published assumptions following Peter Young and my meeting with ACMA in January this year. ACMA had announced its review of its costs recovery arrangements just before Christmas.

The cost of amending an existing licence has not changed.

I understand that where the old fee has already been sent to ACMA it will be accepted, and the next renewal date will be brought forward to a slightly earlier date to reflect the slight underpayment.

Next, a reminder about the closing date for the Club Grant Scheme.

The WIA has allocated $5,000 this year for grants to affiliated clubs, to support projects that promote and advance amateur radio, the WIA and it's Affiliated Clubs by supporting useful and/or innovative projects undertaken or to be undertaken by Affiliated Clubs.

That is very broad, but the Board believes it should give as much latitude to the Grant Committee as possible to balance the various factors.
The 2007 Grant Committee is Don Wilchefski VK4BY, Deane Blackman VK3TX and Wally Howse VK6KZ.

The closing date for applications by clubs is tomorrow, Monday 16 July.
The application must be in the office by close of business tomorrow.

Let me answer a couple of frequently asked questions.

What sort of things are grants made for?

The best thing to do is to look at last years Grant Committee Report, a link to which is on the WIA website, under clubs, on the right hand side.

A link to the template, which is suggested as being the first page of a submission, is also on the same page.

What about the number of WIA Members in a club?

The rules say ordinarily participation limited to Affiliated Clubs having a Membership Percentage of not less than 50%. The rules make it clear that the Grant Committee must have regard to the number of WIA members in a club in making its recommendation. However, a grant may be made to a club with less than 50% membership if the Grant Committee so recommends in the case of a project having particular merit.

Thank you.

AMATEUR RADIO - HOME OF THE GOOD GUYS

CQIR

Great interest is being expressed worldwide in the Irish Society's 75th Anniversary Contest CQIR, which will take place on the last weekend in September.

The contest is a celebration of Ireland and the Irish, and they figure CQIR will be one of the largest 'one off' contests ever aired on the Amateur Bands.

It is a 24-hour single operator contest with the emphasis on participation rather than winning and to this end every participant gains an entry ticket for a spectacular draw for every 75 QSO's made during the Contest.

The ticket drawn out of the EI/GI drum will win an all expenses paid long weekend in New York City for two Irish people. ARRL have confirmed that this will include a visit to their national headquarters hosted by ARRL.

Kinnitty Castle in Offaly will host the international winners for a week with flights for two from anywhere in the world.

The prizes have been fully sponsored at no cost to the Society and this is really an excellent opportunity to celebrate the Society and its 75 years of service to Irish experimenters.

The IRTS have encouraged all Irish operators to be active during the Contest.

Full rules are on the IRTS website.

HAMS ACROSS AUSTRALIA.
(8zwm)

VK3
The 28th July the EMDRC will be running their HF antenna build day.

Over the course of the day members and friends will be building dipole antennas for 80 meters. This will be a full day activity with a break for a BBQ lunch.

The activity will be held at the EMDRC clubrooms 12 a McCubbin street in Burwood and kicking off around 10:00am. The EMDRC extends an open and warm invitation to visitors To register for attendance.

contact VK3AMN@wia.org.au

VK4

At long last the Worked All Queensland award is up and running.

Check the article published in this months AR magazine.

Dale VK4DMC has designed a log sheet for the award. It shows all the current shires that count towards the award.

He will email a copy to anyone who would like one.

Just send an email
vk4dmc@wia.org.au
with WAQ log sheet in the subject header.

If someone would like a copy posted simply send a stamped self addressed envelope to:

WAQ Log sheet
7 Danzer Drive
Atherton Q 4883

And don't forget there may be some changes to the Queensland shire names around February 2008. The log sheet will be amended to reflect these changes when the Government legislates the changes, if any.

VK8

Its been a little chilly in the top end over the last couple of weeks, you may laugh but to us it has been colllld. Especially out here in the rural area.

Hello to our visitors in town. The Darwin amateur radio club clubrooms are open Tuesday nights 7pm at sports house Waratah Cres Fannie Bay. Follow the feeders from the antenna farm.

The general meeting of the club is held on the first Monday of the month at 7pm

Keep an ear out for the Darwin crew on 40 meters in the IARU contest today and tonight. Give us a call.

There will be a home brew competition shortly. Get your thinking and building caps on team. No it's not a beer-making contest although that would be fun.

Three categories, 1) own design and circuit.
2) Constructed from a Kit
3) Foundation licensees in either of the above classes.

Finally this week the club will be assisting the Topend Lions clubs with the Darwin Beer can regatta on the 29th of July at Mindil beach. It starts at around 10 am with junior events and building to the finale the Battle of Mindil. Contact Trevor VK8CO if you are able to assist on the day.
The more the merrier. Come along and join in the fun

Now its back to the national news desk
This has been Spud VK8ZWM for the National WIA

EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO
PRESENTED BY KYLEA VK6FXYL

The RSGB might have their educational van GB4FUN, but in the tropical north of VK4 Townsville hams, better known as "TARCadians" have their own very well equipped version, predating the British by several years.

the Townsville Amateur Radio Club, or "TARC" Communications Van has seen use in such varied locations as tropical wonderlands, glorious cattle stations, crowded university conventions, boisterous JOTA camps and serendipitous radio field days - in short its been well used and a great way of promoting and showing off to the general public this great hobby of ours.

RADIO SLEEP-OVER
In ALARA's latest news letter we read how Michelle VK2 FM YL, and her Guide unit, Baulkham Hills Explorer and Possum Guides, had a sleep-over with a difference.

Michelle set up an amateur radio station and the group spoke to other Scouts and Guides around the world to gain the Scouting 100 Radio Award, which has been established to celebrate the 100 years of Scouting.

Some of the countries contacted were England, The Netherlands, Germany, Japan Brazil, Canada and USA.

The girls also learnt radio communication techniques and practised their skills for JOTA.

Now we all know "sleep over" is hardly the end result of such an activity! BUT some of the girls WERE between 5 and 9 years old, many of them were falling asleep by 9 pm and this was too early for many DX stations, although one American station got up at 3am to talk to them.

Similarly when they came on in the morning the European and English stations wanted to go to bed as they had to work the next day. However, many stations called and talked to the girls, so they could get the award.

VK2FMYL were the first Guide unit to receive it in the world.

FUTURE EXAMS

To find out when a club in YOUR area is hosting assessments and/or training in Amateur Radio go to wia.org.au and check out the club pages.

Participating clubs keep this site up to date and post the latest information for all to see.

Also check the text edition of each news edition, where we do keep a secondary listing.

On the audio broadcast we will continue to give new information when it is received, but just in case you miss it one week, you can always access our text

Next Foundation Licence course, and Standard / Advanced assessments .....

VICTORIA

Enrolments are open for this month's Foundation Licence training and assessment session held by Amateur Radio Victoria on the weekend of the 21st and 22nd of July, at Box Hill North.
For inquiries contact Barry Robinson VK3JBR 0428 516 001 or email arv@amateurradio.com.au

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Enrolments are open for the Advanced Licence Course to be held Tuesday nights commencing 24th July.

Get your name in now by contacting Kylea on 0412 704 226.

CONGRATULATIONS - RESULTS

Tony VK7FACC and Roger VK7FRMH. Welcome to the hobby and we hope to hear you on the air soon.

Entry level licences - update

The successful introduction of Foundation Licences, particularly in Britain and Australia, continues to be food for thought in a number of other countries. With the story, VK3PC Jim Linton.

The latest to declare such an interest is the New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters (NZART) which is looking at the possible introduction of a Foundation type licence.

New Zealand currently has a single licence restructure having abandoned its Novice licence which was not a success and in its final year had only about a dozen on issue.

NZART says a Foundation Licence will be considered over coming months with both the British and Australian models being examined for their suitability.

Canada is still in favour of a new entry licence. However the thought there are the moment is that it should be of a limited tenure in order to encourage licensees to upgrade. The regulator Industry Canada is talking about the new licence being introduced in years, rather than months.

Our near neighbour Papua New Guinea is also looking at the possible introduction of a Foundation Licence.

And decisions are yet to be made on a commonly agreed Foundation licence that can be adopted by member nations of the European Community.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS READ BY Rob VK5MM

Hungary allocated Experimental licence for 70 MHz

An experimental radio licence was recently signed and issued to Haros Radioklub which permits radio usage of the 70 MHz band for the first time in Hungary for 30 radio amateurs.

The licence is valid for a period of 30 days starting 1 July 2007. The aim of the experiment is to study propagation of radio waves in the 70 MHz band where all FM broadcasting was stopped in February.

The frequency range permitted for the experiment is 70.000 - 70.500 MHz, and the licence is valid for all operating modes, CW, SSB, narrow band FM and digital modes like JT6M. Maximum effective radiated power (ERP) is limited to 1kW.

The original request was submitted in April. In spite of lack of Radio amateur service allocation of the band, the National Communications Authority responded quickly and cooperatively.

In the experiment they identify by "call name" beside ham radio callsign.

The call name is composed by a prefix "70m" and a suffix of amateur radio callsign, for example 70M1BVC HG1BVC 70012.5kHz JN87FI beacon

long-term goal is to contribute to the joint efforts of 70MHz allocation for amateur radio service in Hungary and worldwide.
(from a posting picked up by southgate)

NEWS FROM ARNEWSLINE
HAM RADIO IN SPACE: ME AND MY BABY - MONITOR - MYSTERY SOLVED

Ham radio is responsible for the NASA video seen over an Illinois mothers baby monitor during the recently concluded STS 117 space shuttle flight. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, reports:

A radio club in Schaumburg, Illinois says it is likely responsible for the NASA spaceflight video over baby monitor. But it turns out that the signal seen only by suburban Chicago teacher Natalie Meilinger was not on 2.4 GHz as originally thought.

It happened this way. The club was re-transmitting STS 117 mission video on it's 910.25 MHz amateur television repeater. The system runs 100 watts out into a par of horizontal yagis. These antennas are at 70 feet with one pointed north and the other to the west.

And it turns out that not all baby monitors operate on 2.4 GHz as everyone first

thought. Some are in the 900 Mhz spectrum while
others are dual band units. If you do the math
it mean that a more than receivable signal could
easily reach the Meilinger home and be displayed on the monitor receiver.

So why was no I-D noted by the Meilinger family?
During the mission the transmitter had the call
sign K9MOT displayed in the lower right corner of
active video every 10 minutes - per FCC
identification regulations. Any properly aligned
video monitor like those used in Amateur
Television stations would have displayed it
because the I-D fell inside what broadcast
engineers call the video safe zone. That's the
screen area you are supposed to see in off air television viewing.

But a baby monitor is not a broadcast quality
monitor. In reality, most are low-end consumer
products that tend to overscan the picture tube
face. That's fine for watching the kids at play
but not for trying to see the whole picture. And
that was likely the case with Natalie Meilinger's baby monitor as well.

The K9MOT identifier was there, but the baby
monitor had to much picture width. That put it
out of the picture area her unit could display so
she and anyone else looking at the monitor screen couldn't see it.

Mystery solved thanks to some good sleuthing on
the part of some Illinois hams.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill
Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the studio in Los Angeles.

By the way, this is the 5th year the club has
been re-broadcasting NASA video over its K9MOT
repeater but only the first time to their
knowledge that its been received by a non ham.

WEIRD N WONDERFUL

Blue Moon

When you hear someone say "Once in a Blue Moon..." you know what they mean:

Rare.

Seldom.

Maybe even absurd.

After all, when was the last time you saw the moon turn blue?

According to modern folklore, a Blue Moon is the second full moon in a
calendar month.

Usually months have only one full moon, but occasionally a second one sneaks in.

Full moons are separated by 29 days, while most months are 30 or 31 days long it is possible to fit two full moons in a single month. This happens every two and a half years, on average.

July has the first full moon on July 2nd and a second on July 31st, which is, by definition, a Blue Moon.

(jamie pye zl2nn nzart)

OPERATIONAL NEWS -
CONTEST COLUMN - D A T E L I N E

JULY 14-15
The annual IARU HF World Championship is being held this weekend.
Saturday, 14 July to 1200 UTC Sunday, 15 July.
Rules are at www.iaru.org/contest.html

VK/TRANSTASMAN CONTEST
160M CW 21 July 2007

Boat Anchor Sprints:
August (11), October (13).
Local ZL time: 2000 to 2100 hrs

Section 1: Old radios - all valves - i.e. ZC1, 19 set, Heathkits, any home brew set, but must have all valves.

Section 2: Any Hybrid transceiver (must have valve finals i.e. FT200, FTDX400/401, Drake, FT 101s, etc..

Amplitude Modulated signals only.

The overall winner shall be the entrant having the highest points score which will be published in the following New Zealand "Break-in".
(Jamie Pye ZL2NN, Editor NZART's InfoLine)

AUGUST 11/12 Remembrance Day Contest (The RD) wia.org.au

One club, the Redcliffe VK4 club has organised an RD spectacular at their club rooms over the 24 hour period of this years contest.

This will include a BYO BBQ for Saturday night's tea, Movies on the big screen on Saturday night for the families & contest working in the Radio room for the amateurs.

Overnight sleeping on site will also be available.

7th World HST Championship will be held in Belgrade Serbia September 19-23rd.
www.hst2007.org

NOVEMBER 17/18
Spring VHF-UHF Field Day - November 2007
For everyone who likes to plan ahead - please note the dates for this

year's Spring VHF-UHF Field Day. It will be held on November 17/18, a week later than usual. This will prevent a clash with club activities in two states.

D X A C T I V I T Y A N D D A T E S

Ducie Island, VP6, DXpedition Gears Up:

The Daily DX reports that the Ducie Island DXpedition Team, VP6DX, has been busy behind the scenes preparing for the much anticipated February 2008 DXpedition.

It was also announced that the VP6DX team decided to extend the duration of the DXpedition.

Plans are to depart Mangareva Island, part of the Gambier Islands in French Polynesia, via ship on February 5 and head for Pitcairn Island; this trip normally takes about 36 hours.

The ops will spend a few hours on Pitcairn before taking another 36 hour trip boat ride to Ducie Island; they plan to arrive at sunrise on February 9, and hope to be up and running within 24 hours.

If all goes well, including the weather, they will have VP6 on the air for as long as 19 days.
(ARRL LETTER)

WIRELESS WEATHER

Solar Flux to Bottom Out in July as Cycle 24 Gets Closer:

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Space Environment Centre released their monthly forecasts of sunspot number and 10.7 cm radio flux, including high and low bounds to their forecasts. The S.E.C. forecasts that the smoothed sunspot number reached its low value of 11.7 in March 2007, and predicts that the solar flux will reach its low of 75.4 this month.

This is the fourth month in a row that the SEC predicts the solar flux will bottom out in July.

Based on the SEC predictions, this is probably at the bottom of Cycle 23 and extremely close to the beginning of Cycle 24.

Two events will mark the beginning of the next sunspot cycle:
The observation of the first opposite magnetic polarity sunspots compared to Cycle 23 sunspot polarity, and the observation high solar latitude sunspots.

The Cycle 23 sunspots are now very near the solar equator.

www.sec.noaa.gov/ftpdir/weekly/Predict.txt
www.sec.noaa.gov/SolarCycle
(sourced to arrl letter)

NOW ROBERT BROOMHEAD - VK3KRB.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- IOTA
http://rsgbiota.org

The RSGB Islands on the Air scheme, sponsored by ICOM, launched its new website on 21 June.

The new site includes many innovative improvements, and contains also many new features including the ability to view one's own record of confirmed island groups.

Soon it will be possible for participants to claim additional credits on line and even to claim credit for IOTA Contest QSOs without the need for QSL card verification.

The site at www.rsgbiota.org has already proved to be a great success.

Within the first week, 34,308 pages had been viewed an average of about 4,900 per day by users in 64 different countries. The homepage, search page and island group information pages being the most popular.

About 383 users have registered to use the QSO credits part of the site, of which 163 are new to the IOTA programme, proving the value of moving to an on line management system.

The site was developed primarily by Dominic Smith, M0BLF, with Martin Atherton, G3ZAY, acting as the liaison between the project team and the IOTA Committee.
(rsgb)

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RADIO SCOUTING
http://www.scouts.com.au
http://www.scout.org/jota
http://www.wiaq.com/nationalnews/jotahead.htm

SCOUT JOTA HF Voice Calling Frequencies
3590, 7090, 14190, 21190, 28590 kHz
14290, 18140, 21360, 24960, 28390 kHz (DX)

This years 50th JOTA will run from October 19th at 22:00 hours to October 21st at 24:00 hours YOUR local time.

An official start will be given by the World Scout Bureau radio station in Geneva, Switzerland on October 19th at 21:00 h UTC with a transmission in the 20 and 80 meter bands and on EchoLink.

VE7JAM at Pacific Scout Jamboree on until sundown today July 14

Scouts of VE7JAM are looking for all Scouting stations and will give them 5 points for the Centennial Scouting award.

VE7JAM is operating near the official scout frequencies so check out 7090, 14.190 14.290

The full listing of Scout channels is available on this weeks text edition, www.wia.org.au click broadcast.

Also check via IRLP node 1409

There are about 2000 Scouts at the event, so says Alan VE6DE at this Canadian Pacific Scout Jamboree
(sourced to southgate)

BB's DIARY ROOM - THE FUTURE, IN AMATEUR RADIO

2008

Sept 13 Alarameet 2008 will be held in Ulverstone Tasmania on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th September 2008. Susan VK7LUV for details.

2009
International Telecommunication Union's Telecom World 2009.

SOCIAL SCENE

July 21 - GGREC Hamfest at Cranbourne, South of Melbourne - 10am

August 5 - HAMFEST 2007 happens in Perth at 9am.
Cyril Jackson Recreation Centre
Fisher Street
Ashfield.

SEPTEMBER 21-23
North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention
Happening in twin cities of Thuringowa and Townsville.

JANUARY 20 2008

The Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group invite all amateurs to attend the 2008 Mid North Coast Radio Expo to be held in Coffs Harbour on Sunday 20th January.

The Expo is held at the St Johns Church Hall, Mc Lean Street, Coffs Harbour. Gary VK2ZKT is the Radio Expo Coordinator on 02 66 55 2 990 or visit the Groups comprehensive web site at www.mncarg.org

REWIND - A LOOK BACK IN HISTORY
(Will McGhie VK6UU is WIA National Historian)

The Pedal Radio

Australia's population density is just 6.4 people per square mile. Eighty years ago, with almost no telecommunication infrastructure beyond the seaboard, the tyranny of distance loomed much larger in the Outback as the nearest doctor could be several thousand miles away, with no method of contacting them in an emergency. Hearing that German WW1 soldiers had used hand-cranked radios for battlefield communications, Alf Traeger set about creating a radio powered by bicycle pedals.

The invention of the pedal radio in the late 1920s enabled the famous Royal Flying Doctor service (RFDS) introduced by the Rev John Flynn, and offered remote settlements access to telecommunications for the first time.

Flynn lived in the Outback for most of his life, setting up hostels and bush hospitals for pastoralists, miners, road workers, railwaymen and other settlers and families. Known as 'Flynn of the Inland', his dream of a 'flying doctor service' came to life when H V McKay, inventor of the McKay Sunshine Harvester left a large sum of money in his will, and when Traegar developed the pedal radio. This gave Outback people the voice they needed to summon a doctor if necessary and at least to be able to get a radio consultation with one.

Pedal radios also meant neighbours, families and friends, scattered over thousands of square kilometres, could exchange news and gossip after normal transmission hours. This time became known as the 'galah' session, after the noisy, chattering native bird.

The School of the Air was also established, using the Flying Doctor Service network, and supplemented correspondence lessons sent to Outback children.

In 2005 alone the RFDS attended more than 234,000 patients, with more than 33,000 aerial evacuations, bringing this huge continent just a little bit closer for people in the most remote areas of Australia and this was all built on the groundwork of Alf Traeger and the pedal HF radio.

www.rfdsse.org.au/>

www.outbackinfront.com/>

www.gizmag.com/go/5714/>

(vk7news)

THE FINAL FINAL

WALKS

Jeff VK4XJJ is still going strong on his walk across Australia.

But he still wants to hear from YOU, and it is these calls in particular that keep him going!!

Thursday 5th July. Walked 27 Km today. Temperature 8 to 25 degrees. Camped 2 Km south of Ayre Creek. Beautiful clear waterhole I km long. Tons of bird life.

Friday 6th. Averaging 4.5 Km per hour. Walked 30 Km today in shirt and shorts. 13 vehicles passed and four stopped to chat.

Saturday 7th. 10 km walk into Bedourie at 11 a.m. Walk from Birdsville to Bedourie took eight days. Plenty of amateur and web site contacts.

Sunday 8th. Looking forward to natural spa bath, then visits round town.

Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th. Local visits, emailing and waiting for food and spares parcel. Bedourie well worth a visit, nice and green and a very pleasant town.

Wednesday 11th. Left Bedoulia at 9:15 a.m. 20 vehicles, 2 stopped. Walked 24 Km today. Temperature range 6 to 21 degrees. Now 220 Km north of Birdsville.

Thanks to Roger VK4BNQ, main relay, and to those who called Jeff. Jeff is enjoying the AR magazine when sent.

Every Day, from 5:30pm Eastern on 40 meters, 7045 put out a call to VK4XJJ

Now we usually don't give url's as they can be a pain to take down but in this case very simple go to www.jeffswalk.com

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THE BEST NEWS YOU'LL GET ALL WEEK
Oh... and to contact us with your news?
email nationalnews@wia.org.au

WIANews 24/7 with the following bulletin in Audio
when you visit the NEWSROOM on www.wia.org.au
This weeks WIANews available in Audio after 0100hrs UTC Saturday.
http://www.wiaq.com/ftp/wianews_64.mp3 FM Radio quality
http://www.wiaq.com/ftp/wianews.mp3 AM Radio Quality
http://www.wiaq.com/admin/pandaupload.php Submit your Audio

free emailed script http://lists.wia.org.au/mailman/listinfo/vk1wia-news

1287. SARL News in English 14/7/2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-14 17:35:36 UTC
From: website@sarl.org.za
Message-ID: <DC743422168D4C25AB92695CDBFB48A3@toron>
Source record: 4192
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Please correct your copy of the bulletin. In the item

MEMBERSHIP CARDS ON THEIR WAY

please delete the paragraph and replace with the paragraph below.

If you are not a member yet, it is now a good time to join. The membership fee is less than R6 per week or R305 per year for full members. This year, seniors over 65 years of age pay R184 after a discount of 20% off the normal senior member's fee.

====================== Message Ends ====================== To edit or remove your entry from this mailing list go to www.sarl.org.za/members/admin/maildat.asp

1288. GB2RS NEWS Sunday 15 July 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-14 20:03:19 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200707141900.l6EJ0Jv28140@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4193
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

1 GB2RS NEWS Sunday 15 July

The news headlines

* RSGB Microwave Manager to speak at International Space Colloquium

* New beacons on 40 and 60MHz

* CQIR contest should prove to be popular

A reminder that AMSAT-UK will be holding its 22nd International Space Colloquium at the University of Surrey, Guildford, from Friday 20 to Sunday 22 July.

Frequency allocations are a matter of great concern to the amateur satellite community and so the presentation by the RSGB Microwave Manager Murray Niman, G6JYB, on The Future of Amateur Satellite Spectrum will be received with great interest. The presentation will summarise both the challenges and opportunities for amateur satellite spectrum and future satellite designers from 50MHz to beyond 50GHz.

GB4FUN will be present throughout the event to allow visitors to work the satellites. On Friday there will be a special Beginners Workshop to show newcomers how to use the many amateur satellites that are available. The event is open to all amateurs and SWL's. For further details log onto www.uk.amsat.org.uk.

Rutherford Appleton Laboratories, located near Oxford, has just received licences for some very special beacons. The National Frequency Assignment Panel has allocated 40.050MHz and 60.050MHz for use by GB3RAL. Ofcom has issued NoVs for these frequencies, which will be used alongside other beacons on the site. GB3RAL will operate on 5, 28, 40, 50, 60 and 70MHz. This will provide a valuable propagation resource for amateurs worldwide. Please remember though that 40MHz and 60MHz are not amateur bands and these spot frequencies are for GB3RAL only.

Great interest is being expressed worldwide in the Irish Radio Transmitters Society's 75th Anniversary Contest, CQIR. This one-off, 24 hour, single-op contest takes place on the last weekend in September. It is intended to be a celebration of Ireland and the Irish worldwide.

The emphasis is on participation rather than winning, but every participant will gain a free raffle ticket for every 75 QSO's made during the contest. The first EI/GI ticket drawn will win an all expenses paid long weekend in New York. This will also include a visit to ARRL HQ.

Entrants from the rest of the world will enter a draw for a week in Kinnitty Castle, Offaly. The prize includes flights from anywhere in the world. This contest is an excellent opportunity to celebrate the IRTS and its 75 years of service to Irish radio experimenters. The society would like to encourage all Irish operators to be active during the Contest. Full rules are on the IRTS website.

The new UK transport minister Rosie Winterton says that the commercial sector should still have a role in developing the troubled Galileo satnav system. The plans have been plagued by delays and increased costs, and in May the European Commission abandoned negotiations with a private consortium to help it build the system. The 2.7 billion pound system is supposed to be functional by the end of 2012. Many amateurs remain concerned about possible mutual interference between Galileo and microwave operations, particularly on 23cm.

Dorset RAYNET is seeking volunteers for the IRONMAN Triathlon at Sherborne, Dorset on Sunday 19 August. They are offering a free campsite for any operator who wishes to make a weekend of the event.

2 XYLs are welcome too. Anyone who would like to help should contact John Goodall, G0SKR, by email to jg@shortwaveshop.com. And now for the details of rallies and events for the coming week [Note to newsreaders: please exercise your judgement on whether to read the 15 July event, based on your service area and time of transmission. We have not been notified of any events on 22 July.] On Sunday 15 July the McMichael Rally and Boot Sale takes place from 09.30 at Reading Rugby club, just off the A4, east of Reading. Details from G0JMS, on 01189 723504 or on the web at www.McMichaelRally.org.uk. More details of these and future events can be found on pages 88 and 89 of the July edition of RadCom. Now for the news of special events

On 15 July the Yeovil Amateur Radio Club will be operating GB2MBS, Marconi Beam Station, on HF throughout the day. Operations will be from 10am at New Barn Centre, Bradford Peverell, near Dorchester. The special event station is to mark the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the death of Guglielmo Marconi. For queries on the day contact Derek, M0WOB, on 07974759669. Finchampstead Scout Group will be putting on a special event station GB1FSG on 22 to 30 July. They will operate SSB on the scouting HF bands, either 3.690, 7.090, 7.190 or 14.290MHz, + or - QRN. The station will be operated from the Lake District.

On 28 to 29 July a group of radio amateurs will be active from Isle of Islay. Apart from the IOTA Contest with participation under two contest call signs GM2Z and GM4A, there will be a separate PSK station MS0EPC (EPC#1700). The radio amateurs will try to be active on all HF bands, including 160m. More than one radio may be in use. Special event station 9A07P will be active on all bands and modes until 31 December to celebrate the city of

Djurdjevac. All QSOs will be confirmed automatically via the bureau. And now the HF DX news compiled from 425 DX News, the Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin and other sources.

Paolo, IK2MLS, reports he will be active holiday style as SV9/IK2MLS from Crete (EU-015) on 15 to 27 July. He plans to operate SSB on the HF bands, 6 and 2 metres. QSL via home call. Marq, CT1BWW, Juan Carlos, EA3GHZ and Tomas, EA5YH, will operate as FS/home call and PJ7/home call from Saint Martin and Sint Maarten on 15 to 25 July. They plan to be active on 80 to 6 meters CW, SSB and digital modes with two stations. Further information can be found on their web site www.dxciting.com. Hide, JM1LJS, Motoaki, JE1EK and Koya, JI5RPT, will be active from Koror (OC-009), Palau until 18 July. They plan to operate on 40 to 6 metres SSB and CW, plus satellite. QSL via home calls. Jack, HB9TL, reports he will be active as TK/HB9TL from Corsica on 18 to 30 July. He plans to operate SSB on 10 to 80 metres. QSL direct to HB9QR. Eddie, N2EK, will be operating holiday style as ZF2EK from Grand Cayman (NA-016) until 20 July. QSL via homecall.

3 Hank, W0CZE, will be active as YJ0CZE from Vanuatu until 21 July. He will operate on 10 to 80 meters SSB and CW. QSL is via W0FF. Frank, DL1FT, will be active as ES0FTZ from Saaremaa Island (EU-034) until 21 July. He plans to operate on 15, 17, 20, 30, 40 and 80m. A group of nine Portuguese amateurs will be operating as CS26X until 22 July for the 26th International Motorcycle Rally in Faro. They will be active on 160 to 6 meters, SSB, CW and RTTY. QSL via CT1EHX, direct or bureau. Look for RV3ATS, RV3ATT and RU3AVF to operate on 10, 15, 20, 40, 80 and 2 metres as RV3ATS/p. They will be operating until 21 July from 16 mountains located in various different Russian Districts. They also plan to participate in a number of contests on the VHF and HF bands. QSL via RV3ATS, direct or bureau. The Sovereign Military Order of Malta will be active as 1A0KM, with a large team of operators led by IK0FVC. Plans are to operate from 160 metres to 23cm on all modes, until 22 July. QSL via IK0FTA. Claude, F5OGE, will be active as CN2GE and CN2GE/m from Morocco until 29 July. He will be travelling from Tangiers to Rabat, Marrakech, Benni Mellal, Fes, and Tetouane and back to Tangiers. Claude will operate CW and SSB, mainly on 40 and 20 metres, early in the morning and late in the evening (local time). QSL via home call, direct or bureau. Art, KG6ZWD, will be active as SV1/KG6ZWD/p from mainland Greece on 24 to 25 July. He will also operate as SV8/KG6ZWD/p from Andros Island, EU-067, on 17 to 23 July. Expect holiday style activity on 10 to 40 meters SSB and PSK31. QSL via home call, director bureau. Pete, W2GJ, C6APR, Ed, K3IXD, C6AXD and Randy, K4QO, C6AQO, will be active from Crooked Island, NA-113, ARLHS BAH-005 on 26 to 30 July. They will operate CW, SSB, and RTTY on 80 to 6 meters and will participate in the IOTA Contest as C6APR. All QSLs via K3IXD. Now the contest news

The RSGB 1.3GHz to 2.3GHz activity takes place on 17 July between 2000 to 2230 local on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. The RSGB 80m Club Championship takes place between 1900 and 2030 on 19 July on the 3.5MHz band, data modes. The exchange takes the form of RST and serial number. The RSGB Low Power Field Day, session 1, takes place between 0900 and 1200 on 22 July on the 3.5MHz and 7MHz bands, CW. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and power. The CQ WW VHF Contest takes place between 1800 on 21 July to

2100 on 22 July. Activity is the on 50MHz to 144MHz bands, all modes. The exchange takes the form of call sign and grid. The RSGB 144MHz Backpackers Contest takes place on 22 July between 1100 to 1500 on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number, locator and postcode. Now the solar factual data for the period from 2 July to 8 July, compiled by Neil Clarke, G0CAS

4 Solar activity was very low until the 7th when a small sunspot group rotated into view and produced several C class solar flares, which increased activity to low. Solar flux levels initially declined from 73 to 71 units. Levels then increased to 75 by the 8th. The average was 73 units. The 90 day solar flux average on the 8th was 74 units, that's the same level as last week. X-ray flux levels remained below the minimum level but on the arrival of the new sunspot group increased to A6.9 units by the 8th. The average was A1.2 units. Geomagnetic activity started at quiet levels with an Ap index of 3 units on the 2nd. The 4th was the most disturbed day, this was due to a recurring coronal hole. The Ap index was 16 units. The remainder of the period was quiet and the average was Ap 7 units. The ACE spacecraft saw solar wind speeds increase from 320 kilometres per second on the 3rd to 650 by the 4th. Particle densities were low except for the 3rd, which increased to 12 particles per cubic centimetre. Bz varied between minus 3 and plus 2 nanoTeslas on the quiet days and between minus 7 and plus 8 during the disturbance. HF propagation was disappointing for a couple of days midweek, when MUFs were below predicted levels. Otherwise, it followed the pattern of the last few weeks. Sporadic-E was reported up to 50MHz every day and there were several strong openings at 70MHz, including Hungarian stations mentioned earlier in this bulletin. There was more 50MHz propagation into North America and the Caribbean, including a good opening for many Field Day stations yesterday. And finally the solar forecast This week the quiet side of the Sun is expected to be looking our way. Solar activity is expected to be very low. Solar flux levels should decline and maybe in the 60's for most of the week. Geomagnetic activity should be quiet today and tomorrow, but, due to a recurring coronal hole, activity is expected to increase from Tuesday and last till the weekend. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitudes should be around 18MHz for the south and 15MHz for the north. The darkness hour lows should be about 10MHz. Paths this week to the Middle East should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success rate of 19MHz. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success rate will be around 15MHz. The best time to try this path will be between 0800 and 1600 hours UTC. Double hop sporadic E openings to the same destination could also take place on 50MHz. Meanwhile, single hop openings around Europe should take place almost daily on 28 and 50MHz. Openings on 144MHz could still be a slight possibility. And that's all for this week from the propagation team.

5 Next, the Local News:

Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses

and website links where known.

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your

transmission.] NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST

and EAST ANGLIA On Sunday 15 July Radio Society of Harrow is operating GB2DHH De Havilland Heritage at the De Haviland museum, London Colney. Contact Linda, G7RJL, on 020 8386 8586, or on the web at www.g3efx.org.uk.

On Sunday 15 July Reading and District Amateur Radio Club is running the McMichael Radio Rally at Reading Rugby Football Club. Contact Pete, G8FRC, on 01189 695 697, or on the web at www.radarc.org.

On Monday 16 July Burnham Beeches Radio Club is having a talk on WSJT low signal working. Contact G4XDU, on 01628625720.

On Monday 16 July Braintree and District Amateur Radio Society is having talks on X-Rays by G0BYH and on transformers by G3PEN. Contact John, M5AJB, on 01787 460 947.

On Monday 16 July Surrey Radio Contact Club is having a fix-it, advice, chin wag and move-it-on evening at their trial venue, Trinity Hall. Contact Ray, G4FFY, on 020 8644 7589.

On Tuesday 17 July Gorleston Amateur Radio Society is having a discussion about Field Day Activities. Contact David, G3OEP, on QTHR, 01493 662 323.

On Wednesday 18 July Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is having a pedestrian treasure hunt on 2m. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

On Wednesday 18 July Dover Radio Club is having a planning evening for GB2SFL. Contact Brian, G4SAU, on g4sau@District Amateur Radio Club.org.uk.

On Wednesday 18 July Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on submarine communication by Paul Hawkins. Contact Jim, M1JJN.

On Wednesday 18 July Havering and District Amateur Radio Club is having a contest DVD evening. Contact Dave, 2E0EBV, on 07956 594 514 .

On Wednesday 18 July Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is running the Members Trophy DF contest. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk .

On Wednesday 18 July Southdown Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on slow scan TV and operating from the Halisham shack. Contact John, G3DQY, on 0124424319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

On Wednesday 18 July Worthing and District Amateur Radio Club is having a President's special evening. Contact Roy, G4GPX, on 01903 753 893.

On Thursday 19 July Cray Valley Radio Society is looking at the Isles of Scilly 2007, having a Wintest demo and taking part in the 80m Data Club Championship Data. Contact Bob, BRS32525, on 020 8265 7735 after 8pm.

On Thursday 19 July Sutton and Cheam Radio Society is having a talk on antenna modelling by Andrew Vine, M0GJH. Contact John, G0BWV, on 020 8644 9945, or by email to info@scrs.org.uk.

6 On Friday 20 July Cambridge and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on SMT soldering techniques. Contact David, G8JKV.

On Friday 20 July Loughton and Epping Forest Amateur Radio Society is having an HF night on the air. Contact Marc, G0TOC, on 020 8502 1645, or by email to info@lefars.org.uk.

On Friday 20 July Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is having a radio night and table top sale. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Friday 20 July Torbay Amateur Radio Society is having an illustrated talk by a club member. Contact Dave, G6FSP, by email to g6fsp@tars.org.uk.

On Friday 20 July Wey Valley Amateur Radio Group is having a club night BBQ. Details on the web at www.weyvalleyarg.org.uk.

On Saturday 21 July Newbury and District Amateur Radio Society is having a BBQ at the QTH of G3LLK. Contact Richard, G3ZGC, on 01635 46241, or by email to richard.jolliffe@vodafone.com.

On Sunday 22 July Radio Society of Harrow is operating GB2DHH De Havilland Heritage at the De Haviland museum, London Colney. Contact Linda, G7RJL, on 020 8386 8586, or on the web at www.g3efx.org.uk.

On Sunday 22 July Southdown Amateur Radio Society is operating at the Beachy Head Site. Contact John, G3DQY, on 0124424319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST

On Sunday 15 July Yeovil Amateur Radio Club is having a Sunday afternoon club BBQ at Ham Hill. Contact Derek, 01935 414 452, or by email to m0wob@tiscali.co.uk.

On Monday 16 July Appledore and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on VHF Propagation by Terry, G4CHD.Contact Beryl, G1SVP.

On Tuesday 17 July Flight Refuelling Amateur Radio Society is running the Intermediate licence written exam. Contact Tony, G3PFM, on 01202 622 262.

On Wednesday 18 July South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is having a digital camera evening. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282.

On Wednesday 18 July Taunton and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk by Peter Robinson, G0EYR on his trip to the Friedrichshafen radio rally. Contact William, G3WNI, on 01823 666 234, or by email to g3wni@btinternet.com.

On Wednesday 18 July Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is having a video night. Contact Tony, G0WMB, by email to tonytsgarc@beeb.net.

On Thursday 19 July Yeovil Amateur Radio Club is having a talk by M0WOB on "what goes on in my workshop". Contact Derek, 01935 414 452, or by email to m0wob@tiscali.co.uk.

On Friday 20 July Bournemouth Radio Society is having a Powerpoint presentation and demo by guest speaker Peter Smith, G4JNU. Contact John, G0HAT, on 07719 700 771.

7 NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS On Sunday 15 July Coventry Amateur Radio Society is visiting Blechley Park. Contact John, G8SEQ, on 02476 273 190, or by email to johng8seq@ntlworld.com.

On Monday 16 July Stourbridge and District Amateur Radio Society is having an 80m and 2m DF talk and demonstration. Contact John, M1EJG, on 01562 700 513.

On Tuesday 17 July Derby and District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk by Ian Brothwell, G4EAN and 9H3YI, entitled "Tales from running National Amateur Radio Organisations" about his experiences with BARTG and RAOTA . Contact Martin, G3SZJ, on 01332 556 875.

On Tuesday 17 July Loughborough and District Amateur Radio Club is having its 4th DF of 2007 on 2m. Contact Chris, G1ETZ, on 01509 504 319.

On Tuesday 17 July Wythall Radio Club is having an equipment familiarisation and on the air evening. Contact Chris, G0EYO, on 07710 412 819, or by email to g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk, or on the web at www.wythallradioclub.co.uk.

On Wednesday 18 July Lincoln Short-Wave Club is progressing the shack. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

On Wednesday 18 July Telford and District Amateur Radio Society is visiting the Spaceguard Centre. Contact Mike, G3JKX, on 01952 299 677, or by email to mjstreetg3jkx@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Thursday 19 July Salop Amateur Radio Society is giving members the opportunity to test their valves with an AVO CT160, plus having a natter night. Contact Glenda, G1YJB, on 01939 235 412.

On Thursday 19 July Stafford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a chat and shack night. Contact Graeme, G4NVH, on 01785 604 534, or by email to graeme.boull@ntlworld.com.

On Friday 20 July Coventry Amateur Radio Society is having a portable night at Newbold Comyn. Contact John, G8SEQ, on 02476 273 190, or by email to johng8seq@ntlworld.com.

On Friday 20 July Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is having an internal quiz night. Contact Carl, M0XBE, on 07979 092 447, or on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

On Monday 16 July Sheffield Amateur Radio Club is visiting Dronfield Scouts to celebrate 100 years of Scouting. Contact Trevor, M0TWS.

On Monday 16 July Thornton Cleveleys Amateur Radio Society is having a talk by G4EZM. Contact Jack, G4BFH, by email to jack.duddington@btinternet.com.

On Tuesday 17 July Halifax and District Amateur Radio Society is operating VHF portable at Blackstone Edge. Contact Brenda, 2E0YKS, by email to wrenuk10@yahoo.com.

On Tuesday 17 July Stockport Radio Society is having a presentation on the final preparations for Low Power Field Day 2007. Contact David, M1ANT, on 0161 456 7832.

On Wednesday 18 July Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is on the air. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

8 On Wednesday 18 July Hornsea Amateur Radio Club is attending Driffield Show and having an activity night. Contact Steve, G4GPY, on 01482 860 440, or by email to g4gpy@eddiesplace.karoo.co.uk.

On Friday 20 July South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is discussing members' favourite websites. Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999.

On Friday 20 July Tynemouth Radio Club is having an operating and Morse night. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Saturday 21 July Wakefield and District Amateur Radio Society is running its DXpedition to Lindisfarne (Holy Island), IOTA EU-120. Contact Dave, G4CLI, on 07748 221 855, or by email to g4cli@hotmail.co.uk.

On Sunday 22 July Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is having a foxhunt. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

NEWS FOR SCOTLAND

On Sunday 22 July Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is taking part in the RSGB Low Power CW Contest as GM3BSQ/P at Walker Park. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

NEWS FOR WALES

On Tuesday 17 July Carmarthen Amateur Radio Society is having its club BBQ, weather permitting. Contact Les, GW8PSJ, on 01239 811 922.

NEWS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

No news items have been received for Northern Ireland this week.

And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast, prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

1289. rec.radio.amateur.moderated Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-15 06:00:07 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines-1-1184479201@panix.com>
Source record: 4194
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info,rec.answers,news.answers

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Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines
Revision: 1.2 2007/02/22 18:15:39
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rram/index.html

Welcome to rec.radio.amateur.moderated! This is a moderated newsgroup
for amateur radio operators and other people having an interest in the
Amateur Radio Service, as defined by national regulations and
international treaties. Following are the posting guidelines for this
newsgroup.

This message includes the following sections:

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter
2. Additional posting guidelines
2.1 Netiquette guidelines
2.2 Posting form requirements
2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files
2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting
2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources
2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability to hold
an amateur radio license
2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling
2.8 Guidelines regarding civility
2.9 Other unacceptable topics

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1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter

rec.radio.amateur.moderated is an inclusive on-line community of amateur
radio operators and other people having an interest in the Amateur Radio
Service. Participants are invited to engage in open discussion of
amateur radio issues and exchange information about participating in the
hobby/service, in an atmosphere of civility, friendship, and fun.

Acceptable topics include but, are not necessarily limited to, questions
and discussions about amateur radio licensing, regulations, tips on
various aspects of setting up an amateur radio station, and sharing
operating experiences and insights.

Unacceptable posts include, but are not limited to, buy/sell/trade
posts, posts that are off-topic to the Amateur Radio Service, posts
promoting or defending unlawful activities, etc. Crossposts of regular
discussion articles between rec.radio.amateur.moderated and other
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discussion newsgroups are not permitted.

Frequently-Asked-Questions lists and other information/bulletin/
announcement postings may be crossposted to rec.radio.info, rec.answers,
and news.answers only with prior approval of the moderators of those
newsgroups. In all such cases, an appropriate "Followup-To" header,
containing only rec.radio.amateur.moderated, will be added by the
moderators if one is not already provided.

Posters are encouraged to state their own views and share their
experiences, but to refrain from making assumptions about the
motivations of other newsgroup participants. Posters are expected to
maintain a basic tone of civility. Prohibited uncivil discourse
includes, but is not limited to, name calling.

Posts containing unsolicited advice questioning the right, worthiness,
suitability and/or readiness of any individual (or members of any group)
to be an amateur radio operator are unacceptable in this newsgroup. If
an individual chooses to post asking for advice on when or whether to
obtain an amateur radio license, or to participate in any type of lawful
activity in the Amateur Radio Service, respondents should be careful to
address their comments only to the original poster and not explicitly
generalize to others in similar situations.

Similarly, posts that arbitrarily declare certain classes of amateur
radio licenses, or certain members of national amateur radio societies
(e.g., American Radio Relay League, Radio Amateurs of Canada, Radio
Society of Great Britain, Wireless Institute of Australia, etc.), to be
more or less worthy than others, are not permitted. Posts that politely
encourage individuals to join their local amateur radio society, or to
upgrade to higher classes of amateur radio license in order to enjoy
greater operating privileges, are permitted, however. Posts that
contain reasoned, civil, and fact-based discussion of the activities and
internal politics of national amateur radio societies are also
permitted.

Buy/Sell/Trade and Commercial Policy:

Posts containing offers to buy, sell, or trade are not permitted on
rec.radio.amateur.moderated. The rec.radio.swap newsgroup was created
for this purpose, and should be used instead. All such articles will be
rejected by the moderators with the advice to re-post to that newsgroup.

Postings that are entirely commercial press releases, advertisements, or
other public relations campaigns will not be permitted. Relatively
unbiased announcements or reviews of new amateur radio-related products
or services may be permitted at the discretion of the moderators. Such
posters are asked to disclose their financial or professional interest,
if any, in such products or services.

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2. Additional Posting Guidelines

2.1 Netiquette guidelines

Participants who are new to Usenet should familiarize themselves with the "netiquette" of Usenet as well as the particular posting guidelines for this group. Several useful posts for "newbies" can be found on the newsgroup news.announce.newusers or on the WWW at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/by-newsgroup/news/news.announce.newusers.html

Particularly helpful articles are:
Welcome to Usenet!
Rules for posting to Usenet
Hints on writing style for Usenet
A Primer on How to Work With the Usenet Community
Emily Postnews Answers Your Questions on Netiquette
Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Usenet

2.2 Posting form requirements

Any article that falls into any of the following categories will be automatically rejected:

A) Articles that contain original text of more than 75 characters per line
B) Crossposted articles to newsgroups not included in these Guidelines
C) Articles that contain more than 400 lines
D) Encoded binary files (except PGP and other short digital signatures)
E) Attachments to posts
F) Articles containing obscene language
G) Articles from individuals who have been suspended or banned from the newsgroup

2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files

Many people close each article they write with a few lines of common text. This may be a cute quip or quote, or may include information about their family, contact information, or disclaimers required by their employer, for example.

Signature files used on rec.radio.amateur.moderated posting must be no longer than 8 lines.

The content of a poster's signature need not be relevant to amateur radio, but it must not violate any of the other posting guidelines. (For example, name-calling that would not be acceptable in the body of a message is also unacceptable in a signature.) Posters may include Uniform Resource Locators (URL's) and business addresses in signature files, provided they comply with all the other guidelines regarding signatures.

2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting

Posts more than 20 lines long that also have more than 75% quoted text will be carefully reviewed by a moderator to determine if that degree of quoting is warranted. Posts with excessive quoted text may be rejected.

Posters must show a reasonable effort to trim the post they are replying to and to include just enough material to establish context. "Me too!" posts are discouraged, and, when posted, must edit the quoted material significantly.

2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources

Unsolicited announcements and pointers to web sites that are strictly commercial press releases, advertisements, or other public relations campaigns, are not permitted. However, a pointer to a website or other external source of information is permitted and encouraged in cases where it is relevant to an existing thread, with appropriate context being given in the post. A URL with no information about what a user should expect to find there will be rejected. A pointer to information that is off-charter for rec.radio.amateur.moderated will be rejected, as will a pointer which itself does not meet the rec.radio.amateur.moderated guidelines (such as a URL containing embedded name-calling).

Moderators are not responsible for verifying the contents of any external information source.

2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability hold an amateur radio license

Identifiable groups and individuals may not be asked/told/etc. not to obtain an amateur radio license, or to only obtain certain classes of amateur radio license. It is not permissible to make statements that a person or members of a specific group "should" not, or should not be allowed to, become an amateur radio operator.

Solicited advice of this type is permissible; however, posters must be careful not to explicitly generalize to others who are in some way "like" the poster asking the question. Stick to the individual asking for advice.

It is acceptable to discuss verified violations, documented in criminal convictions or other government enforcement actions, by a person or members of a specific group.

2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling

Nastiness addressed at a person is considered name-calling. Criticizing a person's *actions* is not, provided that it is done in a civil manner.

Attacks on an action which by their very nature include an accusation against the person's character are not acceptable. For example, "That's a lie" implies an intentional prevarication, and is considered name-calling. Acceptable ways of questioning the truth of a poster's statement include the more tactful "I don't think that's true," "I believe you are mistaken because..." or even simply "That's not true."

"That's not true and you know it" crosses back over into name-calling, however.

2.8 Guidelines regarding civility

By charter, posters are expected to maintain a civil tone in all their postings. The guidelines on name-calling cover part of that requirement, but not all of it.

In general, posters are expected to consider the reputations of other participants, and refrain from making unnecessary accusations or assumptions about the motivations of others. A good rule of thumb is to phrase your comments as your opinion -- "I think..." "It seems to me that..." "This makes me wonder whether..." etc...

Posters are expected to make factual claims, to debate topics openly and in good faith, and to accept honest criticism, all without provocation or prevarication. At least one professional organization, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), has recognized that such fair dealings are necessary components of ethical conduct, and has incorporated them into its Code of Ethics:

http://www.ieee.org/portal/pages/about/whatis/code.html

Though the Amateur Radio Service is not a professional endeavor, the moderators strongly feel that the IEEE Code of Ethics is also a worthwhile set of guiding principles for participants in the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup.

Posters are not required to support the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). However, they are expected to adhere to the spirit of the other parts of the ARRL's "Amateur's Code":

http://www.arrl.org/acode.html

2.9 Other unacceptable topics

Participants are reminded that the charter also prohibits posts promoting or defending unlawful operating practices.

Posts may discuss whether operating practices are unlawful, or engage in reasoned debate over why certain operating practices should or should not be unlawful. Posts may discuss enforcement actions, such as by the Federal Communications Commission in the United States or similar government agencies in other countries, and evidence gathered by parties such as Official Observers in support of complaints about unlawful operation.

Discussions of what practices constitute unlawful operation in the Amateur Radio Service should be limited to *factual* descriptions of the laws in various jurisdictions. Posters' *opinions* as to what practices they consider unlawful are not permitted. In particular, posters are cautioned not to extrapolate their country's laws and regulations to those in other parts of the world, as they may be quite different.

Posts that entirely concern themselves with other radio services or hobbies, such as Citizen's Band, General Mobile Radio Service/Family Radio Service, and Scanner or Shortwave Listening, are considered off-topic to the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup. Newsgroups such as rec.radio.cb, rec.radio.scanner, and/or rec.radio.shortwave may be more appropriate venues for such posts.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-amateur-moderated-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the misc.kids.moderated Posting Guidelines.)

1290. IRTS Radio News Bulletin, Sunday July 15th 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-15 20:00:30 UTC
From: news at irts dot ie <devnull@panix.com>
Message-ID: <200707152000.l6FK0A627874@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4195
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Irish Radio Transmitters Society
Radio News Bulletin

Sunday July 15th 2007

Church Broadcasts

You will recall that in June of last year we informed you that ComReg had introduced a Wireless Public Address licensing Scheme. This scheme allows religious and community organisations to be licensed to transmit services or events from their public address systems for the benefit of people in local communities. Two bands of 40 channels each 10 kHz wide between 27.6 and 27.995 MHz were allocated for this purpose. Base station ERP is 0dBW (1 watt AM) or 6dBW (4 watts FM) with a vertically polarised antenna. Many churches throughout the country are using this scheme and if licensed and operating within the terms of the licence these transmissions are legal.

However, we have been notified by the national coordinator of Intruder Watch for the German National Society DARC that transmissions of church services, which seem to be originating from Ireland, have been taking place in the 28 MHz amateur band. WAV files have been provided of such transmissions on 28.105 MHz. We would ask members to listen out on this frequency and on the lower portion of the 28 MHz band generally at appropriate times for their local areas, particularly on Sundays to see if unauthorised stations in the 10-metre band can be identified. Ground wave propagation would be fairly short at these frequencies so specific identification of stations may be possible from some reference in notices to local events. If you cannot identify the station and you have a beam antenna you could take a bearing on the station, which in conjunction with bearings taken by other stations could help identify the general area from which the transmission originates.

If you hear anything worth reporting you should send a report to Thos Caffrey EI2JD the IRTS Intruder Watch coordinator at QTHR or to ﷺthoscaffrey at hotmail dot

com with a copy to Sean Nolan EI7CD at QTHR or to ei7cd at gofree dot indigo dot ie. The report should include date, time, frequency, possible location of the station if identified, beam heading and other relevant information. If the station is identified from an announcement of local events, details should be given. It is in our own interests to identify these stations to preserve the exclusive nature of the 28 MHz allocation. The matter has already been reported to ComReg who will act on the matter if we can provide locational information.

ComReg Meeting

On Tuesday last, representatives of the Society had a lengthy meeting with representatives of ComReg on a range of issues. The meeting was very useful and productive. Certain matters decided at the meeting need a little more work and we will give a full report of the meeting as soon as we can.

WRC-07

Prior to the CEPT Preparatory Group Meeting for WRC-07 held in Gothenburg in the early days of last week, the IRTS had submitted to ComReg documentation about the requirements of the amateur service from WRC-07 as well as items for inclusion on the agenda of WRC-11. Among the documents was a detailed paper prepared by Dave EI3IO setting out options for regularising the position of the 70 MHz band in the ITU Radio Regulations and/or the European Common Allocation Table. Such regularisation would for the band internationally and/or in Europe and would allow and encourage other administrations to make amateur allocations at 70 MHz. Permission has been sought by Ole LA2RR, Chairman Region 1 IARU to use this document in their further work on this matter.

Theory Examination

Recently forty-five candidates sat the theory examination for the experimenters licence at centres in Dublin and Carrigtwohill. The examination papers have been checked and the results were delivered to ComReg on Tuesday last. ComReg have been very efficient in sending out the results but it takes time as each candidate gets a breakdown of their results in each of the three sections of the paper. We appeal to

candidates not to contact ComReg about the results, as results will not be given over the phone or by e-mail. The official letters will issue in due course. There is also no point in contacting the IRTS about results. The papers are checked by IRTS but the issue of results and the HAREC certificate to successful candidates is a matter exclusively for ComReg.

Limerick Radio Club

Limerick Radio Club participated in the Foynes Flying Boat Festival last weekend. As part of the festival, a re-enactment of the original 1937 flying boat flight from Botwood Newfoundland to Foynes was planned, using a Canso A C-FPQM flying boat. However because of mechanical problems with one of the engines the flight had to be postponed at the last minute. The pilots did travel to Foynes for the festival and assured everyone that the re-enactment flight will be completed at a later date, once the aircraft is repaired.

Limerick Radio Club operated two HF stations and one VHF Station over the three-day festival, using the special call sign EI7�FOY. Despite band conditions a large number of stations were worked, mainly on 20 metres. The transceivers in use were an Icom 756 Pro 2 and a TenTec Jupiter and the antennae a Cushcraft A4S beam at 60 ft and a G5RV.

The following participated in the event: EI2GT,EI8EM,EI2AW,EI0DJ,EI2IX,EI6IW,EI7ALB,EI9IY,EI3AL, EI0CZ,EI8GY,EI9AL,EI9CI and SWL�S Breada Cronin EI896 and Damien Brown. The QSL Manager for the special event is Alan Cronin EI8EM at QTHR.

The Club would like to thank Ms Margaret O�Shaughnessy, Museum Curator, for the invitation to participate in the festival and for providing the necessary facilities to the Club members.

Rally�s

The Cork Radio Club Rally will take place on Sunday the 23rd of September in the Blarney Park Hotel, Blarney, Co. Cork, the Waterford Rally will take place on the 21st of October 2007 in the Woodlands Hotel, Waterford and the Mayo Radio Rally will be on Sunday the 18th of November in the Belmont Hotel, Knock, Co. Mayo.

A full listing of upcoming rally�s is available on www.irts.ie.

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall, EI7IS at QTHR or by phone to 051-853806 or 087-6302026. Items for the radio news can also be faxed to 087 5 6302026. News should be submitted via e-mail to �news at irts dot ie� for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Friday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday�s bulletin.

1291. [RAC-Bulletin] New Proposeed HF Band Plans

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-18 17:01:02 UTC
From: John Iliffe <john.iliffe@sympatico.ca>
Message-ID: <469E407D.2E12319E@sympatico.ca>
Source record: 4196
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

A new RAC proposed band plan is now posted on the RAC Web site.

RAC's HF Band Planning Committee has revised the present band plan and
it is now posted on the Web and awaiting your comments. You can access
it from:

http://www.rac.ca/service/hfband.htm

Sent by the RAC Bulletins from RACHQ mailing list robot.
Send comments to: rachq@rac.ca
For more information about the email robot, please visit:
http://rac.eton.ca/racbullemail.htm

1292. Re: Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1559 - June 29, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-18 21:01:08 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f7lpad$1lbc$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4197

William M. Pasternak wrote:

> HAM RADIO TRENDS: LEAGUE CITES NO-ODE AS REASON FOR MEMBERSHIP GROWTH
>
> Thee ARRL Letter says that its membership in the League is up and the
> trend is toward continued growth. With now close to 152,000 members,
> Customer Service Manager Amy Hurtado, KB1NXO, says the League is a
> viable, up-to-date organization that every ham should be a part of.
>
> Hurtado credits the rise in membership in part to the FCC rule changes
> earlier this year that eliminated Morse code testing for the General and
> Amateur Extra license classes. She says that since more people are
> upgrading their licenses as a result of there being no Morse code
> requirement, the League is now successfully able to show them the
> benefits of being an ARRL member. (ARRL)

This is a relatively late reply to this post, but it bears a reply
nonetheless.

I would have to agree with the league's assessment of why they are
getting an increase in membership.

This will probably be an overall good thing for the league, and
probably Amateur Radio in general. I have always been a little concerned
that more Hams were not members. I think this bears some discussion.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1293. APRS a different way

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-18 21:02:40 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f7lqvh$1lh0$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4198

I recently installed APRS on my mobile rig.

I suppose I should note that I have no financial interest in any of the producers of software or equipment I've noted here.

While most people go for a receiver - either using a hockey puck or a hendheld - connected to a tnc then to the radio, I already had a copy of Streets and Trips on my laptop, and the USB GPS receiver supplied by MicroSoft.

I wanted to see if I could do something with that.

A found a software called APRSPoint on the web, and purchased a copy. They said that it would work with Streets and Trips and my Kenwood D-700. They weren't completely clear on exactly how though. Links were provided to a site where someone had done this.

This ham had used an external receiver connected directly to the D-700. I was hoping to run directly from the laptop. Emails to the writer of the software indicated that he wasn't sure himself if what I was trying to do would work.

After messing with it a few days, I wasn't having a whole lot of joy. Then I decided to try something different.

The D-700 uses a db9 serial cable to communicate with the laptop. General Packet work uses the Serial cable. So in anticipation that the unit was expecting the antenna to be hooked into a separate connecter when in APRS mode, I simply switched the D-700 over to Packet mode instead of APPRS.

Success. I was squacking my position and reading everyone else's. Works like a charm, and the dynamic maps change with where I am. I then built a nice little laptop desk, and there ya go.

I'm using the APRS/Laptop combination this weekend in a local MS-150 bike ride. We'll be having several GPS units barking position with the various mobile units (bike repair, sag wagon, ambulance, race director, and myself. I'll be behind the last rider, watching who is where, and there will be another APRS at HQ allowing them to see who is where also.

Anyone else using APRS in a practical situation?

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1294. [RAC-Bulletin] RAC Study Guide for the Basic Qualification - second printing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-18 23:17:40 UTC
From: John Iliffe <john.iliffe@sympatico.ca>
Message-ID: <1184801706.4254.7.camel@linuxprod2>
Source record: 4099
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Radio Amateurs of Canada is pleased to announce the Second Printing of
our popular "RAC Study Guide for the Basic Exam".

This new printing corrects a number of typographic errors found in the
First Printing, deletes one section, and adds a new section providing
additional information about 5/8 wavelength antennas. It was apparent
from correspondence received that some students did not fully understand
the previous material and so it has been extended and several new
antenna patterns have been included.

The RAC Study Guide for the Basic Exam continues to be priced at $50.00
plus applicable taxes and shipping and includes a browsable CD/ROM of
the IC question bank with keyed correct/incorrect responses.

Sent by the RAC Bulletins from RACHQ mailing list robot.
Send comments to: rachq@rac.ca
For more information about the email robot, please visit:
http://rac.eton.ca/racbullemail.htm

1295. Re: Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1559 - June 29, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-18 23:37:07 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <YYudnRk02LRdCwPbnZ2dnUVZ_i2dnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4100

"Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
news:f7lpad$1lbc$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...
> William M. Pasternak wrote:
>
>> HAM RADIO TRENDS: LEAGUE CITES NO-ODE AS REASON FOR MEMBERSHIP GROWTH
>>
>> Thee ARRL Letter says that its membership in the League is up and the
>> trend is toward continued growth. With now close to 152,000 members,
>> Customer Service Manager Amy Hurtado, KB1NXO, says the League is a
>> viable, up-to-date organization that every ham should be a part of.
>>
>> Hurtado credits the rise in membership in part to the FCC rule changes
>> earlier this year that eliminated Morse code testing for the General and
>> Amateur Extra license classes. She says that since more people are
>> upgrading their licenses as a result of there being no Morse code
>> requirement, the League is now successfully able to show them the
>> benefits of being an ARRL member. (ARRL)
>
>
>
> This is a relatively late reply to this post, but it bears a reply
> nonetheless.
>
> I would have to agree with the league's assessment of why they are getting
> an increase in membership.
>
> This will probably be an overall good thing for the league, and probably
> Amateur Radio in general. I have always been a little concerned that more
> Hams were not members. I think this bears some discussion.
>
> - 73 de Mike KB3EIA -
>

A cautionary note here though. This is still less than 25% of all licensed
amateurs. We will have wait and see.

Dee, N8UZE

1296. Re: Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1559 - June 29, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-19 01:42:25 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns9971D9874179Amcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 4101

"Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> wrote in
news:YYudnRk02LRdCwPbnZ2dnUVZ_i2dnZ2d@comcast.com:

>
> "Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
> news:f7lpad$1lbc$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...
<snippage>

>> This is a relatively late reply to this post, but it bears a reply
>> nonetheless.
>>
>> I would have to agree with the league's assessment of why they are
>> getting an increase in membership.
>>
>> This will probably be an overall good thing for the league, and
>> probably Amateur Radio in general. I have always been a little
>> concerned that more Hams were not members. I think this bears some
>> discussion.
>>
>> - 73 de Mike KB3EIA -
>>
>
> A cautionary note here though. This is still less than 25% of all
> licensed amateurs. We will have wait and see.

Certainly it is a "quick look" assessment.

But I think it is a step in the right direction.

My rationale is this:

Around half of all Amateurs were/are Technicians. When I was a
Technician, I saw the League as an interesting thing, but I did not join
until I got my General license. The reason why was that I saw it as more
relevent to my evolving interests. So while there are always going to be
people who are only interested in the VHF/UHF portions of the spectrum,
IMO the "prize" of the ARS is HF access. And once you get serious about
that, the ARRL, and QST is of much more interest. Once you get HF access,
and you get interested in the league, you get more info on what is going
on, and a positive feedback loop is generated.

We might debate over the qualifications of the qualified, but my
experience so far is that the new crop are fine gentlemen and ladies. I'm
pleasantly satisfied so far.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1297. Re: Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1559 - June 29, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-19 01:52:55 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <KcOdnW8muJZDXgPbnZ2dnUVZ_tW3nZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4102

"Mike Coslo" <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net> wrote in message
news:Xns9971D9874179Amcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136...
> "Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> wrote in
> news:YYudnRk02LRdCwPbnZ2dnUVZ_i2dnZ2d@comcast.com:

[snip]

>> A cautionary note here though. This is still less than 25% of all
>> licensed amateurs. We will have wait and see.
>
> Certainly it is a "quick look" assessment.
>
> But I think it is a step in the right direction.
>
> My rationale is this:
>
> Around half of all Amateurs were/are Technicians. When I was a
> Technician, I saw the League as an interesting thing, but I did not join
> until I got my General license. The reason why was that I saw it as more
> relevent to my evolving interests. So while there are always going to be
> people who are only interested in the VHF/UHF portions of the spectrum,
> IMO the "prize" of the ARS is HF access. And once you get serious about
> that, the ARRL, and QST is of much more interest. Once you get HF access,
> and you get interested in the league, you get more info on what is going
> on, and a positive feedback loop is generated.
>
> We might debate over the qualifications of the qualified, but my
> experience so far is that the new crop are fine gentlemen and ladies. I'm
> pleasantly satisfied so far.
>
> - 73 de Mike KB3EIA -
>

I've often wondered how many of the members joined for the primarily to be
able to use the outgoing QSL service and be eligible for the various
operating awards (WAS, DXCC, etc.)? It's unlikely that there is a way to
get an accurate count on that though.

Dee, N8UZE

1298. Re: APRS a different way

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-19 02:13:18 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <ooht935tgfumk73pbov43f0dtvt3uil3f8@4ax.com>
Source record: 4103

On Wed, 18 Jul 2007 17:02:40 EDT, Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:

> Anyone else using APRS in a practical situation?

Our ARES/RACES team has been using APRS-equipped mobile units in practically every public service event which we have been supporting for the past few years - the MS-150 is a good example. We have also demonstrated its utility to the county-wide Fire and Rescue District command staff who were very impressed. The system is available as an accessory to commercial communication transceivers now.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1299. Re: Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1559 - June 29, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-19 10:27:49 UTC
From: LA4RT Jon Kåre Hellan <dev@null.com>
Message-ID: <1m3azk4wy7.fsf@persaunet.uninett.no>
Source record: 4104

"Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> writes:

> "Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
> news:f7lpad$1lbc$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...
>> William M. Pasternak wrote:
>>
>>> HAM RADIO TRENDS: LEAGUE CITES NO-ODE AS REASON FOR MEMBERSHIP GROWTH
>>>
>>> Thee ARRL Letter says that its membership in the League is up and the
>>> trend is toward continued growth. With now close to 152,000 members,
>>> Customer Service Manager Amy Hurtado, KB1NXO, says the League is a
>>> viable, up-to-date organization that every ham should be a part of.
>>>
....
> A cautionary note here though. This is still less than 25% of all licensed
> amateurs. We will have wait and see.
>
> Dee, N8UZE

I'm not sure that's too bad. I've been licensed from 1974. I was
active 1974-1979, and again from 2004. I.e. less than 30% of the time.

The number of licensed amateur seriously overestimates the number of
active amateurs - even the number of amateurs who would like to be
active. That's the case here, where until a couple of years ago, there
was a yearly fee to pay. Probably even more so in the U.S.

73
LA4RT Jon

1300. [RAC-Bulletin] RAC Study Guide for the Basic Qualification - second printing

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-19 16:17:14 UTC
From: John Iliffe <john.iliffe@sympatico.ca>
Message-ID: <469F8D86.BA235FB@sympatico.ca>
Source record: 4105
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

This is a retransmission of a bulletin sent on 18 July, 2007 because
videotron.ca refused it. If you use a different ISP, please ignore
this duplication.
==========

Radio Amateurs of Canada is pleased to announce the Second Printing of
our popular "RAC Study Guide for the Basic Exam".

This new printing corrects a number of typographic errors found in the
First Printing, deletes one section, and adds a new section providing
additional information about 5/8 wavelength antennas. It was apparent
from correspondence received that some students did not fully understand
the previous material and so it has been extended and several new
antenna patterns have been included.

The RAC Study Guide for the Basic Exam continues to be priced at $50.00
plus applicable taxes and shipping and includes a browsable CD/ROM of
the IC question bank with keyed correct/incorrect responses.

Sent by the RAC Bulletins from RACHQ mailing list robot.
Send comments to: rachq@rac.ca
For more information about the email robot, please visit:
http://rac.eton.ca/racbullemail.htm

1301. [RAC-Bulletin] Industry Canada Releases New Antenna Siting and Approval Procedures

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-19 22:25:34 UTC
From: John Iliffe <john.iliffe@sympatico.ca>
Message-ID: <1184884890.4256.39.camel@linuxprod2>
Source record: 4106
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

On June 28, 2007 Industry Canada released its long-awaited new policy and procedures on towers and antenna siting, entitled CPC-2-0-03, Radiocommunication and Broadcasting Antenna Systems, Issue 4, June 2007. The new procedures will come into effect on 1 January 2008. Radio amateurs should note that until then, the current CPC-2-0-03, Issue 3, June 24, 1995,remains in effect.

Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) has been an active participant in the national review of antenna tower policies initiated by Industry Canada in March 2003, and in the subsequent many and varied spectrum-user stakeholders' meetings that reviewed and commented on the initial draft policy. The new CPC-2-0-03 was released by the Department without a final review by tower proponents despite their requests. Therefore RAC is now analyzing the new tower policy and procedures and will describe their impact for the Amateur Service in an upcoming issue of The Canadian Amateur.

Radio amateurs are invited to read the new policy at: http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/site/smt-gst.nsf/en/h_sf01702e.html and to comment to Jim Dean, VE3IQ and Richard Ferch, VE3KI/VE3IAY at ve3iq@rac.ca and ve3iay@rac.ca, respectively.

Sent by the RAC Bulletins from RACHQ mailing list robot.
Send comments to: rachq@rac.ca
For more information about the email robot, please visit:
http://rac.eton.ca/racbullemail.htm

1302. Re: [RAC-Bulletin] Industry Canada Releases New Antenna Siting and Approval Procedures

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-20 02:30:13 UTC
From: Jerseyj <jerseyj69@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <jerseyj69-38A8AF.20565119072007@comcast.dca.giganews.com>
Source record: 4107

In article <1184884890.4256.39.camel@linuxprod2>,
John Iliffe <john.iliffe@sympatico.ca> wrote:

> http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/site/smt-gst.nsf/en/h_sf01702e.html

Holy cow, if I understand this one has to follow this procedure to put
up something like a end-fed Zepp or similar long-wire antenna ?

1303. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1562 - July 20, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-20 13:18:48 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <E1IBo6Z-0003B1-2r@elasmtp-kukur.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 4108
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1562 - July 20, 2007

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1562 with a
release date of Friday, July 20, 2007 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. Foundation Class mania
is starting to sweep the globe, a new emergency
communications system is unveiled in New York,
and he's retired again. Find out who's left what
radio on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1562 coming your way right
now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RESTRUCTURING: FOUNDATION CLASS MANIA IS SWEEPING THE GLOBE

Call it Foundation Class mania. The successful
introduction of Foundation Licenses, particularly
in Britain and Australia, continues to be food
for thought in a number of other countries around
the world. Jim Linton, VK3PC, of the W-I-A News is here with the story:

--

The latest to declare such an interest is the New
Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters (NZART)
which is looking at the possible introduction of a Foundation type license.

New Zealand currently has a single license
restructure having abandoned its Novice license
which was not a success and in its final year had only about a dozen on
issue.

NZART says a Foundation License will be
considered over coming months with both the
British and Australian models being examined for their suitability.

Canada is still in favor of a new entry license.
However the thought there are the moment is that
it should be of a limited tenure in order to
encourage licensees to upgrade. The regulator
Industry Canada is talking about the new license
being introduced in years, rather than months.

Papua New Guinea is also looking at the possible introduction of a Foundation License. And decisions have yet to be made on a commonly agreed Foundation license that can be adopted by member nations of the European Community.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Jim Linton, VK3PC

--

The bottom line. Its starting to look as if the Foundation Class license could become the ham radio entry point for people, world wide. (WIA)

**

RESCUE RADIO: ITS "NEWS" TO THE BIG APPLE

The Big Apple and its Eastern suburbs will soon have a new emergency communications program. One which encourages the participation of all amateur radio operators to pass messages of any nature during a large-scale emergency. Amateur Radio Newsline's Evi Simons is in the Big Apple with more:

--

Called the Neighborhood Emergency Watch or NEWS System, the program will allow any radio amateur in New York City and on Long Island to help friends and neighbors in time of disaster. This, by providing emergency communications when all other forms of messaging are unavailable.

According to the program administrators, during disasters, phone lines become overloaded, cell phones are rendered useless and most other public communication becomes nearly impossible to use. But with NEWS, Amateur Radio operators will be able to offer assistance by simply passing along messages to other hams who are able to get through to emergency services. This, using the hobby's long established network of Amateur Radio Emergency Service volunteers.

NEWS will also sponsor nets that will liaison with other emergency communications systems that might be concurrently with the NEWS operations. This means that NEWS will have the capability to participate in networks that A-R-E-S and other groups have established with first-responder groups.

Each borough, county and town will have a Local Operations Center, to be developed as the NEWS

network evolves. Combined with the ham resident
in the Metro New York and Long Island areas,
these Local Operations Center will eventually tie
into citywide and other logistical emergency nets
to provide a venue and lines of communications to serve local needs.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Evi Simons, in New York.

--

If you live in that area and if all this sounds
exciting to you there is a lot more information
about the NEWS program on-line
at www.neighborhoodemergencywatchsystem.org (N2YBB)

**

RESCUE RADIO: HAMS WORK THE NEW MEXICO - TEXAS BORDER STORM

Amateur Radio emergency communications took
center stage in parts of New Mexico and Texas the
evening of June 26th. This when the leading edge
of a severe weather front traveled along the
border of the two states. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, reports:

--

With poor weather spotting coverage in that part
of the county, Rob Tice, W5TIC left the town of
Lovington heading north. He operated on the
Caprock repeater with Alf Lindsey, W5ALL, in
Roswell providing reports using Gibson Ridge radar software.

W5TIC met up with the storm in Tatum, New
Mexico. He used a handheld anemometer to get a
78 MPH reading as the storm gust front
hit. While Lindsay kept him updated with radar
reports, Jim Morrison, KM5BS relayed Tice's storm
reports back to the weather watch center. As the
storm front moved south, Tice tracked along with
it and continued to provide reports.

At this point Gaines County activated its EOC
providing radio contact with Jack Moore, KC5LNY,
in Seminole, Texas. Shortly after the front hit
Seminole, Moore requested wthat Hobbs Fire be
contacted for mutual aid. He said most of their
communications had been knocked out or were on battery backup.

Gaines EOC was in danger of being overwhelmed
with reports of damage, injuries and
fires. W5TIC went to the EOC and volunteered to take over.

The storm front was approaching the Midland Texas area by then and the net control at SkyWarn requested New Mexico to take traffic as they worked the rest of the event. Clint Lannom, N5MXE, in Midland, came up to serve as net control.

About 0100 CDT, the severe wether event was pretty much over for SkyWarn volunters. The hams serving at the various locations were able to stand down and return home.

A job well done.

For the amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the studio in Los Angeles.

--

Severe weather in this part of the country is not uncommon and the hams who live there and are involved in Skywarn are always on the alert. (K5CEC)

**

RADIO LAW: FCC REFUSES TO REVIEW GMRS LICENSE GRANTS

The FCC has told the Personal Radio Association, Inc. that it does not have the legal ground to challenge license grants made in the General Mobile Radio Service. In a letter to the groups president Douglas M. Smith, the FCC says that the fact that an individual's G-M-R-S license lists a business address as the contact information, does not present sufficient evidence, standing alone, to suggest that the license was improperly granted or that the station is operating in violation of the Commission's Rules.

The denial comes in response to a complaint to the FCC by the Personal Radio Association filing back on February 12th. It had requested the regulatory agency review the grants of 277 G-M-R-S licenses because the records contains the name of an organization or company in the "attention" field. The Personal Radio Association said this indicated the licenses may have been issued to entities not eligible for licensing in the GMRS.

But the FCC says that's not the case. It says that the information in the "attention" field is just what is says. It is a note for Commission use and as such it has no impact on the validity of the license. For that reason it is denying the Personal Radio Groups license review request.

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: SUPER EFFICIENT AMPLIFIER DESIGNED BY AMSAT HAMS

The Amsat News service reports that Allen Katz, K2UYH and Marc Franco, N2UO have developed a VHF, high-efficiency, class-E, R-F power amplifier. One with a DC to RF efficiency of 86.8%.

A-N-S says that their design is based on silicon carbide metal-semiconductor field effect transistors. The amplifier efficiency was measured at around 86 to 88% with this number holding quite well at almost any drain voltage or output power.

The AMSAT News Service ays that this type of amplifier is under consideration for the envelope elimination and restoration linear amplifier planned for the upcoming AMSAT Eagle ham radio satellite.

The design was presented in a paper at the IEEE International Microwave Symposium in Hawaii. It is now available on-line at http://www.cree.com/products/wireless_docs.htm titled "Class-E Silicon Carbide VHF Power Amplifier" (ANS)

**

Break 1

From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the K0ASH repeater of the Ashland Amateur Radio Club serving Ashland Nebraka.

(5 sec pause here)

**

NEW PRODUCTS: NEW KENWOOD DUAL BANDER A HIT WITH THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED

A newly released 2 meter and 70 centimeter dual band radio from Kenwood is getting rave reviews from the visually handicapped ham radio community. The transceiver in question is the Kenwood model TM-V71A. Blind and visually impaired amateurs love it because when equipped with the optional VGS-1 voice chip unit, the radio announces even menu-level settings for true accessibility by audio alone. One of those most enthusiastic about this feature is Linda Reeder, N7HVF, of Salt Lake City, Utah:

--

N7HVF: "The 71A is the most blind user friendly radio I have ever see in the 22 years I have been in Amateue Radio."

--

N7HVF is so enthussed about the new TM-V71A, that
she not only bought one. She has also produced
and recorded a 12 minute audio netcast that
loojks at the new radio and explains what its
capable of doing. Heres a samole:

--

N7HVF: (Descriptive audio of how rgw TM-V71A
operates demonstrating voice readout.)

--

The TM-V71A is not just for the blind or visually
impaired. The radios voice readout also
functions as a safety enhancement that lets an
operator tune the radio will operating mobile
without ever having to take his or her eyes off the road.

But it is the visually handicapped that are the
most vocal in singing its praises. You can hear
Linda Reeders entire report on the blind friendly
new Kenwood radio at the HandiHam website. A
link directly to it is in this weeks printed,
Amateur Radio Newsline report. Its in cyberspace
at http://www.handiham.org/manuals/Kenwood/TMV71A/tmv71a.mp3

More about the TMV-71A is at the Kenewood website
in PDF form at
http://www.kenwoodusa.com/Dealers/Us1/flyers/TM-V71A.pdf (N7HVF)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC TELLS NJ HAM TO CLEAR UP RPT TO RPT INTERFERENCE

Anthony W. Cranston, WA2HYO, of East Brunswick,
New Jersey has been told by the by FCC that his
uncoordinated repeater is allegedly interfering
with a coordinated system. The regulatory agency
says it wants to know what Cranston plans to do to remedy the situation.

In its June 29th letter to WA2HYO, the FCC says
that representatives of the WA3BXW repeater had
contacted Cranston a number of times since 2003,
but to this date it remains unresolved. So, as
per the Part 97 Amateur Service Rules it is
placing the burden to solve the problem on
Cranston's uncoordinated repeater since the WA3BXW system is coordinated.

For those not aware Section 97.205 of the
Commission's rule states that where there is
interference between a coordinated and an
uncoordinated repeater, the licensee of the

uncoordinated repeater has primary responsibility
to resolve the interference. And the FCC appears
to be placing that responsibility squarely on Cranston.

WA2HYO was given 20 days from the date of the
FCC's letter to respond to the inquiry. It
instructed him to furnish the Commission with all
of the information that it has requested.

Cranston was also warned that failure to resolve
this interference problem will result in
enforcement action against his
license. Enforcement that may include removal
of automatic control privileges from his repeater. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: TEXAS CB'ER FINED $7000

The FCC has affirmed a $7,000 against 11 meter
C-B operator Donald Winton of Corpus Cristi,
Texas. This for allegedly rebroadcasting a local
AM station on CB Channel 19. And for refusing to
allow the FCC to inspect his station. Amateur
Radio Newlines Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, reports:

--

The FCC says that last February 21st it received
a complaint that a CB radio station in Corpus
Christi was jamming communications on CB channel
19 by continually re-broadcasting the programming
of a local AM broadcast station. An agent from
the Commission's Houston Office used radio
direction finding and determined that the signal
originated from an antenna mounted on a house in that city

While the agent was making measurements on the
radio signal, Donald Winton exited the house and
walked down the driveway. The agent introduced
himself and requested to inspect the CB radio
station inside the house. Mr. Winton confirmed
this location was his residence and that the CB
station belonged to him, but refused to make it available for inspection.

The agent advised Winton that the Commission's
Rules require the operator of a CB radio station
to make the station available for inspection.
Winton still refused. The agent then requested
that Winton go inside and take the station off
the air because it was blocking communications on
CB radio channel 19. The FCC says that Winton
walked into the house and the station's

transmissions ceased. Winton returned and
continued to refuse to make the station available
for inspection, so the agent left.

On April 23, 2007, the Houston Office issued a
Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture to
Winton in the amount of $7,000. Winton responded
by requesting either a reduction or cancellation
of the fine. He also claimed that his CB
transmitter was not on when the agent arrived,
and that, if it was on, it must have been
operated by homeless people whom he allows access
to his home. He also claimed that he did not
allow the agent access to his home, because the
agent did not have a warrant and because he was
concerned that his dogs might injure the
agent. Finally, he states that he was not aware
of any of the Commission's Rules governing CB radios.

But the FCC says that Winton has no explanation
for how the agents used direction finding to
locate the source of the signal to his
residence. Nor could he explain how the agent
was able to observe the signal right before he
came out of his house. And the FCC noted that
Winton admits that he refused to provide the
agent access to his CB station located in his
residence. This, even though FCC rules authorize
inspection of all CB stations by the
Commission. Accordingly, agents are not required
to obtain a warrant to inspect a CB station.
The bottom line. The FCC says that it finds no
basis for cancellation or reduction of the $7,000
forfeiture and has ordered Donald Winton to pay it within the next 30 days.
For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

--
At this point Winton has only two choices. He
can pay the $7000 fine or he can appeal the
matter higher up the FCC's administrative chain. (FCC)

**
ON THE WEB: IQSLUSA ANNOUNCED

Yet another new electronic QSL service has
emerged. Calling itself I QSL USA, the founders
says that it is aimed at both electronic as well
paper QSL users and contains several innovative
features designed to make QSLing a
lot easier. More information is on-line at
www.iqslusa.com. (VA3FH via qrz.com)

**

ON THE WEB: 14000.NET CELEBRATES ITS FIRST ANNIVERSARY

The 14300.net website will celebrate it's one year anniversary next month.

The brain child of Steve Wojton, NN2NN, the website was started in August of 2006 to help promote the net activities on the 20 meter frequency of 14.300 MHz. Since then the site has steadily grown in popularity with those assisting with traffic and with the ham radio sailing community.

With some exclusive content and easy to navigate links concerning net operation, 14300.net has become a useful tool for the many net control stations who volunteer countless hours to handling traffic on 14.300 MHz. The site is in cyberspace at http://14300.net (Southgate)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: N6USO RELEASE FROM HOSPITAL - RECOVERING AT HOME

Some good news to report. Word that Los Angeles Sheriff's Deputy Burton Brink, N6USO is out of the hospital and recovering at home from injuries suffered in an on-duty accident.

As previously reported, the incident took place on June 13th. This, when a driver tried to exit the carpool lane on the Interstate 10 freeway. The motorist, who was in violation of state law requiring there be more than one person in the car did not check for a clear lane. He collided with Brink who was on motorcycle patrol.

N6USO suffered 9 broken ribs, a broken shoulder blade, a punctured lung and a punctured spleen. He required almost a month of hospital care and it will likely be another half year before he can return to duty.

Brink asks that nobody call him right now as he is still in a lot of pain. Get well wishes are best sent by e-mail to n6uso@officer.com. (WA6ILQ)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: WR1B NAMED NEW EDITOR OF QEX

And a word of congratulations to Larry Wolfgang, WR1B, on being named as the new editor of the ARRL publication QEX. He assumes the position from Doug Smith, KF6DX, who has edited QEX since September of `1998. Wolfgang had been serving as

QEX Managing Editor for the past year and a half
and as a member of Newsline's Young Ham of the
Year judging committee for the past two seasons. (ARRL)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio
amateur. From the United States of America, We
are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the
world from our only official website at
www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the
volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

ON THE NET: WEATHERBRAINS - A FREE NETCAST ABOUT THE WEATHER

If you are a radio amateur involved in severe
weather spotting or just ham an interest in the
environment, a couple of hams in Alabama have a
website you will want to visit and an Internet
radio show you will want to hear. The website
and the show are both called WeatherBrains. In
one recent program they interviewed Gary Woodall
of the National Weather Service office in Ft.
Worth, Texas to find out about the art of post storm surveys:

--

Audio only. Hear it by downloading the MP3
version of this newscast at www.arnewsline.org

--

Weatherbrains is the brain child of Birmingam
weathercaster James Spann, WO4W, television
producer David Black, KB4KCH and a couple of
their weather centric friends. All experts in
the area of weather forecasting. Each week the
WeatherBrains crew takes an in depth look at all
sides of the weather scene and brings it to their
listeners in a way that's entertaining and easy to understand.

The WeatherBrains program originates from the
studios of The Weather Company in Birmingham,
Alabama. New shows are posted each Tuesday. To
subscribe or learn more about WeatherBrains take
your web browser to www.weatherbrains.com And
less we forget -- listening to WeatherBrains is free. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

THE SOCIAL SCENE: LIVE COVERAGE FROM THE 2007 HUNTSVILLE HAMFEST

On the ham radio social scene, Tom Medlin, WA5KUB, reports that he will once again be streaming live audio and video of this years Huntsville Hamfest.

Coverage begins with his drive from Cordova, Tennessee to Huntsville That starts at 08:00 hours Central U-S time on Friday morning August 17th. Once he arrives in Huntsville, he will begin his live broadcast of the Hamfest. Tom will also live stream this years Young Ham of the Year presentation that will take place at 2 P.M. Central of Saturday, August the 18th.

All the action will be in cyberspace at Tom website. Its on his video page at http://wa5kub.com (WA5KUB)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: AO-51 PLAYING SOME FM GAMES

During the period of July 10 to July 12 the AMSAT OSAR 51 satellite was in its FM repeater mode with the uplink on 1268.700 MHz and the downlink on 2401.200 MHz. On July 10th, OE1VKW reported hearing the bird flying over Vienna with very strong signals.

As of July 13th, AO-51 was in the FM repeater mode, with an uplink on 145.920 MHz and downlink on 435.300 MHz. Telemetry is on the 435.150 MHz downlink. Starting on Tuesday, July 24th look for AO-51 to operate with an SSB uplink on 145.880 MHz and FM downlink via 435.300 MHz. An interesting combination of modes to say the least. (ANS)

**

WORLDBEAT - INSONESIA: ORARI PROVIES A NEEDED EMCOMM SERVICE

Indonesian Amateur Radio Organization Vice President M Jusuf Kalla says that his organization is still needed. Especially during emergencies and also to reach areas not accessible by telephones.

In a recent interview with the Antara News Service, Kalla is quoted as saying that experience has shown that telephone transmission towers and cellular phone networks are usually among the first structures to collapse in disasters like earthquakes. Kalls says that in those such situations, Indonesian Amateur Radio Organization members often provide out to be a

welcome alternative means of communication.

According to the Kalla, every telecommunication technology device has its advantages and disadvantages. He noted that not all areas of Indonesia`s vast territory are accessible by telephones. As such, two-way radio is still needed as a means of communication with people in these remote areas.

Now in its 39th year, the Indonesian Amateur Radio Organization has been in providing communication support during disaster-caused emergencies in the country (ANTARA News)

**

WORLDBEAT - ROUMANIA: THE NEW PRO - CW - CLUB

From Romania comes word of the newly formed Pro C-W Club. The creation of YO6EX, the organization is dedicated to the preservation and encouragement the art of CW communications world-wide. There are two catagories of membership. These are full and associate. . Dues is 10 Euros. Applications go to YO6EX, P.O.Box 168, SIBIU-1, RO-550450, Romania. (YO6EX)

**

WORLDBEAT - NOVA SCOTIA: 4th ANNUAL MARIIME DX FORUM AUGUST 4

The 4th Annual Maritime DX Forum is slated for Saturday, August 4th, in Upper Tantallon, just outside Halifax, Nova Scotia. The Halifax Amateur Radio Club is sponsoring this years event which includes presentations by Tom Harrell, N4XP, talking about the highly challenging 2007 Scarborough Reef Dxpedition.

Also on hand will be Scott Wood, VE1QD. He will take attendees vicariously on a trip to the British Antarctic Territories, which is some of the rarest DX real estate on the planet.

All DX'ers and contesters are welcome. Complete details and a registration form can be downloaded from www.halifax-arc.org (Halifax ARC)

**

ON THE AIR: WAR ACTIVATED IN CROSSBAND COMMUNICATIONS TEST

A three letter special event callsign with no numeric indicator. That's the story of the callsign W-A-R as it was used in last May 12th in

the 58th running of the Crossband Communications
Test sponsored by the Army Military Affiliate Radio System.

The historic W-A-R callsign was originally the
property of the old United States War Department
as it was known in those days. This year the
W-A-R call was rolled out to be used in the cross
band ham radio test station operating at the
Pentagon. This was very significant to the
members of the Pentagon Amateur Radio Club as the
W-A-R call has been in exile at Fort Detrick, Maryland.for many years.

The complete story about the W-A-R commemorative
call and this years Crossband Communications Test
is in the article titled Amateur Radio at the
Pentagon by Bill Sexton, N1IN. It begins on Page
29 of the August Worldradio Magazine. (Worldradio)

**

DX

In D-X, plan ahead to work San Andres as K3WT, N0STL,W0OR and
N0AT will be active from there between November
19th and the 27th. Operations will include the
CQ World Wide DX CW Contest on November 24th and
the 25th. This will be a Multi- Single
entry. The contest callsign has not yet been announced.

Also coming on this November is Greneda. This
with seven operators active as J3A also during
the CQ World Wide DX CW Contest. Outside the
contest they will be using their own personal callsigns. QSL J3A via WA1S.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: ART BELL, W6OBB, RETIRES - AGAIN

And finally this week, he' done it
again. Retired that is. The "he" in this case
is internationally known talk show host Art Bell,
W6OBB. Amateur Radio Newsline's Fred Vobbe, W8HDU, has the details:

--

IF THREE TIMES IS A CHARM, THEN WHAT IS FOUR?
VETERAN TALK SHOW HOST ART BELL, W6OBB STUNNED
HIS AUDIENCE ON JULY 1ST WITH THIS ANNOUNCEMENT:

W6OBB: "I WOULD LIKE TO ANNOUNCE TONIGHT, THAT
FOR THE .... ACTUALLY .... I'M NOT SURE HOW MANY
TIMES IT IS NOW ....SOMEBODY'S COUNTING ....

(LAUGH) FOLLOWING TONIGHTS BROADCAST ... I AM
RETIRING FROM REGULAR WEEKEND PROGRAMMING":

--

THE MOVE STUNNED MANY LISTENERS OF THE "COAST TO
COAST AM" SHOW THAT ART HOSTED ON THE WEEKEND.
SOME LISTENERS SPECULATED THAT THIS WAS A
PUBLICITY STUNT, OTHERS WERE JUST DISAPPOINTED AS
BELL HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS BEING THE FOUNDER OF
WHAT HAS BECOME A RATINGS WINNER IN OVERNIGHT
PROGRAMMING, AND THE ONLY SOURCE FOR PARANORMAL TALK.

ALTHOUGH PREVIOUS DEPARTURES FROM THE AIR WERE
DUE TO PROBLEMS AND TRAGEDY IN HIS LIFE, SUCH AS
THE DEATH OF HIS THIRD WIFE, RAMONNA, IN JANUARY
OF 2006, BELL SAID THAT THIS IS A HAPPY RETIREMENT.:

--

W6OBB: "THE REASONS, ACTUALLY, ARE STATED BY
NEARLY EVERYBODY WHO EVER MAKES SUCH AN
ANNOUNCEMENT. ONLY NOW I VERY CLEARLY UNDERSTAND
THEM IN A VERY PERSONAL WAY. GOD HAS BLESSED ME
WITH LOVE, MY LIFE, AT A TIME FRANKLY WHEN I
THOUGHT I HAVE LOST ANY REASON TO LIVE, FOLLOWING
MONA'S DEATH. MY WONDERFUL WIFE AIRYN, AND NOW OUR DAUGHTER ASIA."

--

BELL WENT ON TO SAY THAT HIS TIME WOULD BE SPENT
WITH HIS NEW FAMILY. ART ALSO SAID THAT SINCE HE
IS OF "RETIREMENT AGE" HE WOULD LIKE TO MORE OR
LESS STOP AND SMELL THE ROSES, AND TAKE SOME TIME
OFF. MANY HAMS HAVE NOTICED THAT HE HAS BEEN
RATHER SILENT FROM THE 160 AND 80 METER BANDS, SO
ONE HAS TO HOPE THAT ART HAS ALSO NOT RETIRED FROM HAM RADIO. :

FOR THE AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE, IN LIMA OHIO, I'M FRED VOBBE, W8HDU

--

According to Fred, Ian Punnet will fill in for
Art Bell on weekends until a permanent
replacement is found. (W8HDU, ARNewsline(tm) - audio use courtesy of
W6OBB)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the
CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio
Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the

RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline@arnewsline.org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), P.O. Box 660937, Arcadia, California 91066.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Jim Davis, W2JKD, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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1304. Re: Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1559 - June 29, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-20 20:01:11 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f7r3n6$1kvo$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4109

LA4RT Jon Kï¿½re Hellan wrote:
> "Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> writes:
>

< snip>

>> A cautionary note here though. This is still less than 25% of all licensed
>> amateurs. We will have wait and see.
>>
>> Dee, N8UZE
>
> I'm not sure that's too bad. I've been licensed from 1974. I was
> active 1974-1979, and again from 2004. I.e. less than 30% of the time.
>
> The number of licensed amateur seriously overestimates the number of
> active amateurs - even the number of amateurs who would like to be
> active. That's the case here, where until a couple of years ago, there
> was a yearly fee to pay. Probably even more so in the U.S.

This is very true, Jon.

When a number of us get together and chat about the number of hams that
there are, I'm often compelled to mention the chaos that would result if
all were to be active and on the air.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1305. Active Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-20 20:01:19 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f7r3tj$108s$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4110

Another thread got me thinking about the number of active Hams.

Just what percentage of Amateurs are active ones, defining active as either being on the air regularly, or participating in Amateur related activities on a regular basis? (like say on a weekly basis?)

Thoughts?

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1306. Re: [RAC-Bulletin] Industry Canada Releases New Antenna Siting and Approval Procedures

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-21 01:48:45 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns9973DAB9FC8A1mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 4111

Jerseyj <jerseyj69@comcast.net> wrote in news:jerseyj69-38A8AF.20565119072007@comcast.dca.giganews.com:

> In article <1184884890.4256.39.camel@linuxprod2>,
> John Iliffe <john.iliffe@sympatico.ca> wrote:
>
>> http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/site/smt-gst.nsf/en/h_sf01702e.html
>
> Holy cow, if I understand this one has to follow this procedure to put
> up something like a end-fed Zepp or similar long-wire antenna ?
>
>

A lot of stuff for sure. I assumed that you were talking about the first link on the page.

I think your Zepp is safe, unless you sre supporting it with two towers.

While there is a lot of verbiage, the requirements read pretty much like what a lot of us have to do in the States with tower installations. Maybe a bit more on environmental impact, and certainly indigenous impact. but not a whole lot different.

Thanks the cell phone folks for prompting such rules. 8^)

- 73 de Mike, KB3EIA -

1307. Re: Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1562 - July 20, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-21 01:49:02 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns9973DBBE69149mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 4112

"William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com> wrote in
news:E1IBo6Z-0003B1-2r@elasmtp-kukur.atl.sa.earthlink.net:

> RESTRUCTURING: FOUNDATION CLASS MANIA IS SWEEPING THE GLOBE
>
> Call it Foundation Class mania. The successful
> introduction of Foundation Licenses, particularly
> in Britain and Australia, continues to be food
> for thought in a number of other countries around
> the world.

What exactly is a "Foundation class" license?

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1308. The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 29 (Friday, July 20, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-21 03:59:33 UTC
From: ARRL Letter Mailing List <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <200707210227.l6L2Ranr020521@linux11676.dn.net>
Source record: 4113
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter
Vol. 26, No. 29
July 20, 2007
****

IN THIS EDITION:

* + ARRL Board of Directors Meets July 20-21
* + The 2007 ARRL National Convention Proudly Presents...
* + Diamond Terrace Officially Opens Prior to Board Meeting
* + The 2007 ARRL Public Relations Campaign - Where Are We Now?
* + Larry Wolfgang, WR1B, Named QEX Editor
* + FCC Enforcement Actions
* Solar Update
* IN BRIEF:
This Weekend on the Radio
ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Course Registration
+ World Scout Jamboree On the Air from England
+ New Section Manager Appointed in San Diego
US ARDF Championships Scheduled
SimSat Balloon to Launch
ARISS Report
TAPR to Meet in September
Let Us Know

+Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/>

==========
==>Delivery problems: First see FAQ
<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/faq.html#nodelivery>, then e-mail
<letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
==>Editorial questions or comments *only*: S. Khrystyne Keane,
<k1sfa@arrl.org>
==========

==> ARRL Board of Directors Meets July 20-21

The ARRL Board of Directors holds their second meeting of 2007 July 20-21 in Windsor, Connecticut. All Directors, Vice Directors and ARRL Board officers are in attendance. The meeting, which begins Friday and continues through Saturday, was preceded on Thursday with meetings of the Administration and Finance Committee and the Programs and Services Committee.

The Administration and Finance Committee, chaired by New England Division Director Tom Frenaye, K1KI, is responsible for all administration and financial matters of the League, including recommending the annual budget to the Board, making recommendations in regard to staff management and interfacing with the ARRL Foundation on fundraising issues. Frenaye said, "The first six months of 2007 have been extremely busy with the changes brought on by the FCC's dropping of Morse code as a licensing requirement. Staff and management have had a good plan and have managed well to handle the increased workload, such as in the VEC department, acquiring new memberships and advancing publication sales."

The Programs and Services Committee, headed by Dakota Division Director Jay Bellows, K0QB, is responsible for all programs and services provided by the League, including Logbook of the World, W1AW and the incoming and outgoing QSL services. "We deal with the whole range of membership and volunteer services of the ARRL. We continue to keep the focus on the members and volunteers who are the heart and soul of this organization," Bellows said.

==> The 2007 ARRL National Convention Proudly Presents...

The ARRL 2007 National Convention, to be held in conjunction with the Huntsville Hamfest August 18-19 in Huntsville, Alabama, is getting closer by the second. Along with the many convention activities, an exciting forums schedule is being planned. This is your chance to learn about contesting, emergency communications such as D-STAR, public service, education and many technical issues.

Along with the presentations on the ARRL Stage in the ARRL EXPO area, the ARRL will also be presenting forums at the Hamfest. ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, will be moderating the ARRL Membership Forum. Come and learn more about the issues shaping Amateur Radio today. Meet ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, and other ARRL officials and staff. All are welcome!

ARRL Education Services Manager Debra Johnson, K1DMJ will lead the two-part ARRL Education Forum. Part 1 is an overview of the ARRL's new Education Services Department. Topics will include the new ARRL mission statement on education, new licensing materials, enrichment courses and an update on ARRL outreach activities through the Education and Technology Program and Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS). Part 2 consists of a discussion about ARRL educational and instructional resources and ideas. What do you need? More educational kits? A better Web site resource center? An on-line collaboration site for instructors? More on-line courses? Instructors, teachers, on-line course mentors and others are all encouraged to participate.

ARRL Membership Manager Katie Breen, W1KRB will lead a virtual ARRL Headquarters tour. Amateur Radio entered a new era this year, and licensing changes have rekindled enthusiasm among many newcomers and inactive hams. Breen will lead you through a tour of ARRL's national headquarters. Along the way, she will share stories of ARRL special

event activities aimed at encouraging on-air activity among new and newly active hams, including real-time Web blogs and videos, Hello-Live! and the W1AW HF Open House.

ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, will talk about ARES and the Media - How to get attention for our best stories. Emergencies often gain the attention of newspapers and television media, and yet the good works of volunteers in the Amateur Radio Emergency Service are often overlooked. Our best stories are never heard by the public. This ARRL forum will discuss ways to help your public service activities capture the attention of the media.

ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, and ARRL Web/Software Development Manager Jon Bloom, KE3Z, will discuss DXCC and ARRL's Logbook of the World. Do you enjoy the lure of DX (long-distance radio operating)? The pinnacle of DXing success is the ARRL DX Century Club, or DXCC award. Find out everything you've ever wanted to know about the DXCC program and ARRL's Web-based Logbook of the World (LoTW).

The Huntsville Hamfest's preliminary forums schedule is posted on the hamfest's Web site <http://www.hamfest.org/forums02b.htm>.

==> Diamond Terrace Officially Opens Prior to Board Meeting

The ARRL Diamond Terrace, gracing the entrance to the ARRL HQ building, was formally opened July 19 with a ribbon cutting ceremony; ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, and ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, did the honors, while Directors, Officers, ARRL staff and visitors looked on under skies that threatened to open with a deluge of rain at any second.

ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH, opened the ceremony by introducing Sumner. He gave kudos to Hobart, saying that the idea of the Terrace originated in the ARRL Development Office and they saw it through to fruition. "All of us who work here in Newington get to enjoy this every day when we come to work, we get to walk through a greatly enhanced entrance which sends the right message to staff and to our members, as well as visitors, about the character and tradition of our organization," Sumner said.

Sumner then introduced Harrison, who began his remarks reiterating what he said at the donor's reception at this year's Dayton Hamvention: "When you talk to the average ham out on the street, and you ask him what's important to him in Amateur Radio, he will tell you, 'I want to go into my shack, I want to turn on my radio and I want to get on the air. I want to enjoy Amateur Radio. You take care of that for me. You are my organization, the ARRL; you handle that for me.'"

Harrison continued that in order for that to happen, a lot of work takes place behind the scenes. "With all that we have going on in Washington, nationally, with all the attacks on Amateur Radio's resources, it takes people like you in Newington, it takes people like we have on the Board of Directors and most importantly, it takes people who donate to our development program to make that all happen. The Diamond Terrace is just

one part of that, and it's a successful part. It adds a lot of meaning to Amateur Radio and to the ARRL. From the bottom of my heart, I want to say 'thank you' to everyone here and to every one of our donors."

Hobart then handed Harrison the scissors, and he and Sumner together cut the ribbon amid much cheering. ARRL Publications Manager and QST Editor Steve Ford, WB8IMY, filmed the event <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2hdPAhJGhYs>.

Hobart later took the time to honor those who had helped with the conception and realization of the Diamond Terrace, including Robert Antonello Jr, who did all the concrete and brickwork on the Terrace, and Bob Boucher, who engraved the bricks and is doing all the personalization on the benches. She thanked Debra Johnson, K1DMJ, former Development Office Operations Manager who is now ARRL Education Services Manager, and current Development Associates Margie Bourgoin, KB1DCO, and Maryann MacDonald. Hobart thanked the ARRL graphics department, including Graphic Design Supervisor Sue Fagan, KB1OKW, and Senior Technical Illustrator David Pingree, N1NAS, for taking the concept of the Diamond Terrace and developing the plans and designs to make it a reality.

She also extended her gratitude to ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, and QST Managing Editor Joel Kleinman, N1BKE. "These guys really came through in helping me promote this great tribute to our members." She continued, "I could not have done this project without the help of Greg Kwasowski, W1GJK, ARRL HQ Building Manager."

"Everybody should have a brick!" she said in closing.

The Terrace will host up to 5000 personalized, 4x8-inch laser-engraved bricks. Flanking the new entrance to ARRL Headquarters, the Diamond Terrace recognizes donors wishing to venerate their own call signs or to honor or memorialize the call sign of a family member, club or "Elmer" (mentor). "I have heard wonderful stories from donors who are honoring their Elmer or a family member, and clubs who are honoring a founder or influential leader. There is no limit to the reasons why bricks are placed to honor a call sign," Hobart said. There are also six benches of Vermont granite placed around the Terrace.

"We already had plans to refurbish the Headquarters entrance area," Hobart continued, "so this was an ideal opportunity to invite our members to participate in the project and support League programs at the same time. We want to grow the Diamond Club, which enables the ARRL to continue programs that require revenue above and beyond what annual dues provide, ensuring their long-term health and enabling the League to do more on behalf of Amateur Radio."

The Diamond Terrace is a project of the Diamond Club, which now has more than 2100 members. The unrestricted funds it takes in support such ARRL activities as spectrum defense, educational initiatives, field services, DXCC, publications, contesting and the ARRL Volunteer Examiner

Coordinator program, among others. Hobart points out, "You pick an area that's near and dear to your heart, and Diamond Club revenue is very likely supporting it."

Information on the Diamond Terrace and how to request a brick or bench is available at the Diamond Terrace Web page <https://www.arrl.org/forms/development/donations/diamondclub/>.

==> The 2007 ARRL Public Relations Campaign - Where Are We Now?

The ARRL has two Public Relations (PR) thrusts for 2007. The first one concerns ARES and Public Relations. ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, said, "We lose many good media opportunities because ARES operations are not being covered by Public Information Officers (PIO). Far too often, anything provided to media about ARES activities in a crisis is not shared until long after the event, if at all. To correct this, encouragement is being given for PIOs not only to be media active during any ARES deployment, but also for Section Managers to appoint specific PIOs whose singular job is to work with the ARES Section Emergency Coordinator to talk with media during a crisis."

The second thrust of the PR campaign is the 2007 EmComm Campaign. There was a short delay on this campaign, due to the FCC eliminating the Morse code license requirement. Pitts and the ARRL Public Relations Committee immediately launched the "30 Day Code Blitz" with custom made audio Public Service Announcements and news releases (including a wire release); many interviews were given for radio and newspapers, and special materials were sent to PIOs and clubs for publication. Most of these materials pointed the public to the new PR Web page <http://www.emergency-radio.org>, which saw a spike of more than 857,000 hits in February alone.

Pitts said after the "code blitz," the planned implementation of the 2007 EmComm campaign got underway. A collection of integrated PR materials was created and provided for PIOs and others to promote Amateur Radio's EmComm capabilities. "The value of the materials is presenting the non-ham with the benefits of Amateur Radio in providing communications for themselves and their families in a crisis," Pitts said.

The EmComm campaign materials include: The 2007 EmComm brochure ("Getting the Message Through"); the 2007 edition of the Swiss Army Knife for PIOs reference CD; a Web site <http://www.emergency-radio.org> based on emergency communications; Katrina - The Untold Story, a 5 minute DVD about hams providing assistance during and after Hurricane Katrina; a 30 second audio PSA; a 30 second video PSA, and the Talk on a Disk CD.

The 2007 EmComm brochure was partially made possible by a $15,000 donation from Dayton Amateur Radio Association. Pitts said that the brochure has proved so successful that the initial printing of 100,000 copies was quickly used, and a second (unexpected) printing of an

additional 60,000 copies was needed prior to Field Day last month. A third printing may even be needed before the end of the year. ARRL PR Committee Chairman Sherri Brower, W4STB, said, "These professional-looking brochures are even more popular with representatives of our served agencies than last year's "Hello" brochure. It gives a favorable and professional image to our Emergency Communications via Amateur Radio and says the only thing amateur is our name."

The Swiss Army Knife CD for PIOs remains a highly desired reference. It provides basic computerized files and information, how-to hints and quick references for PIOs.

Richard Lubash, N1VXW, produced the 5 minute video "Katrina - The Untold Story." "With his permission, we edited down the dramatic opening sequence, added in enhanced sound and created an excellent 30 second PSA. This video has shown great acceptance by television stations and has been aired thousands of times already in 2007," said Pitts. In addition, Kevin O'Dell, N0IRW, completed "Hello - The Movie," a 5 minute general video introduction to Amateur Radio. Unlike "Amateur Radio Today," both of these videos can be broadcast.

The newest item in the ARRL PR arsenal is "Talk on a Disk," created as a suite of presentation materials keyed to go with the EmComm brochure. Designed to be used in live speaking presentations to groups, Pitts said it gives the potential speaker all they need to do a first class presentation on Amateur Radio and EmComm work. "The 'Talk on a Disk' was definitely the hot item in the PR booth at Dayton Hamvention," according to Jim McDonald, KB9LEI, one of the booth volunteers. "We spent maybe three or four minutes explaining the concept to folks and their eyes lit up. Many told us it was something they had wished for to help them do presentations."

North Carolina Section Public Information Coordinator Bill Morine, N2COP, commented: "We used both the EmComm brochure and the new EmComm Web site as tools to show North Carolina legislators the benefits of Amateur Radio in emergency situations. This approach helped with the unanimous passage of a PRB-1 type antenna bill in the North Carolina General Assembly which became law June 29 this year."

Information on how to order PR materials can be found at the ARRL's PIO Web site <www.arrl.org/pio>.

==> Larry Wolfgang, WR1B, Named QEX Editor

ARRL Publications Manager Steve Ford, WB8IMY, announced July 17 that he has named long-time ARRL Headquarters staffer Larry Wolfgang, WR1B, as QEX Editor. QEX is ARRL's forum for communications experimenters. Wolfgang takes over Editorial duties from Doug Smith, KF6DX. Smith had filled the position since the September/October 1998 issue, when he took over for Rudy Severns, N6LF.

Ford said, "Larry has been QEX Managing Editor for the past year and a half, but as Editor, he will be responsible for the full scope of QEX editorial operations."

Larry holds a BS in physics from Susquehanna University; he taught high school science prior to coming to ARRL in June 1981. First licensed at 15 as WN3JQM in 1968, Wolfgang also held WA3VIL for many years.

Wolfgang said, "Being named QEX Editor is quite an honor, and also a huge challenge. When I reviewed the list of previous Editors, starting with Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, in 1981, I realized what an awesome responsibility it will be to guide QEX. The magazine is an experimenters' exchange, so I want to encourage more authors to write about projects on which they are working. While we like construction-type articles, this is also a place to share 'projects in the works' and exchange stories about successes and failures. I also want to find some ways to increase our readership." A video detailing Wolfgang's vision for QEX is available on YouTube <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YnWasaN2UBw>.

Readers can find more information about QEX, published six times a year, at the QEX Web site <http://www.arrl.org/qex/>. The site features cover images for the past two years, as well as the Table of Contents and Letters columns from those issues. A sample article from each of those issues is available for free download.

==> FCC Enforcement Actions

On July 14, the FCC released information regarding enforcement actions against three radio amateurs: John C. Kimbrough, WR3S, of Murfreesboro, Tennessee; Anthony W. Cranston, WA2HYO, of East Brunswick, New Jersey, and Steve L. Wingate, K6TXH, of Eureka, California.

Kimbrough was issued a Warning Notice and Notification of Removal of Automatic Control Privileges for his repeaters. The FCC said that it sent Kimbrough a letter on April 10 of this year, notifying him that monitoring information showed that on various dates in March 2007 his repeater stations operated without proper control and re-broadcast portions of commercial television programming and music. He was also accused having operators on his system fail to identify properly and using false call signs. The FCC's letter warned Kimbrough that repeaters must be under the supervision of a control operator "and not only expects, but requires, control operators to be responsible for the proper operation of the repeater system."

When Kimbrough replied to the FCC's April letter, he informed the Commission that he is operating 12 repeaters under his call sign on the following frequencies: 145.170, 145.370; 146.955, 147.360, 223.960, 224.160, 224.360, 224.560, 224.620, 224.660, 224.760 and 224.980 MHz, using at least 10 control operators. The FCC replied in this Notification that "The rebroadcast of commercial programming, improper identification and lack of identification by end users, and your own transmissions over your repeater that can be reasonably be interpreted

as threats to complainants, indicate your inability or unwillingness to control your own repeater stations."

The FCC warned Kimbrough that he would soon be receiving a letter from the FCC's Atlanta office removing the automatic control privileges of his repeater systems. "This means that you may not operate ANY repeater stations under your call sign unless you are the control operator and at the control point at all times to make certain that Commission rules are being followed and that no interference is occurring. When you are unable to function as the control operator of the stations identifying with your call sign, they may not transmit."

Finally, the FCC said, "failure to control stations bearing your call sign, or any communications over your repeaters not complying with Commission rules, will result in enforcement action against your license. That enforcement action may include a forfeiture (fine) or revocation and suspension of your Amateur license, or modification of your Amateur license to remove voice privileges. Any threats, direct or indirect, made to complainants or perceived complainants over your repeaters by your users, will result in revocation proceedings against your Amateur license."

The FCC accused Cranston of operating his repeater without coordination and, as such, causing interference to WA3BXW on 147.345 MHz. Cranston was allegedly notified of this back in 2003 and contacted repeatedly since, but the matter remains "unresolved." The FCC notes that where there is interference between a coordinated and uncoordinated repeater, "the licensee of the uncoordinated repeater has primary responsibility to resolve the interference."

The FCC asked Cranston if his repeater was coordinated for operation at 147.345 MHz, and if it is, asked him to furnish a copy of the coordination document and to "state the circumstances, if any, under which you are operating the repeater in a manner not consistent with the coordination, including changed location or power." If the repeater is not coordinated, the FCC asked Cranston for proof of any action he has undertaken to obtain coordination or to bring the station back into compliance with coordination. The FCC also wanted to know if he had received any complaints, either oral or written, and what steps he has taken to resolve them. The Commission also asked for Cranston to "describe in detail the configuration of the WA2HYO repeater system, including all sites, links and addresses, using diagrams where necessary. Detail any changes in location since the coordination, if any, was issued."

The FCC sent Wingate a letter, letting him know about complaints alleging his "lack of station control and deliberate interference." The Commission said he had 20 days from receipt of his letter to respond to the complaints in detail: "You are directed to support your response with a signed and dated affidavit or declaration under penalty of perjury, verifying the truth and accuracy of the information submitted in your response."

==>SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "House of the Rising Sun(spot)" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: This week saw an increase in average daily sunspot numbers, rising over 8 points to 29.3. Expect to see a lower average for next week, with perhaps some zero-sunspot days. Perhaps early August will have sunspot numbers back in the twenties at least. Currently, sunspot 963 is disappearing from view. Right now there is a solar wind stream headed toward Earth. This should only be a minor upset, with planetary A index around 15 for today and tomorrow, July 20-21. The IMF (interplanetary magnetic field) is currently pointing south, which makes us vulnerable. Geophysical Institute Prague predicts unsettled to active conditions for July 20, unsettled July 21, quiet to unsettled July 22, quiet for July 23-25 and unsettled July 26. Sunspot numbers for July 12-18 were 25, 38, 41, 41, 30, 17 and 13, with a mean of 29.3. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>.

==>IN BRIEF:

* This weekend on the radio: This weekend, look for the NCCC Sprint Ladder on July 20 and the VK/Trans-Tasman 160 Meter Contest (CW) on July 21. The North American QSO Party (RTTY) and the CQ World Wide VHF Contest are July 21-22. On July 22, the SKCC Weekend Sprint and RSGB Low Power Field Day are on the air. Next weekend, NCCC Sprint Ladder is on July 27 and the ARD Flight of the Bumblebees is July 28. The RSGB IOTA Contest is July 28-29. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests/>, the ARRL Contester's Rate Sheet <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rate-sheet/> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information.

* ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Course Registration: Registration remains open through Sunday August 5 for these on-line courses that begin on Friday August 17: Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 2 (EC-002); Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 3 (EC-003R2); Antenna Modeling (EC-004); HF Digital Communications (EC-005); VHF/UHF - Life Beyond the Repeater (EC-008), and Radio Frequency Propagation (EC-011). To learn more, visit the CCE Course Listing page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html> or contact the Continuing Education Program Coordinator <cce@arrl.org>.

* World Scout Jamboree On the Air from England: Worldwide Scouting celebrates 100 years of Scouting with the 21st World Jamboree in England July 27-August 7. Amateur Radio will be a significant part of the festivities, with participation in several events during the Jamboree. GB100J will operate around the clock for the duration of the Jamboree. There are plans for a contact with the International Space Station, including an EchoLink relay of the contact. The Scouting Sunrise Net marks the 100th anniversary with ceremonies around the world at 8 AM

local time. This net will start at 1900 UTC July 31 and continue to 1900 UTC August 1, and will include GB100S and GB100BI. The BI station will be located on Brownsea Island, where Lord Baden Powell opened the very first Scout encampment at 8 AM August 1, 1907. The idea for Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) was formed at a World Jamboree in 1957. GB100J will celebrate JOTA's 50th birthday on August 4 with special on-the-air activities. This year's JOTA, always the third full weekend in October, will be a 50 hour around-the-world Scout happening. QST Assistant Technical Editor and active Scoutmaster Larry Wolfgang, WR1B, said, "Make plans now to spend some time with a local Scout Troop, Cub Pack or Venture Crew during the time of the Jamboree. Contact a local Scout camp and set up a station to have local Scouts participate in some of the World Jamboree festivities via Amateur Radio. Talk with Scouts at the Jamboree and other locations around the world. You and the Scouts will have so much fun you will want to do this again and again. For more information and updates during the Jamboree, see the GB100J Web page <http://gb100j.radio-scouting.org.uk/>.

* New Section Manager Appointed in San Diego: Loren "Mitch" Mitchell, K6BK, of San Diego, California, has been appointed ARRL San Diego Section Manager to complete the term of office vacated by Pat Bunsold, WA6MHZ. Bunsold, who served as SM on two different occasions (April 2004-March 2006 and July 2006-July 2007), stepped down due to health concerns. Dave Patton, NN1N, Manager of ARRL's Membership and Volunteer Programs Department, made the new appointment effective July 12; Mitchell's term of office continues through March 2008. Mitchell has been the San Diego Section Emergency Coordinator since April 2006. He is active with the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) in Scripps Ranch, is a weather spotter with WX6BX for SKYWARN and operates as an ARRL Official Emergency Station on D-STAR. He is also trustee of station KA6BSA for the Boy Scouts of America. First licensed in 1961 at age 14, Mitchell developed a lifelong interest in both electronics and engineering. His wife Nancy, N6NCY, and sons Brendan, K6BMK, and Wes, K6WES, also enjoy the world of Amateur Radio.

* US ARDF Championships Scheduled for August: Registrations for the Seventh USA Championships of Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) are still being accepted. The event is scheduled for September 14-16 at South Lake Tahoe in the Sierra Mountains, near the border between California and Nevada. Beginners and experts at on-foot radio-orienteering will test their skills and learn from one each other. As in recent odd-numbered years, our national championships are being combined with the ARDF championships for International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Region 2, which encompasses North and South America. Course operations are in accordance with IARU rules; these are uniform throughout the world. Early Bird registration (at a $25 savings) was scheduled to end on July 14, but that deadline has been extended to July 31.

* SimSat Balloon to Launch: A high-altitude balloon carrying Amateur Radio is being prepared for launch July 24 and 25 that will offer hams

and students in Maryland, Washington DC and a 20 state region a special opportunity to participate in the operations. "Balloon launches are being offered as part of a two-week science camp called 'Reach For The Stars!' at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore," said Pat Kilroy, N8PK, a long time space and near-space experimenter and engineer at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland. "Within minutes of release from UMES, the balloon's radio footprint will grow to cover all of Maryland, Virginia, Delaware and many adjoining states. At its peak of about 100,000 feet, the signals from the balloon will be heard by all within a 400 mile radius, reaching northward to Maine, westward out to Detroit and Cincinnati, and south to Savannah," he added. Amateur Radio operators are invited to participate. There is a list of tasks that hams can do either on their own or in groups on Kilroy's Web page <http://www.patkilroy.com/simsat>.

* ARISS Report: There were two Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) meetings July 12 and 13 at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas. One meeting was with Johnson Space Center (JSC) Education Office; the agenda covered many topics such as NASA funding, a new NASA-sponsored Web site, ARISS lesson plans, NASA educational goals and other high-level topics. ARRL ARISS Program Manager Rosalie White, K1STO, prepared a paper that was presented at the second meeting with JSC Education Office and the ARISS SuitSat-2 Team. The paper discussed educational duties and public relations plans that have been completed for the future SuitSat-2, as well as future SuitSat-2 plans. The SuitSat-2 Technical Team, including Sergej Samburov, RV3DR, met on July 9-12 to make further progress on the development of the spacesuit satellite, and hammered out an agreement about what items the US will provide and work on, and what the Russians will provide and work on. The ARISS Team supported an Alaska QSO on July 7 with The Challenger Learning Center of Alaska in Kenai, Alaska, and the Manitoba Space Adventure Camp held at the Canadian Air Force 17 Wing in Winnipeg on July 12. An ARISS contact was also scheduled with the Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children in Orlando, Florida on July 17. The next scheduled contact is with Challenger Learning Center of Lucas County, in Oregon, Ohio on July 25. White said that ARISS is fortunate to have gotten these schedules approved by NASA, as the crew is heavily overloaded with ISS-assembly work duties. "ARISS may not get any more crew time than we currently have (one QSO per week) until the ISS is completely put together with its new modules," she said.

* TAPR to Meet in September: The ARRL and TAPR Digital Communications Conference is an international forum for radio amateurs to meet, publish their work and present new ideas and techniques. Presenters and attendees will have the opportunity to exchange ideas and learn about recent hardware and software advances, theories, experimental results and practical applications at the three day conference to be held in Windsor Locks, Connecticut. The ARRL and TAPR Digital Communications Conference is for all levels of technical experience, not just for the expert. Not only is the conference technically stimulating, it is a weekend of fun for all who have more than a casual interest in any

aspect of amateur digital electronics and communications. The banquet speaker this year is Bruce Perens, K6BP, well-known open-source software advocate. Find out more at the TAPR Web page <https://www.tapr.org/dcc.html>.

* Let Us Know: What's your favorite part of The ARRL Letter? What kind of stories would you like to see in the Letter? Would you prefer the Letter in an HTML format? This is your Letter and your chance to let your voice be heard. Please send your suggestions to ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, at k1sfa@arrl.org, with the subject line "ARRL Letter Suggestions." All messages will be read and discussed, and we look forward to implementing positive suggestions into the ARRL Letter.

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The ARRL Letter is published Fridays, 50 times each year, by the American Radio Relay League: ARRL--the National Association for Amateur Radio, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111; tel 860-594-0200; fax 860-594-0259; <http://www.arrl.org>. Joel Harrison, W5ZN, President.

The ARRL Letter offers a weekly e-mail digest of essential and general news of interest to active radio amateurs. Visit the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org> for the latest Amateur Radio news and news updates. The ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/> also offers informative features and columns. ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> is a weekly "ham radio newscast" compiled and edited from The ARRL Letter. It's also available as a podcast from our Web site.

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==>ARRL News on the Web: <http://www.arrl.org>
==>ARRL Audio News: <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> or call 860-594-0384

==>How to Get The ARRL Letter

The ARRL Letter is available to ARRL members free of charge directly from ARRL HQ. To subscribe, unsubscribe or change your address for e-mail delivery:
ARRL members first must register on the Members Only Web Site <http://www.arrl.org/members/>. You'll have an opportunity during registration to sign up for e-mail delivery of The ARRL Letter, W1AW bulletins, and other material. To change these selections--including delivery of The ARRL Letter--registered members should click on the "Member Data Page" link (in the Members Only box). Click on "Modify membership data," check or uncheck the appropriate boxes and/or change

your e-mail address if necessary. (Check "Temporarily disable all automatically sent email" to temporarily stop all e-mail deliveries.) Then, click on "Submit modification" to make selections effective. (NOTE: HQ staff members cannot change your e-mail delivery address. You must do this yourself via the Members Only Web Site.)

The ARRL Letter also is available to all, free of charge, from these sources:

* ARRLWeb <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>. (NOTE: The ARRL Letter will be posted each Friday when it is distributed via e-mail.)

* The QTH.net listserver, thanks to volunteers from the Boston Amateur Radio Club: Visit Mailing Lists@QTH.Net <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/letter-list>. (NOTE: The ARRL cannot assist subscribers who receive The ARRL Letter via this listserver.)

1309. WIANEWS for week commencing JULY 22 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-21 12:37:43 UTC
From: nationalnews@wia.org.au
Message-ID: <200707211000.l6LA09O24141@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4114
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,aus.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

This is WIANEWS for week commencing JULY 22 2007

Temporary phone towers may be needed after tank rampage in Sydney.

Telstra says it may have to install temporary cell phone towers in Sydney's west to replace ones which were damaged last Friday night when a man went on a rampage in a restored army personnel carrier.

The man led police on a 90-minute chase through a number of suburbs.

Police are alleging that the 45-year-old destroyed six phone towers and damaged an electricity sub-station.

He's been charged with a range of offences including malicious damage and predatory driving. The Magistrate recommended that the APC driver receive medical and psychiatric treatment before his case goes to Local Court.

Telstra spokesman Jeremy Mitchell says repair crews were not able to gain immediate access to the towers as they were a "scene of crime".

With all those towers out, one wonders if the accused ever managed his obligatory "one phone call" when finally arrested.

VK4 WICEN

Sunday, June 17, a very productive meeting was held at the Sunshine Coast Amateur Radio Club clubhouse. Representatives from many clubs in Queensland meet together with the intent to form a WICEN Secretariat.

The concept is to redistribute the considerable workload previously placed on the State Coordinator, whereas the 6 or so members of the Secretariat work together as a team to further develop WICEN involvement with Government agencies in times of need.

The VK4 WICEN Secretariat consists of representatives from Far North Region, North Region, Central Queensland, South East Region, South West Region, Moreton Region and Sunshine Coast Region.

Chairmanship of the Secretariat was accepted by Richard, VK4YRP for a 12 month tenure.

Much of this revitalisation is due to the Sunshine Coast Amateur Radio Club along with support of Government, SES and local business. SCARC certainly have inspired other club's to get back into doing WICEN things in VK4.

The new Secretariat encourages clubs to appoint a WICEN coordinator to their executive ASAP, not withstanding that many clubs in VK4 have a strong WICEN, SES tie up already, these clubs are to be commended and please keep

up the good work.

For more details, please contact the VK4 WICEN Secretariat via email, wicenqld@wia.org.au.
(From - Peter Schrader - vk4tgv@rumpleteazer.net)

WIA PRESIDENT MICHAEL OWEN VK3KI:-

The closing date for applications for grants to affiliated clubs closed last Monday, and we had received by then 8 separate submissions from 7 different clubs.

The WIA has allocated $5,000 this year for grants to affiliated clubs, to support projects that promote and advance amateur radio, the WIA and it's Affiliated Clubs by supporting useful and/or innovative projects undertaken or to be undertaken by Affiliated Clubs.

Now it is over to the 2007 Grants Committee, Don Wilchefski VK4BY, Deane Blackman VK3TX and Wally Howse VK6KZ.

The WIA office has received a number of phone calls from WIA Exam Service assessment candidates concerned about the delay in the processing of their applications for certificates of proficiency and apparatus licences by ACMA after the WIA has forwarded them.

The WIA has been advised by Alan Jordan of ACMA that the turnaround for processing amateur licenses has been extended as a result of the need to train new staff, and some new responsibilities given to those staff.

It has recently taken as much as 4 weeks for an amateur licence application to be processed.

Alan tells us that it is ACMA's aim to achieve a two-week turnaround time for issuing amateur licences, not quite as good as the turnaround time we have enjoyed recently, certainly a lot better than at present.

So please, don't chase the WIA office or ACMA if you haven't had your new callsign issued in a couple of weeks. Allow more time for ACMA processing.

The WIA will continue to aim to forward the applications and certificates within 5 working days after their receipt from the Assessors.

A final request.

Ted Thrift has been seeking details from all of the clubs of the right person for potential amateurs to contact for training and assessment.

The information is needed for the Callbook, and so it is quite important that he has the right information in time to get it into the Callbook.

Please help Ted by responding now if you haven't already done so.

HAMS ACROSS AUSTRALIA.
(vk1 wx)

VK1

The BRM Silverstone Safari runs Saturday 11 August. Some VK1's had volunteered some or most of their Saturday for an earlier date and the organisers would like to encourage you to think about generously offering your time and effort again for this new date, August 11.

Please let Mike Thurgar VK1TMT (mdthurgar@fwi.net.au) know if you are able to assist WICEN give the Light Car Club of Canberra a hand with the running of this event.

VK4

Queensland Digital Group visit

University of Queensland Tools of Science

The fifth Tools of Science meeting for 2007 will be held at 6pm on Tuesday (July 24), speaker will be Neil Boucher and the topic:

Prehistory of Radio

The official story is that Heinrich Hertz, born in 1847 was the first to send and receive radio signals between 1885 and 1889. Actually it had been done twice before in 1866 by Mahlon Loomis and in 1879 by David E Hughes. Neil will look at the intriguing system developed by Loomis.

Neil Boucher is an Electrical Engineer and author of several books on telecommunications including The Cellular Radio Handbook, now in its 4th edition. He has undertaken to resolve the controversial claims and counter claims by many of radio before Hertz, and has concluded that two of the pre-radio-age systems were viable and almost certainly did work as described by their inventors.

The QDG web site has more information at www.qdg.org.au
(Alan VK4YAR)

VK5

The Barossa Amateur Radio Club held its AGM on Friday the 13th July and Ian VK5AIC was re-elected as President, Norm VK5NR as Treasurer/Secretary and Peter VK5ZLX as Vice President & Publicity Officer.

The club re-broadcasts this, the VK1WIA national news on the local VK5RBV repeaters each Sunday evening at 8.00pm.

Listen on 146.825 MHz and 438.425 MHz.

A call-back and net will follow the broadcast, please call in and let em know you've been listening.

VK6

August 5 - HAMFEST 2007 happens in Perth at 9am.
This at the Cyril Jackson Recreation Centre Ashfield.

EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO
PRESENTED BY KYLEA VK6FXYL

Amateur Radio Now Legal in all Texas Public Schools

In what can only be termed a huge victory for the future of Amateur Radio in Texas, Governor Rick Perry signed Senate Bill 11 (SB11) into law in June. Among many disaster response specifications, the new law contains two important Amateur Radio-related provisions: State employees who are ham radio operators may to take up to 10 days of paid leave while participating in a disaster response or training exercise, and Amateur Radio is now allowed in all Texas public schools.

Local clubs in Texas have been urged to contact their school boards and encourage them to bring school policies regarding student possession of RF devices into compliance with the new law.

A decades-old provision in the Texas Education Code long ago granted Texas schools blanket authority to ban student possession of all RF devices, including ham radios. .

The old law broadly defined a prohibited "paging device" as any RF device which had the ability to vibrate, emit a sound, display a message, or in any way convey a communication to the possessor.

The result of the old law was that in most Texas schools, starting a ham radio club was simply out of the question. Existing ham radio programs were even removed from some San Antonio area schools as a direct result of the old law.

The WIA Amateur Radio Assessment system relies completely on Amateur Radio Assessors and Learning Facilitators.

In VK4 the next round of Amateur Radio Assessor Training is being conducted over the RD weekend of 11th and 12th of August on the Gold Coast.

This is training provided by the WIA's Nominated RTO and is free of charge.

The Venue is the Gold Coast Amateur Radio Society, 85 Harper St, Nerang.

Assistance with travel and accommodation for those travelling long distances is possible if you let them know early enough.

Download and complete an application for Assessor training form from the WIA website.

If you plan to attend, or if you are just your unsure and have any questions regarding the training please contact Ron Bertrand VK2DQ on 07 5573 2795.

The WIA, which is Amateur Radio need and rely on WIA Accredited Assessors particularly in areas where there are currently no Assessors, so "please" give Ron a call.

FUTURE EXAMS

To find out when a club in YOUR area is hosting assessments and/or training in Amateur Radio go to wia.org.au and check out the club pages.

Participating clubs keep this site up to date and post the latest information for all to see.

Next Foundation Licence course, and Standard / Advanced assessments .....

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Adelaide Hills Amateur Radio Society will run Foundation licence's at the Aviation Museum, 56 Lipson Street Port Adelaide, August 4th and 5th Contact the course convenor, Sasi Nayar on 0417 858 547

TASMANIA

REAST next examination Sessions is Tuesday 24 July for Standard and Advanced Exams.

Saturday 28 July will be a Foundation Training and Exam day.

Closing date to book for these sessions is Today Sunday 22 July.

For more information or enrol please contact Reg Emmett VK7KK by calling 0417 391 607

CONGRATULATIONS - RESULTS

Congratulations Cheryl Goldfinch who successfully obtained competency in WIA Exam Service assessments held at Cardwell during FNNQARG and who has just been issued Foundation callsign VK4FRYL.

Also we welcome Joachim who was successful in REAST, VK7's last foundation assessment. Joachim now has his Callsign and it is VK7FAAI, welcome to the airwaves.

SILENT KEY - VK2UC

It is with deep regret we advise that Alf Webb VK2UC is now Silent Key.

Alf Webb, Silent Key at just on 102 years of age.

Alf Webb was born on 10th September 1905 in the London suburb of Islington. He migrated to Australia in May 1911 and moved to the Lismore

He served in the 15th Light-horse Regiment from 1924 to 1931.

In 1940 he joined the Army Volunteer Defence Corps until entering Army Signals in 1943 where he served until his discharge in June 1946.

In the VDC his Section passed Heliograph traffic from Mt Warning to Coffs Harbour, 133 miles serving as a Signaller and later got his Amateur License in 1947.

In 1990 he was awarded the Order of Australia Medal for services to Returned Servicemen and the RSL and the community.

Alf was a foundation member of Summerland Amateur Radio Club and also President of SARC in 1984 and later made a Life Member of SARC.

He was Australia's oldest active amateur, being active on air every day on Morse and voice until a few months before his death.

He would have been 102 years old next September.

Vale Alf Webb OAM, VK2UC, SK.
(John Alcorn. VK2JWA for SARC)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS READ BY Rob VK5MM

14th IARU R3 Conference Christchurch 12 - 16 October, 2009.

Though it is some time away, Terry Carrell ZL3QL Chairman of the organizing committee reports that plans are well under way for the conference.

VE2XPO on the Air Again 40 Years Later:

Forty years ago, more than 50 million people from five continents visited the Universal and International Exhibition (Expo 67), the World's Fair, in Montreal, Quebec Canada.

Roland Masse, VE2PX, and the Radio Amateurs of Quebec (RAQI) set up and operated Amateur Radio station VE2XPO from Ste-Helene Island at the exhibition.

Their first contact was with W1AW.

More than 6000 contacts were made during the exhibition. Now, 40 years later, VE2XPO is on the air again on all bands from until July 29 using CW and SSB.

There will be a special QSL card

(QSL via Jacques Dube, VE2QK, 875 St-Severe, Trois Rivieres, Quebec G9A 4G4, Canada)

Kylea made mention earlier of that Texan Bill SB11 just passed, well it not only favours School Children but is termed a huge victory for the future of Amateur Radio disaster response.

The new bill grants State employees who are ham radio operators to take up to 10 days of paid leave while participating in a disaster response or training exercise's!!
(sourced to arrl)

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NEWS FROM ARNEWSLINE

WILDFIRES WONT HAMPER ARDF CHAMPIONSHIPS

The recent wildfire near Lake Tahoe on the Nevada and California border has not put an end to the planning for this year's hidden transmitter hunting championship games. They will take place as planned. Amateur Radio Newsline's Joe Moell K0OV, has the story.

It's full speed ahead with preparations for the Seventh Annual Championships of Amateur Radio Direction Finding, or ARDF. This

year's championships will take place on the weekend of September 14 through 16 in the El Dorado Forest near Lake Tahoe. That's in the Sierra Mountains near the California/Nevada border. Primary sponsor is the Santa Barbara Amateur Radio Club. Marvin Johnston KE6HTS is General Chair of the organizers.

Most of the competitors will be staying at Camp Concord, a rustic but comfortable facility that's two miles west of the city of South Lake Tahoe, near the shore of Fallen Leaf Lake. Camp staff will provide meals during the events, and everyone can walk to the competition courses from there.

Registration opened in early June and plans for the championships were proceeding. Then on the afternoon of June 24, a forest fire broke out south of Fallen Leaf Lake. Fanned by high winds, it moved rapidly northeast into a nearby residential area. Over 550 fire-fighters worked diligently around the clock to slow the expansion of the burn area and prevent further structure damage.

Full containment of the Angora fire, as it was called, was achieved just before Independence Day. It destroyed 3100 acres, 242 homes and 67 commercial buildings. Total loss has been estimated at 11.7 million dollars.

Camp Concord is 1.6 miles from the edge of the burn area and has reopened for the summer camping season. The entire burn area is closed until at least November 30 to protect the fragile environment. But the forest land near the shores of Fallen Leaf Lake has mostly been spared.

With a few minor map revisions, everything looks good to go. Early Bird registration was scheduled to end on July 14, but because of the delay, that deadline has been extended to July 31

You and your family are invited to the championships this year. Anyone with reasonable physical abilities can participate. A ham license is not required and there are no age limits, but you must be able to run or walk through the forest and carry your DF gear for five to ten kilometres. You might even win a spot on USA's team to the next ARDF World Championships. Read more about the championships, and international-style transmitter hunting, at the usual place: homingin.com. Homing In is entered as one word, homingin.com.

>From southern California, this Joe Moell, K-zero-O-V for Amateur Radio Newsline.

Again, this year's ARDF Championship games will take place on the weekend of September 14 through 16 in the El Dorado Forest near Lake Tahoe. And as Joe said, more is on-line at www.homingin.com.

10 METER UNLICENSED TRUCKER DINGED BY THE FCC

A follow-up to our story two weeks ago about the
invasion of 10 meters by Freeband operators and
truckers using illegal C-B radio gear. The FCC
has now acted in one case where truckers have
been found to have illegally taken up operation
on 28.085 MHz and is warning the company it will
face stiff fines if the pirate operation does not cease.

The target of the FCC enforcement action is
Tennessee Steel Haulers of Nashville,
Tennessee. In a letter to the company the FCC
says that it has evidence that at least one of
Tennessee Steel Haulers drivers had been
operating radio equipment on 28.085 MHz without a
license and causing interference to licensed
stations in the Ten Meter Amateur
Band. Specifically that this past May 3rd the
driver was observed on Interstate 85 in Gastonia,
North Carolina, at 6:40 P.M. while operating the radio gear.

Tennessee Steel Haulers were warned that this
type of unlicensed operation is a direct
violation of Section 301 of the Communications
Act of 1934. The penalty for such operations
includes the possibility of seizure of any
non-certified radio transmitting equipment along
with a hefty fine or even time in jail. The
company was also instructed to contact FCC
Special Counsel Riley Hollingsworth to discuss the issue with him.

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RSGB NEWS G4NJH

New beacons on 40 and 60MHz

Rutherford Appleton Laboratories, located near Oxford, has just
received licences for some very special beacons. The National
Frequency Assignment Panel has allocated 40.050MHz and 60.050MHz for
use by GB3RAL. Ofcom has issued NoVs for these frequencies, which will
be used alongside other beacons on the site. GB3RAL will operate on 5,
28, 40, 50, 60 and 70MHz. This will provide a valuable propagation
resource for amateurs worldwide. Please remember though that 40MHz and
60MHz are not amateur bands and these spot frequencies are for GB3RAL only.

CONTEST COLUMN - D A T E L I N E

Boat Anchor Sprints:
August (11)
Local ZL time: 2000 to 2100 hrs
Check New Zealand's "Break-in" or NZART website.

AUGUST 11/12 Remembrance Day Contest (The RD) wia.org.au

A reminder that the RD contest is fast approaching.

For those in VK1 Reflector, expressions of interest to take part in a CRARC Club Station activity for this years RD Contest has been called for.

Their Contest and Field Day coordinator is seeking expressions of interest in the running of a Club Station entry for this years RD Contest from the Farrer Shack. This would require that they have a team of operators to be able to undertake such an operation over the weekend.

Brad Alves VK1FRST is the man with the plan.
bradalv@webone.com.au
(02) 6286 7292.

Peter Harding VK4OD says there are only 20 days to the 2007 RD contest.

With the Sunspot cycle at the bottom (so they say), lets hope that the weather holds favourable in that there are no storms to interfere with the contest this year.

For those of you that will using electronic logging software " Don't forget to update NOW.....

Hand written logs will still be require a hand written, signed declaration.

As before ANY LOGS THAT ARE RECEIVED AFTER THE CLOSING TIME WILL BE RETURNED.

On wia.org.au the rules are available along with associated documents.

SPECIAL EVENTS, BEACON AND NET ADVICE
VK's longest continual net;
The Southern Cross DX Net has been running for 43 years, operates 7 days a week - propagation permitting - on a frequency of 14.238.5MHz at 1215 zulu.

Seanet 2007

Tony Waltham, HS0ZDX reports that the 35th Southeast Asia Net (SEANET) convention will take place in the Thai town of Lampang from November 8-11, 2007, hosted by the Radio Amateur Society of Thailand under the Royal Patronage of His Majesty the King .

Full details of the programme can be found at the SEANET 2007 website

www.sabah.net.my/seanet/seanet_2007.htm

INTRUDER WATCH - ENFORCEMENT ZONE

Region III IARUMS Coordinator B.L.Manohar (Arasu) VU2UR
r3msc_iaru@rediffmail.com

IARU Monitoring System International Coordinator:-
Robert E. Knowles, ZL1BAD.

Len Martinson, ZL1BYA, is Monitoring Service co-ordinator for the NZART.
Lenmart@clear.net.nz

VK National Coordinator = intruders@wia.org.au

VK IARUMS reflector email to subscribe intruders@wia.org.au

VK Coordinators for I.A.R.U.M.S.
VK3TZE Jimmy intruders@wiavic.org.au
VK5EV John
VK7BBW Paul vk7bbw@bigpond.com

IARUMS NETS
Friday 0730 UTC 7.065.5 with VK4CEU David.

Amateur exclusive frequencies where any non-amateur signal is definitely an intruder, This listing by the late P29KFS, Rick Warnett.

Exclusive amateur only spectrum world wide
7.050 to 7.100
14.000 to 14.250
14.250 to 14.350 No broadcasters
21.000 to 21.450
24.890 to 24.990
28.000 to 29.700

Church Broadcasts

You may recall that in June of last year we informed you that ComReg the Irish equivalent of ACMA had introduced a Wireless Public Address licensing Scheme. This scheme allows religious and community organizations to be licensed to transmit services or events from their public address systems for the benefit of people in local communities.

Two bands of 40 channels each 10 kHz wide between 27.6 and 27.995 MHz were allocated for this purpose.

Base station ERP is 0dBW (1 watt AM) or 6dBW (4 watts FM) with a vertically polarised antenna.

Many churches throughout Ireland are using this scheme and if licensed and operating within the terms of the licence these transmissions are legal.

However, the IRTS have been notified by the national coordinator of Intruder Watch for the German National Society DARC that transmissions of church services, which seem to be originating from Ireland, have been taking place in the 28 MHz amateur band.

WAV files have been provided of such transmissions on 28.105 MHz.

We would ask all Amateurs world wide to listen out on this frequency and on the lower portion of the 28 MHz band generally at appropriate times for these unauthorised stations.
(sourced to IRTS)

NOW ROBERT BROOMHEAD - VK3KRB.

For our digitally minded friends, particularly those in the UK, comes word in their Sunday Telegraph newspaper, that commercial radio companies in

the United Kingdom are looking to set a firm end date for analogue radio.

The industry body RadioCentre was expected to approach the British broadcast regulator, Ofcom, about setting a shutoff date for analogue radio that could be as early as 2015.

An analogue shutdown would mirror the transition path being followed by the U-K television industry, which will see an end to terrestrial analogue broadcasting in 2012.

There is a concern, according to the Telegraph report, that only a firm analogue shutoff date will ensure continued investment and development of digital radio, although there are political concerns about making millions of analogue receivers obsolete.
(arnewsline)

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- FEMALES IN RADIO
ALARA - AUSTRALIAN LADIES AR ASSOCIATION
http://alara.org.au
Net is held each Mondays on 3.580 MHz, commencing at 1030 UTC.
(1000utc during daylight saving)
geencee@picknowl.com.au

As you no doubt have heard, this WIA National News will be "taken over" by the girls of ALARA on August 5. Marilyn VK3DMS has been busy 'rounding up' potential "announcer-esses..." So stay tuned!

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RESCUE RADIO

EMERGENCY FREQUENCIES REGION ONE
21.360 - 18.160 - 14.300 - 7.060 - 3.760 MHz.

MOCK EPEDEMIC CHALLENGES CA HAMS

The scenario of a mock bird flu a pandemic was the basis of a simulated emergency exercise, called "Operation Kung Flu." This, involving about 200 Santa Barbara California County public health and disaster planning officials along with medical service representatives and of course a number of ham radio volunteer communicators.

Amateur Radio NewsLine says the drill took place on June 20th.

In past exercises members of the Santa Barbara Amateur Radio Emergency Service have played an important role in the Health Department's backup communications between it and the local hospitals.

This time officials requested the ARES group conduct a communications survey during the exercise to evaluate how effective Ham Radio could be as a backup.

ARES members identified 34 facilities in the area and sent a team out to each location to record G-P-S coordinates. They also drew a map of directions to each location, conducted a radio check using mobile and handheld gear and sent back a slow scan television picture of the

site. The exercise proved ARES could establish solid communications at all locations tested.

Following the exercise Bruce Carter, the Manager of the Office of Emergency Services for the County of Santa Barbara issued a letter praising the ARES hams. He said and we quote: "ARES is always there, willing and up to any task."

BB's DIARY ROOM - THE FUTURE, IN AMATEUR RADIO

2008

Sept 13 Alarameet 2008 will be held in Ulverstone Tasmania on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th September 2008. Susan VK7LUV for details.

2009
International Telecommunication Union's Telecom World 2009.

14th IARU R3 Conference Christchurch 12 - 16 October, 2009.

SOCIAL SCENE

July 21 - GGREC Hamfest at Cranbourne, South of Melbourne - 10am

August 5 - HAMFEST 2007 happens in Perth at 9am.
Cyril Jackson Recreation Centre
Fisher Street
Ashfield.

September One the Blue Mountains Amateur Radio Club presents WINTERFEST, Sydney region's premier hamvention, at the 1st Blaxland Scout Hall in Reading Street Glenbrook.

BMARC has secured a number of leading retailers of amateur radio equipment, antennas, morse keys, accessories, components and software. The WIA Bookshop will have their extensive range of books, CD's and other amateur radio related publications for sale and the popular flea market will be a feature again this year.

A monster sausage sizzle and hot and cold refreshments will be available.

For directions to the venue and up-to-the-minute news on Winterfest and other BMARC activities, point your browser to www.bmarc.org

September 1 don't dare miss this year's WINTERFEST.
(John VK2QN Publicity Officer Blue Mountains Amateur Radio Club Inc)

SEPTEMBER 8
SUNSHINE COAST HAMFEST at Woombye School of Arts Hall.

SEPTEMBER 21-23
North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention
Happening in twin cities of Thuringowa and Townsville.

OCTOBER 6
Gold Coast Amateur Radio Society Annual Hamfest at Albert Waterways Hall.

JANUARY 20 2008

The Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group invite all amateurs to attend the 2008 Mid North Coast Radio Expo to be held in Coffs Harbour on Sunday 20th January.

The Expo is held at the St Johns Church Hall, Mc Lean Street, Coffs Harbour. Gary VK2ZKT is the Radio Expo Coordinator on 02 66 55 2 990 or visit the Groups comprehensive web site at www.mncarg.org

REWIND - A LOOK BACK IN HISTORY
(Will McGhie VK6UU is WIA National Historian)

The Pedal Radio

Australia's population density is just 6.4 people per square mile. Eighty years ago, with almost no telecommunication infrastructure beyond the seaboard, the tyranny of distance loomed much larger in the Outback as the nearest doctor could be several thousand miles away, with no method of contacting them in an emergency. Hearing that German WW1 soldiers had used hand-cranked radios for battlefield communications, Alf Traeger set about creating a radio powered by bicycle pedals.

The invention of the pedal radio in the late 1920s enabled the famous Royal Flying Doctor service (RFDS) introduced by the Rev John Flynn, and offered remote settlements access to telecommunications for the first time.

Flynn lived in the Outback for most of his life, setting up hostels and bush hospitals for pastoralists, miners, road workers, railwaymen and other settlers and families. Known as 'Flynn of the Inland', his dream of a 'flying doctor service' came to life when H V McKay, inventor of the McKay Sunshine Harvester left a large sum of money in his will, and when Traegar developed the pedal radio. This gave Outback people the voice they needed to summon a doctor if necessary and at least to be able to get a radio consultation with one.

Pedal radios also meant neighbours, families and friends, scattered over thousands of square kilometres, could exchange news and gossip after normal transmission hours. This time became known as the 'galah' session, after the noisy, chattering native bird.

The School of the Air was also established, using the Flying Doctor Service network, and supplemented correspondence lessons sent to Outback children.

In 2005 alone the RFDS attended more than 234,000 patients, with more than 33,000 aerial evacuations, bringing this huge continent just a little bit closer for people in the most remote areas of Australia and this was all built on the groundwork of Alf Traeger and the pedal HF radio.

http://www.rfdsse.org.au/

http://www.outbackinfront.com/

http://www.gizmag.com/go/5714/

(vk7news)

THE FINAL FINAL

WALKS

Jeff VK4XJJ is still going strong on his walk across Australia.

But he still wants to hear from YOU, and it is these calls in particular that keep him going!!

Thursday 12th July Jeff walked 26 Km .

Friday walked 34 Km. New record daily walk. Antenna operating at knee height. 20 vehicles on the road.

Saturday 28Km as the crow flies. Clear blue skies. Camped on a beautiful river.

Sunday morning interview with Macka on Australia All Over. Macka may walk a few days with Jeff?
Walked 25 road Kms. Brolgas 100 metres away at sunset.

Monday overcast, no threat of rain, walked 26.6 Km. Many vehicles up to 30 last three days. Several stopping for a chat.

Tuesday 17th July. Walked 17Km into Boulia at noon. Will stay over the weekend for the camel races. May challenge the locals to walk round the track between races. He will wear his 27Kg? back pack to give them a start.

No official skeds for a few days. We sent some 10 Kg breaking strain, stainless steel , plastic coated fishing trace for a new antenna. Complete with hackles and thimbles. The other antenna kept breaking after being up and down 90 times.

Jeff is well and continually thanks fellow operators and WIA for their communications.

Regards, Bill Johnson VK2FWGJ for Jeff Johnson VK4XJJ Walking for DeafBlind awareness.

Web design & relay station Roger Stierli VK4BNQ

www.jeffswalk.com

Every Day, from 5:30pm Eastern on 40 meters, 7045 put out a call to VK4XJJ

ROWING

For 122 days, Ralph Tuijn has been rowing from South America towards Australia.

Hank VK2BHL says he is close to FK8, maybe they can hear him on marine channel 16.

Although Hank is not aware of Ralf's callsign he does know he is looking forward to catching up with VK4 hams when he comes ashore.

Ralph is now over halfway and hopes to reach Brisbane in a few months.

He updates his website virtually on a daily basis from his canoe using a laptop and Satellite phone.

The URL is
www.zeemanoceanchallenge.com/index

Any support we hams are able to give him would be greatly appreciated.
Either leave a message on his website or listen for him on Marine Channel 16.

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WIANews - we've reported...YOU decide.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".

Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of the National WIA.

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WIANews THANKS OUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS , OUR RELAY OPERATORS ACROSS THE WORLD FOR FORWARDING INFORMATION AND COMMENTS THEIR LISTENERS HAVE PASSED ON TO MAKE WIANews VK'S LEADING WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PROGRAM.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au
Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".
Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of QNEWS for the National WIA.
Thanks to to our dedicated band of broadcast volunteers who utilize their time and equipment in bringing you this weekly broadcast.
The purpose of "WIANews" is to rapidly provide news of interest to active amateurs residing in Australia and the globe.
We strongly encourage membership in the Wireless Institute of Australia and participation in the activities of local clubs.
Opinions expressed in "WIANews" are those of the writers who submit material and do not necessarily reflect those of the rebroadcasters, nor the National WIA.
Material may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, a credit to WIANews wouldn't go astray...

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1310. Re: [RAC-Bulletin] Industry Canada Releases New Antenna Siting and Approval Procedures

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-21 14:40:15 UTC
From: Jerseyj <jerseyj69@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <jerseyj69-185163.10362521072007@comcast.dca.giganews.com>
Source record: 4115

In article <Xns9973DAB9FC8A1mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>,
Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:

> Jerseyj <jerseyj69@comcast.net> wrote in news:jerseyj69-
> 38A8AF.20565119072007@comcast.dca.giganews.com:
>
> > In article <1184884890.4256.39.camel@linuxprod2>,
> > John Iliffe <john.iliffe@sympatico.ca> wrote:
> >
> >> http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/site/smt-gst.nsf/en/h_sf01702e.html
> >
> > Holy cow, if I understand this one has to follow this procedure to put
> > up something like a end-fed Zepp or similar long-wire antenna ?
> >
> >
>
>
> A lot of stuff for sure. I assumed that you were talking about the
> first link on the page.
>
> I think your Zepp is safe, unless you sre supporting it with two towers.
>
> While there is a lot of verbiage, the requirements read pretty much like
> what a lot of us have to do in the States with tower installations. Maybe
> a bit more on environmental impact, and certainly indigenous impact. but
> not a whole lot different.
>
> Thanks the cell phone folks for prompting such rules. 8^)
>
> - 73 de Mike, KB3EIA -

Well, it's not an immediate problem as I don't move to Canada until I
retire (agreement with my Canadian wife), but my reading of the document
was that the process was required for any antenna type, not just
"structures" going up...maybe I didn't read closely enough.

Jerry

1311. Re: Active Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-21 16:39:01 UTC
From: xpyttl <xpyttl_NOSPAM@earthling.net>
Message-ID: <xjpoi.7$Wc.2@newsfe06.lga>
Source record: 4116

Certainly it is less than 50%, probably less than a third. I seem to recall hearing a number like 20%, but that is back in some pretty fuzzy gray matter.

Probably a pretty tough thing to get a handle on. If you were to sample some random group of licensees, some of the active ones wouldn't respond, and probably most of the inactive ones wouldn't. So you would know up front you had a large error, and I can't think of a way to get a handle on how large. You could probably assume most of the non-responders weren't active, but certainly not all, and no way to get a handle on that fraction.

..

"Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
news:f7r3tj$108s$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...
> Another thread got me thinking about the number of active Hams.
>
>
> Just what percentage of Amateurs are active ones, defining active as
> either being on the air regularly, or participating in Amateur related
> activities on a regular basis? (like say on a weekly basis?)
>
>
> Thoughts?
>
>
> - 73 de Mike KB3EIA -
>

1312. SARL News in English 21/7/2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-21 17:06:54 UTC
From: website@sarl.org.za
Message-ID: <2F89A18D2D734186AE14A64A73543D72@toron>
Source record: 4117
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 22 JULY 2007

You are listening to ZS6SRL the official Radio Station of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is transmitted every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. To listen to a web stream or Echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links for details.

This, and previous bulletins, can be downloaded from the www.sarl.org.za. You can also read or download previous bulletins from there and subscribe to receive future bulletins by email.

This transmission is by Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with relays on 3,695, 10,135, 14,235 and 51,400 MHz as well as 438,825 and 1 297 MHz in the Pretoria area. (Other newsreaders please change to suit).

SILENT KEY

It is with deep regret that we must announce the passing of Ted Broome, ZS6KA, at the age of 82. We extend our sincere condolences to his family and friends.

(PAUSE)

In the news today:

FREQUENCY CHANGE FOR AMATEUR RADIO MIRROR INTERNATIONAL

REGISTER FOR THE CLASS B EXAMINATION NOW

PRESIDENT'S NET AND INTECNET NEXT SUNDAY

PLT CONTINUES TO BE PUNTED BY VENDORS

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

FREQUENCY CHANGE FOR AMATEUR RADIO MIRROR INTERNATIONAL

>From Sunday 29 July the frequency 17 695 kHz will be replaced by 17 590 kHz. The change is made to overcome interference by an Arabic speaking station close to 17 695 kHz. Reception reports on 17 590 kHz are invited and should be sent to armi@sarl.org.za.

REGISTER FOR THE CLASS B EXAMINATION NOW

The next class B examination will be held on 23 August. The closing date for registration is 23 July, which is in just a few days time. No late entries are accepted and will be carried forward to the October examination.

Registration for the examination is R300. The cost for students and learners under the age of 25 years is only R200. To register, download all the forms from the SARL web and after completion fax the forms to 088 011 675 2793. You can also request the forms by sending an email to admin@sarl.org.za. Carefully follow the checklist printed on page 2 of the RAE registration form.

PRESIDENT'S NET AND INTECNET NEXT SUNDAY

The President's Net will be on the air next Sunday. Join Graham Hartlett, ZS6GJH, at 19:00 for an update on the SARL and the various activities planned for the next few months. Graham will also talk about the SARL plans to promote ARDF - Amateur Radio Direction Finding - an activity that is currently attracting a lot of attention from the youth in Europe and the USA.

The President's Net will be followed at 20:00 CAT by the Intecnet with
Dr Pieter Kotz as the guest speaker. His presentation is entitled:
'Implications of Living on a Giant Magnet'.

In this presentation various aspects of the Earth's magnetic field will be discussed, its generation, as well as its influence on sophisticated technology, especially during magnetic storms. HF radio communications as well as GPS-based technologies are particularly adversely affected. Reversals of the geomagnetic field and the protective role of the magnetic field as well as the atmosphere for life on Earth will be highlighted. Declination, the angle between true North and magnetic North, is an important component of geomagnetism worldwide, but in particular southern Africa. Its non-uniform variation with time is of special interest to users of navigation maps.

The presentation slides can be downloaded in PDF format. Visit the SARL web at www.sarl.org.za and click on ARMI.

Clubs wishing to book a link to the conference bridge should send the telephone number and local repeater details to armi@sarl.org.za by Friday this week.

PLT CONTINUES TO BE PUNTED BY VENDORS

This past week PLT was again the subject at a conference held in Sandton. A new company which has been very active promoting PLT is IPOWA. According to their website IPOWA is the exclusive local provider of the world's leading broadband-over-Powerline (BPL) system. A proven, cost-effective and robust route to rapid broadband deployment, iPOWA is the last-mile solution for which utilities, ISP's, hotels, schools and property developers have been waiting for. By leveraging existing

infrastructure and utilizing a unique plug 'n play system, iPOWA is the key to high-speed access that works - fast.

Three of their representatives presented their case at Internetics 07, a conference about IT and the internet, sponsored by Internet Solutions.

iPOWA's approach has been somewhat different from their previous presentation at a broadband conference a few weeks ago. This time they are promoting it as the fixed line solution that powers the internet 15 times faster than ADSL and that besides the internet provides opportunities for power management, meter reading, electricity demand control to prevent black outs, security cameras and traffic management.

Problems such as interference to HF never entered into their discussion. They however did admit that they are waiting for ICASA to license PLT, which is the official name for BPL.

The interference issue of PLT and possible interim standards is on the Agenda of Committee TC73, the SABS committee on EMC standards which meets mid August. The SARL is keeping a close watch.

SUMMITS ON THE AIR (SOTA)

A few guys intend activating Stanleybushkop on Saturday 28 July. Listen out for Detlev, ZS6BAB, Tom, ZS6TMO, and Lucas, ZS6ACT, on 7 065 kHz and please give them a contact. Alternative frequencies will be 145,500 and 14,165 MHz. They will be on the air from 11:00 CAT. Stanleybush's SOTA reference is ZS-MP/018 and the location is S24 564 E30 481. You can find more information about SOTA at www.qsl.net/sotasa or www.sota.org.uk.

CONTEST NEWS

The Boland ARC 40 metre phone contest will be on the air this afternoon from 15:00 to 18:00 CAT. The exchange is a RS report and your postal code. Only wire antennas and a maximum output of 100 watt may be used. Each contact counts 1 point and a contact with ZS1BAK counts 5 points. Log sheets must be submitted within 15 days after the contest and can be sent by e-mail to zs1bak@mailbox.co.za or by snail mail to BARK, PO Box 2105, Dennesig, 7601.

Monday 23 July is the closing date for log submissions for the SARL Digital Contest. Get your log to the contest committee by midnight on Monday evening to stand a chance of winning a Yaesu VX-2R handheld.

The SARL HF Phone Contest will be run on Sunday 5 August 2007 starting at 15:00 and ending at 18:30 CAT with activity on certain sections of the 20, 40 and 80 metre bands. Participation can be as a single operator, multi-operator or SWL, further sub-division is low power, high power, all band, single band or my best hour. The exchange is a RS report and a serial number.

Southern Africa is divided into 8 zones for this contest and participants must try and work stations in each of these zones for bonus points, further bonus points are obtained for working the same station on all 3 bands.

The rules and log sheets are available in the 2007 SARL Contest Manual at www.sarl.org.

PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the expected solar activity will be at very low levels. The geomagnetic field is expected to be quiet in general while reaching active levels on 31 July. The expected Effective Sun Spot number for the coming week will be less than 5.

20 m and 40 m will provide best opportunities for DX. There is a possibility of 20 m openings towards India from about 15:30 CAT. 40 m may open from 20:00 to Australia. From 17:00 there may be a 20 m opening towards Europe. At about 16:00 short 20 m openings towards the West Coast of the USA are possible. Otherwise contacts to the USA are going to be very challenging. For the CW and digital enthusiasts it will also be worth monitoring 10 MHz.

Locally 40 m is going to be the band to be on for the Boland ARC fun contest with good propagation throughout South Africa till at least 16:00, depending on your location. Remember that HF always has the capability to surprise you.

You will never know what you are missing unless you switch your rig on, listen and also call CQ.

Please visit www.spaceweather.co.za for further information.

DIARY OF EVENTS

28 July - SOTA - Stanleybushkop activated; 29 July - President's Net and Intechnet; 5 August - SARL HF Phone contest; 15 August - Last day to submit synopsis of proposed papers for SA AMSAT Space Conference; 23 August - Class B RAE; 6 October - SA AMSAT Space Conference; 18 October - Class A RAE.

SARL News invites clubs and individuals to submit news stories of interest to radio amateurs and shortwave listeners. Submit news stories if possible in both English and Afrikaans to www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date.

The SARL also invites you to listen to the programme Amateur Radio Mirror International, on the air every Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 695 kHz. For the web stream and echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links. A repeat transmission can be heard Mondays at 21:00 CAT on 3 215 kHz. Sentech sponsor the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

Today's South African Radio League news bulletin was compiled by Roger, ZR3RC, and transmitted by (your name and call sign)

Thank you for listening. 73

/EX

========== Message Ends ========== To edit or remove your entry from this mailing list go to www.sarl.org.za/members/admin/maildat.asp

1313. [DXNL] DXNL 1528 (Jul 18, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-21 18:40:43 UTC
From: Robert Busch - DL7VOA <dxnl@dxhf.darc.de>
Message-ID: <184774298422.20070721203708@dxhf.darc.de>
Source record: 4118
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.dx,rec.radio.info

DXNL 1528 - Jul 18, 2007
DX Newsletter

a free and weekly service of
DARC Committee "DX and HF contesting"
(http://www.darcdxhf.de)

editor: Helmut Schlaffer, DL7MAE
(e-mail: dxnl@dxhf.darc.de)

translation by: Bob, DL7VOA
(e-mail: dl7voa@darc.de)

CU - AZORES ISLANDS, EU-089
CT1EPV, CT1EGW, CT1GFK, CU2HJA, DJ2VO and HB9CRV/CT3FN will activate
Flores Island (EU-089) between Jul 21 and Aug 1. All WLOTA hunters
should be aware that they plan to put up their stations in the light-
house Farol do Albarnaz (WLOTA LH 0947). They will be on the air as
CU8/homecall in CW/SSB/RTTY/PSK on 6-80m including the beacon CU8/CT3FN
on 50.113 MHz and as CU8T (multi/single) during the IOTA Contest on
Jul 28/29. The QSL manager for CU8T is CT1GFK (via bureau), all other
QSLs should be sent to the operator's homecalls. Their homepage is:
http://www.to-mk.com/azores

JA - JAPAN
The special event station 8J7VENUS is very active in SSB and digital
modes on 80-6m from the "Sendai Tanabata Festival" until Aug 31.
QSL via JH7YES.

JD1 - MINAMI TORISHIMA, OC-073
Masafumi,JA6GXK/JD1, is working from Minami Torishima (OC-073) from
Jul 18 until Aug 2 and once again from Aug 29 until Sep 30. He prefers
working in PSK on 20m.

JW - SVALBARD, EU-026
Martin,JW/G3ZAY, and Michael,JW/G7VJR, are working from the clubstation
JW5E in Longyearbyen (EU-026) on all bands but mainly on 6m and the
WARC bands from Jul 15-22. QSLs via homecalls (bureau, direct, LoTW).

KH3 - JOHNSTON ATOLL, OC-023
Like announced previously in DXNL 1525 Susan,W7KFI, will become active
from the Johnston atoll (OC-023) during the end of July. She plans to
arrive already this week. KH3/W7KFI prefers working in CW on the QRGs
7036, 10105, 14036 and 18070 kHz and in SSB on 14236 kHz. Since the
atoll is now under administration of the "US Fish and Wildlife Service"
all future operations have to be organized under much more difficult

circumstances. However the environmental agency declared this the last official operation and the island for not accessible anymore.

KL7 - ALASKA, NA-041
Rich,N7TCO, and Martin,W7ASF, will use the callsign W7ASF/KL7 from the island Prince of Wales (NA-041) from Jul 22-30. They also intend to take part in the IOTA Contest on Jul 28/29. QSL via W7ASF.

SU - EGYPT
Giselher "Gisel",SU9GD (DJ2AVB), writes: "I am active from Mehalla El-Kubra for three years now, mostly in CW and Feldhell, THROB and other digital modes on 20m. You can find me on the bands during the Islamic weekend (friday/saturday) starting around 1400 UTC. I run about 50 watts in the digital modes and 100 watts in CW using a vertical on the roof. Please QSL via my homecall DJ2AVB."

SV5 - DODEKANES, EU-001
SX5AS is the callsign of a DXpedition to Dodekanes (Astakida Islands) with the team members Cliff,SV1JG, Nikiforos,SV1EEX, Theodoros,SV1GRM, Spiros,SV1RC, George,SV1RP, Lykoyrgos,SW1GZL, Sotirios,SV1HER, and Daniel,SV1JCZ. The Astakida Islands (EU-001) are three uninhabited rocks in the Carpathian Sea which recalls the pictures of the recent BS7H DXpedition. The team is working in SSB/CW/PSK/RTTY/FSK441/FM and via satellites on all bands from 160m-23cm activating also the lighthouse (WLOTA: LH 0393) for the very first time from Jul 17-23. Their QSL manager is SV1HER.

TK - CORSICA, EU-014
Jack,TK/HB9TL, can be found in SSB on 10-80m from Jul 18-30. Unfortunately QSLs only direct via his QSL manager HB9QR.

ZF - CAYMAN ISLANDS, NA-016
David,K2DBK, will stay on Grand Cayman (NA-016) from Jul 22-29. You may hear him as ZF2DK if he is not relaxing at the beach. David prefers working in SSB on 20m but has antennas for all bands from 6-40m with him. He may also try PSK but start listening on the IOTA frequencies. QSL cards will be handled by David himself, either direct or via bureau and all log data will be uploaded to the LotW as well. More information can be found at: http://k2dbk.com

GREECE, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
SX100VAR is a scout station celebrating 100 years of the international scout movement. The QTH is Varnava where the Greek scout headquarters is situated. Working/listening to SX100VAR qualifies yourself for a special award issued by the awards and QSL manager SV1VS for EUR 5. SX100VAR is working in SSB and RTTY on all bands until Dec 31, 2007.

ITALY, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
IA3GM is activated by Luigi,IV3LNQ, until Sep 30 to mark the 70th anniversary of the death of Guglielmo Marconi. QSLs via IV3LNQ.

JAPAN, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
8J1ESP is a special callsign of the International League of Esperantist

Radio Amateurs (ILERA) which will be put on the air by Lenio,PY3DF,
Tanaka,JA1FXZ, and other members of the league with following schedule:
Jul 31-Aug 04 from Nagano/Takato
Aug 04-12 from the 92nd Esperanto World Congress in Yokohama
Aug 12-31 from Tokyo.
The station will work on these frequencies (+/- QRM): 7.066, 14.266,
21.266 and 28.766 MHz. QSLs via bureau or direct to JA1YAR or JA1FXZ.

DXCC: The German "Financial Times Deutschland" wrote on July 10, 2007, that
the independence of Kosovo will be retarded not only because of the
resistance of Russia. Experts expect a decision about the future of
the Kosovo to be made not before the NATO summit in Bukarest which will
take place in April 2008. So we still have to wait for a new European
DXCC counter...

Due to a problem with the database it is momentarily not possible to
open any online DXCC lists on the DXCC homepage. They are already
working to fix the problem.

LINKS: The young Montenegrin amateur radio operator Nikola,4O7AMD, invites
you to visit his homepage at: http://www.montenegro-radio.net
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VHF activities can be published on the website Make More Miles on VHF:
http://www.mmmonvhf.de or http://www.mmmonvhf.de/latest.php

Current SOTA activities (mountain summits) are announced at:
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/activations.php or
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/spots.php

PIRATE: Mamuka,4L2M, president of the "National Association Radioamateurs
of Georgia (NARG)" writes that the station 4L6VV is a pirate!
The OP calls himself Yuri and proclaims Tkvarcheli to be his QTH.
Mamuka states that this is not a valid Georgian licence and asks
everybody not to QSL. He thinks the pirate works from Russia.

UPCOMING CONTESTS

Jul 28/29: RSGB IOTA Contest and SWL IOTA Contest

IOTA collected by Fredy,DE0MST (e-mail: iota@dxhf.darc.de)

Island activities:
EU-038, PA, Noord Holland: Jack,PD2J, and Jan-Jaap,PG7V, will be active as
PC6IOTA from Texel Island between Jul 24 and Aug 1. QSL via PG7V.

EU-170, 9A, Dalmatia North Group: A team of Hungarian OPs will show up as
9A6NL and/or 9A/homecalls from Pasman Island from Jul 21-31. They also
plan to participate in the upcoming IOTA Contest.
QSLs for 9A6NL via HA6NL, all others via homecalls.
You can also check their website at http://www.c3.hu/~ha0khw/ha0hw.html

EU-170, 9A, Dalmatia North Group: Claudio,IN3DEI/W1ADX, is going to activate the islands Dugi Otok, Molat, Pasman and Ugljan signing 9A/W1ADX during his holidays from Jul 19 until Aug 7. QSL via IN3DEI.

Announced activities for the IOTA Contest 2007 (Jul 28/29):
Callsign Island IOTA

JA6RGJ/6 Kuro AS-012
JK6IIS/6 Kuro AS-012
JO6RGZ/6 Kuro AS-012
HS8KAY Phuket AS-053
E21EIC/p Ko Samui AS-101
BO0K Kin Men AS-102
5B4NC Agios Georgios AS-120
BA4TB/4 Chongming AS-136

Lighthouse activities (WLOTA/ARLHS):

TO5J LH 1041 Jul 14-28
WB8YJF/4 LH 0466 Jul 22-29
PC6IOTA LH 0043 Jul 24-Aug 1
J48NAR LH 4186 Jul 24-31
SV8/HA0NAR LH 4186 Jul 24-31
UT9FJ/p UKR 035 Jul 25-30
UR5FEL/p UKR 035 Jul 25-30
UR5FCZ/p UKR 035 Jul 25-30

Bandspots of the last 7 days

160m
A25OOK 1.818 2316Z via M5AAV (B)
OH0JFP 1.889 2251Z

80m
A25HQ 3.546 2142Z via K5LBU (B)
KP2/AA1BU 3.793 0307Z
PJ2/DL6LAU 3.511 0202Z via DL6LAU (B)
R50KP 3.506 2001Z via RZ1OM (B)
R50KP 3.786 2035Z via RZ1OM (B)

40m
PJ2/DH7SA 7.070 0300Z via DH7SA (B)
PJ2/DL8OBQ 7.084 0142Z via DL8OBQ (B)
TM2CDB 7.084 1958Z via F8CKS (B)
VY2/KV8Q 7.008 2357Z NA-029, via KC8VR

30m
A25KDJ 10.107 1625Z via W5KDJ
R50KP 10.104 1955Z via RZ1OM (B)
4O6DJ 10.107 2102Z via OK6DJ

20m
A25CF 14.195 0808Z via K5LBU (B)

A25KDJ 14.026 1509Z via W5KDJ
GS0GRC/p 14.260 1511Z via G0RCI (B)
GX8LED/p 14.182 1710Z via M0DOL
KP2/AA1BU 14.156 2223Z
PJ2/DH7SA 14.070 2140Z via DH7SA (B)
PJ2/DL8OBQ 14.084 1945Z via DL8OBQ (B)
R50KP 14.184 2143Z via RZ1OM (B)
SV8/DL3SBA 14.260 0918Z EU-052
YV5ANF 14.072 0100Z PSK, via EA7FTR (B)
4O3A 14.267 2224Z

17m
A25KDJ 18.076 1433Z via W5KDJ
A25SL 18.070 0933Z via W5SL
DT0HF 18.070 0819Z via HL2FDW (B)
PJ2/DJ8NK 18.149 2138Z via DJ8NK (B)
V5/HB9PHJ 18.140 0833Z
4O5JE 18.137 1855Z via ON5JE (B)

12m
PJ2/DL8OBQ 24.944 2127Z via DL8OBQ (B)

10m
DA0UBOOT 28.010 1847Z via DK9OS
HB0/DL1SBF 28.466 1903Z via DL1SBF (B)
UA2FF 28.018 1755Z via DK4VW (d)
4O3A 28.576 1706Z via YU1FW (B)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = LotW

Preview

DATE CALL DXNL

12Jul-22Jul 1A0KM 1527
07Sep-24Sep 3B7C 1511
Nov or Dec 3D2AG/Rotuma 1522
-01Aug 3G100S 1526
29Aug-2007 3XM6JR 1484
-Apr/08 5H0RS 1515
-Apr/08 6W/EA4ATI 1515
31Jul-31Aug 8J1ESP 1528 *
-31Aug 8J7VENUS 1528 *
01Apr-09Sep 8N3IAAF 1513
19Jul-07Aug 9A/W1ADX 1528 *
2007 9N7JO 1501

06Jul-20Jul A25CF.. 1526
-Apr/09 A52VE 1512

-Nov A61TX 1496
13Jul-29Jul CN2GE/m 1526
09Sep-14Sep CQ4IPY 1522
21Jul-01Aug CU8.. 1528 *
-Feb/08 DP0GVN 1496
2007/2008 EI100S(I) 1501
11Jul-21Jul ES0FTZ 1526
-30Nov EW905B 1523
-26Jul EU940OR 1526

Mar/08 FO/Clipperton 1521
15Jul-25Jul FS/PJ7 1527
-30Sep IA3GM 1528 *
2006 -2008 J28JA 1484/85
18Jul-30Sep JA6GXK/JD1 1528 *
-Aug JA7QVK/DU7 1521
15Jul-22Jul JW/G3ZAY.. 1528 *
Jul -Aug KH3/W7KFI 1525/28 *

-Aug OD5/ON4JM 1522
-30Jul OX3PG 1501
24Jul-01Aug PC6IOTA 1528 *
15Jul-27Jul SV9/IK2MLS 1527
-31Dec SX100VAR 1528 *
17Jul-23Jul SX5AS 1528 *
13Jul-18Jul T80W.. 1527
18Jul-30Jul TK/HB9TL 1528 *
NOW -2008 TL8QC 1459
14Jul-28Jul TO5J 1527
NOW -Sep/07 TU2/F5LDY 1486

Jan -Dec VI3SAA 1499
11Jul-18Jul VP2V/WZ8C.. 1527
Feb/08 VP6DX/Ducie 1521
May -Aug VP6TD 1517
Apr -Jul VQ9JC 1512
22Jul-30Jul W7ASF/KL7 1528 *
13Jul-21Jul YJ0CZE 1527
19Jul-26Jul YM1907FB 1527
- Sep 2007 ZD9BCB 1500
22Jul-29Jul ZF2DK 1528 *
13Jul-20Jul ZF2EK 1527

* = new or updated
.. = and other calls

QSL information

CE2NKA via LA7NK
CS5FAT via CT6ARL (d)
EA5/US7IJT via RZ3EC (B)
ED3AGB via EA3AGB (B)

EI70FOY via EI8EM (B)
G4ONP via G0TOC (B)
GB6EHL via G0TOC (B)
GX4ONP via G0TOC (B)
HB0/DL1SBF via DL1SBF (B)
HF15S via SP5PSL (B)
HF1HF via SP1DTG
HF580LP via SP5XSL
IA0IPY via I0YKN (B)
IE9/IK4RUX via IK4RUX (B)
IQ5MT via IW5EDV (B)
IR1OS via IZ4HWA (B)
IR8TRT via IK8MRA (d)
IS0/DK7DR via DK7DR
LX1AX via LX2A
NH6P via KH7Y (d)
RP3YGA via RV3YR (d)
RP3YY via UA3YY
RP3ZES via RK3ZWK
RP4AKD via RZ4AWA
RP4HDP via RX4HJ
RP62DWM via RN3BR
VP6AL via ZL1UFB (d)
4M2L via YV5YMA (B)
4O5JE via ON5JE (B)
9X5SP via DL8YA (B)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = Logbook of the World (LotW)

QSL DU7LA: Peter,DU7LA, has moved to the US and all QSL cards should be sent
to his new callsign KD0AA now.

QSLs arrived via bureau: CT3/DL3KWF, J5UTM (via HA7TM), KP4JRS, UA2FCC,
R750A (Kaliningrad), VR2IG, YI9LZ (LZ1ZF), 3DA0TM,
7P8/JH4RHF (OE1ZKC), 9G5A (via DL4WK)

Many thanks for contributing to this issue of the DXNL are going to:
Carl Smith (QRZ DX), 425DXNews, OPDX-Bulletin, DE2HJW, DF6EX (WIN-QSL),
DJ5AV, DJ9ZB, DK8JB, DL1SBF, DL3IE, DL7VOA, DL8EBW, DL8WX, DL9RCF, F5NQL,
HA0HW, HB9CRV, K2DBK, PG7V, SU9GD and others.

The German PDF version can be found on the DARC homepage at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/bulls/dxmb/2007/dxmb1528.pdf

Subscribe or unsubscribe to the DXNL mailing list yourself at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedxms.htm

1314. GB2RS NEWS Sunday 22 July 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-21 19:00:36 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200707211900.l6LJ0NH07349@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4119
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

1 GB2RS NEWS Sunday 22 July

The news headlines

* RSGB IOTA contest approaches

* RAYNET helps Tour de France

* Religious broadcasts reported on 10m

The weekend of 28 and 29 July sees the RSGB IOTA contest, sponsored by Icom. Many islands will be activated specially for the event by teams of enthusiasts. Many more amateurs around the world will of course be taking part from home. More details of the IOTA programme can be found on the RSGB IOTA web site, www.rsgbiota.org.

RAYNET members provided valuable assistance during the recent Tour de France stages in southern England. RAYNET members provided communications, safety and marshalling services to supplement the professional emergency services. Kent RAYNET coordinated the effort and were also assisted by volunteers from outside the county. Although it was reported to have been a long day for all concerned, it was a great success.

Reports have been received from Germany of religious broadcasts in the 10m band. The transmissions are thought to emanate from Ireland, which recently started licensing wireless PA services on the 11m band. However, German amateurs have received signals at 28.105MHz. The Irish Radio Transmitters Society is asking for any reception reports, with beam headings and recordings if possible, to try and help locate the transmitter or transmitters. Reports should be sent to Thos Caffrey, EI2JD, either QTHR or by email to thoscaffrey@hotmail.com. The Irish regulator, ComReg, is prepared to act on the matter if given sufficient information.

AMSAT members Allen Katz, K2UYH and Marc Franco, N2UO, have designed a high-efficiency VHF class-E RF power amplifier, with a DC to RF efficiency of 86.8%. Their work is based on silicon carbide metal-semiconductor field effect transistors, or MESFETs. This type of amplifier is under consideration for use on the AMSAT Eagle satellite.

According to its annual report, Ofcom seized 661 illegal radio transmitters in the year 2006-2007. It undertook 707 separate enforcement actions, including 48 raids on studios used by illegal broadcasters. As a result of its actions, Ofcom secured 61 successful convictions. The full annual report can be downloaded form the Ofcom

web site at www.ofcom.org.uk.

And now for the details of rallies and events for the coming week

[Note to newsreaders: we have not been notified of any events on 22 July.] On Friday 27 to Sunday 29 July the Party In The Park takes place at Eirias Park, Colwyn Bay. For more details contact Ron Roberts on 01492592884.

2 On Sunday 29 July the Horncastle Summer Rally takes place from 10.30am at Horncastle Youth Centre, Horncastle, Lincolnshire. Details from Tony, G3ZPU, on 01507 527835, or by email to G3ZPU@hotmail.com. On Sunday 29 July the Colchester Radio and Computer Rally takes place from 10am at St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester. Details from James, M0ZZO, 01255 242 748, or by email to James@M0ZZO.com. More details of these and future events can be found on pages 88 and 89 of the August edition of RadCom. Now for the news of special events Finchampstead Scout Group will be putting on a special event station GB1FSG on 22 to 30 July. They will operate SSB on the HF bands. The station will be operated from the Lake District.

To mark the 100th anniversary of Scouting, special event station GB100J will be active from 27 July until 7 August. Operating from Hylands Park, Chelmsford, the station is expected to be on air 24 hours per day on 80m through to 6m. Depending on the availability of an Internet connection, the station also hopes to be active on Echolink. More details at www.radioscouting.org.uk.

On 28 and 29 July a group of radio amateurs will be active from Isle of Islay. Apart from the IOTA Contest with participation under two contest call signs GM2Z and GM4A, there will be a separate PSK station MS0EPC (EPC#1700). The radio amateurs will try to be active on all HF bands, including 160m. More than one radio may be in use at any one time. GB200A will be operational from Saturday 28 July to celebrate the bicentenary of Aberaeron in Wales. Two stations will be operated as time permits, one QRP and one 100W. Operation is planned mainly on 40, 20 and 15m. And now the HF DX news compiled from 425 DX News, the Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin and other sources. Terry, W6WTG will be active as W6I from Anacapa Island (NA-144) on 27 to 29 July. He will take part in the IOTA contest and plans to operate on 20 metres SSB running battery power. QSL via N2OWL. Sam, UT9FJ, Alex, UR5FEL and Petro, UR5FCZ will be active as homecall/p from Berezan Island (EU-179) on 25 to 30 July for the IOTA contest. QSL via home calls. Jack, HB9TL, reports he will be active as TK/HB9TL from Corsica on 18 to 30 July. He plans to operate SSB on 10-80 metres. QSL direct to HB9QR. Paolo, IK2MLS reports he will be active holiday style as SV9/IK2MLS from Crete (EU-015) on 15-27 July. He plans to operate SSB on the HF bands, 6 and 2 metres. QSL via home call. Mike, W7ASF and Richard, N7TCO will be active as W7ASF/KL7 from Prince of Wales Island (NA-041), Alaska on 22-30 July for the IOTA contest. QSL direct or via bureau. Jack, HB9TL, reports he will be active as TK/HB9TL from Corsica on 18 to 30 July. He plans to operate SSB on 10 to 80 metres. QSL direct to HB9QR.

3 Claude, F5OGE, will be active as CN2GE and CN2GE/m from Morocco until 29 July. He will be travelling from Tangiers to Rabat, Marrakech, Benni Mellal, Fes, and Tetouane and back to Tangiers. Claude will operate CW and SSB, mainly on 40 and 20 metres, early in the morning and late in the evening (local time). QSL via home call, direct or bureau. Art, KG6ZWD, will be active as SV1/KG6ZWD/p from mainland Greece on 24 and 25 July. He will also operate as SV8/KG6ZWD/p from Andros Island, EU-067, on 17 to 23 July. Expect holiday style activity on 10 to 40 meters SSB and PSK31. QSL via home call, director bureau. Pete, W2GJ, C6APR, Ed, K3IXD, C6AXD and Randy, K4QO, C6AQO, will be active from Crooked Island, NA-113, ARLHS BAH-005 on 26 to 30 July. They will operate CW, SSB, and RTTY on 80 to 6 meters and will participate in the IOTA Contest as C6APR. All QSLs via K3IXD. Now the contest news

The CQ WW VHF Contest takes place from 1800 on 21 July to 2100 on 22 July. Activity is the on 50MHz to 144MHz bands, all modes. The exchange takes the form of call sign and grid. The RSGB CW Low Power Field Day takes place on Sunday 22 July from 0900-1200 and 1300-1600 on the 80m and 40m bands. The exchange is RST, serial number and power. The RSGB 144MHz Backpackers Contest takes place on 22 July between 1100 and 1500 on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number, locator and postcode. On Tuesday 24 July the RSGB 50MHz Activity Night takes place from 2000-2230 local. RST, serial number and locator form the exchange. The RSGB IOTA contest takes place from 1200 UTC on Saturday 28 July until 1200 UTC on Sunday 29 July. Activity is on 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10m, CW and SSB. The exchange is RST, serial number and IOTA reference. Now the solar factual data for the period from 9 July to 15 July, compiled by Neil Clarke, G0CAS

On 9 July a small but magnetically complex sunspot group rotated into view. On the 9th and the 10th the group produced over twenty C class solar flares, the largest was a C8 on the 10th. However, they had little effect on propagation. From the 11th the group simplified and solar activity declined to very low with no further C class solar flares taking place. Solar flux levels varied little day to day and averaged 77 units. The 90 day solar flux average on the 15th was 74 units. This has remained at the same level for the last six weeks. X-ray flux levels started at a respectable level of B1 units on the 9th but then declined to below the minimum A1 level by the 14th. The average was A3.3 units. Geomagnetic activity started at quiet levels with an Ap index of only 3 units on the 9th but due to a recurring coronal hole, activity increased on the 11th and the 14th to 23 units. The average was Ap 11 units. The ACE spacecraft saw solar wind speeds increased from 290 kilometres per second to 600 by the 11th and the 12th. Particle densities increased to 72 particles per cubic centimetre by the 10th, but then declined to low levels for the remainder of the period. The interplanetary magnetic field, the Bz varied between minus and plus 2 nanoTeslas on the quiet days and between minus 14 and plus 18 nanoTeslas during the disturbance.

The HF bands were in relatively good shape until midweek, with good 20-metre propagation to northern Canada, the West Coast and Hawaii

around 0630 to 0730UTC and late openings to Asia in the

4 evening. However, increased geomagnetic activity depressed MUFs by 2 to 3MHz for the second half of the week. A handful of VHF auroral contacts were reported at high latitudes on the 11th and again on the 14th. Sporadic-E occurred on 28 and 50MHz on all days. Also a transatlantic opening occurred during the afternoon of the 14th on 50MHz.

And finally the solar forecast

This week the quiet side of the Sun is expected to be rotating out of view. Solar activity should be very low, at least at first. There is a small chance that activity could increase after midweek. Solar flux levels could increase and by next weekend be in the mid 70's. Geomagnetic activity is expected to be mostly quiet. However, due to a small recurring coronal hole activity could increase around Thursday. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitudes should be about 19MHz for the south and 16MHz for the north. The darkness hour lows should be around 10MHz. Paths this week to Australia should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success rate will be about 19MHz. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success rate will be around 15MHz. The best time to try this path will be between 0800 and 1100 hours UTC. Expect sporadic E to take place most days, particularly on 28 and 50MHz.

And that's all for this week from the propagation team.

5 Next, the Local News:

Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses

and website links where known.

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your

transmission.]

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST

and EAST ANGLIA On Sunday 22 July Radio Society of Harrow is operating GB2DHH De Havilland Heritage. Contact Linda, G7RJL, on 020 8386 8586, or on the web at www.g3efx.org.uk or Chris 01895 621 310.

On Sunday 22 July Southdown Amateur Radio Society is operating at the Beachy Head Site. Contact John, G3DQY, on 0124424319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

On Monday 23 July Basingstoke Amateur Radio Club is having a club night. Contact Frank, M0AEU, by email to barc@2lo.info.

On Tuesday 24 July Cray Valley Radio Society is mounting a DXpedition to the Isles of Scilly. Contact Bob, BRS32525, on 020 8265 7735 after

8pm.

On Tuesday 24 July Horndean and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk and demo of amateur television by members of the SCART group. Contact Stuart, G0FYX, on 023 9247 2846, or on the web at www.hdarc.co.uk.

On Wednesday 25 July Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

On Wednesday 25 July Dover Radio Club is having a school holiday 2m fox hunt with Brian, G4SAU as the fox. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk.

On Wednesday 25 July Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk by Jim, M1JJN, entitled 'DTMF - the next generation'. Contact Jim, M1JJN.

On Wednesday 25 July Havering and District Amateur Radio Club is having an informal evening. Contact Dave, 2E0EBV, on 07956 594 514.

On Wednesday 25 July Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is having a bright sparks SSTV and hat cam demonstration plus informal evening. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

On Wednesday 25 July Worthing and District Amateur Radio Club is making plans for its special event station at the forthcoming fire brigade open day. Contact Roy, G4GPX, on 01903 753 893.

On Thursday 26 July Bittern DX Group is running the group's "Summertime CQ's". Contact Keith, G0GFQ, on 01263 588 506, keith@g0gfq.com, or on the web at www.bittern-dxers.org.uk.

On Thursday 26 July Horsham Amateur Radio Club is having a social at The Fountain Inn, Ashust. Contact or on the web at www.harc.org.uk.

On Friday 27 July Hilderstone Radio and Electronics Club is having a natter night. Contact Mike, G4MIX, on 01304 813 175, g4mix@waitrose.com.

On Friday 27 July Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is having a field exercise to test reception within Sussex. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

6 On Friday 27 July Itchen Valley Amateur Radio Club is meeting at a temporary venue: the Guide Hall, Ramally Lane, Chandlers Ford, where they will be trying out portable antennas. Contact Liz, M0ACL, on 02380 254599.

On Friday 27 July Torbay Amateur Radio Society is having an education and training night. Contact Dave, G6FSP, by email to g6fsp@tars.org.uk.

On Friday 27 July Wimbledon and District Amateur Radio Society is setting up its summer camp. Contact Jim, M0CON, on 020 8874 7456.

On Saturday 28 July Gorleston Amateur Radio Society is having a meeting. Contact David, G3OEP, on QTHR, 01493 662 323.

On Saturday 28 July Harwich Amateur Radio Interest Group is taking part in the IOTA contest from the site of the Colchester Radio Rally. Contact James, M0ZZO, on 01255 242 746.

On Saturday 28 July Worthing and District Amateur Radio Club is attending the Fire Brigade open day at Worthing Fire Station. Contact Roy, G4GPX, on 01903 753 893.

On Sunday 29 July Basingstoke Amateur Radio Club is having a fox hunt. Contact Frank, M0AEU, by email to barc@2lo.info.

On Sunday 29 July Hilderstone Radio and Electronics Club is having its WOK event field day. Contact Mike, G4MIX, on 01304 813 175, g4mix@waitrose.com.

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST

On Wednesday 25 July South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is having session 5 of its Project OSS. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282.

On Wednesday 25 July Taunton and District Amateur Radio Club is operating the club station. Contact William, G3WNI, on 01823 666 234, or by email to g3wni@btinternet.com.

On Wednesday 25 July Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is on the air. Contact Tony, G0WMB, by email to tonytsgarc@beeb.net.

On Thursday 26 July Yeovil Amateur Radio Club is on the air. Contact Derek, 01935 414 452, or by email to m0wob@tiscali.co.uk.

On Friday 27 July Guernsey Amateur Radio Society is having a talk by GU4WTN on how to use the MFJ antenna analyser. Contact Phil, GU0SUP.

NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS

On Sunday 22 July Wythall Radio Club is running a special event station for the Land Rover Show at Billing Aquadrome. Contact Chris, G0EYO, on 07710 412 819, by email to g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk, or on the web at www.wythallradioclub.co.uk.

On Monday 23 July Stourbridge and District Amateur Radio Society is having an open shack night. Contact John, M1EJG, on 01562 700 513.

On Monday 23 July Stratford Upon Avon District Radio Society is having a construction competition. Contact Jack, G3VYE, on 01926 641 988.

7 On Tuesday 24 July Derby and District Amateur Radio Society is having a quiz night. Contact Martin, G3SZJ, on 01332 556 875.

On Tuesday 24 July Loughborough and District Amateur Radio Club is having a radio ramble. Contact Chris, G1ETZ, on 01509 504 319.

On Tuesday 24 July Wythall Radio Club is having a talk by Tim, M3SDE on the 3YOX DXpedition to Peter 1 Island. Contact Chris, G0EYO, on 07710 412 819, by email to g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk, or on the web at www.wythallradioclub.co.uk.

On Wednesday 25 July Lincoln Short-Wave Club is having a video night. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

On Wednesday 25 July Telford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on direction finding, fox hunting - and how to do it, by G4EIX. Contact Mike, G3JKX, on 01952 299 677, or by email to mjstreetg3jkx@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Thursday 26 July Salop Amateur Radio Society is having its 4th fox hunt. Contact Glenda, G1YJB, on 01939 235 412.

On Thursday 26 July Stafford and District Amateur Radio Society is operating portable from Cannock Chase. Contact Graeme, G4NVH, on 01785 604 534, or by email to graeme.boull@ntlworld.com.

On Friday 27 July Coventry Amateur Radio Society is on the air. Contact John, G8SEQ, on 02476 273 190, or by email to johng8seq@ntlworld.com.

On Friday 27 July Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is celebrating 20 years of HRRARC with a social evening and buffet. Contact Carl, M0XBE, on 07979 092 447, or on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

On Sunday 22 July Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is having a fox hunt. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Monday 23 July Sheffield Amateur Radio Club is having its second fox hunt and BBQ. Contact Trevor, M0TWS.

On Monday 23 July Thornton Cleveleys Amateur Radio Society is having a talk by G3ZRZ on simple antennas. Contact Jack, G4BFH, by email to jack.duddington@btinternet.com.

On Tuesday 24 July Chester and District Radio Society is having a talk on Stroboscopes by Bill Silversides, M3SCK. Details on the web at www.chesterdars.org.uk, or by email to info@chesterdars.org.uk.

On Tuesday 24 July Halifax and District Amateur Radio Society is having a members technical evening at Rishworth School. Contact Brenda, 2E0YKS, by email to wrenuk10@yahoo.com.

On Wednesday 25 July Chester and District Radio Society is having a presentation on the International short wave league by Geoff Hoyle. Details on the web at www.chesterdars.org.uk, info@chesterdars.org.uk.

On Wednesday 25 July Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is on the air. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Wednesday 25 July Hornsea Amateur Radio Club is preparing its antenna farm and having an activity night. Contact Steve, G4GPY, on 01482 860 440, or by email to g4gpy@eddiesplace.karoo.co.uk.

8 On Friday 27 July South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is having a talk on marine radio by G3UAU. Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999.

On Friday 27 July Tynemouth Radio Club is having a talk by Ken, M3ILL, entitled A Slinky Antenna. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Saturday 28 July Sheffield Amateur Radio Club is taking part in the IOTA contest as MM3M from the Island of Arran. Contact Trevor, M0TWS.

NEWS FOR SCOTLAND

On Sunday 22 July Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is taking part in the RSGB low power CW contest as GM3BSQ/P from Walker Park. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

On Thursday 26 July Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is on the air. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

On Friday 27 July Banff and Buchan Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on PC to radio interfacing. Contact geraldbrt@aol.com.

On Saturday 28 July Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is on the air. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

On Saturday 28 July Cockenzie and Port Seton Amateur Radio Club is taking part in the RSGB IOTA contest from the Island of Tiree. Contact Bob, GM4UYZ, on 01875 811 723.

NEWS FOR WALES

On Friday 27 to Sunday 29 July the North Wales Radio Society is running the Party In The Park at Eirias Park, Colwyn Bay. The event, which is open to all, has ample space for camping. There will be a car boot sale and flea market, although the organizers with to limit the sale of transmitting equipment to licensed amateurs. For more details contact Ron Roberts on 01492592884.

A meeting has been arranged for club secretaries or other representatives of North Wales amateur radio clubs. This will take place on Saturday 28 July at 11am in the organisers tent at the Party In The Park, Colwyn Bay. The subject of the meeting is to get something going to provide a meeting point for radio amateurs in North Wales. This has come about because there is a feeling that the former Llandudno Rally provided more than just a place to meet the traders. It is not essential that the club secretary per se be there, but it would be preferable if each club or organisation in North Wales (Region 6) is represented by one of their officers or members.

NEWS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

No news items have been received for Northern Ireland this week. And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast,

prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

1315. Welcome to rec.radio.info!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-22 06:00:09 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/welcome-1-1185084001@panix.com>
Source record: 4120
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.scanner,rec.radio.shortwave,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/welcome
Revision: 1.2 2007/07/21 18:09:02
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

*** Welcome to rec.radio.info! ***

Welcome to rec.radio.info, a group that aims to provide a noise-free
source of information and news for the entire rec.radio hierarchy.

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to the group
every month. You are now reading the first article, which explains what
rec.radio.info is, and answers some Frequently Asked Questions. The
second article is titled Posting Guidelines, and you only need to read
it if you want to submit an article to rec.radio.info.

You can skip to the next section of this article by searching for the
next
" -- " string. The sections available are:
- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?
- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?
- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?
- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.
- What type of material is considered inappropriate?
- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to
rec.radio.info?
- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?
- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to
speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

-- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?

The purpose or charter of rec.radio.info is to provide the Usenet
community with a resource for information, news, and facts about any and
all things radio.

All the other rec.radio groups are intended for discussions and general
chit chat about radio. Rec.radio.info will contain informational,
factual articles only. Follow-ups are redirected to an appropriate other
group, and further discussion (if any) will not take place in
rec.radio.info.

In order to ensure that rec.radio.info contains only appropriate
articles, it was decided to create the group as a moderated newsgroup.
```

-- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?

It provides a "tag" for each article to be assembled into a filtered presentation in rec.radio.info (even with cross-posting, only one message, with a unique Message-ID, is propagated across the net). This tag also facilitates a pre-existing method of dropping or canceling the articles locally within the discussion groups if you don't want to see them. This accommodates individuals who want to separate the bulletins from the discussions, discussions from the bulletins, as well as those who are adamant about not reading another newsgroup and wanted to see everything all in one basket.

With the total size of Usenet (in number of newsgroups and total traffic) doubling every year or so, this is no insignificant contribution to reducing information noise and chaos. Making the discussion groups a catch-all, and making extra newsgroups filters on that catch-all, is also the most realistic way to implement such a scheme (It's not intuitively obvious what the charter, contents, and general appropriate topics for each and every newsgroup are. Seeing FAQ's and charter/intro postings in the home newsgroup is beneficial for new readers).

By cross-posting one only is adding a few tens of bytes to each bulletin (to specify the extra group on the Newsgroups line), but are adding the capability for very powerful filtering features available on most news servers, listservers and readers. Your local news guru could probably explain these features in more detail.

In rn, for example, according to Leanne Phillips in her rn kill-file FAQ, add a line of the form:

/Newsgroups:.*[,]rec\.radio\.info/h:j

either in ~/News/KILL (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere) or ~/News/rec/radio/amateur/misc/KILL (if you don't want to see them just in rec.radio.amateur.misc). The latter method means your kill file will only be consulted during rec.radio.amateur.misc (and hence runs more efficiently), and will probably work for most people.

In nn, according to Bill Wohler in his nn FAQ, add a line of the form:

rec.radio.info:!s/:^

in ~/.nn/kill (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere), or put the following lines:

sequence
rec.radio.info
rec.radio.

at the end of ~/.nn/init in order to see all the rec.radio.info bulletins first, then read the remaining rec.radio.* without the bulletins.

More information about kill files may be obtained from Dave Fawthrop's Killfile FAQ at:

http://www.hyphenologist.co.uk/killfile/

-- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?

If you are new to Usenet and are not familiar with the terminology, you might want to read the general introductory articles found in the newsgroup news.announce.newusers. Doing so will make your life on the net much easier, and will probably save you from making silly beginner's mistakes.

If you think that at this moment you are reading an echo, a conference, or a bulletin board, I'd also strongly suggest a trip over to news.announce.newusers.

For the rest of this article, we will assume you have a basic knowledge of Usenet terminology and mechanics.

A moderated group means that any article that needs to be posted to the group has to be accepted by the moderator of the group. Since we need to ensure that followups to an article (discussion) do not show up in the rec.radio.info newsgroup, the `Followup-To:' header line contains a newsgroup that is appropriate for discussions about the specific article.

-- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.

Rec.radio.info is a moderated newsgroup, which means that all articles submitted to the group will have to be approved by the moderator first.

The current moderator of the group is the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team. Submissions to rec.radio.info can be posted, or e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Comments, criticisms, suggestions or questions about the group can be e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

But before you do so, please be sure to check out the "Posting Guidelines" article.

The influence of the moderator should be minimal and of an administrative nature, consisting chiefly of weeding out obviously inappropriate articles, while making sure correct headers etc. are used for the appropriate ones.

-- What type of material is considered inappropriate?

There are three broad categories of articles which will be rejected by the moderator:

1) Requests for information: rec.radio.info is strictly a one-way street. We receive information in our mailbox; we then post it to

rec.radio.info. Requests for specific information belong in the normal discussion newsgroups. If your request gets answered, you might consider passing the answer on to rec.radio.info, though. Especially if you can edit it into a informational, rather than a discussion, format.

2) Obvious discussion articles, or articles that appear unsubstantiated.

3) Commercial stuff: a relatively unbiased test of a radio product would be accepted, but any hint of for-profit might be reason for rejection. For three reasons: This is not the purpose of the list, for-profit is a controversial topic, and this list may be passed onto Amateur Packet Radio (where for-profit is prohibited except under certain provisos).

rec.radio.swap may be more deserving of the posting in any matter.

Similarly, copyrighted material generally cannot be used. If it's TRULY worthwhile to the net, We would recommend obtaining permission from the copyright holder. Please note the source, and if permission was given. We reserve the right to make the final decision concerning appropriateness in all situations. In most cases, a brief summary of, or pointer to, the copyrighted information may be all we can allow.

-- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to rec.radio.info?

Google has an excellent web interface to Usenet newsgroups. It is available at:

http://groups.google.com

It supports both reading and posting.

-- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?

Yes. See Google Groups above.

Effectively this means that anything you post to rec.radio.info will be permanently stored, so your work will not be lost.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as time critical.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires co-operation and goodwill

to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio hierarchy.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

1316. rec.radio.info Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-22 06:05:04 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines-1-1185084300@panix.com>
Source record: 4121
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.scanner,rec.radio.shortwave,rec.answers,news.answers

Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines
Revision: 1.5 2007/03/22 16:30:49
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

*** rec.radio.info - Posting Guidelines and Etiquette ***

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to this group and to rec.answers/news.answers every month. You are now reading the second article, which explains how to submit something to rec.radio.info, and which answers some Frequently Asked Questions about the submission process. The first article is titled "Welcome to rec.radio.info", and it might be a good idea to check it out as well.

-- How do I submit something to rec.radio.info?

Two possibilities. You can use your newsreading software to just post the article to rec.radio.info, as you would do with any other newsgroup. The difference is that the software recognizes the special status of rec.radio.info as a moderated group, and will e-mail your article to us, the moderation team, instead of posting it to the group.

Alternatively, you can mail your article directly to us at the following address:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Mailing us directly is probably (a wee bit) faster, but using the transparency offered by the newsreading software is probably more convenient.

If you have any questions, or wish to deal with some administrivia with the moderation team, we suggest mailing to the following address:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

-- How soon will I see my article appear?

It depends on how busy we are. Your article reaches us as mail, we have to read it first, give it the stamp of approval, and finally send it on to the group. We will attempt to read and decide on all submissions within 72 hours at the very least, though we will probably be able to process submissions much faster in actual practice.

The site from which we moderate this newsgroup, "Public Access Internet and Unix, NYC" (Panix), is directly connected to the Internet, and

articles posted at that site should appear at most major news sites, including Google Groups, the same day. The principal delay, therefore, will be the wait in the moderator's submission queue.

If you post a periodic article, and have shown to be trustworthy, we may allow you to post directly if the article is of a timely nature. See the section below on direct posting.

-- Should my article be in a specific format?

No. If it is not totally illegible, we will accept it, and if it does not have a correct subject-line we will correct it with your permission -- that's what a moderator is for.

However.

You could do us a big favor by making sure your article conforms to these simple requirements:

1) The article must present information, not discussion or requests, We will reject the article or require you to change the wording if it is worth it.
2) A good, descriptive Subject line.
3) Always mention what source you got the information from.
4) Don't forget to include a Followup-To header, at least if you don't want further discussion to automatically be forwarded to you, the poster, which is the default if the article is only posted to rec.radio.info.

As we said: if your article is appropriate we will post it even if you don't follow these guidelines, but then don't blame us for not processing it immediately. 'Perfect' articles we can send on with a couple of keystrokes. Stuff that needs minor editing is going to have to wait until we have time to do so.

Please do not waste both our and your time by posting requests, as this is an information only news group.

-- What about crossposting?

If you send something to rec.radio.info, just name any group you'd like to cross-post to in the Newsgroups field. Then, when we approve the article for rec.radio.info it will get automatically cross-posted to any other groups mentioned. This will also override the default Followup-To: poster, replacing it with the groups you cross posted to.

We would prefer if the group be cross-posted to the various discussion groups in the rec.radio.* hierarchy that are appropriate:

rec.radio.amateur.misc Amateur (ham) radio and related matters
rec.radio.amateur.packet Amateur Packet Radio discussions
rec.radio.amateur.policy Amateur Radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.noncomm Non commercial radio discussions
rec.radio.shortwave International broadcasting on the 'HF' bands

rec.radio.cb Citizens Band (27 MHz) discussion
rec.radio.scanner Scanner discussions (unsupported group)

or in one of the moderated groups:

rec.radio.amateur.moderated Amateur radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.broadcasting Discussion of *domestic* radio broadcasting

We will leave it up to the poster to decide which group(s) are appropriate, but reserve the right to add groups if we feel it has broader interest. We will consult with the poster first.

Notes on crossposting:

- rec.radio.broadcasting is also a moderated group. The rec.radio.broadcasting moderator prefers to review all articles himself before posting. Placing rec.radio.broadcasting before rec.radio.info on the Newsgroups line should accomplish this. We will typically abide by the rec.radio.broadcasting moderator's decision whether the article is appropriate for rec.radio.info.

- rec.radio.amateur.moderated is also a moderated group. As the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team manages both rec.radio.amateur.moderated and rec.radio.info, we can manage crossposting and approvals for both newsgroups. The rec.radio.amateur.moderated group does not allow crossposting to other discussion newsgroups, whether moderated or unmoderated. However, we would like to manage rec.radio.info as consistently as possible with how it was done by previous moderators, including the grandfathering of existing regular postings. Therefore, the submitter can choose rec.radio.amateur.moderated or the other unmoderated rec.radio.amateur.* discussion newsgroups for crossposting, but not both.

- Any FAQ or informational posting approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderation team that is also crossposted to any rec.radio.* newsgroup (besides just rec.radio.info) is also automatically pre-approved for rec.radio.info. See below for more information.

If you post to another moderated group, it may be better to make special arrangements with both moderators before posting by contacting us at our administrivia addresses.

In addition, cross-posts do not take up extra space; modern newsreaders can be configured to show you cross-posted articles only once anyway; not everybody reads rec.radio.info; and rec.radio.info was never meant to reduce the volume of the regular discussion newsgroups. But keep in mind that some of the mail gateways may filter out the informational postings (at request of the subscribers) to keep the load down.

You decide.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, can I make arrangements to help speed up delivery by posting directly from my site?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as timely.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires cooperation and good will to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio.* hierarchy.

If you are currently maintaining (or plan to maintain) a radio-related periodic information posting, you may wish to consider crossposting it to rec.answers/news.answers. Postings that are approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderators for this treatment are automatically pre-approved for crossposting to rec.radio.info (as the news.answers requirements are far more rigorous than the requirements this newsgroup ever plans to use). For more information about this option, consult the appropriate information articles and posting guidelines in rec.answers/news.answers.

Realize also, that even if your post is not approved for rec.answers/news.answers, it can still be approved for rec.radio.info. The intention is not so much to get every last bit of radio-related information on rec.answers/news.answers, but rather to provide an alternative avenue of approval (as well as grandfather existing maintainers of radio-related information and spare them additional bureaucratic hurdles). Again, crossposting to either rec.radio.info or rec.answers/news.answers, both, or neither, is at the discretion of the poster (subject to the approval of the moderators). You decide what is most appropriate for your article.

Please remember that as an information maintainer, you are not alone. There are many others on the net who maintain and post periodic information postings, using various intermediate-to-advanced features of Usenet (usually via automated tools). Various degrees of technical support and general hand-holding are available from many Usenet veterans. Send us some E-mail describing your needs to our administrative address below, and we'll try to help, or at least refer you to the right knowledgeable individual(s).

-- And Follow-ups?

If the only newsgroup you have specified is rec.radio.info, then the Followup-To: field will always be set to poster. If you do not want this, you must supply a Followup-To line of your own, and we will honor that one, as long as it is a subset of the original Newsgroups line.

If you specify newsgroups to cross-post to, then the Followup-To field will be set to include all the cross-posted groups, excepting rec.radio.info itself. Again, if you do not wish this behavior, supply your own Followup-To line.

We maintain other standards on the various RFC-1036 (news transport) header lines. For example, if the article is appropriate for passing into the Packet Radio Information Network, we encapsulate the Packet Bulletin Identifier (BID) in the Message-ID: news header line indicating the machine of origin as the ampr.org domain:

Message-ID: <$opa.55.1994@ampr.org>

where the Packet Radio BID, in this example, is `$OPA.55', and it was posted in the year 1994, because some of the Bid numbers are cycled yearly. Hopefully, this can be used as a key to re-introduce the articles for the Packet Radio network. Also, if the article is a repost of an already existing information article in the rec.radio heirarchy, we ensure that the References: header line is linked to that previously posted article. This also helps to tag articles, and may be used for additional filtering if needed.

Since the articles are archived, please use the Summary and Keywords header lines to help one search for your article.

-- Why have I received no reply from you?

We never reject anything in silence, and we make a point of it to answer all our mail. However, E-mail, like a brain cell, can and does get lost, every now and again.

So, if you send us something, and you don't see it appear it rec.radio.info, and you still have not heard from us in reply after say, five days, you can be pretty sure that either your mail never reached us, or that our answer has never reached you. In that case, please try again (We will filter out duplicates).

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

1317. Any new guesses on change in ARS numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-22 12:56:56 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <4OGdneOpUt6SyT7bnZ2dnUVZ_gydnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4122

1) Predict amount of change in ARS numbers between the IMPLEMENTATION
date of the R&O for elimination of code testing and one year from that
> date.
2) Calculation of the number of licenses will be done by N2EY under the
same principals that he uses now to calculate the number of licenses.
3) You must select whole numbers for your percentage.
4) You may select positive or negative percentages.
5) You may select a range but that range may not exceed a total of 4%.
Note that your average will be used to determine who is closest. If the
actual change is outside the range of everyone's guesses then the person
whose limit is closest will be the winner.
6) You must submit your guess no later than six months after the
IMPLEMENTATION date of the R&O.

Anyone else? Note if your guess doesn't show up on the list within a
week, it may mean that my ISP is blocking it or that you are on my
blocked senders list. You may still participate but you will have to have
your guess submitted by someone who is not blocked.

Guesses submitted:

N8UZE: 1% less to 1% more
N2EY: 1% more to 2% more
KH6HZ: 1% less to 0% change
N3KIP: 2% more to 6% more
KH6O: 6% more to 10% more
KK6J: 12% more to 14% more
KC2HMZ: 5% more
K8BSG: 2% to 3% more <--- Added 02/18/06

Dee, N8UZE

1318. Re: Active Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-22 14:57:27 UTC
From: Iitoi <Iitoi@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <f7vq3d$9jo$1@aioe.org>
Source record: 4123

"Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
news:f7r3tj$108s$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...

>
> Just what percentage of Amateurs are active ones, defining active as either
> being on the air regularly, or participating in Amateur related activities on
> a regular basis? (like say on a weekly basis?)
>

First, I'd argue that your definition of "active" is much too restrictive. I consider myself "active" in the hobby but my activity isn't on a "regular basis" and certainly not "weekly". I live in rural southern Arizona and have offices and keep apartments in two other cities, one 100 miles away and another 700 miles away. About 1/3 of my time is spent in each of these locations, and I keep a station only at home. I may go for many months without turning the transmitter on, then have 1,500 contacts in a weekend contest, or just a couple of ragchews or DX contacts.

In my life I have sometimes not had a station for a year or two, but didn't consider myself an inactive ham. I also know a ham who has been transmitter-less for at least 15 years, but plans to return to the air. Still subscribes to all the magazines and belongs to CADXA up in Phoenix (he's on the Honor Roll). His work has just not allowed him to operate, but has not abandoned the hobby and considers himself "active".

So I'll use a different definition of active --- keeps his/her license current, gets on the air at least a couple of times a year, or if currently off the air he/she expects to be back on the air in the future. By that definition I'd estimate that 75% of the current US license holders can be consider active.

The Man in the Maze
QRL at Baboquivari Peak, AZ

--
Iitoi

1319. Re: Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1559 - June 29, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-22 16:46:31 UTC
From: Iitoi <Iitoi@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <f7vs73gdb1@aioe.org>
Source record: 4124

"Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> wrote in message
news:KcOdnW8muJZDXgPbnZ2dnUVZ_tW3nZ2d@comcast.com...

>
> I've often wondered how many of the members joined for the primarily to be
> able to use the outgoing QSL service and be eligible for the various operating
> awards (WAS, DXCC, etc.)?
>

I belong to that particular radio club because I'm interested in being in the
DXCC listings. Beyond that, I consider the club to have politically
marginalized itself to irrelevance.

The Man in the Maze
QRN from Baboquivari Peak, AZ

--
Iitoi

1320. Re: Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1559 - June 29, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-22 16:47:08 UTC
From: Iitoi <Iitoi@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <f7vsjthtn1@aioe.org>
Source record: 4125

"Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
news:f7lpad$1lbc$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...

>
> This will probably be an overall good thing for the league, and probably
> Amateur Radio in general. I have always been a little concerned that more Hams
> were not members.

Once-upon-a-time-in-a-galazy-far-far-away I'd have agreed with you, but I believe that the days of "what's good for ARRL is good for ham radio" are past, and "being a member is the mark of an active ham" is mostly an empty slogan. By being "everything to everyone" they have steadily eroded support from their core member base and now are exposed to the realities of the publishing business which is "subscription churn".

The Man in the Maze
QRU from Baboquivari Peak, AZ

--
Iitoi

1321. Re: Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1562 - July 20, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-22 16:47:31 UTC
From: Iitoi <Iitoi@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <f7vtpflmq1@aioe.org>
Source record: 4126

"Mike Coslo" <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net> wrote in message
news:Xns9973DBBE69149mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136...

>
>
> What exactly is a "Foundation class" license?
>
>

It's a very bare-bones entry class license, with an easy entrance examination
and a low level of privileges, sort of "here's a taste of amateur radio ---
there's more where this came from".

The Man in the Maze
QRV from Baboquivari Peak, AZ

--
Iitoi

1322. Re: Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1562 - July 20, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-22 16:48:10 UTC
From: Iitoi <Iitoi@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <f7vu52mnt1@aioe.org>
Source record: 4127

"Mike Coslo" <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net> wrote in message
news:Xns9973DBBE69149mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136...

>
> What exactly is a "Foundation class" license?
>

Here's information further to my last post.

http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2002/01/10/1/

The Man in the Maze
QRP from Baboquivari Peak, AZ

--
Iitoi

1323. Re: Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1562 - July 20, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-22 17:36:11 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5ghhrtF3gcatfU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4128

"Iitoi" <Iitoi@earthlink.net> wrote in message
news:f7vtpflmq1@aioe.org
> "Mike Coslo" <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net> wrote in message
> news:Xns9973DBBE69149mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136...
>
> > What exactly is a "Foundation class" license?
>
> It's a very bare-bones entry class license, with an easy
> entrance examination and a low level of privileges, sort
> of "here's a taste of amateur radio --- there's more
> where this came from".

You're also restricted to type-approved equipment.

73 Ivor G6URP

1324. Re: Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1562 - July 20, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-22 19:14:14 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <ZradnX9JRZJJCD7bnZ2dnUVZ_hisnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4129

"Iitoi" <Iitoi@earthlink.net> wrote in message news:f7vu52mnt1@aioe.org...
>
> "Mike Coslo" <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net> wrote in message
> news:Xns9973DBBE69149mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136...
>
>>
>> What exactly is a "Foundation class" license?
>>
>
> Here's information further to my last post.
>
> http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2002/01/10/1/
>
> The Man in the Maze
> QRP from Baboquivari Peak, AZ
>
> --
> Iitoi
>

It appears to me like the "Foundation License" is actually more difficult to get than our current Technician license. The mandatory 10 hour class, while philosophically a good idea, could be a real hardship for people in our rural areas and people whose work schedules do not accommodate available class schedules.

On the other hand, in the US, one can get the short question/answer/brief explanation books and fit their study into available moments as they come along in the course of the day.

Dee, N8UZE

1325. IRTS Radio News Bulletin, Sunday July 22nd 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-22 20:00:30 UTC
From: news at irts dot ie <devnull@panix.com>
Message-ID: <200707222000.l6MK0Dh22510@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4130
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Irish Radio Transmitters Society
Radio News Bulletin

Sunday July 22nd 2007

Field Days

The winners of the CW Field Day in a very closly fought contest were South Dublin Radio, EI2SDR. Commisserations to EI3Z, and thanks to Paul for the GI6YM checklog.

The UHF/VHF field day took place 2 weekends ago. The stations heard were EI2II, EI3Z, EI7T, and EI9E. Thanks go to all the stations for taking part as conditions were not altogether favourable. As yet no logs have been recieved so please send them to &#65533;contests at irts dot ie&#65533; or to Ei8IU at QTHR.

September will be a busy month with the SSB field day over the first weekend. Again the grounds of Garbally College, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway will be available, thanks to Niall EI4CF and once again the Shannon Basin Club will be hosting their now famous Barbeque. Of course, the big event will be CQIR over the last weekend, so plenty to look forward to.

WRC-07 CEPT Preparatory Group Meeting

As you will all be aware by now a World Radio Conference, WRC-07 will be held in November of this year. These conferences are extremely important for the amateur service as it is at them that decisions are taken which affect the frequencies available to the amateur service on into the future. A preparatory meeting for the Conference of the CEPT countries was held the week before last in Gothenburg. As we told you in last week&#65533;s news the IRTS, prior to that meeting, had submitted to ComReg documentation on the issues of importance to the amateur service in the context of WRC-07.

Through ComReg we have received some good news on the outcome of the Gothenburg meeting. CEPT has agreed on a European Common Proposal to support a secondary allocation to the amateur service at 5 MHz by way of a footnote to the ITU Radio Regulations. The footnote proposed will be to the effect that Administrations may allow stations in the amateur service to operate in the band 5260 to 5410 kHz on a secondary basis. This proposal if adopted at WRC-07 would give provision for a new allocation of 150 kHz with a radiated power not exceeding 24gBW or 250 watts. There was general agreement that this band comes within the scope of Agenda item 1.13 of the WRC-07 Agenda. The Irish delegation at the meeting is party to the European Common Proposal and will of course be supporting it at WRC-07. With a bit of luck WRC-07 will see us with a new secondary allocation in the 5 MHz region.

For LF enthusiasts CEPT is proposing amendments to Article 5 of the Radio Regulations that will in effect, if adopted at WRC-07, provide a worldwide secondary allocation for the amateur service of 135.7 to 137.8 kHz. Ireland will be supporting this proposal at WRC-07.

Ireland also supported a proposal, which had sufficient support to be carried at the meeting to include on the Agenda for WRC-11 consideration of a secondary allocation to the amateur service in parts of the frequency band 415 to 526.5 kHz. A proposal which Ireland supported at the meeting for inclusion on the WRC-11 Agenda consideration of an allocation to the amateur service in the range 50 to 54 MHz throughout Region 1 received insufficient support to be carried. The IARU Region 1 will have to consider other strategies to seek to achieve this objective.

We would like to express our appreciation to the officials of ComReg and the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources who attended the meeting and for yet again giving their support to the internationally agreed IARU position on issues of concern to the amateur service in the context of WRC-07.

Church Broadcasts

Last week we carried an item telling you that we had been notified by the national coordinator for the IARU Intruder Watch for the German National Society DARC that transmission of church services which seem to be coming from Ireland have been taking place in the 28

MHz amateur band. WAV files have been provided of such transmissions on 28.105 MHz FM. It has now been established that a Church broadcast is being transmitted on 28.105 MHz FM in the Dublin area. Some further work is required to identify the Church concerned. Mass is transmitted at 0900, 1000 and 1100 local on Sundays and at 1000 on weekdays. We would ask stations in the greater Dublin area to listen on this frequency at these times to see if the location can be positively identified. The local Church notices can be of assistance here. If you cannot identify the station and you have a beam antenna you could take a bearing on the peak signal, which in conjunction with similar bearings taken by other stations could help identify the general area from which the transmission originates.

Stations located outside Dublin should listen on the lower end of the 28 MHz band generally to see if any unauthorised activity is taking place in the band in their areas. If you hear anything worth reporting you should send a report to Thos Caffrey EI2JD the IRTS Intruder Watch coordinator at QTHR or to &#65533;thoscaffrey at hotmail dot com&#65533; with a copy to Sean Nolan EI7CD at QTHR or to ei7cd at &#65533;gofree dot indigo dot ie&#65533;. The report should include date, time, frequency, possible location of station if identified, beam heading in degrees from true north and other relevant information. If the station is identified from an announcement of local events, details should be given. Should you hear anything, no action should be taken other than forwarding a report as requested.

It is in our own interests to identify any unauthorised activity so as to preserve the exclusive nature of the 28 MHz allocation. The matter has already been reported to ComReg who will act on the matter if we can provide appropriate information.

CQIR

Great interest is being expressed worldwide in the Society's 75th Anniversary Contest CQIR, which will take place on the last weekend in September. The contest is a celebration of Ireland and the Irish, throughout the world and with 40 million people in the United States alone claiming Irish forefathers; we expect that CQIR will be one of the largest 'one off' contests ever aired on the Amateur Bands. It is a 24-hour single operator contest with the emphasis on

participation rather than winning and to this end every participant gains an entry ticket for a spectacular draw for every 75 QSO's made during the Contest.

The ticket drawn out of the EI/GI drum will win an all expenses paid long weekend in New York City for two people. ARRL have confirmed that this will include a visit to their national headquarters hosted by ARRL. Kinnitty Castle in Offaly will host the international winners for a week with flights for two from anywhere in the world. The prizes have been fully sponsored at no cost to the Society and this is really an excellent opportunity to celebrate the Society and its 75 years of service to Irish experimenters. We would encourage all Irish operators to be active during the Contest. So ring fence the last weekend of September in your diary, make an effort to have that new antenna up for the event and lets ensure a good show from the local Irish operators to support the international Irish who will no doubt come on the bands in their thousands for the contest. Full rules are on the IRTS website.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group

The next general meeting will take place on Monday the 30th of July at 8.00 p.m. in the Roanmore Centre, Waterford. All are welcome.

Cork Radio Club

On Manday night last Aedan EI3EG gave a demonstration of his loop antenna at the club. Although the bands were not very active, beacons were located on both 15 and 10 meters. It showed how efficient these small antennae are in confined spaces. The Cork Radio club are gearing up for their annual rally, which will take place in the Blarney Park hotel on Sunday the 24th of September plenty of parking, food all day.

Theory Examination

The examination papers from the recent Theory Exam have been checked and the results delivered to ComReg. ComReg have been very efficient in sending out the results but it takes time as each candidate gets a breakdown of their results in each of the three sections of the paper. We appeal to candidates not to contact ComReg about the results, as results will not be given over the phone or by e-mail. The official

letters will issue in due course.

Huntsville Hamfest

Live video and audio of the 2007 Huntsville hamfest will be broadcast again this year via the internet. The live broadcast begins on Friday morning August the 17th at 0800 CST. Watch as the helmet cam takes you on a virtual tour of all the tables and booths there. Also watch many activities such as the ARRL activities and the Young Ham of The Year. For more information visit wa5kub.com.

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall, EI7IS at QTHR or by phone to 051-853806 or 087-6302026. Items for the radio news can also be faxed to 087 5 6302026. News should be submitted via e-mail to ﷺ for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Friday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday ﷺ bulletin.

1326. Re: Active Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-23 01:33:07 UTC
From: KH6HZ <kh6hzA@Tarrl.net>
Message-ID: <o5Loi.475$hs1.33@newsfe13.lga>
Source record: 4131

> So I'll use a different definition of active --- keeps his/her license
> current,

I think keeping your license current is the only requirement for the definition of an 'active' ham. Keeping your license current implies either on-air activity or the intention of returning to on-air activity at some point in the future.

1327. Re: [RAC-Bulletin] Industry Canada Releases New Antenna Siting and Approval Procedures

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-23 02:16:26 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns9975DF11E8515mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 4132

Jerseyj <jerseyj69@comcast.net> wrote in
news:jerseyj69-185163.10362521072007@comcast.dca.giganews.com:
>> While there is a lot of verbiage, the requirements read pretty much
>> like what a lot of us have to do in the States with tower
>> installations. Maybe a bit more on environmental impact, and
>> certainly indigenous impact. but not a whole lot different.
>>
>> Thanks the cell phone folks for prompting such rules. 8^)
>>
>> - 73 de Mike, KB3EIA -
> Well, it's not an immediate problem as I don't move to Canada until I
> retire (agreement with my Canadian wife), but my reading of the
> document was that the process was required for any antenna type, not
> just "structures" going up...maybe I didn't read closely enough.

While there are some scary parts about "notifying the neighbors", they have things pretty well spelled out about what constitutes a good reason to dissalow an antenna. Like "how will it affect my property value" as an unacceptable argument on the neighbors part. Some other parts seem to allow a lot of leeway for the local gvmt to just say "go ahead"if you are in a sparse area.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1328. Re: Active Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-23 04:09:15 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13a84b228sgepe1@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 4133

KH6HZ wrote:

> I think keeping your license current is the only requirement for the
> definition of an 'active' ham. Keeping your license current implies either
> on-air activity or the intention of returning to on-air activity at some
> point in the future.

Anyone who has invested the effort to obtain a license is likely to invest the small effort required to renew the ticket. I am sure that there are many licensed hams out there who haven't been active in the hobby in years, and never will be active again, but since renewing their license costs no money and very little time, they invest the tiny effort to renew it. This tiny effort does not make them "active" unless the definition of "active" is extraordinarily liberal.

Then there are the hams who die during the term of their license. As far as I know there's no linkage from any other branch of government (Social Security or IRS, say) to the FCC to remove these individuals from the active rolls.

The idea of the exercise was to determine what percentage of the folks listed by the FCC as licensed amateur radio operators that has actually contributed to the hobby in the recent past, or might do so in the near future. I suspect that percentage is rather low and would be interested in knowing, just from an academic perspective, but I suspect there's no real way of finding out with any meaningful level of accuracy.

73, Steve KB9X

====================================== MODERATOR'S COMMENT:
Approved by WH2T

1329. Re: Active Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-23 15:41:19 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f828co$s1u$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4134

Iitoi wrote:
> "Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
> news:f7r3tj$108s$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...
>
>> Just what percentage of Amateurs are active ones, defining active as either
>> being on the air regularly, or participating in Amateur related activities on
>> a regular basis? (like say on a weekly basis?)
>>
>
> First, I'd argue that your definition of "active" is much too restrictive. I
> consider myself "active" in the hobby but my activity isn't on a "regular basis"
> and certainly not "weekly". I live in rural southern Arizona and have offices
> and keep apartments in two other cities, one 100 miles away and another 700
> miles away. About 1/3 of my time is spent in each of these locations, and I
> keep a station only at home. I may go for many months without turning the
> transmitter on, then have 1,500 contacts in a weekend contest, or just a couple
> of ragchews or DX contacts.

I'll concede that it is pretty hard to define what "active" is. If this
were a proper poll, we'd want to get feedback on the different levels of
activity.

I'd have to say that I'd consider your description above as being active.

> So I'll use a different definition of active --- keeps his/her license current,
> gets on the air at least a couple of times a year, or if currently off the air
> he/she expects to be back on the air in the future. By that definition I'd
> estimate that 75% of the current US license holders can be consider active.

The number seems a little high to me, but that's good feedback anyhoo.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1330. Re: Active Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-23 17:44:35 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13a9q7g46bo7g39@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 4135

Michael Coslo wrote:

> Just what percentage of Amateurs are active ones, defining active as
> either being on the air regularly, or participating in Amateur related
> activities on a regular basis? (like say on a weekly basis?)

As others have said, this is tough to get a handle on since one of the things it depends on is the definition of "active".

There are not many numeric measures of activity, but one that comes to mind is the number of people who vote in the election for ARRL Section Manager. In the following, the number of votes is taken from the ARRL web site and the number of hams from http://www.speroni.com/FCC/ARRL/State1A.html

Kentucky, Feb. 2007, 527 votes, 8534 hams, 6% voted.
Texas, Feb. 2007, 1577 votes, 42,949 hams, 4% voted.
New Hampshire, May 2007, 513 votes, 4825 hams, 11% voted.

You can speculate about how much correlation there is between "active ham" and "voted in ARRL election for SM". I am certainly NOT suggesting that this is an accurate measure of the activity level of the ham radio community, but it's an interesting number.

73, Steve KB9X

1331. [DXNL] DXNL 1529 (Jul 25, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-23 19:30:14 UTC
From: Robert Busch - DL7VOA <dxnl@dxhf.darc.de>
Message-ID: <15125795191.20070723212526@dxhf.darc.de>
Source record: 4136
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.dx,rec.radio.info

DXNL 1529 - Jul 25, 2007
DX Newsletter

a free and weekly service of
DARC Committee "DX and HF contesting"
(http://www.darcdxhf.de)

editor: Helmut Schlaffer, DL7MAE
(e-mail: dxnl@dxhf.darc.de)

translation by: Bob, DL7VOA
(e-mail: dl7voa@darc.de)

BY - CHINA, AS-136
Dale,BA4TB/4, Jiang,BG4TBC/4, Dai,BG4TBJ/4, Yun,BG1LKK/4, and
Mi,BG4TQX/4, will activate Chongming Island (AS-136) in CW/SSB/RTTY
on 80-6m from Jul 27-30 including the IOTA Contest on Jul 28/29.
QSLs via homecalls.

C6 - BAHAMAS, NA-113
Pete,W2GJ, Ed,K3IXD (C6AXD), and Randy,K4QO (C6AQO), will show up from
Crooked Island (NA-113) from Jul 27-30 including a participation in
the IOTA Contest as C6APR (QSL via K3IXD). C6AXD and C6AQO will be QRV
in CW/SSB/RTTY on 6m and the WARC bands before and after the contest.

CU - AZORES ISLANDS, EU-003
Pedro,CU2/EA1FCH, who prefers working in CW and digital modes on the
WARC and lowbands will stay on Sao Miguel Island (EU-003) from July 27
until Aug 5. QSL via EA1FCH, via bureau or direct.

Ann,CU2/WA1S, will visit Sao Miguel (LH 2016) as well between Jul 28
and Aug 9. QSL via bureau to WA1S.

EA6 - BALEARIC ISLANDS, EU-004
Jorge,EA8TL/EA6, is going to visit Ibiza and Formentera (EU-004) from
Jul 31 until Aug 24. He plans to operate in SSB on 80-2m (no 30m/6m)
using an IC-706 with 100 watts.

GJ - JERSEY, EU-013
Iain,M0PCB, and Chloe,2E1IDT, are working with QRP power signing
MJ0PCB and 2J1IDT from Jersey Island (EU-013) from Jul 24-31.
QSLs via homecalls.

HC8 - GALAPAGOS ISLANDS, SA-004
Manu,HC8/LX2LX, and Norby,HC8/LX1NO, are spending their holidays on
Isabela Island (IOTA SA-004, WLOTA LH 2957) from Jul 20-31. You can

expect them to show up in CW mostly. QSL via LX1NO.
See also http://www.luxlog.info/hc.htm

HS - THAILAND, AS-053
Between August 2007 and June 2008 Eric,SM1TDE, will work at a place where other people use to spend their holidays: on Phuket (AS-053). As soon as he gets his HS0Z license you will find him mainly in CW on 40m/20m/15m/10m. Bureau QSLs should be sent via SM1TDE, for direct requests Eric still needs to rent a postbox in Thailand.

IS0 - SARDINIA ISLAND, EU-024
Tano,IS0/IZ8GCB, will be active in CW/SSB on 40m/20m/15m/10m from Sardinia (EU-024) from Aug 1-19. QSLs direct or via bureau to IZ8GCB. His homepage can be found at: http://www.iz8gcb.com

KH3 - JOHNSTON ATOLL, OC-023
Once again Susan's,W7KFI, departure from Hawaii to Johnston has been delayed by a hurricane. This week she will decide if a safe trip to Johnston is possible at the moment. Else the departure would be delayed till November when the hurricane season is over and the condx to Europe are hopefully better. Susan will keep us informed.

LY - LITHUANIA
Rolf,DL6ZFG, is staing in Lithuania until Jul 31 and also intends to attend the LY-Hamfest near Kaunas from Jul 27-29. Rig: IC-706MK2G, verticals, all bands, preferably 20m up.

OX - GREENLAND, NA-018
Roland,OX/HB9FMD, will be QRV from the hotel Hvide Falk in Ilulissat from Aug 1-27.Operation will take place mainly in CW on the WARC bands. Roland will confirm the QSLs himself after his return.

TK - CORSICA, EU-014
TK/DL2RMC and TK/DL1RTL will spend their holidays on the island of Corsica (EU-014) between Jul 30 and Aug 8. They will use verticals in CW and digital modes on 6-160m and will tro to activate EU-164 as well. QSLs via homecalls. See also: http://www.qsl.net/dl2rmc
---
TK/IK5WOB is working in CW only from Algaiola from Jul 28 until Aug 11. QSL via homecall.

V6 - FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA, OC-010
Six members of the JARL Kyoto Club (JA3YAQ) are going to celebrate the 60th anniversary of their club on the island of Pohnpei (OC-010). They promised activities in CW/SSB/FM/RTTY/PSK31 on 160-6m from the South Park Hotel between Jul 30 and Aug 6. The licensing authority was kind enough to issue special V60 callsigns. Following is a list of the calls and their corresponding homecalls (which are also their QSL routes). All OPs accept QSL cards via bureau as well.
V60YAQ clubstation, QSL via JI6DUE
V60KL Kenji, JN3JBC
V60DU Hidenori, JI6DUE

V60TI Tetsuya, JA3UWB
V60IL Masato, JF3PLF
V60TX Shozo, JH3TXR
V63JJ Kazuo, JA3ART
See also: http://www.ja3yaq.ampr.org/~v6

ENGLAND, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
GB100J will be QRV in all modes (including PSK31) on all bands from
the "21st World Scout Jamboree" from Jul 27 until Aug 7.
For more information please check: http://gb100j.radio-scouting.org.uk

MARTINIQUE, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
FM0IR, FM0JR, FM0JZ, FM1HM, FM1II, FM1KM and FM1HN will activate the
special event station TO1YR in SSB, RTTY and PSK on 2-80m between
Jul 29 and Aug 5.

UPCOMING CONTESTS

Jul 28/29: RSGB IOTA Contest and SWL IOTA Contest

IOTA collected by Fredy,DE0MST (e-mail: iota@dxhf.darc.de)

Island activities:
AS-012, JA6, Nagasaki Pref.: JA6RGJ/6, JK6IIS/6 and JO6RGZ/6 will be QRV
from Kuro Island on Jul 28/29. QSLs via homecalls (bureau/direct).

AS-100, 4X, Israel Group: The Holyland DX Group (4Z4KX, 4Z5LA, 4X6HP, 4Z5FI,
4X1VF) will be QRV from Akhziv Island signing 4X7AZ on Jul 28/29 with
a participation in the IOTA Contest included. QSL via 4Z5LA.
Their website can be found at: http://www.4z5la.net/4x7az

EU-042, DL, Langeness: Manfred,DF7FC, will be QRV in SSB/RTTY/PSK on 20m/40m
from Langeness (FED 134) between Jul 28 and Aug 3. Please QSL via buro.

EU-049, SV, Samos: SV1QN/SV8 and SV1GYG/SV8 will show up in CW/SSB/RTTY/PSK
from Jul 26 until Aug 4. QSLs via homecalls.

EU-055, LA, Sogn og Fjordane: Juergen,LA/DB5YB, plans to hit the airwaves
during his holidays on Stord Island from Jul 28 till Aug 9, including
the IOTA Contest. QSL via homecall.

EU-123, GM/MM, Scottish Coastal Islands: A group of the Sheffield A.R.Club
will activate the Isle of Arran as GS3RCM between Jul 26 and Aug 2.
They also plan to be active in the IOTA Contest. QSL via G3VCQ.

EU-179, UR, Black Sea Coast Group: Alex,UR5FEL/p, Petro,UR5FCZ/p, and
Sam,UT9FJ/p, will be QRV from Berezan Island (UIA BS-02) from Jul 25-30
including the IOTA Contest. QSLs via homecalls.

NA-091, VE7, BC Province South Group: Heinz,VA7AQ, plans to become active
from Quadra Island (BC-006) from Jul 26 until Aug 1. QSL via bureau ok.

NA-128, VE2, QC Province Group: Claude,VE2FK, and Jean-Pierre,VA2SG, will
be QRV as VE2FK from the island Aux Coudres from Jul 27-29 (including

IOTA Contest). QSL via VA2SG.

Announced activities for the IOTA Contest 2007 (Jul 28/29):
Callsign Island IOTA

4X7AZ Akhziv AS-100
TC2T Kefken AS-159
YM0T Kefken AS-159
2J1IDT Jersey EU-001
CU2/WA1S Sao Miguel EU-003
GM2Z Islay EU-008
GM4A Islay EU-008
MM0NDX/p Kerrera EU-008
MS0EPC Islay EU-008
MJ0PCB Jersey EU-013
TK/M0VPE Corsica EU-014
SA1A Gotland EU-020
LA/OE9ICI Hitra EU-036
PC6IOTA Texel EU-038
DF1LON/p Borkum EU-047
SV8/IW7DOL Kerkyra EU-052
LA/DB5YB Stord EU-055
F/OT3T Batz EU-105
UE1OTA/p Morzhovets EU-119
GI3YS Rathlin EU-122
OZ/DL2VFR Roemoe EU-125
UE1OTA/1 Berezovyy EU-133
9A/SQ5FWR Losinj EU-136
OH2U/5 Kuorsalo EU-140
ES2U Rammu EU-149
9A6NL Pasman EU-170
OZ7BQ/p Fur EU-171
UA6AF/p Sudzhuk EU-185
J49A Dia EU-187
VO/ON6QR Newfoundland NA-027
VY2TT Prince Edward NA-029
WB8YJF/4 Ocracoke NA-067
VE2FK Aux Coudres NA-128
N4AUG/p Talbot NA-138
HQ3C Cochinos Cays NA-160
VO1J Fogo NA-198

lighthouse activities (WLOTA/ARLHS):

IA5/YO3HJV/p LH 0609 Jul 21-27
TK/M0VPE LH 1390 Jul 22-Aug 5
DA0T LH 2311 Jul 26-29
SV1QN/8 LH 4163 Jul 26-Aug 4
SV1GYG/8 LH 4163 Jul 26-Aug 4
UA6AF/p ERU 148 Jul 27-30
TC2T LH 0691/TUR 058 Jul 28/29

YM0T LH 0691/TUR 058 Jul 28/29
HS8KAY LH 0701/THA 043 Jul 28/29
E21EIC/p LH 1384/THA 053 Jul 28/29
VO/ON6QR LH 0345 Jul 28/29
DF1LON/p LH 1022 Jul 28/29
F/OT3T LH 0680 Jul 28/29
GI3YS LH 0283 Jul 28/29
GM2Z LH 1826 Jul 28/29
GM4A LH 1826 Jul 28/29
MS0EPC LH 1926 Jul 28/29
SA1A LH 2969 Jul 28/29
DF6QC LH 0518/FED 101 Jul 28/29
MM0NDX/p SCO 110 Jul 28/29
GW8K LH 0007 Jul 28/29
C6APR LH 0118/BAH 005 Jul 28/29
IH9/IT9BLB LH 0041/ITA 110 Jul 28/29
W61 LH 1300/USA 012 Jul 28/29
YB3MM/9 LH 2637 Jul 28/29
G7N LH 2985 Jul 28/29
UA6AF/p ERU 148 Jul 28/29
9A/SQ5FWR LH 4295 Jul 28/29
TM7BA LH 0680 Jul 28-Aug 4
TO1YR LH 1041 Jul 29-Aug 5
EA8TL/EA6 LH 0958/BAL 058 Jul 31-Aug 24
EA8TL/EA6 LH 1148/BAL 047 Jul 31-Aug 24

Bandspots of the last 7 days

80m
GB1HI 3.796 2248Z EU-120, via M3ZYZ (B)
HB0/DJ2IA 3.512 1912Z
LX0HQ 3.712 0055Z via LX1KQ (B)

40m
CU3500L 7.084 2353Z via CU3CY (B)
LZ/G4EDG 7.007 1620Z EU-181, via LZ1JZ
SV5/OE2LCM/p 7.006 1832Z via OE2LCM (B)
YV4/HK5D 7.074 2345Z via YV Bureau

30m
HB0/DJ2IA 10.116 1948Z
LZ/G4EDG 10.109 1724Z EU-181, via LZ1JZ
SX5AS 10.108 0654Z EU-001, via SV1HER (B)
VP2V/WZ8C 10.117 0213Z NA-023, via W5PF (B)

20m
A25CF 14.029 1509Z via K5LBU (B)
A25OOK 14.087 1400Z RTTY, via M5AAV (B)
CS26X 14.225 1648Z via CT1EHX
EA6/I1RSA 14.088 0720Z RTTY
JW/G3ZAY 14.260 1408Z via G3ZAY (B)

NN7A/NL7 14.040 0608Z NA-206, via NN7A (B)
RA6AU/1 14.257 1709Z EU-153
RI1SI 14.180 0505Z EU-066, via RW3WWW
SV8/DL2DQL 14.262 1513Z EU-174
SX5AS 14.087 0709Z RTTY, via SV1HER (B)
SX5AS 14.247 1618Z RTTY, via SV1HER (B)
YM1907FB 14.020 0649Z via TA3YJ (B)
YM1907FB 14.207 1213Z via TA3YJ (B)

17m
A25OOK 18.078 1512Z via M5AAV (B)
LZ/G4EDG 18.077 0726Z EU-181, via LZ1JZ
SX5AS 18.072 0555Z via SV1HER (B)
1A0KM 18.103 1531Z RTTY, via IK0FTA (L)

15m
A25OOK 21.019 1021Z via M5AAV (B)
YM1907FB 21.020 1411Z via TA3YJ (B)

12m
1A0KM 24.895 0915Z via IK0FTA (L)

10m
UN7AB 28.012 1524Z via DL8KAC

6m
1A0KM 50.137 1530Z via IK0FTA (L)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = LotW

Preview

DATE CALL DXNL

07Sep-24Sep 3B7C 1511
Nov or Dec 3D2AG/Rotuma 1522
-01Aug 3G100S 1526
2006 -2007 3XM6JR 1484
-Apr/08 5H0RS 1515
-Apr/08 6W/EA4ATI 1515
31Jul-31Aug 8J1ESP 1528
-31Aug 8J7VENUS 1528
01Apr-09Sep 8N3IAAF 1513
19Jul-07Aug 9A/W1ADX 1528
2007 9N7JO 1501

-Apr/09 A52VE 1512
-Nov A61TX 1496
27Jul-30Jul C6APR.. 1529 *
13Jul-29Jul CN2GE/m 1526

09Sep-14Sep CQ4IPY 1522
27Jul-05Aug CU2/EA1FCH 1529 *
28Jul-09Aug CU2/WA1S 1529 *
21Jul-01Aug CU8.. 1528
-Feb/08 DP0GVN 1496

31Jul-24Aug EA8TL/EA6 1529 *
2007/2008 EI100S(I) 1501
-30Nov EW905B 1523
-26Jul EU940OR 1526
Mar/08 FO/Clipp. 1521
-30Sep IA3GM 1528
01Aug-19Aug IS0/IZ8GCB 1529 *
2006 -2008 J28JA 1484/85
18Jul-30Sep JA6GXK/JD1 1528
-Aug JA7QVK/DU7 1521
Early Aug? KH3/W7KFI 1525/29 *
24Jul-31Jul MJ0PCB.. 1529 *

-Aug OD5/ON4JM 1522
-30Jul OX3PG 1501
01Aug-27Aug OX/HB9FMD 1529 *
24Jul-01Aug PC6IOTA 1528
15Jul-27Jul SV9/IK2MLS 1527
-31Dec SX100VAR 1528
30Jul-08Aug TK/DL2RMC.. 1529 *
18Jul-30Jul TK/HB9TL 1528
28Jul-11Aug TK/IK5WOB 1529 *
NOW -2008 TL8QC 1459
14Jul-28Jul TO5J 1527
NOW -Sep TU2/F5LDY 1486

30Jul-06Aug V60YAQ.. 1529 *
Jan -Dec VI3SAA 1499
Feb/08 VP6DX/Ducie 1521
May -Aug VP6TD 1517
Apr -Jul VQ9JC 1512
22Jul-30Jul W7ASF/KL7 1528
19Jul-26Jul YM1907FB 1527
-Sep ZD9BCB 1500
22Jul-29Jul ZF2DK 1528

* = new or updated
.. = and other calls

QSL information

AN7A via EA7A
BG3BXH via BA3CE
C91JFR via CT1GRU
CE1E via CE1RQB
EF1W via EA1WS (B)

EH7R via EA7FTR (B)
PA100WSJ via PI9SRS
SU9GD via DJ2AVB
SV5/DL6NBR via DL6NBR (B)
SV5/OO5S via ON4ON (B)
SV9/DL6NBR via DL6NBR (B)
SX1L via DL1JCZ (B)
SY8AN via SV2DGH (B)
TF/KF7E via KF7E (B)
TF1SS via TF3KE (d)
TF1SS via TF3IRA (B)
TM1LM via F8KGY
TM1MAN via F8CSD
TM1O via F1IKA
TM1VDM via F6KTN
TM2CDB via F8CKS (B)
TM2LM via F6KAT
TM2RHC via F4EUN (B)
TM2SME via F4FFL
TM2VDM via F5KDB
TM3LM via F6KFO
TM4KAR via F5KEK (B)
TM4LM via F8KOI
TM5B via F5XX (B)
TM5CF via F6KGI
TM7EO via F1HP (B)
TM8VDM via F6KJU
V5/HB9PHJ via HB9PHJ (B)
VC3R via VE3XGD (B)
3V1A via YT1AD (B)
9J2QQV see QRZ.com

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = Logbook of the World (LotW)

A62ER: Emirate Amateur Radio Club, Box 20203, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates

QSL arrived via bureau: 6O0N (I2YSB)

Many thanks for contributing to this issue of the DXNL are going to:
Carl Smith (QRZ DX), 425DXNews, OPDX Bulletin, BA4TB, DF6EX (WIN QSL),
DF7FC, DJ5AV, DJ9ZB, DK8JB, DL1SBF, DL3IE, DL6ZFG, DL7VOA, EA5KY, F5NQL,
F6AJA, HB9CIC, HB9CRV, W1AW, W7KFI and others.

The German PDF version can be found on the DARC homepage at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/bulls/dxmb/2007/dxmb1529.pdf

_____
Subscribe or unsubscribe to the DXNL mailing list yourself at:

http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedxms.htm

1332. Re: Active Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-23 20:01:58 UTC
From: Bill W1AC <bh1521q7@comcastQRM.net>
Message-ID: <Ve6dnYY7rOEwZDnbnZ2dnUVZ_uXinZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4137

Steve Bonine wrote:
> Michael Coslo wrote:
>
>> Just what percentage of Amateurs are active ones, defining active as
>> either being on the air regularly, or participating in Amateur related
>> activities on a regular basis? (like say on a weekly basis?)
>
> As others have said, this is tough to get a handle on since one of the
> things it depends on is the definition of "active".
>
> There are not many numeric measures of activity, but one that comes to
> mind is the number of people who vote in the election for ARRL Section
> Manager. In the following, the number of votes is taken from the ARRL
> web site and the number of hams from
> http://www.speroni.com/FCC/ARRL/State1A.html
>
> Kentucky, Feb. 2007, 527 votes, 8534 hams, 6% voted.
> Texas, Feb. 2007, 1577 votes, 42,949 hams, 4% voted.
> New Hampshire, May 2007, 513 votes, 4825 hams, 11% voted.
>
> You can speculate about how much correlation there is between "active
> ham" and "voted in ARRL election for SM". I am certainly NOT suggesting
> that this is an accurate measure of the activity level of the ham radio
> community, but it's an interesting number.
>
> 73, Steve KB9X

I think the only way to settle this question is to conduct a
well-designed survey with a ramdom sample of hams.

If there are any statisticians among the readers, please tell us how
many hams we'd have to sample to get a valid measurement.

73, Bill W1AC

(Filter QRM for direct replies)

1333. open letter to rec.radio.amateur.moderated readers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-23 22:32:49 UTC
From: Rickie@rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Message-ID: <cd878544.b5bb97dc@rec.radio.amateur.moderated>
Source record: 4144
Cross-posted to: sci.crypt,rec.radio.amateur.moderated

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Conspiracy Theory
---- ---------- ------

This is an expanded version of a posting I made promoting unregulated
(free from government-has-the-key) cryptography.

Attorney John Loftus is the author of four histories of intelligence
operations. As a former prosecutor with the U.S. Justice Department's
Nazi-hunting unit, he had unprecedented access to top-secret CIA and
NATO archives. Mark Aarons is an investigative reporter and author of
several books on intelligence related issues.

One day I was flipping channels, and came across "The Leon Charney Show".

Attorney Charney was interviewing Attorney Loftus, who has many many
connections in the intelligence world.

Mr. Loftus described a room in NSA's Fort Meade that was actually British
soil (diplomatic territory), with a British guard posted outside...

: From: guy@panix.com [updated here 5/25/97]
: Subject: Re: Threaten U.S. Domestic ECHELON
: Newsgroups: alt.cypherpunks,talk.politics.crypto,comp.org.eff.talk
: Organization: NYC, Third Planet From the Sun
:
: This is a heavily annotated book.
:
: Massive domestic spying by the NSA.
:
: Including our phone calls.
:
: * "The Secret War Against the Jews"
: * Authors: John Loftus and Mark Aarons
: * ISBN 0-312-11057-X, 1994
: *
: * In 1943 this resulted in the Britain-USA (Brusa) agreement to merge
: * the Communications Intelligence (COMINT) agencies of both governments.
: *
: * One of the little-known features of Brusa was that President Roosevelt
: * agreed that the two governments could spy on each others' citizens,
: * without search warrants, by establishing "listening posts" on each
: * others' territory.
[snip]
```

```
: *
: * According to several of the "old spies" who worked in Communications
: * Intelligence, the NSA headquarters is also the chief British espionage
: * base in the Unite

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```

1334. Re: Active Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-23 22:56:53 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13aach6b5dal267@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 4138

Bill W1AC wrote:

> I think the only way to settle this question is to conduct a
> well-designed survey with a ramdom sample of hams.

This one is tricky. With most surveys, there's no correlation between the response rate and what you're trying to measure. If you're asking for someone's opinion on an issue, you do a survey and get 10% response, you can assume that the results are valid even though 90% of the people who received the survey didn't bother to respond.

In a survey that asks licensed hams if they're active, if you get 10% response, do you assume that the other 90% are inactive hams? No, you can't do that. But you have to assume that an active ham is more likely to respond to a survey about ham radio than an inactive one. Thus the response is likely to be significantly skewed towards activity.

> If there are any statisticians among the readers, please tell us how
> many hams we'd have to sample to get a valid measurement.

For opinion surveys, the more you survey, the higher the accuracy. In this case, I'm not sure that adding more people to the survey improves the accuracy since active hams are more likely to respond. The key is how to interpret the non-responders, something that seems unknowable.

I don't claim to be a statistician, so I would appreciate comments from someone who is.

73, Steve KB9X

1335. open letter to rec.radio.amateur.moderated readers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-23 23:24:47 UTC
From: Jimmie@rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Message-ID: <a40c8e8c.687b6a55@rec.radio.amateur.moderated>
Source record: 4143
Cross-posted to: sci.crypt,rec.radio.amateur.moderated

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Wow.

No recap necessary.

I'm feeling a bit sick at this point, how about you?

**************************************************************************

Those of you who supported any version of the FBI/NSA Digital Telephony Act
sold us down the river, making use of this Orwellian Military technology
fully legal domestically for the first time.

The descent into the abyss, from which there is no return.

: * "Above the Law", by David Burnham, ISBN 0-684-80699-1, 1996
: *
: * [ Al Bayse was assistant director of the FBI's Technical Services
: * Division, in charge of spending more than half a billion dollars
: * for research, development and computer operations. ]
: *
: * "Sure", said Al Bayse of the FBI, "I believe there is an absolute
: * right to privacy. But that doesn't mean you have the right to break
: * the law in a serious way. Any private conversation that doesn't
: * involve criminality should be private"
: *
: * In other words, as the debate was framed by Bayse, the right to
: * privacy is at least partly contingent on a determination by an FBI
: * agent or clerk that the conversations they already intercepted and
: * understood do not involve a crime.

Do you want to live in a real live Big Brother world?

It is not at all about trying to keep up with technology in order to wiretap.

The phone companies are already able and authorized to listen in on any
line at any time, to check the integrity of the ne

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=zljA
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1336. Re: Active Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-24 00:25:18 UTC
From: Chris Jewell <chrisj@puffin.com>
Message-ID: <7rfy3e3gd5.fsf@sjtufted.puffin.com>
Source record: 4139

Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> writes:

> There are not many numeric measures of activity, but one that comes to
> mind is the number of people who vote in the election for ARRL Section
> Manager. In the following, the number of votes is taken from the ARRL
> web site and the number of hams from
> http://www.speroni.com/FCC/ARRL/State1A.html
>
> Kentucky, Feb. 2007, 527 votes, 8534 hams, 6% voted.
> Texas, Feb. 2007, 1577 votes, 42,949 hams, 4% voted.
> New Hampshire, May 2007, 513 votes, 4825 hams, 11% voted.
>
> You can speculate about how much correlation there is between "active
> ham" and "voted in ARRL election for SM". I am certainly NOT
> suggesting that this is an accurate measure of the activity level of
> the ham radio community, but it's an interesting number.

Well, I'm a ARRL member (the majority of US hams are not, and thus
cannot vote for SM), and I get on the air a couple of times a week.
If there were a contested election for SM of my section, I would
probably have no real information on the relative merits of the
candidates, and thus would leave voting to those who do know something
about it.

I consider it my obligation to the polity to inform myself and vote in
all elections for public office in my jurisdiction, but I don't regard
voting in ARRL elections in the same light. "An active ham who is a
member of the League" and "a ham who is an active member of the
League" are far different things.

73 DE KW6H

--
Chris Jewell kw6h@puffin.com Gualala CA USA 95445

1337. open letter to rec.radio.amateur.moderated readers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-24 00:34:39 UTC
From: Jessica@rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Message-ID: <e29a1a61.d7e4b095@rec.radio.amateur.moderated>
Source record: 4141
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,sci.crypt

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into the computers. Even though NSA's specialized supercomputers
have enormous storage capacities, the tremendous number of targets forces
the Agency to squeeze the watch lists together as tightly as possible.

P462-465: Its power to eavesdrop, the NSA had always insisted, came under no
earthly laws but rather emanated from some celestial "inherent presidential
authority" reposed in the chief executive by the Constitution.

Senator Edward M. Kennedy tried year after year to pass legislation to
require the NSA to submit to judicial review.

Finally, the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act [FISA] was signed into
law by president Carter on October 25, 1978.

The key to the legislation could only have been dreamed up by Franz Kafka:
the establishment of a supersecret federal court.

The legislation established a complex authorization procedure and added a
strict "minimization" requirement to prohibit the use and distribution of
communications involving Americans inadvertently picked up during the
intercept operations.

These requirements constitute the most important parts of the FISA law, a

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: PGPfreeware 5.5.1

WcsFSxwLnNY6aXK7ziRLl7Ty64kj7RMuQmt3vZxg/9TZtCd7oz9ZCyNtw71nkAPz
IxNuS1boxylD33TjccJZRFFh81tHlLJvS+IwK6K0mFDxrZ/w2DTu/iHnUzPNTmm5
oUdOyOv6uIF0AEOlXQXewpYdAGItM+9NpBP7HVwPJORG+j66uvIUwHjSSj0DgSLd
GfSITksG4qrWxfhwTP5V5EqexkVvlFPxCLFDNTfBey9UVc==
=VDCJ
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----

1338. Re: Active Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-24 00:56:29 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <leWdnR_zDOXc1zjbnZ2dnUVZ_uygnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4140

"Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
news:f828co$s1u$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...
> Iitoi wrote:
>> "Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
>> news:f7r3tj$108s$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...
>>
[snip]
>
>> So I'll use a different definition of active --- keeps his/her license
>> current, gets on the air at least a couple of times a year, or if
>> currently off the air he/she expects to be back on the air in the future.
>> By that definition I'd estimate that 75% of the current US license
>> holders can be consider active.
>
>
> The number seems a little high to me, but that's good feedback anyhoo.
>
> - 73 de Mike KB3EIA -
>

I would exclude those who "intend" to get back on the air as far as being
active goes. Many intentions never materialize. I'd consider them inactive
until they actually do get back on the air.

Dee, N8UZE

1339. open letter to rec.radio.amateur.moderated readers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-24 01:31:28 UTC
From: Usha@rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Message-ID: <7db520f2.03ec9572@rec.radio.amateur.moderated>
Source record: 4142
Cross-posted to: sci.crypt,rec.radio.amateur.moderated

```
-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----

our government encouraging
drugs to reach the inner cities were weird.

Remember, we've been having a Drug War for four decades now.

I guess there is a certain logic to it. Obviously the government is into
hysteria on the matter: it is then possible that they would want to continue
having a drug problem so they could continue the hysteria.

Even the Attorney General was drooling over drug forfeiture dollars, to the
point of shunting aside other cases.

Recently...

: CBS 60 Minutes, Steve Croft reporting.
:
: Remember that story of the hero customs agent snagging a tanker truck full
: of cocaine? There is a strange twist to the story.
:
: The Federal agent's manager repeatedly tried to interfere with him making
: the bust.
:
: The agent's dog had flagged the truck; the agent weighed it and found a
: discrepancy. His manager said it must be in the tires. You can only check
: the tires for drugs he was told.
:
: But the agent persisted, and made the bust. His manager let the driver
: of the truck leave. The driver literally fled on foot back to Mexico.

What the hell was that about???

Was it a single corrupt Federal agent?

: CBS 60 Minutes, Steve Croft reporting.
:
: Standing at a fence about a hundred feet from the U.S. Customs lanes,
: Steve Croft and an ex-agent with a walkie-talkie tuned to the right
: frequency began videotaping the border crossings.
:

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: PGPfreeware 6.4.6

8VCM5MjsKEIQjYVSjR+0W76jq9e+/Q4ynMr3Vvl1FbyxmbiGcXFANPK+rgju+UGA
jVxGq5wFMlFZ9Y1p0CK3T1HNm0KYKSPasJmaqvF1ZAg16Ck0CDKJKl+DsQgNme5x
```

```
FFwu88KlsWX1AQ2zMUSx5sxTVxoF3oocllQMrdiSkWwy4YJr2XLFg/F71iNYjBCm
V30ftZQ+nvUnME==
=F6OD
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----
```

1340. open letter to rec.radio.amateur.moderated readers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-24 01:59:18 UTC
From: Debbie@rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Message-ID: <bd5cadab.ec6abe51@rec.radio.amateur.moderated>
Source record: 4146
Cross-posted to: sci.crypt,rec.radio.amateur.moderated

```
-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----

possibly Fred.

Enclosed trailing are the actual emails.

Prepared by Guy on 10/30/96.

********************************************************************************
********************************************************************************
********************************************************************************
[final snip]

:Date: Mon, 6 May 96 18:02:24 EDT
:From: guy
:To: tmig@sbi
:Subject: Bob Brain report
:Cc: <others>

This is a report on the Internet traffic of Bob Brain.

The Internet is a public wire, which Salomon is obligated
to monitor for security/compliance reasons.

Mr. Brain showed up on radar when he transferred out
over 12,000 lines of source code which was extensively
maintained by more than one Salomon person, to Merrill Lynch.

His individual traffic (public Internet) was then pulled
from backups.

This is the summary report of what has been found.

Prepared by Guy, 5/6/96.

###### ######## # # ######## ######## # # ######## ######
# # # # ## # # # ## # # # #
# # # # # # # # # # # # # #
# # # # # # # ##### # # # # ######
# #

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: PGPfreeware 3.8.4

LFWC5IlOGvRNKkOsPCKuoruWSBlOa0h4+V+TCt9uSPEGtedTaBWR99wDiFtjNif1
PYhD6cxuFNLqNhkdXclliz8jivT3GYnmjH6jYXL8LJprNNAKUBEFoTD0O+f+cpZ0
QOI5VjmgSJJaE4nFq3pvH084c7AtrIAYHLvXhFmu9RMuH6R6jhd2dYKXy4sd8M/G
TdZQZZNz8ENKjFvrXMQY10D8+bFazgzhV7zCw08t3oiWhh==
```

```
=en0z
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----
```

1341. open letter to rec.radio.amateur.moderated readers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-24 02:16:34 UTC
From: Corinne@rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Message-ID: <cb9a2521.3f26c77f@rec.radio.amateur.moderated>
Source record: 4145
Cross-posted to: sci.crypt,rec.radio.amateur.moderated

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----

just radio shack components.

Haverford Police put out word they had Ed Cummings; the Federal government
responded that they wanted the state case. It was transferred to the Feds.

Specifically, the Secret Service wanted to prosecute him.

Why the Secret Service? Because Ed was associated with the 2600 hacker's
publication. And because he had photographed a Secret Service agent who
had come snooping around. The Secret Service agent was picking their nose.
The local TV station showed it.

To which the Secret Service agents responded:

"Don't fuck with us. We're the biggest gang in town."

No other reason.

What eventually happened in court?

For possession of a 'red box' - a simpleton tone device that can fool
telco computers into making free calls even though the same computers
spot its usage:

> In the words of Ed Cummings, "I was forced to make a deal with the devil."
>
> The government had found data on a commercial diskette in his possession
> which they say was related to cellula

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: PGPfreeware 2.5.3

SOSYgl4UyaY8ful+puS7/oIF63sDjrEufGGr1LQBoIVjZ3XuIUXB/n4cE/qVL1pX
dqTBAfWnITu6TO8AyHVGIppVxZgoUWcEx9PSi1T2LCaAxXkOPNU72B9WDJ6GPP3x
UgIYQiNBf4AFYBSIDMXhMa8yHo4EAMTuqsE8rNFPzlrNAQtoFIJoI0zUqzMVuUPf
VP8jsC3S2dpEATolww0DHn406BMNVIYpaf157m==
=PRfT
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----

1342. Re: Active Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-24 22:54:59 UTC
From: YOUNG SNODGRASS <young.snodgrass@verizon.net>
Message-ID: <3lspi.4439$Gs4.1717@trndny05>
Source record: 4147

Maybe this will help:

When talking about Fishing, the US Government defines an Active Fishing Hobbyist as someone that goes fishing 52 or more times a year!

73 es Gud DX!

Young

"Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message news:f7r3tj$108s$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...
> Another thread got me thinking about the number of active Hams.
>
>
> Just what percentage of Amateurs are active ones, defining active as
> either being on the air regularly, or participating in Amateur related
> activities on a regular basis? (like say on a weekly basis?)
>
>
> Thoughts?
>
>
> - 73 de Mike KB3EIA -
>

1343. Re: Active Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-25 02:09:40 UTC
From: "Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not>
Message-ID: <f868kk$em2$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 4148

Steve Bonine wrote:
> Bill W1AC wrote:
>
>> I think the only way to settle this question is to conduct a
>> well-designed survey with a ramdom sample of hams.
>
> This one is tricky. With most surveys, there's no correlation between
> the response rate and what you're trying to measure. If you're asking
> for someone's opinion on an issue, you do a survey and get 10% response,
> you can assume that the results are valid even though 90% of the people
> who received the survey didn't bother to respond.
>
> In a survey that asks licensed hams if they're active, if you get 10%
> response, do you assume that the other 90% are inactive hams? No, you
> can't do that. But you have to assume that an active ham is more likely
> to respond to a survey about ham radio than an inactive one. Thus the
> response is likely to be significantly skewed towards activity.
>
>> If there are any statisticians among the readers, please tell us how
>> many hams we'd have to sample to get a valid measurement.
>
> For opinion surveys, the more you survey, the higher the accuracy. In
> this case, I'm not sure that adding more people to the survey improves
> the accuracy since active hams are more likely to respond. The key is
> how to interpret the non-responders, something that seems unknowable.
>
> I don't claim to be a statistician, so I would appreciate comments from
> someone who is.
>
> 73, Steve KB9X
>

Steve,

Those are good points.

I'd guess that a "valid" survey would have provisions to account for all
those surveyed, including a method to weed out silent keys, and
provision for guarding against "false positives", i.e., knee-jerk "Yes,
I'm active" responses.

What little I remember from college statistics tells me that the design
of the questions is all-important. The survey mustn't cue the respondent
as to "right" or "wrong" answers, and must provide "discriminator"
questions to confirm and/or deny the accuracy of previous answers.

It's a job for an expert: if we called someone up and asked "Are you active?", the results would be skewed, as you point out. However, if the question is, e.g. "Will you help with disaster preparedness as a ham?", you risk getting a "novelty" response, i.e., a respondent who says "Yes" just because he/she hasn't done it before.

Questions about purchasing are less likely to show bias, but there's always the problem of "what do the answers mean?": if a ham says he's going to buy a new rig this year, is he just trying to please the questioner, is he window shopping, or is he just wishing out loud?

This is all theoretical, of course. The first issue is to define what "active" means, and then we'd need a survey that accurately measures the ham population for that metric. Short of putting remote RF sensors at a statistically-valid percentage of ham operator's homes, I'm out of ideas.

HTH.

Bill

--
73,

Bill W1AC

(Remove "73" and change top level domain for direct replies)

1344. Re: Active Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-25 16:48:33 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5gpcfvF3i0vueU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4049

"Bill Horne, W1AC" <billhorne73@comcast.not> wrote in
message news:f868kk$em2$1@victor.killfile.org

[snip]

> This is all theoretical, of course. The first issue is to
> define what "active" means, and then we'd need a survey
> that accurately measures the ham population for that
> metric. Short of putting remote RF sensors at a
> statistically-valid percentage of ham operator's homes,
> I'm out of ideas.

It seems to me that this discussion is getting bogged down a bit. The
burning question is what constitutes activity..? As I see it, activity is
transmitting on the air, pure and simple.

So how often in a given time period must someone transmit to be considered
active..? This is the real question and is basically unanswerable -
everyone will have different opinions.

Personally, I'd say if someone owns a radio that is in working condition,
that's good enough. I know people that only operate on special occasions,
or when they go to rallies, but I consider them active.

73 Ivor G6URP

====================================== MODERATOR'S COMMENT:
2007-07-25 1649Z

1345. Re: Active Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-25 16:48:48 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5gpci0F3fsu16U1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4050

"YOUNG SNODGRASS" <young.snodgrass@verizon.net> wrote in
message news:3lspi.4439$Gs4.1717@trndny05
> Maybe this will help:
>
> When talking about Fishing, the US Government defines an
> Active Fishing Hobbyist as someone that goes fishing 52
> or more times a year!
> 73 es Gud DX!
>
> Young

What if they only go 51 times..? ;-)

73 Ivor G6URP

1346. July 23, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-26 13:01:26 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1185445443.866953.66050@i13g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4051

These are the number of current,
unexpired FCC-issued amateur
radio licenses held by individuals
on the stated dates, and the
percentage of the total number
of active licenses that class contains.

Percentages may not add up to exactly
100.0% due to rounding.

These totals do not include licenses
that have expired but are in the grace
period, nor do they include club, military
and other station-only licenses.

Effective April 15, 2000, FCC no longer issued
new Novice, Technician Plus and Advanced
class licenses, so the numbers of those license
classes have declined steadily since then.

Also since April 15, 2000, FCC has renewed all
existing Technician Plus licenses as Technician.
It is therefore informative to consider the totals of
the two classes, since the Technician class
includes a significant number of Technician Plus
licenses renewed as Technician.

On February 23, 2007, the last Morse Code
test element, the 5 wpm receiving test, was
eliminated as a requirement.

The ARS License Numbers:

As of May 14, 2000:

Novice- 49,329 (7.3%)
Technician - 205,394 (30.4%)
Technician Plus - 128,860 (19.1%)
General - 112,677 (16.7%)
Advanced - 99,782 (14.8%)
Extra - 78,750 (11.7%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 334,254 (49.5%)

Total all classes - 674,792

As of February 22, 2007:

Novice - 22,896 (3.5%)
Technician - 293,508 (44.8%)
Technician Plus - 30,818 (4.7%)
General - 130,138 (19.9%)
Advanced - 69,050 (10.5%)
Extra - 108,270 (16.5%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 324,326 (49.5%)

Total all classes - 654,680

As of July 1, 2007:

Novice - 21,738 (3.3%)
Technician - 286,771 (43.8%)
Technician Plus - 26,257 (4.0%)
General - 141,321 (21.6%)
Advanced - 67,506 (10.3%)
Extra - 110,799 (16.9%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 313,028 (47.8%)

Total all classes - 654,392

As of July 15, 2007:

Novice - 21,677 (3.3%)
Technician - 286,791 (43.8%)
Technician Plus - 25,916 (4.0%)
General - 141,991 (21.7%)
Advanced - 67,426 (10.3%)
Extra - 110,936 (16.9%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 312,707 (47.8%)

Total all classes - 654,737

As of July 23, 2007:

Novice - 21,627 (3.3%)
Technician - 287,171 (43.9%)
Technician Plus - 25,719 (3.9%)
General - 142,014 (21.7%)
Advanced - 67,331 (10.3%)
Extra - 111,031 (17.0%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 312,890 (47.8%)

Total all classes - 654,893

Changes:

>From May 14, 2000, to February 22, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 26,433
Technician - increase of 88,114
Technician Plus - decrease of 98,042

General - increase of 17,461
Advanced - decrease of 30,732
Extra - increase of 29,520

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 9,928

Total all classes - decrease of 20,112

>From May 14, 2000, to July 1, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 27,591
Technician - increase of 81,377
Technician Plus - decrease of 102,603
General - increase of 28,644
Advanced - decrease of 32,276
Extra - increase of 32,049

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 21,226

Total all classes - decrease of 20,400

>From May 14, 2000, to July 15, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 27,652
Technician - increase of 81,397
Technician Plus - decrease of 102,944
General - increase of 29,314
Advanced - decrease of 32,356
Extra - increase of 32,186

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 21,547

Total all classes - decrease of 20,055

>From May 14, 2000, to July 23, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 27,702
Technician - increase of 81,777
Technician Plus - decrease of 103,141
General - increase of 29,337
Advanced - decrease of 32,451
Extra - increase of 32,281

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 21,364

Total all classes - decrease of 19,899

>From February 22, 2007, to July 1, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 1158
Technician - decrease of 6,737
Technician Plus - decrease of 4,561
General - increase of 11,183
Advanced - decrease of 1,544
Extra - increase of 2,529

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 11.298

Total all classes - decrease of 288

>From February 22, 2007, to July 15, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 1,219
Technician - decrease of 6,717
Technician Plus - decrease of 4,902
General - increase of 11,853
Advanced - decrease of 1,624
Extra - increase of 2,666

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 11,619

Total all classes - increase of 57

>From February 22, 2007, to July 23, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 1,269
Technician - decrease of 6,337
Technician Plus - decrease of 5,099
General - increase of 11,876
Advanced - decrease of 1,719
Extra - increase of 2,761

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 11,436

Total all classes - increase of 213

73 de Jim, N2EY

1347. Re: Any new guesses on change in ARS numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-26 21:05:15 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1185474044.606345.294090@w3g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4052

Not a new guess but a snapshot of where we stand now:

The total number of current unexpired FCC-issued amateur radio licenses, held by individuals of all license classes has increased from 654,680 on February 23, 2007 to 654,893 on July 23, 2007. That's five months.

An increase of 213 hams, which works out to .033% (rounded to three significant figures).

73 de Jim, N2EY

1348. Re: July 23, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-26 23:50:14 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <bYidneUvdP-ArjTbnZ2dnUVZ_qWtnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4053

<N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote in message
news:1185445443.866953.66050@i13g2000prf.googlegroups.com...

[snip]

>
>>From February 22, 2007, to July 23, 2007:
>
> Novice - decrease of 1,269
> Technician - decrease of 6,337
> Technician Plus - decrease of 5,099
> General - increase of 11,876
> Advanced - decrease of 1,719
> Extra - increase of 2,761
>
> Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 11,436
>
> Total all classes - increase of 213
>
>
> 73 de Jim, N2EY
>

While I expected a lot of upgrading to happen, this is more than I would
have expected in so short a time. And yet in another way, I'm surprised
that there are not even more people upgrading. I wonder if there are a lot
of inactive hams that just aren't getting the word?

Dee, N8UZE

1349. Re: July 23, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-27 03:20:01 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1185503191.042786.204400@w3g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4054

On Jul 26, 7:50?pm, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:

> While I expected a lot of upgrading to happen, this is more than I would
> have expected in so short a time.

Consider a few factors, Dee:

1) There was a lot of notice that the changes were coming.
2) The changes reduced the number and types of test needed to upgrade
to General or Extra. Like a price reduction on an item.
3) While the raw numbers may look like a lot, compare them to the
percentages. Generals went from being 19.9% of US hams to 21.7%, while
Extras went from 16.5 to 17.0 %.

> And yet in another way, I'm surprised
> that there are not even more people upgrading. I wonder if there are a lot
> of inactive hams that just aren't getting the word?

All sorts of factors:

- Some hams haven't gotten the word
- Some hams are inactive but still in the database
- Some hams are perfectly satisfied with the license they have
- Some hams are studying for their upgrade, waiting for a nearby VE
session, etc.
- Some hams are holding onto their old license classes for a variety
of reasons. For example, I have had more than one Advanced tell me
that s/he won't upgrade to Extra because the Advanced "proves" the
person passed a code test, while the Extra doesn't. Others have told
me that they're sure FCC will eventually give Advanceds a free upgrade
to Extra, so they're just waiting it out. At least one I know feels
insulted that it takes the same testing to go from General to Extra as
it does to go from Advanced to Extra.

All sorts of other reasons.

Perhaps there is someone out there who is determined to be the last
Extra or the last Novice on the books.

With 10 year licensing, it's possible that a considerable percentage
of the US amateur population has dropped out but still shows up in the
database. For example, if 2% of the US amateur population dies per
year, and the total is relatively stable, there will be approximately
10% of the total who are dead but whose licenses are still valid. (I
got this number by assuming that it's equally likely for a ham to die
in any year of the 10 year license term, which means that the median
would be 5 years. 5 years times 2% is 10%).

2% may be a low number, too - it assumes that the *average* amateur is licensed for 50 years.

In any event, at least the steady decline in the ARS license numbers since 2003 or so seems to have stopped.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1350. Re: Active Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-27 13:26:10 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f8cr36$1i2u$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4055

Bill Horne, W1AC wrote:

> I'd guess that a "valid" survey would have provisions to account for all
> those surveyed, including a method to weed out silent keys, and
> provision for guarding against "false positives", i.e., knee-jerk "Yes,
> I'm active" responses.

> What little I remember from college statistics tells me that the design
> of the questions is all-important. The survey mustn't cue the respondent
> as to "right" or "wrong" answers, and must provide "discriminator"
> questions to confirm and/or deny the accuracy of previous answers.
>
> It's a job for an expert: if we called someone up and asked "Are you
> active?", the results would be skewed, as you point out. However, if the
> question is, e.g. "Will you help with disaster preparedness as a ham?",
> you risk getting a "novelty" response, i.e., a respondent who says "Yes"
> just because he/she hasn't done it before.
>
> Questions about purchasing are less likely to show bias, but there's
> always the problem of "what do the answers mean?": if a ham says he's
> going to buy a new rig this year, is he just trying to please the
> questioner, is he window shopping, or is he just wishing out loud?
>
> This is all theoretical, of course. The first issue is to define what
> "active" means, and then we'd need a survey that accurately measures the
> ham population for that metric. Short of putting remote RF sensors at a
> statistically-valid percentage of ham operator's homes, I'm out of ideas.

For an accurate survey, instead of defining active, we would need to have several questions related to activity. We'd want to first ask the respondent if they considered themselves active, then questions would follow asking about how many times per month they are involved in any of several Amateur related activities.

Just a definition is almost impossible to arrive at. Even if a group came to a consensus, the next person might not accept that at all.

Just here we see where I was looking at activity relating to things on a weekly basis, another poster on more of a monthly/yearly basis, and yet another looked at active as one who takes the trouble to renew their license. All of those opinions are valid, even though that spans an extreme range from someone like me who spends several hours each day involved in one activity or another related to the ARS, to someone who never gets on the air, but renews their license.

In the end, the survey folks tend to express results in terms of percentages, such as "20 percent of those who responded use their radios on a daily basis." 30 percent of respondents participate at least once a year in a public service event.

The nasty little line in all that is "those who responded". And just like college football rankings, no matter how sophisticated the computer program, somewhere, someone is going to make the first decisions which will be based pretty much on opinion. GIGO, so to speak.

It truly isn't simple, eh?

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1351. Re: July 23, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-27 18:39:51 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f8d8ep$1h0q$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4056

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
> On Jul 26, 7:50?pm, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:
>
>> While I expected a lot of upgrading to happen, this is more than I would
>> have expected in so short a time.
>
> Consider a few factors, Dee:
>
> 1) There was a lot of notice that the changes were coming.
> 2) The changes reduced the number and types of test needed to upgrade
> to General or Extra. Like a price reduction on an item.
> 3) While the raw numbers may look like a lot, compare them to the
> percentages. Generals went from being 19.9% of US hams to 21.7%, while
> Extras went from 16.5 to 17.0 %.
>
>> And yet in another way, I'm surprised
>> that there are not even more people upgrading. I wonder if there are a lot
>> of inactive hams that just aren't getting the word?
>
> All sorts of factors:
>
> - Some hams haven't gotten the word

I still have prospective Hams tell me that they have to brush up on
their Morse code so they can test. Oddly enough a few fellows continued
in that line of even after I told them they didn't need to.

> - Some hams are inactive but still in the database
> - Some hams are perfectly satisfied with the license they have
> - Some hams are studying for their upgrade, waiting for a nearby VE
> session, etc.
> - Some hams are holding onto their old license classes for a variety
> of reasons. For example, I have had more than one Advanced tell me
> that s/he won't upgrade to Extra because the Advanced "proves" the
> person passed a code test, while the Extra doesn't.

Same here! I suppose that if a person runs with a crowd that sees that
as somehow being better than other people it might be legit. Otherwise
it strikes me as really odd.

> Others have told
> me that they're sure FCC will eventually give Advanceds a free upgrade
> to Extra, so they're just waiting it out.

I'd tell them the same thing I told those who waited out element one's
demise: "If the wait doesn't bother you, then go ahead and wait." There

were people telling me to wait it out back in 1999 "because Element 1 will be going away any day now!" But I didn't wait, and I wouldn't trade the extra 7 years I had my General and Extra for anything.

> At least one I know feels
> insulted that it takes the same testing to go from General to Extra as
> it does to go from Advanced to Extra.

Oh my! Does this person want a special test made up just for him? Exactly what dud they see as insulting about having to take the same test? It isn't that any of the tests are or ever were that difficult (I think they are at the correct level of difficulty FWIW)

> All sorts of other reasons.
>
> Perhaps there is someone out there who is determined to be the last
> Extra or the last Novice on the books.

Did you mean Advanced instead of Extra?

> In any event, at least the steady decline in the ARS license numbers
> since 2003 or so seems to have stopped.

While we have discussed lots of reasons for that decline, I know of another possibility, at least for a delay. I know several Hams who waited for the Element one to go away after it was eliminated from the treaty yet not gone from our testing requirements. The long wait made for an upgrade delay on some peoples part. I thought that the delay was actually a harmful thing in that respect.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIa -

1352. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1563 - July 27, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-27 22:43:18 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <E1IEV49-0002vE-TW@elasmtp-galgo.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 4057
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1563 - July 27, 2007

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1563 with a
release date of Friday, July 27, 2007 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. The FCC says no to a
petition seeking to overturn antenna deed
restrictions, the new ARRL Headquarters Diamond
Terrace is dedicated and a gift of ham radio
love from a ham who truly cared. Find out the
details on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number
1563 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

REGULATORY: FCC TURNS DOWN HFA REQUEST TO PREEMPT CCR'S

The FCC has turned down a request filed by Don
Schellhardt, KI4PMG, representing a group calling
itself Hams For action that sought FCC preemption
over deed restrictions some hams face ip putting
up towers and antennas. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, has more:

--

In the petition Don Schellhardt and Hams For
Action challenged the depiction of all CC&Rs as
voluntary. This is because some jurisdictions
require housing developments to adopt CC&Rs and
other areas have little or no housing available
that is not subject to such restrictive
rules. They also cited the role played by hams in disaster situations.

In it letter of denial, the FCC said that it
still views deed restrictions as a personal
contract between a buyer and a seller. As such
they are not subject to Commission oversight.

The FCC also disputed the claim that antennas are
needed at the homes of radio amateurs to handle
disaster relief operations. It said that there
has been no showing by Schellhardt and Hams For
Action that the communications provided by
Amateur Radio operators during emergencies such

as earthquakes and hurricanes have been adversely affected by residential CC&Rs. Rather, says the FCC, communications from areas affected by disasters typically occur from transmitters that are not subject to CC&Rs. These are usually mobile or hand-held radios, or temporarily installations at buildings such as schools, shelters, or government locations.

The bottom line: The FCC says that it does not believe that the anticipation of disaster events is grounds for it to revisit a policy that applies to an Amateur Radio operator's ability to install antennas and antenna support structures where they reside. Nor will it preempt private deed restrictions to make it so.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the stidio in Los Angeles.

--

At this point Schellhardt and Hams For action have two choices. They can continue to administrative appeals process or they can take the matter into the federal courts. (FCC)

**

HAM HAPPENINGS: ARRL DEDICATES THE DIAMOND TERRACE

Theres a new edition at ARRL Headquarters. Take a listen as it is dedicated:

Actuality audio of ceremony.

--

That's the sound of ARRL President Joel; Harrisson, W5ZN, and Executive Vice President Dave Sumner, K1ZZ, cutting the ribbon that marked the opening of the new Diamond Terrace at the entrance of ARRL Headquarters in Newington, Connecticut. The ceremony took place at the beginning of the summer Board of Directors meeting.

While the Diamond Terrace may be a point of beauty at the League's headquarters building, it also has deeper meaning. According to President Harrisson, the Diamond Terrace is really a tribute to the ARRL's staff, its leadership and to those who have financially supported the

ARRL's efforts to protect and defend the hobby at home and world-wide.

--

W5ZN: " When you talk to the average ham out on
the street, and you ask him what's important to
him in Amateur Radio, he will tell you, 'I want
to go into my shack, I want to turn on my radio
and I want to get on the air. I want to enjoy
Amateur Radio. You take care of that for me.

And obviously it takes a lot of work behind the
scenes to make things happen. With all that we
have going on in Washington, nationally, with all
the attacks on Amateur Radio's resources, it
takes people like you in Newington, it takes
people like we have on the Board of Directors and
most importantly, it takes people who donate to
our development program to make that all happen."

--

While there were a lot of people working behind
the scenes to make the Diamond Terrace a reality,
likely nobody was more dedicated to the project
than Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart,
K1MMH. And her contribution was not forgotten by
those attending the ceremony. In his remarks,
Dave Sumner gave kudos to her and her
staff. Sumner said that the idea of the Diamond
Terrace originated in the ARRL Development Office
and they saw it through to fruition.

The Terrace will eventually host up to 5000
personalized, 4x8-inch laser-engraved bricks. It
recognizes donors wishing to venerate their own
call signs or to honor or memorialize the call
sign of a family member, club or mentor. There
are also six benches of Vermont granite placed
around the Terrace and also engraved with names
and calls. A short video of the dedication
ceremony has been posted to the YouTube dot com
website. Its in cyberspace at
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2hdPAhJGhYs (ARNewsline(tm), ARRL)

**

INTRUDER WATCH: RELIGIOUS BROADCASTERS TAKE TO 10 METES

As if truckers on this side of the Atlantic were
not enough, now reports have been received in the
United Kingdom of religious broadcasts in the 10 meter band.

The transmissions are thought to emanate from Ireland. That nation recently started licensing wireless Public Address services to operate in the 11 meter Citizens Band but German radio amateurs have monitored signals at 28.105MHz.

The Irish Radio Transmitters Society is asking for any reception reports, with beam headings and recordings if possible, to try and help locate the transmitter or transmitters. Reports should be sent to Thomas Caffrey, E-I-2-J-D, by e-mail to thoscaffrey@hotmail.com. Irish telecommunications regulator ComReg says that it is prepared to act on the matter if sufficient information is supplied to it. (GB2RS)

**

RESTRUCTURING: TEMPORARY 4 METER ALLOCATION GRANTED IN ITALY

Italy now has a temporary ham radio allocation in the European 4-meter Amateur band. On July 12th the Italian Authorities released three 25-kHz segments centered around 70.100, 70.200 and 70.300 MHz for use by that nations radio amateurs for use through the end of the year.

According to I0JX posting to QRZ.com, the new allocation began with a request by a few Italian hams to carry out an experimental propagation study under the technical coordination of a university. This to see if the band will offer opportunities of transatlantic contacts during the summer sporadic-E season

The authorization expires on December 31st. I0JX says that the prospects for a permanent 4 meter allocation in Italy appear to be good. Meantime, Italian hams now join those in the United Kingdom and several other European nations who will be beaming toward the United States and Canada in search of cross-band contacts on 10 and 6 meters. (I0JX. QRZ.com)

**

RESTRUCTURING: DENMARK LICENSES 40 MHZ HAM RADIO BEACON

Denmark's telecommunications regulator has approved a permit for a beacon on 40.021 MHz.

Signing the call OZ7IGY, the beacon will be subject to several conditions once it comes on the air. These include no interference to any other spectrum users and a maximum output of 25 watts to a unity gain omnidirectional antenna at

no more than 10 meters above ground.

The permit is valid for a year. Results of the
experiment are to be reported to the regulatory agency.

Denmark's OZ7IGY currently operates beacons on
50.021 and 70.021 MHz and a number of other
frequencies. More information is on-line at www.oz7igy.dk/

By the way, Denmark is the second country to
announce the licensing of an Amateur Radio beacon
on 40 MHz. A couple of weeks ago the GB3RAL
beacon system near Oxford in the United Kingdom
was authorized to operate on the band as
well. Its sponsors hope to have it on the air this fall. (Southgate)

**

BREAK 1

From the United States of America, We are the
Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin
stations around the world including the Broward
Amateur Radio Club net serving Ft. Lauderdale Florida.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RESCUE RADIO: UK HAMS ACTIVE IN FLOODS

Breaking nerws from the U.K.. That's where hams
belonging to RAYNET are on alert as floods
continue to ravage that nation. Jeramy Boot, G4NJH, has more:

--

The main news of the week is the extensive
flooding across many parts of the country. We are
aware of many RAYNET groups being put on standby
due to the flooding and continued flood warnings.
As this is an ongoing scenario we are unable to
bring you news of the RAYNET groups who have been
involved but we will broadcast full details when known.

I'm Jeramy Boot, G4NJH, and you are listening to the amateur Radio Newsline

--

More in future Newsline reports. (GB2RS).

**

REGULATORY: FCC SAYS NO TO VANITY CALL RECONSIDERATION

Being a little late has cost a Minnesota ham the vanity call sign he had hoped for. This, after the FCC acts on Friday, July 20th to deny the petition of Quinten Erickson, N0RD, requesting a reconsideration of his application for vanity call sign N7AZ. Amateur Radio Newsline's Jeff Fred Vobbe, W8HDU, has the details:

--

The story goes this way. Both Quinten Erickson and Jon Goering had filed for the N7AZ callsign. Erickson lives in Big Lake Minnesota and used to hold the call N7GXA. Goering who formerly held the call NJ7I is from of Apache Junction, Arizona.

According to the FCC, Goering's application for N7AZ was received by the FCC on Sunday, January 14th, 2007. Because the application was received on a weekend, the FCC deemed it to be filed on the next business day. That turned out to be Tuesday, January 16th.

The FCC says that Goering and Erickson's applications for N7AZ were included in a lottery to determine the processing order of applications with a filing date of January 16th. Of the applications that requested N7AZ, Goering's was the first selected. The FCC granted the vanity call to Goering on February 13th and Erickson soon filed an appeal.

In his reconsideration request to the FCC, Erickson argued that the agency should have dismissed Goering's application for N7AZ as being premature. That Goering's application was still reflected in the Commission's licensing records on Sunday, January 14, 2007.

But the FCC disagreed. It said that the fact that Commission's records were not updated until after the weekend does not change the date on which the call sign became available to the vanity call sign system. Based on this, the FCC says that Goering's application therefore was not premature because with the two year grace period the N7AZ call expired on January 13, 2005 and was not available for re-assignment until January 14, 2007. As the 14th was a weekend, the 17th of January was the date the agency said that it did its first vanity call sign business for the week.

As far as the FCC is concerned, the matter is now closed.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Fred Vobbe, W8HDU.

--

And a post script to this story. Quinten Erickson is not without a vanity call of his own. He applied for call sign N0RD this past April 10th. He received it on April 28th. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC TO K6TXH - WE HAVE COMPLAINTS

The FCC has sent a letter to Steve L. Wingate, K6TXH, of Eureka, California. In its note the regulatory agency tells Wingate tat it has complaints alleging his lack of station control and deliberate interference.

The Commission gave K6TXH 20 days from his receipt of his letter to respond to the complaints in detail. And something new this time around. Wingate was also ordered by the FCC to support his reply with a signed and dated affidavit that, under penalty of perjury, verifies the truth and accuracy of the information he submits in his response.

For those not aware, under Federal law, to knowingly and willfully make any false statement or conceal any material fact in reply to a government inquiry is punishable by fine or imprisonment. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: NO AUTOMATIC CONTROL FOR YOU

The FCC has suspended the automatic remote control privileges of up to a dozen Tennessee repeaters. Its also told the ham whose call sign is on the machines that he has no choice but to solve the user abuse problems or keep the repeaters off the air. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, teels us about an FCC decision that could be precedent setting:.

--

The story of the FCC involvement in the matter of repeaters operated by John C. Kimbrough, WR3S, goes back to April 10th of this year. That's when the regulatory agency wrote to notify him that a problem existed and required his attention.

The FCC said that its Enforcement Bureau had monitoring information indicating that on various dates in March that repeater stations identifying as or by WR3S operated without proper control and re-broadcast portions of commercial TV programming and music. The FCC says that the

monitoring also showed that operators on the system failed to identify properly and used false call signs.

The letter went on to warn Kimbrough that the Commission requires that repeaters be under the supervision of a control operator and not only expects, but requires, control operators to be responsible for the proper operation of the repeater system. Also, that control operators must take whatever steps are appropriate to ensure compliance with the rules. This might include limiting the repeater use to certain users, converting the repeater to a closed system or taking it off the air entirely.

In his response, Kinbrough indicated to the FCC that he oversees a dozen repeaters on the 2 meter and 223 MHz bands. Also that he used at least ten control operators.

But the FCC stated that the failure of all ten of control operators to prevent or eliminate these violations is inexcusable, especially in view of the wide scale linking of these repeaters. The FCC then told WR3S that he will soon receive a directive from the Atlanta office of the Commission removing the automatic control privileges of your repeater systems. This means that you may not operate any repeater stations under his callsign unless he is the control operator and at the control point at all times. This, to make certain that Commission rules are being followed and that no interference is occurring.

But here is the kicker. The FCC is forbidding Kimbrough from simply delegating control authority to other area hams. In what may well be a first of a kind order, the FCC has told WR3S that at those times when he is unable to function as the control operator of the stations identifying with his call sign, they may not transmit. In other words, if he is not at the specific geographic point where the controls are to physically located, that repeaters must stay QRT. The FCC says that Kimbrough has no other choice.

For the amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, reporting.

--

The FCC order to WR3S does not end there. It tells Kinbrough that his failure to control stations bearing his call sign, or any

communications over his repeaters not complying with Commission rules, will result in enforcement action against his license. The FCC says that this could take the form of a fine, the modification of his license to remove all voice operating privileges or even the suspension and revocation of Koimbrough's Amateur ticket. It also directed him to contact the local frequency coordinator and clear up the records as to which systems actually belong to him, and which are the property of other hams and only utilize his call. (FCC)

**

REGULATORY: FCC TO ICOM - NO CHANGE AT 150 MHZ

It took three years, but FCC has denied a June 15, 2004, Petition for Rule Making filed by Icom America. . One that asked the Commission to begin a proceeding seeking comments on the re-designation and related transfer of certain spectrum in the 150 MHz . This, band from the Public Mobile Radio Service to the Public Safety Radio Service.

On Tuesday, July 24th, the FCC finally concluded that, based on the record before it. Icom had not made a sufficient showing to support the commencement of a rulemaking. Therefore it was denying the Icom request. (FCC)

**

RESCUE RADIO: UK RAYNET ASSISTS TOUR DE FRANCE

RAYNET members provided valuable assistance during the recent Tour de France bicycle race stages in southern England. Members of this U-K based emergency communication service provided communications, safety and marshalling services to supplement the professional emergency services.

Kent RAYNET coordinated the effort. They were also assisted by volunteers from outside the county. Although it was reported to have been a long day for all concerned, it was also deemed to be a emergency preparedness communications success. (GB2RS)

**

RESCUE RADIO: NO LA NINA DOES NOT MEAN FEWER TROPICAL STORMS

Back in the USA, the hurricane season is here and hams are preparing for a worst case scenario. And they are not getting as much help

from Mother Nature as they might have hoped.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has predicted that a cooling of Pacific Ocean waters that generally brings a more active Atlantic hurricane season will be absent for the next two months. But Dennis Feltgen, a meteorologist and spokesman for the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration in Miami says that the non-appearance of what forecasters call La Nina doesn't necessarily mean a tame summer for tropical storms and the hurricanes some grow into.

This year, forecasters have predicted an above-average hurricane season, which runs June 1 through November. They believe there will be 13 to 17 named storms. Seven to ten of them will become hurricanes and three to five of those will reach at least Category 3 velocity.

But meteorologist Feltgen says that there are so many other ingredients that contribute to the development of tropical cyclones. He adds that it's not just the fact that we don't have a La Nina that comes into play here. For hams involved in severe weather spotting it means to keep your go kit ready and your batteries fully charged. (Science Online)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

REGULATORY: SENATE WANTS FCC OBSENITY RULES ENFORCED

A Senate committee is working to restore the government's authority to fine radio and T-V broadcasters for airing obscenities.

The committee has approved a bill to undo an appeals court ruling that invalidated the FCC's new profanity procedure. That ruling overturned the regulatory agency's resolve to punish any use of two common profanities. This, even if they were used in fleeting

reference.

Before the new rules went into place the FCC only punished use of the words if they referred to sexual activity or bodily functions. Now the agency says both words are inherently indecent.

The bill that the Senate committee approved would require the FCC to have a policy in which a single word or image could be considered indecent. Broadcasters and civil rights advocates have vowed to fight the imposition of any regulations that they feel might stifle creativity or impinge on their rights to freedom of speech. Meantime. the FCC is still pondering what action to take on the appeals ruling. (Published news reports)

**

RADIO FUN: THE TOP 5 HAM VIDEOS ON YOUTUBE.COM

Antenna Stirs Up Controversy has become the number one most viewed ham radio video on YouTube dot com. Its actually a posting of a television news report showing how the sight of ham radio antenna has angered neighbors in exclusive neighborhood. As of this weeks newscast being prepared, it has been viewed 45,780 times.

Coming in second this month is the music video "The Contrest" performed by Andrew John Huddelston, OZ5E and the Ham Band. The 4 minute and 15 second presentation also features a video montage of the famed OZ1ADL and OZ5E Contest Station with lots of famous guest operators. Its sitting with 43,639 views.

Dropping to third place is the ARRL sponsored production of Amateur Radio Today. Hosted by retired CBS newsman Walter Cronkite, this show tells the story of ham radio in emergency situations that include the 911 terror attack on New York City and the 2003 Colorado wildfires. Its currently at 33,361 screenings.

In number 4 position is the Tonight Show bit that pitted two ham radio operators using Morse code versus a text messaging champion and his assistant. As you might already know, the hams running Morse beat out the text messaging by a mile. That video has been looked at 30,781 times.

Rounding out the top five the Ham Band is back with their music video titled "Come And Join Us

On The Airwaves." This show again features lead singer Andrew John Huddelston, OZ5E, this time in a tuxedo and top hat hanging off the top of a 120 foot high tower while singing the praises of Amateur Radio. Its currently at 29,155 views.

Keep in mind that the ratings system on YouTube is very dynamic. This means it changes all the time based on how many people stop by a given video to watch. (ARNewsline (tm))

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: FREE WI FI TRAVELING IN CALIFORNIA

Travelers on California State Highway 99 now have access to free wireless Internet service at two rest stops near Tipton and Turlock. The state is offering free Wi-Fi Internet access at those San Joaquin Valley rest stops under a one-year pilot program through a Web portal called "Road Connect." Using the hot spots travelers can now go online to visit sites with information on road conditions, tourism, weather reports and parks and lots more. The two Wi Fi hot spot locations are the first in the state. (CALTRANS)

**

WORLDBEAT - BULGARIA: CELEBRATING THE RADIO BULGARIA DX PROGRAM WITH LZ50DX

Radio Bulgaria's DX Editor Dimiter Petrov, LZ1AF is using the Special Event call sign LZ50DX until December 31 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of his weekly DX Program.

He is active on all bands 160 through 10 meters on CW usually for a while around 05 UTC and after 21.30 UTC on weekdays, as well as more on weekends.

Special QSL cards depicting the people involved in the DX Program and Radio Bulgaria's mighty antenna array will be sent via the LZ QSL Bureau to confirm all contacts and SWL reports. You can also arrange a contact with LZ50DX especially on SSB by e-mail to lz1af@yahoo.com.

Have in mind that he will be on leave vacationing in a tent on the Black Sea coast August 3 through 18, thus, no activity on the air! (Southgate)

**

WORLDBEAT - CANADA: NEW TOWER SITING RULES ANNOUNCED

Telecommunications regulator Industry Canada has released its long-awaited new policy and procedures on towers and antenna siting. The document was released on June 28th by Industry Canada without a final review by tower proponents despite their requests.

Radio Amateurs of Canada says that is now analyzing the new tower policy to see what impact it might have on ham radio operations. It will describe its impact for the Canadian Amateur Radio service in an upcoming issue of The Canadian Amateur magazine.

The new tower siting procedures will come into effect on January 1st 2008. Until then Canadian hams should follow the current guidelines dated June 24, 1995. (RAC)

**

DX

In D-X, word that 2E1EUB, will be active portable from north-east Scotland beginning July 27th for 7 days. Activity will be mainly on the satellites and maybe some HF. QSL direct to 2E1EUB.

And WA1S, is expected to be active portable CU2 from the Azores between July 27th and August 10th. Listen out for her on 80 through 10 meters except for 30 meters. QSL WA1S direct.

Last but by no means least, keep an ear open for Look for special event station GB100J. I'ts being activated by an international group of hams operating from the 21st World Scout Jamboree at Hylands Park, Chelmsford, in the United Kingdom. GB100J will be on the air between July 27th and August 7th. Operations will take place on all bands and all modes including PSK31. QSL as direct on the air.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: DECEASED HAMS GEAR GOES TO UNDERPRIVELEGED YOUNGSTERS

And finally this week, a truly nice story out of Saint Louis, Missouri. That's where a radio amateur from a suburban community has made a donation of ham gear that could open a new world to some of the city's disadvantaged youth. Amateur Radio Newsline's Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, tells us how the station of a Silent Key will now live on:

--

Carl Hohenberger, WB0BZP, was passionate about being a ham. This despite physical disabilities that pretty much confined him to home.

His sister, Carol, recalls how he overcame his challenges to become one of the St. Louis area's most recognized operators...

"My brother was a quadriplegic, he was almost 7 foot tall," Carol recalls. "And, had he been normal, I think he would have been a basketball player at least - hands very large to take the basketball. He was always interested in sports, that was certainly a great hobby for him, the interest in sports.

"But we were looking for something else to challenge his mind and to open the world for him and I heard about CB radio. And, so I believe it was in 1968 I bought him a little 69-dollar CB radio."

Wait a minute! CB Radio? That's what Carl's neighbor at the time said, Ben Ward, W0BWD. He was scandalized by the purchase and Carol remembers he decided, no, Carl would need something more - as in ham radio.

She said Ward Elmered Carl and he was successful in passing license tests and setting up a pretty respectable station that she said he operated for some 25 years.

Carol says amateur radio became a family affair.

"My dad was WB0RIP and I'm KA0HZS," Carol says. "I never was very active but I did have some rigs. And my mother, who did not get her license, however, was kind of a cook and bottle washer and made many a desert for many a meeting that we would have and it became very important to all of us."

Carol says her brother died in 1996 and it was difficult for her family to part with his equipment. She says she thought about what to do with it a few times over that period, but never really had an answer.

Enter, Dennis McCarthy, AA0A.

"She thought that it could best be used to help other young hams become ham operators," McCarthy says. "And, Jim Berger, WA0FQK, and I go out to Camp Wyman to give demonstrations of amateur radio but they had no equipment. So I suggested to Carol that that would be a good place to send it, and she said: 'Go for it.' "

Camp Wyman is a camp for urban youngsters who face a variety of challenges in their lives. And,

McCarthy says, it's a place that can really use the gear.

"Carol donated a TS-440, a Butternut antenna, all
the accessories, a power supply and other
equipment, including SWR bridges and even a
couple of scanners which in this tornado- and
severe-storm prone area might be of great value
for the kids and people out at Camp Wyman," McCarthy says.

McCarthy says it's a fitting tribute to Carl.

"Carl brought a world into his house if he
couldn't go out into the world and of course,
viz-a-viz, he brought his mom, his dad and his
sister into the world of Amateur Radio and a world outside the house."

Carol says her brother would be pleased to know
his love of amateur radio will live on.

"I know he would have wanted this to go to some
young people," Carol says. "And, over the years,
I looked for a group that dealt with young people
to expose them to ham radio and communications."

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, in Philadelphia.

--

Carl Hohenberger, WB0BZP, may be gone, but his
station will surely bring a lot of joy to
youngsters who might otherwise never even what
ham radio is really all about. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the
CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio
Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the
RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A
News, that's all from the Amateur Radio
Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is
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available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only
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www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or
support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), P.O. Box
660937, Arcadia, California 91066.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the
editors desk, I'm Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, saying 73
and we thank you for listening.

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1353. Re: July 23, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-27 22:52:19 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <clSdnY5wqbeU6jfbnZ2dnUVZ_oKhnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4058

<N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote in message
news:1185503191.042786.204400@w3g2000hsg.googlegroups.com...

[snip]

>
> In any event, at least the steady decline in the ARS license numbers
> since 2003 or so seems to have stopped.
>
> 73 de Jim, N2EY
>

Yet that could also be attributable to other factors. There is insufficient correlation to attribute it to the change in licensing. For example we are now probably close to the end of shaking out those who got licensed as whole families in the 1990s for family communications around town. While some developed further interest in amateur radio, there were quite a few who have let their licenses lapse as they went to cell phones or otherwise had no further need of that type of communication.

Dee, N8UZE

1354. Re: July 23, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-27 23:55:25 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1185578237.336462.64610@i13g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4059

On Jul 27, 2:39?pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote:

> > - Some hams haven't gotten the word

> I still have prospective Hams tell me that they have to brush up on
> their Morse code so they can test. Oddly enough a few fellows continued
> in that line of even after I told them they didn't need to.

I just don't understand that at all.

> > For example, I have had more than one Advanced tell me
> > that s/he won't upgrade to Extra because the Advanced "proves" the
> > person passed a code test, while the Extra doesn't.
>
> Same here! I suppose that if a person runs with a crowd that sees that
> as somehow being better than other people it might be legit. Otherwise
> it strikes me as really odd.

Which is a better indicator of Morse Code skill:

1) Once upon a time, maybe decades ago, a person passed a particular
test under certain conditions

or

2) A person demonstrating their *current* skills under real-world
operating conditions?

Seems to me #2 is the better indicator.

> > Others have told
> > me that they're sure FCC will eventually give Advanceds a free upgrade
> > to Extra, so they're just waiting it out.

Even when I point out that FCC has repeatedly turned down auto-upgrade
proposals, they aren't convinced.

> I'd tell them the same thing I told those who waited out element one's
> demise: "If the wait doesn't bother you, then go ahead and wait." There
> were people telling me to wait it out back in 1999 "because Element 1
> will be going away any day now!" But I didn't wait, and I wouldn't trade
> the extra 7 years I had my General and Extra for anything.

When I got my Extra in 1970, some folks said I was wasting my time and
effort because "incentive licensing won't last - in a few years
Generals will have all privileges again..."

> > At least one I know feels
> > insulted that it takes the same testing to go from General to Extra as
> > it does to go from Advanced to Extra.
>
> Oh my! Does this person want a special test made up just for him?

Actually, yes - or rather, for all Advanceds.

> Exactly what dud they see as insulting about having to take the same
> test?

He was angry that having passed the old Advanced written did not carry
any testing credit towards Extra.

> > Perhaps there is someone out there who is determined to be the last
> >

make that "Advanced"

>or the last Novice on the books.

> Did you mean Advanced instead of Extra?

Yes - sorry!

Sooner or later, the last of those closed-off licenses will disappear.
It may take a very long time, though - the number of Advanceds today
is about 67% of what it was when the license class was closed to new
issues.

> While we have discussed lots of reasons for that decline, I know of
> another possibility, at least for a delay. I know several Hams who
> waited for the Element one to go away after it was eliminated from the
> treaty yet not gone from our testing requirements. The long wait made
> for an upgrade delay on some peoples part. I thought that the delay was
> actually a harmful thing in that respect.

IOW: "if you're going to change the rules, change 'em! Don't take
3-1/2 years to make such a simple change!"

I think the amateur radio organizations that pushed for the changes
bear some responsibility for that delay.

Here's why:

It seems to me that the way we US hams deal with the FCC is completely
backwards.

What happens is that an individual or group puts together a proposal
and sends it to FCC, who then assigns it an RM number and puts it up
there for comments. FCC gets anywhere from a few to a few thousand
comments of all kinds, somebody at FCC has to read them and categorize
them and figure out the best course of action.
Often the comments are all over the map, or solidly against the
proposed change.

What all this does is make a lot of unnecessary work for the FCC.

Two examples:

When the ITU treaty changed, FCC got more than a dozen different proposals about changing the license structure. One organization, NCVEC, sent in two proposals! Some of the proposals were essentially identical to others, such as the NCI proposal and the first NCVEC proposal.

The result was that FCC had to assign RM numbers and deal with thousands of comments before taking any action. Which then resulted in an NPRM, still more comments, and finally action after 3-1/2 *years*.

Or consider the ARRL "regulation by bandwidth" proposal, and the "Communications Think Tank" proposal to eliminate subbands-by-mode. Both proposals were opposed by a vast majority of commenters (I counted something like 7 to 1 against the ARRL proposal and 8 to 1 against the CTT proposal) and both were quietly withdrawn by those who proposed them - after they had generated a lot of work for FCC.

What *should* be done, IMHO, is for amateur organizations to do the legwork up-front. IOW,
I think the way to do a proposal is:
1) Gather up lots of opinions from the amateur community
2) Write a draft proposal
3) Present it to the amateur community, with clear explanation of what is proposed and why.
4) Gather more opinions by means of surveys, polls, etc.
5) Rework the draft proposal based on the input received
6 Repeat steps 3 through 5 until a proposal gets a clear and compelling majority of support from the amateur community, and the opposition's points are dealt with.IOW, build a consensus *first*
7) Submit the proposal to FCC, including the survey/poll results.

If all that were done, FCC would assign an RM number and then be flooded with supportive comments. FCC could then easily rubber-stamp approval of the proposal.

But doing it that way takes a lot of grunt work, time, and effort. Also takes compromise.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1355. The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 30 (July 27, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-27 23:56:39 UTC
From: ARRL Letter Mailing List <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <200707272341.l6RNfVj8020392@linux11676.dn.net>
Source record: 4060
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

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***************
The ARRL Letter
Vol. 26, No. 30
July 27, 2007
***************

IN THIS EDITION:

* + ARRL Board of Directors Acts on Background Checks, Digital Issues at
July Board Meeting
* + FCC Commissioner Lauds BPL in House Testimony; ARRL Responds
* + ARRL Board of Directors Names 2007 Award Recipients
* + Now Appearing on the ARRL Stage at the 2007 National Convention...
* + ARRL Membership Pages Go "Live" on the Internet
* + FCC Denies Vanity Call Sign Petition
* IN BRIEF:
This Weekend on the Radio
ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Course Registration
+ Get Ready for the 2007 ARRL On-line Auction
National Contest Journal
9U0X DXpedition Approved for DXCC Credit
ARISS Update
Syria to Celebrate 60 Years of Amateur Radio
Let Us Know

+Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/>

==========================================================
==>Delivery problems: First see FAQ
<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/faq.html#nodelivery>, then e-mail
<letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
==>Editorial questions or comments only: S. Khrystyne Keane,
<k1sfa@arrl.org>
==========================================================

==> ARRL Board of Directors Acts on Background Checks, Digital Issues at
July Board Meeting

The ARRL Board of Directors took action on two pressing matters,
background checks and emerging digital technologies, at its second
meeting of 2007, held July 20-21 in Windsor, Connecticut. Invited guests
included IARU Vice President Tim Ellam, VE6SH, and Radio Amateurs of
Canada President Earle Smith, VE6NM.
```

A major concern at this Board meeting was the topic of served agencies and background investigations. The Ad Hoc Background Investigation Committee agreed that pursuing federally recognized credentialing for Amateur Radio volunteers was critical for the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) to function. The Committee chairman, ARRL Atlantic Division Director Bill Edgar, N3LLR, proposed that the Board adopt a policy with regard to Memoranda of Understanding with the various served agencies.

The Board adopted a policy that "communications volunteers participating in ARRL-sponsored programs should not be required by served agencies to undergo background investigations of any kind," but notes that criminal background checks--performed by law enforcement agencies--are "generally acceptable." The policy continues, "It is not reasonable for a served agency to require these volunteers to consent to credit checks, mode of living investigations or investigative consumer reports. In negotiating or renegotiating Memoranda of Understanding that commit the League to provide volunteer emergency communications support, the League must be assured that these volunteers will not be required by the partner organization to consent to credit checks, mode of living investigations or investigative consumer reports."

Digital communication was another topic up for discussion at the Board meeting. One question was the extent to which D-STAR systems fall within the FCC definition of "repeater." Some repeater coordinators do not consider D-STAR to be a repeater.

The Board also thanked existing VHF/UHF frequency coordination groups for their efforts "to promote orderly use of amateur frequencies." The Board requested that such groups "extend their efforts to coordinate digital systems such as D-STAR" and consider the bandwidths actually required for successful operation.

In a related action, the Board thanked those involved in digital networks that serve ARES, specifically radio e-mail systems, for creating a system that facilitates Amateur Radio's ability to provide emergency communications. The League affirmed its desire to work with developers of digital systems to improve efficiency, address control issues and enhance compatibility with other users of the Amateur Radio bands.

John Chwat and Janet Worthington, KB3PDS, of Chwat & Company, ARRL's Washington, DC legislative consultant, presented the Legislative Relations report. In this session of Congress, the firm hired Worthington, who with more than three years' experience on Capitol Hill, actively advocates on behalf of the League. Chwat & Company has continuously monitored and reported on congressional legislation and activities to the ARRL, and networks ARRL legislative priorities with House and Senate members and staff. They have also conducted targeted lobbying on the key issues of Broadband over Power Lines and antenna placement, assisted in the grassroots networking of ARRL Officers, Directors and members to contact their elected officials, as well as constant monitoring the legislative activities in all 50 states. Chwat

and Worthington also work closely with General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, on relevant legislative matters.

The report also discussed the status of two bills pending in the US Congress, HR 462 and S1629.

In January, Rep Mike Ross, WD5DVR (D-Arkansas), introduced HR 462, the "Emergency Amateur Radio Interference Protection Act of 2007." It calls on the FCC to study the interference potential of BPL technology and report its findings back to Congress. It has been referred to the Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet.

In June, Senator Mark Pryor (D-Arkansas) introduced S1629, "The Emergency Amateur Radio Interference Protection Act of 2007." This bill is currently pending in the Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee.

The Board also voted to support HR 2743, "The Military Affiliate Radio System Emergency Communications Act of 2007." This bill would permit the continued use of the MARS and SHARES programs of frequency-stabilized Amateur Radio equipment that meets FCC Part 97 technical standards. Otherwise, volunteers in these programs might be prevented from using their regular station equipment.

Recognizing the significance of recent FCC actions that included the removal of the Morse testing requirement, the Board set a goal of attaining 30,000 new licensees in 2008, increasing in the following years. With approximately 6,000 licensees disappearing from the ranks of amateurs each year through attrition and non-renewal, the Board recognized the importance of striving to create real growth in the Service. The new licensing regime along with the approaching increase in sunspots can provide the motivation and inspiration for all hams to use to increase the numbers of licensees as well as the interest level of all.

The Board decided to ask the Programs and Services Committee to evaluate how the Section Field Organization is governed. In doing so, the Board will request progress reports from the Committee regarding this study, with final results reported to the Board no later than the July 2008 Board meeting.

The Rules and Regulations concerning the League's elections were clarified to and amended with regard to "mass communication" of campaign material during Director, Vice Director and Section Manager elections. The Board prohibited "communications by mail, electronic distribution, posting to a Web site, e-mail, hand delivery or any other means of distribution to League members in the particular Division or Section" involved in an election at League expense during the campaign period if the material might reasonably be expected to affect the outcome of the election.

At the close of the meeting, President Harrison noted that Director Frank Butler, W4RH, after 50 years of elected service to the ARRL

(starting out as Western Florida Section Communications Manager in 1957), was not standing for re-election this October. Everyone present gave him a standing ovation in appreciation of his long service.

The next meeting of the ARRL Board of Directors is scheduled for January 18-19, 2008.

==> FCC Commissioner Lauds BPL in House Testimony; ARRL Responds

On July 24, FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein testified at a House Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet hearing that "three of the many urgent priorities we face" include the need for "a national broadband strategy to ensure the ubiquitous deployment of affordable, high speed broadband infrastructure to this country." FCC Chairman Kevin Martin and Commissioners Tate, McDowell and Copps testified as well at the "Oversight of the Federal Communications Commission" hearing.

ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, responded via fax on July 25 to Commissioner Adelstein's remarks. "I cheered silently when I came to your reference to the 'current anemic definition of high-speed' that includes service that is too slow to meet citizens' reasonable expectations," he wrote. "I was even more impressed with your statement in the next paragraph, 'We must take a hard look at our successes and failures.'"

Sumner, however, expressed "great disappointment" over Adelstein's reference to "broadband over power line" (BPL) as "a technology deserving of 'increasing incentives for investment.' None of your colleagues' testimonies contain a similar reference," he pointed out.

Sumner reiterated the ARRL's position with regard to BPL technology and "its propensity to interfere with radio communication, a flaw that is not shared by other broadband delivery platforms. As long as interference is avoided," Sumner said, "it is of no concern to us whether private investment is devoted to BPL. However, we must object to your identification of BPL as a technology that is particularly deserving of favorable public policy treatment."

Calling the FCC's "inexplicable favoritism of BPL in the face of contrary evidence" one of the Commission's "failures," Sumner noted that according to the Commission's own latest figures, "of 64,600,000 'high-speed' lines, only about 5000 are BPL. This is a share of 0.008 percent, a share that actually declined in the six-month period between reports--and if an 'anemic' definition were not used, none of the 5000 or so BPL lines would qualify."

ARRL's concern, Sumner said, at the "prospect of an even greater encouragement of BPL, as your testimony suggests, is that--even at the very low level of deployment that exists to date--the FCC's enforcement efforts have proved to be woefully inadequate to address ongoing cases of harmful interference from BPL systems."

Sumner went on to note "one example of documented interference (Enforcement Bureau File No. EB-06-SE-083) has been caused by the Ambient Corporation's Briarcliff Manor, New York installation for more than three years without being corrected and without penalty to the system operator...If the Commission is unable to protect its licensees from harmful interference from BPL now, it is difficult to imagine how it will be able to do so should BPL be more widely deployed in the future."

Sumner also attached a letter from William E. Burton, Chairman of the Public Safety and Security Committee of the Westchester County Board of Legislators. Burton's letter described the interference BPL is causing to local Amateur Radio operators in the village of Briarcliff Manor. He stressed that the FCC "should require that...Ambient cooperate with the ARRL and its BPL technical experts forthwith...This would include both the current experimental system, as well as any future or 'second generation' technology."

Burton's letter went on to say that "the best way for the FCC to promote a new technology while protecting public safety...[is to] make clear that complaints concerning harmful interference are taken seriously."

Sumner concluded his comments: "We respectfully submit that BPL has not earned a place in the much-needed national broadband strategy to benefit all Americans. Resources are better devoted elsewhere, to more promising technologies that do not pose a threat to the Commission's radio service licensees."

==> Now Appearing on the ARRL Stage at the 2007 National Convention...

One of the main features of the 2007 ARRL National Convention, to be held in conjunction with the Huntsville Hamfest August 18-19 in Huntsville, Alabama, is the ARRL EXPO area. Part of the ARRL EXPO is the ARRL Stage. ARRL Headquarters staffers and Field Organization leaders will be giving short mini-forums on the ARRL Stage during the Convention. Topics will range from how to write an article for QST, to membership benefits, to BPL, to Logbook of the World, to education and more!

ARRL Laboratory Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, will give the latest on Broadband over Power Lines (BPL) and how they affect Amateur Radio. ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, will present two talks: How to write for QST, and a general Q-and-A session about Amateur Radio and the news. ARRL Membership Manager Katie Breen, W1KRB, will discuss the "ever-expanding benefits of ARRL membership."

ARRL Regulatory Information Branch Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND will speak about the responsibility every amateur shares when they get on the air--operating legally, safely and appropriately. ARRL Contributing Editor Ward Silver, N0AX, will present Dr Beldar's Contest Emporium, always a crowd-pleasing hit at the ARRL EXPO.

ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH, will talk about the newly dedicated Diamond Terrace and ways amateurs can be a part of this

lasting tribute at ARRL Headquarters. ARRL Education Services Manager Debra Johnson, K1DMJ, will speak about opportunities with ARRL for mentors and instructors. ARRL Emergency Preparedness & Response Manager Dennis Dura, K2DCD, will be introducing himself and meeting hams interested in or already involved with public service. DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, will discuss operating awards and the QSL service.

ARRL Alabama Section Manager Greg Sarratt, W4OZK, will host the ARRL Section Manager Forum, while ARRL Southern Florida Section Manager and Chairman of the ARRL's Public Relations Committee Sherri Brower, W4STB, will talk about why Public Information Officers are so crucial to the ARRL Field Organization.

Stay tuned for more details. For more information on the ARRL 2007 National Convention, please visit the ARRL EXPO Web site <http://www.arrl.org/expo>.

==> ARRL Board of Directors Names 2006-2007 Award Recipients

The ARRL Board of Directors named four ARRL award recipients at their July 20-21 meeting in Windsor, Connecticut. The four awards conferred were the 2007 Philip J. McGan Memorial Silver Antenna Award, the 2006 Herb S. Brier Instructor of the Year Award, the 2006 Hiram Percy Maxim Award and the Joe Knight Distinguished Service Award.

The recipient of the 2007 McGan Award is Daniel M. McMonigle, N3IXQ, of Newtown Square, Pennsylvania. McMonigle has been involved with public service and emergency communications, making speeches to civic and community groups. In 2007, through his tireless efforts, permission was received from the Comcast East cable network to place ARRL public service announcements on the company's networks. The cable air time value of this advertising was valued at more than $1.5 million. The McGan award is named for Philip J. McGan, WA2MBQ (SK), the first chairman of the ARRL's Public Relations Committee. After his death, friends in the New Hampshire Amateur Radio Association joined with the ARRL Board of Directors to pay a lasting tribute to the important contributions he made on behalf of Amateur Radio. The McGan Award goes to that ham who has demonstrated success in Amateur Radio public relations and best exemplifies the volunteer spirit of Phil McGan. Public Relations activities for which the McGan Award is presented include efforts specifically directed at bringing Amateur Radio to the public's attention (and most often the media's) in a positive light. This may include traditional methods, such as news releases, or non-traditional methods, such as hosting a radio show or being an active public speaker.

The recipient of the 2006 Instructor of the Year Award is Dr William P. Birmingham, KC8WBD, of Grove City, Pennsylvania. Over a period of many years, Dr Birmingham has demonstrated his commitment to teaching Amateur Radio in the classroom, as well as promoting Amateur Radio outside the classroom. Herb S. Brier, W9AD, long-time CQ Novice Editor, represented the spirit of effective, caring Amateur Radio instruction. The ARRL, in

conjunction with the Lake County (IN) Amateur Radio Club, sponsors this award in his memory to recognize the very best in volunteer Amateur Radio instruction and recruitment.

The recipient of the 2006 Maxim Award is Greg S. Davis, N3ZL, of Florence, South Carolina. This award, given annually to a licensed radio amateur under the age of 21, takes into account the nominee's most exemplary nature of accomplishments and contributions to both the community of Amateur Radio and the local community. Davis, first licensed at 14, upgraded to Amateur Extra class before he turned 16. While his first love is ragchewing, he likes to DX, contest and operate all digital modes and SSTV. Davis is interested in and active in emergency communications. As part of his Eagle Scout project, he was responsible for planning, assembling and installing emergency communications antennas at Red Cross emergency evacuation centers.

The recipient of the Distinguished Service Award is ARRL Puerto Rico Section Manager Victor Madera, KP4PQ. This award, first established in 2003, honors the exceptionally notable contributions by a Section Manager to the League's health and vitality. It is named for New Mexico Section Manager Joe Knight, W5PDY (SK), who served as New Mexico's Section Manager for 27 years.

==> Revamped ARRL Membership Pages Go "Live" on the Internet

The fully automated, easy-to-use, online membership application, <http://www.arrl.org/join> which now provides immediate confirmation to ARRL members, became a reality July 22. "Our new membership Web page went live due to the inter-departmental team effort of Membership, Circulation, Web Services, Accounting, IT and Business Services," commented ARRL Membership Manager Katie Breen, W1KRB.

"ARRL Circulation Manager Amy Hurtado, KB1NXO, and I visited many membership organization Web sites to see if we could find details we liked and wanted to use for our site. We then took those bits and pieces to ARRL graphic artist Diane Szlachetka, KB1OKV. Diane worked to decipher our notes, and ultimately we ended up with this awesome set of pages," she said.

But it doesn't stop there. "Having a front page was only the beginning. We needed to get all the systems behind the scenes to talk to each other. One of the big parts related to credit card processing. ARRL Web Developer Hugh Brower, KB1NFI, spent countless hours working with our merchant services company to set up all kinds of security protocols, and ARRL Web Applications Developer Micah Murray created all the nitty-gritty scripts to make the site actually work! Wow--what a process!" Breen said.

Breen said the online membership process "definitely needed an overhaul." She added that more than 65 percent of ARRL members use the ARRL Web site to join or renew their membership. "For existing members who renew, when they log in to their member page and follow the link to

"Renew," the page will automatically populate with their existing information. When a new ham joins and enters their call sign, their page is automatically populated with data from the FCC. Again, the idea is to make it as easy and streamlined as possible."

Calling the old online membership process "cumbersome," Breen said it did not allow ARRL members to add family members at the same time, make additional donations to the League or even add a subscription to QEX or NCJ. "You can now also choose a Life Membership online, which previously was not available. You can upgrade to Diamond Club while in the system--again, this was not an option previously. Now when you join or renew, you will receive an immediate confirmation by e-mail that includes the type of membership selected, when it expires and when the first issue of QST will arrive."

Breen said she hopes ARRL members will find this new Web page beneficial and she welcomes any feedback. She can be reached via e-mail <w1krb@arrl.org>.

==> FCC Denies Vanity Call Sign Petition

On Friday, July 20, the FCC denied the petition of Quinten R. Erickson, N0RD (formerly N7GXA), of Big Lake, Minnesota, requesting a reconsideration of his application for vanity call sign N7AZ. The FCC granted N7AZ to Jon F. Goering (formerly NJ7I) of Apache Junction, Arizona on February 13, 2007.

Section 97.19(c)(1) of the Commission's Rules provides that a call sign shown on an expired license is not available to the vanity call sign system for two years following the expiration of the license. This two-year period corresponds to the grace period during which the licensee of an amateur station may apply for renewal of the station and operator license. The expired call sign becomes available for reassignment the day after the two-year period ends. Call sign N7AZ expired on January 13, 2005 and was available for assignment on January 14, 2007.

Goering's application for N7AZ was received by the FCC on Sunday, January 14, 2007. Because the application was received on a weekend, the FCC deemed it to be filed on the next business day, Tuesday, January 16. Erickson argued that the FCC should have dismissed Goering's application for N7AZ as "premature." The FCC said that Erickson "assert[s] that Mr. Goering's application should have been dismissed because the prior license was still reflected in the Commission's licensing records on Sunday, January 14, 2007. We disagree. That the Commission's records were not updated until after the weekend does not change the date on which the call sign became available to the vanity call sign system. Mr. Goering's application therefore was not premature."

Goering and Erickson's applications for N7AZ, the FCC said, were included in a lottery to determine the processing order of applications with a filing date of January 16, 2007. Of the applications that

requested N7AZ, Goering's was the first selected. "Consequently, we conclude that his application was properly granted, and your application was properly dismissed," the Commission said.

Erickson subsequently applied for vanity call sign N0RD on April 10, 2007 and received it on April 28, 2007.

==>IN BRIEF:

* This weekend on the radio: This weekend, the NCCC Sprint Ladder is on the air July 27 and the ARD Flight of the Bumblebees is July 28. The RSGB IOTA Contest is July 28-29. Next weekend, look for the ARRL UHF Contest, 1800 UTC August 4-1800 UTC Saturday, August 5. The TARA Grid Dip Shindig and the European HF Championship are August 4, while the 10-10 International Summer Contest (SSB), the National Lighthouse Weekend QSO Contest and the North American QSO Party (CW) are August 4-5. The RSGB RoPoCo 2 and the SARL HF Phone Contest are August 5. The ARS Spartan Sprint is scheduled for August 7. See the ARRL Contest Branch page http://www.arrl.org/contests/, the ARRL Contester's Rate Sheet <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rate-sheet/> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more info.

* ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Course Registration: Registration remains open through Sunday, August 5 for these online courses that begin on Friday August 17: Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 2 (EC-002); Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 3 (EC-003R2); Antenna Modeling (EC-004); HF Digital Communications (EC-005); VHF/UHF--Life Beyond the Repeater (EC-008), and Radio Frequency Propagation (EC-011). To learn more, visit the CCE Course Listing page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html> or contact the Continuing Education Program Coordinator <cce@arrl.org>.

* Get Ready for the 2007 ARRL On-line Auction: Planning for the ARRL On-line auction, scheduled for October 24-November 2, is already in high gear, according to ARRL Business Services Manager Debra Jahnke, K1DAJ. "We have a head start this year, as many of the items used in QST's product review articles will be part of the Auction." In past years, product review items were auctioned off throughout the year via announcements in QST and written bids. QST "Old Radio" columnist John Dilks, K2TQN, started off the donation process when he dropped by ARRL HQ with a Hallicrafters SX-25 Super Defiant receiver and matching speaker. Jahnke commented: "During and after the conclusion of the first ARRL On-Line Auction last year, we were bowled over with the level of interest and the extremely positive feedback from both bidders and our generous donors. We anticipate another terrific turnout and will have even more items to bid on--a large selection of new and vintage equipment, Amateur Radio-related products and services--and a few surprises, too! Our goal is to make this an exciting, fun event for everyone."

* National Contest Journal: The July/August issue of NCJ is on the streets. This issue features an article about the 2007 Contest University held at this year's Dayton Hamvention. This exciting event, led by Tim Duffy, K3LR, and an instructor staff of 10, brought together more than 150 contesters, ranging from beginner level to expert, for a day of contesting topics such as propagation, shack design and layout, DXpedition contesting, contest logging software and antennas. John Unger, W4AU, writes about participating in the Pennsylvania QSO Part as a Multi-Multi station, and Pete Smith, N4ZR, reviews the new Elecraft XG-1. Ranko Boca, YT6A, writes about contest techniques and wonders if there are more yet to be discovered. There are also articles on contesting activities at the Visalia DX Convention and a profile of Geoff Howard, W0CG.Regular columns, such as "Contest Tips, Tricks and Techniques," "RTTY Contesting," "VHF-UHF Contesting" and "Workshop Chronicles" are included. Visit the National Contest Journal's Web site <http://www.ncjweb.com>. Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, is Editor of NCJ. He can be reached via e-mail <ncjeditor@ncjweb.com>. NCJ is available from the ARRL and starts at $20/year (6 issues). To subscribe to NCJ, visit the NCJ Subscription Web site <https://www.arrl.org/forms/ncjsub.html> or call 1-888-277-5289.

* DXpedition Approved for DXCC Credit: The ARRL DXCC desk reports that the 2007 DXpedition to Burundi, 9U0X, has been approved for DXCC credit. ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, said, "If you had cards rejected for this operation, please send an e-mail <dxcc@arrl.org> and you will be placed on the list for update."

* ARISS Update: ARRL Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) Coordinator Rosalie White, K1STO, said that the ARISS program is moving along splendidly. On Tuesday, July 17, long-term hospitalized children at the Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children in Orlando, Florida, spoke with astronaut Clay Anderson, KD5PLA, aboard the ISS. Anderson answered the children's 33 questions. The Challenger Learning Center of Lucas County, in Oregon, Ohio has been scheduled for an ARISS contact on Wednesday, July 25 at 1148 UTC. The center has a science lab that is used for the summer camp programs, and schools from northwest Ohio and southeast Michigan participate in the programs which reach approximately 3000 students each year. An ARISS contact has also been has been planned for the 21st World Scout Jamboree in Chelmsford, England. Special Event Station GB100J will operate at the Jamboree from July 27-August 8, 2007. Approximately 40,000 scouts from 200 countries are expected to attend this event. The contact will take place on Saturday, August 4 at 2110 UTC. There have been 306 ARISS International Space Station-to-Earth school contacts to date.

* Syria to Celebrate 60 Years of Amateur Radio: The Technical Institute of Radio, the IARU member-society in Syria, will celebrate 60 years of Amateur Radio in that country from October 15-November 15. In honor of this important milestone, TIR members will be using special prefix 6C60 on all HF bands during the month.

* Let Us Know: What's your favorite part of The ARRL Letter? What kind of stories would you like to see in the Letter? Would you prefer the Letter in an HTML format? This is your Letter and your chance to let your voice be heard. Please send your suggestions to ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, at k1sfa@arrl.org, with the subject line "ARRL Letter Suggestions." All messages will be read and discussed, and we look forward to implementing positive suggestions into the ARRL Letter.

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The ARRL Letter is published Fridays, 50 times each year, by the American Radio Relay League: ARRL--the National Association for Amateur Radio, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111; tel 860-594-0200; fax 860-594-0259; <http://www.arrl.org>. Joel Harrison, W5ZN, President.

The ARRL Letter offers a weekly e-mail digest of essential and general news of interest to active radio amateurs. Visit the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org> for the latest Amateur Radio news and news updates. The ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/> also offers informative features and columns. ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> is a weekly "ham radio newscast" compiled and edited from The ARRL Letter. It's also available as a podcast from our Web site.

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The ARRL Letter is available to ARRL members free of charge directly from ARRL HQ. To subscribe, unsubscribe or change your address for e-mail delivery:
ARRL members first must register on the Members Only Web Site <http://www.arrl.org/members/>. You'll have an opportunity during registration to sign up for e-mail delivery of The ARRL Letter, W1AW bulletins, and other material. To change these selections--including delivery of The ARRL Letter--registered members should click on the "Member Data Page" link (in the Members Only box). Click on "Modify membership data," check or uncheck the appropriate boxes and/or change your e-mail address if necessary. (Check "Temporarily disable all automatically sent email" to temporarily stop all e-mail deliveries.) Then, click on "Submit modification" to make selections effective. (NOTE: HQ staff members cannot change your e-mail delivery address. You must do this yourself via the Members Only Web Site.)

The ARRL Letter also is available to all, free of charge, from these sources:

* ARRLWeb <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>. (NOTE: The ARRL Letter will be posted each Friday when it is distributed via e-mail.)

* The QTH.net listserver, thanks to volunteers from the Boston Amateur Radio Club: Visit Mailing Lists@QTH.Net <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/letter-list>. (NOTE: The ARRL cannot assist subscribers who receive The ARRL Letter via this listserver.)

1356. WIANEWS for week commencing JULY 29 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-28 10:00:25 UTC
From: nationalnews@wia.org.au
Message-ID: <200707281000.l6SA0B821061@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4061
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,aus.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

This is WIANEWS for week commencing JULY 29 2007

VK1WIA - WORLD NEWS.

RSGB asks for input.

The main news of the week in Amateur Radio is taking place in the UK.

Extensive flooding across many parts of the country.

The RSGB is aware of many RAYNET groups being put on standby due to the flooding and continued flood warnings.

As this is an ongoing scenario, The UK Society is unable to bring us news of the RAYNET groups who have been involved but will broadcast full details when known.

RAYNET groups actively involved are requested to inform RSGB HQ of their activities and to what level they have been able to assist emergency services.

RD WEEKEND NEWS PLANS

August 11 and 12 is the RD weekend and the news will be produced as usual, so you "don't miss a thing".

HOWEVER

It is up to the individual rebroadcasters as to when they will transmit.

I'd suggest you do ask when you check in after this weeks news as to when the RF edition in your area will be heard.

Of course no matter where you are in Australia the WIA Audio in mp3 can be accessed after 0100 hours UTC Saturdays each and every week, just point your internet browser to wia.org.au and click on "broadcast".

Speaking of the broadcast, last week with some 95 RF checkins to the 9am edition on VK5RAD Adelaide, if each of those 95 were to call back on the RD weekend AND submit contest logs, by my reckoning, VK5 would scoop the pool in this 2007 Remembrance Day Contest.

And also don't forget prior to the 08ooUTC Saturday start of the RD, the annual opening address will be broadcast, we remind all rebroadcasters to make sure they are subscribed to wiabroadcasters at yahoogroups dot com so they are advised of both the duration and the site of this address.

This is played at 5:45pm aest as it runs (including 1 minute silence) 15 mts.

(to subscribe blank email to wiabroadcasters-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

BPL INTERFERENCE - THE BATTLE CONTINUES

BPL (PLT IN SOUTH AFRICA) CONTINUES TO BE PUNTED BY VENDORS

This past week PLT was again the subject at a conference held in Sandton SA.

A new company which has been very active promoting PLT is IPOWA.

According to their website IPOWA is the exclusive local provider of the world's leading broadband-over-Powerline (BPL) system. A proven, cost-effective and robust route to rapid broadband deployment, iPOWA is the last-mile solution for which utilities, ISP's, hotels, schools and property developers have been waiting for.

By leveraging existing infrastructure and utilizing a unique plug 'n play system, iPOWA is the key to high-speed access that works - fast.

Three of their representatives presented their case at Internetics 07, a conference about IT and the internet, sponsored by Internet Solutions.

iPOWA's approach has been somewhat different from their previous presentation at a broadband conference a few weeks ago. This time they are promoting it as the fixed line solution that powers the internet 15 times faster than ADSL and that besides the internet provides opportunities for power management, meter reading, electricity demand control to prevent black outs, security cameras and traffic management.

Problems such as interference to HF never entered into their discussion.

They however did admit that they are waiting for ICASA to license PLT, which is the official name for BPL.

The interference issue of PLT and possible interim standards is on the Agenda of Committee TC73, the SABS committee on EMC standards which meets mid August.

The SARL is keeping a close watch.

In the last couple of weeks we've heard several items about the national band plans. I think last week's broadcast highlighted the fact that band plans are a very good idea.

Our hobby covers a wide range of different interests. So we have different band segments for different modes such as SSB or FM, and different channels for repeaters and simplex. And within the simplex segment, we have different channels for voice, packet, SSTV, and so on. This allows everyone to follow their different interests without getting in each other's way.

One of the main features of the band plan is the national voice simplex calling frequency, on 146.5 MHz. This is a channel where anyone can make a call, or listen for other stations, no matter where they are. But that means that the channel needs to be used for the same purpose everywhere in the country. If it is used for

links, or nodes, or audio streaming, it can't be used as a calling frequency. And this leads to the kind of clashes and arguments we've heard about in the last couple of weeks.

As new operating modes come along, we need to keep the band plans up to date and recommend suitable frequencies for them. In the last few years we have added recommended national frequencies for APRS and for digital DX modes, and these are working very well. And it has also been done for new linking systems like EchoLink.

The band plan includes four recommended channels for simplex IRLP and EchoLink nodes.

These frequencies are between 145.325 and 145.400 MHz - and they were recommended because they don't clash with any existing activity.

If you would like to look further into the band plans, you can find full details in a PDF file on the WIA web site. And if you'd like to make any comments or suggestions about the band plans, the email address to use is tac@wia.org.au

(via John Martin VK3KM, chairman WIA National Technical Advisory Committee)

HAMS ACROSS AUSTRALIA.
(2sky)

VK2

WESTLAKES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB say anyone wishing to take part in a future Foundation Class can leave their details on the form to be found on the Club notice board.

Foundation manuals are also available.

Westlakes Amateur Radio Club is located in York Street Teralba and is open for business on Saturday from 12 noon and Tuesday evening from 6.30pm. Call in and say hello - Tea and Coffee are always on.

Best of all Westlakes Amateur Radio Club have a 24-hour voice mail box on 02 49 581 588.

VK3

The Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club Hamfest is on the 9th of September, at the regular venue " The St. Augustine's Hall" in Orr St. Shepparton.

Doors open to the public at 10am and for traders at 7.30am.

Anyone wishing to book trading tables should make contact early.

vk3kl@netspace.net.au

VK7

REAST in VK7 have run an RD Contest information night which was well attended and hopefully encouraged all to contest on the 11th & 12th of August.

They went through a little history of the RD contest along with a special VK7 link in Max Loveless VK7ML (SK) and "Winnie the War Winner".

Then the group went into an outline of the rules, especially the new ones for this year and finished up with a demonstration on the big screen of the three RD specific contest loggers.

REAST looked at John, VK5DJ's logger, the VK Contest Logger – RD section by Mike VK3AVV and WinRD+ by James VK6FJA.

Seems the general consensus was that VK5DJ's logger was the preferred logger as it was easy to use and setup and was the only one that didn't require the running of more than one instance of the application.

The presentation that was given on the night is available at the website address that can be found on the email and internet editions of this broadcast.

http://reast.asn.au/events.php#rdinfonight

EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO
PRESENTED BY KYLEA VK6FXYL

F-Troop in Victoria

Jim Linton, VK3PC tells us that some interesting topics have been raised over recent months on the F-Troop Net that occurs on the Mt Macedon VK3RMM two-metre repeater on Sunday morning straight after the VK1WIA broadcast call-back.

Virtually any amateur radio topic is welcome. The net controller is usually either Ross Pittard VK3FCE or Terry Murphy VK3UP.

The idea behind F-Troop is to get more experienced radio amateurs, such as WIA Assessors and course trainers, to provide advice and help in the spirit of amateur radio.

Standard and Advanced Licence holders will also be most welcome to join in.

Please don't just listen, join in and make it a useful and worthwhile exercise.

F TROOP IN QOUEEENSLAND

The Maryborough Electronics & Radio Group ("Merge") are gathering together prospective "F" Troopers for their 3rd training group.

Kathy Johns VK4YMS, and Ray Stockdale VK4TPT, will be conducting the training and it is hoped that they will be respectively WIA accredited assessor and training facilitator in time to conduct the exam and assessment at the end of the course.

Any persons in the Wide Bay area interested in obtaining their Foundation Certificate or up-grading to Standard or Advanced Certificate are asked to contact Kathy, (07) 4123 3098, kathy.johns@bigpond.com.au or Ray, (07)4123 2958, vk4tpt@bigpond.net.au

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

TOKYO TO HOST WORLDS TALLEST TOWER

Wired.com says the tallest broadcasting tower ever built is coming to Tokyo, Japan.. The 2001 foot high structure, which still doesn't have a name, will host the digital radio and television transmissions plus a mobile TV network. When completed in 2011 the concrete-and-steel tower will be the highest free-standing antenna in the world. (ARNewsLine)

New look Canadian HF band plan

We have been speaking a fair bit of late about bandplans, the why and how, well Jim Linton VK3PC tells us that "Radio Amateurs Canada" has released its proposed HF band plans which generally align with the IARU Region 1 plans but have some unique features.

These mainly come in the form of notations to identify suggested frequencies or centre of activity for things like QRP, QRS CW, SSB DXpedition priority (14.190 - 14.200MHz), IOTA, AM, Global Emergency, Image Modes and Very Narrow Digital.

Also among the proposals is an expansion of the DX window to 3.775 to 3.800 for two hours either side of dusk and dawn to aid Grey Line propagation.

For the website link, check out the text edition of this broadcast.

The draft plan can be read at:
www.rac.ca/service/RAC_Draft_HF_Band_PlanR1.pdf

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NEWS FROM ARNEWSLINE

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: SUPER EFFICIENT AMPLIFIER DESIGNED BY AMSAT HAMS

The Amsat News service reports that Allen Katz, K2UYH and Marc Franco, N2UO have developed a VHF, high-efficiency, class-E, R-F power amplifier. One with a DC to RF efficiency of 86.8%.

A-N-S says that their design is based on silicon carbide metal-semiconductor field effect transistors. The amplifier efficiency was measured at around 86 to 88% with this number holding quite well at almost any drain voltage or output power.

The AMSAT News Service says that this type of amplifier is under consideration for the envelope elimination and restoration linear amplifier planned for the upcoming AMSAT Eagle ham radio satellite.

The design was presented in a paper at the IEEE International Microwave Symposium in Hawaii. It is now available on-line at

http://www.cree.com/products/wireless_docs.htm titled
"Class-E Silicon Carbide VHF Power Amplifier" (ANS)

INDONESIA: ORARI PROVIES A NEEDED EMCOMM SERVICE

Indonesian Amateur Radio Organization Vice President M Jusuf Kalla says that his organization is still needed. Especially during emergencies and also to reach areas not accessible by telephones.

In a recent interview with the Antara News Service, Kalla is quoted as saying that experience has shown that telephone transmission towers and cellular phone networks are usually among the first structures to collapse in disasters like earthquakes. Kalls says that in those such situations, Indonesian Amateur Radio Organization members often provide out to be a welcome alternative means of communication.

According to the Kalla, every telecommunication technology device has its advantages and disadvantages. He noted that not all areas of Indonesia's vast territory are accessible by telephones. As such, two-way radio is still needed as a means of communication with people in these remote areas.

Now in its 39th year, the Indonesian Amateur Radio Organization has been in providing communication support during disaster-caused emergencies in the country (ANTARA News)

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WEIRD N WONDERFUL

The Maryborough Electronics & Radio Group in Queensland is trying to gather together 300+, 35mm film canisters and a similar quantity of the red caps from the PET bottles of a well known Cola drink.

Why? you ask. Well, according to Ray Stockdale VK4TPT, President of MERGE has been requested to build a means of checking the speed of human powered vehicles in the pit lane during the 24hr Technology Challenge on 15th-16th September.

Budgetary and Manpower constraints preclude the use of Radar Speed Guns so "MERGE" have decided to utilise a LED chaser circuit with the speed set to give the appearance of a string of moving lights at the required 10Km/hr limit.

As the pit lane is 300 meters long this would require at least 300 lamps, each containing a cluster of ultra bright LEDs to be seen in bright sunlight and normal LEDs for night time.

Even if such devices were available commercially, the cost would be prohibitive, hence the canisters and Cola caps.

"MERG" is draining the local photo processing outlets but will not reach the required qty in time so they are asking Amateurs to go to their local photo processors and collect as many 35mm canisters as possible.

The desired ones are black with grey lids as the Cola caps fit snugly inside.

Ray suggests that, aside from any "Colaholics", the best source of the caps may be the local re-cycling depots as the caps must be removed before sending the PET bottles for re-processing.

So there you are Guys & Girls. See what you can collect and contact Ray VK4TPT on (07) 4123 2958 or vk4tpt@bigpond.net.au to arrange postage.

OPERATIONAL NEWS - READ BY FELIX VK4FUQ

CONTEST COLUMN - D A T E L I N E

Boat Anchor Sprints:
August (11), October (13).
Local ZL time: 2000 to 2100 hrs

Section 1: Old radios - all valves - i.e. ZC1, 19 set, Heathkits, any home brew set, but must have all valves.

Section 2: Any Hybrid transceiver (must have valve finals i.e. FT200, FTDX400/401, Drake, FT 101s, etc..

Amplitude Modulated signals only.

The overall winner shall be the entrant having the highest points score which will be published in the following New Zealand "Break-in".
(Jamie Pye ZL2NN, Editor NZART's InfoLine)

AUGUST 11/12 Remembrance Day Contest (The RD) wia.org.au

SEPTEMBER 22

The Second running of the Westlakes Cup is coming up on Saturday 22nd September commencing at 8.30 Eastern Australian Standard Time (10.30 Z).

The band of operation is 80 Meters and the Mode of operation is phone (SSB, DSB and AM)

Full details of the Contest can be found on the Westlakes Website westlakesarc.org.au and all Australian Radio Amateurs are welcomed to participate.

There are two bonus stations active in the Contest, VK7VH Vince and VK2FJES Jessica.

Club and WIA stations are also worth extra points in the Contest so a great fun hour of Contesting is guaranteed.

(Richard VK2KRM Contest Manager Westlakes Amateur Radio Club)

SPECIAL EVENTS, BEACON AND NET ADVICE

New beacons on 40 MHz

Last week we Jeremy Boot G4NJH told us of the new Rutherford Appleton Laboratory beacons, allocated 60.050 and 40.050MHz.

Now we learn Denmark is to get a 40 MHz beacon.

On July 18, Denmark's regulator issued a permit for the beacon OZ7IGY to operate on 40.021 MHz.

The beacon will be subject to the following conditions:
Non interference
Max. 25 Watt to an Omni directional antenna max. 0 dBd,
max. 10 metres above ground (100m asl).

The permit is valid for a year and the results of the experiment are to be reported to the ITST.

OZ7IGY currently operates on 50.021 and 70.021 MHz and a number of other frequencies.
(see http://www.oz7igy.dk/)

(Southgate arc)

Sheffield Island Lighthouse DXpedition

The Greater Norwalk Amateur Radio Club (GNARC) will be sponsoring a DXpedition to activate Sheffield Island Lighthouse for International Lighthouse Weekend (ILLW), August 18-19th.

Operation of N 1 E V will begin 1600z, August 18th and end around 1800z 19th.

Activity will be on 80-10 meters SSB/CW/FSK.

Operations will take place in or around the IOTA calling frequencies. Plans are to run at least 2 stations for the entire event.

Sheffield Island reference numbers are:
IOTA-NA-136, USI-CT-008 and ARLHS-USA-753

(Southgate arc)

D X A C T I V I T Y A N D D A T E S

A GREAT CALL-SIGN DISALLOWED

FCC DENIES UFO CALLSIGN

Amateur Radio Newsline say the FCC has denied a request that the call sign NM 5 UFO be assigned to the New Mexico's Saucer Ridge Amateur Radio Association.

In filing its request the club had maintained that the assignment of NM5UFO would be in keeping with the theme that Roswell, New Mexico which has been known since 1947 as the site of a UFO crash.

In denying the request the FCC simply said that the requested call did not follow the agency's sequential callsign assignment system.

Plan ahead to work San Andres as K3WT, N0STL, W0OR and N0AT will be active from there between November 19th and the 27th. Operations will include the CQ World Wide DX CW Contest on November 24 and 25. This will be a Multi-Single entry.

Also coming on this November is Greneda. This with seven operators active as J3A also during the CQ World Wide DX CW Contest. Outside the contest they will be using their own personal callsigns.
QSL J3A via WA1S.
(ARNewsLine)

THE QNEWS WORK BENCH - the nuts and volts report -
(Measure twice - Cut once!)

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: NEW HIGH SENSITIVITY CAMERA CHIPS

A new image sensor could revolutionize the way you take pictures. Even those you send via A-T-V. Jim Davis, W2JKD, says:

"Eastman Kodak says it's developed a colour filter technology that will at least double the sensitivity to sensors used in digital cameras. Kodak expects to provide samples of the new chips to a variety of camera manufacturers in the first quarter of 2008.

The new technology is likely to be quickly incorporated into mass-market point-and-shoot cameras and camera-equipped cellular telephones phones beginning sometime next year."

The new sensors are not quite see in the dark devices, but are the next step in getting there.
(ARNewsLine)

MEDIA WATCH

AMATEUR LOGIC TV

A month or so back we heard from the Australian reporter for this Amateur Radio hobbyist show produced in Mississippi, namely Peter VK3PB

Well Peter reports that episode 14 of Amateurlogic has just been released. It can be downloaded from the downloads section at amateurlogic.tv

In the new episode Peter interviews 3 of the EMDRC Guys about the impact of the Aussie Foundation Licence, and wearing his WIA Directors hat Robert Broomhead.

Friday nights if your in Melbourne, tune into ATV repeater VK3RTV from 8.00 PM Friday nights.

WIRELESS WEATHER

Paul Vk2HV from Westlakes Club says we all should circle Sunday, August 12 and write "all night meteors!"

Yes it's time for the 2007 Perseid meteor shower.

The Moon is new on August 12th--which means no moonlight, dark skies and plenty of meteors. It is estimated one or two Perseids per minute at the shower's peak.

The show begins between 9:00 and 10:00 pm on Sunday, August 12th, when Perseus rises in the northeast. This is the time to look for Perseid Earthgrazers--meteors that approach from the horizon and skim the atmosphere overhead like a stone skipping the surface of a pond.

And if your a meteor scatter 'buff' the band should be "pinging!"

By 2 am on Monday morning, August 13th, dozens of Perseids may be flitting across the sky every hour. The crescendo comes before dawn when rates could exceed a meteor a minute.
(Westlakes News)

NOW ROBERT BROOMHEAD - VK3KRB.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- IOTA
http://rsgbiota.org

The 15th IOTA (Islands On The Air) Contest is taking place this weekend, July 28-29th.

One station worth searching for will is operating from Cyprus.

C 4 M G

This coastal island of Cyprus (AS-004) has not been activated (as far as the group know) since their previous expedition of July 2001, so there should be quite a few island chasers that are in need of this one.

The group have 2 stations active, one with a linear amplifier.

Antennas include a 5-band Spiderbeam, a TA33Jr tribander and HF2V and R7000 verticals. Operation will take place with the 5B4NC/P callsign outside the contest and with the callsign C4MG during the IOTA contest.

QSL Manager for both callsigns will be George/ 5B4KH.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP --- MILITARY

The Brisbane Military Radio Collection is having a couple of Open Days to view the collection of Military Communications Equipment. What better time than over the RD weekend itself, Saturday 11th August at 1.00pm and Sunday 12th August at 1.00pm

72 Steven Street Camira (last house on left in cul-de-sac)

There will be a small "junk" sale as well.

More on this in the local VK4 area news, "QNEWS."

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RADIO SCOUTING
http://www.scouts.com.au
http://www.scout.org/jota
http://www.wiaq.com/nationalnews/jotahead.htm

SCOUT JOTA HF Voice Calling Frequencies
3590, 7090, 14190, 21190, 28590 kHz
14290, 18140, 21360, 24960, 28390 kHz (DX)

This years 50th JOTA will run from October 19th at 22:00
hours to October 21st at 24:00 hours YOUR local time.

An official start will be given by the World Scout Bureau
radio station in Geneva, Switzerland on October 19th at
21:00 h UTC with a transmission in the 20 and 80 meter
bands and on EchoLink.

In VK3, the Scout Radio and Electronics Service Unit have advised
both Youth and Adult members of Scouts Australia, Victoria Branch,
a Training Program is available for those interested in
Amateur Radio.

Members have been asked to down load flyers and distribute
them to Scout's and Venturers.

These Training Programs can be carried out in regional areas
providing a minimum number of participants are available.

Further information on the activities of the SRESU can be
viewed online at www.sresu.asn.au

Still with scouting, a VK6 activity which has not been reported on was
passed onto us via the UK Southgate Amateur Radio Club news.

Seems a camp on Brownsea-on-Heirisson Island, Perth will be held from
today 29 July for a few days to commemorate the centenary of Scouting,
and the original Brownsea Island camp.

Heirisson Island is right in the centre of Perth, in the Swan River.

VK6SAA callsign will be operating HF, VHF and UHF,
IRLP Node 6772 & EchoLink Nodes 317 406 and 570 81

SUMMITS ON THE AIR (SOTA)

A few ZS guys intend activating Stanleybushkop this weekend
Listen out for Detlev, ZS6BAB, Tom, ZS6TMO, and Lucas, ZS6ACT,
on 7 065 kHz and please give them a contact.

Alternative frequency 14,165 MHz.

Stanleybush's SOTA reference is ZS-MP/018 and the location is
S24 564 E30 481.

You can find more information about SOTA at www.qsl.net/sotasa or
www.sota.org.uk

BB's DIARY ROOM - THE FUTURE, IN AMATEUR RADIO

2008

Sept 13 Alarameet 2008 will be held in Ulverstone Tasmania on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th September 2008. Susan VK7LUV for details.

2009
International Telecommunication Union's Telecom World 2009.

14th IARU R3 Conference Christchurch 12 - 16 October, 2009.

SOCIAL SCENE

August 5 - HAMFEST 2007 happens in Perth at 9am.
Cyril Jackson Recreation Centre
Fisher Street
Ashfield.

SEPTEMBER 8
SUNSHINE COAST HAMFEST at Woombye School of Arts Hall.

SEPTEMBER 9 Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club Hamfest
St. Augustine's Hall Orr St.

SEPTEMBER 21-23
North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention
Happening in twin cities of Thuringowa and Townsville.

OCTOBER 6
Gold Coast Amateur Radio Society Annual Hamfest at Albert Waterways Hall.

JANUARY 20 2008

The Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group invite all amateurs to attend the 2008 Mid North Coast Radio Expo to be held in Coffs Harbour on Sunday 20th January.

The Expo is held at the St Johns Church Hall, Mc Lean Street, Coffs Harbour. Gary VK2ZKT is the Radio Expo Coordinator on 02 66 55 2 990 or visit the Groups comprehensive web site at www.mncarg.org

THE FINAL FINAL

WALKS

Jeff VK4XJJ is still going strong on his walk across Australia.

But he still wants to hear from YOU, and it is these calls in particular that keep him going!!

Tuesday 17th to Monday 23rd July, in Boulia waiting for parcels.

Good interview with Carter Edwards last Sunday night 2HD 1143 Newcastle.

Carter Edwards (Sunday 6 p.m. to midnight in Newcastle) will talk to Jeff each Sunday night till Karumba.

Monday 23rd July Jeff left Boulia after an enjoyable "rest" including two days at the camel races. He thanks Matt and Sally for their kindness while in Boulia.

Tuesday 24th. 35 km north of Boulia at noon. Walked 31 Km today. Temperature range 13 to 27 degrees. Six vehicles stopped to chat.

Wednesday 25th. Walked 28 road Km. Temperature range 14 to 29 degrees. 25 vehicles on the road and five stopped to chat. Hopes to walk 30 Km tomorrow.

Mount Isa is organising some fund raising. Will include a walk challenge in town to cover 35 Km. Ambulance service very cooperative and caring, keeping an eye on Jeff all the way to Karumba.

Second major equipment failure, camera stopped working. Replacement posted Wednesday. Other problem was with flexible solar panel, several wiring problems. Jeff repaired when required in towns.

Jeff thanks you Graham, the WIA again and the amateur operators who have called in, assisted on air and written to him via the web site.

Regards, Bill Johnson VK2FWGJ for Jeff Johnson VK4XJJ Walking for DeafBlind awareness. Web design & relay station Roger Stierli VK4BNQ

www.jeffswalk.com

Every Day, from 5:30pm Eastern on 40 meters, 7045 put out a call to VK4XJJ

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WIANews - we've reported...YOU decide.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".

Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of the National WIA.

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WIANews THANKS OUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS , OUR RELAY OPERATORS ACROSS THE WORLD FOR FORWARDING INFORMATION AND COMMENTS THEIR LISTENERS HAVE PASSED ON TO MAKE WIANews VK'S LEADING WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PROGRAM.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au
Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".
Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of QNEWS for the National WIA.
Thanks to to our dedicated band of broadcast volunteers who utilize their time

and equipment in bringing you this weekly broadcast.
The purpose of "WIANews" is to rapidly provide news of interest to active amateurs residing in Australia and the globe.
We strongly encourage membership in the Wireless Institute of Australia and participation in the activities of local clubs.
Opinions expressed in "WIANews" are those of the writers who submit material and do not necessarily reflect those of the rebroadcasters, nor the National WIA.
Material may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, a credit to WIANews wouldn't go astray...
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1357. Re: July 23, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-28 13:42:34 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1185622085.701812.231780@x35g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4062

On Jul 27, 6:52?pm, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:
> <N...@AOL.COM> wrote in message
news:1185503191.042786.204400@w3g2000hsg.googlegroups.com...
>
> > In any event, at least the steady decline in the ARS license numbers
> > since 2003 or so seems to have stopped.

> There is insufficient
> correlation to attribute it to the change in licensing.

Correlation is not causation. Very true, Dee.

> For example we are
> now probably close to the end of shaking out those who
> got licensed as whole
> families in the 1990s for family communications around
> town. While some
> developed further interest in amateur radio, there were
> quite a few who have
> let their licenses lapse as they went to cell phones or
> otherwise had no
> further need of that type of communication.

That's certainly possible. Here's another possibility:

I think the distribution of amateur licenses by expiration date
isn't uniform. I suspect this is driven by many factors, one of
which is rules changes for things like vanity callsigns.

Another factor is the long-term trend for older people to be
new hams. Nothing wrong with that at all, but if someone got
their first license in the early 1980s as a retiree, they're pushing
90 now (if they're still with us).

Still another possibility is that the impending rules changes
caused the decline of the past few years, if prospective
hams delayed their entry into amateur radio, waiting for the
rules to change. If you knew that the price of flat-screen
HDTV sets was going to take a nosedive a year from now, you
might hold off on buying one till then.

On top of all that is the fact that, whatever we speculate on the
causes, it's only been 5 months. There's no way to tell if there
is a long-term trend/change at work or not.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1358. SARL News in English 28/7/2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-28 15:01:04 UTC
From: website@sarl.org.za
Message-ID: <77F97989B17C4093AAD20A1C7622F940@toron>
Source record: 4063
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 29 JULY 2007

You are listening to ZS6SRL the official Radio Station of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is transmitted every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. To listen to a web stream or Echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links for details.

This, and previous bulletins, can be downloaded from the www.sarl.org.za. You can also read or download previous bulletins from there and subscribe to receive future bulletins by email.

This transmission is by Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with relays on 3,695, 10,135, 14,235 and 51,400 MHz as well as 438,825 and 1 297 MHz in the Pretoria area. (Other newsreaders please change to suit).

SILENT KEY

It is with deep regret that we announce the passing of Julian Biermann, ZS6BJO, on 9 July 2007. We extend our sincere condolences to his wife Laurette, family and friends.

(PAUSE)

In the news today:

SOUTH AFRICA TO BE REPRESENTED AT GAREC 2007

REGISTER FOR THE CLASS B EXAMINATION NOW - 2 DAYS LEFT

PRESIDENT'S NET AND INTECNET TONIGHT

RADIO TECHNOLOGY IN ACTION PROGRAMME FOR GAUTENG NOW ON THE WEB

100th ANNIVERSARY OF THE SCOUT MOVEMENT

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

SOUTH AFRICA TO BE REPRESENTED AT GAREC 2007

The SARL will be represented at the 2007 Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications (GAREC) Conference, which will be held in Huntsville, Alabama, on Thursday, 16th and Friday, 17th August 2007. GAREC-07 is

focussing on the application of advanced technologies in emergency communications.

GAREC started as an initiative of IARU Region 1. In 2005, Seppo Sisatto, OH1VR, now IARU Region 1 Emergency Communications Coordinator, organized the first meeting in Tampere, Finland - the "Capital of Emergency Telecommunications." It was here that in 1998 the United Nations and the International Telecommunication Union convened an intergovernmental conference, ICET-98, which adopted the "Tampere Convention." This international treaty facilitates the use of telecommunications in humanitarian assistance, and made "Tampere" known throughout the telecommunications community. Conferences on the same subject were held in the following years. In 2006 GAREC met in Tampere for the second time, now in connection with the International Conference on Emergency Communications, ICEC-2006 and the UN Working Group on Emergency Telecommunications.

The agenda of GAREC-07 will focus mainly on the topics discussed in Tampere. Most of all, GAREC wants to be a forum for the exchange of information. Many IARU member-societies and specialized emergency communications groups have developed and implemented emergency concepts. Many others want to benefit from their technical, operational and, not the least, their administrative or even "political" experiences when establishing the necessary cooperation with partners in emergency and disaster response. South Africa, and more specific the SARL in its own right, has been able to share information and has added value to the conferences in the past. GAREC also developed new concepts, such as the "Centre of Activity Frequencies," meanwhile adopted by IARU Region 1 and 3 conferences.

The review of advanced, digital technologies and their applications to emergency telecommunications will be an additional element for GAREC-07. The two-day conference will be packed with practical information, and experts will arrange demonstrations of the capabilities of 21st century ham radio!

With the support of the Department of Transport, the SARL will be represented by HAMNET's National Director Francois Botha, ZS6BUU. Charles Norval of SASAR, in his letter supporting the SARL's participation, said that the SARL's attendance will be of benefit to both the South African Search and Rescue (SASAR) and the Air Traffic and Navigation System.

REGISTER FOR THE CLASS B EXAMINATION NOW - 2 DAYS LEFT

The next class B examination will be held on 23 August. The closing date for registration has been extended to 31 July, which is in just a few days time. No late entries can be accepted.

Registration for the examination is R300. The cost for students and learners under the age of 25 years is only R200. To register, download all the forms from the SARL web and after completion fax the forms to

088 011 675 2793. You can also request the forms by sending a mail to admin@sarl.org.za. Carefully follow the checklist printed on page 2 of the RAE registration form. Links to the form can be found on the home page article.

PRESIDENT'S NET AND INTECNET TONIGHT

The President's Net will be on the air tonight. Join Graham Hartlett, ZS6GJH, at 19:00 for an update on he SARL and the various activities planned for the next few months. Graham will also talk about the SARL's plans to promote ARDF - Amateur Radio Direction Funding, an activity that is current attracting a lot of attention from the youth in Europe and the USA.

The President's Net will be followed at 20:00 CAT by the Intecnet with Dr Pieter Kotz as the guest speaker. His presentation is entitled: 'Implications of Living on a Giant Magnet'. The presentation slides can be downloaded in PDF format. Visit the SARL web at www.sarl.org.za and click on ARMI.

Clubs wishing to link their repeaters should send an email to armi@sarl.org.za before 12:00 today. Both nets will be streamed on Echolink by ZS6FCS and on the web. Go to www.sarl.org.za and click on ARMI and follow the links.

RADIO TECHNOLOGY IN ACTION PROGRAMME FOR GAUTENG NOW ON THE WEB

The programme for the Radio Technology in Action day in Gauteng on 18 August is now available on the web. The programme features a variety of interesting presentations and demonstrations. Learn how the Eastern Cape radio amateurs built the world's largest repeater linked network, or watch the FT5XO Kerguelen island DXpedition video, join SARL Councillor for Technology Andrew Roos, ZS6AA, as he discusses the SARL transceiver project or build a 40 m receiver with Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BPZ.

It is a day no one interested in amateur radio and technology would want to miss. Diarise the date 18 August at the National Amateur Radio Centre. Entrance is R20. Students and learners attend free.

100th ANNIVERSARY OF THE SCOUT MOVEMENT.

A Sunrise Ceremony in Mafikeng by ZS100MAF on Wednesday, 1 August 2007, will mark "The Dawn of a new Century for Scouting around the World".

On 1st August 1907, Scouting's Founder Robert Baden-Powell held what is now known as the World's first Scout camp on Brownsea Island near Portsmouth, England. This date thus marks the beginning of the Scout Movement.

Baden-Powell had strong ties with Mafikeng where he formulated many of his ideas. Thus Evan Davies, ZS6EVD, Eddie Leighton and the Lichtenburg ARC will be running a special event station ZS100MAF at SCENE the scout camping grounds of the town. Please support this station as Evan, Eddie

and LARC have done a tremendous amount of work for this event.

The main idea is to have scout greetings following the rising sun, from East to West.

Another aim is to link up with the scouts at GB100BI on Brownsea Island and GB100J at the 21st World Scout Jamboree at Chelmsford just outside London. These two stations will be in operation from 27-07-2007 to 08-08-2007. As Gilwell Park is an activity centre its permanent station GB2GP will be operational for the same time.

With modern technology Scouts will be able to join in the Brownsea celebrations and those of the 40 000 Scouts at the nearby World Scout Jamboree using other digital modes.

Please note that other countries will also be represented on 1st August, BP100S - Tapei, 8J100S -Tokyo, EI100J - Dublin and SX100VAR - Athens, etc.

When you call these stations try the World Scout Frequencies:

20 m - 14,290 MHz; 17 m - 18,140 MHz; 15 m - 21,360 MHz; 12 m - 24,960 MHz; 10 m - 28,390 MHz; 6 m - 50,160 MHz.

RAE COURSE IN THE WESTERN CAPE

Prospective students for the October Class A RAE who wish to attend a course in the Western Cape can contact Karl, ZS1KC, by phone on 021 976 5237 or cellphone 083 955 7177. The course is planned to start on 7 August. The classes wil be presented once a week at the Oakdale Sport Club.

CONTEST NEWS

The SARL HF Phone Contest will be on the air next Sunday 5 August 2007 starting at 15:00 and ending at 18:30 CAT with activity on certain sections of the 20, 40 and 80 metre bands. Participation can be as a single operator, multi-operator or SWL. Further sub-divisions are low power, high power, all band, single band or my best hour. The exchange is a RS report and a serial number.

Southern Africa is divided into 8 zones for this contest and participants must try and work stations in each of these zones for bonus points, further bonus points are obtained for working the same station on all 3 bands.

The rules and log sheets are available in the 2007 SARL Contest Manual at www.sarl.org.

On Sunday 12 August, the SARL 40 Metre Mobile Sprint will be on the air.

Johan, ZS4SS, wins the SARL Digital Contest.

The contest committee received five contest logs and one check log for the SARL Digital Contest run in June. The results are as follows:

Single operator, All band - Low power: Johan, ZS4SS - 280 points

Single Operator, Single band - High Power: Eddie, ZS6BNE - 228 points; Jack, V51KC - 144 points; Jan, ZS4JAN - 90 points; Jacques, ZS1JY - 20 points.

Jan, ZS6BMN, submitted a check log.

Johan, ZS4SS, is clearly the winner of the annual Digital modes competition and will be receiving the Yaesu VX-2R Handheld Transceiver at a suitable occasion. Well done Johan!

PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, was not available to do the propagation report this week. This report is by Hans, ZS6AKV.

Spaceweather.co.za reports that the solar wind speed has reached 500 km/s. Geomagnetic conditions are at unsettled to active levels. Local HF working frequencies are unstable to depressed. The outlook is that a coronal hole has rotated into a geo-effective position on the solar disk, with another one due within the next week or so. Expect disturbed HF conditions for most of the week.

20 metres seem to be the best DX band. In the early morning contacts with Australia are possible and late afternoon to early evening there is a glimmer of hope to make a QSO or two with stations situated on the both the East and West coast of the USA. For Europe 20 metres is likely to offer best results between mid morning and late afternoon.

Propagation prediction is not an exact science, so always call on a band to check if it is open. If you and everyone else only listen, you will never know.

Hannes will be back next week

Please visit www.spaceweather.co.za for further information.

DIARY OF EVENTS

28 July - President's Net and Intecnet - tonight; 1 August - Special station ZS100MAF on the air; 5 August - SARL HF Phone Contes;t 12 August - SARL 40 Metre Mobile Sprint; 18 August - Radio Technology in Action day in Gauteng; 23 August - Class B RAE; 6 October - SA AMSAT Space Conference; 18 October - Class A RAE.

SARL News invites clubs and individuals to submit news stories of interest to radio amateurs and shortwave listeners. Submit news stories if possible in both English and Afrikaans to www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date.

The SARL also invites you to listen to the programme Amateur Radio Mirror International, on the air every Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 590 kHz. For the web stream and echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links. A repeat transmission can be heard Mondays at 21:00 CAT on 3 215 kHz. Sentech sponsor the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

Today's South African Radio League news bulletin was compiled by Roger, ZR3RC, and transmitted by (your name and call sign)

Thank you for listening. 73

/EX

========== Message Ends ========== To edit or remove your entry from this mailing list go to www.sarl.org.za/members/admin/maildat.asp

1359. GB2RS NEWS Sunday 29 July 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-28 19:00:36 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200707281900.l6SJ0NE03297@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4064
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

1 GB2RS NEWS Sunday 29 July

The news headlines

* RAYNET groups on standby

* Flood minister gets RAYNET briefing

* Amateur Radio club wins cash grant from BT

The main news of the week is the extensive flooding across many parts of the country. We are aware of many RAYNET groups being put on standby due to the flooding and continued flood warnings. As this is an ongoing scenario we are unable to bring you news of the RAYNET groups who have been involved but we will broadcast full details when known.

RAYNET groups actively involved are requested to inform RSGB HQ of their activities and to what level they have been able to assist the emergency services.

The South Yorkshire Repeater Group attended the Dearne Community Carnival held at Goldthorpe South Yorkshire on 14 July.

The Carnival was supported by the South Yorkshire Community Foundation which funds charities in the region and is administrators of the Local Network Fund.

Through the Foundation the SYRG were successful in obtaining a grant of ₱7,000 for upgrading the groups 3 repeaters and for foundation licence training.

John Healey, MP for Wentworth in South Yorkshire and a Minister of State at the Department for Communities and Local Government visited the groups stand. He was met by Ian, G3ZHI, and told about the work of RAYNET and how amateur radio can be used, on behalf of user services in times of disaster.

Ian also briefed him on the work of the Sheffield and Rotherham RAYNET groups in the recent South Yorkshire floods.

Anyone who would like more information on how to apply for a grant for their radio club or repeater group should contact Ian, G3ZHI, on 01709 799911 or e mail him on g3zhi@hotmail.com.

Mid Sussex Amateur Radio Society, MSARS, has been awarded a grant of ₱225 under the BT Community Champions Award Scheme. This scheme is designed to reward those clubs and societies who offer assistance to

their community. MSARS earned the award for the significant number of people who have received training to qualify for the grant of an Amateur Radio Operators Licence over the past few years. MSARS will use the cash to part fund the purchase of a computer projector which will enable the society to upgrade their training courses for future amateur operators.

Further information about the MSARS and the BT Community Champions Award Scheme may be obtained by contacting Gavin Keegan on 01825 722045.

The Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society, CARS, is pleased to announce that their candidates achieved a 100 per cent pass rate in the recent Intermediate exam.

This was the first Intermediate exam to be held under the new syllabus that was introduced following last years licence changes. It meant candidates had to unlearn some of the regulations they had learnt when doing the Foundation course. As well as the theory there were several practical aspects to the Intermediate

2 exam such as learning to solder and construct a radio. Having been introduced to home construction by the course the new 2E0's will hopefully be making some of their own radio equipment in the future.

The club had to rewrite many of their Power Point presentation slides to cater for the licence changes and the slides can be freely downloaded from the club website.

The Chelmsford Echolink node MB7ICM is now on the air. Built and run by Anthony, M1FDE, this node provides Echolink coverage of Mid-Essex on 6 metres.

Anthony also managed to get the node operational in time for the World Scout Jamboree at Hylands Park Chelmsford attended by over 40,000 scouts.

MB7ICM operates on a frequency of 50.530 MHz FM and uses a 110.9 Hz CTCSS tone. The node number is 276252.

The Greater Norwalk Amateur Radio Club, GNARC, will be sponsoring a DXpedition to activate Sheffield Island Lighthouse for International Lighthouse Weekend, ILLW, 18 to 19 August. Operation of N1EV will begin 1600z on 18 August and end around 1800z on 19 August. Activity will be on 80 to 10 meters SSB/CW/FSK. Operations will take place in or around the IOTA calling frequencies. Plans are to run at least 2 stations for the entire event. QSL direct to N1EV. SASE for domestic QSLs; DX send green stamp or IRC.

Last week GB2RS carried an item informing you that the Irish Radio Transmitters Society had been notified by the national coordinator for the IARU Intruder Watch for the German National Society DARC, that transmissions of church services, which seem to be coming from Ireland,

have been taking place in the 28 MHz amateur band.

WAV files have been provided of such transmissions on 28.105 MHz FM. It has now been established that a Church broadcast is being transmitted on 28.105 MHz FM in the Dublin area. Some further work is required to identify the Church concerned. Mass is transmitted at 0900, 1000 and 1100 local on Sundays and at 1000 on weekdays.

The IRTS asks stations in the greater Dublin area to listen on this frequency at these times to see if the location can be positively identified. Stations located outside Dublin should listen on the lower end of the 28 MHz band generally to see if any unauthorised activity is taking place in the band in their areas.

If you hear anything worth reporting you should send a report to Thos Caffrey EI2JD the IRTS Intruder Watch coordinator at QTHR or to "thoscaffrey at hotmail dot com" with a copy to Sean Nolan, EI7CD, at QTHR or to EI7CD at "gofree dot indigo dot ie".

Each year a report on UK activity during JOTA is compiled by the National JOTA Organiser. The 2006 JOTA report is now available on the radio scouting website along with reports for the previous 5 years. See www.radio-scouting.org.uk/index.php?module=pagemaster&PAGE.

Whitton Amateur Radio Group in west London is a registered examination centre for all levels of licence and at the present time is offering courses for the Foundation and Intermediate levels. To apply for either licence please email Chris at chris@the-grooms.com or telephone 0870 6705082. Whitton is not offering an Advanced examination course at present, but plan to offer revision evenings before each exam.

And now for the details of rallies and events for the coming week On Sunday 29 July the Horncastle Summer Rally takes place from 1030 at Horncastle Youth Centre, Horncastle, Lincolnshire. Details from Tony, G3ZPU, on 01507 527835, or by email to G3ZPU@hotmail.com.

3 On Sunday 29 July the Colchester Radio and Computer Rally takes place from 1000 at St Helena School, Sheepen Road, Colchester. Details from James, M0ZZO, 01255 242 748, or by email to James@M0ZZO.com. More details of these and future events can be found on pages 88 and 89 of the August edition of RadCom.

Now for the news of special events From 29 July to 4 August Hampshire Scout Centenary will be putting on a special event station GB0HSC. It will operate on HF and VHF close to the scout frequencies operated with the assistance of Itchen Valley Amateur Radio Club. Special event station II1TS will be active on the HF bands SSB, CW and FSK from Genova until 31 July for the Tall Ship Races 2007. QSL via IZ1GJK, direct or bureau. Information on the event and the relevant award can be found at http://www.assoradiomarinai.tk/ To mark the 100th anniversary of Scouting, special event station GB100J will be active from 27 July until 7 August. Operating from Hylands Park, Chelmsford, the station is expected to be on air 24 hours per day on 80m through to

6m. Depending on the availability of an Internet connection, the station also hopes to be active on Echolink. More details at www.radioscouting.org.uk. Special event station 8J1ESP will be operated on 40, 20, 15 and 10 metres by PY3DF, JA1FXZ and a group from the International League of Esperantists Radio Amateurs between 31 July and 31 August. And now the HF DX news compiled from 425 DX News, the Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin and other sources. Iain, M0PCB and Chloe, 2E1IDT, will be active as MJ0PCB and 2J1IDT from Jersey (EU-013) until 31 July. Operation will be QRP with small portable antennas. They will also be active for parts of the IOTA contest. QSLs via the bureau to their home calls, or direct to M0PCB. Jorge, EA8TL, will be active as EA8TL/EA6 from Ibiza and Formentera, Balearic Islands (EU-004) from 31 July to 24 August. He plans to operate on 80, 40, 20, 17, 15, 12, 10 and 2 metres SSB. Laci, HA6NL, Gyuszi, HA2VR, Zsolti, HA6PS, Sanyi, HA7JJS and Laci, HA7PL, will be active as 9A6NL and 9A/homecall from Pasman Island (EU-170) until 31 July. They will operate CW and SBB plus some digital modes as well on the HF bands and 6 metres. All of them will participate in the IOTA Contest with different calls, in different categories. QSL 9A6NL via HA6NL, others via home call, direct or bureau. The FM Ham Radio Association, FM.HAM.R.A, will be active on 80, 40, 20, 17, 15, 12 and 10 metres SSB, RTTY and PSK31, plus 6 and 2 metres as TO1YR from 29 July to 5 August for the annual Tour des Yoles Rondes de la Martinique. QSL via FM1HN. Giovanni, IW7DOL, reports he will be active as SV8/IW7DOL from Kerkyra Island (EU-052) from 28 July to 2 August. Jim, MM0BQI, will be active as MM0BQI/p from Tanera Mor, Summer Isles (EU-092) until 4 August. He plans to operate CW, SSB and RTTY on 80 to 10 metres. QSL via home call, direct or bureau. Caudio, IN3DEI/ W1ADX, will operate holiday style as 9A/W1ADX from a few Dalmatian islands, Dugi Otok, Molat, Pasman, Ugljan in the EU-170 IOTA group from until 7 August. QSL via IN3DEI.

4 Now the contest news The RSGB 70MHz activity takes place on 31 July from 2000 to 2230 local on the 70m band, all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. The European HF Championship takes place on 4 August at 1200 to 5 August at 2359 on the 1.8MHz to 28 MHz bands, on CW and SSB modes. The exchange takes the form of RST and year first licenced. The RSGB Ropoco 2 Contest takes place on 5 August between 0700 to 0900 on 3.5MHz band, CW mode. The exchange takes the form of RST and serial number. The RSGB 144MHz Low Power Contest takes place on 4 August between 1400 to 2000, all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number, locator and postal. The RSGB 432MHz Low Power Contest takes place on 5 August between 0800 to 1200 on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number, locator and postal. Now the solar factual data for the period from 16 July to 22 July, compiled by Neil Clarke, G0CAS The only sunspot visible at the start of the period gradually decayed to a single spot by the 19th, also on the 19th it rotated out of view. The solar disc then remained spotless. Solar activity was very low with no solar flares taking place. Solar flux levels declined from 73 units on the 16th to 66 by the 21st. The average was 69. The 90 day solar flux

average remained unchanged at 74 units. X-ray flux levels remained below the minimum A1 level everyday. Geomagnetic activity started at quiet levels with an Ap index of only 3 units on the 18th and the 19th. As forecast, a coronal hole disturbance arrived on the 20th and lasted into the 21st. The Ap index was 12 units on both days. The average was Ap 6 units. The ACE spacecraft saw solar wind speeds increase from 300 kilometres per second to 570 by the 21st. Particle densities were low except for a sharp rise to 63 particles per cubic centimetre around midday on the 20th. Bz varied between minus 2 and plus 1 nanoTeslas on the quiet days and between minus 11 and plus 12 nanoTeslas on during the disturbance. HF band conditions were what could be expected on some days. However, particularly during the disturbances conditions were poor. Sporadic E took place everyday and increased activity on 28 and 50MHz. Some auroral reports were received from stations in the far north.

And finally the solar forecast. This week the slightly more active side of the Sun is expected to rotate into view. However, solar activity should continue at predominately very low levels. Solar flux levels are expected to remain in the 70's. Geomagnetic activity should be mostly quiet except for a small recurring coronal hole disturbance which should take place on Tuesday. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitudes are expected to be around 19MHz for the south and 16MHz for the north. The darkness hour lows should be about 10MHz. Paths this week to South America should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success rate of around 23MHz. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success rate will be about 21MHz. The best time to try this path will be between 1200 and 2100 hours UTC. Sporadic E should take place most days, but now openings on 144MHz will become less frequent. And that's all for this week from the propagation team.

5 Next, the Local News:

Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses

and website links where known.

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your

transmission.]

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST

and EAST ANGLIA On Sunday 29 July Basingstoke Amateur Radio Club is having a foxhunt. Contact Frank, M0AEU, by email to barc@2lo.info.

On Sunday 29 July Hilderstone Radio and Electronics Club is having a WOK event field day. Contact Mike, G4MIX, on 01304 813 175, g4mix@waitrose.com.

On Wednesday 1 August Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is having a general meeting. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

On Wednesday 1 August Dover Radio Club School is having a social evening at the Marquis of Granby, Alkham. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk.

On Wednesday 1 August Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is having a natter night and is operating with G3VEF/G8KGI. Contact Jim, M1JJN.

On Wednesday 1 August Havering and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on technical topics by Oliver, G3TPJ. Contact Dave, 2E0EBV, on 07956 594 514.

On Wednesday 1 August Horsham Amateur Radio Club is having a fox hunt all members welcome. Contact information at www.harc.org.uk.

On Wednesday 1 August Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is having a talk by Dave Wilkins, G5HY, from Kenwood UK Communications Division . Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

On Wednesday 1 August Southdown Amateur Radio Society is operating at Halisham. Contact John, G3DQY, on 0124424319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

On Wednesday 1 August Worthing and District Amateur Radio Club is having a session on how to keep up to date with the advance exam questions. Contact Roy, G4GPX, on 01903 753 893.

On Thursday 2 August Cray Valley Radio Society is having its summer bbq at the Bull in Shooter's Hill. Contact Bob, BRS32525, on 020 8265 7735 after 8pm.

On Thursday 2 August Horsham Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on The Mechanics of Orbits by Ron Polly, G3PYC, or on the web at www.harc.org.uk.

On Friday 3 August Cambridge and District Amateur Radio Club is having a valve test evening. Contact David, G8JKV.

On Friday 3 August Crystal Palace Radio and Electronics Club is having a talk on home construction techniques. Contact Bob, G3OOU, on 01737 552 170.

6 On Friday 3 August Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is having its Chairman's bbq. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Friday 3 August Torbay Amateur Radio Society is operating GB60TR. Contact Dave, G6FSP, by email to g6fsp@tars.org.uk.

On Friday 3 August Wey Valley Amateur Radio Group is having a club night and a talk on mobile working with a difference by Olof Lundberg, G0CKV. For more information log onto www.weyvalleyarg.org.uk.

On Friday 3 August Wimbledon and District Amateur Radio Society is having its club bbq at summer camp. Contact Jim, M0CON, on 020 8874 7456.

On Saturday 4 August Gorleston Amateur Radio Society is having a lunch meeting at the Short Blue public house, Gorleston High Street. Contact David, G3OEP, on QTHR, 01493 662 323.

On Sunday 5 August Leiston Amateur Radio Club is having a LARC foxhunt and bbq at Blaxhall Village Hall. Contact Dave, G4HUP, on 01473 737 717, g4hup@btinternet.com.

On Sunday 5 August Surbiton Heritage Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is having a combined on the air day and CADS broadcast (local school venue). Contact Tony, G7DGW, on g7dgw@shares.uk.net, or on the web at www.shares.uk.net.

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST

On Wednesday 1 August Cornish Radio Amateur Club is having a meeting on the live demo of BHI noise cancelling loudspeaker. Contact Ian, 01872 561 058.

On Wednesday 1 August South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is having a workshop on Multimeters. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282.

On Wednesday 1 August Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is having a pedestrian amateur radio foxhunt in the Thornbury area. Contact Tony, G0WMB, by email to tonytsgarc@beeb.net.

On Thursday 2 August Saltash and District Amateur Radio Club is having a bbq. Contact Brian, M0BHG, on 01752 844 321.

On Thursday 2 August Yeovil Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on which HF bands to use. Contact Gary, 2E0BFJ, g.swain@tesco.net.

NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS

On Monday 30 July Stourbridge and District Amateur Radio Society is having a discussion on sheep walks and a bbq. They will also be on the air. Contact John, M1EJG, on 01562 700 513.

On Tuesday 31 July Derby and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air. Contact Martin, G3SZJ, on 01332 556 875.

On Tuesday 31 July Loughborough and District Amateur Radio Club is having their 5th DF of 2007 - 160m. Contact Chris, G1ETZ, on 01509 504 319.

On Tuesday 31 July Worcester Radio Amateurs Association is operating at sunrise camp Scouts Centenary at Rhydd Covent. Request details by email to info@wraa.co.uk.

7 On Thursday 2 August Lincoln Short-Wave Club is operating as GB2CWP at the BBC Antiques Roadshow at East Kirkby Aviation Centre. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

On Thursday 2 August Salop Amateur Radio Society is having a mini talk by G3ZG Capacitors and ESR. Contact Glenda, G1YJB, on 01939 235 412.

On Friday 3 August Coventry Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on the Coventry Watch Museum. Contact John, G8SEQ, on 02476 273 190, or by email to johng8seq@ntlworld.com.

On Friday 3 August Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is on the air. Details on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

On Saturday 4 August Lincoln Short-Wave Club is having a Hamfest setup. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

On Sunday 5 August Lincoln Short-Wave Club is having a Lincoln Hamfest at Newark Showground. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

On Monday 30 July Sheffield Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on satellites. Contact Trevor, M0TWS. On Monday 30 July South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is having its monthly technical forum. Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999.

On Tuesday 31 July Chester and District Radio Society is having a pie and pint night at the Helsby Arms. Details on the web at www.chesterdars.org.uk, info@chesterdars.org.uk.

On Tuesday 31 July Halifax and District Amateur Radio Society is having its technical evening at Rishworth School. Contact Brenda, 2E0YKS, by email to wrenuk10@yahoo.com.

On Wednesday 1 August Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is on the air. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Friday 3 August South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is holding the "Ged and Zed Show" with G8RSI and G4EDM. Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999.

On Friday 3 August Tynemouth Radio Club is having an operating and Morse night. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

NEWS FOR SCOTLAND

On Thursday 2 August Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is having a junk sale. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

On Thursday 2 August Border Amateur Radio Society is having a surplus gear sale. Contact Ray, GM0CDV, on 01573 228730.

On Friday 3 August Cockenzie and Port Seton Amateur Radio Club is having a club night. Contact Bob, GM4UYZ, on 01875 811 723.

8 NEWS FOR WALES On Monday 30 July St Tybie Amateur Radio Society is on the air operating on GC0VPR. Contact Eileen, 2W1BPS, on 01550 777 234, eileenm@fsmail.net, or on the web at www.s-t-a-r-s.co.uk.

On Saturday 4 August St Tybie Amateur Radio Society is having an open day. Contact Eileen, 2W1BPS, on 01550 777 234, eileenm@fsmail.net, or on the web at www.s-t-a-r-s.co.uk.

NEWS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

No news items have been received for Northern Ireland this week. And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast,

prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

1360. Re: WIANEWS for week commencing JULY 29 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-28 20:41:58 UTC
From: Sally <me@anon.net>
Message-ID: <46ab914e@dnews.tpgi.com.au>
Source record: 4065
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,aus.radio.amateur.misc

As this is Australia, *PLEASE* could we have Australian spelling (apart of course from quoted news from the USA)

"The band of operation is 80 Meters"

1361. Re: July 23, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-28 23:36:33 UTC
From: Iitoi <Iitoi@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <f8gjkr$hl9$1@aioe.org>
Source record: 4066

<N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote in message
news:1185503191.042786.204400@w3g2000hsg.googlegroups.com...

> For example, I have had more than one Advanced tell me
> that s/he won't upgrade to Extra because the Advanced "proves" the
> person passed a code test, while the Extra doesn't.

The only valid "proof" of code proficiency is a practical demonstration on the
air. If we can hold a QSO (actual speed is not important), then you've passed
my code test. Your license class is of no importance in this.

The Man in the Maze
QRQ (or QRS) from Baboquivari Peak, AZ

--
Iitoi

1362. Re: Active Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-29 02:06:09 UTC
From: Iitoi <Iitoi@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <f8gkckjcv1@aioe.org>
Source record: 4067

"Steve Bonine" <spb@pobox.com> wrote in message
news:13a84b228sgepe1@news.supernews.com...

>
> The idea of the exercise was to determine what percentage of the folks listed
> by the FCC as licensed amateur radio operators that has actually contributed
> to the hobby in the recent past, or might do so in the near future.

"....contributed to the hobby"?

I hear a lot of "active" hams (regularly on the air) whose "contribution" is
"59 Old Man, QTH here is Resume Speed, Arizona, and the name is Broken Old
Bottle. Sebentee Tree. XYL is calling me for lunch". Good for them. They're
enoying themselves.

I don't think "being active" has any direct correlation to "contributed to the
hobby in the recent past".

Most of us are involved in the hobby for our personal enjoyment, no more, no
less. Some small percentage may consider that they are "contributing".....
good for them, but such noble purpose isn't a requirement to be considered
"active".

The Man in the Maze
QRM from Baboquivari Peak, AZ

--
Iitoi

1363. Re: Active Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-29 02:06:37 UTC
From: Iitoi <Iitoi@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <f8gkhgjvv1@aioe.org>
Source record: 4068

"Ivor Jones" <ivor@despammed.invalid> wrote in message
news:5gpci0F3fsu16U1@mid.individual.net...

>
> What if they only go 51 times..? ;-)
>

Then they're obviously not properly motivated and not "contributing to the
hobby", and clearly not active in fishing.

The Man in the Maze
QRL on Baboquivari Peak, AZ

--
Iitoi

1364. Re: Active Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-29 07:05:33 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13ao1l9k17p3ta4@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 4069

Iitoi wrote:
> "Steve Bonine" <spb@pobox.com> wrote in message
> news:13a84b228sgepe1@news.supernews.com...
>
>> The idea of the exercise was to determine what percentage of the folks listed
>> by the FCC as licensed amateur radio operators that has actually contributed
>> to the hobby in the recent past, or might do so in the near future.
>
> "....contributed to the hobby"?
>
> I hear a lot of "active" hams (regularly on the air) whose "contribution" is
> "59 Old Man, QTH here is Resume Speed, Arizona, and the name is Broken Old
> Bottle. Sebentee Tree. XYL is calling me for lunch". Good for them. They're
> enoying themselves.

Like "active", "contributed to the hobby" requires a definition (which I
didn't provide).

> I don't think "being active" has any direct correlation to "contributed to the
> hobby in the recent past".

An iteresting idea. I was equating "active" with "contributed to the
hobby". This is, perhaps, naive.

Back when I was a kid, I listened to hams on the air, and was motivated
to get my license. I wonder if people today, listening to much of what
I hear on the ham bands, would be motivated to get involved in the
hobby. Are these guys "contributing to the hobby"? I do wonder.

> Most of us are involved in the hobby for our personal enjoyment, no more, no
> less. Some small percentage may consider that they are "contributing".....
> good for them, but such noble purpose isn't a requirement to be considered
> "active".

You are, reasonably, interpreting my words in a different way than I
meant them. I was equating "generating RF on the ARS frequencies" with
"contributing to the hobby". I was actually trying to be more liberal
and include the folks whose interests involved designing or building
equipment (whether they used it or not on the air) or other positive
contributions like teaching classes, being active in their local club,
and so on.

Now that you mention it, I realize that "contributed to the hobby" and
"active" can be quite different. The malicious jammer, or the frequency
policeman on 75 meters, are "active". They may not be contributing to
the hobby.

Food for thought.

73, Steve KB9X

1365. Re: July 23, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-29 19:52:44 UTC
From: Dick Grady AC7EL <rng@richbonnie.com>
Message-ID: <2brpa31i9rftcav945jinpa66ah7sqjvu5@4ax.com>
Source record: 4070

On Thu, 26 Jul 2007 23:20:01 EDT, N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
>- Some hams are holding onto their old license classes for a variety
>of reasons. For example, I have had more than one Advanced tell me
>that s/he won't upgrade to Extra because the Advanced "proves" the
>person passed a code test, while the Extra doesn't.

Back in 2000, when the FCC lowered the code speed to 5 WPM and restructured licenses, there was an article in one ham magazine, I think CQ, proposing an exam for Extra hams to take which would demonstrate current lack of knowledge about Extra material, thereby demoting these Extras back to Advanced. That way their license listing would show the world that they passed a code test faster than 5 WPM.

The article did caution would-be test takers to make sure they didn't miss too many questions on that exam, lest they be demoted all the way to Technician!

73 de Dick, AC7EL

1366. IRTS Radio News Bulletin, Sunday July 29th 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-29 20:00:20 UTC
From: news at irts dot ie <devnull@panix.com>
Message-ID: <200707292000.l6TK07n13432@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4071
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Irish Radio Transmitters Society
Radio News Bulletin

Sunday July 29th 2007

Theory Examination

The results of the theory examination for the Experimenter's Licence held on the 28th of June were issued by ComReg on Tuesday last. Of the 45 candidates who sat the examination 23 passed. Congratulations to all those who passed and we hope to welcome them on the air very soon. We wish those who were unsuccessful the best of luck at a future attempt.

Five examinations have been held since the IRTS took over responsibility for the exam process just over two years ago. In that period 111 candidates have sat the examination and of these 67 were successful. The arrangements negotiated between ComReg and the IRTS for the running of the licence examination are working very smoothly and have at last put the examination process on a firm footing.

Church Broadcasts

Last week we carried an item telling you that it has now been established that a church broadcast is being transmitted on 28.105 MHz FM in the Dublin area. Some further work is required to identify the Church concerned. Mass is transmitted at 0900, 1000 and 1100 local on Sundays and at 1000 on weekdays. Initial bearings would indicate that the transmissions are originating somewhere on the northside of Dublin.

It would help greately if bearings on the station from areas such as Blanchardstown, Malahide and the north side generally could be provided, as these would help to further pin down the general area from which the transmission originates. The local Church notices can be of assistance in positively identifying the Church concerned. If you cannot identify the station and you have a beam antenna you could take a bearing on the

peak signal from anywhere in the greater Dublin area which in conjunction with similar bearings taken by other stations could help in locating the source of the transmission. Stations located outside Dublin should listen on FM the lower end of the 28 MHz band generally to see if any unauthorised activity is taking place in the band in their areas.

If you hear anything worth reporting you should send a report to Thos Caffrey EI2JD the IRTS Intruder Watch coordinator at QTHR or to ﷺthoscaffrey at hotmail dot comﷺ with a copy to Sean Nolan EI7CD at QTHR or to ﷺei7cd at gofree dot indigo dot ieﷺ. The report should include date, time, frequency, signal strength, possible location of station if identified, beam heading in degrees from true north and any other relevant information. If the station is identified from an announcement of local events, details should be given. Should you hear anything, no action should be taken other than forwarding a report as requested.

It is in our own interests to identify any unauthorised activity so as to preserve the exclusive nature of the 28 MHz allocation. The matter has already been reported to ComReg who will act on the matter if we can provide appropriate information.

South Dublin Radio Club

South Dublin Radio, EI2SDR is closed for the next two weeks. Classes are continuing in two weeks time at SDR. Anyone interested are welcome to attend. Classes run from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Ballyroan Community Centre during the club meeting.

Tipperary Amateur Radio Group

The next meeting of the Tipperary Amateur Radio Group will take place on Thursday next the 2nd of August at 8.00 pm ,All are welcome.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group

The next general meeting will take place on Monday the 30th of July at 8.00 p.m. in the Roanmore Centre, Waterford. Congratulations to all those on the SEARG theory course who recently passed the test. Anyone requiring help in filling out the application forms are welcome to come along to Mondays meeting where members

will be happy to give assistance.

Field Days and Contests

The 2 metres counties contest will take place on the 26th of August. The SSB field day will take place over the first weekend (1st and 2nd) of September. Again the grounds of Garbally College, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway will be available, thanks to Niall EI4CF and once again the Shannon Basin Club will be hosting their now famous Barbeque. Of course, the big event will be CQIR over the last weekend, so plenty to look forward to.

Please note that the deadline for submission of logs for the VHF/UHF Field Day is the 7th of August.

Foyle and District ARC Rally

The Foyle and District Rally will take place on Sunday the 4th of November 2007 at the White Horse Hotel, Derry, 3 miles from Derry on the main Limavady Road. Doors open at midday. The club's web address for more information is www.mn0aku.org.uk.

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall, EI7IS at QTHR or by phone to 051-853806 or 087-6302026. Items for the radio news can also be faxed to 087 5 6302026. News should be submitted via e-mail to ﷺ for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Friday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday﷽s bulletin.

1367. Re: Active Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-30 00:14:21 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <pl2qa3trhrla2nsdop1prvlu4rth5etvmu@4ax.com>
Source record: 4072

On Sun, 29 Jul 2007 03:05:33 EDT, Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> wrote:

>> I hear a lot of "active" hams (regularly on the air) whose "contribution" is
>> "59 Old Man, QTH here is Resume Speed, Arizona, and the name is Broken Old
>> Bottle. Sebentee Tree. XYL is calling me for lunch". Good for them. They're
>> enoying themselves.

The derisive comment above sounds like that of my very sarcastic
brother who, in spite of holding an extra class license for many
years, hasn't been on the air for the same very many years because he
doesn't want to talk to hams who sound like that, thereby assuming
that all hams do.
>
>Like "active", "contributed to the hobby" requires a definition (which I
>didn't provide).

Hams who sound like the above "contribute to the hobby" by:

(a) occupying spectrum space which otherwise would show up as
"unoccupied" , i.e. available for grabbing by some "untouched-by-
human-brain" electronic occupancy detector, and

(b) providing an example of what not to sound like on the air so that
newcomers will know what to avoid doing.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1368. Re: July 23, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-30 00:22:11 UTC
From: Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-ABF77B.21392027072007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 4073

Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:
>
> I still have prospective Hams tell me that they have to brush up on
> their Morse code so they can test. Oddly enough a few fellows continued
> in that line of even after I told them they didn't need to.

I've been saying that for months. If you take one step outside of
amateur radio circles, they know NOTHING about any changes to the
licensing system.

1369. Re: July 23, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-30 15:11:30 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f8kuqt$1i3e$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4074

Klystron wrote:
> Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:
>> I still have prospective Hams tell me that they have to brush up on
>> their Morse code so they can test. Oddly enough a few fellows continued
>> in that line of even after I told them they didn't need to.
>
>
> I've been saying that for months. If you take one step outside of
> amateur radio circles, they know NOTHING about any changes to the
> licensing system.

To a large extent, that is expected from those who aren't really interested in amateur radio. The word will filter slowly to the general public. I've been seeing a number of the ARRL "Hello" commercials recently, which is a help. But it will still take a while

I am a little surprised about those who are interested and still don't know.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1370. Re: July 23, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-30 16:25:07 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f8l12k$1i5k$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4075

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
> On Jul 27, 2:39?pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>> N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>
>>> - Some hams haven't gotten the word
>
>> I still have prospective Hams tell me that they have to brush up on
>> their Morse code so they can test. Oddly enough a few fellows continued
>> in that line of even after I told them they didn't need to.
>
> I just don't understand that at all.

The latest example for me was while getting a key made. THe fellow brehind that counter saw my PAQSO Party T-shirt, ans asked if I was a Ham. I told him yup, and we had a nice conversation about his wanting to become a Ham. He showed me the Morse Program on his Palm Pilot that he was using to study for the test. I told him that while he would still want to study it, He didn't need to learn Morse for the test because they didn't test for it any more.

Our talk moved on to other testing issues. I explained that our club held test sessions at our monthly meetings, and suggested he come to one and do the test. He said "Maybe in a few months, because I still am not up to speed for the Morse code part of the test".....

>>> For example, I have had more than one Advanced tell me
>>> that s/he won't upgrade to Extra because the Advanced "proves" the
>>> person passed a code test, while the Extra doesn't.
>> Same here! I suppose that if a person runs with a crowd that sees that
>> as somehow being better than other people it might be legit. Otherwise
>> it strikes me as really odd.
>
> Which is a better indicator of Morse Code skill:
>
> 1) Once upon a time, maybe decades ago, a person passed a particular
> test under certain conditions
>
> or
>
> 2) A person demonstrating their *current* skills under real-world
> operating conditions?
>
> Seems to me #2 is the better indicator.

Absolutely. If a person knows how to "walk the walk" then they are
there. What test they took is close to irrelevant. IMO, the Testing
process is the beginning, not the destination.

>>> Others have told
>>> me that they're sure FCC will eventually give Advanceds a free upgrade
>>> to Extra, so they're just waiting it out.
>
> Even when I point out that FCC has repeatedly turned down auto-upgrade
> proposals, they aren't convinced.

It's what I call positive thinking enhanced by not wanting to have to do
any work...

>> I'd tell them the same thing I told those who waited out element one's
>> demise: "If the wait doesn't bother you, then go ahead and wait." There
>> were people telling me to wait it out back in 1999 "because Element 1
>> will be going away any day now!" But I didn't wait, and I wouldn't trade
>> the extra 7 years I had my General and Extra for anything.
>
> When I got my Extra in 1970, some folks said I was wasting my time and
> effort because "incentive licensing won't last - in a few years
> Generals will have all privileges again..."

Kinda another example of what I was talking about above. Even if they
were correct that the incentive licensing would go away, it's hard to
fault picking up knowledge.

>>> At least one I know feels
>>> insulted that it takes the same testing to go from General to Extra as
>>> it does to go from Advanced to Extra.
>> Oh my! Does this person want a special test made up just for him?
>
> Actually, yes - or rather, for all Advanceds.

Some of us might think that was a pretty hefty sense of entitlement!

>
>> Exactly what dud they see as insulting about having to take the same
>> test?
>
> He was angry that having passed the old Advanced written did not carry
> any testing credit towards Extra.

Wow. I guess that the only way to sate this fellow might be to throw
away a lot of the questions. Of course then he might be angry that he is
paying the same that a General pays to upgrade! He'd be paying more per
test question! ;^)

> Sooner or later, the last of those closed-off licenses will disappear.
> It may take a very long time, though - the number of Advanceds today
> is about 67% of what it was when the license class was closed to new
> issues.

>> While we have discussed lots of reasons for that decline, I know of
>> another possibility, at least for a delay. I know several Hams who
>> waited for the Element one to go away after it was eliminated from the
>> treaty yet not gone from our testing requirements. The long wait made
>> for an upgrade delay on some peoples part. I thought that the delay was
>> actually a harmful thing in that respect.
>
> IOW: "if you're going to change the rules, change 'em! Don't take
> 3-1/2 years to make such a simple change!"

Absolutely. While I didn't win the poll that we had a long time ago in another group, I wasn't all that far off. It should have only taken 6 months, a year tops. Even then, it could have been more like "this is what is going to happen then, instead of being a minor mystery until the end.

< bunch of good stuff snipped>

> I think the amateur radio organizations that pushed for the changes
> bear some responsibility for that delay.

> What *should* be done, IMHO, is for amateur organizations to do the
> legwork up-front. IOW,
> I think the way to do a proposal is:
> 1) Gather up lots of opinions from the amateur community
> 2) Write a draft proposal
> 3) Present it to the amateur community, with clear explanation of what
> is proposed and why.
> 4) Gather more opinions by means of surveys, polls, etc.
> 5) Rework the draft proposal based on the input received
> 6 Repeat steps 3 through 5 until a proposal gets a clear and
> compelling majority of support from the amateur community, and the
> opposition's points are dealt with.IOW, build a consensus *first*
> 7) Submit the proposal to FCC, including the survey/poll results.
>
> If all that were done, FCC would assign an RM number and then be
> flooded with supportive comments. FCC could then easily rubber-stamp
> approval of the proposal.
>
> But doing it that way takes a lot of grunt work, time, and effort.
> Also takes compromise.

Jim, that is an excellent proposal. I think it might be a great way to keep the league in (better?) touch with the Ham community. It would certainly allow Hams to offer feedback and interactivity. It would be a semi-direct conduit, coordinated by the organization(s).

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1371. [DXNL] DXNL 1530 (Aug 1, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-30 16:43:41 UTC
From: Robert Busch - DL7VOA <dxnl@dxhf.darc.de>
Message-ID: <16484607919.20070730183933@dxhf.darc.de>
Source record: 4076
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.dx,rec.radio.info

DXNL 1530 - Aug 1, 2007
DX Newsletter

a free and weekly service of
DARC Committee "DX and HF contesting"
(http://www.darcdxhf.de)

editor: Helmut Schlaffer, DL7MAE
(e-mail: dxnl@dxhf.darc.de)

translation by: Bob, DL7VOA
(e-mail: dl7voa@darc.de)

CU - AZORES ISLANDS, EU-175
Jorge,CT1FMX, Mary,CT1YTS, and J. Vitor,CU3EQ, will use the call CU3F
from Terceira Island (EU-175) working in SSB/CW/RTTY/PSK31 on 80-6m
from Aug 2-9. QSL via CT1FMX, direct or via bureau.

CY0 - SABLE ISLAND, NA-063
The next operation from Sable Island is scheduled for 2009 and is
already announced now to attract more sponsors for this expensive
DXpedition. Operators are still wanted as well. Following OPs already
confirmed their participation: Duane,WV2B (CW/SSB), Rich,AI5P (CW/SSB),
Dick,VE1AI (CW/SSB), and Scott,KA3QLF (RTTY/SSB). CY0ZZ is projected
to hit the airwaves with at least three stations on all bands from
6-160m. The DXpedition website is: http://www.sabledx.com

FG - GUADELOUPE, NA-102
David,FG/F1JXQ, will be QRV from Guadeloupe (NA-102) working in SSB
on 10m/6m/2m from 1000-1600 UTC on Aug 4-20. QSLs direct or as eQSL.

FW - WALLIS AND FUTUNA, OC-054
Mike,KM9D, and Jan,KF4TUG, were travelling through the Pacific area
during the last years and now showed up from Nukutapu (OC-054) shortly
before the IOTA Contest last weekend. Their calls are FW0MO (Mike) and
FW0YL (Jan) and they plan to stay there for quite some time.
QSL cards direct via OM2SA or via LotW.

JD1/MT - MINAMI TORISHIMA, OC-073
Alrady announced as JA6GXK/JD1, Masafumi finally became active from
Minami Torishima (OC-073) as JD1BMM. He has already bee spotted on 20m
in RTTY on 14.075 MHz and in CW on 14.050 MHz. See also DXNL 1528.
QSLs via his homecall JA6GXK.

SV9 - CRETE, EU-015
Marc,ON7SS/OO9O, announced his activity as SV9/OO9O/p during his

holidays from Aug 7-17. QSLs via ON7SS, direct or via bureau.

VP6 - PITCAIRN ISLAND, OC-044
Tom,ZL2HGR, hit the airwaves as VP6TD like announced in DXNL 1517
and intends to stay there until the beginning of september.

VP6AL (OP and QSL route: ZL1UFB) is another call from Pitcairn (OC-044)
enrichening the airwaves for the next six weeks. His name is Al and
he has already been worked in SSB on 20m.

FRANCE, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
TM0FIL is active on the bands between Jul 30 and Aug 12. QSL via F6KPQ.
More information can be found at: http://www.festival-interceltique.com

JAPAN, SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS
8J1A will be a special event station at the Amateur Radio Festival 2007
and can be worked from Aug 1-26. QSLs via the JARL bureau.

The Japanese foxhunters will activate the special callsign 8J3ARDF
between Aug 1 and Oct 21. QSLs via the JARL bureau as well.

DXCC: QSLs for the 2007 activity of 9U0X are accepted for DXCC credit now.

LINKS: Photos and video clips of the latest Market Reef DXpedition by OH0RJ,
SM0BSO, SM0LQB, SM1TDE and SM0EPO can be downloaded from the internet
at: http://www.sm0lqb.se/OJ0

The QSL database of OZ7C can be found online at http://www.ddxg.dk/oz7c
Since March 2007 it has seen 3.787 new entries and 1.417 updates and
lists 403.974 different QSL routes now.

The HAMATLAS (http://www.waz.hamatlas.eu) of Darek,SP6NVK, introduced
at this place before, has been updated with new maps showing exact
borders of the CQ zones now.

Current SOTA activities (mountain summits) are announced at:
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/activations.php or
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/spots.php

SILENT KEY

Axel Rohrbeck,DL7PR, a very wellknown German DXer passed away on
July 25, at the age of 65. Axel hold his licence since 1969, worked
the 5-Band-DXCC (#86) only two years later, had a Full House DXCC in
SSB/mixed and missed only North Korea (P5) in CW.

UPCOMING CONTESTS

Aug 4: EU HF Championship
Aug 4/5: DARC VHF Summer Fieldday

IOTA collected by Fredy,DE0MST (e-mail: iota@dxhf.darc.de)

Island activities:
NA-235(p), Semidi Islands, NA-238, and South Alaska Centre Group:
Lanny,W5BOS, plans two IOTA activities from Alaska from Aug 2-7.
The first activity as W5BOS/KL7 will take place from an island within
the Semidi Islands (NA-238). The second activity as W5BOS/ALO will take
place from Unavikshak Island. All QSLs via N6AWD.

EU-123, GM, Scottish Coastal Islands: Some members of the Ayr and Kilmarnock
Radio Club (GS0AYR) plan to hit the airwaves with two stations from the
island Ailsa Craig (SCOTIA DI01) on Aug 5. QSLs via GM7OKX.

EU-123, GM, Scottish Coastal Islands: Andre,GM3VLB, intends to activate
five different islands: Eilean Hoan, Rabbit Island, Eilean Nan Ron,
Stroma Island and Neave Island (EU-005) during the end of July and the
beginning of August. QSLs via homecall (direct).

Lighthouse activities (WLOTA/ARLHS)

SV8/IW7DOL LH 4132 Jul 28-Aug 2
CU2/WA1S LH 2016 Jul 28-Aug 9
TO1YR LH 1041 Jul 29-Aug 5
TK/DL2RMC LH 1390 Jul 30-Aug 8
EA8TL/EA6 LH 0958 Jul 31-Aug 24
EA8TL/EA6 LH 1148 Jul 31-Aug 24
IS0/IZ8GCB LH 1608 Aug 1-Aug 19
CU3F LH 0524 Aug 2-Aug 9
GS0AYR LH 0411/SCO 002 Aug 5
N1URA LH 0719/USA 746 Aug 11/12
ID9/IK8HJC LH 1001/ITA 213 Aug 25-Sep 1
9A/IK5WWA LH 2833/CRO 087 Aug 25-Sep 1
9A/IW0QO LH 4295 Aug 1 -Aug 10

Preview to the International Lighthouse Weekend 2007 (Aug 18/19):
Callsign Lighthouse WLOTA ARLHS

LA/PE1BTV Utvaer LH 2373 NOR 264
VK3ILH/7 Currie LH 0860 AUS 063
VK2WIR Cape Byron AUS 025
VO1VON Cape Spear CAN 138
XR4C Carranza CHI 005

Bandspots of the last 7 days

80m
DA0T 3.709 2337Z EU-127
GM2T 3.744 0028Z EU-008, via GM4UYZ
GZ0F 3.744 0028Z EU-012, via G0CMK
IB0/OM0C 3.790 2347Z EU-045, via OM2FY
IB0/OM5AW 3.785 2157Z EU-045, via OM2FY
J48M 3.780 2325Z EU-158, via DK7AO (B)
MU/OM5AW 3.510 2234Z
OH0JFP 3.711 0031Z

OH2U/5 3.747 0012Z EU-140
OH9A 3.750 0015Z EU-173, via OH1NOA
PA/DF2UU 3.522 2359Z EU-146, via DF2UU (B)
5P7ZZ 3.754 2335Z EU-029, via OZ bureau

40m
A43MI 7.066 1830Z AS-014, via A47RS (B)
DR6IOTA 7.066 0930Z EU-129, via DM5DX
HB0/PC5A 7.012 2033Z
J48IO 7.010 2227Z EU-158, via DK7AO (B)
LY2007LRMD 7.015 1907Z via LY2FN (B)
OZ7KDJ/p 7.031 0923Z EU-088
PA1WLB/p 7.077 0746Z EU-146
4O/EA1DR 7.039 2114Z RTTY, via EA1DR (L)

30m
DA0UBOOT 10.110 2023Z via DK9OS (B)
OZ/DL2SWW 10.119 0645Z EU-125, via DL2SWW (B)
SV9/HB9CRX 10.120 1555Z
TO5J 10.108 2223Z via F5LMJ (B), (L)

20m
A43MI 14.275 1542Z AS-014, via A47RS (B)
B4X 14.046 1549Z via B4XA
BO0K 14.265 1406Z AS-102, via BV4YB (B)
CX3CCC 14.071 2032Z PSK, via CX2ABC (B)
DR6IOTA 14.284 1934Z EU-129, via DM5DX
EA6/M0DLL 14.253 0711Z EU-004
EA8/DL6FAW 14.160 1555Z AF-004
G1T 14.163 0724Z EU-005, via M0SCG (B)
HB0/PC5A 14.176 1931Z
IB0/OM0C 14.240 2113Z EU-045, via OM2FY
IB0/OM3TJW 14.009 0829Z EU-045, via OM2FY
J42POL 14.250 1742Z via SV2JAO (d)
J48IO 14.262 0659Z EU-158, via DK7AO (B)
J48YL 14.264 1208Z EU-158, via DK7AO (B)
KH0/N0CO 14.001 0638Z OC-019, eQSL (B) (L)
KH7DX 14.250 0640Z (d)
KH7Y 14.031 0650Z (d)
MU/OK2SG 14.010 0740Z via OK2SG (B)
N2NS/KH6 14.039 0626Z OC-019, via N2NS (B)
NH7O 14.005 0722Z (d)
R100AK 14.022 1545Z via RW4HB
R100AK 14.203 0636Z via RW4HB
RI1GK 14.172 0744Z EU-133, via RV1AQ (B)
RK1B/p 14.257 1442Z EU-133, via RK3FA
SQ5BB/1 14.271 1214Z EU-132, (B)
TE8IP 14.260 2143Z NA-116, via TI2KAC (d)
UE1OTA/1 14.260 0600Z EU-161, via RZ1OA (B)
VE2BR/VY2 14.268 2148Z NA-029
VE3ZZ/VY2 14.268 2148Z NA-029, (B)

17m
SV0XAF/8 18.079 1412Z
SX5AS 18.072 0555Z via SV1HER (B)
4O/US0VA 18.076 0755Z via US0VA

15m
IF9ZWA 21.054 1601Z EU-054
IT9ABY 21.193 1608Z EU-025
IT9BLB 21.223 1606Z EU-025
J48M 21.250 1650Z EU-158, via DK7AO (B)

10m
YM1907FB 28.121 1231Z PSK, via TA3YJ (B)
YM1907FB 28.122 1234Z RTTY, via TA3YJ (B)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = LotW

Preview

DATE CALL DXNL

07Sep-24Sep 3B7C 1511
Nov or Dec 3D2AG/Rotuma 1522
-01Aug 3G100S 1526
2006 -2007 3XM6JR 1484
-Apr/08 5H0RS 1515
-Apr/08 6W/EA4ATI 1515
01Aug-26Aug 8J1A 1530 *
31Jul-31Aug 8J1ESP 1528
01Aug-21Oct 8J3ARDF 1530 *
-31Aug 8J7VENUS 1528
01Apr-09Sep 8N3IAAF 1513
19Jul-07Aug 9A/W1ADX 1528
2007 9N7JO 1501

-Apr/09 A52VE 1512
-Nov A61TX 1496
09Sep-14Sep CQ4IPY 1522
27Jul-05Aug CU2/EA1FCH 1529
28Jul-09Aug CU2/WA1S 1529
02Aug-09Aug CU3F 1530*
21Jul-01Aug CU8.. 1528
-Feb/08 DP0GVN 1496
31Jul-24Aug EA8TL/EA6 1529
2007 -2008 EI100S(I) 1501
-30Nov EW905B 1523
04Aug-20Aug FG/F1JXQ 1530 *
2008 FO/Clipperton 1521
NOW FW0MO, FW0YL 1530 *

-30Sep IA3GM 1528
01Aug-19Aug IS0/IZ8GCB 1529
2006 -2008 J28JA 1484/1485
18Jul-30Sep JD1BMM 1530 *
-Aug JA7QVK/DU7 1521
Aug? KH3/W7KFI 1525/1529
-Aug OD5/ON4JM 1522
01Aug-27Aug OX/HB9FMD 1529
24Jul-01Aug PC6IOTA 1528
07Aug-17Aug SV9/OO9O/p 1530 *
-31Dec SX100VAR 1528

30Jul-08Aug TK/DL2RMC.. 1529
28Jul-11Aug TK/IK5WOB 1529
NOW -2008 TL8QC 1459
30Jul-12Aug TM0FIL 1530 *
NOW -Sep TU2/F5LDY 1486
30Jul-06Aug V60YAQ.. 1529
Jan -Dec VI3SAA 1499
-Sep VP6AL 1530 *
Feb/08 VP6DX/Ducie 1521
May -Aug VP6TD 1517
02Aug-07Aug W5BOS/KL7 1530 *
-Sep ZD9BCB 1500

* = new or updated
.. = and other calls

QSL information

EM50CW via UT7CWW
EU2BV via EW2EO (B)
EV4DP via EW4WL
EV50L via EW4WW
EW2DS via EW2EO (B)
HG0HQ via HA8IB (d)
IR9BP via IT9RGY (B)
IU2IPY via IK2QPR (B)
IV3OKO (d)
IW0HOT no QSL
J42POL via SV2JAO (B)
J49A via SV9 bureau
JE2UFU via AJ3M
JW/RA3SS via RA3SD (d)
MI3RRE (d) or eQSL
MI6X via GI4FUE (B)
NT6C via JM1FYH
NU5DE via N5KF
PB7KNRM via PA7DA (B)
PC6REC via PA9DX (B)
R100AK via RW4HB (B)
R100IF via RW4H(B)

R70PW via UA9AB (B)
RI1DX via UA1AIR
RI1GK via RV1AQ (B)
RK3IWT/1 via RV3IB
RK0AWQ/P via RA0AA (B)
RN6LAH (d)
RP62X via UA9XC (B)
RP9J via RV9JD
RP9JGS via RK9JYY
RP9W via RV9WB (B)
RP9X/1 via RA9XX
RP0S via RW0SP
RP0Y via RK0YWA
RZ9WXT via UA9WDJ
SA7AUW (d) or via SK7OA
SN100S via SP9ZHR
SN10P via SP9KJU
SN50PTU via SP2PTU
SN600P via SP4KCM
SN0EL via SP1KRF (B)
SN0IPY via SP5UHW
SN0KJ via SP9KJ
SN0MP via SP4KGB (B)
SN0RVG via SP7ZFQ
SO1CC via DL1CC (B)
SV0XBF via VK2IR (d)
SZ4SRM via SV4FFL (B)
SZ5RHO via SV5FRD (B)
T9/7S7Y via SM7VZJ
TE8IP via TI2KAC (d)
TF/G4ELZ/p via G4ELZ (B)
TK/DJ5MX via DJ5MX (B)
TK/F5TVG via F5TVG
TK/F6JXR/p via F6JXR (B)
TM1OOO via F8KFZ (B)
UE1CDX/p via RN1CW
UE1RFF via UA1RJ (B)
UE1RFF/1 via UA1RJ (B)
UE3MKD via UA3MQM
UE4HKD via RU4HD
UE6DOO via RV6BJ
UE6GGG via RW6FO
UE6MAC via RZ6MF (B)
UE9JYW/p via RA9JG
UO50F via UN7FW
UR4U via UR4UDI
VK2SSH (d)
VO1J via VO1MX (B), (L)
YO7KYA via YO3CTK

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = Logbook of the World (LotW)

QSL via 9M2TO: Tex,9M2TO, has a new post office box in Penang:
Izumo, PO Box 125, GPO 10710, Penang, Malaysia. This address is valid
for all QSLs for 9M4SDX, 9M4DXX and 9M4SIX. QSLs for these stations are
also available via the 9M2 QSL bureau when sending via 9M2TO.
QSLs to his own call are still managed by JA0DMV, direct or via bureau.

QSL via IT9DAA: Corrado,IT9DAA, states that he is NOT the QSL manager for
YV1CTE, YV1RDX and YY1JGT anymore!
However he still handles the QSLs for 4M5DX, 4M5R, YV1FM, YV5MSG,
YV5SSB, YV5TX, YW0DX (NA-020, Feb 2007), YW1DX (SA-089, July 2007),
YW4C (SA-058, July 2005), YW5CQ, YX5IOTA (SA-044, Sep 26-Oct 1,2006)
and YY4RN. Corrado confirms all QSL cards via the bureau or direct.

QSLs arrived via bureau: C6ARI (via DL3OCH), CE9/HB9BXE, EA6/DL5MWR,
FP/W8IQ, GU0VNK (via DJ8NK), HB0/DK4YJ, HR5/EA1APV,
J68AR (K9JE), IR9MDC (IT9DAA), JW8DW (LA8DW),
KH2/JR4GPA, OY/M0DEG/p, PJ4/DL1CW, SV5/SV1QN,
R1MVC und R1MVW (UA2FB), TA0/DJ8QP, TA7/DJ8QP,
TB0DX (OK2GZ), TO5BG (F5XX), TY7Z (F5MOO),
V31VR (VE7VR), VP5/IK2SGC, XF2ZEX (IT9EJW),
YI9AQ (OM3XX), YI1OM (IK2DUW), YI9KEE (OK1EE),
ZA/DF4SA, 4O3T (PB2T), 3V8MDC (IT9DAA), 8N1C50A,
4X0MDC (IT9DAA), 5A7A (DL9USA), 7V2SI (OM3CGN),
7W2OM (OM2VL), 8Q7DV (via UA9CLB)

QSLs via LotW: CU8/IZ5CML, FG/DK7PE, GD4OBI/p, HB0/DJ0YI, J5UTM,
J8/AH0G, AH0G/KP2, OY/G3SXW, OY/G3TXF, PJ2/DL6LAU,
PJ4/PA3CNX, PY3CQ, SV5/SV1EQU, TM0AIN, TN0CW,
VP2/DK7PE, VP8LP, VP9/K3TRM, YP1W, ZD8RH, 9F2CW,
9F2CW/A, 9M2/DK7PE

Many thanks for contributing to this issue of the DXNL are going to:
Carl Smith (QRZ DX), 425DXNews, OPDX Bulletin, DF6EX (WIN-QSL), DF7FC,DJ5AV,
DK8JB, DL1SBF, DL2BQV, DL7VOA, F1JXQ, F5NQL, HB9CRV, ON7SS, OZ7C and SP6NVK.

The German PDF version can be found on the DARC homepage at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/bulls/dxmb/2007/dxmb1530.pdf

Subscribe or unsubscribe to the DXNL mailing list yourself at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedxms.htm

1372. ARRL "Hello" commercials

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-30 17:31:19 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13as82lhsl2d9ea@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 4077

Michael Coslo wrote:

> I've been seeing a number of the ARRL "Hello" commercials recently,

Where have these been playing? (I don't watch much TV.)

73, Steve KB9X

1373. Re: July 23, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-30 18:23:59 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13asb56cln4km81@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 4078

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:

> What *should* be done, IMHO, is for amateur organizations to do the
> legwork up-front. IOW,
> I think the way to do a proposal is:
> 1) Gather up lots of opinions from the amateur community
> 2) Write a draft proposal
> 3) Present it to the amateur community, with clear explanation of what
> is proposed and why.
> 4) Gather more opinions by means of surveys, polls, etc.
> 5) Rework the draft proposal based on the input received
> 6 Repeat steps 3 through 5 until a proposal gets a clear and
> compelling majority of support from the amateur community, and the
> opposition's points are dealt with.IOW, build a consensus *first*
> 7) Submit the proposal to FCC, including the survey/poll results.

I suspect that that's what the ARRL thinks they're doing now.

The problem is that on any issue that's controversial, step 6 is going to be tough, if not impossible. Think of how hard it is to get a "compelling majority of support from the amateur community" on the issue of what the code requirements should be for the various classes of license.

> If all that were done, FCC would assign an RM number and then be
> flooded with supportive comments. FCC could then easily rubber-stamp
> approval of the proposal.

Contentious issues tend to split the amateur radio community into segments that are unlikely to agree on any single proposal. No matter what you end up with, there is going to be a significant fraction of the fraternity that will file negative comments.

For example, I have to wonder whether the regulation by bandwidth proposal died because the ARRL didn't work hard enough for consensus, or because the amateur radio community is simply opposed to any regulation by bandwidth proposal. I honestly don't know; perhaps if ARRL had worked harder for consensus, there would have been less negative comments filed.

Then there are the comments from the NON-ham-radio community. BPL, for example . . . there are plenty of segments that will file comments against whatever the ARRL might come up with. There's nothing that they can do about that.

> But doing it that way takes a lot of grunt work, time, and effort.
> Also takes compromise.

And without the compromise, the work, time, and effort go for naught. I have not observed that hams, in general, are eager to compromise.

73, Steve KB9X

1374. Re: July 23, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-30 20:06:46 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f8lepk$12l2$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4079

Steve Bonine wrote:
> N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
>
>> What *should* be done, IMHO, is for amateur organizations to do the
>> legwork up-front. IOW,
>> I think the way to do a proposal is:
>> 1) Gather up lots of opinions from the amateur community
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>> is proposed and why.
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>> 5) Rework the draft proposal based on the input received
>> 6 Repeat steps 3 through 5 until a proposal gets a clear and
>> compelling majority of support from the amateur community, and the
>> opposition's points are dealt with.IOW, build a consensus *first*
>> 7) Submit the proposal to FCC, including the survey/poll results.
>
> I suspect that that's what the ARRL thinks they're doing now.
>
> The problem is that on any issue that's controversial, step 6 is going
> to be tough, if not impossible. Think of how hard it is to get a
> "compelling majority of support from the amateur community" on the issue
> of what the code requirements should be for the various classes of license.

Certainly correct, Steve. I think what we need to eventually get into
is that sometimes decisions need to be made, and if we can make them as
democratically as possible, then we have done the best we can. There is
a subculture within amateur radio that sees every change as a life
threatening problem.

I think that the regulation by bandwidth's death was a hint of how the
process could work.

>> If all that were done, FCC would assign an RM number and then be
>> flooded with supportive comments. FCC could then easily rubber-stamp
>> approval of the proposal.
>
> Contentious issues tend to split the amateur radio community into
> segments that are unlikely to agree on any single proposal. No matter
> what you end up with, there is going to be a significant fraction of the
> fraternity that will file negative comments.

You're right, and I sometimes wonder about that. We still have people
complaining about age-old grievances. It would be great to evolve the
service from members carrying lifetime grudges to one in which they

accept what happens and if they don't like it, work to change it - but give up old battles which mean nothing any more. Kind of like those Hams that Jim was speaking of who wouldn't test because of wanting to prove they took a "harder test" than someone like me. Or not upgrading because of taking the same written that I did when I went from General to Extra.

> For example, I have to wonder whether the regulation by bandwidth
> proposal died because the ARRL didn't work hard enough for consensus, or
> because the amateur radio community is simply opposed to any regulation
> by bandwidth proposal. I honestly don't know; perhaps if ARRL had
> worked harder for consensus, there would have been less negative
> comments filed.

I suspect that there was a lot of opposition to the proposal. I know most of what I heard or read about was ramifications of what would happen if it were to be accepted.

> Then there are the comments from the NON-ham-radio community. BPL, for
> example . . . there are plenty of segments that will file comments
> against whatever the ARRL might come up with. There's nothing that they
> can do about that.

BPL unfortunately is another nasty kettle of fish. As something that happens both outside and inside of amateur radio, it will get commentary from both ham radio and outside users.

>> But doing it that way takes a lot of grunt work, time, and effort.
>> Also takes compromise.
>
> And without the compromise, the work, time, and effort go for naught. I
> have not observed that hams, in general, are eager to compromise.

You are correct in that. I think that maybe the tide might be turning in that respect - at least I hope so. In any political atmosphere - and for better or worse, we are stuck in one - when no one compromises, it is a great failure mode. If not right away, all we have to do is wait.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1375. Re: ARRL "Hello" commercials

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-30 20:07:19 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f8la7u$12hi$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4080

Steve Bonine wrote:
> Michael Coslo wrote:
>
>> I've been seeing a number of the ARRL "Hello" commercials recently,
>
> Where have these been playing? (I don't watch much TV.)

I've seen them on Discovery and the History Channels. That was probably pretty well targeted demographic-wise. They had a basic "Hello" commercial, in which a number of people repeated the theme, and they had one about emergency communications. Both were well done commercials.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1376. Re: ARRL "Hello" commercials

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-30 21:54:56 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <U7WdndZpN9aCwzPbnZ2dnUVZ_tOtnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4081

About what time of day and are they still running?

Dee, N8UZE

"Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
news:f8la7u$12hi$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...
> Steve Bonine wrote:
>> Michael Coslo wrote:
>>
>>> I've been seeing a number of the ARRL "Hello" commercials recently,
>>
>> Where have these been playing? (I don't watch much TV.)
>
>
> I've seen them on Discovery and the History Channels. That was probably
> pretty well targeted demographic-wise. They had a basic "Hello"
> commercial, in which a number of people repeated the theme, and they had
> one about emergency communications. Both were well done commercials.
>
> - 73 de Mike KB3EIA -
>

1377. Re: July 23, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-31 00:54:41 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1185833664.636976.87500@z24g2000prh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4082

On Jul 30, 12:25?pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> > On Jul 27, 2:39?pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> >> N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> I told him that while he would still
> want to study it, He didn't need to learn Morse for the test because
> they didn't test for it any more.
>
>He said "Maybe in a few months, because I still am not
> up to speed for the Morse code part of the test".....

I'd guess that he simply didn't understand you.

Remember that we have had no-code-test ham licenses in the USA for 16
years now. But we've only hand no-code-test ham licenses in the USA
for five months!

> > Which is a better indicator of Morse Code skill:

> > 1) Once upon a time, maybe decades ago, a person passed a particular
> > test under certain conditions
>
> > or
>
> > 2) A person demonstrating their *current* skills under real-world
> > operating conditions?
>
> > Seems to me #2 is the better indicator.
>
> Absolutely. If a person knows how to "walk the walk" then they are
> there. What test they took is close to irrelevant.

Actually I would say it was relevant the other way - if a person
passed a test once upon a time, but couldn't pass it today. I am
particularly concerned when I read or hear hams say they could not
pass the current exams for the licenses they hold!

> IMO, the Testing
> process is the beginning, not the destination.

I disagree. It's not a destination, it's a journey.

> > When I got my Extra in 1970, some folks said I was wasting my time and
> > effort because "incentive licensing won't last - in a few years
> > Generals will have all privileges again..."
>
> Kinda another example of what I was talking about above. Even if they

> were correct that the incentive licensing would go away, it's hard to
> fault picking up knowledge.

Sort of. If you don't have an HDTV, but want one, and you thought the
price would drop significantly in the near future, you'd probably wait
a bit.

However, it's been 37 years since I was told that incentive licensing
would go away soon....

> > Actually, yes - or rather, for all Advanceds.

> Some of us might think that was a pretty hefty sense of entitlement!
>
> >> Exactly what dud they see as insulting about having to take the same
> >> test?

> > He was angry that having passed the old Advanced written did not carry
> > any testing credit towards Extra.
>
> Wow. I guess that the only way to sate this fellow might be to throw
> away a lot of the questions. Of course then he might be angry that he is
> paying the same that a General pays to upgrade! He'd be paying more per
> test question! ;^)

I think the only thing that would have made him happy would have been
to either auto-upgrade all Advanceds to Extra with no test, or to keep
alive the old Element 4B just so Advanceds could take it instead of
Element 4.

> > IOW: "if you're going to change the rules, change 'em! Don't take
> > 3-1/2 years to make such a simple change!"
>
> Absolutely. While I didn't win the poll that we had a long time ago in
> another group, I wasn't all that far off. It should have only taken 6
> months, a year tops. Even then, it could have been more like "this is
> what is going to happen then, instead of being a minor mystery until the
> end.
>
I remember when the treaty changed in 2003, and the ARRL story on it
said the process would take two years. I thought that was wildy
exaggerated. Turns out it was short by over a year.

> > What *should* be done, IMHO, is for amateur organizations to do the
> > legwork up-front. IOW,
> > I think the way to do a proposal is:
> > 1) Gather up lots of opinions from the amateur community
> > 2) Write a draft proposal
> > 3) Present it to the amateur community, with clear explanation of what
> > is proposed and why.
> > 4) Gather more opinions by means of surveys, polls, etc.
> > 5) Rework the draft proposal based on the input received
> > 6 Repeat steps 3 through 5 until a proposal gets a clear and

> > compelling majority of support from the amateur community, and the
> > opposition's points are dealt with.IOW, build a consensus *first*
> > 7) Submit the proposal to FCC, including the survey/poll results.
>
> > If all that were done, FCC would assign an RM number and then be
> > flooded with supportive comments. FCC could then easily rubber-stamp
> > approval of the proposal.
>
> > But doing it that way takes a lot of grunt work, time, and effort.
> > Also takes compromise.
>
> Jim, that is an excellent proposal. I think it might be a great way to
> keep the league in (better?) touch with the Ham community.

It's not just ARRL that I'm referring to - it's anyone writing a
proposal.

> It would
> certainly allow Hams to offer feedback and interactivity. It would be a
> semi-direct conduit, coordinated by the organization(s).
>
It's also a lot of boring work!

73 de Jim, N2EY

1378. Re: July 23, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-31 00:55:11 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1185835428.394062.129830@z24g2000prh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4083

On Jul 30, 2:23?pm, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> > What *should* be done, IMHO, is for amateur organizations to do the
> > legwork up-front. IOW,
> > I think the way to do a proposal is:
> > 1) Gather up lots of opinions from the amateur community
> > 2) Write a draft proposal
> > 3) Present it to the amateur community, with clear explanation of what
> > is proposed and why.
> > 4) Gather more opinions by means of surveys, polls, etc.
> > 5) Rework the draft proposal based on the input received
> > 6 Repeat steps 3 through 5 until a proposal gets a clear and
> > compelling majority of support from the amateur community, and the
> > opposition's points are dealt with.IOW, build a consensus *first*
> > 7) Submit the proposal to FCC, including the survey/poll results.
>
> I suspect that that's what the ARRL thinks they're doing now.

With all due respect, it may be what they think they are doing, but
it's not what they *are* doing.

For example, was the original "Regulation By Bandwidth" proposal shown
in QST and on the website where it could be seen by all? I don't
recall that - instead, I recall it being described, but not the whole
text given out.

Was there a questionaire of all ARRL members about the proposal
before it was sent to FCC?

Were the results of such research published, and the proposal modified
because of it?

> The problem is that on any issue that's controversial, step 6 is going
> to be tough, if not impossible. Think of how hard it is to get a
> "compelling majority of support from the amateur community" on the issue
> of what the code requirements should be for the various classes of license.

I think the biggest part of that difficulty is lack of clear
communications.

Imagine if there had been a detailed survey of all ARRL members, or
all US hams, on that very subject back in 2003 or so.

Imagine if the results of such a survey were made public, so that
everyone could see that X percent of US hams support Y amount of code-
testing for license class Z

Imagine if a proposal were crafted to follow that information, and the information presented to FCC along with the proposal.

And imagine if there were creative options proposed on divisive issues. For example, look at how Canada solved the Morse code test issue. Why wasn't something like that proposed by ARRL? (I put it in my comments, btw).

> > If all that were done, FCC would assign an RM number and then be
> > flooded with supportive comments. FCC could then easily rubber-stamp
> > approval of the proposal.
>
> Contentious issues tend to split the amateur radio community into
> segments that are unlikely to agree on any single proposal. No matter
> what you end up with, there is going to be a significant fraction of the
> fraternity that will file negative comments.

Of course. But having a significant fraction opposed is a lot better than having a *majority* opposed!

> For example, I have to wonder whether the regulation by bandwidth
> proposal died because the ARRL didn't work hard enough for consensus, or
> because the amateur radio community is simply opposed to any regulation
> by bandwidth proposal. I honestly don't know; perhaps if ARRL had
> worked harder for consensus, there would have been less negative
> comments filed.

I think it's a combination of factors.

First off, the "RBB" proposal would have allowed data modes in the 'phone subbands. A lot of hams didn't like that, even though RBB also widened those subbands.

What really ticked off a lot of folks was that RBB would have changed the rules on "robot" data stations.

The kicker, IMHO, was that ARRL did not do the hard work to get the support *before* submitting the proposal. All that did was galvanize the opposition to action.

And it's not just an ARRL problem. Look at the "Communications Think Tank" proposal, and how much opposition it generated! Made RBB look popular by comparison.

> Then there are the comments from the NON-ham-radio community. BPL, for
> example . . . there are plenty of segments that will file comments
> against whatever the ARRL might come up with. There's nothing that they
> can do about that.

No, there isn't. But if you look at the various Part 97 RM and NPRM comments that have come down the pipe in the past decade or two, the vast majority are from already-licensed hams. It's really a rare event when a nonham sends in comments.

> > But doing it that way takes a lot of grunt work, time, and effort.
> > Also takes compromise.
>
> And without the compromise, the work, time, and effort go for naught. I
> have not observed that hams, in general, are eager to compromise.

Well, we'll have to disagree about that. What I've seen is that people in general and hams in particular are willing to compromise *if* what is proposed is a true compromise - which means you give some and you get some.

For example, consider again the RBB proposal. It offered the HF 'phone op slightly wider subbands - and the possibility of having to deal with wide data signals from robots all over those subbands! Not a good compromise.

Or consider the CW op. RBB offered *narrower* subbands and the possibility of robot QRM all over those narrower subbands! (Yes, I know CW can legally be used anywhere, but how much actual real CW operation goes on in the 'phone subbands?)

The end result was a coalition of "NO!"

Now suppose RBB had included things like a slice of CW-only space for the CW ops, a slice of no-data space for the 'phone ops, and a slice of "all modes" space for everybody. The result might have been very different.

The big mistake ARRL (and CTT, and many others) make is that they don't really know how popular their proposals are *before* submitting them to FCC.

Whatever is the point of *any* amateur radio group submitting a Part 97 proposal that generates 70, 80, 90% negative comments? All that does is annoy FCC, IMHO.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1379. Re: ARRL "Hello" commercials

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-31 01:43:30 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <1q4ta3l3fcfckvjiq1kajjui0tpbpgj702@4ax.com>
Source record: 4084

On Mon, 30 Jul 2007 16:07:19 EDT, Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:

>>> I've been seeing a number of the ARRL "Hello" commercials recently,

>> Where have these been playing? (I don't watch much TV.)

>I've seen them on Discovery and the History Channels. That was probably
>pretty well targeted demographic-wise. They had a basic "Hello"
>commercial, in which a number of people repeated the theme, and they
>had one about emergency communications. Both were well done commercials.

The only "Hello" commercials that I have seen have been for Target
Stores, and were also very well done.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1380. Re: Active Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-31 16:38:31 UTC
From: Iitoi@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1185898971.145991.276210@d55g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4085

On Jul 29, 6:14 pm, Phil Kane <Phil.K...@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:

> >> I hear a lot of "active" hams (regularly on the air) whose "contribution" is
> >> "59 Old Man, QTH here is Resume Speed, Arizona, and the name is Broken Old
> >> Bottle. Sebentee Tree. XYL is calling me for lunch". Good for them. They're
> >> enoying themselves.
>
> The derisive comment above sounds like that of my very sarcastic
> brother who, in spite of holding an extra class license for many
> years, hasn't been on the air for the same very many years because he
> doesn't want to talk to hams who sound like that, thereby assuming
> that all hams do.

It wasn't intended to be derisive, just an example to support my
premise that even the most mundane QSO is, after all, "activity", and
meets KB9X's definition of "contributing".

The Man in the Maze
QRV from Baboquivari Peak, AZ

--
Iitoi

1381. Re: ARRL "Hello" commercials

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-31 17:08:01 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f8npjg$109u$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4086

Dee Flint wrote:
> About what time of day and are they still running?

Hi Dee, It was evenings that I saw them, sometimes weekends. I'm not sure if that was the only times that they were on - it might have been because those were the only times I watch TV.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1382. Re: July 23, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-07-31 18:52:31 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f8nr0c$1kr0$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4087

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
>
> Now suppose RBB had included things like a slice of CW-only space for
> the CW ops, a slice of no-data space for the 'phone ops, and a slice
> of "all modes" space for everybody. The result might have been very
> different.
>
> The big mistake ARRL (and CTT, and many others) make is that they
> don't really know how popular their proposals are *before* submitting
> them to FCC.
>
> Whatever is the point of *any* amateur radio group submitting a Part
> 97 proposal that generates 70, 80, 90% negative comments? All that
> does is annoy FCC, IMHO.

The way I see it is that indeed the proposal was a big mistake. The folks who were all about the robot stations effectively took over the process, and hoped to push things through with their agenda intact.

This is not an unusual thing. Many different groups see their own interests as paramount to the "big picture" in Ham radio (though it isn't exclusive to the ARS) I've sat through lectures from Emergency Operation fans on how amateur radio MUST change to acommodate their particular view. Pro contesters/anti contesters, the different folks involved all have a vision of what the service needs to be.

In the case of the RBB, the big picture was circumvented, and the result was predictable and hams did their job. Some people look at it as a failure. I look at as a shining success. A bad idea was beat down.

Of course, after being chased around the bands by some of those stations while trying to enjoy some psk31, I suppose that would be natural on my part. ;^)

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1383. C-Com of CNY

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-01 16:20:26 UTC
From: exal <al.arduengo@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <1185984732.405585.189460@w3g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4088

Has anyone ever had any dealings with C-Com of CNY in New York? Can
you comment if so?

Thanks.
-Al (w5ard)

1384. Re: July 23, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-03 13:44:16 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1186146617.139263.40190@r34g2000hsd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4089

On Jul 31, 2:52 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote:

> > The big mistake ARRL (and CTT, and many others) make is that they
> > don't really know how popular their proposals are *before* submitting
> > them to FCC.
>
> > Whatever is the point of *any* amateur radio group submitting a Part
> > 97 proposal that generates 70, 80, 90% negative comments? All that
> > does is annoy FCC, IMHO.
>
> The way I see it is that indeed the proposal was a big mistake. The
> folks who were all about the robot stations effectively took over the
> process, and hoped to push things through with their agenda intact.

I don't know if 'the folks who were all about the robot stations' took
over the process or not. But that doesn't matter.

What I do know is that there was a widespread *perception* that RBB
was "all about robots" and conducted behind closed doors. That
perception was pure poison when comment-time came around. It
galvanized so many hams into writing anti-RBB comments that the good
parts of the proposal were lost in the uproar.

The really sad thing is that the BoD, who OK'd the proposal, didn't
see all that ahead of time.

> This is not an unusual thing. Many different groups see their own
> interests as paramount to the "big picture" in Ham radio (though it
> isn't exclusive to the ARS)

Of course.

And the way you get around that sort of resistance is to let all
groups have their say, and come up with proposals that give everybody
something of what they want.

> I've sat through lectures from Emergency
> Operation fans on how amateur radio MUST change to acommodate their
> particular view. Pro contesters/anti contesters, the different folks
> involved all have a vision of what the service needs to be.

Sure. And they're almost all right! The trick is to make room for
everyone.

For example, I think WinLink/Pactor/robots are a great thing in
Amateur Radio. I think many of our rules on them are outdated and in

need of rewriting. I even think the "no-data-in-the-phone-bands" rule has to go.

But at the same time, I do not think that simply allowing robot operation everywhere is a good thing. That's why I opposed both RBB and CTT.

> In the case of the RBB, the big picture was circumvented, and the result
> was predictable and hams did their job. Some people look at it as a
> failure. I look at as a shining success. A bad idea was beat down.

It was a failure in my view because:

1) A lot of good ideas in RBB were beat down too
2) The beat-down of the bad ideas should have happened *before* it was ever sent to FCC, not after.
3) The proposal asked a lot of hams to give something up, without giving them anything in return, or not enough in return. Meanwhile, other hams would gain something without giving anything up. Or at least it seemed that way to many hams.

This is why proposals like RBB and CTT go nowhere, IMHO.

Suppose somebody came up with a composite mode that combined SSB voice and a PSK31-like data mode in a bandwidth of less than 3 kHz. I think that would be a good thing for Amateur Radio, and under RBB it would be legal. Under current rules it's not allowed on US HF amateur radio, though, and with the mess created by RBB and CTT, it won't be for many years to come.

IMHO, one of the reasons it takes *years* for FCC to make even simple changes to Part 97 (like dumping the code test) is because we USA hams don't get our act together before sending proposals to FCC.

Look at how Canada handled the code test thing. They sent out surveys, got ideas, and put together an innovative plan that generated consensus among VE hams. Only when they could point to hard numbers about how much widespread support their was for their proposal did they send it to Industry Canada.

And Industry Canada put the change in place with little hassle. The whole process was a done deal long before the USA got around to changing Part 97, and IMHO the Canadian change generated less animosity among VE hams than the USA process did here.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1385. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1564 - August 3, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-03 14:07:00 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <E1IGsc3-00075W-4oa@elasmtp-dupuy.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 4090
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1564 - August 3, 2007

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1564 with a
release date of Friday, August 3, 2007 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. The ARRL Board of
Directors say NO to lifestyle and checks of ham
radio volunteers. Also, the ARRL will not
revisit Regulation by Bandwidth right now, the
FCC says yes to a 700 MHz rescue radio bandplan
and NCVEC meets with the FCC. Find out the
details on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number
1564 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

ARRL POLITICS: ARRL BOD SAYS "NO" TO BACKGROUND CREDIT CHECKS

The ARRL Board of Directors has issued a policy
statement saying no to the demand by served
agencies for lifestyle and financial background
checks on Amateur Radio volunteers. The action
came at the recent Board of Directors Meeting
held July 20th and 21st. Don Carlson, KQ6FM, is in Reno with more:

--

A major concern to the ARRL Board of Directors
was the topic of served agencies and background
investigations. An Ad Hoc Background
Investigation Committee empanelled by the ARRL
some time ago agreed that pursuing federally
recognized credentialing for Amateur Radio
volunteers was critical for the Amateur Radio
Emergency Service to function. The Committee
chairman, Atlantic Division Director Bill Edgar,
N3LLR, proposed that the Board adopt a policy
with regard to Memoranda of Understanding with the various served agencies.

After some discussion the Board did approve a
policy on this issue. One that says
communications volunteers participating in ARRL
sponsored programs should not be required by
served agencies to undergo background

investigations of any kind. The Directors did
however note that criminal background checks as
performed by law enforcement agencies are generally acceptable.

But the policy statement also seemed to refute
the American Red Cross demand that its
contractor, mybackgroundcheck dot com, be given
free reign to delve into a volunteers personal
finances and lifestyle. While the ARRL Board did
not name the American Red Cross in its policy
statement, to anyone familiar with the position
of the American Red Cross on this issue the
intent is hard to miss. The ARRL policy continues -- and we quote:

"It is not reasonable for a served agency to
require these volunteers to consent to credit
checks, mode of living investigations or
investigative consumer reports. In negotiating
or renegotiating Memoranda of Understanding that
commits the League to provide volunteer emergency
communications support, the League must be
assured that these volunteers will not be
required by the partner organization to consent
to credit checks, mode of living investigations
or investigative consumer reports." - End quote.

The ARRL policy stopped short of telling those
radio amateurs wanting to volunteer to agencies
that require credit and lifestyle checks not to
do so. That said, many hams will likely now
think twice before clicking away their financial
information to any group that wants them to work for free.

In Reno, I'm Don Carlson, KQ6FM, for the Amateur Radio Newsline.

--

The bottom line.: It appears that the ARRL Board
of Directors has now thrown the hot issue of
lifestyle and credit check demands back in the
lap of the American Red Cross and any other
served agency that might make such a demand of
ham radio volunteers. That also leaves the next
move is up to them. (Adapted from ARRL)

**

ARRL POLITICS: BOD VOTES TO EVEN ELECTION PLAYING FIELD

The ARRL Board of Directors has leveled the
proverbial playing field in regard to the
election process for Directors, Vice Directors
and Section Managers. This by clarifying the

Rules and Regulations concerning mass
communication of campaign material at the ARRL's
expense. Henry Feinberg, K2SSQ, reports:

For years, challengers in ARRL divisional
elections have claimed that incumbents have had
an unfair advantage in that they had access to
materials that the challenger did not. Now the
Board of Directors has acted to prohibit all
types of mass communications by any candidate
for these three offices where-in the ARRL winds
up paying any of the costs involved.

Specifically prohibited is any communications
where the material is distributed at League
expense by mail, electronic distribution
including Web sites, hand delivery or any other
means to League members in the particular
Division or Section involved in an
election. This if the material might reasonably
be expected to affect the outcome of the election during the campaign
period.

According to ARRL specialist Dave Patton, NN1N,
this basically means that all candidates running
for office candidates cannot use ARRL resources
to campaign. However, the new rule does not
prohibit a candidate from creating his or her own
materials and distributing them using any means
he or she may desire, as long as its done at the candidates own expense.

For the amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Henry Feinberg, K2SSQ, in New York.

--

The new election rule is effective immediately. (ARRL, ARNewsline(tm))

**

ARRL POLITICS: ARRL ASKS COORDINATORS TO COORDINATE D-STAR

The American Radio Relay League has at least
tacitly endorsed the JARL-developed D-STAR
digital voice and data communications scheme for
relay system use on the VHF and UHF ham
bands. Its also asking current FM repeater
coordinators to both recognize and accommodate it
and other digital voice ciphers through the
formal coordination process. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, is here with more:

--

Though D-STAR and, to a lesser degree, APCO 25 protocols are gaining in popularity as a replacement for analog F-M repeaters, some coordinators have come to wonder to what extent either of these systems fall within the FCC definition of an Amateur service relay device? A repeater if you will.

But the ARRL is leaving that to be decided by the FCC at some later date if the regulatory agency ever chooses to do so. For its part the ARRL Board has requested that coordinators begin now to extend their efforts to recommend operating channels to digital voice systems and to consider the bandwidths that they actually required for successful operation.

Currently only Icom supplies D-STAR ham radio gear but other manufacturers are expected to quickly jump on the D-STAR bandwagon. Especially now that there are more than 60 D-STAR repeaters in operation across the United states and more on their way.

The main reason APCO 25 is lagging so far behind D-STAR is the licensing fee required by its codec patent owner. While the P 25 platform is public domain, the encoder decoder is not and carries with it a fairly steep cost. On the other hand D-STAR requires no license fee be paid. The Japan Amateur Radio League saw fit to put its technology fully in the public domain. Anyone with the ability to do so can design a codec for it, but it must be made available to anyone to use.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline. I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF. I'm in the studio in Los Angeles.

--

How the more than fifty repeater coordinators nation wide will react to this ARRL Board request to coordinate digital repeaters will take some time to be known. The ARRL Board did thank all existing VHF/UHF frequency coordination groups for their efforts to promote orderly use of Amateur Radio frequencies. (ARRL)

**

RADIO RULES: ARRL WILL NOT REFILE NOW ON REGULATION BY BANDWIDTH

Sometimes its what you don't say that means a lot. While the ARRL is vocal regarding digital in the world above 50 MHz, it's a different story on the high frequency bands. This with word what the ARRL Board did not appear to even discuss

another petition to the FCC on the controversial
subject of Regulation by Bandwidth. Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, reports:

--

While the League has yet to make a formal
announcement, word leaked to the ham community by
those with knowledge of what transpired at the
recent ARRL Board of Directors meeting. They say
that the matter was only briefly touched on and
that the directors have at least unofficially
decided to take a wait and see position. This,
while the nations ham community continues to
discuss and debate the issue on the air and on-line.

It was only last April that the ARRL withdrew the
controversial November 2005 Regulation by
Petition for Rule Making RM-11306. It did so it
cited what it called "widespread misconceptions"
surrounding the petition as a primary reason for
deciding to remove it from FCC consideration. At
that time the ARRL left open the option of
refileing the same or a similar request in the
future, however it appears as if now is not that time.

But this does not mean the issue of Regulation by
Bandwidth is dead. Its quite conceivable that
one or more petitions asking for a change away
from designated subbands and over to some form of
regulation by bandwidth will be generated from
various interest groups within the ham community.

I'm Don Wilbanks, AE5DW.

--

As we go to air there are no Regulation by
Bandwidth petitions currently awaiting any action
before the FCC. (ARNewsline(tm), listener input)

**

Break 1

From the United States of America, We are the
Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin
stations around the world including the
Hamfesters Radio Club net serving Bedford Park, Illinois

(5 sec pause here)

**

ON THE AIR: 6 AND 2 OPEN THE LAST WEEK OF JULY

An amazing last week of July foir D-X on 6 and 2 meters. Hams around the world are reporting superb conditions in the world above 50 MHz that began on the 28th U-T-C.

For example, Scott Avery, WA6LIE, up in Silanas, California reports that he was alerted to the opening by his television set. That from 1600 to 2200 UTC he saw television channel 2 from Seattle with a clear picture and 59 audio. On the ham bands Scott says there were a lot of double and triple hop signals on both bands. At 2110 UTC he talked to VE6EGN ingrid square DO23 on 144.200 Mhz while running only 45 watts to a 13 element beam at 40 feet.

Meantime, Bob Brown, KR7O, says over the VHF Reflector that he made contact with stations in grids CM 97 and CM98 during that same frame of time. KR7O adds that at 2125 UTC that 6 meters was wide open again to Washington, Idaho, Montana and up into Canada as well.

On July 29th, at 23:53, Bob Cox, K4AVO, in central North Carolina reported over the 50 MHz Prop Logger that he was hearing the VE1SMU propagation beacon on 50.001. Its located in Halifax Nova Scotia almost a thousand miles away.

On the other side of the world, Hatsuo Yoshida, JA1VOK, in grid square QM05 reports hearing the BV2NT propagation beacon in Taipei, Taiwan also on 50.001 MHz. It was hitting his QTH in Chiba, Japan, with a very strong 599 signal.

And on July 30th Bob Cox, K4AVO, in Grid FM06 reported hearing CO8LY calling C-Q on 50.095 in C-W. CO8LY is located in Cuba.

Lots of D-X out there on 6 and 2 meters. All you have to do is fire up and keep an ear on the calling frequencies of 50 point 125 and 144 dot 200 MHz. Its there for you to enjoy. (ARNewsline(tm))

**

RADIO LAW: FCC CREATES INTEROPERABLE 700 MHZ RESCUE RADIO BANDPLAN

The FCC has revised its 700 MHz bandplan and service rules to promote the creation of a nationwide interoperable broadband network for public safety. The congressionally mandated change will also facilitate the availability of new and innovative wireless broadband services for consumers.

In a Second Report & Order adopted on Tuesday, July 31st, the Federal Communications Commission revised the band plan which runs from 698-806 MHz. This spectrum is currently occupied by television broadcasters but will be made available for other wireless services, including public safety and commercial use, as a result of the digital television transition.

The Digital Television and Public Safety Act of 2005 set a firm deadline of February 17, 2009, for the completion of the DTV transition. In implementing Congress' directive to reallocate the 700 MHz airwaves, the Commission was focused on serving the public interest and the American people. The service rules that the Commission has now adopted should help create a national broadband network for public safety that will address the interoperability problems of today's system. It should also provide for a more open wireless platform that will facilitate the emergence of next generation wireless broadband services in both urban and rural areas. (FCC)

**

RADIO TESTING: FCC AND NCVEC HOLD ANNUAL MEETING

The 2007 meeting of the National Conference of Volunteer Examination Coordinators and the FCCs was held in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, on Friday, July 27. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennent, K6PZW, tells us what went on:

--

There were 11 Volunteer Examination Coordinators represented at this years gathering between the National Conference of Volunteer Examination Coordinators and the FCC. Together these groups represent more than 98% of all examinations administered in the Amateur Service in the United States.

Also in attendance were FCC staffers Donna Scott, Sandra Eckenrode, Terry Fishel and Riley Hollingsworth. Bill Cross, W3TN, from the Wireless Telecom Bureau acted as moderator for the FCC discussions.

Cross first reviewed recent Commission decisions that have affected the VEC's including Wireless Telecommunications Bureau docket items 04-140 and 05-235. He was followed by Riley Hollingsworth who said that complaints have been greatly reduced over the past two years.

In his remarks Hollingsworth noted that enforcement of amateur service rules will continue to be a permanent part of the FCC's regulatory effort. He also noted that although the licensing structure is now simpler, that VECs remain vigilant.

Question Pool Committee Chairman Jim Wiley, KL7CC of the Anchorage VEC gave a preliminary report. He said that the committee is now looking ahead to revising the Element 4 question pool to be used for Extra Class written examinations effective July 1, 2008. The Question Pool Committee is planning to release the entire pool which will include the syllabus on or around December 1st of this year.

Another of the agenda items was a discussion on whether or not the NCVEC should develop a position and issue a statement about foreign language exams. In this regard the ARRL VEC made a motion that N-C-V-E-C approved Spanish language question pools and make them available in addition to the English language version. That motion did not carry.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline. I'm Bruce Tenbnent, K6PZW, in Los Angeles

--

The VEC Conference has been held annually since 1985 with the exception of 1999. The complete report on this years NCVEC and FCC meeting is on line on the front newspage at www.qrz.con (NCVEC, QRZ.COM)

**

ENFORCEMENT: HAM ASKED TO EXPLAIN HIS OPERATIONS

Turning to enforcement news, the FCC has written to Robert J. Langston, W2ENY, of Cornwall on Hudson, New York asking him to explain a complaint regarding the operation of his station. The FCC says that the complaint alleges transmission of recordings, including recordings of the radio transmissions of other operators, and false identification of transmissions.

The FCC says that if the information in its possession if true, it raises serious questions regarding Langston's qualifications to retain an Amateur license. It asks him to respond in detail to a number of questions regarding the complaint and to support his response with a signed and dated affidavit or declaration. One that under penalty of perjury, verifies the truth

and accuracy of the information submitted in his response.

The FCC also told Langston that his license is due for renewal in December of this year. As such the Commission the authority to obtain information from applicants and licensees about the operation of their station and their qualifications to remain a licensee. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: THAT FREQUENCY IS NOT FOR USE

The FCC is asking Frederick C. Severa, AH8I, of Pago Pago, American Samoa, to explain why he has been monitored as operating SSB on 7.055 MHz. This, back on February 12th of this year.

In its July 25th letter to Severa sent via the American Samoa DX Society in California, the Commission says that such operation may reflect adversely on his qualifications to retain an Amateur Radio license.

The letter directs Severa to contact the FCC within 30 days to discuss the matter with peial Counsel Riley Hollingsworth. It also asks Severa to verify his current address since the Commission's first attempt to contact him was returned as undeliverable. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: UNLICENSED OPERATION BRINGS $10000 FINE

A big fine for a Texan who put a radio on the air without FCC permission to do so. Again, Amateur Radio Newsline's Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, has more:

--

The FCC has issued a a monetary forfeiture in the amount of $10,000 to Michael Thomas McCollum of Houston, Texas. This for his alleged willful and repeated violation of Section 301 of the Communications Act by operating a radio transmission apparatus without a license.

By way of background, on May 23, 2007, the FCC's Houston Office issued a Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture in the amount of $10,000 to McCollum. The FCC says that McCollum has not filed a response to the N-A-L. So based on the information before it, the FCC acted on July 13th to affirm the forfeiture.

--

McCollum was given the customary 30 days to pay or to file an appeal. (FCC)

**

RADIO EDFUCATION: FAR ANNOUNCES 2007 SCHOLARSHIP AWAR WINNERS

The Foundation for Amateur Radio has announced
the winners of 56 scholarships for the 2007
academic year. The list is far to long to
include here but will shortly be available in
numerous ham radio print publications.

The Foundation for Amateur Radio is a District of
Columbia based non profit organization
representing one 50 radio clubs along the central
Atlantic coast. The scholarships it administers
are open to all licensed radio amateurs who meet
the qualification and residence requirements of
the various sponsors More information about the
foundation and the scholarship program is on line
at www.amateurradio-far.org/ (FAR)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio
amateur. From the United States of America, We
are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the
world from our only official website at
www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the
volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

ON THE WEB: FREE ON-LINE REPEATER MAP LOCATOR FROM K5EHX

A new free service for those who want to know
where a repeater is located and its approximate
service area. Thanks to Tom White, K5EHX, in
Tulsa, Oklahoma, such a place in cyberspace now exists.

Toms repeater database is tied to Google Maps and
lets you search by tags, city, state or zip
code. Tom says that the original idea was to
make it easier to search for repeaters in a given area for planning a trip.

You can try it for yourself at
http://k5ehx.net/repeaters/ We did. Its fun and
it works very, very well.. (K5EHX)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: NEW DIGITAL HAM RADIO REMAILER FORMED

And a new cyberspace retailer dedicated exclusively to the emerging world of digital Amateur Radio communications has been formed on Yahoogroups. This e-mail reflector will primarily discuss the use of digital voice and data communication techniques on the VHF and UHF bands. Technology to be addressed will include D-STAR, APCO P25, packet radio including APRS, High Speed Multi Media, Wi-Fi, P-S-K and F-S-K. To join the group just take your web browser to http://groups.yahoo.com/group/illinoisdigitalham/ and follow the sign up instructions. (WB9QZB)

**

RESTRUCTURING - FOLOOW UP: DENMARK LICENSES 40 MHZ HAM RADIO BEACON ACTIVATED

A follow-up to last weeks story on Denmark's telecommunications regulator having approved a permit for a ham radio beacon on 40.021 MHz. According to OZ7IS, the OZ7IGY beacon came to life at 18.20 UTC on July 26th. The output power is 22 watts to a dipole antenna. That will shortly be changed to an omni-directional Turnstile radiator. The license for OE7IGY is valid for a year. Reception reports from around the world 64-oz-beacon go by e-mail to oz7is at qrz.dk (Southgate)

**

PUBLIC SERVICE: MARSGRAM SERVES KIDS AT CAMP

The Army MARS new Winlink Messaging System has provided real-life connections for some 200 boys and girls whose separation from family members had very special significance. Capt. Jeff Hammer N9NIC who holds the MARS call sign AAR5WL is an Afghanistan veteran. HE recently set up his portable MARS station at the Indiana Guard's Family Program Youth Camp at Camp Atterbury . He briefed each camper's family on sending a MARSgram.

MARSgrams are free radio messages that connect service personnel and their family and friends. As in many summer programs, phone calls and e-mail were not allowed. The MARSgram was Hammer's solution.

Before e-mail and the cell-phone, amateur radio operators in the Military Affiliate Radio System

handled hundreds of thousands of them for troops in the Korean War, Vietnam and the first Gulf War. The service is still available though not as frequently utilized as it once was. (ACapitalNewsOnline)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: P3E HARDWARE TO BE READY BY YEARS END

The hardware for the eagerly awaited AMSAT Phase 3E ham radio satellite should be completed by the end of 2007. The announcement came at the recently concluded AMSAT-UK International Space Colloquium. That's where it was also made known that Phase 3E will be the first Amateur satellite to operate at 47 GHz. It is also will use 145 MHz and 435 MHz along with the 1.260, 2.4, 5, 10 GHz Amateur Radio Microwave bands.

As yet there is no launch date. AMSAT is exploring possibilities of an Arianne launch from the ESA site at Kourou in 2008 or on a Soyuz launcher from the new Russian launch site under construction also at Kourou. (ANS)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: AMSSAT-UK BEGINNERS WORKSHOP A HIT

The recent AMSAT - UK Beginners Workshop is being described as a truly smashing success and attracted a lot of newcomers to the hobby. Among the many attendees were six members of the University of Surrey Electronics and Amateur Radio Society, all of whom hold Foundation or Intermediate licenses.

AMSAT-UK has held Beginners Workshops at its Annual Colloquium in Guildford, England for 20 years. The aim of these workshops is to show new hams how to get started in the exciting world of Amateur Satellite Communications. It was AMSAT-UK that successfully campaigned to have access to the Amateur Satellite Service available to all United Kingdom amateurs, regardless of the license class that they hold. (Southgate)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: JAPAN AMSAT DONATES 1,000,000 YEN TO P3E

Peter Gï¿½lzow, DB2OS reports on the AMSAT D L web site that Japan AMSAT has donated 1,000,000 Yen in support of the Phase 3-E satellite. 1,000,000 yen is the equivalent of 6,136 Euros or $8,407

U-S dollars at the current rate of exchange. The monies will be used to help complete and launch the Phase 3 E bird. More is on-line, in German. At the U-R-L in this weeks Amateur radio Newsline report. (ANS)

**

WORLDBEAT - SOUTH AFRICA: SARL WT ATTEND GAREC O7

The South African Radio League has added its name to the growing list of groups that will be represented at the upcoming 2007 Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference.

The gathering is slated to be held in Huntsville, Alabama, on August 16th and 17th just prior to the opening of the 2007 Huntsville Hamfest. This years meeting is focussing on the application of advanced technologies in emergency communications.

The two-day conference will be packed with practical information, and experts will arrange demonstrations of the capabilities of 21st century communications technology. This will include many diverse aspects Amateur Radio as applied to emergency and disaster response. (Southgate)

**

DX

Six members of the Japan Amateur Radio League's Kyoto Club will be operating JA3YAQ portable J60 through August 6th. This, to celebrate the 60th anniversary of their club on the island of Pohnpei. The operation will use CW, SSB, FM, RTTY and PSK31 on 160 through 6 meters from the South Park Hotel. QSL as directed on the air.

Also on right now are DL2RMC and DL1RTL who will be active portable TK from Corsica through August 8th. Look for them on 160 through 6 meters on CW and the Digital modes. They will have vertical antennas for the low bands with their activity also being a holiday style operations. QSL via their home callsigns.

And, listen out for W1ADX, will be active portable 9A from a few of the Dalmatian Islands through August 7th. Activity will be holiday style as time permits. QSL via IN3DEI.

Lastly, for those of you who worked KL7FF in June there is now a QSL route. You can send your QSL,

along with an Self Addressed Stamped Envelope to
to Paul Kiesel, K7CW , P.O. Box 112 Tahuya,
Washington, 98588. Paul says that he has
received the cards from the printer and will send
you a KL7FF card immediately on receipt of your card.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: THE ARTISTRY OF ANCIENT GREECE IS IN THE SOUND

And finally this week, another kind of
communications. That of the human voice and the
way it could be heard for thousands of feet long
before microphones, amplifiers and loud speakers
were invented. The story is from ancient
Greece. A not so ancient Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF,
takes us back in time to about the 3d Century BC:

--

Science Daily reports that researchers at the
Georgia Institute of Technology have pinpointed
the elusive factor that makes the ancient
amphitheater the ancient Greek amphitheater at
Epidaurus an acoustic marvel. It's the seats.

The scientists say that the rows of limestone
seats at Epidaurus form an efficient acoustics
filter that hushes low-frequency background
noises like the murmur of a crowd. At the same
time it reflects the high frequency noises of the
performers on stage off the seats and back toward
the seated audience member. This in turn carries
the performers voice all the way to the back rows of the theater.

While many experts speculated on the possible
causes for Epidaurus' acoustics, few guessed that
the seats themselves were the secret of its
acoustics success. There were theories that the
site's wind which blows primarily from the stage
to the audience was the cause. Others credited
masks that may have acted as primitive
loudspeakers or the rhythm of Greek speech. More
technical theories took into account the slope of the seat rows.

The report appeared in the April issue of the
Journal of the Acoustics Society of America.

From Auckland, New Zealand. for the Amateur
Radio Newsline, I'm Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF,

--

The theater at Epidaurus permits almost perfect intelligibility of un-amplified spoken word from the stage to all 15,000 spectators, regardless of their seating. What's not known if whether or not those who designed it were aware of the science of acoustics or if it was all nothing more than a lucky guess.

More about Epidaurus and its famed theater is on-line at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Epidaurus and http://www.greeklandscapes.com/greece/epidaurus.html (Science Daily OnLine)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline@arnewsline.org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), P.O. Box 660937, Arcadia, California 91066.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Jim Damron, N8TMW and I'm Jeff Clark, K8JAC, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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1386. Re: July 23, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-03 19:44:17 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f8vuh3$10cq$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4091

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
> On Jul 31, 2:52 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>> N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>
>>> The big mistake ARRL (and CTT, and many others) make is that they
>>> don't really know how popular their proposals are *before* submitting
>>> them to FCC.
>>> Whatever is the point of *any* amateur radio group submitting a Part
>>> 97 proposal that generates 70, 80, 90% negative comments? All that
>>> does is annoy FCC, IMHO.
>> The way I see it is that indeed the proposal was a big mistake. The
>> folks who were all about the robot stations effectively took over the
>> process, and hoped to push things through with their agenda intact.
>
> I don't know if 'the folks who were all about the robot stations' took
> over the process or not. But that doesn't matter.

I disagree. I believe it matters very much.

> What I do know is that there was a widespread *perception* that RBB
> was "all about robots" and conducted behind closed doors. That
> *perception* was pure poison when comment-time came around. It
> galvanized so many hams into writing anti-RBB comments that the good
> parts of the proposal were lost in the uproar.

A very wise man once told me that if enough people have a perception of
something, it doesn't matter what the truth is, the perception becomes
the truth. And as hard as that may be to swallow, it is just how things are.

> The really sad thing is that the BoD, who OK'd the proposal, didn't
> see all that ahead of time.

>> This is not an unusual thing. Many different groups see their own
>> interests as paramount to the "big picture" in Ham radio (though it
>> isn't exclusive to the ARS)
>
> Of course.
>
> And the way you get around that sort of resistance is to let all
> groups have their say, and come up with proposals that give everybody
> something of what they want.
>
>> I've sat through lectures from Emergency
>> Operation fans on how amateur radio MUST change to acommodate their
>> particular view. Pro contesters/anti contesters, the different folks
>> involved all have a vision of what the service needs to be.

>
> Sure. And they're almost all right! The trick is to make room for
> everyone.

Actually I'm not so sure about everyone being right. My experience has
been that people who are intensely interested in one thing or the other
don't believe that others needs are of sufficient interest. Which is why
it is important that any BOD is interested in the big picture.

> For example, I think WinLink/Pactor/robots are a great thing in
> Amateur Radio. I think many of our rules on them are outdated and in
> need of rewriting. I even think the "no-data-in-the-phone-bands" rule
> has to go.

I think that the stations have to become a whole lot better behaved
before they are allowed anywhere. The business of just opening up
whenever and wherever is bad stuff.

> But at the same time, I do not think that simply allowing robot
> operation everywhere is a good thing. That's why I opposed both RBB
> and CTT.

As a person chased off the air (or at least to another frequency) by
the machines, I couldn't agree more. There has been a lot of discussion
re the PSK31 "segment", with a lot of people telling us to "just move".
Yeah, I guess we could. The nature of PSK31 is such that making it's
practitioners fly all over the band in search of a free spot is a great
way to kill it. especially for those who use the rockbound radios. A lot
of the PSK units are just a rockbound transceiver tied to a laptop. It
got bad enough that at least in the Digipan PSK software, the programmer
put in receive only for the robots so that we could ID them and complain
to the F.C.C. All that fuss over 1 3KHz piece of the band!

>> In the case of the RBB, the big picture was circumvented, and the result
>> was predictable and hams did their job. Some people look at it as a
>> failure. I look at as a shining success. A bad idea was beat down.
>
> It was a failure in my view because:
>
> 1) A lot of good ideas in RBB were beat down too
> 2) The beat-down of the bad ideas should have happened *before* it was
> ever sent to FCC, not after.
> 3) The proposal asked a lot of hams to give something up, without
> giving them anything in return, or not enough in return. Meanwhile,
> other hams would gain something without giving anything up. Or at
> least it seemed that way to many hams.
>
> This is why proposals like RBB and CTT go nowhere, IMHO.

And that is why I consider it a good thing. I agree with you that ideas
should be tested out before submission.

I really strongly believe that when special interest subgroups get hold of the process, they invariably subvert it to their interest. While there may have been good ideas in RBB, the bad ones were bad enough that it was worth losing the whole thing. Hopefully the BOD paid attention to that fact.

> Suppose somebody came up with a composite mode that combined SSB voice
> and a PSK31-like data mode in a bandwidth of less than 3 kHz. I think
> that would be a good thing for Amateur Radio, and under RBB it would
> be legal. Under current rules it's not allowed on US HF amateur radio,
> though, and with the mess created by RBB and CTT, it won't be for many
> years to come.

> IMHO, one of the reasons it takes *years* for FCC to make even simple
> changes to Part 97 (like dumping the code test) is because we USA hams
> don't get our act together before sending proposals to FCC.
>
> Look at how Canada handled the code test thing. They sent out surveys,
> got ideas, and put together an innovative plan that generated
> consensus among VE hams. Only when they could point to hard numbers
> about how much widespread support their was for their proposal did
> they send it to Industry Canada.
>
> And Industry Canada put the change in place with little hassle. The
> whole process was a done deal long before the USA got around to
> changing Part 97, and IMHO the Canadian change generated less
> animosity among VE hams than the USA process did here.

We can do it also. At least in principle. Practice will be a lot harder, as I suspect that we might be a little more of a contentious lot than our VE brethren.

- 73 de mike KB3EIA -

1387. Re: Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) - Background checks

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-03 19:45:18 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f8vvc6$10cs$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4092

William M. Pasternak wrote:

Regarding ARRL's position on the background check issue

> "It is not reasonable for a served agency to require these volunteers to
> consent to credit checks, mode of living investigations or investigative
> consumer reports. In negotiating or renegotiating Memoranda of
> Understanding that commits the League to provide volunteer emergency
> communications support, the League must be assured that these volunteers
> will not be required by the partner organization to consent to credit
> checks, mode of living investigations or investigative consumer
> reports." - End quote.

While a criminal activity check is a fine idea - and pretty painless,
the business of conducting lifestyle checks and credit checks is just
plain invasive. If they check lifestyle, they make judgments on it.

> The ARRL policy stopped short of telling those radio amateurs wanting to
> volunteer to agencies that require credit and lifestyle checks not to do
> so. That said, many hams will likely now think twice before clicking
> away their financial information to any group that wants them to work
> for free.

Good point. I'll happily submit to any of the State Police background
checks. But it they want more than that, I'll find some other way to
give back to the community.

After all, I have something to hide.... I'm a registered Independent
voter!, heheh...

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1388. The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 31 (Friday, August 3, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-04 00:07:03 UTC
From: ARRL Letter Mailing List <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <200708040005.l7405pP7010589@linux11676.dn.net>
Source record: 4093
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter
Vol. 26, No. 31
August 3, 2007
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IN THIS EDITION:

* + ARRL Files Federal Court of Appeals Reply Brief over BPL
* + ARRL Passport to be Featured at 2007 ARRL National Convention
* + ARRL Files Objection to Ambient's BPL Experimental Authorization Renewal Request
* + ARRL Welcomes New Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager
* + ARRL in Action - July 2007: What Have We Been Up to Lately?
* + FCC Enforcement Bureau Actions
* Solar Update
* IN BRIEF:
This Weekend on the Radio
ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Course Registration
+ 2007 ARRL Teachers Institute Is in Full Swing!!
+ New Jersey Radio Club Makes Scholarship Donation to ARRL Foundation
September Is National Preparedness Month
Morse Code Study in Pennsylvania
ARRL DXCC Desk Approves J5UAR Operation
FAR Scholarship Winners Announced
Let Us Know

+Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/>

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==>Delivery problems: First see FAQ <http://www.arrl.org/members-only/faq.html#nodelivery>, then e-mail <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
==>Editorial questions or comments only: S. Khrystyne Keane, <k1sfa@arrl.org>
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==> ARRL Files Federal Court of Appeals Reply Brief over BPL

On July 31, the ARRL filed its reply brief at the US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. This brief follows the FCC's brief that attempted to rebut the ARRL's challenge to the FCC's Broadband over Power Line (BPL) rules enacted in late 2004 and affirmed by the agency in 2006. According to ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, "The FCC's

brief does not accurately describe ARRL's arguments concerning harmful interference." The ARRL, in its reply brief, accuses the FCC of, "engaging in misdirection -- rebutting hyperbolic arguments ARRL never made, refusing to address the precedents ARRL cited and attempting to rewrite the Orders as if they made factual rather than legal determinations."

The League's reply brief, according to Imlay, "focuses largely on the FCC's unprecedented failure to protect mobile stations from interference if the BPL operator reduces its radiated emissions by 20 dB below the Part 15 maxima, even if harmful interference persists thereafter. The reply brief also addresses the inapplicability of the 40 dB per decade of distance extrapolation factor applied to BPL system measurements in the high frequency bands."

The ARRL's reply brief looked at four main points:
* The FCC's failure to reconcile the Orders with the FCC's decades-old interpretation of Section 301.
* The FCC's failure to justify its nondisclosures of portions of the studies on which the Orders were expressly based.
* The FCC's failure to justify its refusal to consider contrary evidence, as well as a proposed alternative to its extrapolation factor for measuring interference.
* The FCC's failure to justify its summary dismissal of an alternative that could have accommodated BPL without causing the same harmful interference.

The ARRL's brief states that this case "is about an unlicensed operator's legal duty to cease harmful interference once it arises, not the standard for authorizing unlicensed transmissions."

For decades, the FCC has interpreted Section 301 to mandate two restrictions on unlicensed operators: The proposed operations will not have a significant potential for causing harmful interference, and; if harmful interference does occur, the unlicensed operations are to cease immediately. For the first time ever, the FCC excluded mobile operators from the second part of the mandate.

The FCC suggests in its brief that BPL emissions (that are reduced by the 10 or 20 dB that are the minimum notching requirements in the rules) will "never cause harmful interference to licensed mobile users, but there is no evidence to support this," the ARRL's brief states. The ARRL contends the FCC's brief "ignore[s] the express acknowledgement in the Reconsideration Order that 'harmful interference...may occur' even when BPL systems meet the FCC's technical standards and that when it occurs 'we will not provide further protection to mobile operations.'"

The FCC goes on to say, according to the ARRL's brief, that licensed mobile users "do not need the protection of the cease-operations rule because mobile users suffering from interference can move elsewhere." The ARRL contends that the FCC "has never before put the burden on the license-holder to move away from an unlicensed interferor, to the

contrary, its rules require the interferor to cease interfering immediately. A BPL system deploys radiation-emitting devices ubiquitously throughout a service area, making it difficult to avoid harmful interference and impossible to conclude that harmful interference will 'never' occur."

The ARRL's brief states that "the FCC cites nothing to defend the Reconsideration Order's ruling that Section 301 is inapplicable to 'unintentional radiators.'" The ARRL's brief points out that the FCC's brief "fails to defend the Reconsideration Order's holding that unintentional radiators like BPL devices 'as such' are outside the scope of Section 301's license requirement. The brief actually admits the contrary -- that unintentional radiators are within Section 301." The FCC's brief mentions "but fails to acknowledge Section 302, which extended the FCC's authority to cover the manufacture and sale of interfering devices, is irrelevant to the scope of Section 301."

In its brief, the FCC failed to justify its "nondisclosure of significant portions of the technical studies on which the Orders rely." Instead, the ARRL said the FCC "attacks a straw man, suggesting that ARRL is after 'every internal document in its entirety that the agency's staff prepares in relating to a rule making proceeding."

The ARRL's brief states that the League only sought the full texts of the studies that the FCC "identified and cited as the basis for its conclusions. An agency may not cherry-pick the pages of the studies on which it relies, disclosing the ones that support its conclusions and redacting the others."

The FCC's brief requests that the Court defer to its "technical judgment in adopting an extrapolation factor to measure interference." The ARRL contends that the FCC "is not entitled to deference where it refuses to consider substantial evidence submitted to it -- in this instance, at the agency's invitation -- and fails to consider a responsible alternative proposal."

The ARRL points out three studies conducted by OFCOM, the UK-equivalent to the FCC. Each study reached a conclusion opposite that of the FCC and "plainly were significant to warrant consideration," the League's brief said. "ARRL's proposed sliding-scale extrapolation factor was an alternative entitled to consideration and a reasoned explanation for its rejection."

The ARRL makes the argument in its brief that it proposed a "win-win" solution: Authorize BPL, but "confine it to a generous frequency band that does not present these interference problems." It makes note of the fact that the largest BPL operator has designed its systems this way, and suggests that other operators could follow suit.

Yet the FCC in its brief brushed off these suggestions with a terse, two word sentence: "The other proposed 'solution' -- complete avoidance of all HF frequencies -- would needlessly restrict BPL design and reduce

system capacity, without regard to whether there are amateurs that need protection from a particular BPL installation. This would result in a grossly inefficient utilization of Access BPL capacity, reducing the potential benefits of BPL and increasing its costs to the public, without a corresponding benefit or need."

ARRL, therefore, asked the Court in its brief "to enforce the FCC's 'duty to consider responsible alternatives to its chosen policy and to give a reasoned explanation for its rejection of such alternatives.'"

Pointing out the "multiple legal errors in the Orders," the ARRL stated in the brief that the FCC "require[d] a remand. When the Court remands the Orders, it should direct the FCC to give this alternative the careful consideration required by law."

The ARRL's reply brief can be read in its entirety on the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/Court_Appeal_ReplyBrief2007july31.pdf>.

==> ARRL Passport to be Featured at 2007 ARRL National Convention

One of the exciting activities at this month's ARRL National Convention is the ARRL Passport, the ultimate hamfest scavenger hunt. Pick up your Passport at the ARRL EXPO area and collect different ARRL Passport codes at participating exhibits and activities at the Huntsville Hamfest. "There are only 2500 ARRL Passports available, so pick them up early while you can," said ARRL Sales and Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R. "Turn in your completed entry form at ARRL EXPO by Sunday at 12 noon and you could be a winner."

Prizes include two terrific all-mode mobile transceivers: the Icom IC-7000 and the Yaesu FT-857D.

Charlie Emerson, N4OKL, Vice-President of the Huntsville Hamfest Association, said that convention attendance will likely reach unprecedented levels. "The hamfest is getting into the 'unreal' category. We have reports of people coming in from everywhere." Both official hotels, the Embassy Suites (connected to the all air-conditioned Von Braun Center, site of the Convention and Hamfest) and the Holiday Inn (across the street) have sold out. There is availability at the nearby Marriott Hotel, just a short distance away by car. More lodging options are available at the Huntsville/Madison County Convention and Visitors Bureau Web site <http://www.huntsville.org>.

The 2007 ARRL National Convention is August 18-19 in Huntsville, Alabama and is held in conjunction with the Huntsville Hamfest. For more information on the ARRL EXPO, National Convention and the Huntsville Hamfest, check out the National Convention Web site <http://www.arrl.org/expo>.

==> ARRL Files Objection to Ambient's BPL Experimental Authorization Renewal Request

On July 25, the ARRL filed an Informal Objection to Ambient Corporation's request for a renewal of their nationwide experimental authorization that allows them to operate broadband over power line (BPL) operations anywhere in the country they choose. Ambient has been operating its BPL equipment under experimental authorizations for more than five years, an unusual amount of time for an experimental authorization. An Informal Objection is the procedure dictated by the FCC's Part 5 rules protesting the renewal of an experimental authorization. Currently, Ambient operates a BPL system in Briarcliff Manor in Westchester County, New York. Other installations have apparently been shut down by Ambient.

Ambient has been using experimental authorization WD2XEQ, issued in 2005, and its predecessor WB9XQT, issued on June 24, 2002. WB9XQT covered the BPL operation in Briarcliff Manor. It was replaced by WD2XEQ on July 28, 2003, a two-year authorization that was twice extended, most recently through August 1, 2007.

The ARRL states in its Objection that "since the issuance of the first experimental authorization, rules have been enacted for the regular Part 15 operation of BPL systems and there is nothing that has been filed by Ambient which could justify the continuation of experimental operation of this system rather than operation pursuant to the Commission's rules governing virtually all other BPL systems."

The ARRL filed complaints against Ambient and its BPL operation in Briarcliff Manor on October 12, 2004; December 17, 2004; January 7, 2005; March 17, 2005; January 6, 2006; March 29, 2006 and May 31, 2007. The Objection said that each complaint reported "ongoing, harmful interference caused by the unlawful operation of Ambient's BPL project at Briarcliff Manor in violation of the terms of the experimental authorization." These complaints, supported both by documentation by amateurs as well as tests made by ARRL staff, concluded that "this facility was, and now still is, causing harmful interference to Amateur Radio stations. As such, it is in violation of the terms of the experimental authorization."

The terms of Ambient's experimental authorization require that if "any interference" results from its operation, the holder of the authorization will be subject to immediate shutdown. The ARRL stipulates that harmful interference has repeatedly occurred, and such interference has even been witnessed and verified by a member of the FCC's Enforcement Bureau staff, yet the FCC has failed to take any action against Ambient in response to any of these complaints. The ARRL continued: "[i]t would be unconscionable for the Commission to further renew this experimental authorization in the face of these unresolved complaints of interference."

The ARRL does praise the FCC in the Objection, however, for "finally, after years of inaction, commencing an enforcement proceeding" against Ambient's operation in New York (Enforcement Bureau file number EB-06-SE-083). This proceeding is still under investigation, "making renewal of this experimental authorization completely inappropriate."

The Objection further states that the FCC's rules provide that "an experimental authorization will not be granted for a period longer than that which is required for completion of the experimental project." There is nothing offered in Ambient's pending renewal application that would justify the extension of the experimental authorization beyond the five years that it has been authorized to operate. Ambient's extension application offers "no justification whatsoever" for a sixth or seventh year of experimental BPL operation.

By mandating that Ambient operate in accordance with the with the "long-ago-enacted BPL rules rather than allowing it to hide behind an experimental authorization," Ambient would at least be subject to the FCC's regulatory plan for BPL, "however inadequate that plan is in terms of interference avoidance," the ARRL said in its Objection. If forced to comply with the Part 15 rules, as other BPL systems must do, "perhaps at least some of the abundance of unresolved and unaddressed interference problems caused by Ambient would be reduced."

ARRL's Objection included a copy of a July 13, 2007 letter from the Chairman of the Public Safety and Security Committee of the Westchester County Board of Legislators, William E. Burton. In the letter, Burton identifies a number of ongoing concerns related to the interference potential of the Briarcliff Manor BPL system. He goes on to say he is concerned...to have recently learned that Ambient may be planning to request a renewal of its experimental program without making vitally important improvements in its technology...[and] there is no assurance that Ambient may not 'turn up the power' and again exceed emissions levels causing interference again after a license renewal."

Burton noted that at a committee meeting held March 5, 2007, "the representative from [Ambient BPL system sponsor] Consolidated Edison agreed to work with the ARRL to resolve the communications interference problems. That cooperation has yet to take place."

Burton's letter continued: "I am thus requesting that the FCC not renew the experimental Briarcliff Manor BPL license until my concerns about harmful interference are adequately addressed....The Commission should require that Consolidated Edison and Ambient cooperate with the ARRL and its BPL technical experts forthwith....By not renewing the Ambient experimental license until all these concerns are addressed, the FCC can make it clear that complaints concerning harmful interference are taken seriously."

The ARRL summed up the Objection by "respectfully requesting that the Commission deny or dismiss" Ambient's pending application for renewal or extension of its experimental authorization for Briarcliff Manor "and in other locations in the United States where it may be operating BPL systems."

The ARRL's Informal Objection can be read in its entirety on the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/Ambient_Informal_Objection2007july25.pdf>

==> Dennis Dura, K2DCD, Joins ARRL Staff as Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager

The ARRL is pleased to welcome Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager Dennis Dura, K2DCD, to the Headquarters staff in Newington. Dura's major responsibilities include addressing the development and implementation of an organizational disaster response plan as well as a continuity operations plan, complete with supporting procedures and training. Integral to these plans are the recommendations of the National Emergency Response Planning Committee (NERPC) report. Dura also will play an integral part in the management of ARES, and in future negotiations with served agencies with whom ARRL shares or creates Memoranda of Understanding.

"By instituting these base components for the organization, the emergency communications resources of Amateur Radio and the League will become truly disaster resilient on all fronts," Dura said. "Emergency communications cannot stand alone. As an organization, we must have disaster plans in place and know what we must do to continue operations when they are impacted. Without this, our support to the field will be lacking."

Dura comes to the ARRL with more than 26 years of experience in the emergency management field. He started as a volunteer coordinator in his home township's emergency management program and turned this experience and training into a consulting career, working on off-site emergency plans for nuclear power plants and the jurisdictions where they are sited around the country. At the same time, he joined the American Red Cross as a volunteer Disaster Consultant in New Jersey, leading to paid positions as Manager of Disaster Services in St Louis, Director of Disaster Preparedness in Chicago and a Disaster Preparedness Specialist in New Jersey.

After some years working in the non-governmental organization side of the field, he joined the New Jersey State Police, Office of Emergency Management (NJOEM). Dura progressed through the ranks in NJOEM and served in numerous positions such as Operations Officer and Hurricane Preparedness Officer. As a Principal Planner, he was part of the group to develop the first Terrorism Plan for New Jersey prior to 9/11, specializing in human services issues, especially Mass Care. As part of New Jersey's response to the 9/11 attack, he served on a specialized inter-governmental team to establish the Family Assistance Center at Liberty State Park.

He left NJOEM in 2003 to become the Deputy State Emergency Coordinator for the New Jersey Department of Human Services (NJDHS), the position he held prior joining the League. Dura's focus in NJDHS was spread across several areas such as Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Mass Care and Business/Continuity of Operations.

During his time at the NJOEM, Dura was the Assistant State RACES Officer. He was also the liaison to the National Weather Service (NWS) for NJOEM and became involved in the SKYWARN program. Through a

successful grant submission, he was able to secure two National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) All-Hazards Radio transmitters for unserved areas of New Jersey. His work on this project resulted in the Mark Trail Award in 2002. The Chairman of the Mt Holly NWS Forecast Office SKYWARN Advisory Committee for many years, Dennis has also been a member of his county ARES program.

Dura said he is excited to be working at ARRL Headquarters. "It is a tremendous opportunity to take my many years of emergency management experience and apply all of it to the ARRL. It wasn't a hard move [to the ARRL] at all -- take the disaster experiences and meld them with a tremendous hobby...that ends up serving the nation and the world."

Dura holds a BS in criminal justice from The College of New Jersey and is currently completing graduate level work in homeland security and emergency management. He is a Certified Business Resilience Manager and is a member of numerous professional emergency management organizations.

Dura can be reached via e-mail <k2dcd@arrl.org>.

==> ARRL in Action - July 2007: What Have We Been Up to Lately?

The ARRL Board of Directors held its second 2007 meeting in Windsor, Connecticut. It was the final meeting for ARRL Southeastern Division Director Frank Butler, W4RH, who is retiring from the Board after 50 years of volunteer service to the ARRL. Just before the Board meeting, President Joel Harrison, W5ZN; CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, and Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH, led the dedication of the Diamond Terrace at ARRL Headquarters.

CEO David Sumner responded by fax to congressional testimony by FCC Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein that included support for the expansion of broadband over power lines (BPL).

Dennis Dura, K2DCD, joined the ARRL Headquarters staff as Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager. Senior Assistant Technical Editor Larry Wolfgang, WR1B, has been named Editor of QEX.

The September issue of QST, our first Emergency Communications special issue, was released to the printer. Preparations for the ARRL 2007 National Convention, to be held in conjunction with the Huntsville Hamfest, are in full swing. Web Development staff worked with several departments to update and improve the online membership application.

The ARRL has two Public Relations campaigns for 2007. One concerns ARES and Public Relations, and the other Emergency Communications. Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, reports a significant increase in the number and quality of Field Day media coverage.

ARES members assisted in two emergencies: the Zaca Fire in Los Padres National Forest northwest of Los Angeles, and flooding in Oklahoma. Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, discussed several issues involved with the PAVE PAWS radar situation with US Department of

Defense officials in a teleconference call.

Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B, made contact at W1AW with special event station VE2XPO in Montreal, Quebec, in commemoration of a similar contact made 40 years earlier from the Amateur Radio station at Expo 67, the Montreal World's Fair. Roland Masse, VE2PX, was at the mic in Montreal, as he had been for the original 1967 contact with W1AW.

Field and Regulatory Correspondent Chuck Skolaut, K0BOG, attended the Arizona State Convention in Williams. ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM; ARRL Assistant VEC Manager Perry Green, WY1O, and Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, attended the annual conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. ARRL Lab Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, took part in a meeting of the IEEE EMC Society Symposium in Honolulu.

==> FCC Enforcement Actions

On July 25, the FCC's Enforcement Bureau released new Amateur Radio enforcement actions. John C. Kimbrough, WR3S, of Murfreesboro, Tennessee, received notification from the FCC's Atlanta District Director that his automatic control privileges had been removed. This followed up on a letter sent by Riley Hollingsworth that listed various and numerous complaints about Kimbrough concerning "apparent violations of the Commission's rules, including inadequate station control, interference and failure to properly identify." The Letter went on to say that Kimbrough may not resume automatic control until notified by the Atlanta office. "If WR3S is operated under automatic control prior to notification from this office, enforcement action will be taken against your Amateur operator and station licenses for WR3S. This action may include designation of those licenses for a revocation and suspension hearing, and a monetary forfeiture."

Robert J. Langston, W2ENY, of Cornwall on Hudson, New York, received a request for information concerning "allege[d] transmission of recordings, including recordings of the radio transmissions of other operators, and false identification of transmissions," and called into account "serious questions regarding your ability to retain an Amateur license." The FCC gave Langston 20 days to respond to the allegations and include a signed and dated affidavit or declaration under penalty of perjury, verifying the truth and accuracy of the information submitted in your response."

Robert A. DiMezza, W2GGI, of Delray Beach, Florida, received a request for information concerning complaints that allege "among other things, poor signal quality and refusal to make corrections," and was given 20 days to respond to these complaints.

Frank Richards, of Mooers, New York, received a Memorandum Opinion and Order from the FCC regarding his apparent attempted 1995 hijack of an Amateur Radio license from Frank C. Richards, KB4VU, of Ft Meyers, Florida. The New York Richards was initially successful, and the FCC

granted him KG2IC, but after the Florida Richards contacted the FCC to say he'd never moved nor modified his license, the FCC directed the New York Richards to explain. In June 2004, the New York Richards turned in his license. While the FCC did not pursue further enforcement action the, it did tell the New York Richards that the circumstances of the apparent abuse of the license system could become a factor if he ever applied for an Amateur Radio ticket in the future. The New York Richards applied for a Technician license June 28, 2006 and accompanied his application with a letter. The FCC Enforcement Bureau said it was unable to determine whether the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau should grant the application, however, so it now has been designated for a hearing. The FCC's Enforcement Bureau's Motion to Dismiss Application with Prejudice and Terminate Hearing, filed June 25, had a deadline of July 10 for any opposition to be filed. As of July 18, no written appearance had been filed by, or on behalf of, Richards, and no one attended or entered an appearance on Richards' behalf at a prehearing conference July 10. As such, Richards' Amateur Radio license application was dismissed with prejudice.

Frederick C. Severa, AH8I, of Folsom, California, received a warning notice claiming "that Commission monitoring information indicates that on February 12, 2007 at 0221 UTC, you operated in the SSB mode on 7.055 MHz from a location near Reading [sic], CA. That mode is not authorized to you on that frequency under Commission rules." The FCC sent Severa a letter notifying him of this; it was returned as undeliverable. Saying that "Such operation may reflect adversely on your qualifications to retain an Amateur Radio license," The FCC gave him 30 days to respond and to verify his current address.

==>SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Ain't No Sun(spots) When He's Gone" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: Average daily sunspot numbers rose very little this week, less than 6 points to 7.3. There were no major geomagnetic upsets, only slightly unsettled conditions on the first day of August. We saw eight straight days of no sunspots, then a spot or two over four days, then no spots on the first two days of August. A week from now, August 10, we may see the beginning of several days with a few sunspots every day. Expect unsettled geomagnetic conditions centered on August 7 and again on August 10. Geophysical Institute Prague predicts quiet conditions August 3-5, quiet to unsettled August 6, unsettled to active August 7, and back to quiet August 8-9. Sunspot numbers for July 26 through August 1 were 0, 0, 13, 14, 13, 11 and 0 with a mean of 7.3. The 10.7 cm flux was 68.4, 68.7, 69.9, 69, 68.9, 68 and 68.8, with a mean of 68.8. Estimated planetary A indices were 9, 8, 4, 14, 10, 6 and 17 with a mean of 9.7. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 6, 6, 3, 11, 10, 4 and 15, with a mean of 7.9. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>.

==>IN BRIEF:

* This weekend on the radio: This weekend, check out the ARRL UHF Contest, 1800 UTC Saturday, August 4-1800 UTC Sunday, August 5. The TARA Grid Dip Shindig and the European HF Championship are August 4, while the 10-10 International Summer Contest (SSB), the National Lighthouse Weekend QSO Contest and the North American QSO Party (CW) are August 4-5. The RSGB RoPoCo 2 and the SARL HF Phone Contest are August 5. The ARS Spartan Sprint is scheduled for August 7. Next weekend, the WAE DX Contest (CW) and the Maryland-DC QSO Party are on the air August 11-12. The NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint takes place August 15. See the ARRL Contest Branch page http://www.arrl.org/contests/, the ARRL Contester's Rate Sheet <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rate-sheet/> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more info.

* ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration: Registration remains open through Sunday August 19, for these on-line courses beginning on Friday September 7: Technician License Course (EC-010); Amateur Radio Emergency Communications, Level 1 (EC-001); Radio Frequency Interference (EC-006); Antenna Design and Construction (EC-009); Analog Electronics (EC-012), and Digital Electronics (EC-013). To learn more, visit the CCE Course Listing page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html> or contact the Continuing Education Program Coordinator <cce@arrl.org>.

* 2007 ARRL Teacher Institute Is in Full Swing: Forty-eight teachers from around the country signed up for the ARRL Teachers Institute. The first Institutes, held in Rocklin, California and Spokane, Washington are already completed, as is the first of two institutes at ARRL Headquarters in Newington. Each class of 12, ranging from pre-school teachers to college professors, gets the opportunity to explore and experience firsthand wireless technology basics, how to teach basic electronics concepts integral to microcontrollers and robots, as well as how to bring space technology into the classroom. The four day course culminates with building and programming a robot. While the emphasis of the course is not Amateur Radio and teachers need not be hams to attend the all-expenses paid sessions, some do go ahead and take the Technician license exam. Six have received their Technician license so far and one has upgraded to General. Education and Technology Program Coordinator and Director of the ARRL Teachers Institute Mark Spencer, WA8SME, said, "About 80 percent of the non-ham teachers have gone on to get their Amateur Radio license. They get really 'jazzed up' about ham radio while they are here." To find out more about the ARRL Teachers Institute, please see the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.orgFandES/tbp/ti.html>.

* New Jersey Radio Club Makes Scholarship Donation to ARRL Foundation: ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH, attended the Sussex Hamfest in July where the Morris Radio Club (New Jersey) donated more than $31,000 to the ARRL Foundation. This money is earmarked for an annual Morris Radio Club Scholarship to go to a deserving area high school senior who is an Amateur Radio operator. Ron Levy, K2CO, former

W2 QSL Manager, long time New Jersey DX Association (NJDXA) officer and MRC trustee, led the club contingent in presenting the check. Also on hand at the ceremony were ARRL Hudson Division Director Frank Fallon, N2FF, and Vice Director Joyce Birmingham, KA2ANF. If you or your club is interested in doing something of a similar nature, contact Mary Hobart, K1MMH <k1mmh@arrl.org>, at the ARRL Development Office <http://www.arrl.org/development>.

* September Is National Preparedness Month: September is National Preparedness Month and Amateur Radio operators are joining a wide variety of national, state and local organizations, including the US Department of Homeland Security, in educating the public about preparing for emergencies. When unexpected natural or man-made emergencies occur, our greatest individual defense is preparedness. Getting an emergency supply kit, making an emergency plan, and identifying preparedness and response resources within our communities are several things we can do to prepare ourselves. This nationwide effort is to encourage individuals and families to take simple steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, businesses and schools. Free preparedness resources are just a click away in English <http://www.ready.gov> and Spanish <http://www.listo.gov>.

* Morse Code Study in Pennsylvania: A psychology professor at the University of Pittsburgh is conducting a study involving short-term memory and how it correlates to Morse code. Julie Fiez, the study's principal investigator, said she got the idea of using Morse code in her studies from a family member who is an Amateur Radio operator. She said she liked the idea of using CW in her experiments to see how people process audio tones. "Our interest is in verbal working memory," she said, "which is the ability to keep 'on-line' for a short time, information you can access later." Part 1 of the experiment is an assessment of the participant's Morse proficiency. First, participants will be asked to accurately copy sentences as they are presented in Morse at three different rates (16, 19, and 25 words per minute). Then they will be asked to listen to the entire Morse sentence and recall the sentence from memory. Part two asks participants to recall lists of letters from memory. The letters will either be in English or in Morse. Participants will either hear the letters through headphones or see them on a computer screen. The study will look for differences in memory performance between Morse lists and English lists. The research study is expected to continue through the fall. If you would like to participate, please contact the research team via e-mail <morsestudy@hotmail.com>. Thanks to Tom Mitchell, WY3H, and the Leader Times, part of the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review family of newspapers, for some information

* ARRL DXCC Desk Approves J5UAR Operation: ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, said that the 2007 J5UAR DXpedition to Guinea-Bissau has been approved for DXCC credit. "If you had cards rejected for this operation, please send an e-mail to the ARRL DXCC Desk <dxcc@arrl.org> and you will be placed on the list for update," Moore said.

* FAR Scholarship Winners Announced: The Foundation for Amateur Radio (FAR) has announced the 2007 winners of 56 scholarships it administers. The scholarships were open to all licensed radio amateurs who met the qualification and residence requirements of the various sponsors. A non-profit organization incorporated in the District of Columbia, FAR represents more than 50 Amateur Radio clubs in Maryland, the District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia and Pennsylvania. It is devoted exclusively to the scientific, literary and educational pursuits that advance the purposes of the Amateur Radio Service. For a complete list of recipients, please see the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2007/07/25/100/?nc=1>. For more information, contact FAR Scholarships, PO Box 831, Riverdale, MD 20783, or visit their Web site <http://www.amateurradio-far.org>.

* Let Us Know: What's your favorite part of The ARRL Letter? What kind of stories would you like to see in the Letter? Would you prefer the Letter in an HTML format? This is your Letter and your chance to let your voice be heard. Please send your suggestions to ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, at k1sfa@arrl.org, with the subject line "ARRL Letter Suggestions." All messages will be read and discussed, and we look forward to implementing positive suggestions into the ARRL Letter.

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The ARRL Letter is published Fridays, 50 times each year, by the American Radio Relay League: ARRL--the National Association for Amateur Radio, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111; tel 860-594-0200; fax 860-594-0259; <http://www.arrl.org>. Joel Harrison, W5ZN, President.

The ARRL Letter offers a weekly e-mail digest of essential and general news of interest to active radio amateurs. Visit the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org> for the latest Amateur Radio news and news updates. The ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/> also offers informative features and columns. ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> is a weekly "ham radio newscast" compiled and edited from The ARRL Letter. It's also available as a podcast from our Web site.

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The ARRL Letter is available to ARRL members free of charge directly from ARRL HQ. To subscribe, unsubscribe or change your address for

e-mail delivery:
ARRL members first must register on the Members Only Web Site <http://www.arrl.org/members/>. You'll have an opportunity during registration to sign up for e-mail delivery of The ARRL Letter, W1AW bulletins, and other material. To change these selections--including delivery of The ARRL Letter--registered members should click on the "Member Data Page" link (in the Members Only box). Click on "Modify membership data," check or uncheck the appropriate boxes and/or change your e-mail address if necessary. (Check "Temporarily disable all automatically sent email" to temporarily stop all e-mail deliveries.) Then, click on "Submit modification" to make selections effective. (NOTE: HQ staff members cannot change your e-mail delivery address. You must do this yourself via the Members Only Web Site.)

The ARRL Letter also is available to all, free of charge, from these sources:

* ARRLWeb <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>. (NOTE: The ARRL Letter will be posted each Friday when it is distributed via e-mail.)

* The QTH.net listserver, thanks to volunteers from the Boston Amateur Radio Club: Visit Mailing Lists@QTH.Net <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/letter-list>. (NOTE: The ARRL cannot assist subscribers who receive The ARRL Letter via this listserver.)

1389. Re: July 23, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-04 14:19:26 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1186230945.022473.52800@e16g2000pri.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4094

On Aug 3, 3:44?pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> > On Jul 31, 2:52 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> >> N...@AOL.COM wrote:

> > I don't know if 'the folks who were all
> > about the robot stations' took
> > over the process or not. But that doesn't matter.
>
> I disagree. I believe it matters very much.

See below about the very wise man you quoted.

> > What I do know is that there was a
> > widespread *perception* that RBB
> > was "all about robots" and conducted
> > behind closed doors. That
> > *perception* was pure poison when
> > comment-time came around. It
> > galvanized so many hams into writing
> > anti-RBB comments that the good
> > parts of the proposal were lost in the uproar.
>
> A very wise man once told me that if
> enough people have a perception of
> something, it doesn't matter what the
> truth is, the perception becomes
> the truth. And as hard as that may be
> to swallow, it is just how things are.
>
I would say that the perception is what drives people's actions, not
that the perception is the truth.

Most of all, what happens in those cases is
that the perception matters more than the truth.
That's what I meant by "It doesn't matter" whether
the folks who are all about robots took drove RBB
or not.
>
> > The really sad thing is that the BoD, who
> > OK'd the proposal, didn't
> > see all that ahead of time.

> >> This is not an unusual thing.

Sad but true - in many things.

> >> Many different groups see their own
> >> interests as paramount to the "big picture"
> >> in Ham radio (though it
> >> isn't exclusive to the ARS)

It certainly isn't!

> > And the way you get around that sort
> > of resistance is to let all
> > groups have their say, and come up
> > with proposals that give everybody
> > something of what they want.
>
> >> I've sat through lectures from Emergency
> >> Operation fans on how amateur radio MUST
> >> change to acommodate their
> >> particular view. Pro contesters/anti contesters,
> >> the different folks
> >> involved all have a vision of what the service
> >> needs to be.
>
> > Sure. And they're almost all right!
> > The trick is to make room for
> > everyone.
>
> Actually I'm not so sure about
> everyone being right.

Everyone isn't right. That's why I wrote
"almost".

> My experience has
> been that people who are intensely
> interested in one thing or the other
> don't believe that others needs are of sufficient interest.

Sometimes.

> Which is why
> it is important that any BOD is
> interested in the big picture.

The trouble is that almost every specialized
interest will say *they* are the big picture!

> > For example, I think WinLink/Pactor/robots
> > are a great thing in
> > Amateur Radio. I think many of our rules
> > on them are outdated and in
> > need of rewriting. I even think the
> > "no-data-in-the-phone-bands" rule
> > has to go.
>
> I think that the stations have to become

> a whole lot better behaved
> before they are allowed anywhere.

I'm not proposing that they be allowed everywhere.

> The business of just opening up
> whenever and wherever is bad stuff.

> > But at the same time, I do not think
> > that simply allowing robot
> > operation everywhere is a good thing.
> > That's why I opposed both RBB
> > and CTT.

> As a person chased off the air (or at
> least to another frequency) by
> the machines, I couldn't agree more.
> There has been a lot of discussion
> re the PSK31 "segment", with a lot
> of people telling us to "just move".
> Yeah, I guess we could. The nature
> of PSK31 is such that making it's
> practitioners fly all over the band in
> search of a free spot is a great
> way to kill it. especially for those who
> use the rockbound radios. A lot
> of the PSK units are just a rockbound
> transceiver tied to a laptop.

Which is the beauty of the mode: that it
can give such good results without an
elaborate setup.

Unless I am mistaken, a ham could take
an old computer that's useless for almost
everything else and get on PSK31 with it
and a radio that costs under $100.

> It
> got bad enough that at least in the
> Digipan PSK software, the programmer
> put in receive only for the robots so that
> we could ID them and complain
> to the F.C.C.

Has anyone done that? Such complaints
should also go to the ARRL BoD and the
committee that wrote RBB as well, IMHO

> All that fuss over 1 3KHz piece of the band!

Yep.

> > It was a failure in my view because:

> > 1) A lot of good ideas in RBB were beat down too
> > 2) The beat-down of the bad ideas should have
> > happened *before* it was
> > ever sent to FCC, not after.
> > 3) The proposal asked a lot of hams to give
> > something up, without
> > giving them anything in return, or not
> > enough in return. Meanwhile,
> > other hams would gain something without
> > giving anything up. Or at
> > least it seemed that way to many hams.
>
> > This is why proposals like RBB and CTT go
> > nowhere, IMHO.
>
> And that is why I consider it a good thing.
> I agree with you that ideas
> should be tested out before submission.

I think the submission of proposals that
fail miserably damages the credibility
of the submitting organization. That's
particularly true if the organization says
they represent the amateur community, or
a large part of it. If an organization cannot
motivate its membership to produce a
large number of supporting comments, it
tells FCC that the organization doesn't
really know what its members want.
>
> I really strongly believe that when
> special interest subgroups get hold
> of the process, they invariably subvert
> it to their interest.

I disagree. But I do agree that it's
very possible for them to do so.

> While
> there may have been good ideas
> in RBB, the bad ones were bad enough that
> it was worth losing the whole thing.

I agree. But I think a proposal could
have been developed that kept the
good ideas and lost the bad ones.

> Hopefully the BOD paid attention
> to that fact.

Hopefully.

> > IMHO, one of the reasons it takes
> > *years* for FCC to make even simple
> > changes to Part 97 (like dumping the code
> > test) is because we USA hams
> > don't get our act together before
> > sending proposals to FCC.
>
> > Look at how Canada handled the code test thing.
>
> We can do it also. At least in principle.

I hope so.

> Practice will be a lot
> harder, as I suspect that
> we might be a little more of a contentious lot
> than our VE brethren.

Maybe. But I think if US hams are approached
in a reasonable way, they will be reasonable.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1390. WIANEWS for week commencing AUGUST 5 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-04 14:23:55 UTC
From: nationalnews@wia.org.au
Message-ID: <200708041000.l74A08N01028@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4095
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,aus.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

This is WIANEWS for week commencing AUGUST 5 2007

This weeks news presented by ALARA President Marilyn VK3DMS and with her in the news room we have from the WIA Office Margaret Williams and Dianne Ashton VK3FDIZ along with ALARA Publicity officer Christine VK5CTY, we also have regulars Kaye VK4VKS Kylea VK6MRS (nee VK6FXYL) Susan VK7LUV and from Sydney, ALARA News Editor Dot Bishop VK2DB. Rounding up the weeks neews from the USA and Amateur Radio NewsLine, Evi Simons in New York, KA0HZS Carol and Linda Reeder N7HVF.

Now here's Marilyn:-

Protection zones declared for submarine telecommunications cables off the New South Wales coast

The Australian Communications and Media Authority said these protection zones will take effect on 1 October.

Activities that could damage the cables are restricted or prohibited within protection zones, and significant criminal penalties apply for breaches of the legislation.

These are the first such protection zones to be declared and are the culmination of extensive consultation over the past 12 months with affected and potentially affected parties. ACMA has established a new international benchmark by creating protection zones that safeguard submarine cables and place appropriate restrictions on other activities occurring in their vicinity.

"The value of these submarine cables to the Australian economy is enormous,' said Chris Chapman, ACMA Chairman. 'It is little appreciated that submarine cables carry about 99 per cent of Australia's international voice and data traffic and in the past, breakage or damage has had serious consequences for Australian businesses conducting international transactions.

The declaration of protection zones minimises the risk of such damage.

Before formally declaring a protection zone, ACMA is required to develop a proposal for the protection zone, consult about the proposal and establish an advisory committee composed of key stakeholders and consisting of no more than 12 members seek and consider the advisory committee's advice on the proposal consult with the Environment Secretary, and consider all submissions.

Australia Switches on DAB+ Test

Australian radio broadcasters recently switched on the first test transmissions of digital radio using DAB+ in Sydney, New South Wales.

The digital radio test is carrying a mix of talk and music, including pop and jazz, to allow the industry to test the sound quality of a variety of content at various bit rates.

A demonstration DAB+ receiver was developed for the test, as DAB+ receivers are not yet commercially available. A number of manufacturers have indicated they will have DAB+ products ready for overseas retail sale before Christmas.

All commercial, SBS and ABC outlets in the capital cities are expected to avail themselves of Digital Conversion.

Australia has also joined a new DAB+ taskforce set up by the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union. Warner has been appointed chair of the task force, also represented are Brunei, Singapore and New Zealand.

The taskforce plans to survey of regional broadcasters to ascertain their plans for digital radio, as well as to encourage nations to adopt DAB+. (sourced in part to radioworlddotcom)

Now to the WIA National Office where we hear from Dianne Ashton VK3FDIZ and Margaret Williams.

"Here in sunny Caulfield Victoria, Margaret and I work for the WIA.

Margaret primarily manages the Membership renewals, club affiliation, insurance etc and my primary role is to look after the WIA's examination service.

Our WIA office is open for business 10:00am to 4:00pm Monday to Friday and if you happen to call the office outside of business hours you will be able to leave a message for us with our friendly answering machine. If you do leave a message, please leave us your name, membership number or callsign and of course a return phone number so we can call you back. Or you can alternately email us here, nationaloffice@wia.org.au

One of the questions I often get asked is how long does it take from completing an assessment until I receive my license from the ACMA? After the day of your assessment, your assessor will forward to the WIA office the completed assessment paperwork, it's usually sent to us in an overnight bag and they typically arrive on Tuesday for assessments conducted over the weekend. We then process the results within 5 working days and send to the ACMA the necessary paperwork for the ACMA to be able to issue your license. The License can often take a few weeks, but this timing depends very much on other factors at the ACMA. We recently published a news release on the WIA website that indicated there are currently some delays at the ACMA with the issuing of licences, however it is ACMA's aim to achieve a two-week turnaround time for issuing amateur licences.

One of the other questions I am often asked, is in regard to WIA membership applications. People are often keen to know when they will be likely to receive their membership details in order that they can apply for their WIA email address or perhaps order books from the WIA Bookshop at the special members price. Again with memberships, just like exams, all membership applications are processed within 5 working days and membership certificates

and welcome packs sent out, so you should expect to receive your membership pack in your letterbox in around 10 working days. Again if you have any questions regarding WIA membership or Exams, please give us a call or email us here at the office, that email address again is nationaloffice@wia.org.au

For the WIA news service this has been Dianne Ashton VK3FDIZ and Margaret Webb reporting from the WIA office."

AMATEUR RADIO - HOME OF THE GOOD GUYS

DECEASED HAMS GEAR GOES TO UNDERPRIVELEGED YOUNGSTERS

Carl, WB0BZP, was passionate about being a ham.

This despite physical disabilities that pretty much confined him to home.

His sister, Carol, recalls how he overcame his challenges to become one of the St. Louis area's most recognized operators...

"My brother was a quadriplegic, he was almost 7 foot tall," Carol recalls. "And, had he been normal, I think he would have been a basketball player at least - hands very large to take the basketball. He was always interested in sports, that was certainly a great hobby for him, the interest in sports.

"But we were looking for something else to challenge his mind and to open the world for him and I heard about CB radio. And, so I believe it was in 1968 I bought him a little 69-dollar CB radio."

Wait a minute! CB Radio? That's what Carl's neighbour at the time said, His neighbour, Ben Ward, W0BWD was scandalized by the purchase and Carol remembers he decided, no, Carl would need something more - as in ham radio.

Carol says amateur radio became a family affair.

"My dad was WB0RIP and I'm KA0HZS," Carol says. "I never was very active but I did have some rigs. And my mother, who did not get her license, however, was kind of a cook and bottle washer and made many a desert for many a meeting that we would have and it became very important to all of us."

Carol says her brother died in 1996 and it was difficult for her family to part with his equipment. She says she thought about what to do with it a few times over that period, but never really had an answer.

Enter, Dennis McCarthy, AA0A and Camp Wyman, a camp for urban youngsters who face a variety of challenges in their lives. And, McCarthy says, it's a place that can really use the gear.

Carol donated a TS-440, a Butternut antenna, all the accessories, a power supply and other equipment, including SWR bridges and even a couple of scanners which in this tornado- and severe-storm prone area might be of great value for the kids and people out at Camp Wyman.

A fitting tribute to her Brother Carl.

WB0BZP, may be gone, but his station will surely bring a lot of joy to youngsters who might otherwise never even what ham radio is really all about. (ARNewsLine)

HAMS ACROSS AUSTRALIA with KAYE VK4VKS

VK1

This award is issued by the Canberra Region Amateur radio Club upon receipt of a correctly presented application to any licensed amateur operator or SWL.

The information required is a log extract showing date and time in UTC, mode, callsign of the VK1 station worked and ciphers exchanged.

Short wave listeners should include the station worked by the VK1 station being claimed.

Each VK1 callsign worked counts as one point. Contacts via terrestrial repeater systems are not valid contacts towards this award.

Basic award is 20 points

Application for the award should be addressed to:

The Award Manager
GPO Box 600
Canberra ACT 2601
Australia

(vk1 website)

VK2

ARNSW Radio Veterans' Group Meeting

Their members are mostly retired but not eligible for membership of the "Radio Amateurs Old Timers Club" which is based in Victoria.

The Group has its regular meetings on the third Thursday of the month at Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club, only 200m from West Ryde railway station.

10am morning tea/coffee provided.

Go to the club sign-in desk and they will direct you to the ARNSW Radio Veterans' Group Meeting, next meeting is August 16.

(vk2 website)

VK3

NERG AGM and REUNION MEETING

Thursday 9th August 7:45pm

Start of a new NERG year with a birthday party, and the chance to meet up with people we haven't seen for a while. Official business to be kept to

a bare minimum

Early planning for the Centre Victoria RadioFest

Now almost recovered from running the first RadioFest at Kyneton in April, members of the organising committee are beginning to give thoughts about the next and second RadioFest in 2008.

A very worthwhile debriefing was held recently that looked at all aspects of the inaugural RadioFest to see what worked well and if there was any areas for improvement.

The amateur radio community welcomed the Centre Victoria RadioFest.
It was made possible through the collaboration of Amateur Radio Victoria, Central Goldfields and Midland Amateur Radio Clubs.

Now the organising committee invites suggestions or offers from individual radio amateurs, clubs and groups, and traders, as consideration continues about mounting the RadioFest again next year.

Anyone wishing to provide input can do so via email to radiofest@amateurradio.com.au

Last Aprils event saw eager activity at the ALARA table, under the guidance of Pam VK3NK.

Just across from ALARA, on the Amateur Radio Victoria display ALARA member Michele VK3FEAT was busy...

Always, "ready to please", the ALARA members present apparently 'drew the line'
when one OM visited saying "This would be the ideal site to find a new wife!"

(Jim Linton VK3PC/ALARA newsletter)

VK4

In VK4 the next round of Amateur Radio Assessor Training is being conducted next weekend, the RD weekend of 11th and 12th on the Gold Coast.

This is training provided by the WIA's Nominated RTO and is free of charge.

The Venue is the Gold Coast Amateur Radio Society, 85 Harper St, Nerang.

If you plan to attend, or if you are just your unsure and have any questions regarding the training please contact Ron Bertrand VK2DQ on 07 5573 2795.

Whilst looking at VK4, a VK4 Ham currently in "the west" is Phil VK4KVK who, today at the Northern Corridor Radio Groups HAMFEST in Perth, will be presenting lectures on "Restricted Space Antennas" and promoting many of his other books.

If you'd like to find out more from Kev, surf to www.kvkantennas.com.au

VK5

In "5 LAND" a new comer to our bands is Shirley VK5JSH and since joining ALARA has more than made a difference.
Currently Shirley is Vice President AND Historian.
Sooo if YOU want to find out more about the history of ALARA, come up and talk with VK5JSH on the Monday night 80 meter ALARA net.

EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO
PRESENTED BY KYLEA VK6MRS (nee 6FXYL)

Thanks Kaye, well over here in the west it's our big day today, the Northern Corridor's HamFest so I'll keep this segment short then I'm off to pick up some bargains!

Help to grow amateur radio

Julian Sortland, VK2YJS sent this note to tell us that the Hornsby and District Amateur Radio Club's trainers have assisted over 200 candidates in obtaining their Foundation Licence.

Their next training and assessment session will be the weekend of 8th and 9th August in Baulkham Hills in Sydney's north-west. Well we are not too sure of the validity of those dates! No weekend exists THIS year (2007) with those dates!

Meanwhile, Tony LaMacchia, VK2BTL is commencing classes for the Standard and Advanced licences in Waitara, near Hornsby. For these courses, exams for higher grade licences, or to discuss having the team train your club or youth activities group, use the contact form or telephone numbers on www.hadarc.org.au/

Inquiries about Foundation Licence classes are welcome by the Central Goldfields Amateur Radio Club based at Maryborough. Contact Peter Rafferty VK3CC on 5460 4387

At Bendigo the contact for classes is Ross Pittard VK3FCE phone 5442 8022

In the Greater Melbourne area enrolments are still available for the Amateur Radio Victoria Foundation Licence classes held at Box Hill North on August the 11th and 12th.
The contact is Barry Robinson VK3JBR 0419 808 323 or arv@amateurradio.com.au

Adelaide Hills Amateur Radio Society has been running Foundation licence Courses this weekend at the Aviation Museum, Port Adelaide, they do it all again November 3rd and 4th.
Contact the course convenor, Sasi Nayar on 0417 858 547

CONGRATULATIONS - RESULTS

Mackay AR Club in VK4 CONGRATULATE CHRIS VK4MCK IN UPGRADING TO HIS STANDARD LICENCE and already we hear CHRIS HAS STARTED STUDYING for HIS ADVANCED TICKET

For more information on obtaining the foundation licence manual please visit wia.org.au

INTERNATIONAL NEWS I'M CHRISTINE VK5CTY

As we start this international segment today, I do have to say one of the joys of ALARA membership is meeting, be it in person or on the air, hams from right across the globe.

Amateurs like Unni LA6RHA who, as she has told us, despite being a Viking still needed painkillers regularly after a knee re-construction.

Victoria SV2KBS who is envious of our AMAZING DX around the Pacific, Victoria tells us so far her most exotic DX travels have been to TF Iceland, and JW Svalbard.

Inger OZ7AGR and her Family are flying off to Spain, in the same plane, all TWENTY SEVEN of them! Then late August it's off to the Swedish SYLRA meet.

Another of our ALARA radio friends is Noriko 7K3EOP who enjoys IOTA hunting, and recently even operated as 3V8ST in Tunisia

Yes a truly INTERNATIONAL group we are!!

4 METER ALLOCATION GRANTED IN ITALY

Italy now has a temporary ham radio allocation in the European 4-meter Amateur band. On July 12th the Italian Authorities released three 25-kHz segments centred around 70.100, 70.200 and 70.300 MHz for use by that nations radio amateurs for use through the end of the year.

According to I0JX posting to QRZ.com, the new allocation began with a request by a few Italian hams to carry out an experimental propagation study under the technical coordination of a university. This to see if the band will offer opportunities of transatlantic contacts during the summer sporadic-E season

The authorization expires on December 31st. I0JX says that the prospects for a permanent 4 meter allocation in Italy appear to be good. Meantime, Italian hams now join those in the United Kingdom and several other European nations who will be beaming toward the United States and Canada in search of cross-band contacts on 10 and 6 meters. (arnewsline)

RSQ reporting for digital modes below 30 MHz

A new signal reporting method for digital modes is being considered by the International Amateur Radio Union Region 2 Conference next month.

This very busy meeting in Brasilia, Brazil from the 10th to the 14th of September has on its agenda a recommendation that RSQ reporting be used for digital modes below 30MHz.

RSQ stands for Readability, Strength and Quality, and was first proposed and endorsed at the Region 1 General Conference in 2005. It was also agreed at the IARU Region 3 Conference in Bangalore last year.

This in recognition that the traditional RST, Readability, Strength and Tone signal report that has been around since about 1934, is not suitable

for text modes.

RSQ is favoured because it can provide a more useful signal report for HF digital modes.
(Jim Linton VK3PC)

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NEWS FROM ARNEWSLINE

AUGUST 5

RESCUE RADIO: ITS "NEWS" TO THE BIG APPLE

The Big Apple and its Eastern suburbs will soon have a new emergency communications program. One which encourages the participation of all amateur radio operators to pass messages of any nature during a large-scale emergency. Amateur Radio Newsline's Evi Simons is in the Big Apple with more:

Called the Neighbourhood Emergency Watch or NEWS System, the program will allow any radio amateur in New York City and on Long Island to help friends and neighbours in time of disaster. This, by providing emergency communications when all other forms of messaging are unavailable.

According to the program administrators, during disasters, phone lines become overloaded, cell phones are rendered useless and most other public communication becomes nearly impossible to use. But with NEWS, Amateur Radio operators will be able to offer assistance by simply passing along messages to other hams who are able to get through to emergency services. This, using the hobby's long established network of Amateur Radio Emergency Service volunteers.

NEWS will also sponsor nets that will liaison with other emergency communications systems that might be concurrently with the NEWS operations. This means that NEWS will have the capability to participate in networks that A-R-E-S and other groups have established with first-responder groups.

Each borough, county and town will have a Local Operations Centre, to be developed as the NEWS network evolves. Combined with the ham resident in the Metro New York and Long Island areas, these Local Operations Centre will eventually tie into citywide and other logistical emergency nets to provide a venue and lines of communications to serve local needs.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Evi Simons, in New York.

NEW KENWOOD DUAL BANDER A HIT WITH THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED

A newly released 2 meter and 70 centimetre dual band radio from Kenwood is getting rave reviews from the visually handicapped ham radio community. The transceiver in question is the Kenwood model TM-V71A. Blind and visually impaired amateurs love it because when

equipped with the optional VGS-1 voice chip unit, the radio announces even menu-level settings for true accessibility by audio alone. One of those most enthusiastic about this feature is Linda Reeder, N7HVF, of Salt Lake City, Utah:

--

N7HVF: "The 71A is the most blind user friendly radio I have ever see in the 22 years I have been in Amateur Radio."

--

N7HVF is so enthused about the new TM-V71A, that she not only bought one. She has also produced and recorded a 12 minute audio netcast that looks at the new radio and explains what its capable of doing. Heres a sample:

--

N7HVF: (Descriptive audio of how TM-V71A operates demonstrating voice readout.)

--

The TM-V71A is not just for the blind or visually impaired. The radios voice readout also functions as a safety enhancement that lets an operator tune the radio will operating mobile without ever having to take his or her eyes off the road.

But it is the visually handicapped that are the most vocal in singing its praises. You can hear Linda Reeders entire report on the blind friendly new Kenwood radio at the HandiHam website. A link directly to it is in this weeks printed, Amateur Radio Newsline report. Its in cyberspace at http://www.handiham.org/manuals/Kenwood/TMV71A/tmv71a.mp3

More about the TMV-71A is at the Kenwood website in PDF form at http://www.kenwoodusa.com/Dealers/Us1/flyers/TM-V71A.pdf (N7HVF)

OPERATIONAL NEWS - with VK7LUV SUSAN

CONTEST COLUMN - D A T E L I N E

AUGUST 11/12 Remembrance Day Contest (The RD) wia.org.au

6,5,4,3,2,1.....yes the countdown is on to the start of the 2007 RD contest.

At 07:45utc Saturday 11th August 2007 the majority of the broadcasters of this the weekly news service will broadcast the annual 15 minute Opening Address, interviews with former WWII service personnel, Roll Call, followed by a message from the R.S.L. and 1 minute silence.

THEN it is on for young and OLD, or should we say " the more experienced" rather than 'old'.

For those using Electronic logging check your software versions, you may like to request a Received and or Read reply.

Please ensure all ELECTRONIC LOGS are sent to rdlogs@wia.org.au

Snail mail? Then get your logs away quickly.

at www.wia.org.au in the RD contest section, are the links to download printable logs and other documents for your use.

Let us all pay homage to the fallen and most of all ENJOY the contest, remembering every point counts, and this year see if we can get another states name on the Trophy.

Heath VK3TWO/6, (is that vk3 2 6 ?? hihi) would like to tell everyone about the website that a couple have set up just for the RD contest in VK6.

It shows the particular frequencies that will be used and when they will be using them. They will be working out IN THE FIELD on all modes all bands from 160m to 70cm. maybe even 23cm. They will have at least 3 160m antennas two of which are all band antennas. All are welcome to visit and can even book them for a sked if desired.

VK6 will be a sought after contact so why not make things easier hey!?!

www.vkfieldmasters.com

At the perth hamfest we will be taking "bookings" for skeds. If anyone from other states (VK1-5) would like to make "bookings" and skeds, they can send an email from www.vkfieldmasters.com

AUGUST 26-27

ALARA CONTEST.

This ALARA contest is run over 36 hours to give everyone 2 bites at the 80m band.

For OMs only contacts with YLs count, while YLs can count ALL stations.

Club stations operated by YLs are certainly encouraged.

One highlight of the ALARA contest is that you may work the same station after a one hour interval on the same band. So it is worth while staying around
a tad longer for that extra contact for both yourself and the other station.

ALL DETAILS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 47 OF JULY'S AR MAGAZINE

AWARDS'

THE ALARA AWARD

Beautifully redesigned by VK3XBA Kathy, it's yours for contacting just 10 of our ALARA members, in 4 different call areas.

AND THOSE OF YOU LISTENING/READING THIS NATIONAL NEWS OVERSEAS, JUST 5 in 3.

Our first recipient was Pam VK4PTO, and you can see Pam with this new certificate on page 57 of the July Amateur Radio Magazine.

Now best of all, this award, open to any Amateur, is also available to those who may have achieved / received one of the original ALARA Award certificates.

Mal VK6LC the WIA Awards Manager has spoken at the West Australian Repeater Group and given an update on the WIA Awards System. Kylea VK6MRS has the details.

In the year 2000 there were 8 WIA Awards, now there are 23 plus 5 DX'er Certificates, and a few Award Managers Specials.

The talk was of particular interest to all the fairly new amateurs present.

Mal finished with 3 presentations
The first to the club, a framed A4 picture showing All the WIA Awards.

The second to Christine VK6ZLZ a framed A4 picture showing all the WIA Awards in miniature with a centre piece saying thanks for Designing and Maintaining the Awards Website 2003-2007.

and the Third to Robyn VK6XRE a framed A4 picture showing all the WIA Awards in miniature with a centre piece saying thanks for Hosting the Awards Website 2005-2007

Oh and Mal VK6LC will be at the Perth Hamfest to-day, with a display of all awards.

SPECIAL EVENTS, BEACON AND NET ADVICE

International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend

This increasingly popular annual event occurs over the weekend of 18th / 19th of August.

Worldwide some 37 countries have been registered so far for a total of 212 lighthouses set for activation.

Australia has more than 30 listed in all mainland states. Perhaps the most interesting this year is the MV Cape Don, a purpose-built vessel to service navigational aids including manned lighthouses.

She was retired in the 1980s when lighthouses were automated, and now is being restored in Sydney Harbour at the old Coal Wharf in Waverton.

The Liverpool and District Amateur Radio Club VK2BTT will be putting this grand old lady of the sea on air.
(Jim Linton VK3PC)

The ever growing "F" Troop of the Maryborough Electronics & Radio Group in South-east Queensland have begun the "Fraser Coast "F" Troop Net " on Wednesday evenings on the frequency of 3615khz +/- QRM, commencing at 20:00 EST.

Ray Stockdale, President of "MERGE" is acting as Net Co-ordinator using firstly his callsign VK4TPT to open the net, but then QRP to 10W pep and

signing as VK4FQRP.

Stations of all classes are warmly welcome to join in but Ray asks "S" and "A" class stations to consider reducing their output to the 10W level to keep all on an even basis."

THE QNEWS WORK BENCH - the nuts and volts report -
(Measure twice - Cut once!)

Allan Bone, Chief Engineer of 2MW has 2 old AWA BTM-2 transmitters destined for the dump. but if anyone wants them, they are available for pickup from 2TM in Tamworth, and 2HD Newcastle.

The transmitters are very big and heavy ... approx 2 metres wide, 2 metres tall and 1 metre deep.

3 phase tube transmitters, rated at 2 kilowatts rf output - transmitters are in working condition, and in fairly original condition for their age

Enquiries to Allan Bone on 07 55 2 444 97 business hours.

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY - the kitchen of the future

The now common microwave oven could get a techno-cousin in the form of kitchen ovens that use the HF radio spectrum.

While RF induction heating is not new, it's now being looked at for food cooking and other industrial uses.

Internationally recognised British company C-Tech Innovation is developing ovens that use the frequencies 13.56 and 27.12 MHz which it claims, enables more effective cooking, including defrosting, and pre-heating processes for thermoplastic formation.

It claims to have achieved food defrosting up to 10 times faster than the imperfect result of microwaves, and cooking is twice as fast.

HF radiation is more easily screened the microwaves, C-Tech Innovation points out, but time will tell.
(Jim Linton VK3PC)

MEDIA WATCH

Who listens to radio?

Well to this WIA National News Service to date this WIA Year, of 13 broadcasts we see the leading state is VK2 with some 2300, followed by VK4 with 2,000

3rd is VK6, 1700
4th is VK5, 1600 (Interestingly VK5 still lead the way with greatest number to any one broadcast, the Adelaide 2 meter cast has close to 100 checkins each week).

VK7 achieved 1300 in 5th
VK3 brings up 700 in 6th
and VK1 and 8 each around the 125 call-backs in the 13 week period.

TOP 5 HAM VIDEOS ON YOUTUBE.COM

Antenna Stirs Up Controversy has become the number one most viewed ham radio video on YouTube dot com. Its actually a posting of a TV news report showing how the sight of ham radio antenna has angered neighbours in exclusive neighbourhood. As of this weeks news was being prepared, it has been viewed 45,780 times.

Coming in second this month is the music video "The Contest" performed by Andrew John Huddelston, OZ5E and the Ham Band. The 4 mt presentation also features a video montage of the famed OZ1ADL and OZ5E Contest Station with lots of famous guest operators. Its sitting with 43,639 views.

Dropping to third place is the ARRL sponsored production of Amateur Radio Today. Hosted by retired CBS newsman Walter Cronkite, this show tells the story of ham radio in emergency situations that include the 911 terror attack on New York City and the 2003 Colorado wildfires. Its currently at 33,361.

In number 4 position is the Tonight Show bit that pitted two ham radio operators using Morse code versus a text messaging champion and his assistant. As you might already know, the hams running Morse beat out the text messaging by a mile. That video has been looked at 30,781 times.

Rounding out the top five the Ham Band is back with their music video titled "Come And Join Us On The Airwaves." This show again features lead singer Andrew John Huddelston, OZ5E, this time in a tuxedo and top hat hanging off the top of a 120 foot high tower while singing the praises of Amateur Radio. Its currently at 29,155 views.

Moving well ahead, we discover here in Australia the BPL Hobart videos, thanks to Justin VK7TW come in with some 10,000 views.

Keep in mind that the ratings system on YouTube is very dynamic. This means AIT
changes all the time based on how many people stop by a given video to watch. (ARNewsLine)

NOW DOT VK2DDB WITH WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- FEMALES IN RADIO
ALARA - AUSTRALIAN LADIES AR ASSOCIATION
http://alara.org.au
Net is held each Mondays on 3.580 MHz, commencing at 1030 UTC.
(1000utc during daylight saving)
geencee@picknowl.com.au

Alarameet 2008 will be held in Ulverstone Tasmania on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th September 2008. Susan VK7LUV says those who will be travelling via the Spirit of Tasmania, this will be the "Shoulder Season".
ALARA will be having dinner on Friday 12th September and there will be a tour offered for Monday 15th September also.
(sourced to alara newsletter)

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- FINAL FRONTIER
VK5ZAI is the Australian Co-ordinator for ARISS.

AMSAT-VK UNOFFICIAL HF Net.
2nd Sunday each month.
November through March 0900 UTC 7.068 MHz
April through October 1000 UTC 3.685 MHz

October 4, 1957 saw the launch of the worlds first artificial earth-orbiting satellite, Sputnik I.

The editor of CQ Magazine would like Radio Amateurs' recollections of that historic event for inclusion in the October issue.

CQ Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU says:
The 50th anniversary of the launch of Sputnik is coming up in October, and we are currently working on our October issue. Many of you remember the launch well, and of course, hams were in the vanguard of listening for those beeps from above.
We'd like to collect a representative sampling of your first-hand recollections to weave into an article for our October issue. Plus, we'd like to hear if this experience had a significant impact on your choice of careers, etc. - in short, did listening for Sputnik change your life? If so, how?
Please respond as soon as possible by e-mail directly to a special mailbox we've set up at sputnik@cq-amateur-radio.com

Many thanks in advance and 73,
Rich W2VU
CQ Magazine
http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- INTERNET --- THE HAMS DOMAIN

We have just learned from the latest FISTS club Downunder newsletter about an interesting Internet facility, W.O.T.A.

This is a live database of stations on the air that are connected to the service.

WOTA is used in addition to logging programs, it allows amateur radio operators world wide to "connect" to the server containing information about who is "on the air".

Amateurs using this software can post their Call, Frequency, Time, and other information to other amateurs worldwide.

WOTA can assist in making elusive contacts for awards.

Need a country? Use WOTA to determine if anyone in that country is operating, then go to that operators posted frequency and attempt a contact.

The WOTA web site is at
www.wotadb.org

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- Internet Linking of Repeaters

Good to see in the Wide Bay area of VK4 that the EchoLink node which had been blocking the use of the 146.5 FM national call frequency has

moved.

Remember, when you travel Australia and the area you are in does not have an IRLP/EchoLink supported repeater, scan the officially recolonised simplex frequencies set aside by the Band Plans in case of a simplex node.

These frequencies are between 145.325 and 145.400 MHz - and they were recommended because they don't clash with any existing activity.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RADIO AMATEUR OLD-TIMERS
http://www.raotc.org.au

OLD TIMERS
Members and friends of the Radio Amateurs Old Timers Club Australia are reminded that the next news and information broadcast will take place on the first Monday of the Month.

using the RAOTC callsign of VK3OTN.

10.00 am Victorian time on 7.060 and 3.650 MHz plus 1.843 MHz AM, and 145.700.

On 14.150 MHz at 01.00 UTC beaming north and 02:00 UTC west from Melbourne

For those not yet retired, 8.30 PM Victorian time tune 80 mtrs 3.650 MHz

BB's DIARY ROOM - THE FUTURE, IN AMATEUR RADIO

2008

Sept 13 Alarameet 2008 will be held in Ulverstone Tasmania on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th September 2008. Susan VK7LUV for details.

2009
International Telecommunication Union's Telecom World 2009.

14th IARU R3 Conference Christchurch 12 - 16 October, 2009.

SOCIAL SCENE

August 5 - HAMFEST 2007 happens in Perth at 9am.
Cyril Jackson Recreation Centre
Fisher Street
Ashfield.

SEPTEMBER 8
SUNSHINE COAST HAMFEST at Woombye School of Arts Hall.

SEPTEMBER 9 Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club Hamfest
St. Augustine's Hall Orr St.

SEPTEMBER 21-23
North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention
Happening in twin cities of Thuringowa and Townsville.

OCTOBER 6
Gold Coast Amateur Radio Society Annual Hamfest at Albert Waterways Hall.

JANUARY 20 2008

The Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group invite all amateurs to attend the 2008 Mid North Coast Radio Expo to be held in Coffs Harbour on Sunday 20th January.

The Expo is held at the St Johns Church Hall, Mc Lean Street, Coffs Harbour. Gary VK2ZKT is the Radio Expo Coordinator on 02 66 55 2 990 or visit the Groups comprehensive web site at www.mncarg.org

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WIANews - we've reported...YOU decide.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".

Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of the National WIA.

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WIANews THANKS OUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS , OUR RELAY OPERATORS ACROSS THE WORLD FOR FORWARDING INFORMATION AND COMMENTS THEIR LISTENERS HAVE PASSED ON TO MAKE WIANews VK'S LEADING WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PROGRAM.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au
Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".
Thanks to to our dedicated band of broadcast volunteers who utilize their time and equipment in bringing you this weekly broadcast.
The purpose of "WIANews" is to rapidly provide news of interest to active amateurs residing in Australia and the globe.
We strongly encourage membership in the Wireless Institute of Australia and participation in the activities of local clubs.
Opinions expressed in "WIANews" are those of the writers who submit material and do not necessarily reflect those of the rebroadcasters, nor the National WIA.
Material may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, a credit to WIANews wouldn't go astray...
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1391. SARL News in English 4/8/2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-04 15:09:33 UTC
From: website@sarl.org.za
Message-ID: <9D7C2F2A8ED642FB8DE315098D5615D3@toron>
Source record: 4096
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 5 AUGUST 2007

You are listening to ZS6SRL the official Radio Station of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is transmitted every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. To listen to a web stream or Echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links for details.

This, and previous bulletins, can be downloaded from the www.sarl.org.za. You can also read or download previous bulletins from there and subscribe to receive future bulletins by email.

This transmission is by Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with relays on 3,695, 10,135, and 51,400 MHz as well as 438,825 and 1 297 MHz in the Pretoria area. (Other newsreaders please change to suit).

SILENT KEYS

It is with deep regret that we announce the passing away of Leo Alexander, ZS5WF, last week. Leo was a retired Minister and very active on the Wacral Net. To his family and friends our sincerest sympathies.

The key of Wally Perfect, ZS5WP, became silent on the 28th July. Our sincerest condolences to his spouse May, other relatives and friends.

(PAUSE)

In the news today:

SARL TO ISSUE RAE CERTIFICATES

SARL WEBSITE CHANGES - CHECK IT OUT

DID YOU LISTEN TO SPUTNIK 1?

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

SARL TO ISSUE RAE CERTIFICATES

Arrangements for the SARL to issue the RAE certificates have been finalised with ICASA. In future candidates who pass the Class A examination will be issued with an international HAREC certificate. This certificate allows operation in all CEPT countries and several

others outside Europe who are complying with the conditions of the HAREC examination.

Students who pass the introductory level examination (Class B examination) will be issued with a RAE certificate. The class B examination is not HAREC compliant and cannot be used for operation in other countries.

Radio Amateurs who in the past received a RAE certificate may apply to the SARL Head Office for a replacement HAREC compliant certificate. Applications must include a certified copy of a current Radio Amateur license and should be faxed to 088 011 675 2793. There is no charge for SARL members. Non SARL members should include payment of an administration fee of R100.

SARL WEBSITE CHANGES - CHECK IT OUT

As announced recently the SARL website will be undergoing some changes and we encourage you to check it out! On the members-only home pages you will find interesting articles that will be updated frequently so visit the members section frequently. Click on "Members Only" on the top right hand of the home page. You will be asked for your callsign and pin (personal identification number). The pin appears on the membership card which was mailed to members who have renewed their 2007/2008 membership.

It is important that the SARL has your correct email address in the data base so that if you make a mistake when entering the pin you will receive an automatic e-mail to remind you what the correct pin number is.

All address and email address changes should be sent to admin@sarl.org.za.

SARL@HOME

The first SARL@HOME activity will take place at the National Amateur Radio Centre on Saturday 15 September at 11:00. It will take the form of a coffee session to talk about what young radio amateurs expect to get from their hobby. The session is aimed at the under 25's and those who are over 25, but still young at heart.

SARL@HOME will be hosted by Rhynhard Louw, ZS6DXB. Participants will also have the opportunity to operate the equipment at the Reno Faber Memorial Amateur Radio Station. There will also be a demonstration of how to use Echolink. To allow for catering, drop a line to youth@sarl.org.za.

SARL ELMER SERVICE

Do you have a question about some technical, regulatory or operating aspect of Amateur Radio; send your question to elmer@sarl.org.za. Andrew Roos ZS6AA, SARL Technology Councillor will find the answer for you.

SARL SENIOR MEMBERSHIP FEES CORRECTION

Unfortunately in the bulletin of 15 July the membership fee for seniors was incorrectly stated as R147 per annum. The correct fee is R184 per annum after the 20% discount on the normal fee of R230. Our apologies if this error has caused any inconvenience or embarresment to any member.

DID YOU LISTEN TO SPUTNIK 1?

If you listened to Sputnik 1 way back in October 1957, we would like to hear your story!

History changed on October 4, 1957, when the Soviet Union successfully launched Sputnik I. The world's first artificial satellite was about the size of a basketball, weighed only 183 pounds, and took about 98 minutes to orbit the Earth on its elliptical path. That launch ushered in new political, military, technological, and scientific developments. While the Sputnik launch was a single event, it marked the start of the space age and the U.S.-U.S.S.R space race.

To celebrate spaceweek from 4 - 10 October the SARL, SA AMSAT and the SA Amateur Radio Development Trust are working together in a special programme to promote science and technology. If you heard the Sputnik signals way back in 1957 tell us what impact it had on you. Did it influence your career choice?

Drop us a line at saamsat@intekom.co.za, we would like to call you to do a brief interview for a special programme.

Read the full Sputnik story and hear the telemetry again in the SARL member section of www.sarl.org.za

AUGUST CLASS B RAE

The exam numbers and venue details for the class B exam to be written on the 23rd of August 2007 at 19:00 CAT is now available on the SARL web site. Lecturers and invigilators are requested to download the said information and inform their students accordingly.

RAE COURSE IN THE WESTERN CAPE

Prospective students for the October class A RAE who would like to attend a course in the Western Cape can contact Karel, ZS1KC, at telephone 021 976 5237 or on cell 083 955 7177. It is proposed that the course will commence on 7 August. Classes will be held once a week in the Oakdale Sport Club.

COMPETITION NEWS

This afternoon from 15:00 to 18:30 CAT you can participate in the annual SARL HF Phone contest with activity on certain segments of the 20, 40 and 80 metre bands. The exchange is a RS report and a serial number. The rules are available on the SARL web site at www.sarl.org.za, in the 2007 SARL Contest Manual and HF Happenings 260

and 261.

On Sunday 12 August the first SARL 40 Metre Mobile Contest will be on the air from 15:00 to 17:00 CAT. This is a fun activity to promote contacts between mobile stations and other radio amateurs in Southern African countries. Mobile means the operator must be in a vehicle with a mobile antenna fitted, the vehicle may be stationary. The rules are available in the 2007 Contest Manual.

Tomorrow, Monday 6 August, is the last day for sending log sheets for this competition which took place on Sunday 22 July. Participants can send their log sheets by e-mail to zs1bak@mailbox.co.za. Boland ARC is pleased to announce that the winner of this competition will receive an ARRL Antenna Handbook. This prize has been made available by Kobus Conradie ,ZS1DC.

CLUB NEWS

At the AGM's of clubs held recently members were elected to their respective management committees for the new terms of duty as follows:

For the Cape Town Amateur Radio Centre:- Chairman: Dave Reece, ZS1DFR; Vice Chairman: Shaun Overmeyer, ZS1RA; Secretary/Treasurer: Peter Henochsberg, ZS1PMH; Minutes Secretary: Evan Pedlar, ZS1EVP; Bulletins and Rosters: Tony McEwen, ZS1TM; Technical advisor: Noel Futter, ZS1FW; Event Coordinators: Paul Kennedy, ZR1PXK;

James Gardener, ZS1ROY.

For the West Rand Amateur Radio Club:- Chairman Stuart Baynes ZS6OUN; Vice Chairman Ron Eva ZS6RON; Secretary John Brock Newsletter; Treasurer Craig Woods ZS6CRW; Member Romeo Nardini ZS6ARQ;

Joop Hesp ZS6C;

Geoff ZS6GRL;

Phillip v Tonder ZS6PVT Repeater;

Willem Weideman ZS6WWJ.

For the Zululand Amateur Radio Club:- Chairman: John Kramer, ZS5J; Vice Chairman: Jan Erasmus, ZS5G; Treasurer: Willie Axford, ZS5WI; Secretary: Dawn Snyders, ZR5ME; Members: Jo Snyders, ZR5PO (News Editor);

Andrew Jansen, ZR5MH;

Warren Snyders, ZR5WOZ.

For the Midlands Amateur Radio Club Bert Cornell, ZS5MQ, Chairman and Clubhouse Manager; Wessel du Preez, ZS5BLY, Vice-chairman and HHN editor; Mike Boast, ZS5BGV, Secretary and Treasurer; Robin Seal, ZS5MRS, PRO and Media Liaison; Shaun Rudling, ZR5S, VHF/UHF and Digital matters (also our

webmaster); Mickey Esterhuysen, ZS5QB, Technical Adviser and Net Controller.

Thanks to the retiring committee members and strength to the incoming members for what lies ahead.

WEST RAND FLEA MARKET

The West Rand Amateur Radio Club is holding it's next flea market on 1 September 2007 at the club house in Ktoton Street, Weltevreden Park, Roodepoort at 12:00.

Everyone is very welcome. For more information contact Stuart at 082 573 3359.

PROPAGATION CONDITIONS

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the expected solar activity will be at very low levels. ,The geomagnetic field is expected to be quiet in general while reaching minor storm levels on 8 August. The expected Effective Sun Spot number for the coming week will be less than 5.

20 m and 40 m will provide best opportunities for DX. There is a possibility of 20 m openings towards India from about 15:00 CAT. Contacts with Australia are going to be very challenging. From 17:00 there may be short 20 m openings towards Europe. For the early birds there is the possibility of short 80 m openings towards the East Coast of the USA at about 04:00. Otherwise contacts to the USA are going to be very challenging.

For the CW and digital enthusiasts it will also be worth monitoring 10 MHz.

Locally 40 m is going to be the band to be on during day time and 80 m after sunset. It is once again time to work towards your 80 m WAZS award in the evenings. Remember that this is only a prediction and that HF always has the capability to surprise you. You will never know what you are missing unless you switch your rig on, listen and also call CQ. Please visit www.spaceweather.co.za for further information.

DIARY OF EVENTS

Today - 5 August - SARL HF Phone Contest; 6 August - Last day for handing in of logsheets for Boland ARC competition; 12 August - SARL 40 Metre Mobile Contest; 18 August - Radio Technology in Action day in Gauteng; 23 August - Class B RAE; 15 September - SARL@HOME 4 - 10 October - Special space programme; 6 October - SA AMSAT Space Conference; 18 October - Class A RAE.

SARL News invites clubs and individuals to submit news stories of interest to radio amateurs and shortwave listeners. Submit news stories if possible in both English and Afrikaans to www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date.

The SARL also invites you to listen to the programme Amateur Radio Mirror International, on the air every Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 590 kHz. For the web stream and echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links. A repeat transmission can be heard Mondays at 21:00 CAT on 3 215 kHz. Sentech sponsor the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

Today's South African Radio League news bulletin was compiled by Gustav,ZS6BWN, and transmitted by (your name and call sign)

Thank you for listening. 73

/EX

========== Message Ends ========== To edit or remove your entry from this mailing list go to www.sarl.org.za/members/admin/maildat.asp

1392. Re: July 23, 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-04 19:03:16 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns99829013EFE3Cmcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 4097

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote in news:1186230945.022473.52800
@e16g2000pri.googlegroups.com:

> On Aug 3, 3:44?pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>> N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>> > On Jul 31, 2:52 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>> >> N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>
>> > I don't know if 'the folks who were all
>> > about the robot stations' took
>> > over the process or not. But that doesn't matter.
>>
>> I disagree. I believe it matters very much.
>
> See below about the very wise man you quoted.
>
>> > What I do know is that there was a
>> > widespread *perception* that RBB
>> > was "all about robots" and conducted
>> > behind closed doors. That
>> > *perception* was pure poison when
>> > comment-time came around. It
>> > galvanized so many hams into writing
>> > anti-RBB comments that the good
>> > parts of the proposal were lost in the uproar.
>>
>> A very wise man once told me that if
>> enough people have a perception of
>> something, it doesn't matter what the
>> truth is, the perception becomes
>> the truth. And as hard as that may be
>> to swallow, it is just how things are.
>>
> I would say that the perception is what drives people's actions, not
> that the perception is the truth.

His point was that in the end, there is no difference.

> Most of all, what happens in those cases is
> that the perception matters more than the truth.
> That's what I meant by "It doesn't matter" whether
> the folks who are all about robots took drove RBB
> or not.
>>
>> > The really sad thing is that the BoD, who

>> > OK'd the proposal, didn't
>> > see all that ahead of time.
>
>> >> This is not an unusual thing.
>
> Sad but true - in many things.
>
>> >> Many different groups see their own
>> >> interests as paramount to the "big picture"
>> >> in Ham radio (though it
>> >> isn't exclusive to the ARS)
>
> It certainly isn't!
>
>> > And the way you get around that sort
>> > of resistance is to let all
>> > groups have their say, and come up
>> > with proposals that give everybody
>> > something of what they want.
>>
>> >> I've sat through lectures from Emergency
>> >> Operation fans on how amateur radio MUST
>> >> change to acommodate their
>> >> particular view. Pro contesters/anti contesters,
>> >> the different folks
>> >> involved all have a vision of what the service
>> >> needs to be.
>>
>> > Sure. And they're almost all right!
>> > The trick is to make room for
>> > everyone.
>>
>> Actually I'm not so sure about
>> everyone being right.
>
> Everyone isn't right. That's why I wrote
> "almost".
>
>> My experience has
>> been that people who are intensely
>> interested in one thing or the other
>> don't believe that others needs are of sufficient interest.
>
> Sometimes.
>
>> Which is why
>> it is important that any BOD is
>> interested in the big picture.
>
> The trouble is that almost every specialized

> interest will say *they* are the big picture!
>
>> > For example, I think WinLink/Pactor/robots
>> > are a great thing in
>> > Amateur Radio. I think many of our rules
>> > on them are outdated and in
>> > need of rewriting. I even think the
>> > "no-data-in-the-phone-bands" rule
>> > has to go.
>>
>> I think that the stations have to become
>> a whole lot better behaved
>> before they are allowed anywhere.
>
> I'm not proposing that they be allowed everywhere.
>
>> The business of just opening up
>> whenever and wherever is bad stuff.
>
>> > But at the same time, I do not think
>> > that simply allowing robot
>> > operation everywhere is a good thing.
>> > That's why I opposed both RBB
>> > and CTT.
>
>> As a person chased off the air (or at
>> least to another frequency) by
>> the machines, I couldn't agree more.
>> There has been a lot of discussion
>> re the PSK31 "segment", with a lot
>> of people telling us to "just move".
>> Yeah, I guess we could. The nature
>> of PSK31 is such that making it's
>> practitioners fly all over the band in
>> search of a free spot is a great
>> way to kill it. especially for those who
>> use the rockbound radios. A lot
>> of the PSK units are just a rockbound
>> transceiver tied to a laptop.
>
> Which is the beauty of the mode: that it
> can give such good results without an
> elaborate setup.
>
> Unless I am mistaken, a ham could take
> an old computer that's useless for almost
> everything else and get on PSK31 with it
> and a radio that costs under $100.
>
>> It

>> got bad enough that at least in the
>> Digipan PSK software, the programmer
>> put in receive only for the robots so that
>> we could ID them and complain
>> to the F.C.C.
>
> Has anyone done that? Such complaints
> should also go to the ARRL BoD and the
> committee that wrote RBB as well, IMHO

I believe that some have - but am not 100 percent sure. The PSK community was fairly loud about their plans to ID and complain. The interference has lessened as of late. I suspect just the threat of complaints helped a lot.

The technology and users ot it are not bad, but the implementation is.

<snip>

> I think the submission of proposals that
> fail miserably damages the credibility
> of the submitting organization. That's
> particularly true if the organization says
> they represent the amateur community, or
> a large part of it. If an organization cannot
> motivate its membership to produce a
> large number of supporting comments, it
> tells FCC that the organization doesn't
> really know what its members want.

Spot-on

>> I really strongly believe that when
>> special interest subgroups get hold
>> of the process, they invariably subvert
>> it to their interest.
>
> I disagree. But I do agree that it's
> very possible for them to do so.

Well, perhaps I should rephrase that in every instance that I have dealt with SIG's, that has been the case. THat would be several dozen occasions.

>> While
>> there may have been good ideas
>> in RBB, the bad ones were bad enough that
>> it was worth losing the whole thing.
>
> I agree. But I think a proposal could
> have been developed that kept the
> good ideas and lost the bad ones.

Incrementalism often rules.

-73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1393. GB2RS NEWS Sunday 5 August 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-04 19:04:31 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200708041900.l74J0Ah11192@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4098
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

1 GB2RS NEWS Sunday 5 August

The news headlines

* Gloucestershire County RAYNET assist in floods

* UK Licence Examination at the RSGB HF Convention

* Hamfest to be held in Dorset Gloucester County RAYNET was called upon for assistance last week during the floods. The service was activated by the County Council Emergency Planning Officer to assist in the evacuation of the county emergency centre on 25 July. All the RAYNET contingency equipment was stripped out of the radio room underneath Shire Hall in the city centre, and a temporary station relocated at the Tri-Service Control centre at Quedgeley, to the south of Gloucester.

The prime use of the station was to establish links to the district rest centres established around the county and to provide backup links to out-of-county sites where telephone systems would still be operational, should the Walham substation have failed.

Liaison was kept with other RAYNET Groups at Bath, Gwent and Bristol through Zone 7 Controller Chris, G8RXA. This ensured they were kept abreast of the situation and could be called in to assist if necessary. Thanks to the efforts of members working long hours on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, voice and data communications links were set up to the Triservice Control Centre from Tewkesbury, Gloucester, Cheltenham, Cirencester and Stroud.

On Thursday, a callout was issued by the County Emergency Planning Officer for radio links to be set up between the Triservice Control and the five main bottled water distribution points for vulnerable people. RAYNET members responded to the request by message distribution and assisting the volunteer teams at the locations.

The RSGB is offering those wishing to obtain a UK Amateur Radio Licence the opportunity to complete one or more of the required examinations over the weekend of the HF Convention, 12 to 14 October.

Candidates must book their examinations prior to the event and must provide evidence they have completed the required practical assessments. Limited facilities to complete assessments at the HFC can be arranged. The contact for further information and for booking examinations is Susan Lloyd, email susan.lloyd@rsgb.org.uk, or by phone on 0870 904 7373.

The Flight Refuelling Amateur Radio Society is holding Hamfest 2007 on Sunday 12 August at the Cobham Sports and Social Club grounds at Merley, Dorset.

There will be live demonstrations of 1.3GHz ATV from the proposed Bournemouth area repeater GB3SQ. Members of the South Coast Repeater and Beacon Group will be on hand to explain the workings of local repeaters and the Bell Hill Microwave Beacon Complex.

The onsite model steam railway will be in operation for the children and there will be several demonstrations of Tesla coil systems. Plus of course there will be the usual trade stands and a large radio car boot sale section. For full details contact the Hamfest organiser Mike Sykes, M0MJS, at m0mjs@tiscali.co.uk.

2 AMSAT-UK beginners workshops again proved successful at their Annual Colloquium in Guildford. The workshops aim to show newcomers how to get started in the exciting world of amateur satellite communications. Many are amazed to discover that they can communicate through amateur satellites or speak to astronauts onboard the International Space Station using little more that a handheld dual-band FM transceiver. Now that all licensees have access to the Satellite Service there was a sharp increase in the numbers of Foundation and Intermediate licensees attending.

And now for the details of rallies and events for the coming week

[Note to newsreaders: please exercise your judgement on which of the 5 August events to read out, based on your service area and time of transmission.] On Sunday 5 August the Lincoln Short Wave Club Hamfest will take place at the Newark Show Ground, located at the junction of the A46 and A17. On Sunday 5 August the West Somerset ARC Rally takes place from 10am at Hare Park, Allerford, Minehead. On Sunday 5 August the Lorn Radio Amateur Rally takes place from 10am at Crianlarich Village Hall near the junction between the A85 and A82. On Friday 10 August the Cockenzie & Port Seton Amateur Radio Club 14th Annual `Junk' Night takes place from 18.30 at the Community Centre, Main Hall, South Seton Park, Port Seton, East Lothian EH32 0BQ. Details from Bob Glasgow, GM4UYZ, on 01875 811723, or on the internet at www.cpsarc.com. On Sunday 12 August the Flight Refuelling ARS Hamfest takes place from 10am at the Cobham Sports and Social Club Ground, Merley, Near Wimborne, Dorset BH21 1RJ. Talk-in will be provided on S22. Details from Mike, M0MJS, on 01202 883 479, or by email to hamfest@frars.org.uk, or on the internet at www.frars.org.uk. On Sunday 12 August the Kings Lynn Amateur Radio Club Rally takes place at Kings Lynn Caravan and Camping Park, PE33 OQR, on the A47 approximately 3 miles east of Kings Lynn. Details from Andy, G1KLP, on 07778 003687 or on the web at www.klarc.org.uk. More details of these and future events can be found on pages 88 and 89 of the August edition of RadCom. Now for the news of special events

To mark the 100th anniversary of scouting, special event station GB100J is active until 7 August. Operating from Hylands Park, Chelmsford, the

station is expected to be on air 24 hours per day on 80m through to 6m. Depending on the availability of an Internet connection, the station also hopes to be active on Echolink. More details at www.radioscouting.org.uk. The Dragon ARC, Anglesey, will be operating special event station GB250TT on 9 August to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the birth of engineer Thomas Telford. Operations from the Menai Suspension Bridge, will be on HF, 2 metres and ATV and will start on the afternoon of Wednesday 8 August and will run through to 10 August, if there are sufficient operators. Also, there will be amateur radio stations operating from some of the other sites where Thomas Telford worked including GB4TT at Montford, Shropshire and it is understood there will be several Swedish stations operating from the Go"ta Canal in Sweden.

3 Special event station GB2GSS will be on the air using HF and VHF on 15 August from the Gillingham and Shaftesbury Show. As in previous years the station will be operated by members of the Blackmore Amateur Radio Society. QSLs via the bureau please. A special event station GB1SL will be on the air from the Skerries Lighthouse for this years International Lighthouse and Lighthouse Weekend on 18 and 19 August. This will be the first activation from the Skerries, the Lighthouse situated in a group of Islands off the Anglesey coast in the Irish Sea. Operation on 80 and 40 metres CW and SSB, 20 metres SSB and 6 metres. QSL via bureau or via GW0VML. And now the HF DX news compiled from 425 DX News, the Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin and other sources. Caudio, IN3DEI/ W1ADX, is operating holiday style as 9A/W1ADX from Dalmatian islands Dugi Otok, Molat, Pasman and Ugljan in the EU-170 IOTA group until 7 August. QSL via IN3DEI. Celebrating the centenary year of the scouting movement, Geoff, M5GAC, is operating as GB5BBS from the Isle of Arran (EU-123) until 8 August. He plans to be active on 80, 40, 20 and 15 metres. QSL via M5GAC, direct or bureau. Yogi, DB5YB, is active as LA/DB5YB from Stord Island (EU-055) until 9 August. He plans to operate holiday style on 10 to 20 metres SSB. QSL via home call, direct or bureau. Ann, WA1S, is in Sao Miguel (EU-003), Azores until 9 August and is active as CU2/WA1S. QSL via home call. Fabrizio, IK5WOB, is operating CW only as TK/IK5WOB from Algaiola, Corsica (EU-014) until 11 August. QSL via home call, direct or bureau. Activity is taking place from the 92nd Esperanto World Conference in Yokohama until 12 August. QSL via JA1YAR or JA1FXZ, bureau or direct. During the lighthouse weekend 18 and 19 August Bekir Kemal Ataman, TA2RX, will be making a dxpedition to Gelidonia lighthouse in Antalya, Turkey, to operate as TC4LHW. Now the contest news The RSGB 432MHz Low Power Contest takes place on 5 August between 0800 to 1200 on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number, locator and postal district. The RSGB 144MHz Activity and Club Championship takes place on 7 August between 2000 to 2230 local time on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number, locator and postal district. The Worked All Europe CW Contest takes place on 11 August between 0000 to 2359 on the 3.5 to 28MHz bands. The exchange takes the form of RST and serial number. Now the solar factual data for the period from 23 July to 29 July, compiled

by Neil Clarke, G0CAS Solar activity was very low with no solar flares taking place at all. The solar disc was spotless until the 28th when a small group appeared. Solar flux levels varied little day to day and averaged 69 units. The 90 day

4 solar flux average on the 29th was 74, that's the same level for the last 7 weeks. X-ray flux levels remained below the minimum A1 level everyday. Geomagnetic activity started at very quiet levels with an Ap of only 2 units on the 24th and the 25th. On the 29th due to a coronal hole activity increased to 14 units. The average was Ap 6 units. The ACE spacecraft saw solar wind speeds increase from 290 kilometres per second on the 26th to 640 by the 29th. Particle densities were low but increased to 46 particles per cubic centimetre on during the morning of the 29th. Bz varied between minus 1 and plus 2 nanoTeslas on the quiet days and between minus 8 and plus 12 on the 29th. Despite the low levels of geomagnetic activity HF conditions seemed mostly unexciting - until the increased activity for the IOTA contest suggested that good DX possibilities might previously have been going unexploited. Sporadic-E is now past its seasonal peak, but there were still openings on 28, 50 and 70MHz on several days. And finally the solar forecast. This week the active side of the Sun is expected to be looking our way. Saying that, solar activity should continue at mostly very low levels with only a small chance that activity could increase to low. However, solar flux levels are expected to be at their highest for this solar rotation. Solar flux levels should be around the mid to high 70's for most of the week. Geomagnetic activity is expected to be quiet today and tomorrow but then due to a coronal hole activity should increase. This disturbance could last till almost the weekend. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitudes should be around 19MHz for the south and 16MHz for the north. The darkness hour lows are expected to be about 9MHz. Paths this week to India should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success rate of about 23MHz. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success rate will be around 18MHz. The best time to try this path will be between 0800 and 1600 hours UTC. Normally, August, heralds the end of the main summer season for sporadic E. Openings should still take place this week, however, a gradual decline will take place as the month progresses. And that's all for this week from the propagation team.

5 Next, the Local News:

Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses

and website links where known.

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your

transmission.]

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST

and EAST ANGLIA On Sunday 5 August Leiston Amateur Radio Club is having a fox hunt and BBQ at Blaxhall Village Hall. Contact Dave, G4HUP, on 01473 737 717, g4hup@btinternet.com.

On Sunday 5 August Surbiton Heritage Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is having an on the air day. Contact Tony, G7DGW, on g7dgw@shares.uk.net, or on the web at www.shares.uk.net.

On Monday 6 August Braintree and District Amateur Radio Society is having an operating evening and planning its camping weekend. Contact John, M5AJB, on 01787 460 947.

On Monday 6 August Burnham Beeches Radio Club is having a pub meeting. Contact G4XDU, on 01628625720.

On Monday 6 August Southdown Amateur Radio Society is having its annual BBQ at G6GVM's. Contact John, G3DQY, on 0124424319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

On Monday 6 August Surrey Radio Contact Club is having a members evening at Trinity School. Contact Ray, G4FFY, on 020 8644 7589.

On Tuesday 7 August Brede Steam Amateur Radio Society is operating from the bunker. Contact Steve, M0SSR, on 01424 720 815.

On Tuesday 7 August Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society is having its constructors competition. Contact Martyn, G1EFL, on 01245 469 008.

On Tuesday 7 August Horndean and District Amateur Radio Club is having a social evening. Contact Stuart, G0FYX, on 023 9247 2846, or on the web at www.hdarc.co.uk.

On Wednesday 8 August Aylesbury Vale Radio Society is working on the club project, on the air and having a discussion evening. Contact Roger, G3MEH, on 01442 826 651, or by email to roger@g3meh.com.

On Wednesday 8 August Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is having a shack computer evening. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

On Wednesday 8 August Dover Radio Club is having a portable evening on Farthing Common. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk.

On Wednesday 8 August Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is having a discussion by members on how they got into amateur radio and what it means to them. Contact Jim, M1JJN.

On Wednesday 8 August Harwich Amateur Radio Interest Group is having a members show and tell evening about a trip or holiday. Contact James, M0ZZO, on 01255 242 746.

On Wednesday 8 August Havering and District Amateur Radio Club is operating GB4HRC to celebrating over 40 years of the club's existence. Contact Dave, 2E0EBV, on 07956 594 514.

On Wednesday 8 August Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is having antenna erection practice with Rex, G0CLR. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

6 On Wednesday 8 August South Essex Amateur Radio Society is having an update on GPS by Dave, G4UVJ. Contact Dave, G4UVJ, on 01268 697 978, or by email to southessex.ARS@btinternet.com.

On Wednesday 8 August Worthing and District Amateur Radio Club is making its plans for Lighthouse weekend. Contact Roy, G4GPX, on 01903 753 893.

On Thursday 9 August Echelford Amateur Radio Society is watching a DVD on amplifiers by Graham Dicker, VK5ZFZ. Contact John Osborne, G4GSC, on 01784 451898.

On Thursday 9 August Reading and District Amateur Radio Club is having an evening on the air and natter night hosted by Tom, G0VQR. Contact Pete, G8FRC, on 01189 695 697, or on the web at www.radarc.org.

On Thursday 9 August Southgate Amateur Radio Club is having a BBQ. Contact Erik, 2E0ECR, on 0208 444 3247.

On Friday 10 August Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society Radio is having an operating evening. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Sunday 12 August Brede Steam Amateur Radio Society is operating from the bunker. Contact Steve, M0SSR, on 01424 720 815.

On Sunday 12 August Harwich Amateur Radio Interest Group is having a lecture on solar propagation software by Carl Thomson, G3PEM. Contact James, M0ZZO, on 01255 242 746.

On Sunday 12 August King's Lynn Amateur Radio Club is having its radio rally. Contact Andy, G1KLP, on or on the web at www.klarc.org.uk.

On Sunday 12 August Southdown Amateur Radio Society is operating G1KAR at Beachy Head. Contact John, G3DQY, on 0124424319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST

On Wednesday 8 August South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is having an evening of software training on the club computer. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282.

On Wednesday 8 August Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is having a visit to the model flying club. Contact Tony, G0WMB, by email to tonytsgarc@beeb.net.

On Thursday 9 August Yeovil Amateur Radio Club is having an SSTV evening. Contact Gary, 2E0BFJ, by email to g.swain@tesco.net.

NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS

On Sunday 5 August Lincoln Short-Wave Club is running the Lincoln Hamfest at Newark Showground. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

On Monday 6 August Gloucester Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is visiting the airport. Contact Anne, 2E1GKY, on 01452 548478, daytime.

On Monday 6 August Stourbridge and District Amateur Radio Society is having an open shack night. Contact John, M1EJG, on 01562 700 513.

On Tuesday 7 August Derby and District Amateur Radio Society is having a junk sale. Contact Martin, G3SZJ, on 01332 556 875.

On Tuesday 7 August Loughborough and District Amateur Radio Club is moving in to its new meeting venue and having a welcome evening. Contact Chris, G1ETZ, on 01509 504 319.

7 On Tuesday 7 August Wythall Radio Club is taking part in the 2m Club Championship from the shack. Contact Chris, G0EYO, on 07710 412 819, or by email to g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk, or on the web at www.wythallradioclub.co.uk.

On Wednesday 8 August Lincoln Short-Wave Club is having a debrief on the Hamfest. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

On Wednesday 8 August Telford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a local area walking foxhunt. Contact Mike, G3JKX, on 01952 299 677, or by email to mjstreetg3jkx@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Thursday 9 August Salop Amateur Radio Society is having an introduction to RAYNET. Contact Glenda, G1YJB, on 01939 235 412.

On Friday 10 August Coventry Amateur Radio Society is having a committee meeting and update on the 75th anniversary dinner. Contact John, G8SEQ, on 02476 273 190, or by email to johng8seq@ntlworld.com.

On Friday 10 August Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is having a members BBQ evening. Details on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

On Saturday 11 August Wythall Radio Club is operating a special event station at Evesham Steam Fair. Contact Chris, G0EYO, on 07710 412 819, or by email to g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk, or on the web at www.wythallradioclub.co.uk.

NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

On Monday 6 August Sheffield Amateur Radio Club is having a portable evening and BBQ at Whitley Woods. Contact Trevor, M0TWS.

On Monday 6 August Thornton Cleveleys Amateur Radio Society Club is on the air. Contact Jack, G4BFH, by email to jack.duddington@btinternet.com.

On Tuesday 7 August Halifax and District Amateur Radio Society is having a technical evening at Rishworth School. Contact Brenda, 2E0YKS, by email to wrenuk10@yahoo.com.

On Tuesday 7 August Stockport Radio Society is having a presentation and demonstration on restoring old photographs by Christine Simcock, M1SIM. Contact David, M1ANT, on 0161 456 7832.

On Wednesday 8 August Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is on the air. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Friday 10 August South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is having a talk by G3UAU on "My Baltic Cruise". Contact Ron on 0161 969 3999.

On Friday 10 August Tynemouth Radio Club is having a talk on using multimeters. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Saturday 11 August Hornsea Amateur Radio Club is operating GB2DSR at the Driffield Steam Rally, East Yorkshire. Contact Steve, G4GPY, on 01482 860 440, or by email to g4gpy@eddiesplace.karoo.co.uk.

NEWS FOR SCOTLAND

On Thursday 9 August Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is having an HF fox hunt. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

On Friday 10 August Cockenzie and Port Seton Amateur Radio Club is having its 14th annual junk night. Contact Bob, GM4UYZ, on 01875 811 723.

8 NEWS FOR WALES No news items have been received for Wales this week.
NEWS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

No news items have been received for Northern Ireland this week. And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast,

prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

1394. Whatever Happened to the Electronics Hobbyist?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-04 21:35:50 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <46b4d0e3$0$313$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 3999

```
-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

Interesting, and apropos, item in "Electronic Design" from March of
this year:

"Whatever Happened to the Electronics Hobbyist?"

http://www.elecdesign.com/Articles/Index.cfm?ArticleID=15076

- --
73, Paul W. Schleck, K3FU
pschleck@novia.net
http://www.novia.net/~pschleck/
Finger pschleck@novia.net for PGP Public Key

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v1.4.5 (SunOS)

iD8DBQFGtNC16Pj0az779o4RAk4LAJ9sosfc8PVmhlX7oFgiH2ROn6e/DQCguv22
DpKWGJaEGrRONc+c5MSdsP8=
=3eGP
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----
```

1395. Re: Whatever Happened to the Electronics Hobbyist?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-05 16:15:52 UTC
From: Gr&#65533;mw&#65533;tch th&#65533; &#65533;nfl&#65533;pp&#65533;bl&#65533; <Gr&#65533;mw&#65533;tch@NOSPAM.THANKS.IM.FULL.lycos.co.de>
Message-ID: <f94s1u$s66$1@aioe.org>
Source record: 4000

"Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net> wrote in message
news:46b4d0e3$0$313$540ea2cf@novia.net...

>
> "Whatever Happened to the Electronics Hobbyist?"
>

Part (not all) of the allure of kits and homebrewing was "I can build it cheaper
than buying". The price of labor has gone down as a percentage of manufacturing
costs, so purchased-ready-built has gone down over the years.

73, BGO

1396. Re: Whatever Happened to the Electronics Hobbyist?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-05 18:28:12 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1186331567.354534.238960@j4g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4001

On Aug 5, 12:15?pm, "Gr?mw?tch th? ?nfl?pp?bl?"
<Gr?mw?t...@NOSPAM.THANKS.IM.FULL.lycos.co.de> wrote:

> Part (not all) of the allure of kits and
> homebrewing was "I can build it cheaper
> than buying". The price of labor has gone
> down as a percentage of manufacturing
> costs, so purchased-ready-built has gone
> down over the years.

That's certainly one big factor. Here are some
more:

The cost of new parts bought in large quantities
is much lower than the single-unit or small-quantity
cost.

The availability of a wide range of
surplus and used parts at prices far
below new has diminished.

Unless something exceptional is built, the
resale value of homebrew is usually but
a small fraction of the cost of all new parts.

None of this is really new, however.

Many years ago, I wondered what it
would cost to build a project out of
the old ARRL Handbook, circa 1960.
I had a 1959 Newark catalog for pricing
out the parts.

The project I chose was a simple 2 stage
transmitter of the type Novices would have
used in those days. Nominally 50 watts input,
plug-in coils, etc.

By the time I got done adding up all
of the individual parts prices,
the total was well over $50.

This was back when a Heath DX-20 kit
was only $36, and the EF Johnson
Viking Adventurer was $55.

These prices do not count tools, so
the difference is even greater because

homebrewing would require metalworking tools
that the kits did not.

OTOH, the little company called Elecraft has
sold over 8000 transceiver kits in recent years,
with minimal advertising.

However, it should be noted that their new K3
is available as either a no-soldering "PC-kit"
or factory assembled.

The first two production runs of the K3 are
already sold out.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1397. IRTS Radio News Bulletin, Sunday August 5th 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-05 20:06:35 UTC
From: news at irts dot ie <devnull@panix.com>
Message-ID: <200708052000.l75K0Cb12337@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4002
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Irish Radio Transmitters Society
Radio News Bulletin

Sunday August 5th 2007

IOTA Contest

The Islands On The Air contest was held last weekend. In this year's contest, two offshore Irish islands were heard, Inis O�rr and Rathlin. South Dublin Radio Club and friends were on Inis O�rr Island, County Galway, using the call sign EJ0GI, while the Kilmarnock and Loudon Amateur Radio Club, call sign GI3YS, were on Rathlin Island, off the coast of County Antrim. Numerous mainland stations were also active. Among the mainland stations, club call signs EI0W (Dundalk Amateur Radio Society), EI7M (East Cork Amateur Radio Group) and EI9E (Network Southern Area Radio Experimenters Club) were active. At least 20 other EI, GI and MI call signs were heard during the contest, making the Islands on the Air contest one of the more popular international contests in this country.

For Irish stations, 20 metres and the low bands were the key bands this year, although there was some 15-metre activity on both Saturday and Sunday. 10 metres appeared to be open to Ireland only for a brief period on Saturday. While the higher bands may have been disappointing, there was some very good DX on the lower bands, with many VK, ZL and JA stations logged on 40 metres. The results of this contest, which can be expected before the end of the year, are no doubt eagerly awaited.

CQIR

Great interest is being expressed worldwide in the Society's 75th Anniversary Contest CQIR, which will take place on the last weekend in September. The contest is a celebration of Ireland and the Irish, throughout the world and with 40 million people in the United States alone claiming Irish forefathers; we expect that CQIR will be one of the largest 'one off'

contests ever aired on the Amateur Bands. It is a 24-hour single operator contest with the emphasis on participation rather than winning and to this end every participant gains an entry ticket for a spectacular draw for every 75 QSO's made during the Contest.

The ticket drawn out of the EI/GI drum will win an all expenses paid long weekend in New York City for two people. ARRL have confirmed that this will include a visit to their national headquarters hosted by ARRL. Kinnitty Castle in Offaly will host the international winners for a week with flights for two from anywhere in the world. The prizes have been fully sponsored at no cost to the Society and this is really an excellent opportunity to celebrate the Society and its 75 years of service to Irish experimenters. We would encourage all Irish operators to be active during the Contest. So ring fence the last weekend of September in your diary, make an effort to have that new antenna up for the event and lets ensure a good show from the local Irish operators to support the international Irish who will no doubt come on the bands in their thousands for the contest. Full rules are on the IRTS website.

EI75IRTS

As part of the Society's Jubilee Celebrations, we have been allocated the call sign EI75IRTS for the year 2007. Please note that Individuals and club members of IRTS may apply to use the call sign EI75IRTS during the rest of 2007. Contact Finbarr Buckley EI1CS about this. The use of the call sign EI75IRTS is subject to a number of conditions and full information is available on the IRTS web site at www.irts.ie.

South Dublin Radio Club

South Dublin Radio Club is on holidays following a successful activation of Inish Oirr in the Aran Islands under the callsign EJ0GI during the Islands on the air contest. Weekly meetings will resume as usual at 8pm on Tuesday the 14th of August in the Ballyroan community Centre on the Marian road in Rathfarnam. Thirteen people took part in the Island activation, which was enjoyed by all.

The next SDR event is a lighthouse activation during Lighthouse on the Air on Saturday 18th and Sunday the 19th of August. They will be activating Saint Johns Point Lighthouse County Down. This is not a contest but

a fun event.

Marconi's Wireless Telegraph in Ireland,
"Alpha/Omega Tour"

In 1907, Guglielmo Marconi's dream of fixed point-to-point wireless telegraph stations linking North America and Europe became a reality. Derrygimla near Clifden, County Galway served as the site of his wireless station. Over the next 15 years, spark-induced blue flashes generated by the station's massive 20 kV generators sent tens of thousands of wireless messages across the Atlantic, linking to its North American counterpart at Glace Bay, Nova Scotia.

2007 marks the centennial of those first sparks generated from Marconi's historic Clifden station. To commemorate this significant event, as well as radio's first-ever commercial venture at Ballycastle-Rathlin, Hal W8HC announces a special amateur radio operation from both locations central to Marconi's fame and success as a pioneer in wireless technology. Ballycastle-Rathlin was his first wireless telegraph station and the Clifden station would be his last, ceasing operation in 1922.

On Saturday and Sunday, August the 4th and 5th. Hal will operate from Ballycastle as GI/W8HC/p. He will be also taking part in the annual Marconi Festival at Ballycastle with the Marconi Radio Group's MN"MRG special event station on Sunday the 5th of August. On Monday the 6th of August, he will ferry over to Rathlin Island (EU-122) and operate from East Lighthouse (ARLS designator NTI 011).

He will arrive in Clifden on Wednesday the 8th of August where he will operate as EI/W8HC/p at the Derrygimla site on Thursday and Friday the 9th and 10th of August. It is hoped that some operating time can also occur from nearby Letterfrack, site of an ancillary receive station built in 1912 to allow for full duplex operation of the transatlantic signals.

All QSOs will be confirmed via LOTW and special QSLs from each of these historic Marconi locations will be printed and sent via GlobalQSL www.globalqsl.com. In addition, a specially designed certificate will be issued to those stations making contact with both GI and EI operations from either Ballycastle or Rathlin and Derrygimla or Letterfrack. In keeping with the

historic connection, all QSOs from these locations will be CW only. Limited mobile phone operation will take place during transit in both GI and EI.

Field Days and Contests

The 2 metres counties contest will take place on the 26th of August. The SSB field day will take place over the first weekend (1st and 2nd) of September. Again the grounds of Garbally College, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway will be available, thanks to Niall EI4CF and once again the Shannon Basin Club will be hosting their now famous Barbeque. Of course, the big event will be CQIR over the last weekend, so plenty to look forward to.

Please note that the deadline for submission of logs for the VHF/UHF Field Day is the 7th of August.

Foyle and District ARC Rally

The Foyle and District Rally will take place on Sunday the 4th of November 2007 at the White Horse Hotel, Derry, 3 miles from Derry on the main Limavady Road. Doors open at midday. The club's web address for more information is www.mn0aku.org.uk.

Church Broadcasts

Recently we carried an item telling you that it has now been established that a church broadcast is being transmitted on 28.105 MHz FM in the Dublin area. Some further work is required to identify the Church concerned. Mass is transmitted at 0900, 1000 and 1100 local on Sundays and at 1000 on weekdays. Initial bearings would indicate that the transmissions are originating somewhere on the north side of Dublin.

It would help greatly if bearings on the station from areas such as Blanchardstown, Malahide and the north side generally could be provided, as these would help to further pin down the general area from which the transmission originates. The local Church notices can be of assistance in positively identifying the Church concerned. If you cannot identify the station and you have a beam antenna you could take a bearing on the peak signal from anywhere in the greater Dublin area which in conjunction with similar bearings taken by other stations could help in locating the source of the transmission. Stations located outside Dublin should listen on FM the lower end of the 28 MHz band generally

to see if any unauthorised activity is taking place in the band in their areas.

If you hear anything worth reporting you should send a report to Thos Caffrey EI2JD the IRTS Intruder Watch coordinator at QTHR or to &#65533;thoscaffrey at hotmail dot com&#65533; with a copy to Sean Nolan EI7CD at QTHR or to &#65533;ei7cd at gofree dot indigo dot ie&#65533;. The report should include date, time, frequency, signal strength, possible location of station if identified, beam heading in degrees from true north and any other relevant information. If the station is identified from an announcement of local events, details should be given. Should you hear anything, no action should be taken other than forwarding a report as requested.

It is in our own interests to identify any unauthorised activity so as to preserve the exclusive nature of the 28 MHz allocation. The matter has already been reported to ComReg who will act on the matter if we can provide appropriate information.

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall, EI7IS at QTHR or by phone to 051-853806 or 087-6302026. Items for the radio news can also be faxed to 087 5 6302026. News should be submitted via e-mail to &#65533;news at irts dot ie&#65533; for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Friday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday&#65533;s bulletin.

1398. Re: Whatever Happened to the Electronics Hobbyist?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-05 21:12:13 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5hmjhpF3klogbU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4003

"Gr�mw�tch th� �nfl�pp�bl�"
<Gr�mw�tch@NOSPAM.THANKS.IM.FULL.lycos.co.de> wrote in
message news:f94s1u$s66$1@aioe.org
> "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net> wrote in
> message news:46b4d0e3$0$313$540ea2cf@novia.net...
>
> >
> > "Whatever Happened to the Electronics Hobbyist?"
> >
>
> Part (not all) of the allure of kits and homebrewing was
> "I can build it cheaper than buying". The price of labor
> has gone down as a percentage of manufacturing costs, so
> purchased-ready-built has gone down over the years.
> 73, BGO

I've never been a great constructor, due in part to the fact that I've never lived anywhere with sufficient space to have a decent workbench.

However, the one item I did build of which I am still intensely proud was a terminal unit for a good old mechanical teleprinter to use on RTTY, back in the days before computers ruined it ;-)

It took me a long time, but it was one of a kind. It had all sorts of bells & whistles that "standard" TU's didn't have and was built into a housing for a telex control unit to match the teleprinter.

Unfortunately, it got destroyed, along with the Creed 444 that it connected to, in a house fire in 1990 :-(

73 Ivor G6URP

1399. [DXNL] DX-MB 1531 (8.8.2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-06 16:51:31 UTC
From: Robert Busch - DL7VOA <dxnl@dxhf.darc.de>
Message-ID: <5918463829.20070806184503@dxhf.darc.de>
Source record: 4004
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.dx,rec.radio.info

DX-MB 1531 - 8.8.2007
DX Mitteilungsblatt
DARC-Referat fuer DX und HF-Funksport
Editor: Helmut Schlaffer, DL7MAE

(e-mail: dxmb@dxhf.darc.de)
(http://www.darcdxhf.de)

BY - Volksrepublik China: Vom 10. bis 12.August wird ein groesseres Team von der Insel Ju Hua (AS-151) erwartet. BY1TT/2, BD1PTA/2, BA3CE/2 und andere OPs sind mit dabei.
Der QSL-Manager fuer saemtliche Teilnehmer ist BD1PTA.

DU - Philippinen: Hans,DL5SDF, haelt sich vom 10. bis 28.August auf Mindanao (DU9) auf. Eine Lizenzzusage liegt bereits vor, nicht jedoch das Rufzeichen. Hans benutzt Drahtantennen, funkt mit 100 Watt und ausschliesslich in CW. QSLs (Buero bevorzugt) sind an DL5SDF zu senden.

IS0 - Sardinien: Gleich zwei Aktivitaeten beginnen in dieser Woche auf Sardinien: Stefano,IM0/IK5XCT, wird noch bis 13.August die Insel Maddalena (EU-041, IIA OT-008) aktivieren. Buero-QSLs ueber ihn koennen auch per E-Mail oder bei http://www.qsl.net/ik5xct angefordert werden.

Vom 8.-20.August sind Gerry,IS0/IZ1DSH, und Giovanni,IS0/IK1WEG, von EU-024 in SSB und CW von 6-40m in der Luft. Abstecher zu den Inseln Spargi (IIA OT-021, EU-041) und Caprera (IIA OT-012, EU-041) sind auch geplant. QSLs an die Heimatrufzeichen, Buero ist ok.

KH2 - Guam: Mike,K3UOC, arbeitet und lebt mit seiner Familie seit etwa einem Jahr in Guam (OC-026). Mike, der dort als Lehrer beschaeftigt ist, hat die Moeglichkeit, von der Schul-Clubstation WH2D zu funken. Er ist zu 90% in CW zu finden und kuendigt Aktivitaet auf allen neun Kurzwellen-baendern an, wann immer es seine Zeit und die Bedingungen erlauben. Auch an allen groesseren Contesten will er sich beteiligen. Nach 6.000 QSOs im vergangenen Schuljahr, hofft er diesmal mit zum Ziel gesetzten 10.000 QSOs noch erfolgreicher zu sein. Dazu will Mike demnaechst eine Endstufe betreiben und neben der vorhandenen Cuschcraft R-7000 noch einen Hex-Beam aufstellen. Mike sitzt meist an Wochenenden an seinem Radio und kuemmert sich auch um die QSL-Karten, die direkt oder ueber das Buero an K3UOC geschickt werden sollen. Auf der Webseite der Schule findet man einen Artikel, den Mike ueber seine Amateurfunkaktivitaeten auf Guam geschrieben hat, sowie mancherlei andere interessante Infos:
www.stjohnsguam.com/main/?option=com_content&task=view&id=269&Itemid=124

KH3 - Johnston: Susan,W7KFI, war mit ihrer Yacht bereits wieder auf dem Weg nach Johnston, als Hurrikan Erik ihr einen Strich durch die Rechnung machte. Sie segelte wieder zurueck nach Honolulu und wird erst im November, nach der Hurrikan-Saison erneut einen Versuch unternehmen, nach KH3 zu segeln.

OH0 - Aland-Inseln/JW - Svalbard: Vom 7.-12.August weilt Juergen,OH0/DJ3KR, auf den Aland-Inseln und nimmt am 11./12.August auch am CW-Teil des WAEDC-Contestes teil. Anschliessend reist er weiter nach Svalbard, wo er als JW/DJ3KR vom 15.-26.August zu erreichen sein wird.
QSL-Karten gehen an sein Homecall.

ST - Sudan/6W - Senegal: Jovica,T98A (ex T98A), war zwei Jahre im Sudan taetig und loggte in dieser Zeit als ST0RM und ST2A ueber 40.660 QSOs, die Mehrzahl (35.012) davon in CW. Einige Fotos hat er auf seiner Homepage online gestellt: http://www.t93y.com/st2a
Sein Job bei der UNHCR (die UN-Fluechtlingsorganisation) verschlaegt ihn ab dem 1.September nach Dakar, in die senegalesische Hauptstadt. Er wird aber nicht nur im Senegal zu tun haben, sondern im gesamten westafrikanischen Raum. Man darf also auf Aktivitaet aus diversen Laendern in der Region durch T98A hoffen.
Sein QSL-Manager T93Y bestaetigt QSL-Karten stets sehr zuverlaessig.

XX9 - Macao: Hide,JM1LJS, plant eine neuerliche Aktivitaet als XX9TJS, voraussichtlich vom 10.August, 0900 UTC, bis 13.August, 1100 UTC.
Er macht CW und SSB von 10-80m und wuenscht QSLs direkt an JM1LJS.

Z3 - Mazedonien: Vierzehn Jahre lang war OM Chris mit seinem Call Z31GX in der Luft gewesen. Seit dem 1.August hat er mit Z35X ein neues Call.
DJ0LZ, der QSL-Manager beider Rufzeichen, bestaetigt leider nur direkt.

Vom 1.August bis zum Jahresende benutzt der Radioclub "Nikola Tesla" Z37M das Sonderrufzeichen Z360M. Grund hierfuer ist das 60-jaehrige Bestehen des Radioclubs.

4O - Montenegro: Emir,9A6AA, plant als 4O6AA von der Insel Sveti Nikola (EU-163, LH 1097) zwischen dem 13. und 19.August Betrieb zu machen.
QSL-Karten ï¿œleider nur direktï¿œ wuenscht Emir ueber sein Homecall.

9Q - Demokratische Republik Kongo: Nachdem 9Q1D zurueck in Schweden und 9Q1NT zurueck in Belgien ist, ist Georges,9Q1EK, momentan die einzige aktive und DXCC-anerkannte Station im Kongo, so sein QSL-Manager Osten,SM5DQC. Die 9Q1EL-Logs koennen auf http://www.logsearch.de abgefragt werden. Noch waehrend des Monats August kommt Phillipe,9Q1TB, wieder von seinem Heimaturlaub zurueck. SM5DQC ist auch der QSL-Manager von Philippe und er weist darauf hin, dass er nur auf direktem Wege QSL-Karten bestaetigt und dass er in Schweden mit dem EURO nichts anfangen kann, da dieser in Schweden nicht eingefuehrt wurde. Karten fuer 9Q1TB und 9Q1EK sollen an die folgende Adresse gesendet werden: SM5DQC, Osten Magnusson, Nyckelvagen 4, SE-59931 Odeshog, Schweden.

Pazifik: Toshi,JA8BMK, macht sich im September auf den Weg nach 3D2, T30, T31XX und evtl. noch T33ZZ und sucht dabei noch Mitstreiter, um die

Kosten niedriger halten zu koennen. Sollte jemand Interesse haben, kann
er sich mit ihm per e-mail (fuku-t20@amber.plala.or.jp) in Verbindung
setzen.Alle Rufzeichen wurden ihm bereits vor laengerer Zeit zugeteilt.
Spenden sind willkommen, mehr Einzelheiten erfahren Sie im DX-MB, kurz
bevor die DXpedition starten wird.

Frankreich, Sonderrufzeichen: Den 150.Geburtstag von Heinrich Rudolf Hertz
feiern franzoesische Amateurfunker mit der Sonderstation TM2HRH vom
6. bis 19.August. QSL-Karten gehen ueber das REF-Bureau an F6KTN.

Kanada, Sonderrufzeichen: Mitglieder des "Amateur Radio Club of Central
Newfoundland" benutzen noch bis 31.August das Call VO1GAM. Damit will
man an den 70.Jahrestag erinnern, an dem der erste kommerzielle Trans-
atlantikflug (5.Juli 1937) von Botwood (Neufundland) nach Foynes in
Irland stattgefunden hatte. Aktivitaet ist auf allen Baendern angekuen-
digt und QSL-Karten via Buero oder direkt sollen an den Manager VO1MX
gesendet werden.

Polen, Sonderrufzeichen: SN2NP ist vom 17.-19.August vom Danziger Leuchtturm
in CW/PSK31/RTTY/SSB in der Luft. QSL via SP2BIK, Buero oder direkt.

SP5VYI, SP5X, SP5IUK und SP5GRU sind noch bis 30.September OPs an der
Sonderstation 3Z90ZIM. Betrieben wird diese in Przasnysz, wo die oert-
lichen Pfadfinder ihr 90-jaehriges Gruendungsfest feiern.
QSL via SP5ZIM oder SP5X.

DXCC: QSL-Karten von J5UAR (Guinea-Bissau, Operation 2007) werden ab sofort
fuer das DXCC-Diplom anerkannt und koennen dem DXCC-Desk zur Pruefung
vorgelegt werden. Wurde die Karte frueher bereits zurueckgewiesen, soll
man den Sachverhalt per e-mail an dxcc@arrl.org der ARRL mitteilen.

LINKS: Aktuelle SOTA-Aktivitaeten (Berggipfel) finden Sie wie immer auf den
beiden Internetseiten http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/spots.php sowie
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/activations.php

Auf http://dxinfo.ea3bhk.com/dxinforesult.php kann man ein Plugin
herunterladen, um im Firefox-Internetbrowser eine DX-Suchmaschine
einzubetten.

Aktuelle Conteste:

11./12.August: Telgrafie-Teil des "European DX Contest" (WAEDC).
Die Ausschreibungen finden Sie auf der Webseite http://www.darcdxhf.de
unter Conteste sowie mittels der Contesttermin-Tabelle in der
CQ DL 8/2007 auf Seite 591.

IOTA: Zusammengestellt von Fredy,DE0MST (e-Mayl: iota@dxhf.darc.de)

Insel Aktivitaeten:
AS-039, Bering Insel: Vlad,RV1CC, Yuri,RA0FU, Serge,UA1ANA, Oleg,UR3IFD,
Victor,RV2FW, Valery,UA0ZC, Serge,UA0ZAZ, Alex,UA0ZCC, und Elena,RV3ACA
funken vom 9. bis 14.August als RK1B/0. QSL via RV1CC.

Mehr dazu auf im Internet auf: http://www.rv3aca.ru/as039/ und
http://rdaward.org/mw.htm

EU-096, OH1, Lansi-Suomi Prov. Group: Jukka,OH3OJ, ist als OH3OJ/p vom
8.-10.8. von der Insel Kaurissalo QRV. QSL via HC.

NA-137, W1, ME State West Group: Eine Gruppe von US-OPs aktiviert als N1URA
am 11./12.8. die Insel Seguin (USI-neu). QSL direkt via N1URA.

SA-002, VP8, Falklandinseln: Mit dem Rufzeichen VP8LGT wird am 18./19.8. im
Rahmen des ILLWE 2007 der Leuchtturm Cape Pembroke auf East Falkland
aktiviert. QSL geht via VP8ON.

Leuchtturm-Aktivitaeten (WLOTA/ARLHS)

9A/IW0QO LH 4295 1.-10.8.
CU2/DG1WIM LH 2016/AZO 004 1.-14.8.
CU3F LH 0524 2.- 9.8.
FG/F1JXQ LH 0644 4.-20.8.
OZ/DL8WOW LH 2203 5.-17.8.
IY6GM ITA 104 5.-19.8.
N1URA LH 0719/USA 746 11./12.8.
9A/IK1ACX LH 1796 11.-18.8.
IA5/IW1DFU LH 0609 12.-31.8.
MD0LON LH 0449 6.-10.9.
SV8/OK1MBZ LH 2221/GRE 071 10.-20.9.
SV8/OK1MKI LH 2221/GRE 071 10.-20.9.
YB9/PA0RRS LH 2589 26.8.-24.9.
IF9A LH 1545/ITA 145 26.-28.10.
J3A LH 0718 24./25.11.

Vorschau zum Intl. Lighthouse Weekend 2007 (18./19.August):
Rufzeichen LH-Name WLOTA ARLHS

CE4S Punta Topocalma CHI 076
CE4T Punta Topocalma CHI 076
CT1RVM/p Cabo Raso POR 011
CV1AA Puerto del Buceo URU 014
DC1HPS/p Pellworm F.R. LH 1188 FED 187
DF0WFB/LH Oland LH 0712 FED 174
DF0WLG Greifswalder Oie LH 0114 FED 006
DK0FC/LGT Wangerooge, alt LH 2063 FED 525
DK207EKT Wangerooge, West LH 2063 FED 253
DL0LNW Neuwerk LH 2311 FED 165
DL0RUG Maltzien FED 150
DL0RWE Borkum LH 1022 FED 009
DL0TO Travemuende, alt FED 241
DL0UEM Ueckermuende FED 244
DL8GG Timmendorf, Poel FED 236
B1SL The Skerries LH 0386 WAL 030
GB2LHI Bressay LH SCO 021
K4L Cape Florida USA 118

K8ONV Boca Grande USA 910
LA/PA3FMC Utvaer LH 2373 NOR 264
N1EV Sheffield Is. LH 2712 USA 753
OZ4CHR Christiansoe LH LH 0875 DEN 004
SN1LH Czolpino POL 002
SN2NP Nowy Port East POL 006
SN2NP Nowy Port POL 033
TC4LHW Taslik Burbu TUR 049
VK2BV Macquarie AUS 218
VK4MM Bulwer Is. R.L. AUS 226
VK4HAM/LGT Cape Moreton LH 2987 AUS 039
VK6KHD Cape Naturaliste AUS 040
VK7OTC Cape Bruny LH 1829 AUS 024/254
VP8LGHT Cape Pembroke FAL 001
W1BKR/VE1 Henry Is. CAN 227

Bandberichte der letzten 7 Tage

160m
TK/DL2RMC 1.820 1958Z via DL2RMC

80m
EJ/G0RTN 3.513 2133Z via GI0RTN (B)
J48IO 3.508 2050Z EU-158, via DK7AO (B)
TK/DL1RTL 3.516 2206Z via DL1RTL

40m
GB4IPY 7.008 0553Z via M3ZYZ (B)
TO1YR 7.088 2205Z via FM1HN (B)

30m
2E0CVN/p 10.107 1514Z EU-011
HB0/PC5A 10.116 2220Z via PC5A
IS0/IZ3DBA 10.107 2237Z via IZ3DBA (B), (L)
J48IO 10.106 2155Z EU-158, via DK7AO (B)
RX9TX/6 10.105 0610Z EU-185
UT4ZG/p 10.107 2222Z EU-182

CT3FT 14.202 0758Z
GB100J 14.304 0800Z via G0REL
OH0/VE6MAA 14.195 0651Z
R1FJT 14.016 0930Z Franz-Josef-Land, via UA4RC
RU6DX/p 14.025 1415Z EU-185
TM2HRH 14.258 1009Z via F6KTN (B)
TO1YR 14.190 1902Z via FM1HN (B)
UE4CGT 14.025 0958Z via UA4CDV
UT9IO/p 14.262 0620Z EU-182, via UX2IQ (B)
W5BOS/AL0 14.040 1751Z NA-238, via W5BOS (B)
2E0CVN/p 14.259 1509Z EU-011

17m
FW0MO 18.085 0745Z OC-054, via OM2SA (d)

RU0LL 18.072 0852Z via IK2DUW (B)
RX9TX/6 18.072 0610Z EU-185
V5/HB9PHJ 18.140 0801Z via HB9PHJ
9A/HA3NU 18.072 0830Z via HA3NU (B)

10m
IS0GOV 28.023 1015Z (d)

6m
EA6SX 50.099 1000Z (d)
EH6AEI 50.110 1001Z via EA6AZ (d)
7X2GX 50.166 0930Z

(d) = nur direkt
(B) = Buero ok
(L) = LotW

Kalender
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von bis DX DX-MB

07Sep-24Sep 3B7C 1511
Sep 3D2(JA8BMK) 1531 *
Nov/Dez 3D2AG/Rotuma 1522
2006-2007 3XM6JR 1484
13Aug-19Aug 4O6AA 1531 *
-Apr/08 5H0RS 1515
-Apr/08 6W/EA4ATI 1515
01Sep- 6W/T98A 1531 *
01Aug-26Aug 8J1A 1530
31Jul-31Aug 8J1ESP 1528
-31Aug 8J7VENUS 1528
01Aug-21Okt 8J3ARDF 1530
01Apr-09Sep 8N3IAAF 1513
2007 9N7JO 1501

-Apr/09 A52VE 1512
-Nov A61TX 1496
10Aug-12Aug BY, AS-151 1531 *
09Sep-14Sep CQ4IPY 1522
28Jul-09Aug CU2/WA1S 1529
02Aug-09Aug CU3F 1530
-Feb/08 DP0GVN 1496
10Aug-28Aug DU9/DL5SDF 1531 *
31Jul-24Aug EA8TL/EA6 1529
2007/2008 EI100S(I) 1501
-30Nov EW905B 1523
04Aug-20Aug FG/F1JXQ 1530
2008 FO/Clipperton 1521
jetzt FW0MO/FW0YL 1530

-30Sep IA3GM 1528
-13Aug IM0/IK5XCT 1531 *
08Aug-20Aug IS0/IK1WEG 1531 *
01Aug-19Aug IS0/IZ8GCB 1529
2006-2008 J28JA 1484/1485
-Aug/07 JA7QVK/DU7 1521
18Jul-30Sep JD1BMM 1530
15Aug-26Aug JW/DJ3KR 1531 *
Nov KH3/W7KFI 1525/1531 *
-Aug OD5/ON4JM 1522
07Aug-12Aug OH0/DJ3KR 1531 *
01Aug-27Aug OX/HB9FMD 1529

07Aug-17Aug SV9/OO9O/p 1530
-31Dez SX100VAR 1528
Sep -Okt T30 (JA8BMK) 1531 *
Ende Okt T31XX 1531 *
Okt ? T33ZZ 1531 *
28Jul-11Aug TK/IK5WOB 1529
jetzt-2008 TL8QC 1459
30Jul-12Aug TM0FIL 1530
06Aug-19Aug TM2HRH 1531 *
jetzt-Sep TU2/F5LDY 1486

Jan -Dez VI3SAA 1499
-31Aug VO1GAM 1531 *
-Sep VP6AL 1530
Feb/08 VP6DX/Ducie 1521
Mai -Aug VP6TD 1517
10Aug-13Aug XX9TJS 1531 *
-31Dez Z360M 1531 *
-Sep ZD9BCB 1500

* = neu oder aktualisiert
.. = und andere Calls

QSL-Informationen

AN5PCI/mm via EA5FJL
AN5PCS/mm via EA5FJL
AN7A via EA7NL
AN7AL via EA7NL
AN0PCI/mm via EA5FJL
AN0PCS/mm via EA5FJL
AT0B via VK2BNG (d)
C4MG via 5B4KH (B)
CN2GE via F5OGE (B)
CN2TM via F4BCG
CT/F8BUO via F8BUO
DA0HEL via DF6QC (B)
DA0WWYC via DC1RJJ (B)
DR100SC via DH8IAT (B)

EA/OK5MM via OK2WH (B)
EA4GO via EA4VO (B)
EA6GRM via EA6SB
EA7/HB0PC via HB0PC (B)
EA7NL/p via EA7HBC
EA8RCK via EA8AHH
EC7AMP/p via EA7HBC
ED3UBR via EA3UBR
ED5FYF via EB5FYF (B)
ED5RKB via EA5RKB
ED6GRM via EA6SB
EG5CMC via EA5FMC
EH2DLG via EB2FAC
EH7SFF via EH7SFF
EI2ET via DK2PZ
EJ/G0RTN via GI0RTN (B)
EJ3GJB via GI0PCU (d)
ES2Q via ES5JR (B)
FW0MO via OM2SA (d)
FW0YL via OM2SA (d)
5B4NC via 5B4KH (B)
6O0F via ON4TA
8P6EQ via W3AE
9A/DK2CH via DK2CH
9A/W1ADX via IN3DEI (B)

(d) = nur direkt
(B) = Buero ok
(*) = neuer Manager
(L) = LotW

QSL 3Y0X: N2OO, der QSL-Manager von 3Y0X, hat die QSO-Daten am 3.August dem LotW zugefuehrt.

Wir bedanken uns herzlich fuer die Mitarbeit an dieser Ausgabe bei:
Carl Smith (QRZ DX), 425DXNews, OPDX Bulletin, DF6EX (fuer WIN-QSL), DJ5AV, DK6CQ, DK8JB, DL1SBF, DL2BQV, DL5SDF, DL7VOA, EA3BHK, F5NQL, JA8BMK, MM0XAU, NC1L, SP2BIK, VP8ON, W1AW u.a.

Die deutsche PDF-Version finden Sie auf unserer Homepage:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/bulls/dxmb/2007/dxmb1531.pdf

_____
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1400. [DXNL] DXNL 1531(Aug 8, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-07 19:25:59 UTC
From: Robert Busch - DL7VOA <dxnl@dxhf.darc.de>
Message-ID: <64114110982.20070807211910@dxhf.darc.de>
Source record: 4005
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.dx,rec.radio.info

DXNL 1531 - Aug 8, 2007
DX Newsletter

a free and weekly service of
DARC Committee "DX and HF contesting"
(http://www.darcdxhf.de)

editor: Helmut Schlaffer, DL7MAE
(e-mail: dxnl@dxhf.darc.de)

translation by: Bob, DL7VOA
(e-mail: dl7voa@darc.de)

BY - CHINA, AS-151
A large team with BY1TT/2, BD1PTA/2, BA3CE/2 and other OPs is going
to activate Ju Hua Island (AS-151) from Aug 10-12.
The QSL manager for all participants will be BD1PTA.

DU - PHILIPPINES, OC-130
Hans,DL5SDF, will stay on Mindanao (DU9, OC-130) from Aug 10-28.
He already has the confirmation to get a license but does not know
the callsign yet. Hans works only in CW with 100 watts and wires.
QSLs (preferably via bureau) via DL5SDF.

IS0 - SARDINIA, EU-041
Two activities from Sardinia will commence this week:
Stefano,IM0/IK5XCT, is active from Maddalena Island (EU-041,IIA OT-008)
until Aug 13. Bureau QSLs can be requested via e-mail to him or at his
website: http://www.qsl.net/ik5xct

Gerry,IS0/IZ1DSH, und Giovanni,IS0/IK1WEG, will be QRV from EU-024 in
SSB/CW on 6-40m from Aug 8-20. They also plan some trips to the islands
Spargi (IIA OT-021, EU-041) and Caprera (IIA OT-012, EU-041).
QSLs via homecalls, bureau ok.

KH2 - GUAM, OC-026
Mike,K3UOC, is living with his family on Guam (OC-026) for about one
year now. Mike, who is working as a teacher, has the possibility to use
the equipment of the school's club station WH2D. He usually works about
90% in CW and promises operation on all nine HF bands whenever the time
and conditions permit. He intends to take part in all major contests.
After logging 6.000 QSOs during the last school year, he hopes to reach
10.000 QSOs this year. Mike plans to acquire an amplifier and also a
Hex beam to support the Cushcraft R-7000 he already has. Mike can be
found on the bands mostly during the weekends and takes care of the

QSL cards which should be sent via bureau or direct to K3UOC.
A few lines written by Mike about his amateur radio activities on Guam
can be found on the website of his school:
www.stjohnsguam.com/main/?option=com_content&task=view&id=269&Itemid=124

KH3 - JOHNSTON ATOLL, OC-023
Susan,W7KFI, was underway to Johnston (OC-023) with her yacht when
hurricane Erik threw a spanner in her plans. She sailed back to
Honolulu and will wait till November when the hurricane season is over.

OH0 - ALAND ISLANDS, EU-002 / JW - SVALBARD, EU-026
Juergen,OH0/DJ3KR, is QRV from the Aland Islands (EU-002) from Aug 7-12
and plans to take part in the WAEDC CW Contest on Aug 11/12 as well.
He will then travel to Svalbard (EU-026) from where he will show up
as JW/DJ3KR from Aug 15-26. All QSLs via his homecall.

ST - SUDAN / 6W - SENEGAL
Jovica,T98A (ex T98A), has been working in Sudan for two years now and
logged 40.660 QSOs as ST0RM and ST2A, most of them in CW (35.012 QSOs).
He published a few photos on his homepage: http://www.t93y.com/st2a
On Sep 1 his job for the UNHCR (UN High Commissioner for Refugees)
takes him to Dakar, the capital of Senegal. However he will not only
work in Senegal but in the whole West-African region so chances are
there might be some activities from this area by T98A.
His QSL manager T93Y confirms all QSLs very reliably.

XX9 - MACAO
Hide,JM1LJS, plans another activity as XX9TJS, most likely from
Aug 10, 0900 UTC, until Aug 13, 1100 UTC. Hide works in CW/SSB on
10-80m and requests QSLs direct via JM1LJS.

Z3 - MACEDONIA
Chris,Z31GX, was using his old call for 14 years now and got
his new callsign Z35X on Aug 1.
Unfortunately DJ0LZ, QSL manager of both calls, confirms only direct.

The radio club "Nikola Tesla" (Z37M) can use the special event callsign
Z360M between Aug 1 and the end of the year to mark the 60th birthday
of their club.

4O - MONTENEGRO
Emir,9A6AA, plans to become active as 4O6AA from the island
Sveti Nikola (EU-163, LH 1097) from Aug 13-19.
Unfortunately QSLs only direct via his homecall 9A6AA.

9Q - DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO
After 9Q1NT is back in Belgium and 9Q1D returned to Sweden, the
last active station in Congo (which is approved for DXCC credit) is
Georges,9Q1EK, as stated by his QSL manager Osten,SM5DQC.
The 9Q1EL logs can be searched within at: http://www.logsearch.de
Philippe,9Q1TB, will return from his trip home during the month of
August. SM5DQC who is also the QSL manager of 9Q1TB writes that he

confirms QSL cards only direct and the EURO is useless for him in
Sweden because they still have their Swedish currency.
QSL cards for 9Q1TB and 9Q1EK should be sent to following address:
SM5DQC, Osten Magnusson, Nyckelvagen 4, SE-59931 Odeshog, Sweden.

PACIFIC TRIP
Toshi,JA8BMK, plans to activate 3D2, T30, T31XX and maybe also T33ZZ
during September or October and still looks for people to join him
to keep the costs down. If you are interested please contact him via
e-mail (fuku-t20@amber.plala.or.jp). All calls have been allocated to
him a long time ago. Donations are welcome, more information will be
published in the DX Newsletter as soon as the DXpedition starts.

FRANCE, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
The 150th birthday of Heinrich Rudolf Hertz is celebrated with the
French special event station TM2HRH from Aug 6-19. QSLs via F6KTN.

CANADA, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
Members of the "Amateur Radio Club of Central Newfoundland" are using
the special call VO1GAM until Aug 31. This marks the 70th anniversary
of the first commercial trans-atlantic flight (5 Jul 1937) between
Botwood (Newfoundland) and Foynes (Ireland). Activities take place on
all bands and the QSLs should be sent via bureau or direct to VO1MX.

POLAND, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
SN2NP will be active in CW/PSK31/RTTY/SSB from the lighthouse in Gdansk
from Aug 17-19. QSL via SP2BIK, via bureau or direct.

SP5VYI, SP5X, SP5IUK and SP5GRU are activating the special event
station 3Z90ZIM until Sep 30. QTH is Przasnysz where the local scouts
celebrate their 90th anniversary. QSL via SP5ZIM or SP5X.

DXCC: QSL cards of J5UAR (Guinea-Bissau, 2007) are accepted for DXCC credit
now. If you submitted your QSL earlier and got it rejected, please send
an explaining e-mail to dxcc@arrl.org

LINKS: EA3BHK has a Firefox plugin which adds a DX searching engine to your
internet browser at: http://dxinfo.ea3bhk.com/dxinforesult.php
---
Current SOTA activities (mountain summits) are announced at:
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/activations.php or
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/spots.php

UPCOMING CONTESTS

Aug 11/12: European DX Contest, CW (WAEDC)
The official rules have been changed and can be viewed at the
website of the DARC Committee for DX and HF Contesting at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedcw.htm

IOTA collected by Fredy,DE0MST (e-mail: iota@dxhf.darc.de)

Island activities:

AS-039, Bering Island: Vlad,RV1CC, Yuri,RA0FU, Serge,UA1ANA, Oleg,UR3IFD,
Victor,RV2FW, Valery,UA0ZC, Serge,UA0ZAZ, Alex,UA0ZCC, and Elena,RV3ACA
will be active as RK1B/0 from Aug 9-14. QSL via RV1CC.
You can find more information online at: http://www.rv3aca.ru/as039 and
http://rdaward.org/mw.htm

EU-096, OH1, Lansi-Suomi Prov. Group: Jukka,OH3OJ, will be QRV as OH3OJ/p
from Kaurissalo Island from Aug 8-10. QSL via homecall.

NA-137, W1, ME State West Group: Some American operators will activate
Seguin Island (USI-new) as N1URA on Aug 11/12. QSL direct via N1URA.

SA-002, VP8/F, Falkland Islands: Cape Pembroke Lighthouse on East Falkland
will be activated by VP8LGT during the ILLW on Aug 18/19.QSL via VP8ON.

Lighthouse activities (WLOTA/ARLHS)

9A/IW0QO LH 4295 Aug 1-10
CU2/DG1WIM LH 2016/AZO 004 Aug 1-14
CU3F LH 0524 Aug 2- 9
FG/F1JXQ LH 0644 Aug 4-20
OZ/DL8WOW LH 2203 Aug 5-17
IY6GM ITA 104 Aug 5-19
N1URA LH 0719/USA 746 Aug 11/12
9A/IK1ACX LH 1796 Aug 11-18
IA5/IW1DFU LH 0609 Aug 12-31
MD0LON LH 0449 Sep 6 -10
SV8/OK1MBZ LH 2221/GRE 071 Sep 10-20
SV8/OK1MKI LH 2221/GRE 071 Sep 10-20
YB9/PA0RRS LH 2589 Aug 26-Sep 24
IF9A LH 1545/ITA 145 Oct 26-28
J3A LH 0718 Nov 24/25

Preview to the International Lighthouse Weekend 2007 (Aug 18/19):
Callsign Lighthouse WLOTA ARLHS

CE4S Punta Topocalma CHI 076
CE4T Punta Topocalma CHI 076
CT1RVM/p Cabo Raso POR 011
CV1AA Puerto del Buceo URU 014
DC1HPS/p Pellworm F.R. LH 1188 FED 187
DF0WFB/LH Oland LH 0712 FED 174
DF0WLG Greifswalder Oie LH 0114 FED 006
DK0FC/LGT Wangerooge, old LH 2063 FED 525
DK207EKT Wangerooge, West LH 2063 FED 253
DL0LNW Neuwerk LH 2311 FED 165
DL0RUG Maltzien FED 150
DL0RWE Borkum LH 1022 FED 009
DL0TO Travemuende, old FED 241
DL0UEM Ueckermuende FED 244
DL8GG Timmendorf, Poel FED 236
B1SL The Skerries LH 0386 WAL 030

GB2LHI Bressay LH SCO 021
K4L Cape Florida USA 118
K8ONV Boca Grande USA 910
LA/PA3FMC Utvaer LH 2373 NOR 264
N1EV Sheffield Is. LH 2712 USA 753
OZ4CHR Christiansoe LH LH 0875 DEN 004
SN1LH Czolpino POL 002
SN2NP Nowy Port East POL 006
SN2NP Nowy Port POL 033
TC4LHW Taslik Burbu TUR 049
VK2BV Macquarie AUS 218
VK4MM Bulwer Is. R.L. AUS 226
VK4HAM/LGT Cape Moreton LH 2987 AUS 039
VK6KHD Cape Naturaliste AUS 040
VK7OTC Cape Bruny LH 1829 AUS 024/254
VP8LGHT Cape Pembroke FAL 001
W1BKR/VE1 Henry Is. CAN 227

Bandspots of the last 7 days

160m
TK/DL2RMC 1.820 1958Z via DL2RMC

80m
EJ/G0RTN 3.513 2133Z via GI0RTN (B)
J48IO 3.508 2050Z EU-158, via DK7AO (B)
TK/DL1RTL 3.516 2206Z via DL1RTL

40m
GB4IPY 7.008 0553Z via M3ZYZ (B)
TO1YR 7.088 2205Z via FM1HN (B)

30m
2E0CVN/p 10.107 1514Z EU-011
HB0/PC5A 10.116 2220Z via PC5A
IS0/IZ3DBA 10.107 2237Z via IZ3DBA (B), (L)
J48IO 10.106 2155Z EU-158, via DK7AO (B)
RX9TX/6 10.105 0610Z EU-185
UT4ZG/p 10.107 2222Z EU-182

CT3FT 14.202 0758Z
GB100J 14.304 0800Z via G0REL
OH0/VE6MAA 14.195 0651Z
R1FJT 14.016 0930Z Franz-Josef-Land, via UA4RC
RU6DX/p 14.025 1415Z EU-185
TM2HRH 14.258 1009Z via F6KTN (B)
TO1YR 14.190 1902Z via FM1HN (B)
UE4CGT 14.025 0958Z via UA4CDV
UT9IO/p 14.262 0620Z EU-182, via UX2IQ (B)
W5BOS/AL0 14.040 1751Z NA-238, via W5BOS (B)
2E0CVN/p 14.259 1509Z EU-011

17m
FW0MO 18.085 0745Z OC-054, via OM2SA (d)
RU0LL 18.072 0852Z via IK2DUW (B)
RX9TX/6 18.072 0610Z EU-185
V5/HB9PHJ 18.140 0801Z via HB9PHJ
9A/HA3NU 18.072 0830Z via HA3NU (B)

10m
IS0GOV 28.023 1015Z (d)

6m
EA6SX 50.099 1000Z (d)
EH6AEI 50.110 1001Z via EA6AZ (d)
7X2GX 50.166 0930Z

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = LotW

Preview

DATE CALL DXNL

07Sep-24Sep 3B7C 1511
Sep 3D2(JA8BMK) 1531 *
Nov/Dec 3D2AG/Rotuma 1522
2006 -2007 3XM6JR 1484
13Aug-19Aug 4O6AA 1531 *
-Apr/08 5H0RS 1515
-Apr/08 6W/EA4ATI 1515
01Sep- 6W/T98A 1531 *
01Aug-26Aug 8J1A 1530
31Jul-31Aug 8J1ESP 1528
-31Aug 8J7VENUS 1528
01Aug-21Oct 8J3ARDF 1530
01Apr-09Sep 8N3IAAF 1513
2007 9N7JO 1501

-Apr/09 A52VE 1512
-Nov A61TX 1496
10Aug-12Aug BY, AS-151 1531 *
09Sep-14Sep CQ4IPY 1522
28Jul-09Aug CU2/WA1S 1529
02Aug-09Aug CU3F 1530
-Feb/08 DP0GVN 1496
10Aug-28Aug DU9/DL5SDF 1531 *
31Jul-24Aug EA8TL/EA6 1529
2007/2008 EI100S(I) 1501
-30Nov EW905B 1523
04Aug-20Aug FG/F1JXQ 1530
2008 FO/Clipperton 1521
NOW FW0MO/FW0YL 1530

-30Sep IA3GM 1528
-13Aug IM0/IK5XCT 1531 *
08Aug-20Aug IS0/IK1WEG 1531 *
01Aug-19Aug IS0/IZ8GCB 1529
2006-2008 J28JA 1484/1485
-Aug/07 JA7QVK/DU7 1521
18Jul-30Sep JD1BMM 1530
15Aug-26Aug JW/DJ3KR 1531 *
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-31Dec Z360M 1531 *
-Sep ZD9BCB 1500

* = new or updated
.. = and other calls

QSL information

AN5PCI/mm via EA5FJL
AN5PCS/mm via EA5FJL
AN7A via EA7NL
AN7AL via EA7NL
AN0PCI/mm via EA5FJL
AN0PCS/mm via EA5FJL
AT0B via VK2BNG (d)
C4MG via 5B4KH (B)
CN2GE via F5OGE (B)
CN2TM via F4BCG
CT/F8BUO via F8BUO
DA0HEL via DF6QC (B)
DA0WWYC via DC1RJJ (B)
DR100SC via DH8IAT (B)

EA/OK5MM via OK2WH (B)
EA4GO via EA4VO (B)
EA6GRM via EA6SB
EA7/HB0PC via HB0PC (B)
EA7NL/p via EA7HBC
EA8RCK via EA8AHH
EC7AMP/p via EA7HBC
ED3UBR via EA3UBR
ED5FYF via EB5FYF (B)
ED5RKB via EA5RKB
ED6GRM via EA6SB
EG5CMC via EA5FMC
EH2DLG via EB2FAC
EH7SFF via EH7SFF
EI2ET via DK2PZ
EJ/G0RTN via GI0RTN (B)
EJ3GJB via GI0PCU (d)
ES2Q via ES5JR (B)
FW0MO via OM2SA (d)
FW0YL via OM2SA (d)
5B4NC via 5B4KH (B)
6O0F via ON4TA
8P6EQ via W3AE
9A/DK2CH via DK2CH
9A/W1ADX via IN3DEI (B)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = Logbook of the World (LotW)

QSL 3Y0X: N2OO, QSL manager of 3Y0X, uploaded the logs to the LotW on Aug 3.

Many thanks for contributing to this issue of the DXNL are going to:
Carl Smith (QRZ DX), 425DXNews, OPDX Bulletin, DF6EX (WIN-QSL), DJ5AV,DK6CQ,
DK8JB, DL1SBF, DL2BQV, DL5SDF, DL7VOA, EA3BHK, F5NQL, JA8BMK, MM0XAU, NC1L,
SP2BIK, VP8ON, W1AW and others.

The German PDF version can be found on the DARC homepage at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/bulls/dxmb/2007/dxmb1531.pdf

Subscribe or unsubscribe to the DXNL mailing list yourself at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedxms.htm

1401. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1565 - August 10, 2007 - Prefeed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-10 08:06:23 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <E1IJPTk-0006MN-Jf@elasmtp-curtail.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 4006
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1565 - August 10, 2007

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1565 with a
release date of Friday, August 10, 2007 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T.

Hams are praised for their communications support
at California's Zaca wildfire, a ham is the
first teacher in space, Scouting celebrates its
100th anniversary with ham radio in space and the
R-S-T signal reporting system may soon be a thing
of ham radios analog past. Find out the details
on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report number 1565 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RESCUE RADIO: PRAISE FOR ARES RESPONSE TO CALIFORNIA'S ZACA FIRE

Amateur Radio and particularly the Amateur Radio
Emergency Service units involved with
California's giant Zaca wildfire near have drawn
the praise of that anta Barbara County's fire
department. Speaking at an August 1st Town Hall
meeting of the fire-fighting Unified Command,
Fire Department Public Information Officer Eli
Eskow heaped praise on the hams who were out
there backing up his firefighting teams:

--

"There's one group I forgot to mention and thank
personally. The Amateur Radio Emergency Services
group has worked with us forever (applause)
forever!! And on this event, this fire I have
asked them many, many requests and
chores. They've jumped at every opportunity to
help us. They've carried mail. They have most
importantly thrown their bodies in front of the
public to stop them from going through closed
roads, putting themselves in danger. They've been
great. Anytime we've asked them anything, they
jump at any opportunity to help us..."

--

Some area 300 residents facing the possibility of
evacuation attended the meeting. Among those
present representing ham radio were Santa Barbara
District Emergency Coordinator Dennis Daniel,
KM6DF, and Will Tefft, KG6DHK, who serves as
Santa Barbara South County Emergency Coordinator.

Since that meeting the Zaca fire has
intensified. As this report is being written
flames are less than two miles from a road that
runs parallel to the Santa Ynez River. ARES
volunteers continue to bee active with communications support. (N6ZKJ)

**

RADIO POLICY: RSQ MAY REPLACE RST BELOW 30 MHz

A new signal reporting method for digital modes
will be considered at the International Amateur
Radio Union Region 2 Conference. This, at
a very busy meeting to be held in Brazil from
September 10th to the 14th. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, has more:

--

One of the agenda items is a recommendation that
a new RSQ reporting system. This, to be used for digital modes below 30
MHz.

RSQ stands for Readability, Strength and
Quality. It was first proposed and endorsed at
the Region 1 IARU General Conference back in
2005. From there it quickly gained popularity
among the worlds ham radio societies and
political leader. Because of this the RSQ
concept was also agreed to last year at the IARU
Region 3 Conference in Bangalore, India.

RSQ would replace the traditional RST reports
that hams have used since 1934. RST stands for
Readability, Strength and Tone but appears not
suitable for digitally generated signals. RSQ is
favored because it can provide a more useful
signal report for High Frequency digital modes.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill
Pasternak, WA6ITF, in the studio in Los Angeles.

--

Even if Region 2 adopts the RSQ reporting system,
it won't fully replace RST in the near
future. That's because the majority of signals

on the air are still of the good old analog
variety and will be with us for some time. (WIA News)

**

RESTRUCTURING: SOUTH AFRICA RADIO LEAGUE TO ISSUE RAE CERTIFICATES

Amateur Radio restructuring continues in South
Africa. This with word that the South Africa
Radio League will now issue the nations Radio
Amateur Exam certificates following an agreement
having been finalized with that nations telecommunications regulator.

Candidates who pass the South African Class A
Amateur Examination will be issued an
international certificate. This document allows
operation in all CEPT countries and several
others outside Europe who are complying with the
conditions of the internationally accepted examination.

Those who pass the introductory level Class B
examination will be issued a Radio Amateur
Exam certificate only. The class B examination
is not compliant and the license issued for
passing it cannot be used for operation in other countries. (SARL)

**

THE BPL FIGHT: ARRL RETURNS TO COURT OVER BPL

The ARRL has gone back to court over BPL. This
as the League files its reply brief at the U-S
Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

The July 31st action follows the FCC's brief that
attempted to rebut the ARRL's challenge to the
FCC's Broadband over Power Line rules enacted in
late 2004 and affirmed by the agency in
2006. According to ARRL General Counsel Chris
Imlay, W3KD, the FCC's brief does not accurately
describe ARRL's arguments concerning harmful interference.

The ARRL, in its reply brief, accuses the FCC of,
engaging in misdirection and rebutting hyperbolic
arguments ARRL never made. It also charges the
FCC with refusing to address the precedents ARRL
cited and attempting to rewrite the Orders as if
they made factual rather than legal
determinations. The ARRL's brief also states
that this is a case about an unlicensed
operator's legal duty to cease harmful
interference once it arises and not about the
standard for authorizing unlicensed transmissions. (ARRL)

**

INTRUDER WATCH FOLLOW-UP: 10 METER RELIGIOUS BROADCASTER FOUND IN IRELAND

A follow-up to our recent story involving a religious broadcaster in the 10 meter ham band. The Irish Radio Transmitters Society reports that the culprit is a church the Dublin area. Initial bearings would indicate that the transmissions are originating somewhere on the north side of that city but further work is required to identify the which church it actually is. The I-R-T-S notes that services are transmitted 28.105 MHz FM at 9:00, 10:00 and 11:00 A.M. local Dublin time on Sundays and at 10:00 A.M. on weekdays. The Irish Radio Transmitters Society is Ireland's national Amateur Radio organization. (IRTS)

**

Break 1

From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the Great South Bay Amateur Radio Club's W2GSB station serving West Babylon New York.

(5 sec pause here)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: KD5VNP TO MAKE TEACHER IN SPACE DREAM COME TRUE

A ham radio operator and teacher is on her way to space to help in further construction of the International Space Station and to make the goal of a teacher in space a reality. Mission Specialist Barbara Morgan, KD5VNP, is part of the crew of Shuttle mission STS-118. This is an 11 day construction and re-supply mission of the orbiter Endeavour to the I-S-S.

Barbara Morgan is what is known as an Educator Astronaut. Almost two decades ago she was the back-up for Christa McAuliffe in the Teacher in Space Project. McAuliffe and the rest of the seven member crew on board the Challenger were killed on January 28, 1986 in a launch accident caused when a seal ruptured on the solid rocket motor and burned through the external fuel tank. Now, 22 years later, Morgan will complete the dream of an educator teaching from space when she gets the chance to talk with and answer questions

from schoolchildren on the ground via ham radio.

Morgan trained side by side with McAuliffe but
the Teacher in Space Project was put on hold
after the Challenger tragedy. Morgan on her own
initiative completed the tour of schools planned
for McAuliffe and became a full member of the
United States Astronaut Corps in 1998. In 2002,
she was chosen as the first educator to become a
Mission Specialist astronaut. She passed her
Amateur service exam and was licensed as KD5VNP in 2003. (ANS, NASA,
others)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: LONG SILENT RS-15 HEARD AGAIN

The long silent RS-15 Amateur Radio satellite
heard again. PA3GUO says that he heard and
recorded the audio from RS 15 on 29.3156 MHz
using a Kenwood TS-2000 and a 20 meter
dipole. PA3GUO says that he thinks that this was
RS 15's Beacon 1. Here's what he heard:

--

Actual beacon audio. Hrear it in the MP3
downloadable version of this weeks newscast at www.arnewsline.org

--

RS is the Russian designation for
Radiosport. The RS-15 was launched on December,
26th 1994 from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in
Kazikstan. Its orbit gave good coverage and its 2
meter to 10 meter transponder permitted low power
DX working using very simple equipment. More is
on line at http://home.vianetworks.nl/users/hamoen/pa3guo/ (Southgate)

**

RESCUE RADIO: SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

September is National Preparedness Month and the
ARRL says that Amateur Radio operators are
joining a wide variety of national, state and
local organizations, including the US Department
of Homeland Security. This, in educating the
public about preparing for emergencies.

The League says that when unexpected natural or
man-made emergencies occur, our greatest
individual defense is preparedness. Getting an
emergency supply kit, making an emergency plan,

and identifying preparedness and response resources within our communities are several things we can do to prepare ourselves.

This nationwide effort is to encourage individuals and families to take simple steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, businesses and schools. For hams it means getting your Go Kit ready and making sure you are trained to properly communicate in case the worst actually happens. (ARRL, Southgate, others)

**

RECUE RADIO: HILTON HEAD ISLAND GORES HAM RADIO

South Carolina's Hilton Head Island is joining a growing number of communities in disaster preparedness. This, by installing amateur radio gear to use as a backup system if the multitude of other communications systems are knocked out by some form of disaster.

After being convinced of the need by local radio amateurs, about a year ago the town installed an antenna system that local hams could use in times of emergencies. Now Hilton Head Island has installed a city owned ham radio station at its emergency operations center and is purchasing two mobile units that can be used in cars. The county and local hospitals are also adopting the radio system as a backup.

Chief Tom Fieldstead of the Fire and Rescue Division says that the town normally uses an 800 MHz trunked radio system to communicate during emergencies. It can also use a statewide radio system, microwaves, fiber optics and telephones if needed.

Jay Harter, who is the town Emergency Management Coordinator and Deputy Fire Chief Randy Osterman recently completed a ham radio training class, passed the licensing exam and are awaiting their calls. As an added incentive to hams on Hilton Head Island, city officials say that they will deputize members of local amateur radio clubs who volunteer to assist. (SCMediaNews.com)

**

ENFORCEMENT: WHY WONT YOU CLEAN UP YOUR SIGNAL

Turning to enforcement news, the FCC has written to Robert A. DiMezza, W2GGI, of Delray Beach, Florida regarding a complaint received by the

Commission concerning the operation of DiMezza's Amateur station. The accusation alleges, among other things, poor signal quality and refusal by W2GGI to make corrections.

The FCC's July 13th letter to DiMezza gave him 20 days from the date of receipt of the letter to fully address the issues raised in the complaint. The FCC also told DiMezza that his license is due for renewal on October 15th. It says that the issues involved in the complaint against him must be resolved prior to any renewal. (FCC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: PROPOSED $4000 FOR CONTEST RULES VIOLATION

Hams are not the only ones hearing from the FCC' enforcement folks in recent days. The agency has issued a $4000 Notice of Apparent Liability for Monetary Forfeiture to Saga Communications of New England, L.L.C. licensee of Station WAQY -FM in Springfield, Massachusetts. The proposed fine comes as a result of the stations failure to fully and accurately disclose the material terms of the contest and conduct the contest substantially as announced or advertised. Bruce Tennent, K6PZW, reports:

--

The proposed fine is the result of a complaint from Robert Naginewicz alleging that Saga failed to conduct its contest involving the musical group Aerosmith, which was broadcast by the station during the June through July 2005 period. According to Naginewicz, on July 17, 2005, he won the contest's "Grand Prize Giveaway," the prizes for which included a free two-year lease on a 2005 Buick LaCrosse automobile, or its cash equivalent, from the co-sponsor, Bob Pion Pontiac. Also, the cars trunk was supposed to be loaded full of Aerosmith memorabilia.

Naginewicz alleges that although he was assured by the station's staff that all of his prizes would be delivered to him by July 22, 2005, he did not receive the monetary portion until August 18, 2005. Also, despite numerous queries made of the station's staff, as of December 31, 2005 he was still awaiting delivery of the memorabilia portion.

Following up on the Naginewicz complaint, the Enforcement Bureau by letter dated January 24, 2006, inquired of Saga concerning these

allegations. Saga responded on March 2, 2006. It contended that its one-month delay in delivering the monetary portion of the prize, although less than ideal, was "within the zone of reasonableness." It acknowledged, however, that its failure to fulfill the memorabilia portion until after Mr. Naginewicz had contacted the Commission, represents a station "problem" that it claims it has since addressed and resolved. Saga indicated that, because of its delay in fulfilling its promise to Mr. Naginewicz, it enhanced the award made to him by contributing additional prizes.

But the FCC says that under Section 73.1216 of its rules, a broadcast licensee must conduct station-sponsored contests "substantially as announced or advertised. Also that it must disclose fully and accurately the "material terms" of such contests. And the FCC says that it appears that Saga violated Section 73.1216 of the Commission's rules by failing to conduct the contest substantially as announced. Therefore the proposed $4000 fine.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennent, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

--

Saga was given the usual time to respond. (FCC)

**

RADIO LAW: METAL THEFT AFFECTS RADIO AND TELECOMMUNICATIOS

Wire and metal theft is growing nationwide and its impact is hitting the communications industry hard.

Whether it be copper radials, stainless steel beer kegs or even iron manhole covers, metal thieves continue in their quest to profit from valuable metals being sought by unscrupulous recyclers. In some instances items such as air-conditioning units, power cables, catalytic converters, light poles or aluminum bleacher seats have disappeared only to find their way to a recycling plant that pays cash and does not ask for proof the material is not stolen.

On several occasions this month, thieves dug up hundreds of feet of underground copper cable used to illuminate ball fields in suburban Maryland. This forced the organizers of a youth baseball tournament to reschedule a half-dozen

games. But hardest hot seem to be remote radio locations where its easy to cut away and run off with coax, hardline and even tower sections.

In some cases, thieves have put themselves in great danger by stealing live electrical wires from buildings. A 41-year-old man was electrocuted this month in a vacant building in Pasadena, California. A 47-year-old man was killed while stripping wire from a Washington D.C. school last year.

In all, about two dozen people have been killed across the country in the past 12 months while trying to steal metals. Some states and local governments are tightening ordinances to discourage the practice by holding recycling companies accountable. Even so, the thefts continue to satisfy their need for raw materials needed by some emerging nations around the world. (Published reports)

**

RADIO BUSINESS: CHIP MAKING DOWN IN 2006

If you are finding some integrated circuit chips hard to find, threes a reason. According to an industry group, the utilization rate of the world's chip manufacturing plants stayed below 90 percent for the second straight quarter of 2006. The usage rate was only 86.4 percent in the quarter bending December 30th. That was down from 88.5 percent in the July to September 2006 time period (Silicon Industry News)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: W2IK COMMEMORATES 911

Some names in the news. First up is Robert Hejl, W2IK. He says that he will again be operating special event station W2IK stroke WTC911 from 1300 to 0300 UTC on September 11th.

W2IK says that this activity is in honor of those who lost their lives during the World Trade Center disaster of September 11th 2001. He will be using his own callsign because that was the first call sent from Ground Zero.

Listen for W2IK stroke WTC911 in the upper portions of 40, 20 and 15 meters SSB. QSL by sending a 9x12 SASE to W2IK at his address listed at QRZ.com. For more information please visit

http://hometown.aol.com/realhamradio/ to see W2IK'entire story. (W2IK))

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS KARC AT 75 OPERATING AS W8VY

And word from KC8ZTJ that Michigan's Kalamazoo Amateur Radio Club will be celebrating its 75th anniversary this month with a Special Event station. The club will be a portable from the Campus of Western Michigan University from August 18th, 1600 UTC and August 19th at 0400 UTC. Look for W8VY on 80 through 15 meters on CW and SSB. QSL with a self addressed stamped envelop to KARC, 5640 Venture Court, Kalamazoo, Michigan, 49009 (KC8ZTJ)

**

RADIO CONFERENCES: NAB BROADCAST ENGINEERRING CONFFRRENCE - 2008

The 62nd National Association of Broadcasters Broadcast Engineering Conference to be held next April in Las Vegas, Nevada. is already calling for technical paper proposals. Topics to be considered include radio engineering; digital radio developments around the world; HD Radio implementation; audio and RF test measurement techniques; and automation systems.

The deadline for submitting proposals is Oct. 5th. The NAB will notify presenters if a proposal has been accepted by November. 9th. After acceptance, presenters have until January 18th 2008 to submit the completed paper, which will be published in the N-A-B Broadcast Engineering Conference Proceedings. More information and a link to the submission form is on line at www.nab.org/nabshow/forms/bec.asp) (NAB)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: CELEBRATING THE WORLD SCOUT MOVEMENT FROM SPACE

The world scouting movement recently celebrated its 100th anniversary by vicariously going into space with the help of ham radio. This as ten scouts at this year's World Scout Jamboree in Chelmsford, England exchanged questions and answers with astronaut Clay Anderson, KD5PLA, on board the International Space Station. The contact took place on Saturday, August 4th, and KD5PLA was quick to respond to whatever was asked. Take a listen:

--

Eric: "Hi. I'm Eric from the Netherlands asking Brian's question. Can you see the sunrise from space? Over."

Anderson: "We can see the sunrise sixteen times a day. We go around the Earth every 90 minutes and we can see a dunrise and a sunset every 90. So, yes we can. Over."

--

In all, KD5PLA answered 20 questions prepared by the scouts. He confirmed he had been a 1st class scout himself and said he decided to become an astronaut when he was 8 years old and saw Apollo disappear behind the moon and emerge some 15 minutes later. He also talked about life on-orbit:

--

Shohe: "Hi. I'm Shohe from Japan asking Rio's question. How easy is it to get along with each other in a confined space. Over."

Anderson: "Actually, its pretty easy because this space station has the same volume as a three bedroom house. So we have a lot of room to move around. Over.

--

Communications for the event was handled by special ground station GB10J. It was operated by Howard Long, G6LVB, while Carlos Eavis, G0AKI, was at the mike and conducted contact. Paul Joosten, PA5UL established an Internet connection and fed the audio of the contact into Skype so that the signals could be relayed over EcholInk by Graham Lawton, G7EVY. The radio contact started at 21:12 UTC and the exchanges went on for 10 minutes with excellent conditions. And they even had time to say goodbye before KD5PLA flew out over the horizon

--

Eavis: "NA1SS, this is GB100J. Clay, Thank you
very much for that and I am sure the audience
would want to give you a huge round of applause. (Applause)

Anderson: "Thank you and my best to the 21st
World Scout Jamboree in Chelmsford, England. And
this is NA1SS signing out. Thank you very much.

(More applause)

--

G6LVB also provided live streaming video of the
event. A video file of the entire contact is
available for you to see at
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1swyCCTbP1w
(Audio supplied by Howard Long G6LVB. Story
material by Gaston Bertels - ARISS-Europe chairman)

**

THE FINAL FRONTIER: VIRGIN GALACTIC AND NASA PARTNER IN RESEARCH

NASA and Virgin Galactic have signed an agreement
to explore the possibility of working together to
develop new spacesuits, hybrid rocket motors and other space technology.

The pact will allow NASA and Virgin Galactic to
explore possible avenues of technology research
that would make use of NASA's Ames Research
Center facilities. Some of the possible
collaborations include developing protective heat
shields for spaceships and vehicles that can
travel at least five times the speed of sound.

Virgin Galactic, was founded by British
entrepreneur Richard Branson. It plans to
test-fly a vehicle being built by famed aerospace
designer Burt Rutan next year and operate it
commercially by 2009 (Science OnLine)

**

THE FINAL FRONTIER: CELEBRATING SPUTNIK 1 WITH CQ MAGAZINE

A well known ham radio magazine is planning to
commemorate the worlds first man made
satellite. Dorothy Bishop, VK2DB, has the details:

--

October 4, 1957 saw the launch of the worlds
first artificial earth-orbiting satellite, Sputnik I.

The editor of CQ Magazine would like Radio
Amateurs' recollections of that historic event

for inclusion in the October issue. Please
respond as soon as possible by e-mail directly to
a special mailbox they have set up at sputnik@cq-amateur-radio.com

I'm Dot, VK2DB, from ALARA.

--

Again that e-mail address is sputnik at
cq-amateur-radio dot com. Mark your e-mail to
the attention of Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU. (WIA News, CQ)

**

ON THE AIR: INBB TO SHUTTER ITS DELANO CA FACILITY IN OCTOBER

The United States International Broadcasting
Bureau will stop broadcasting from Delano,
California, at the end of October. This,
according to Radio World on-line that says the
decision was announced in an internal e-mail to employees on July 24th.

According to the on-line magazine the
announcement stated that the move is being made
as a result of the Broadcasting Board of
Governors' changing global mission to meet
current U.S. government broadcast requirements,
along with reduced budgets and changes in technology .

Located about 140 miles north of Los Angeles,
California, the Delano station relies entirely on
shortwave radio transmissions. This is a
broadcast format that is relatively expensive to
operate. Although shortwave was the focus of
international broadcasting for many decades, sit
has declined in importance as traditional
audiences have shifted to FM and Medium
Wave radio, television and the World-Wide-Web

The station began shortwave broadcasts to the
Pacific Theater of World War II in 1944. In
early days, it beamed transmissions directly to
local audiences and to retransmitting facilities
in Hawaii, Okinawa and the Philippines. Later
the station provided critical shortwave
broadcasts to Cuba, South America and Asia. For
now at least the International Broadcast Bureau
plans to retain transmitting facilities in North
Carolina, Flordia and the territory of the Northern Marianas. (ASWLC)

**

RADIO HAPPENINGS: JUST THE BREAR FACTS

Two public radio stations in Northern California may have been knocked off the air by a hungry bear. The Redding Record Searchlight reports that power was restored Tuesday, July 24th to the Jefferson Public Radio stations, which had gone silent two days earlier after what was throughout to be a wayward bear snapped the cable.

It originally was thought that the outage was caused by a microwave equipment failure or a severed power line on Mt. Bradley. But an engineer for the stations has concluded that the likely culprit was a bear that apparently had pulled apart a special connector while trying to get to a beehive under the line. The bear was nowhere in sight when repair workers arrived. The station Web site says the problem affected listeners in Shasta County and much of Siskiyou County. (RW)

**

WORLDBEAT - AUSTRALIA: RAMPAGE BRINGS DOWN CELL TOWERS

Temporary phone towers may be needed after tank rampage in Sydney, Australia. This after telecommunications provider Telstra says it may have to install temporary cell phone towers in Sydney's west to replace ones which were damaged when a man went on a rampage in a restored army personnel carrier.

According to the Wireless Institute of Australia News, the man led police on a 90-minute chase through a number of suburbs. Police are alleging that the 45-year-old destroyed six phone towers and damaged an electricity sub-station. He was eventually apprehended and charged with a range of offenses including malicious damage and predatory driving. The Magistrate recommended that the driver be held for medical and psychiatric treatment before his case goes to Local Court.

Telstra spokesman Jeremy Mitchell says repair crews were not able to gain immediate access to the towers as they were a "scene of crime". (WIA News)

**

DX

In DX, word that KC0W, will be moving to St. Helena Island in early September and is expected to be active as ZD7X. His activity will be on CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK. Look for his operations on 160 through 6 meters with special attention given

to 160, 80, 75 and 40 meters. ZD7X will also be active in most major contests. Tom has already announced that he will be on as a Single-Operator Low-Power entry in both the September CQ World Wide DX SSB Contest and the November CQ World Wide DX CW Contest. His QSL Manager is Wï¿½MM.

And ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, has announced that the 2007 J5UAR DXpedition to Guinea-Bissau has been approved for DXCC credit. Moore says that if you had cards rejected for this operation, please send an e-mail todxcc@arrl.org; and you will be placed on the list for update.

Lastly word that JA6GXK is active from Minami Torishima as JD1BMM. He has already been spotted using RTTY on 14.075 and CW on 14.050 MHz. QSLs via JA6GXK.

(Above from various DX news sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: SOME WORDS OF THANKS

And finally this week, with some thank you's to those who help to keep these newscasts on the air, here's Amateur Radio Newsline's Support Fund Administrator, Andy Jarema, N6TCQ

--

Our catching up on thank-yous takes us back to June, 2006.

In that month we heard from the Raleigh, NC Amateur Radio Society, Sol Volen, N3UBY of Philadelphia, monthly contributors Joseph Bartzi, Jr., KC8DKF of Columbus, OH, William Walters, WA2IBM, and Scott Hensley of the Area Communications Team, also in San Jose. And our friends at the Pasadena, CA Radio Club, W6KA.

Via PayPal, Dale Tounge of Ft. Bliss, TX.

Thanks for your help. I'm Andy Jarema. N6TCQ.

--

Andy will be back with us in the near future with more than-you's to those who have contributed to the support fund. (ARNewsline(tm) Support Fund)

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NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline@arnewsline.org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), P.O. Box 660937, Arcadia, California 91066.

Don't forget. The presentation of this years Young Ham of the Year Award takes place this weekend, August 18th and 19th at the Huntsville Hamfest in Alabama. We hope to see you many of there.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Don Wilbanks, AE5DW, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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1402. The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 32 (Friday, August 10, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-11 04:28:39 UTC
From: ARRL Letter Mailing List <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <200708110329.l7B3Tpu3008631@linux11676.dn.net>
Source record: 4007
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter
Vol. 26, No. 32
August 10, 2007
****

IN THIS EDITION:

* + ARRL VEC Team Attends National VEC Conference
* + The 2007 ARRL National Convention Is Just About Here!
* + The 2007 ARRL Teachers Institutes Reach 45 Schools
* + ARRL COO Takes a Look at ARRL HQ's First Six Months of 2007
* + Educator Astronaut Barbara Morgan, KD5VNP, Launches into Space
* + ARRL/TAPR Conference Coming to Connecticut Next Month
* Solar Update
* IN BRIEF:
This Weekend on the Radio
ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Course Registration
+ New Chief for Air Force MARS
+ Nominations Sought for ARRL Section Managers
New Prefix in the Works for Bosnia and Herzegovina
ARRL Tours Continue through Summer
100th Anniversary of Scouting Celebrated with ARISS Contact
+ No ARRL Audio News Next Week
Let Us Know What You Think

+Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/>

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==>Delivery problems: First see FAQ
<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/faq.html#nodelivery>, then e-mail
<letter-dlvy@arrl.org>.
==>Editorial questions or comments only: S. Khrystyne Keane,
<k1sfa@arrl.org>
==========

A quick note: Watch for September's QST in your mailbox!

==> ARRL VEC Team Attends National VEC Conference

Representatives of 11 of the nation's 14 Volunteer Examiner Coordinators
(VECs) met July 27 in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, for the 22nd annual
National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC)
conference. NCVEC Chairman Tom Fuszard, KB9PU, presided over the
gathering. This yearly gathering offers an opportunity for VECs to

discuss issues facing the volunteer examination program and to meet face-to-face with FCC staff members. The ARRL's delegation to the conference included ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM; Assistant Manager Perry Green, WY1O, and Regulatory Information Branch Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND. Also on hand were five FCC staff members: Donna Scott, Sandy Eckenrode, Terry Fishel, Senior Program Analyst Bill Cross, W3TN, and Riley Hollingsworth, Special Counsel in the Enforcement Bureau. Cross and Hollingsworth addressed the conference.

Jim Wiley, KL7CC, chairman of the NCVEC Question Pool Committee, led a discussion on the QPC's plans for the upcoming year. The QPC is working on the new Amateur Extra class pool and syllabus that is scheduled to be released December 2007; it will become effective July 1, 2008. Wiley mentioned that the QPC does not expect any new pool releases in 2009.

Fred Maia, W5YI, spoke about a problem he found with information between the Universal Licensing System (ULS) and the Commission Registration System (CORES) computer systems not being exchanged. Amateurs, he said, are complying with Part 97 rules by keeping the ULS license database up to date, but this information does not find its way into the CORES database. Part 1 of the Rules, Section 1.8002(b)(2), which Maia said most amateurs are unfamiliar with, states that applicants must keep their CORES records current. Amateurs can supply CORES with up-to-date information via the CORES Web page <https://svartifoss2.fcc.gov/coresWeb/publicHome.do> or by filling out and submitting FCC Form 161 <http://wireless.fcc.gov/feesforms/forms.html>.

Maia proposed that the FCC update CORES automatically when the ULS is updated. ULS is maintained by the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) and CORES is handled by the Office of Managing Director (OMD). The FCC's Bill Cross said these systems are two separate systems and that they are discussing a solution.

Cross also moderated the FCC portion of the meeting and took the opportunity to introduce the FCC personnel attending the conference. He reviewed recent Commission rule decisions that have affected VECs, including WTB 04-140 and 05-235 and remarked that the FCC is watching the data streams and upgrades. Cross noted that the ARRL Web site showed ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, buried in piles of work <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2007/02/28/101/?nc=1>.

Hollingsworth spoke next and opened his comments with a bit of lightheartedness. He said that when he spoke at the Dayton Hamvention earlier this year, he told people to "lighten up on the bands." Since Dayton, he's only had three complaints. "I didn't mean for everyone to take that so seriously!" he said.

He continued by saying that he is "very happy" there is a "slowdown" in Amateur Radio enforcement needs. The Commission's enforcement has gotten stronger over the years, and it will not be neglected, he said. He went on to point out that the Enforcement Bureau now has its own Web page

<http://www.fcc.gov/eb/AmateurActions/Welcome.html> that lists all Amateur Radio enforcement activities.

When it comes to VE sessions, Hollingsworth said, he's only had "two new complaints in two years" about exam sessions, "and those were fairly small involving only two or three applicants." He did, however, warn the VECs "to remain vigilant about detecting fraud now that the licensing structure is simpler."

There was a discussion at this year's conference concerning whether or not the NCVEC should have a standard Spanish language exam pool. Currently, multiple Spanish pool translations are being used in Puerto Rico. The ARRL VEC brought up the idea of "only one standard pool version that could be used by the Spanish community," and asked that the NCVEC "seek to establish and maintain one standard Spanish language question pool that conforms to be an exact translation of the current English language question pool for the purposes of being made available to the Spanish speaking public prior to its use for public study."

Due to the fact that there are differing Spanish pool translations currently in use, and none of them an "official" translation of the question pools, the ARRL VEC wanted one standard pool to be created. Somma pointed out that before the VEC program came into being, the FCC administered Spanish language license exams. "We believe in Puerto Rico, where Spanish is an official language, there should be only one standard translation," Somma said.

ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, in an e-mail, concurred: "FCC Amateur Radio exams have been available in Spanish since before the creation of the VEC program, back when the FCC administered all the exams. Remember that the FCC regulates Amateur Radio (and other radio services as well) in Puerto Rico where Spanish is an official language and only a minority of the citizens are fluent in English.

"The only current issue, and the purpose of ARRL's NCVEC motion, is whether there should be a single, standard version of the Spanish question pool (there currently isn't), or whether the longstanding practice of allowing any translation done by any VE team or VECs should be continued. We believe there should be one standard and only one translation."

In another e-mail, ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, agreed: "This effort [for a standardized Spanish translation] is nothing other than a mechanism to insure the high degree of exam integrity that ARRL VEC has been the standard-bearer of for years. Any other position would be contrary to the best interests of the VEC program."

After much discussion, the majority of VECs present did not think they would be able to utilize the Spanish version, and felt with the current resources available, people can be tested in Spanish if need be. Furthermore, the opposition said, the NCVEC has neither the staff nor the resources to undertake and monitor these additional pools.

A vote followed the discussion on the ARRL VEC proposal and the motion did not carry. The NCVEC did not endorse one standard Spanish question pool translation and chose not to develop a unified statement about foreign language exams.

The NCVEC re-elected the current representatives to new terms. Tom Fuszard, KB9PU (MRAC VEC), was selected for a fifth term as chairman; Larry Pollock, NB5X (W5YI VEC), will continue as Vice Chairman. Michele Cimbala, WK3X (LARC VEC), will continue as secretary; Ray Adams, W4CPA (WCARS VEC), will remain as treasurer, and Fred Maia, W5YI (W5YI VEC), will remain as rules reporter. The four current Question Pool Committee members -- Perry Green, WY1O (ARRL VEC), Roland Anders, K3RA (LARC VEC), Larry Pollock, NB5X (W5YI VEC) and QPC Chairman Jim Wiley, KL7CC (Anchorage VEC), were reappointed as well.

The NCVEC set July 25, 2008 as a tentative date for the 2008 conference.

==> The 2007 ARRL National Convention Is Just About Here!

ARRL is tying the ribbons on its planning for the 2007 ARRL National Convention, held in conjunction with the Huntsville Hamfest. The convention and hamfest will be held August 18-19 at the Von Braun Center in Huntsville, Alabama. The event is preceded by the Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference -- GAREC-07 -- held in the adjacent Embassy Suites Hotel, August 16-17.

"The ARRL National Convention will be chock-full of activities and exhibits," said ARRL Sales and Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R. "The centerpiece of the convention will be ARRL EXPO -- an entire exhibit area showcasing many ARRL programs and services." A preview of what is planned for ARRL EXPO, as well as a downloadable exhibit and activities guide, can be found at the ARRL EXPO Web site <http://www.arrl.org/expo>.

Another convention activity is ARRL Passport -- the ultimate hamfest scavenger hunt. Available to the first 2500 visitors to ARRL EXPO, the Passport opens up the possibility to win one of two terrific all-mode mobile transceivers: the Icom IC-7000 and the Yaesu FT-857D. Passport holders qualify by collecting different ARRL Passport codes at participating exhibits and activities while they enjoy the convention. Turn in your completed entry form at ARRL EXPO by Sunday at 12 noon, and you could be a winner.

"The Huntsville Hamfest Committee has organized a fantastic slate of presentations and forums. More than a dozen mini-forums will be given on the ARRL Stage, located in ARRL's big exhibit area," Inderbitzen said. A provisional list of hamfest forums can be found at the Huntsville Hamfest's Web site <http://www.hamfest.org/forums02b.htm>. Presentations on the ARRL Stage will include an update on Broadband over Power Line (BPL) given by Ed Hare, W1RFI; suggestions for energizing young -- and potential -- hams, presented by ARRL Youth Contributing Editor and Georgia Assistant Section Manager/Youth Andrea Hartlage, KG4IUM; a "how-to" session on writing for QST, presented by ARRL News Editor S.

Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA; an introduction to ARRL Operating Awards and the ARRL QSL bureau with ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L; tips for contesting with QST Contributing Editor and ARRL author Ward Silver, N0AX, and an overview of Amateur Radio on the International Space Station presented by Rob Suggs, KB5EZ, NASA Space Environments Team Lead from the Marshall Space Flight Center. A complete listing of ARRL Stage presentations can be found at the ARRL EXPO Web site <http://www.arrl.org/expo>.

==> 2007 ARRL Teachers Institutes Reach 45 Schools

Forty-eight teachers representing 45 schools from around the country attended the 2007 ARRL Teachers Institutes, held this summer in Rocklin, California, Spokane, Washington and at ARRL Headquarters in Newington. Each class of 12, ranging from pre-school teachers to college professors, got the opportunity to explore and experience firsthand wireless technology basics, how to teach basic electronics concepts integral to microcontrollers and robots, as well as how to bring space technology into the classroom. The four day course culminated with building and programming a robot.

Education and Technology Program Coordinator and Director of the ARRL Teachers Institute Mark Spencer, WA8SME, said, "We had a good range of students this year. We had a higher percentage of hams than we have seen in the past. These were slightly older teachers, ranging in all levels of experience. We even had a student teacher at one of the sessions, something I am really excited about."

Spencer said his four "instructional pillars" -- Science of radio, Space in the classroom, Microcontrollers and Robotics -- are "ever-present" during the Teachers Institute. "Each day is packed with lectures, hands-on activities and demonstrations, building, programming and a robotics competition. The first two days include instruction on how to teach wireless technology. Day three covers microcontrollers and the finale is how to teach basic robotics. The class materials are a mix of basic theory coupled with teaching strategies these instructors can use immediately when they return to the classroom."

A new feature in this year's Teachers Institute is Soldering 101. Spencer said including this basic skill was "extremely useful. We had both experienced hams and people new to technology. A lot of the experienced hams hadn't soldered in a while, so it was like a refresher course for them. The new people enjoyed learning a new skill."

Spencer said some people might have already known how to solder, but had never considered soldering in the classroom. "They came up to me, happy that they had learned the teaching skills that would enable them to bring soldering in the classroom. They said, 'I knew how to solder before I came here, but I never thought I could teach it to my students. Thank you for giving me the skills and showing me the way so I can teach this to my students in a way they can understand.'"

Another new feature this year was satellite contacts. Spencer chose AO-27 due to the timing of its pass. Spencer divided the class into two groups and took them outside for the pass. "The satellite comes over the horizon, and the participants announce their call sign and grid square and maybe exchange some short pleasantries. Once that's done, they go on to the next contact," Spencer said.

By using satellites, Spencer said, he shows the Teachers Institute participants that they can actually contact an orbiting satellite using inexpensive equipment. "The lessons involving satellites are valuable and focused. By using satellites, these teachers can go back to their classrooms and teach more than just the satellite. This lesson teaches the students how to get ready, how to prepare; this is something they can and will carry with them all their lives. Without advance preparation, it's really hard to make the satellite contact."

Of the 48 teachers at this year's Teachers Institutes, about 20 percent come from "Big Project" schools, Spencer said. "About another 25 percent of the non-Big Project schools go on to apply for grants and get involved in the Big Project. These schools then go on to apply for an Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) program, but the Teachers Institutes show them that there is much more to it than just an ARISS contact."

While the emphasis of the course is not Amateur Radio and teachers need not be hams to attend the all-expenses-paid sessions, some do go ahead and take the Technician license exam. Seven have received their Technician license and two have upgraded to General this year alone. "About 80 percent of the non-ham teachers have gone on to get their Amateur Radio license. They get really 'jazzed up' about ham radio while they are here. Since the genesis of the Teachers Institute, each participant that has taken their Amateur Radio license exam has passed on their first attempt," Spencer said.

Spencer said the Teachers Institute curricula are constantly being tweaked. "Right now, we are at a maturing stage, doing the grunt work and sustaining the program. Next year we are looking at adding Amateur Radio Television and making an umbrella activity board that ties all four of the instructional pillars together. I am already looking at expanding the program for next year."

He has many long range plans in mind for the Teachers Institute. "In the next 10 years, I would love to see a Teachers Institute in each of the 15 ARRL Divisions. These instructors would work in conjunction with their state's science museum and run the Institute regionally through the museum. What a great way to bring science to kids," Spencer said.

==> ARRL COO Takes a Look at ARRL HQ's First Six Months of 2007

At the July ARRL Board of Directors meeting, ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B, brought the Board up-to-date on the first six months of 2007 as it relates to ARRL Headquarters and staff. With the elimination of the Morse code testing requirement, a "transformation

occurred in Amateur Radio," he said. The ARRL, he said, was prepared for the changes the elimination brought forth: new licensees, license upgrades and a renewed interest in Amateur Radio overall.

The first six months of 2007 also saw some significant organizational changes at HQ, Kramer said. "The former Membership Services Department and the Field and Educational Services Department merged into one department, Membership and Volunteer Programs, under the leadership of Dave Patton, NN1N." A new Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager joined the staff, Dennis Dura, K2DCD. Debra Johnson, K1DMJ, heads up the newly created Educational Services Department.

"We have also made significant progress in both improving and integrating our Web services with our Customer Relations Management System," Kramer said. "A cross-departmental team has created all new, much improved membership application pages on the ARRL Web site. This team has also upgraded our credit card entry system so that it processes transactions in real time and added additional security to our credit card transactions. As a part of this process, we have enhanced our warehousing and shipping systems."

While Kramer went on to list accomplishments by each ARRL department, he stressed that the positive results seen at HQ were realized "by working as a team...[these successes] would not have happened if we had not all worked together. Thanks to everyone on staff for making these extra efforts."

Kramer pointed out that the ARRL Lab continues to work with amateurs concerning the various BPL systems, as well as participates on industry committees working on BPL. They have helped many members with RF interference problems, and have improved and expanded QST Product Review testing.

The newly formed Membership and Volunteer Programs Department oversaw the initiation of monthly teleconferences with Section Managers in their respective Divisions. The ARRL Club Affiliation process was simplified and the ARRL Club News electronic newsletter was launched and now has about 6000 subscribers.
The Publications Department released nine new or revised publications, including a new General Class License Manual, General Class Q&A, ARRL Antenna Book and the 2007/2008 Repeater Directory. QST saw an emphasis on emergency communications, as well as additional editorial content featuring advanced technology.

The Sales and Marketing Department reported an increase in membership in the first six months of the year. Insurance and banking opportunities were presented as optional benefits to the membership.

The ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinator Department implemented plans for the expected workload increase due to the elimination of the Morse code testing requirement. With a gain in the number of license exam sessions, ARRL Volunteer Examiner teams are responsible for administering 71

percent of the Amateur Radio exams.

The Web/Software Development Department reported that the ARRL Web site had more than 2.1 million visitors and 50 million page views during the first six months of 2007. They moved the Logbook of The World system to a new, upgraded server. They also created a new Web site for the ARRL Foundation.

==> Educator Astronaut Barbara Morgan, KD5VNP, Launches into Space

On Wednesday, August 8, the space shuttle Endeavour (STS-118) launched yet again on an 11-day mission into space, the "final frontier." One member of the seven-member crew, Mission Specialist Barbara Morgan, KD5VNP, said she let forth a loud "Woo-hoo!" during the launch. The astronauts assigned to the mission include a Canadian doctor, a chemist who knows sign language and is a former competitive sprinter and long jumper, as well as a commander whose identical twin brother is also a shuttle pilot.

Morgan is the mission's Educator Astronaut. She was selected for the astronaut corps 22 years after first being selected as Christa McAuliffe's backup in the Teacher in Space Project. McAuliffe and the rest of the seven-member crew on board the space shuttle Challenger (STS-51-L) perished on January 28, 1986, a mere 73 seconds after launch.

While in space, Morgan plans to answer questions from schoolchildren. She received her Amateur Radio license in March 2003.

Like all shuttle missions, STS-118 is about the future: putting the International Space Station (ISS) a step closer to completion and gathering experience that will help people return to the moon and go on to Mars. "The mission has lots of angles," Matt Abbott, lead shuttle flight director, said. "There's a little bit of assembly; there's some resupply; there's some repairs. And there are some high-visibility education and public affairs events. It's a little bit of everything."

"I'm really excited about going up and doing our jobs and doing them well," Morgan said. "I'm excited about experiencing the whole spaceflight, seeing Earth from space for the very first time and experiencing weightlessness and what that's all about. I am excited about seeing what it's like living and working onboard the International Space Station."

Morgan trained side by side with McAuliffe and witnessed the 1986 Challenger accident in which McAuliffe and her six fellow crew members died. The Teacher in Space Project was suspended then, but Morgan held on to her NASA ties. In the months following that tragedy, she went on the visits McAuliffe would have made, talking to children and teachers all over the country. When she was selected in 1998 to become a full-fledged astronaut, she jumped at the opportunity.

In reminiscing about McAuliffe, Morgan said, "Christa's legacy was open-ended, and is open-ended. Any teacher's legacy is open-ended. I

hope, and I know that people will be thinking about Christa and the Challenger crew and that's a good thing and they'll be thinking about many, many teachers and others who have worked very, very hard for 20 years to continue Christa's and the rest of the Challenger crew's work. I am just the next teacher of many to come, we've got three in training right now, and there will be more in the future, teachers who will fly as astronauts, so just, just one of a long step that will continue well into the future."

In 2002, Morgan was chosen as the first educator to become a mission specialist astronaut. The Educator Astronaut Project evolved from the Teacher in Space Project. Both aimed to engage and attract students to explore the excitement and wonder of spaceflight and to inspire and support educators. Morgan's primary duty is the same as it is for the entire crew - to accomplish the planned objectives of the station assembly mission, as well as taking part in several education-related activities. "The educator astronaut is also a fully trained astronaut who does the jobs, does the duties that an astronaut does. Astronauts and teachers learn and share; they explore; they discover and then they go learn and share some more. And that's what this is all about." - Some information from NASA.

More about Endeavor's mission can be found at the NASA Web site <http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/shuttle/shuttlemissions/sts118/index.html>.

==> ARRL/TAPR Conference Comes to Connecticut Next Month

Mark your calendars for September 28-30 for the 26th Annual ARRL and TAPR Digital Communications Conference in Hartford, Connecticut <http://www.tapr.org/dcc.html>. This conference is an international forum for radio amateurs to meet, publish their work and present new ideas and techniques. Presenters and attendees will have the opportunity to exchange ideas and learn about recent hardware and software advances, theories, experimental results, and practical applications.

Topics include, but are not limited to: Software Defined Radio (SDR); digital voice; digital satellite communications; Global Position System (GPS); precision timing; Automatic Position Reporting System (APRS); short messaging (a mode of APRS); Digital Signal Processing (DSP); HF digital modes; Internet interoperability with Amateur Radio networks; spread spectrum; IEEE 802.11 and other Part 15 license-exempt systems adaptable for Amateur Radio; using TCP/IP networking over Amateur Radio; mesh and peer-to-peer wireless networking; emergency and Homeland Defense backup digital communications; using Linux in amateur radio; updates on AX.25, and other wireless networking protocols.

The three-day conference will include introductory and technical sessions on Friday and Saturday, a Friday evening social and a Saturday evening banquet. The ever-popular Sunday Seminar focuses on one topic and provides an in-depth four-hour presentation by an expert in the field. The Sunday Seminar speaker has yet to be announced.

According to TAPR Vice President Steve Bible, N7HPR, "the ARRL and TAPR Digital Communications Conference is for all levels of technical experience, not just for the expert. Not only is the conference technically stimulating, it is a weekend of fun for all who have more than a casual interest in any aspect of amateur digital electronics and communications. Introductory sessions are scheduled throughout the conference to introduce new technical topics for beginners and experts alike. For those amateurs who are more technically inclined, this is a must attend conference. Now more than ever, Amateur Radio needs this great meeting of the minds to demonstrate a continued need for our current frequency allocations by pushing forward and documenting our achievements. The ARRL and TAPR Digital Communications Conference is the best way to record our accomplishments and challenge each other to do more."

Each year at the Digital Communications Conference, a separate and lockable room is provided for people to bring and show off their latest projects. Tables and power will be provided. Bring your equipment and display for all to see, learn and ask questions about, as well as a small sign and flyer naming and describing your project.

Registration is open until September 1; after that date, late registrations will be accepted. The cost of the two-day Digital Communications Conference is $70; to attend only the Friday or Saturday session is $40. Lunch is available on Friday and Saturday for $15. The Sunday Seminar is priced separately at $25. The Saturday evening banquet is $35 and includes dinner, guest speaker, an awards ceremony and a prize drawing. Students under 17 are priced at 50 percent of the registration fees. Conference registration includes conference proceedings, sessions and meetings.

Conference presentations, meetings, and seminars will be held at the Doubletree Hotel Bradley International Airport in Windsor Locks, Connecticut <http://www.doubletree.com/en/dt/hotels/index.jhtml?ctyhocn=BDLETDT>. A block of rooms at a special rate of $79.00 has been reserved, and it is highly recommended that you book your room prior to arriving. This special rate is good until August 30, or until the block of rooms is all sold out. To book your room, call the hotel directly at (860)627-5171 and mention group code DCC when making reservations.

==>SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "I Wanna Soak Up the Sun(spots)" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: Average daily sunspot numbers were up a little, rising more than five points to 12.4. After a short period of no sunspots, we are back to seeing a spot or two every day. Expect these conditions to continue, possibly falling back to zero spots again around August 16-20. Today (August 10), expect some unsettled to active geomagnetic conditions due to a solar wind stream. Planetary A index predicted for August 10-16 is 25, 15, 5, 5, 5, 5 and 10. Geophysical Institute Prague predicts unsettled to active conditions August 10, quiet to unsettled August 11, quiet August 12-14, quiet to unsettled August 15 and unsettled August

16. Sunspot numbers for August 2 through 8 were 0, 11, 11, 11, 16, 13 and 25 with a mean of 12.4. The 10.7 cm flux was 69.4, 70.4, 69.4, 68.9, 70, 69 and 69, with a mean of 69.4. Estimated planetary A indices were 5, 4, 2, 2, 12, 23 and 6 with a mean of 7.7. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 5, 4, 0, 2, 8, 23 and 5 with a mean of 6.7. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>.

==>IN BRIEF:

* This weekend on the radio: This weekend, the WAE DX Contest (CW) and the Maryland-DC QSO Party are on the air August 11-12. The NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint takes place August 15. Next week plays host to the ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest on August 18-19. The NCCC Sprint (CW) is August 17 and 18. The ARCI Silent Key Memorial Sprint is August 18, while the SARTG WW RTTY Contest is August 18 and 19. The North American QSO Party (SSB), the Keyman's Club of Japan Contest and the Russian District Award Contest are August 18-19. The New Jersey QSO Party is August 18-19 and August 19-20. The Run for the Bacon QRP Contest is August 20. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests/>, the ARRL Contester's Rate Sheet <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rate-sheet/> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more info.

* ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration: Registration remains open through Sunday August 19, for these on-line courses beginning on Friday September 7: Technician License Course (EC-010); Amateur Radio Emergency Communications, Level 1 (EC-001); Radio Frequency Interference (EC-006); Antenna Design and Construction (EC-009); Analog Electronics (EC-012), and Digital Electronics (EC-013). To learn more, visit the CCE Course Listing page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html> or contact the Continuing Education Program Coordinator <cce@arrl.org>.

* New Chief for Air Force Mars: Allen Eiermann, K3LSR, has been named the new acting chief of Air Force MARS. Eiermann takes over for Don Poquette who recently retired form the Air Force. Eiermann holds a General class Amateur Radio license and is a former Navy/Marine Corps MARS member. "I am looking forward to serving the MARS community and will work closely with the Army and Navy-Marine Corps MARS Chiefs to bring the tri-service MARS programs closer to being just MARS. I fully support interoperability between the three services and the efforts to provide communications services to other federal agencies and civilian communities during times of need," Eiermann said.

* Nominations Sought for ARRL Section Managers: Nominations are currently being solicited for Section Managers in the following ARRL Sections: Eastern New York, Eastern Pennsylvania, Louisiana, North

Carolina, Pacific, San Diego, South Dakota and Virginia. To be valid, a petition must contain the signatures of five or more full ARRL members residing in the Section concerned. Photocopied signatures are not acceptable. Petition forms FSD-129 are available on request from ARRL Headquarters but are not required. Petitions must be received at Headquarters by 4 PM EST on December 7, 2007. If more than one member is nominated in a single Section, ballots will be mailed from Headquarters on or before January 2, 2008 to full members of record as of December 7, 2007. Returns will be counted February 19, 2008. Section Managers elected as a result of the above procedure will take office April 1, 2008. For more information, including a sample petition, please see the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/org/smterms.html#sample>.

* New Prefix in the Works for Bosnia and Herzegovina: The ITU has granted a request from the Ministry of Communications and Transport of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) to replace T9A-T9Z with E7A-E7Z. According to IARU Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ, "While it probably will take some time for the BiH administration to implement this change, it should put to an end the use of call signs outside the ITU-allocated call sign block by stations in parts of BiH." The new prefix will be implemented "probably later this year," Sumner said.

* ARRL Tours Continue through Summer: The ARRL Tour Program is in full swing this summer. According to ARRL Receptionist Penny Harts, N1NAG, more than 200 people have toured ARRL Headquarters and W1AW this summer, and since the Volunteer Tour Guide program was instituted last August, more than 500 visitors have seen the ARRL up close and personal. Tours are given by Sales and Marketing Coordinator Jackie Cornell, or by the volunteer tour guides Bob Allison, WB1GCM, and Roy Johnson, N1IKM. Tours highlight W1AW, the ARRL Lab, the Outgoing QSL Service and a brief visit to each of the various departments. Visitors may operate W1AW weekdays between the hours of 10 AM-12 pm and 1-3:45 PM; please bring along a copy of your license. For more information on ARRL HQ tours, please contact Jackie Cornell <jcornell@arrl.org>.

* 100th Anniversary of Scouting Celebrated with ARISS Contact: On Saturday, August 4, an Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) contact took place between scouts attending the 21st World Scout Jamboree in Chelmsford, England and Clay Anderson, KD5PLA, aboard the ISS. Ten scouts were able to ask two questions each of the astronaut using the special event station call sign GB100J. Approximately 40,000 scouts from 200 countries attended the Jamboree. Audio was broadcast on the Jamboree FM radio station and was webcast on the radio station's Web site. The audio was also fed into the EchoLink JK1ZRW (277 208) server and received 50 connections from stations in 12 countries, including 6 repeaters nodes. Video and audio may be found on this site <http://www.g6lvb.com/GB100JISS.wmv>.

* No ARRL Audio News Next Week: There will be no ARRL Audio News next week Friday, August 17. Please adjust your calendars and programming

accordingly. The ARRL Audio News will return on Friday, August 24.

* Let Us Know What You Think: What's your favorite part of The ARRL Letter? What kind of stories would you like to see in the Letter? Would you prefer the Letter in an HTML format? This is your Letter and your chance to let your voice be heard. Please send your suggestions to ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, <k1sfa@arrl.org>, with the subject line "ARRL Letter Suggestions." All messages will be read and discussed, and we look forward to implementing positive suggestions into the ARRL Letter.

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The ARRL Letter is published Fridays, 50 times each year, by the American Radio Relay League: ARRL--the National Association for Amateur Radio, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111; tel 860-594-0200; fax 860-594-0259; <http://www.arrl.org>. Joel Harrison, W5ZN, President.

The ARRL Letter offers a weekly e-mail digest of essential and general news of interest to active radio amateurs. Visit the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org> for the latest Amateur Radio news and news updates. The ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org> also offers informative features and columns. ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> is a weekly "ham radio newscast" compiled and edited from The ARRL Letter. It's also available as a podcast from our Web site.

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860-594-0384

==>How to Get The ARRL Letter

The ARRL Letter is available to ARRL members free of charge directly from ARRL HQ. To subscribe, unsubscribe or change your address for e-mail delivery:
ARRL members first must register on the Members Only Web Site <http://www.arrl.org/members/>. You'll have an opportunity during registration to sign up for e-mail delivery of The ARRL Letter, W1AW bulletins, and other material. To change these selections--including delivery of The ARRL Letter--registered members should click on the "Member Data Page" link (in the Members Only box). Click on "Modify membership data," check or uncheck the appropriate boxes and/or change your e-mail address if necessary. (Check "Temporarily disable all automatically sent email" to temporarily stop all e-mail deliveries.)

Then, click on "Submit modification" to make selections effective. (NOTE: HQ staff members cannot change your e-mail delivery address. You must do this yourself via the Members Only Web Site.)

The ARRL Letter also is available to all, free of charge, from these sources:

* ARRLWeb <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>. (NOTE: The ARRL Letter will be posted each Friday when it is distributed via e-mail.)

* The QTH.net listserver, thanks to volunteers from the Boston Amateur Radio Club: Visit Mailing Lists@QTH.Net <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/letter-list>. (NOTE: The ARRL cannot assist subscribers who receive The ARRL Letter via this listserver.)

1403. WIANEWS for week commencing AUGUST 12 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-11 11:04:57 UTC
From: nationalnews@wia.org.au
Message-ID: <200708111000.l7BA06Y13707@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4008
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,aus.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

This is WIANEWS for week commencing AUGUST 12 2007

News is on as usual this weekend on RF and HF, stations that do not intend to carry the service Sunday would have advised their Listeners during last weekends call-back sessions. However you can hear us if your outlet is "contesting" instead, by visiting http://www.wiaq.com/ftp/wianews.mp3

Saturday 0800UTC the RD contest started, opening this years event was Brigadier Doug Formby, President of the Queensland RSL.

Lets listen to a portion of that address.

"For those of us who are no longer young men, it is hard to believe that world war 2 ended more than 60 years ago nor, for that matter, that the history of your Remembrance Day Contest itself extends unbroken over more than 50 years.

Australian servicemen performed in all theatres of that war, most closely in the Pacific, where the war finally ended in mid-August 1945.

I think the thing that few younger people realize these days is how young most of our servicemen really were. So many of us were just kids.

And Kids they were, let us hope that in the years to come so many of our Kids will never again be facing the adversity our forefathers endured, but I feel confident today s youth, if heaven forbid, it is necessary will again show our Aussie Courage and answer the call."

HAMS ACROSS AUSTRALIA.

Local area news, some areas in audio, some only on the web, some email

vk1 local news email broadcast@vk1.wia.ampr.org and ask for subscription.

VK2 web service:- http://www.arnsw.org.au/html/news_vk2wi.htm

VK3 web service:- http://www.amateurradio.com.au/news/

VK4 web service local news:- www.wiaq.com/qnews/upload/qnewsbcast.htm
news email qnews-vk-subscribe@yahoogroups.com subscribe in subject field.

VK5

VK6 web service http://www.vk6.net/newswest-index.html

VK7 web service http://reast.asn.au/news.php
news email vk7regionalnews-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

VK8 http://www.vkham.com/vk8da/ note audio news available also on this page

BOYS LIGHT UP

LIGHTHOUSE MESSAGES

The Liverpool and District Amateur Radio Club VK2BTT will be putting the retired MV Cape Don, a purpose-built vessel to service navigational aids including manned lighthouses to air Next weekend, Lighthouse Weekend

Brian VK5BC and Richard VK5UK will be activating the Corny Point Lighthouse, Southern Yorke Peninsula over the International Lighthouse Weekend the 18th & 19th August. They will be using the Callsign VK5CPL.

Two lighthouses in Western Australia will be active.
VK6CNL Cape Naturaliste and VK6CLL Cape Leeuwin Lighthouses in the south west of the state.
If you are interested and in the Margaret River area feel free to go along to the Lighthouses and see the teams in operation. Whale watching is also possible from the coast at the lighthouses.

WICEN in Tassie will visit Cape Bruny for the weekend, they depart Kettering on the 7.45am ferry, and remind those in the south more day visitors are welcome.

WIA PRESIDENT MICHAEL OWEN VK3KI:-

"I would like to tell you about the new Advisory Committees.

The WIA Constitution that was adopted when the WIA moved from a federal structure to a single national body provided for Advisory Committees from each of the areas previously covered by the Divisions, and whose task was to advise the WIA Board in respect of more local matters.

The first members of each Advisory Committee were the members of the relevant Divisional Council who wished to be members. The Constitution said that after three years new Advisory Committees were to be formed, with the details to be determined by the WIA Board.

The process to create new Advisory Committees has now almost finished.

The Constitution provides that each Advisory Committee would have one member nominated by the WIA Board and the Board has adopted rules that provide that three further members are to be elected. If there were just enough nominations to fill the vacancies, then those nominating were elected, and if there was a shortfall, then the Board made appointments to fill the vacancies.

The Board also has power to define the areas of each Advisory Committee, and has created the Northern Territory as a new and separate area for an Advisory Committee, and (after consulting with the Canberra Region Amateur Radio Club, previously he ACT Division), included the ACT as part of the New South Wales area, with a special provision to allow (but not compel) one member of the New South Wales ACT Advisory committee to come from the ACT.

The Board has appointed its nominees to each Advisory Committee, nominations for election have been called, in two states the number of nominations

matched the vacancies, the Board then appointed two people whose nominations were rejected on technical grounds, then where there were still vacancies, consulted with those already appointed and took their advice, and finally have made the last appointments to fill each Advisory Committee.

The names of each members of each Advisory Committee can be found on the WIA Website, under a release issued on Friday.

http://www.wia.org.au

The new members of the Advisory Committees do not actually take their position until 1 October, but in the mean time each Advisory Committee has been asked to identify their chairperson, work out how they are going to function and to work out the contact addresses and numbers for their committee. Also, in some areas a transition has already started from the old committee to the new, for example in Queensland where meetings are planned in October and so both the old and the new are involved.

Finally, let me say this.

How the new Advisory Committees function will very much depends on them. The Board sees the Advisory Committees as a local representation of the WIA, there not only to advise the Board but also to actively promote and advance the WIA.

I thank each and every one of you who have either agreed to participate or who have volunteered to participate in working for the WIA this way."

Get your personalised WIA email address today..

The WIA though it's email server allows you to establish
"yourcallsign@wia.org.au"
wia.org.au> with all
emails sent to this address automatically forwarded to either your home
or work email account..

This provides YOU with ONE consistent email address. And should you ever change ISP, then having a WIA address means your friends and colleague will still be able to email you without the need for individually providing them with your new address. All YOU need to do is to simply advise us of your new address, through form on our website and we do the rest. It couldn't be easier !! A further benefit of having a WIA address, is in receiving informative Amateur Radio news as it breaks, sent directly to YOUR inbox..

Obtaining your WIA email address is really quite easy, simply visit our website www.wia.org.au
click on member services, select email address, and fill out the application form.

EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO
PRESENTED BY KYLEA VK6FXYL

The ARRL Board of Directors have named several ARRL award recipients.

Included are the 2006 Herb S. Brier Instructor of the Year Award, the 2006 Hiram Percy Maxim Award

The recipient of the 2006 Instructor of the Year Award is Dr William P. Birmingham, KC8WBD, of Grove City, Pennsylvania. Over a period of many years, Dr Birmingham has demonstrated his commitment to teaching Amateur Radio in the classroom, as well as promoting Amateur Radio outside the classroom. Herb S. Brier, W9AD, long-time CQ Novice Editor, represented the spirit of effective, caring Amateur Radio instruction. The ARRL, in conjunction with the Lake County (IN) Amateur Radio Club, sponsors this award in his memory to recognize the very best in volunteer Amateur Radio instruction and recruitment.

The recipient of the 2006 Maxim Award is Greg S. Davis, N3ZL, of Florence, South Carolina. This award, given annually to a licensed radio amateur under the age of 21, takes into account the nominee's most exemplary nature of accomplishments and contributions to both the community of Amateur Radio and the local community. Davis, first licensed at 14, upgraded to Amateur Extra class before he turned 16. While his first love is rag chewing, he likes to DX, contest and operate all digital modes and SSTV. Davis is interested in and active in emergency communications. As part of his Eagle Scout project, he was responsible for planning, assembling and installing emergency communications antennas at Red Cross emergency evacuation centres.

DISCUSSION POINT

BRICKS IN THE MAIL

The old adage is that there are always two sides to a story. Well that certainly applies to an almost legendary ongoing stoush on the internet.

This concerns the sending of a box of house bricks and other rubbish, to a radio amateur who collected it from his post office, paying cash on delivery.

There was an expectation that the box would contain radio equipment.

Not restraining his emotions one bit, the irate receiver of the box of heavy and somewhat expensive rubbish took to his keyboard to attack the sender.

Counter claims were then made by the apparent sender of the box who tried to put some kind of justification on what had occurred.

It all apparently stems from a dissatisfaction over an earlier matter on a popular "for sale" and "wanted" advertising website.

Angry words like "integrity", "rip-off", "honesty" and "greed" are being used in these public exchanges between the two.

A small blessing however is they live some 2,000 kilometres apart and may never meet.

Nonetheless those observing the internet battle remain either bemused or bored with the whole affair.

Neither side seemingly wants to give-up. It's all about personal pride, reputation and emotions continue running high over a very important issue ' not.

I'm Jim Linton VK3PC and you're listening to VK1WIA.

SILENT KEYS

The following tribute for Tom Moffat is from Brian VK7RR via VK7News

Tom was born in the United States of America. His father had contact with Australia as he was involved with the design of the navigation equipment for the Jindivik program in the 50's so it is no wonder that Tom ended up out here. Tom obtained electronic qualifications with the Bell Telephone Company for whom he worked until the wanderlust hit him.

Tom passed away August 2 2007

He initially worked in Victoria, as Chief of Staff for GTV-9, moving to Tasmania with his wife Gael, in the early 70's, whereupon he became the Motorola sales and service agent for Tasmania.

Tom was involved with the first amateur television broadcast of the weekly news, the first mobile television broadcast in the southern hemisphere, amateur or commercial and of course, the first VK7RHT.

Tom soon became one of the best known names in Australian amateur circles through his monthly columns in various magazines, an interest which became an occupation over the past ten years or so. Who will forget Moffat's Madhouse and his monocle? Tom's optometrist made it for him as he refused to wear reading glasses.

Tom was a highly intelligent person who had an instinct for new technologies and took to computers like a duck to water. I wonder how many people built his weather satellite decoder over the years? He sold them in kit form and many yachties and amateurs were soon checking their own weather, long before sound cards and DSP, hit the scene.

He also built an experimental robot known as the Tasman Turtle as I remember it.

Tom died peacefully on Tuesday evening, leaving Gael, his former wife, who continued to care for him as much as he would let her, two daughters, Jenny and Fiona, a son Steven and three grandchildren.

Farewell old friend.

TAIT TEAM MOURNS GREAT KIWI EXPORT ICON

Christchurch, New Zealand

Staff at Christchurch radio communications company, Tait Electronics Limited, are mourning the loss of their Founder and Chairman Sir Angus Tait. Angus died August 7.

Michael Chick, Managing Director, said the country, company and worldwide radio industry was poorer for his passing. "He was an immensely determined yet compassionate man, a great innovator and mentor for so many. He was humble and curious; never seeking the limelight but never shy of making his voice heard if it would help business and education in New Zealand."

The Tait Foundation has donated millions of dollars to a variety of causes; most recently in the Canterbury University's Wireless Research Centre.

He was the Chairman and, at 88, he had been coming into work most days.

In 1948 Sir Angus formed his first company, A.M. Tait Ltd, on the back of mobile radio sales to two taxi companies. A.M. Tait Ltd (the "M" stood for McMillan) developed the AM T4 radio, which contributed much of the company's success. Without any sort of business plan the company's staff swelled to 100 people by the mid-1960s, when A.M. Tait Ltd even delved into making televisions!

Always a radio enthusiast (call sign ZL 3NL) Angus kept up to date with the latest technologies. Until the end at 88, Sir Angus drove into work in his characteristic red Alpha Romeo. Rather than a parking space, he pretty much parked right by the front door. After all, it was his name on the office sign. (originally forwarded by john stevens vk4afs)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Morse Code Study in Pennsylvania:

The ARRL Letter reports a psychology professor at the University of Pittsburgh is conducting a study involving short-term memory and how it correlates to Morse code.

Julie Fiez, the study's principal investigator, said she got the idea of using Morse code in her studies from a family member who is an Amateur Radio operator.

She said she liked the idea of using CW in her experiments to see how people process audio tones. "Our interest is in verbal working memory," she said, "which is the ability to keep 'on-line' for a short time, information you can access later."

Part 1 of the experiment is an assessment of the participant's Morse proficiency.

First, participants will be asked to accurately copy sentences as they are presented in at three different rates (16, 19, and 25 words per minute). Then they will be asked to listen to the entire Morse sentence and recall the sentence from memory.

Part two asks participants to recall lists of letters from memory. The letters will either be in English or in Morse.

Participants will either hear the letters through headphones or see them on a computer screen. The study will look for differences in memory performance between Morse lists and English lists.

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NEWS FROM ARNEWSLINE

ON THE AIR: WAR ACTIVATED IN CROSSBAND COMMUNICATIONS TEST

A three letter special event callsign with no numeric indicator. That's the story of the callsign W-A-R as it was used in last May 12th in the 58th running of the Crossband Communications Test sponsored by the Army Military Affiliate Radio System.

The historic W-A-R callsign was originally the property of the old United States War Department as it was known in those days. This year the W-A-R call was rolled out to be used in the cross band ham radio test station operating at the Pentagon. This was very significant to the members of the Pentagon Amateur Radio Club as the W-A-R call has been in exile at Fort Detrick, Maryland for many years.

The complete story about the W-A-R commemorative call and this years Crossband Communications Test is in the article titled Amateur Radio at the Pentagon by Bill Sexton, N1IN. It begins on Page 29 of the August Worldradio Magazine. (Worldradio)

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RSGB NEWS G4NJH

Gloucestershire County RAYNET assist in floods

Gloucester County RAYNET was called upon for assistance during the floods.

The service was activated by the County Council Emergency Planning Officer to assist in the evacuation of the county emergency centre on 25th July. All the RAYNET contingency equipment was stripped out of the radio room underneath Shire Hall in the city centre, and a temporary station relocated at the Triservice Control Centre at Quedgeley, to the south of Gloucester.

The prime functions of the station were to establish links to the district rest centres set up around the county and to provide backup links to out-of-county sites where telephone systems would still be operational, should the Walham substation have failed.

Liaison was kept with other RAYNET Groups at Bath, Gwent and Bristol through Zone 7 Controller Chris, G8RXA. This ensured they were kept abreast of the situation and could be called in to assist if necessary. Thanks to the efforts of members working long hours on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, voice and data communications links were set up to the Triservice Control Centre from Tewkesbury, Gloucester, Cheltenham, Cirencester and Stroud.

On Thursday, a callout was issued by the County Emergency Planning Officer for radio links to be set up between the Triservice Control and the five main bottled water distribution points for vulnerable people. RAYNET members responded to the request by

message distribution and assisting the volunteer teams at the locations.

WEIRD N WONDERFUL

These from the latest FISTS club downunder newsletter.

John Kirk VK4TJ / VE6XT #9080 says it was not uncommon during the early WW2 era for Canadian radio operators to amuse themselves on long, boring training flights by bootlegging un-issued American ham calls from the adjoining states, complete with a credible cover QTH, handle and rig line-up.

It was after all away these ex hams, whose gear had, like Australians, been confiscated "for the duration" to "get up on the air, whilst "IN the air".

In the brag sessions that invariably ensued in the flight crew's mess hall after a long flight, after a few suitable beverages, they would regale each other with tales of the great QSOs they had enjoyed.

You can guess the conclusion – invariably, the QSO was in fact two bored Canadian radio ops, both bootlegging US calls, talking to each other.

QSL via the buro?

I think not!

(Reference:- Conversation with the late Doug Burrill, VE3CDC, ret. Signals Officer)

Now to "Gerry"... no not THAT JERRY but Gerry # 10139 in Philadelphia.

He tells how his friend George K3MWM (now SK) told him that when he was in the US Army he was ordered to take down his Ham Antenna from the barracks.

So he "drew" a 10-meter dipole on the wall with an electrographic pencil (conductive lead, which used to be required on machine-gradable answer sheets , may not be available any longer).

K3MWM put two screws in the wall contacting the two legs at the feed point.

Then he painted over the dipole and the screws.

Finally He'd connect his feed line to the screws with alligator clips.

He said he made contacts with it, including DX contacts!!

Gerry finished up the FISTS item with "I always wondered - was it an antenna? - Or a PICTURE of an antenna?

(IBM and other equipment used electrographic pencils to mark punch cards and test cards)

OPERATIONAL NEWS - CONTEST COLUMN - D A T E L I N E

AUGUST 11/12 Remembrance Day Contest (The RD) wia.org.au

Please ensure all ELECTRONIC LOGS are sent to rdlogs@wia.org.au

Snail mail? Then get your logs away quickly.

at www.wia.org.au in the RD contest section, are the links to download printable logs and other documents for your use.

Let us all pay homage to the fallen and most of all ENJOY the contest, remembering every point counts, and this year see if we can get another states name on the Trophy.
(peter vk4od)

AUGUST 26-27

ALARA CONTEST.

This ALARA contest is run over 36 hours to give everyone 2 bites at the 80m band.

For OMs only contacts with YLs count, while YLs can count ALL stations.

Club stations operated by YLs are certainly encouraged.

One highlight of the ALARA contest is that you may work the same station after a one hour interval on the same band. So it is worth while staying around a tad longer for that extra contact for both yourself and the other station.

ALL DETAILS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 47 OF JULY'S AR MAGAZINE

CONTEST RESULTS

160 Phone Contest

The propagation conditions were perfect on 160M. - There was no QRN at any stage, and the ZL signals were loud for the entire Contest. There was no customary rise in the first hour, or decline at the finish. Maybe this is why the last hour produced the most contacts for many when, usually, some would be tucked up in bed.

Trevor Buckeridge (ZL1FF) won and collected the Trophy and certificates for 1st 160M Phone, and the Night Owl's "Bucket Mouth Award.

(You might recall that Trevor, a relative new-comer to ham radio and contesting, also won the 80M Phone Contest), - so that will be twice that the Contest Manager Bruce Renn has had to spend $28 on postage. - No light-weight Trophies in the VK/ trans-Tasman !

The team from Frankston and Mornington Peninsular ARC (VK3FRC multi-op), were equal 2nd with Luke Steele (VK3HJ).

Only 30 pts separated VK4WIL, VK2MA, VK2ATZ and VK2AWX (all multi-operator Club stations), in 3rd 4th, 5th and 6th positions respectively.

Mike Dower (VK2ENG) won the certificate for 1st 160M QRP Phone.

This was 160M at its best. Even Contest Manager (VK3JWZ), with a pretty ordinary antenna, was receiving replies from ZL's that he could hardly hear!

All good stuff

D X A C T I V I T Y A N D D A T E S

QSL BUREAU

IQSLUSA ANNOUNCED

Yet another new electronic QSL service has emerged. Calling itself I
QSL USA, the founders says that it is aimed at both electronic as well
paper QSL users and contains several innovative features designed to
make QSLing a lot easier. More information is on-line at
www.iqslusa.com. (VA3FH via qrz.com)

DXpedition Approved for DXCC Credit:

The ARRL DXCC desk reports that the 2007 DXpedition to Burundi, 9U0X, has
been approved for DXCC credit.

ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, said, "If you had cards rejected for
this operation, please send an e-mail
arrl.org> and you will be
placed on the list for update."

THE QNEWS WORK BENCH - the nuts and volts report -
(Measure twice - Cut once!)

All radio amateurs are aware of the potential for interference to radio, TV
and other communication services, causes of it and cures.

Often a plain language or very basic explanation is required for the public
including our neighbours to reach an understanding of what is occurring and
why.

This is important because the presence of an amateur radio station can give
rise to a perception that it is causing interference, when in reality it
could be any number of other resource of interfering radiating.

An excellent resource is the Radio Spectrum Management of New Zealand
website which addresses all general types of interference with text,
television reception screen shots, and a video and an MP3 audio file.

The material is right up to date and describes the effects of interference
on both analogue and digital broadcasting services.

So whether you're a radio amateur experiencing an interference problem, or
just needing to learn more about it, visit the Radio Spectrum Management
website, google it or use the URL that is included in the text edition of
this broadcast.

www.rsm.govt.nz/cms/reception-problems/how-can-i-fix-my-interference

(Jim Linton VK3PC)

BROADCAST MONITORING SWL AND SCANNER NEWS
aus_scanner@yahoogroups.com
http://www.scanaustralia.bigpondhosting.com

www.scanvictoria.com

CELEBRATING THE RADIO BULGARIA DX PROGRAM WITH LZ50DX

Radio Bulgaria's DX Editor Dimiter Petrov, LZ1AF is using the Special Event call sign LZ50DX until December 31 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of his weekly DX Program.

He is active on all bands 160 through 10 meters on CW usually for a while around 05 UTC and after 21.30 UTC on weekdays, as well as more on weekends.

Special QSL cards depicting the people involved in the DX Program and Radio Bulgaria's mighty antenna array will be sent via the LZ QSL Bureau to confirm all contacts and SWL reports. You can also arrange a contact with LZ50DX especially on SSB by e-mail to lz1af@yahoo.com.

Have in mind that he will be on leave vacationing in a tent on the Black Sea coast now (August 5) through 18, thus, no activity on the air! (ARNewsLine)

INTRUDER WATCH - ENFORCEMENT ZONE

Region III IARUMS Coordinator B.L.Manohar (Arasu) VU2UR
r3msc_iaru@rediffmail.com

IARU Monitoring System International Coordinator:-
Robert E. Knowles, ZL1BAD.

Len Martinson, ZL1BYA, is Monitoring Service co-ordinator for the NZART.
Lenmart@clear.net.nz

VK National Coordinator = Karl Hennig VK6XW intruders@wia.org.au

VK IARUMS reflector email to subscribe intruders@wia.org.au

VK Coordinators for I.A.R.U.M.S.
VK3TZE Jimmy intruders@wiavic.org.au
VK5EV John
VK7BBW Paul vk7bbw@bigpond.com

IARUMS NETS
Friday 0730 UTC 7.065.5 with VK4CEU David.

Amateur exclusive frequencies where any non-amateur signal is definitely an intruder, This listing by the late P29KFS, Rick Warnett.

Exclusive amateur only spectrum world wide
7.050 to 7.100
14.000 to 14.250
14.250 to 14.350 No broadcasters
21.000 to 21.450
24.890 to 24.990
28.000 to 29.700

For the last 2 months Amateurs in Adelaide have been gathering information to try and track the owner of what is thought to be a high powered cordless phone operating on 2 Mtr's near the input frequency of the Murray Bridge Repeater VK5RMB.

Several names and phone numbers have been gathered users are hoping to have the owners traced and notified of the illegality of the phones, and heavy fines that can be imposed.

A similar imported long range cordless phone caused interference to SA 147.000 VK5RAD repeater around 2 years ago.

The interference was promptly stopped by the ACA.
(name and call supplied)

BB's DIARY ROOM - THE FUTURE, IN AMATEUR RADIO

2008

Sept 13 Alarameet 2008 will be held in Ulverstone Tasmania on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th September 2008. Susan VK7LUV for details.

2009
International Telecommunication Union's Telecom World 2009.

14th IARU R3 Conference Christchurch 12 - 16 October, 2009.

SOCIAL SCENE

SEPTEMBER 8
SUNSHINE COAST HAMFEST at Woombye School of Arts Hall.

SEPTEMBER 9 Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club Hamfest
St. Augustine's Hall Orr St.

SEPTEMBER 21-23
North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention
Happening in twin cities of Thuringowa and Townsville.

OCTOBER 6
Gold Coast Amateur Radio Society Annual Hamfest at Albert Waterways Hall.

JANUARY 20 2008

The Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group invite all amateurs to attend the 2008 Mid North Coast Radio Expo to be held in Coffs Harbour on Sunday 20th January.

The Expo is held at the St Johns Church Hall, Mc Lean Street, Coffs Harbour. Gary VK2ZKT is the Radio Expo Coordinator on 02 66 55 2 990 or visit the Groups comprehensive web site at www.mncarg.org

REWIND - A LOOK BACK IN HISTORY
(Will McGhie VK6UU is WIA National Historian)

Twiddling during the War!

Our final short story today is sourced from the Australian War Memorial website which contains some fascinating stories about Australian's involvement in war and the following story is about a WREN who was involved in radio interception of German signals in England.

Elizabeth Agar - now Marshall - was visiting England when World War II broke out. She decided her duty lay in war service and joined the Women's Royal Naval Service (Wren) in July 1940 where she was trained to intercept German naval signals.

Her home was in Melbourne but she kept in constant touch with her parents through her detailed letters although she was unable to give much information on the work she was doing.

After an intensive two-week training course at Greenwich Naval College, her first posting was to Portland Bill, a remote wireless receiving station on the Dorset coast. There she was involved in intercepting messages sent by German motor torpedo and gun boats which were attacking Allied convoys.

At Greenwich, she trained to be a 'Special Duties (linguist)' operators," Elizabeth wrote in an article prepared in 1994 for the Portland Naval Base 50th anniversary of the D-Day embarkation.

"We all had a good knowledge of colloquial German and our instruction included learning naval expressions (few of us knew them in English, let alone German), learning to receive and record messages in spoken German (including in German phonetic code) and learning both to think and write fast."

"We also learnt how to work our operational wireless sets so we could intercept and identify messages from our particular targets German motor torpedo or motor gun boats.

When enemy signals were detected there was a burst of hectic activity.

"The speech was sometimes clear but often frustratingly faint and fragmented," Elizabeth recalled. "And those atmospherics! How our ears ached."

Elizabeth said that the really tiring aspect of the watches was the never-ending need for conscientiousness.

"We had, after all, to find the German signals; they did not just come out of a receiver, set on a particular frequency.

"We had to 'twiddle' as we called it that is search the wave band up and down endlessly."

The Wrens were promoted by virtue of their special duties category to Petty Officers but after seven months at Portland Bill, Elizabeth was sent to Kingsgate near Broadstairs in Kent, then to Torquay to open a new station and lastly to Sheringham in Norfolk where she was promoted to Second Officer.

In December 1942 she "married the boss" and at the beginning of 1944 left the service just four months before the birth of twin sons.

The full text of this fascinating article can be found on the email and internet edition of this broadcast.

http://www.australiansatwar.gov.au/stories/stories.asp?war=W2&id=62

(Australian War memorial Website)

THE FINAL FINAL.

WALKS

Jeff VK4XJJ is still going strong on his walk across Australia.

But he still wants to hear from YOU, and it is these calls in particular that keep him going!!

Sunday 5th August in Mt.Isa, a morning disappointment with not many turning up for the fitness walk. After 2 laps Jeff decided to save his walking for the road.

Good hospitality and amazement at the size and splendour of the Irish Club.

Monday 6th left Mt. Isa at noon and walked 11 Km. Many vehicles and 4 stopped to chat. Very winding road and pleasant walking.

Tuesday 7th walked 29 Km, again very pleasant walking. 60 Km west of Cloncurry. Many vehicles and 5 stopped.

Wednesday 8th walked 36 Km. A new daily walk record! Camped under a bridge with a caravan nearby and joining them for a sausage sizzle.
Temperature ranges since Sunday ranging 1 to 29 degrees. 44 Km wet of Cloncurry.

Roughly 400 Km to go to finish the walk.

Jeff asks via WIA News listeners in Qld for some contacts from operators in Cloncurry, Normanton and Karumba. Also any information about their clubs and a possible visit.

Regards,

Bill Johnson VK2FWGJ

Every Day, from 5:30pm Eastern on 40 meters, 7045 put out a call to VK4XJJ

go to www.jeffswalk.com

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WIANews - we've reported...YOU decide.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to
the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may
lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might
even get a "cheerio call".

Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of the National WIA.

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WIANews THANKS OUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS , OUR RELAY OPERATORS ACROSS THE WORLD
FOR FORWARDING INFORMATION AND COMMENTS THEIR LISTENERS HAVE PASSED ON TO MAKE
WIANews VK'S LEADING WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PROGRAM.

_____
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broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au
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quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a
"cheerio call".
Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of QNEWS for the National WIA.
Thanks to to our dedicated band of broadcast volunteers who utilize their time
and equipment in bringing you this weekly broadcast.
The purpose of "WIANews" is to rapidly provide news of interest to active
amateurs residing in Australia and the globe.
We strongly encourage membership in the Wireless Institute of Australia and
participation in the activities of local clubs.
Opinions expressed in "WIANews" are those of the writers who submit material
and do not necessarily reflect those of the rebroadcasters, nor the National
WIA.
Material may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, a credit to
WIANews wouldn't go astray...
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1404. SARL News in English 11/8/2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-11 14:58:09 UTC
From: website@sarl.org.za
Message-ID: <B0F749A7F0924601B9886159CE9DEDDB@toron>
Source record: 4009
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 12 AUGUST 2007

You are listening to ZS6SRL the official Radio Station of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is transmitted every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. To listen to a web stream or Echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links for details.

This, and previous bulletins, can be downloaded from the www.sarl.org.za. You can also read or download previous bulletins from there and subscribe to receive future bulletins by email.

This transmission is by Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with relays on 3,695, 10,135, and 51,400 MHz as well as 438,825 and 1 297 MHz in the Pretoria area. (Other newsreaders please change to suit).

SILENT KEYS

It is with regret that we have to announce the passing of two radio amateurs.

Jimmy Smith, ZR6CC, went silent key on 02 August 2007 after a short illness.

Theo Gunther, ZS6ER, passed away on 7 August 2007.

Our deepest sympathies go to their families and friends.

(PAUSE)

In the news today:

SARL RTA - THE AMATEUR RADIO EVENT OF THE YEAR

SARL@HOME DATE REVISED

DID YOU LISTEN TO SPUTNIK 1?

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

SARL RTA - THE AMATEUR RADIO EVENT OF THE YEAR

The SARL Radio Technology in Action programme finally comes to Gauteng after a successful series presented in KwaZulu-Natal, Eastern Cape,

Western Cape and the Free State. The day will be held at the National Amateur Radio Centre on Saturday 18 August with registration starting at 08:00 and an action packed programme throughout the day. The programme details can be found on the SARL web pages at www.sarl.org.za, click on RTA. If you would like to receive the programme in your mail box or by fax, send an email to armi@sarl.org.za with your email address or a fax number. If you have no access to email, fax the request to 088 011 675 2793.

The SARL Radio Technology in Action programme features presentations and demonstrations of interest to persons who have a passion for radio and technology and are of great interest to the general public. Bring a family member or a friend along and introduce him or her to the magic of amateur radio and the technology that drives it. The registration fee is a low R20, which includes a free entry into the attendance prize draw. Students and learners enter free of charge and take part in a special draw for a number of wireless microphone kits.

The Sentech cafeteria will be open from early morning till the end of the programme for refreshments and light meals.

Do not miss the Amateur Radio Day of the Year - this Saturday 18 August 2007. Directions to the NARC can be found on the SARL web at www.sarl.org.za. There will be a talk-in station on 145,700.

SARL@HOME DATE REVISED

The date advertised for the first SARL@HOME event in last week's SARL News had to be revised because of a double booking. The Sandton Amateur Radio Club will be holding their AGM at the NARC on 15 September. The SARL@HOME event will now be held on 1 September 2007 at 11 am.

Join Rhynardt Louw for a coffee session to talk about what young people expect to get out of Amateur Radio. Learn about Echolink and how to expand your computer into an amateur radio station. There will also be an opportunity to use the Reno Faber ZS6OF memorial amateur radio station at the NARC. Radio Amateurs in other parts of the country are invited to call ZS6SRL on 7 080 kHz and or 14 340 kHz depending on propagation conditions.

Check he SARL Youth pages on www.sarl.org.za, more details will be posted as they become available.

DID YOU LISTEN TO SPUTNIK 1?

If you listened to Sputnik 1 way back in October 1957, we would like to hear your story! We carried this item in last week's SARL News. So far two listeners have responded with their story. There must be many more listeners who heard Sputnik 1. Man's first satellite was launched on October 4, 1957. It was about the size of a basketball, weighed only 183 pounds, and took about 98 minutes to orbit the Earth on its elliptical path.

To celebrate space week from 4 - 10 October the SARL, SA AMSAT and the SA Amateur Radio Development Trust are working together in a special programme to promote science and technology. If you heard the Sputnik signals way back in 1957 tell us what impact it had on you. Did it influence your career choice?

Drop us a line at saamsat@intekom.co.za, we would like to call you to do a brief interview for a special programme.

Read the full Sputnik story and hear the telemetry again in the SARL member section of www.sarl.org.za

INTERNATIONAL LIGHTHOUSE WEEKEND TWO SPECIAL STATIONS

71 Signal Unit

Three members from 71 Signal Unit will be operating the unit's callsign ZS71SIG as a special event station during the International Light House Weekend.

ZS1H,F Pierre, ZS1FH, Frikkie, and ZU1E, Ernie, will be operating from the military training grounds outside Touws River over the period 18 to 19 August 2007. Freq. bands to be used are 160 m, 80 m, 40 m, 30 m, 20 m and 15 m.

BOLAND ARC

The Boland Amateur Radio Club will be taking part in the International Light House weekend from 17 to 19 August. The callsign ZS1BAL/L will be used from the L'Agulhas light house. This is the most southerly light house in Afrika. There will be concentrated on local 80 m and 40 m phone contacts and on digital contacts on the DX bands.

SARL VHF/UHF CONTEST LOGS

The contest logs for the March 2007 SARL VHF/UHF Contest cannot be found and it is requested that stations who submitted logs for this contest, please re-submit the logs to the SARL VHF Manager, Piet Badenhorst, ZS6PJB. The closing date for these logs is Friday 24 August 2007. Logs can be mailed to Piet Badenhorst, ZS6PJB, Box 4452, Whiteriver, 1240 or by e-mail to zs6pjb@gmail.com.

SOUTHERN AFRICAN DX SURVEY

Twenty submissions were used to calculate the Most Wanted DXCC Entities for Southern Africa. It had been hoped that the response would have been better, but maybe next time.

The Most Wanted entity on Phone is Kermadec Island, ZL8, followed by Desecheo Island, KP5, Cocos Island, TI9, Niue, ZK2, and Tokelau Island, ZK3, in second place.

The Most Wanted spot on CW is shared by 3 entities, namely Yemen, 7O, American Samoa, KH8, and North Korea, P5, followed by three more in second place, St Paul Island, CY9, Austral Islands, FO/A and Mount Athos, SV/A.

Thank you to all those who submitted a survey. The complete listing can be obtained by sending a request to zs4bs@netactive.co.za

RAE COURSE IN KEMPTON PARK

The Kempton Park Amateur Radio Technical society has started the RAE course on the 11th of August for the upcomming Class A exam. For more information visit their website at www.kats.za.net or contact Hannes, ZS6LW, on 073 180 3506.

PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the expected solar activity will be at very low levels. The geomagnetic field is expected to be quiet in general while reaching active levels on 16 and 17 August. The expected Effective Sun Spot number for the coming week will be less than 5.

20 m and 40 m will provide best opportunities for DX. There is a possibility of 20 m openings towards India from about 15:00 CAT. Contacts with Australia are going to be very challenging. From 16:00 there may be short 20 m openings towards Europe. For the early birds there is the possibility of short 80 m openings towards the East Coast of the USA at about 04:00. Otherwise contacts to the USA are going to be very challenging.

For the CW and digital enthusiasts it will also be worth monitoring 10 MHz.

Locally conditions on 40 m is going to be good for the mobile contest this afternoon.

It is once again time to work towards your 80 m WAZS award in the evenings. Remember that this is only a prediction and that HF always has the capability to surprise you. You will never know what you are missing unless you switch your rig on, listen and also call CQ.

Please visit www.spaceweather.co.za for further information.

DIARY OF EVENTS

Today 12 August - SARL 40 Metre Mobile Contest; 17 - 19 August - International Light House weekend; 18 August - Radio Technology in Action day in Gauteng; 23 August - Class B RAE; 1 September - SARL@HOME; 4 - 10 October - Special space programme; 6 October - SA AMSAT Space Conference; 18 October - Class A RAE.

SARL News invites clubs and individuals to submit news stories of interest to radio amateurs and shortwave listeners. Submit news stories if possible in both English and Afrikaans to www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date.

The SARL also invites you to listen to the programme Amateur Radio Mirror International, on the air every Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 590

kHz. For the web stream and echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links. A repeat transmission can be heard Mondays at 21:00 CAT on 3 215 kHz. Sentech sponsor the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

Today's South African Radio League news bulletin was compiled by Gustav,ZS6BWN, and transmitted by (your name and call sign)

Thank you for listening. 73

/EX

========== Message Ends ========== To edit or remove your entry from this mailing list go to www.sarl.org.za/members/admin/maildat.asp

1405. GB2RS NEWS Sunday 12 August 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-11 19:54:47 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200708111900.l7BJ0Bv08587@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4010
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

1 GB2RS NEWS Sunday 12 August

The news headlines

* Scout station GB100J talks to astronauts

* OFCOM publishes proposals for 10GHz

* HF Convention approaches On the evening of Saturday 4 August, ten Scouts spoke to astronaut Clayton Anderson aboard the International Space Station. The Scouts operated as GB100J from the World Scout Jamboree camp near Chelmsford. The ISS link was facilitated by Carlos Eavis, G0AKI, and Howard Long, G6LVB. The Scouts asked Clayton, KD5PLA, diverse questions including what happens to your tears when you cry in space.

Running from 27 July to 8 August, the Jamboree attracted over 40,000 Scouts, venturers, leaders and staff. More than 500 packed the tent where the contact took place. Hundreds more listened to the proceedings from outside.

OFCOM have recently published proposals with relevance to the 3cm band. The proposals concern the award and auction of spectrum at 10GHz to 40GHz. One range of frequencies under consideration coincides with the 3cm Amateur Satellite Service allocation. Details are on the Ofcom web site and specific links can be found in the News section of the RSGB web site.

A reminder about the RSGB HF Convention on 12 to 14 October. This year's convention is at a new venue, Wyboston Lakes, in Bedfordshire. As usual there is a full lecture programme and the chance to meet the world's top HF operators and DXers. Full details of the convention are at www.rsgb.org/hfc. Listeners may like to know that the Early Bird booking discount offer ends on Tuesday 14 August.

The Eastbourne and Wealden RAYNET Group is setting out to find fresh faces to sign up. It has one of the busiest event calendars in the country and an active engineering committee. The committee investigates various operating modes and automatic position reporting systems.

The group itself has been established for many years. Licensed new members are preferred although SWL's are also needed to assist in logging and other duties. Age is no barrier to membership.

If you live in East Sussex or the Kent and West Sussex borders and would like to join, make contact by email to

dick.jeffries@raynet-uk.net or telephone to 01323 845418.

On 26 August, 1500 riders are expected to be cycling from Seahouses to Prior's Haven at Tynemouth for the Chris Lucas Trust in aid of Children's Cancer. East Durham RAYNET is the control group for the event, with assistance provided by North West Durham, South West Durham, Sunderland and Northumberland RAYNET groups. The Group request additional assistance for this event. Anyone available to help can contact the Deputy Controller Mr Owen Smith on 0191 569 3484 or 07906 965787 with their details and availability for the event. The organisers have a website for the event at www.chrislucastrust.com.

Foyle and District Amateur Radio Club recently travelled to St Angelo airport in Enniskillen to run a station during for the jet world masters model aircraft competition. The club was there for the final two days

2 of the event. Propagation conditions were disappointing, but a good number of contacts were made, mainly on 20m and 40m bands. There were model aircraft contestants from 33 countries and 115 contestants at the competition, which was won by the German team.

And now for the details of rallies and events for the coming week

[Note to newsreaders: please exercise your judgement on which of the 12 August events to read out, based on your service area and time of transmission. No events have been notified to us for the coming week.] On Sunday 12 August the Flight Refuelling ARS Hamfest takes place from 1000 at the Cobham Sports and Social Club Ground, Merley, Near Wimborne, Dorset BH21 1RJ. Talk-in will be provided on S22. On Sunday 12 August the Kings Lynn Amateur Radio Club Rally takes place at Kings Lynn Caravan and Camping Park on the A47 approximately 3 miles east of Kings Lynn. Details on the web at www.klarc.org.uk. More details of these and future events can be found on pages 88 and 89 of the August edition of RadCom. Now for the news of special events

Special event station GB2GSS will be on the air using HF and VHF on 15 August from the Gillingham and Shaftesbury Show. As in previous years the station will be operated by members of the Blackmore Amateur Radio Society. QSLs via the bureau. Special event station GB2GSS will be on the air using HF and VHF on 15 August from the Gillingham and Shaftesbury Show. As in previous years the station is operated by members of the Blackmore Amateur Radio Society. QSLs via the bureau. Special event GM1BKF will be operating as GM1BKF/M until 17 August from Lochaber, Gleneagles and the Cairngorm local areas on 2 metres only. A special event station GB1SL will be on the air from the Skerries Lighthouse for this years International Lighthouse and Lighthouse Weekend on 18 and 19 August. This will be the first activation from the Skerries, the Lighthouse situated in a group of Islands off the Anglesey coast in the Irish Sea. Operation on 80 and 40 metres CW and SSB, 20 metres SSB and 6 metres. QSL via bureau or via GW0VML. Special event station GB4SML will be on the air on 18 and 19 August. Borders

Rievers Amateur Radio Society will be activating from Saint Mary's Lighthouse Tynemouth Tyne Wear. Operation will be on the HF, VHF and UHF bands and they will be allocating 15 to 20 minute periods for M3s and QRP stations only to call in. All visitors are welcome further information can be accessed via the web site at www.bras.co.uk. And now the HF DX news compiled from 425 DX News, the Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin and other sources.

Nick, UE1SNA, RA1QQ, Alexey, RA1QY and Dmitriy, RN3GM, plan to operate as homecall/1 from several Russian islands in the EU-162 IOTA group until 14 August. QSL via home calls. When operating from a lighthouse, they will be using UE1RLH/1. QSL via RA1QY.

Marco, IK1ACX, reports he will operating from Pag Island (EU-170) until 18 August. Special station TM2HRH will be active until 19 August to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the birth of Heinrich Rudolf Hertz. QS via bureau to F6KTN.

3 Fabio, IW1DFU, will be active as IA5/IW1DFU from Elba Island (EU-028, IIA LI-001) on 12 to 31 August. He expects to operate mainly CW on 20 and 30 metres, with some SSB activity on 20 and 40 metres, running 100 watts into vertical and/or dipole antennas. QSL via home call, direct or bureau. Marco, IZ6ASI, will participate in the International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend 18 to 19 August as IZ6ASI/p from the lighthouse at Senigallia, ARLHS ITA-181, WAIL MA-004. Expect activity on 10, 15, 20, 40 and 80 metres SSB. During the lighthouse weekend 18 and 19 August Bekir Kemal Ataman, TA2RX, will be making a dxpedition to Gelidonia lighthouse in Antalya, Turkey, to operate as TC4LHW. David, F1JXQ, will be active as FG/F1JXQ from Guadeloupe (NA-102) until 20 August. He operates SSB and is likely to be found on 10 to 6 metres and 2m between 10 and 16 UTC. QSL direct to home call. Now the contest news The SARTG RTTY takes place on 18 and 19 August at various times on RTTY mode, on the 3.5 to 28MHz bands. The exchange takes the form of RST and serial number. The RSGB 432MHz activity evening takes place on 14 August between 2200 to 2230 local on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number, locator and postal district. The RSGB 70MHz Trophy Contest takes place on 19 August between 0900 to 1500 on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number, locator and postal district. Now the solar factual data for the period from 30 July to 5 August, compiled by Neil Clarke, G0CAS

The solar disc was spotless until a single spot rotated into view on the 3rd. Solar activity was very low. Solar flux levels varied between 68 and 70 units and the average was 69 units. The 90 day solar flux average had remained at 74 units for the last 8 weeks, however, this week it declined by two units to 72. X-ray flux levels remained below the minimum A1 level everyday. Geomagnetic activity started at unsettled levels due to a coronal hole, the Ap on the 1st was 17 units. Activity then declined to quiet levels. On the 4th and the 5th the Ap was only 2 units. The average was Ap 7 units. The ACE spacecraft saw solar wind speeds peak at 660 kilometres per second on the 1st but then

declined to 290 by the 5th. Particle densities remained below 10 Particles per cubic centimetre throughout the period. Bz varied between minus 7 and plus 8 nanoTeslas on the 1st and between minus and plus 2 nanoTeslas on the quiet days. HF conditions have been unexciting, as often happens at this time of year, though 14MHz at times sparked into life, particularly on north-south paths. The band is still staying open until late evening. Sporadic-E is tailing off, but occurred daily at 28MHz and, less often, on 70 and 50MHz. The new OZ 40MHz beacon was heard several times. And finally the solar forecast. This week the quiet side of the Sun is expected to be looking our way. The Sun could become spotless during the week. Solar activity should be very low. Solar flux levels are expected to be between the mid to high 60's. Geomagnetic activity should start at quiet levels, however, around midweek a recurring coronal hole is expected to increase activity. This particular coronal hole as already lasted 6 solar rotations, with the

4 hole changing shape and size each rotation. Back at the end of April the disturbance lasted 4 days with the most disturbed day having an Ap of 26 units. On the last rotation, it only lasted 2 days with an Ap index of 12 units on both days. Quieter conditions are expected to return by the weekend. One solar rotation lasts approximately 28 days, as seen from Earth. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitudes should be around 17MHz for the south and 14MHz for the north. The darkness hour lows should be about 9MHz. Paths this week to South Africa should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success rate of about 22MHz. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success rate will be around 18MHz. The best time to try this path will be between 0800 and 1700 hours UTC. Sporadic-E should take place on some days, particularly on 28MHz and to a lesser extent on 50MHz and above. And that's all for this week from the propagation team.

5 Next, the Local News:

Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses

and website links where known.

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your

transmission.]

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST

and EAST ANGLIA On Sunday 12 August Brede Steam Amateur Radio Society is operating from the bunker. Contact Steve, M0SSR, on 01424 720 815.

On Sunday 12 August Harwich Amateur Radio Interest Group is having a lecture on solar propagation software by Carl Thomson, G3PEM. Contact James, M0ZZO, on 01255 242 746.

On Sunday 12 August King's Lynn Amateur Radio Club is having its rally. Contact Andy, G1KLP, on or on the web at www.klarc.org.uk.

On Sunday 12 August Southdown Amateur Radio Society is operating G1KAR at Beachy Head. Contact John, G3DQY, on 01424,424,319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

On Monday 13 August Basingstoke Amateur Radio Club is having a club meeting. Contact Frank, M0AEU, by email to barc@2lo.info.

On Monday 13 August Coulsdon Amateur Transmitting Society is having a BBQ hosted by G4RWW. Contact Andy, G8JAC, on g8jac@btinternet.com.

On Wednesday 15 August Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is having a discussion night. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

On Wednesday 15 August Dover Radio Club is having a school holiday BBQ at Kearsney Abbey. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk.

On Wednesday 15 August Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is doing its initial planning for JOTA. Contact Jim, M1JJN.

On Wednesday 15 August Havering and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on everything you ever needed to know about repeaters. Contact Dave, 2E0EBV, on 07956 594 514.

On Wednesday 15 August Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is having its antenna erection challenge with Rex, G0CLR. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

On Wednesday 15 August Southdown Amateur Radio Society Operating at Halisham. Contact John, G3DQY, on 01424,424,319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

On Wednesday 15 August Worthing and District Amateur Radio Club is having a BBQ evening. Contact Roy, G4GPX, on 01903 753 893.

On Thursday 16 August Horsham Amateur Radio Club is having a social evening at The Cricketers' Arms, Wisborough Green. Contact or on the web at www.harc.org.uk.

On Thursday 16 August Sutton and Cheam Radio Society is having a talk on the history of Decca by Peter Skinner, G7MLJ. Contact John, G0BWV, on 020 8644 9945, or by email to info@scrs.org.uk.

6 On Friday 17 August Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is having a radio night and table top sale. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Friday 17 August Torbay Amateur Radio Society is preparing for its rally. Contact Dave, G6FSP, by email to g6fsp@tars.org.uk.

On Friday 17 August Wey Valley Amateur Radio Group is having a club night and putting G6XN on the air. Details are on the web at www.weyvalleyarg.org.uk.

On Saturday 18 August Andover Amateur Radio Club is running its foundation licence course. Contact G0HKC on 01980 594 892.

On Saturday 18 August Dover Radio Club is taking part in International Lighthouse and Lightship weekend, operating GB2SFL at South Foreland Lighthouse. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk.

On Saturday 18 August Harwich Amateur Radio Interest Group activating a special event station for the Harwich Low Light as part of lighthouses weekend. Contact James, M0ZZO, on 01255 242 746.

On Saturday 18 August Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is taking part in lighthouses on the air. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Saturday 18 August Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is taking part in lighthouses on the air weekend at Happisburgh. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

On Saturday 18 August Southdown Amateur Radio Society is operating GB2BTL at Belle Toute Lighthouse. Contact John, G3DQY, on 01424,424,319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

On Sunday 19 August Basingstoke Amateur Radio Club is having a foxhunt. Contact Frank, M0AEU, by email to barc@2lo.info.

On Sunday 19 August Brede Steam Amateur Radio Society is operating from the bunker. Contact Steve, M0SSR, on 01424 720 815.

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST

On Monday 13 August Cornish Radio Amateur Club is having a computer section meeting. Contact Ian on 01872 561 058.

On Wednesday 15 August South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is having its summer darts match. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282.

On Wednesday 15 August Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is on the air. Contact Tony, G0WMB, by email to tonytsgarc@beeb.net.

On Thursday 16 August Yeovil Amateur Radio Club is having a Discussion on construction led by G6LLP. Contact Gary, 2E0BFJ by email to g.swain@tesco.net.

NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS

On Monday 13 August Gloucester Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is having a walk and picnic at Newnham. Contact Anne, 2E1GKY, on 01452 548478, daytime.

On Monday 13 August Stourbridge and District Amateur Radio Society is having an open shack night. Contact John, M1EJG, on 01562 700 513.

7 On Tuesday 14 August Eagle Radio Group is having a talk by Olga Olshvang on the City of Yekateringburg in Russia. Contact Terry, G0SWS,

on 07979 733 640.

On Tuesday 14 August Loughborough and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on the history of television by Barry, G8YGT. Contact Chris, G1ETZ, on 01509 504 319.

On Wednesday 15 August Lincoln Short-Wave Club is having a news and views evening. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

On Wednesday 15 August Telford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a local area walking DF hunt on 2 metres. Contact Mike, G3JKX, on 01952 299 677, or by email to mjstreetg3jkx@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Thursday 16 August Salop Amateur Radio Society is having its summer social. Contact Glenda, G1YJB, on 01939 235 412.

On Friday 17 August Coventry Amateur Radio Society is having a 2m DF and portable night. Contact John, G8SEQ, on 02476 273 190, or by email to johng8seq@ntlworld.com.

On Friday 17 August Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is having a 2m VHF mobile fox hunt. Details on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

On Saturday 18 August Worcester Radio Amateurs Association is having a family day at Blackrock car park. Request details by email to info@wraa.co.uk.

NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

On Monday 13 August Sheffield Amateur Radio Club is having an open table meeting. Contact Trevor, M0TWS.

On Monday 13 August Thornton Cleveleys Amateur Radio Society is having a computer CW night with Ted, G3WBB. Contact Jack, G4BFH, by email to jack.duddington@btinternet.com.

On Tuesday 14 August Halifax and District Amateur Radio Society is having a technical evening and natter night at Rishworth. Contact Brenda, 2E0YKS, by email to wrenuk10@yahoo.com.

On Tuesday 14 August Pontefract District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on erecting and using your doublet with a portable station. Contact Colin, G0NQE, on 01977 677 006, info@pontefractradioclub.org.

On Tuesday 14 August Wakefield and District Amateur Radio Society is having a construction evening with the shack manager Dave, G6SSF. Contact Dave, G4CLI, on 07748 221 855, or by email to g4cli@hotmail.co.uk.

On Wednesday 15 August Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is on the air. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Friday 17 August South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is having a talk on satellite working by G3ZDM and G4EDM. Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999.

On Friday 17 August Tynemouth Radio Club is having an operating and Morse night. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

NEWS FOR SCOTLAND

On Thursday 16 August Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on printed circuits by Tony, GM4HTU. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

8 On Saturday 18 August Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is taking part in the International Lighthouse and Lightship weekend by operating GB3GNL at Girdleness Lighthouse. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

On Saturday 18 August Cockenzie and Port Seton Amateur Radio Club is taking part in the Lighthouse Weekend from Barns Ness, operating GB2LBN. Contact Bob, GM4UYZ, on 01875 811 723.

On Saturday 18 August Moray Firth Amateur Radio Society is taking part in the Lighthouse Weekend. Contact Jim, MM0SMD, on 01340 820 134.

NEWS FOR WALES

On Saturday 18 August Swansea Amateur Radio Society is taking part in International Lighthouse and Lightship weekend from the Helwick light vessel, Swansea marina. Contact Roger, GW4HSH, on 01792 404422.

NEWS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

No news items have been received for Northern Ireland this week. And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast,

prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

1406. IRTS Radio News Bulletin, Sunday August 12th 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-12 20:02:06 UTC
From: news at irts dot ie <devnull@panix.com>
Message-ID: <200708122000.l7CK06n16532@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4011
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Irish Radio Transmitters Society
Radio News Bulletin

Sunday August 12th 2007

Notice from ComReg

ComReg would like to advise all Experimenters that there is currently a delay in the issue of Experimenter Renewals. During this delay, unless previously expressly indicated, no experimenter whose fee has been submitted is restricted from operating within normal licence conditions.

Church Broadcasts

For some weeks now we have been carrying an item about broadcasts of Mass from a Church in the north Dublin area on 28.105 MHz FM. We asked stations to listen out for these transmissions on weekdays at 1000 hrs and on Sundays at 0900, 1000, 1100 and 1200 local time to try to identify the Church concerned. We also asked that stations in the Dublin area take bearings on the transmissions to try to at least identify the general area from which the transmissions originate. The response to these requests has been, to say the least, disappointing. Are we not concerned about who uses our Exclusive frequency allocations? We should be as every other radio service is, and takes very seriously any encroachment on their frequencies. We would appeal again to stations in the Dublin area to put a little effort into identifying the source of the transmissions so that details can be forwarded to ComReg. We are getting international reports on these transmissions and we have an obligation to do something about them.

We have now also received reports of transmission of Mass on 28.285 MHz. We do not have any idea yet where this transmission is originating. We would ask stations countrywide to listen on 28.285 MHz FM at the appropriate times in their areas so that this station can also be identified If you hear anything worth reporting you should send a report to Thos Caffrey

EI2JD the IRTS Intruder Watch coordinator at QTHR or to

�thoscaffrey at hotmail dot com� with a copy to Sean
Nolan EI7CD at QTHR or to �ei7cd at gofree dot indigo
dot ie�.

The report should include date, time, frequency, signal strength, possible location of station if identified, beam heading in degrees from true north and any other relevant information. If the station is identified from an announcement of local events, details should be given. Should you hear anything, no action should be taken other than forwarding a report as requested.

A Note of Caution for Amateurs Purchasing Equipment in the UK

Information has been passed to us concerning what appears to be a fraudulent operation involving the sale of Radio Equipment and which has been conducted through a series of small ads in recent editions of genuine Radio Magazines. The equipment is being sold using an address in Oxford and another in the Isle of Wright and is generally described as a �Silent Key� or �Per pro� sale. Payment may be requested direct to an �Executor� as opposed to the actual person advertising and this scam has already cost one of our more trusting Members in excess of 1500 Euro to date.

Members should therefore be aware of this racket and anyone who already suffered loss or who should come into contact with these people are asked to contact Andy EI4ERB @ QTHR or Mobile 086 2752669.

EI0MAR

Recently, a five-band Cobweb antenna was erected at EI0MAR (Howth Martello Radio Group). The Group thanks Jack (EI7HX) for his kind donation of the antenna. Previously, a vertical antenna had to be raised and lowered each time the station was activated. The Cobweb is now permanently installed and allows instant operation of the station by eliminating the hassle associated with the temporary vertical antenna. A permanent 40-metre dipole was also erected recently and now EI0MAR can be QRV on all bands from 40 to 10. At a pinch, even 80 metres can be squeezed in with the LDG Z-100 automatic ATU, as a recent QSO with Tom EI1CW in Carlow confirmed. EI0MAR is located in the vintage radio museum in Howth and is open every day from 11 until 4 until the end of October and at

weekends from November until the end of April. EI0MAR is QRV most Sundays between 11 and 3. The Group's web site can be found by entering EI0MAR into an Internet search engine.

CQIR

Great interest is being expressed worldwide in the Society's 75th Anniversary Contest CQIR, which will take place on the last weekend in September. The contest is a celebration of Ireland and the Irish, throughout the world and with 40 million people in the United States alone claiming Irish forefathers; we expect that CQIR will be one of the largest 'one off' contests ever aired on the Amateur Bands. It is a 24-hour single operator contest with the emphasis on participation rather than winning and to this end every participant gains an entry ticket for a spectacular draw for every 75 QSO's made during the Contest.

The ticket drawn out of the EI/GI drum will win an all expenses paid long weekend in New York City for two people. ARRL have confirmed that this will include a visit to their national headquarters hosted by ARRL. Kinnitty Castle in Offaly will host the international winners for a week with flights for two from anywhere in the world. The prizes have been fully sponsored at no cost to the Society and this is really an excellent opportunity to celebrate the Society and its 75 years of service to Irish experimenters. We would encourage all Irish operators to be active during the Contest. So ring fence the last weekend of September in your diary, make an effort to have that new antenna up for the event and lets ensure a good show from the local Irish operators to support the international Irish who will no doubt come on the bands in their thousands for the contest. Full rules are on the IRTS website.

ILLW

The International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend will take place from 0001 UTC on the 18th of August to 2359 UTC on the 19th of August. A list of entrants and application from are available on illw.net. This event is not a contest and each station's operators decide how they will operate their station regards modes and bands. Participants are not committed to being on the air during the entire period. There are no restrictions on aerials or power.

The activity does not have to take place inside the tower itself. Field day type set-up at the lighthouse or other building nearby is OK. Complete guidelines are available at illw.net.

South Dublin Radio Club

Weekly meetings of South Dublin Radio Club will resume as usual at 8 p.m. on Tuesday the 14th of August in the Ballyroan community Centre on the Marian road in Rathfarnam. The next SDR event is a lighthouse activation during Lighthouse on the Air on Saturday the 18th and Sunday the 19th of August. They will be activating Saint Johns Point Lighthouse in County Down.

Field Days and Contests

The 2 metres counties contest will take place on the 26th of August. The SSB field day will take place over the first weekend (1st and 2nd) of September. Again the grounds of Garbally College, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway will be available, thanks to Niall EI4CF and once again the Shannon Basin Club will be hosting their now famous Barbeque. Of course, the big event will be CQIR over the last weekend, so plenty to look forward to.

Upcoming Rallies

Cork Radio Club Rally will take place on Sunday the 23rd of September in the Blarney Park Hotel. For information contact Con on 021-427136.

The Waterford Rally will take place on Sunday the 21st of October in the Woodlands Hotel, Waterford. For more information visit www.searg.com.

The Foyle and District Rally will take place on Sunday the 4th of November 2007 at the White Horse Hotel, Derry. For more information visit www.mn0aku.org.uk.

The Mayo Radio Rally will take place on Sunday the 18th of November in the Belmount Hotel, Knock, Co. Mayo. For more information contact Padraic Baynes, EI9JA @ QTHR.

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall, EI7IS at QTHR or by phone to 051-853806 or 087-6302026. Items for the radio news can also be faxed to 087 5 6302026. News should be submitted via e-mail to ﷺnews at irts dot ieﷺ for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news

services. Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Friday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday's bulletin.

1407. Re: Whatever Happened to the Electronics Hobbyist?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-13 13:35:42 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <f9pmj6$1jac$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4012

Ivor Jones wrote:
> "Gri¿½mwi¿½tch thi¿½ i¿½nfli¿½ppi¿½bli¿½"
> <Gri¿½mwi¿½tch@NOSPAM.THANKS.IM.FULL.lycos.co.de> wrote in
> message news:f94s1u$s66$1@aioe.org
>> "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net> wrote in
>> message news:46b4d0e3$0$313$540ea2cf@novia.net...
>>
>>> "Whatever Happened to the Electronics Hobbyist?"
>>>
>> Part (not all) of the allure of kits and homebrewing was
>> "I can build it cheaper than buying". The price of labor
>> has gone down as a percentage of manufacturing costs, so
>> purchased-ready-built has gone down over the years.
>> 73, BGO
>
> I've never been a great constructor, due in part to the fact that I've
> never lived anywhere with sufficient space to have a decent workbench.
>
> However, the one item I did build of which I am still intensely proud was
> a terminal unit for a good old mechanical teleprinter to use on RTTY, back
> in the days before computers ruined it ;-)

I believe that there are still significant numbers of builders out
there. I'm one of them, and I know quite a few others.

Paul's link to the story that speaks to the issue is a very good read,
even if I'm not in total agreement, simply because as a person who is
hooked on creating things, I always wondered why more people weren't
into the activity.

There probably will never be a lot of us though, and as our buying
patterns shift to the internet instead of local parts stores, we become
a bit more obscure.

There's nothing like assembling and operating on a piece of equipment
that you build yourself. If you did the actual design, it's an even
bigger treat - taking nothing away from building from a kit though. It's
all good.

Just in the last couple years, I've built:

VHF/UHF J-Pole antenna
1/4 wave VHF Ground plane
2 OCF Dipoles
General purpose dipoles and band specific dipoles.
40-15 meter magloop antenna

UHF yagis (in progress)
Parabolic GHz antenna (in progress)
Digital interface boxes for soundcard modes and computer control of rigs.
Radio direction finders.(in progress)
custom mic/headsets
Shack interfaces

Transceivers have indeed become pretty complex, and are now a niche
market for builders - but they are still out there.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1408. [DXNL] DXNL 1532 (Aug 15, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-13 22:17:15 UTC
From: Robert Busch - DL7VOA <dxnl@dxhf.darc.de>
Message-ID: <142107157113.20070814001232@dxhf.darc.de>
Source record: 4013
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.dx,rec.radio.info

DXNL 1532 - Aug 15, 2007
DX Newsletter

a free and weekly service of
DARC Committee "DX and HF contesting"
(http://www.darcdxhf.de)

editor: Helmut Schlaffer, DL7MAE
(e-mail: dxnl@dxhf.darc.de)

translation by: Bob, DL7VOA
(e-mail: dl7voa@darc.de)

A6 - UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
Don,N1DG, is staying in the Emirates from Aug 15-18 and is QRV as A61AD
mainly in RTTY and in CW. QSLs unfortunately only direct or via LotW.

EA8 - CANARY ISLANDS, AF-004
Hans,EA8/ON6ZK, is hitting the airwaves from Teneriffa (AF-004) with
only 25 watts mostly in SSB on 20m/17m from Aug 15-22.
QSL via bureau preferred to ON6ZK.

FG - GUADELOUPE, NA-102
David,F1JXQ, showed up as TO1USB (instead of FG/F1JXQ like announced
in DXNL 1530) on 14.195 MHz from Guadeloupe (NA-102). QSL via F1JXQ.

KH4 - MIDWAY ATOLL, OC-030
The Midway atoll is one of the most wanted DXCC entities (as seen from
Europe). Its scarcity value increased over the past few years after
Midway has been closed to the public in January 2002. Carolyn Bohan,
the regional head of the "National Wildlife Refuge Pacific Region
(US Fish and Wildlife Service)" gave her blessing to a visitor plan,
which could come into effect in November 2007 or January 2008. This
plan explicitly includes amateur radio activities but restrictions may
apply to the antennas. They must be designed in a way not to harm any
birds on Midway.

OJ0 - MARKET REEF, EU-053
OH0RJ, OH2BH, OH2PM, SM0W and SM6U intended to land on Market Reef on
Aug 11 and planned to show up as OJ0B (QSL via OH2BH) with two stations
the same day. OJ0B is working in CW/SSB until Aug 16.

They will be replaced by OH2HAN, OH2MZB and OH2LU as OJ0MI (via OH2HAN)
who will be active mainly in RTTY. During the upcoming International
Lighthouse Weekend (Aug 18/19) OJ0MI can be found between 14.250 and
14.260 MHz. They announced to be QRV on following frequencies:

CW: 25 kHz from the lower band edge
SSB: 3.790, 7.040, 14.190, 18.140, 21.290 MHz
They will use brand new FT-2000 radios and SteppIR antennas. If you are collecting stamps you may want to request your QSL card enclosed with 7 EUR (or 10 US$) from the QSL manager and get a special stamp from Market Reef. Reports and several pictures from the earlier DXpedition OJ0B (2005) can be found at http://www.kolumbus.fi/oh2bn/pagemarket.htm

OX - GREENLAND, NA-243
Johan,OX/PA3EXX/p, will activate the new IOTA island Rathbone (NA-243) from Aug 19-23. QSLs will be confirmed after his return direct or via bureau to PA3EXX.

SV9 - CRETE, EU-015
Ghis,SV9/ON5NT, is going to spend his holidays on Crete (EU-015) from Aug 16-23. QSLs via his homecall.

V5 - NAMIBIA
Alfons,DJ8VC, will stay in Namibia from Aug 23 until Sep 8 and plans to become QRV as V5/DJ8VC working in CW/SSB on 10-160m. On Sep 1/2 he will join other OMs from Namibia as V55V/p in the IARU Region 1 SSB Fieldday Contest. He is using the shack of Martin,V51W, and can has the choice between wires, a rhombic and several yagi antennas. He also plans to take part in the WAE SSB Contest at the end of his operation (Sep 8/9). QSL cards for V5/DJ8VC and V55V/p (only for THIS Fieldday) will be confirmed by Alfons after his return home.

VP9 - BERMUDA ISLANDS, NA-005
Seppo,VP9/OH1VR, announced to become QRV from Bermuda (NA-005) mainly in CW from Aug 19-21. QSLs via homecall.

7O - YEMEN
Chris Lorek,G4HCL, has the written permission to work under supervision signing 7O/G4HCL on all bands during his business trip from Aug 13-15. You should listen on 14.170 and 14.260 MHz and it is very likely that most of the operation will take place only in SSB on 20m. Chris already notes that the papers he has may not be good enough for an approval by the DXCC Desk.
QSLs only direct via G4HCL, PO Box 400, Eastleigh SO53 4ZF, England.

9X - RUANDA
Peter Stabusch,DL8YA (ex 5Z4SP and 9H1FV), writes that official amateur radio licenses are issued again in Ruanda since July 12. He was lucky enough to get his former callsign 9X5SP which he got allocated before back in April 1967. Peter is working for the "Deutsche Welle" in Kigali and helps to build up the "Rwanda Amateur Radio Union" (RARU). He is using an Atlas 210X with a dipole for 20m. QSLs for 9X5SP via DL8YR.

HUNGARY, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
The 5th International Congress for the New Evangelisation which will take place in Budapest on Sep 15-22. The special event call HG5MISSION is activated until Sep 30. QSL via bureau.

NEW PREFIXES FOR BOSNIA-HERCEGOVINA, E7
The ITU has allocated the prefix block E7A-E7Z to Bosnia-Hercegovina,
but changing all the callsigns may last until the end of the year.
Jahresende dauern, bis der Wechsel aller Rufzeichen abgeschlossen ist.

PUBLISHING LOGS AND LOSING DXCC CREDIT...
The magazine "CQ" published all logs of the last CQWW DX Contests at:
http://www.cqww.com/cwlogs.htm and http://www.cqww.com/ssblogs.htm
In the future DXers have to be aware that it is possible to lose DXCC
credit for QSOs made during those contests. Rule 5 in section III of
the DXCC rules writes that publishing logs "...creates a question as to
the integrity of the claimed QSOs ... and may be considered sufficient
reason to deny ARRL award credit for contacts with any station for
which such presentations have been made." Falk,DK7YY, who is a field-
checker of the ARRL sent a query to the DXCC Desk and the DXCC manager
Bill Moore,NC1L, answered that he cannot make any statement questioning
this rule. With other words: If a DXpedition submits its CQWW log, it
can be assumed that its DXCC approval is denied as well. Country and
band chasers will cease their contest participation and may focus on
chasing the DX before and after the contest weekends!

SILENT KEY: Dick Wolf,N6FF (ex KL7H), passed away on Aug 1 at the age of 68.
He took part in many DXpeditions, was a passionate lowband DXer and
QSL manager of many DX stations. Most of these logs have been uploaded
to the LoTW. See also the homepage: http://www.n6ff.net

LINKS: Current SOTA activities (mountain summits) are announced at:
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/activations.php or
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/spots.php

UPCOMING CONTESTS

Aug 18/19: SARTG RTTY Contest and Keymen's Club of Japan Contest

IOTA collected by Fredy,DE0MST (e-mail: iota@dxhf.darc.de)

Island activities:
EU-017, ID9, Eolie (Lipari) Islands: Mauro,ID9/IK3SCB, will be active from
Lipari Island (ME-001) from Aug 18-24. QSL via homecall.

EU-055, LA, Fjordane/Hordaland/Rogaland: Henk,LA/PA3FMC, and Ruud,LA/PE1BTV,
will activate Utvaer Island from Aug 16-23. Check also:
http://la2007.dxpedition.nl

Preview to the International Lighthouse Weekend 2007 (Aug 18/19):
Callsign Lighthouse WLOTA ARLHS

GB1SL The Skerries 0386 WAL-030
GB2BTL Belle Tout ENG-006
AY7X Baliza Escarpados ARG-081
VE3CJ Point Clark CAN-388
VE3REK Christian Island 1670 CAN-136
VO1VON Cape Spear 0345 CAN-148

OH1AH Utoe 1304 FIN-074
OH6NR Rovargrund FIN-088
OH3V Salgrund FIN-051
DF0LH Darsser Ort FED-070
EA8/ON6ZK Tenerife 1276
LA/PA3FMC Utvaer 2373 NOR-26
DF0WFB/LH Oland 0712 FED-174
SN2NP Gdansk Nowy Port POL-033
GB2SCA Scarborough ENG-121
OJ0MI Market Reef 0542 MAR-001
9A0LH Susak 0444 CRO-050
XR1H Huasco CHI-081
CV7FARO Colonia del Sacramento URU-007
CQ7C Cabo Carvoeiro POR-006
CQ5N Nazare POR-032
TM4CR Creaci¿œh 0208 FRA-029
II4GOR Goro ITA-073
SV8/IZ7FLP Zakynthos 0209
TC1LHW Karaburun TUR-036
TC4LHW Taslik Burnu (Gelidonia) TUR-049
W2T Tuckeri¿œs USA-911

Lighthouse activities (WLOTA/ARLHS)

EA8/GM0IIO LH 0099 Aug 10-16
9A/IK1ACX LH 1796 Aug 11-18
9A/IZ3GNG LH 0416 Aug 16-19
OX/HB9FMD LH 0072 Aug 17-27
IK3SCB/ID9 LH 1144/ITA-222 Aug 18-24
EG3ME LH 0793/SPA 161 Aug 25/26
OZ/DF8HS LH 0726 Aug 26-Sep 8
DJ5MS/p LH 0518/FED 102 Aug 27-29

Bandspots of the last 7 days

80m
OH0/DJ3KR 3.502 2056Z via DJ3KR (B)

40m
IY6GM 7.078 1520Z via I6GFX (B)
OZ/DK4DS 7.022 0602Z EU-125, via DK4DS (B)

30m
OH0/DJ3KR 10.102 1530Z via DJ3KR (B)
3A2MW 10.105 1533Z (B)

20m
CU3F 14.266 1040Z EU-175, via CT1FMX (B)
LX007G 14.020 0825Z via LX1KC (B)
OH3OJ/p 14.260 0702Z EU-096
RA1QKI/1 14.024 0544Z EU-160
SF89IB 14.024 0711Z via SM6CLU (B)

SP5OXJ/1 14.025 0737Z EU-132
UA1QV/1 14.040 0610Z EU-160, via UA1QV
UA1QV/1 14.265 1401Z EU-160, via UA1QV
UK8BR 14.028 1050Z via RW6HS (d)
6O0F 14.245 1526Z via ON4TA (B)

17m
LX007G 18.078 1310Z via LX1KC (B)
SV2/OM3CGN 18.070 1514Z via OM3CGN (B)
UA1QV/1 18.076 1027Z EU-160, via UA1QV
6O0F 18.125 1500Z via ON4TA (B)

15m
OH0/DJ3KR 21.024 1531Z via DJ3KR (B)

12m
OH0/DJ3KR 24.892 1308Z via DJ3KR (B)
T94CT 24.950 1640Z via K2PF (B)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = LotW

Preview

DATE CALL DXNL

07Sep-24Sep 3B7C 1511
Sep 3D2(JA8BMK) 1531
Nov or Dec 3D2AG/Rotuma 1522
2006 -2007 3XM6JR 1484
13Aug-19Aug 4O6AA 1531
-Apr/08 5H0RS 1515
-Apr/08 6W/EA4ATI 1515
01Sep- 6W/T98A 1531
13Aug-15Aug 7O/G4HCL 1532 *
01Aug-26Aug 8J1A 1530
31Jul-31Aug 8J1ESP 1528
01Aug-21Oct 8J3ARDF 1530
-31Aug 8J7VENUS 1528
01Apr-09Sep 8N3IAAF 1513
2007 9N7JO 1501

-Apr/09 A52VE 1512
15Aug-18Aug A61AD 1532 *
-Nov A61TX 1496
09Sep-14Sep CQ4IPY 1522
-Feb/08 DP0GVN 1496
10Aug-28Aug DU9/DL5SDF 1531
31Jul-24Aug EA8TL/EA6 1529
15Aug-22Aug EA8/ON6ZK 1532 *

2007/2008 EI100S (I) 1501
-30Nov EW905B 1523
2008 FO/Clipperton 1521
NOW FW0MO/FW0YL 1530

-30Sep HG5MISSION 1532 *
-30Sep IA3GM 1528
18Aug-24Aug ID9/IK3SCB 1532 *
08Aug-20Aug IS0/IK1WEG.. 1531
01Aug-19Aug IS0/IZ8GCB 1529
2006 -2008 J28JA 1484/1485
-Aug JA7QVK/DU7 1521
18Jul-30Sep JD1BMM 1530
15Aug-26Aug JW/DJ3KR 1531
Nov KH3/W7KFI 1525/1531

11Aug-19Aug OJ0B/OJ0MI 1532 *
01Aug-27Aug OX/HB9FMD 1529
19Aug-23Aug OX/PA3EXX/p 1532 *
16Aug-23Aug SV9/ON5NT 1532 *
07Aug-17Aug SV9/OO9O/p 1530
-31Dec SX100VAR 1528
Sep -Oct T30 (JA8BMK) 1531
Oct - T31XX 1531
Oct? T33ZZ 1531
NOW -2008 TL8QC 1459
06Aug-19Aug TM2HRH 1531
04Aug-20Aug TO1USB 1532 *
NOW -Sep TU2/F5LDY 1486

23Aug-08Sep V5/DJ8VC 1532 *
Jan -Dec VI3SAA 1499
-31Aug VO1GAM 1531
-Sep VP6AL 1530
Feb/08 VP6DX/Ducie 1521
May -Aug VP6TD 1517
19Aug-21Aug VP9/OH1VR 1532 *
-31Dec Z360M 1531
-Sep ZD9BCB 1500

* = new or updated
.. = and other calls

QSL information

AO1JAM via EA4URE (B)
AO2JAM via EA4URE (B)
AO3E via EA3RE (B)
AO3JAM via EA4URE (B)
AO4JAM via EA4URE (B)
AO5JAM via EA4URE (B)
AO6JAM via EA4URE (B)

AO7JAM via EA4URE (B)
AO8JAM via EA4URE (B)
AO9JAM via EA4URE (B)
CU2/WA1S via WA1S (B)
DA0WWYC via DC1RJJ (B)
E7/OE1EMS via DJ2MX (B)
HA50KNA via HA3KNA (B)
PA100WSJ via PI9SRS (B)
R100IF via RW4HB (B)
RK1B/0 via RV1CC (B)
UE3SFF/1 via RU3SD (B)
VU3USJ via W7VOA (d)
XE3RBA via EB7AEY (d)
XR4C via CE6AMN
YT2T via 4N1JA
Z360M via Z37M (B)
ZF2DK via K2DBK (B), (L)
ZL4IR via W8WC (B)
3Z1TSR via SP1PBT
5H3WA via SM0HPL
5X4X via DF5GQ
6J3PEA via EB7AEY (d)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = Logbook of the World (LotW)

QSL via V51AS: Frank,V51AS has a new address in Germany:
V51AS, Heinrich-Heine-Str. 35, 72555 Metzingen, Germany.
This is NOT the address of his QSL manager but ONLY a maildrop to send
him mail which often gets lost in Namibia.

QSLs arrived via bureau: BA4TB, DS0DX/2 (via HL1XP), ER3R (ER3DX), FY5FY,
ER7HQ (ER1FF), HQ9F (OH3MKH), JX3EX (LA3EX, 2001),
SV5/DL3DRN, XE1KK, ZL7C (ZL4HU), 6W/HB9JOE

6W7/F1RHF sent via the French bureau to F1RHF was returned to sender because
F1RHF is not a REF member.

Many thanks for contributing to this issue of the DXNL are going to:
Carl Smith (QRZ DX), 425DXNews, OPDX Bulletin, DF6EX (WIN-QSL), DJ5AV,DJ8VC,
DK7YY, DK8JB, DL1SBF, DL3IE, DL7BA, DL7VOA, DL8WX, DL9RCF, F5NQL,V51AS,W1AW.

The German PDF version can be found on the DARC homepage at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/bulls/dxmb/2007/dxmb1532.pdf

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Subscribe or unsubscribe to the DXNL mailing list yourself at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedxms.htm

1409. rec.radio.amateur.moderated Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-15 06:00:06 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines-1-1187157601@panix.com>
Source record: 4014
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info,rec.answers,news.answers

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Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines
Revision: 1.3 2007/07/28 14:56:26
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rram/index.html

Welcome to rec.radio.amateur.moderated! This is a moderated newsgroup
for amateur radio operators and other people having an interest in the
Amateur Radio Service, as defined by national regulations and
international treaties. Following are the posting guidelines for this
newsgroup.

This message includes the following sections:

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter
2. Additional posting guidelines
2.1 Netiquette guidelines
2.2 Posting form requirements
2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files
2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting
2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources
2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability to hold
an amateur radio license
2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling
2.8 Guidelines regarding civility
2.9 Other unacceptable topics

------------------------------------------------------------------------

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter

rec.radio.amateur.moderated is an inclusive on-line community of amateur
radio operators and other people having an interest in the Amateur Radio
Service. Participants are invited to engage in open discussion of
amateur radio issues and exchange information about participating in the
hobby/service, in an atmosphere of civility, friendship, and fun.

Acceptable topics include but, are not necessarily limited to, questions
and discussions about amateur radio licensing, regulations, tips on
various aspects of setting up an amateur radio station, and sharing
operating experiences and insights.

Unacceptable posts include, but are not limited to, buy/sell/trade
posts, posts that are off-topic to the Amateur Radio Service, posts
promoting or defending unlawful activities, etc. Crossposts of regular
discussion articles between rec.radio.amateur.moderated and other
```

discussion newsgroups are not permitted.

Frequently-Asked-Questions lists and other information/bulletin/
announcement postings may be crossposted to rec.radio.info, rec.answers,
and news.answers only with prior approval of the moderators of those
newsgroups. In all such cases, an appropriate "Followup-To" header,
containing only rec.radio.amateur.moderated, will be added by the
moderators if one is not already provided.

Posters are encouraged to state their own views and share their
experiences, but to refrain from making assumptions about the
motivations of other newsgroup participants. Posters are expected to
maintain a basic tone of civility. Prohibited uncivil discourse
includes, but is not limited to, name calling.

Posts containing unsolicited advice questioning the right, worthiness,
suitability and/or readiness of any individual (or members of any group)
to be an amateur radio operator are unacceptable in this newsgroup. If
an individual chooses to post asking for advice on when or whether to
obtain an amateur radio license, or to participate in any type of lawful
activity in the Amateur Radio Service, respondents should be careful to
address their comments only to the original poster and not explicitly
generalize to others in similar situations.

Similarly, posts that arbitrarily declare certain classes of amateur
radio licenses, or certain members of national amateur radio societies
(e.g., American Radio Relay League, Radio Amateurs of Canada, Radio
Society of Great Britain, Wireless Institute of Australia, etc.), to be
more or less worthy than others, are not permitted. Posts that politely
encourage individuals to join their local amateur radio society, or to
upgrade to higher classes of amateur radio license in order to enjoy
greater operating privileges, are permitted, however. Posts that
contain reasoned, civil, and fact-based discussion of the activities and
internal politics of national amateur radio societies are also
permitted.

Buy/Sell/Trade and Commercial Policy:

Posts containing offers to buy, sell, or trade are not permitted on
rec.radio.amateur.moderated. The rec.radio.swap newsgroup was created
for this purpose, and should be used instead. All such articles will be
rejected by the moderators with the advice to re-post to that newsgroup.

Postings that are entirely commercial press releases, advertisements, or
other public relations campaigns will not be permitted. Relatively
unbiased announcements or reviews of new amateur radio-related products
or services may be permitted at the discretion of the moderators. Such
posters are asked to disclose their financial or professional interest,
if any, in such products or services.

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2. Additional Posting Guidelines

2.1 Netiquette guidelines

Participants who are new to Usenet should familiarize themselves with the "netiquette" of Usenet as well as the particular posting guidelines for this group. Several useful posts for "newbies" can be found on the newsgroup news.announce.newusers or on the WWW at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/by-newsgroup/news/news.announce.newusers.html

Particularly helpful articles are:
Welcome to Usenet!
Rules for posting to Usenet
Hints on writing style for Usenet
A Primer on How to Work With the Usenet Community
Emily Postnews Answers Your Questions on Netiquette
Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Usenet

2.2 Posting form requirements

Any article that falls into any of the following categories will be automatically rejected:

A) Articles that contain original text of more than 75 characters per line
B) Crossposted articles to newsgroups not included in these Guidelines
C) Articles that contain more than 400 lines
D) Encoded binary files (except PGP and other short digital signatures)
E) Attachments to posts
F) Articles containing obscene language
G) Articles from individuals who have been suspended or banned from the newsgroup

2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files

Many people close each article they write with a few lines of common text. This may be a cute quip or quote, or may include information about their family, contact information, or disclaimers required by their employer, for example.

Signature files used on rec.radio.amateur.moderated posting must be no longer than 8 lines.

The content of a poster's signature need not be relevant to amateur radio, but it must not violate any of the other posting guidelines. (For example, name-calling that would not be acceptable in the body of a message is also unacceptable in a signature.) Posters may include Uniform Resource Locators (URL's) and business addresses in signature files, provided they comply with all the other guidelines regarding signatures.

2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting

Posts more than 20 lines long that also have more than 75% quoted text will be carefully reviewed by a moderator to determine if that degree of quoting is warranted. Posts with excessive quoted text may be rejected.

Posters must show a reasonable effort to trim the post they are replying to and to include just enough material to establish context. "Me too!" posts are discouraged, and, when posted, must edit the quoted material significantly.

2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources

Unsolicited announcements and pointers to web sites that are strictly commercial press releases, advertisements, or other public relations campaigns, are not permitted. However, a pointer to a website or other external source of information is permitted and encouraged in cases where it is relevant to an existing thread, with appropriate context being given in the post. A URL with no information about what a user should expect to find there will be rejected. A pointer to information that is off-charter for rec.radio.amateur.moderated will be rejected, as will a pointer which itself does not meet the rec.radio.amateur.moderated guidelines (such as a URL containing embedded name-calling).

Moderators are not responsible for verifying the contents of any external information source.

2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability hold an amateur radio license

Identifiable groups and individuals may not be asked/told/etc. not to obtain an amateur radio license, or to only obtain certain classes of amateur radio license. It is not permissible to make statements that a person or members of a specific group "should" not, or should not be allowed to, become an amateur radio operator.

Solicited advice of this type is permissible; however, posters must be careful not to explicitly generalize to others who are in some way "like" the poster asking the question. Stick to the individual asking for advice.

It is acceptable to discuss verified violations, documented in criminal convictions or other government enforcement actions, by a person or members of a specific group.

2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling

Nastiness addressed at a person is considered name-calling. Criticizing a person's *actions* is not, provided that it is done in a civil manner.

Attacks on an action which by their very nature include an accusation against the person's character are not acceptable. For example, "That's a lie" implies an intentional prevarication, and is considered name-calling. Acceptable ways of questioning the truth of a poster's statement include the more tactful "I don't think that's true," "I believe you are mistaken because..." or even simply "That's not true."

"That's not true and you know it" crosses back over into name-calling, however.

2.8 Guidelines regarding civility

By charter, posters are expected to maintain a civil tone in all their postings. The guidelines on name-calling cover part of that requirement, but not all of it.

In general, posters are expected to consider the reputations of other participants, and refrain from making unnecessary accusations or assumptions about the motivations of others. A good rule of thumb is to phrase your comments as your opinion -- "I think..." "It seems to me that..." "This makes me wonder whether..." etc...

Posters are expected to make factual claims, to debate topics openly and in good faith, and to accept honest criticism, all without provocation or prevarication. At least one professional organization, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), has recognized that such fair dealings are necessary components of ethical conduct, and has incorporated them into its Code of Ethics:

http://www.ieee.org/portal/pages/about/whatis/code.html

Though the Amateur Radio Service is not a professional endeavor, the moderators strongly feel that the IEEE Code of Ethics is also a worthwhile set of guiding principles for participants in the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup.

Posters are not required to support the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). However, they are expected to adhere to the spirit of the other parts of the ARRL's "Amateur's Code":

http://www.arrl.org/acode.html

2.9 Other unacceptable topics

Participants are reminded that the charter also prohibits posts promoting or defending unlawful operating practices.

Posts may discuss whether operating practices are unlawful, or engage in reasoned debate over why certain operating practices should or should not be unlawful. Posts may discuss enforcement actions, such as by the Federal Communications Commission in the United States or similar government agencies in other countries, and evidence gathered by parties such as Official Observers in support of complaints about unlawful operation.

Discussions of what practices constitute unlawful operation in the Amateur Radio Service should be limited to *factual* descriptions of the laws in various jurisdictions. Posters' *opinions* as to what practices they consider unlawful are not permitted. In particular, posters are cautioned not to extrapolate their country's laws and regulations to those in other parts of the world, as they may be quite different.

Posts that entirely concern themselves with other radio services or hobbies, such as Citizen's Band, General Mobile Radio Service/Family Radio Service, and Scanner or Shortwave Listening, are considered off-topic to the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup. Newsgroups such as rec.radio.cb, rec.radio.scanner, and/or rec.radio.shortwave may be more appropriate venues for such posts.

Posts that attempt to publicly criticize moderators or moderation decisions in the newsgroup itself are also not permitted, as stated in our original newsgroup charter. Please direct any such critical feedback to our administrative contact address at the bottom of this article, where it will be carefully considered by an appeals team of moderators. This team is distinct from the initial team of moderators that approves or disapproves article submissions, and thus can provide independent oversight of moderation decisions.

Similarly, if you see an obviously inappropriate article in our newsgroup, please assume that it was a mistake or a direct forgery. The moderation team makes every effort to protect the newsgroup from such incidents, but they do happen, albeit rarely. You may also submit feedback to the same address regarding such articles in our newsgroup, but it is likely that our monitoring software and procedures have already detected it, and we are actively handling the problem. Please resist "piling on" with followups to the newsgroup when these incidents occur, so that we don't have to reject such articles.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-amateur-moderated-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the misc.kids.moderated Posting Guidelines.)

1410. The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 33 (Aug 17, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-17 23:58:14 UTC
From: ARRL Letter Mailing List <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <200708172357.l7HNv2LV004208@linux11676.dn.net>
Source record: 4015
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter
Vol. 26, No. 33
August 17, 2007
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IN THIS EDITION:

* Hurricane Dean Slams Caribbean Islands
* Hawaii Hams Heed the Call of Hurricane Flossie
* September QST Hits the Streets
* ARISS Contact with Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children
* Canadian Special Event Planned for September
* Upcoming Special Events
* Solar Update
* IN BRIEF:
This Weekend on the Radio
ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Course Registration
Field Day Logs Received are Posted
First Chinese ARISS Contact Scheduled
Jim DeLoach, WU0I, wins July QST Cover Plaque Award
BPL Industry Representative Appointed to ARRL EMC Committee
International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend 2007
No ARRL Audio News This Week
Let Us Know What You Think

There is no ARRL Audio News this week. ARRL Audio News will return next week, Friday, August 24.

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==>Delivery problems: First see FAQ <http://www.arrl.org/members-only/faq.html#nodelivery>, then e-mail <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>

==>Editorial questions or comments only: S. Khrystyne Keane, <k1sfa@arrl.org>
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==> Hurricane Dean Slams Caribbean Islands

The VoIP Hurricane Net activated Friday morning, August 17, at 2 AM EDT/0600 UTC in response to Hurricane Dean's impact on St Lucia, Dominica, Martinique and other surrounding Caribbean islands. Reports of damage along with wind estimates and measurements were relayed to WX4NHC, the National Hurricane Center in Miami, Florida.

"We've received reports of wind damage. The most significant damage reports include the roof blown off of a children's hospital in Castries, St Lucia, two homes with roofs blown off and a banana plantation flattened in St Vincent. We've also had a few homes with steel roofs blown off in Trafallgua, Dominica, and a measured wind gust out of the East-Northeast of 68 knots at the Canefield Airport in Dominica," said Rob Macedo, KD1CY, Director of Operations for the VoIP Hurricane Net.

Clem James, J73CI, and Joseph Russell, J73RJ, on the island of Dominica and Julien Deider, 9Z4FZ, on the island of Trinidad have been extremely helpful in relaying reports from the affected area. They are obtaining these reports through the 75 Meter Caribbean Weather Net and through local repeater systems where operable and relaying them via EchoLink and IRLP. "We owe them a huge gratitude. They have a lot going on in their local areas yet they are relaying any information they can get to us for the benefit of the National Hurricane Center and the mission to help save lives," Macedo said.

Julio Ripoll, WD4R, Assistant WX4NHC Coordinator, manning the Amateur Radio station at the National Hurricane Center in Miami, Florida reported that the Meteorological Office in Martinique had a measured wind gust of 88 MPH before Hurricane Center forecasters lost the phone connection to the Martinique weather office. "We need any stations that have relays into Martinique by HF or any other means to get in touch with someone there and relay reports of meteorological data and damage to the Hurricane Center," Ripoll said.

Cell phone service was knocked out to portions of the western and southern parts of Dominica as reported by Joe, J73RJ. Power and phone outages were also reported in St Lucia.

Hurricane Dean will move away from the Caribbean islands and potentially affect Jamaica and other parts of the Western Caribbean Islands. The VoIP Hurricane Net and WX4NHC secured operations at Noon EDT as Dean moved away from the islands.

"We expect to reactivate WX4NHC some time Sunday Morning for Dean as it approaches Jamaica though things could change," said Ripoll. The VoIP Hurricane Net is also preparing activation plans for Sunday. -- Thanks to Rob Macedo, KD1CY

The Hurricane Watch Net has temporarily secured operations following 6 hours of net operations for Hurricane Dean on 14.325 MHz. According to Net Manager Dave Lefavour, W7GOX, the net will resume at 2200 UTC on Saturday, August 18, and remain on the air until the band closes as the storm heads closer to Jamaica. On Sunday, the net will commence at 1200 UTC.

"We provided storm information to the affected area in the Windward Islands and passed local weather conditions and initial damage reports from the area to the National Hurricane Center in Miami as Dean moved through the islands," Lefavour reported.

"We appreciate the excellent cooperation of all amateurs in remaining clear of the frequency and allowing us to communicate with those stations in the path of Dean."

As of 1500 UTC, Friday, a hurricane warning remained in affect for Martinique, Dominica and Guadeloupe, and a tropical storm warning remained in effect for the US Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico and a number of islands in the Lesser Antilles.

A tropical storm warning and a hurricane watch has also been issued for Haiti form the Haiti/Dominican Republic border to Port-Au-Prince. A hurricane watch means that hurricane conditions are possible within the watch area and within 36 hours.

Hurricane Dean was located near 14.6 North, 62.6 West and it was moving toward the west at 18 knots with maximum sustained winds at 90 knots with gusts to 110 knots.

==> Hawaii Hams Heed the Call of Hurricane Flossie

The VoIP Hurricane Net activated as Hurricane Flossie approached Hawaii August 14. Flossie was at one time a Category 2 hurricane that passed 75-100 miles offshore of the Big Island of Hawaii. On Tuesday, while Flossie weakened and was downgraded to a tropical storm, tropical storm-force winds spread over Hawaii around mid-morning local time (1700-1900 UTC). If Flossie had deviated to the north, Hawaii would have been at risk for hurricane force conditions, with a change of as little as 50 miles north or south making a huge impact to the Big Island. The other islands in Hawaii were not seriously impacted.

The VoIP Hurricane Net assisted with obtaining reports from Hawaii SKYWARN and RACES and fed it back to National Hurricane Center Coordinator Julio Ripoll, WD4R, and his team at the National Hurricane Center in Miami, Florida. The VoIP Hurricane Net uses the EchoLink Conference WX-TALK Node 7203/IRLP Reflector 9219 for its operations.

Connie McCurdy, NH7IE (using NWS Honolulu call sign KH6SW), acted as Net Control for an informal SKYWARN Net that became more formal on Tuesday as Flossie approached. "The Big Island has declared a State of Emergency, all schools are closed and many roads have been closed. The Coast Guard has ordered small vessels to return to harbor on the Big Island and large ships over 200 tons to leave. We did have an earthquake near the volcanoes, but no damage. Everything will be closed up tomorrow; folks are hunkered down to ride out the storm. Also, nine people from FEMA were sent over and arrived today just in case things turn out bad for the Big Island," she said.

She said an alert was sent out to Honolulu that high winds and rain were expected on the Big Island. "We are advised to get supplies and stand by to be called out to shelters if needed. A net will be set up on our local repeater 146.880," she said.

ARRL Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager and Assistant Director of the VoIP Hurricane Net Dennis Dura, K2DCD, said on Tuesday: "We are

monitoring the activity of the VoIP Hurricane Net and the activities of ARES and RACES is Hawaii. At this time, no assistance is needed, but we will be prepared to assist the Amateur Radio community and the government of Hawaii with any communication needs."

A 5.3 earthquake also rocked the Big Island Monday evening at 7:38 local time (0038 UTC Tuesday morning) centered about 25 miles south of Hilo, according to a preliminary report from the US Geological Survey. There were no reports of injuries, structural damage or a tsunami, although the quake did cause a small landslide, according to Tom Brown, a spokesman for Hawaii County Civil Defense.

Island of Hawaii Mayor Harry Kim issued a state of emergency Monday afternoon for the volcanic island's population of 160,000. "We're taking this all very seriously," said Janet Snyder, Kim's press secretary.

The VoIP Hurricane Net activates when a hurricane affects a land area that has EchoLink and/or IRLP nodes in the affected area, and a request to activate comes from local area served agencies such as an EOC, NWS Forecast Office/SKYWARN program or the National Hurricane Center Amateur Coordinators in Miami. You may listen to VoIP Hurricane Net on one of the listen-only IRLP reflectors, which are New England IRLP Reflector 9129 and Australia IRLP Reflector 9508. The listen only EchoLink Conference is VKEMCOMM node 270177.

For more information on the VoIP Hurricane Net, visit the VoIP Hurricane Net Web page <http://www.voipwx.net/>. -- Some information from Rob Macedo, KD1CY

==> September QST Hits the Streets

If you haven't received the September issue of QST, just wait a bit, because it's on its way! QST, the official journal of the ARRL, is the members-only magazine featuring all the latest Amateur Radio news and technology.

The September issue is our first-ever Emergency Communications issue. Learn how the ARRL is promoting effective, coordinated responses to emergencies. Look for an exciting article on D-STAR, a new way to transmit digital voice and data at VHF and UHF. Have you ever wondered just how emergency communications began? Read about its rich and varied history in September QST. Learn how the Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) is now integrated into one unit that emphasizes digital communication.

The ARRL Diamond Terrace is just about complete. Check out the progress that has been made to this new must-see feature of ARRL Headquarters and learn how you can become a lasting part of this great legacy.

On the technical side, the September issue offers articles on how to get a maximum gain portable HF Yagi antenna and a remote power controller. Be sure to read about a way to pack power to bring with you for emergencies. Learn about a way of determining resonant frequency of a

tuned circuit. QST Product Review Editor Mark Wilson, K1RO, reviews the Tokyo Hy-Power HL-1.5KFX linear amplifier, ARRL Lab Test Engineer Mike Tracy, KC1SX, reviews the Gamma Research HPS-1a switching power supply and Rich Arland, W3OSS, reviews the Hendricks QRP Kits FireFly transceiver.

If you're looking for upcoming operating events, don't miss Jamboree on the Air and the 2007 Simulated Emergency Test, both of which are covered in the September issue.

As in each and every QST, you will find a wide variety of articles and columns for all hams, covering DXing, vintage gear and cutting edge technology, public service, special events, as well as a schedule of upcoming hamfests, conventions and contests.

==> ARISS Contact with Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children

For 11 kids at Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children in Orlando, Florida, July 17, 2007 was quite a memorable day. These children had the unique opportunity of questioning astronaut Clay Anderson, KD5PLA, onboard the International Space Station (ISS) via ham radio as it made a 9 minute 30 second pass over the United States.

This Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) contact was made possible due to the initial efforts of John Rothert, KC4IYO. After applying for the contact, John became ill and was unable to continue helping. Through the sponsorship of the Lake Monroe Amateur Radio Society and combined efforts of Northern Florida Section Public Information Coordinator Mike Welch, KF4HFC; Bob Pollack, KF4IMF; Lou McFadin, W5DID; the Child Life Department of Arnold Palmer Hospital and many other supporters, the event went off without a hitch.

Just prior to the ISS pass, the Child Life personnel established phone contact with Will Marchant, KC6ROL, and Graham Lawton, G7EVY. These hams helped prepare everyone for the contact and coordinated the telebridge connection between the hospital and the ISS via W6SRJ, the host ground station located at Santa Rosa Junior College in Santa Rosa, California.

At approximately 2:28 PM, Bill Hillendahl, the operator at W6SRJ, began calling, "NA1SS, NA1SS, this is W6SRJ." Soon, applause erupted from the hospital conference room as a voice over the speaker answered, "NA1SS, over!" This began a lively 9 minute question-and-answer session between eager children and Anderson. By the end of the pass, the children had asked 33 questions, possibly setting a record for any ARISS contact.

"We're very excited about ARISS bringing their program to our patients as it will be a fun activity that will lift their spirits," said Sheri Mosely, child life manager for the hospital. "Talking with an astronaut is definitely a once in a lifetime opportunity and one we hope they'll never forget."

Once the contact was finished, local media from three television stations, one newspaper and one radio station began interviewing the

children and hospital personnel, adding greatly to the excitement of the day. This was truly a successful ARISS contact that will not be soon forgotten by the children at Arnold Palmer Hospital.

Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children, supported by the Arnold Palmer Medical Center Foundation, is a 158-bed facility dedicated exclusively to the needs of children. It offers comprehensive, specialized programs and services for children including acute care, adolescent medicine, a Congenital Heart Institute in partnership with Miami Children's Hospital, pediatric intensive care, emergency medicine, nephrology, neurology and trauma services. -- Some information from David Jordan, AA4KN

==> Canadian Special Event Planned for September

A demonstration of cooperation in emergency communications preparedness between Canadian radio amateurs and those in the United States is planned for September 29-30 with a special event station VO1ARES <http://www.rac.ca/fieldorg/aresjointevent.htm>. It will be located at the Marconi memorial station on historic Signal Hill, St John's, Newfoundland, where reception of the first transatlantic wireless transmission occurred in 1901. Sponsored by Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada (DFAIT) and Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC), the facilities are provided by Parks Canada and coordinated by the Society of Newfoundland Radio Amateurs (SONRA).

The objectives of the special event are threefold: To highlight the capabilities of Amateur Radio in providing emergency communications in times of crisis, to illustrate the cooperation between Canada and the United States on emergency preparedness within the context of the Security and Prosperity Partnership signed by the President of the United States and the Prime Minister of Canada in 2005, and to create a database of communications "first responders" that the Government of Canada could contact for emergency communications assistance in times of crisis.

Radio amateurs from across Canada and the US are being invited to participate in this first-time official activity, with opening festivities scheduled September 29 from 1430-1730 UTC. In particular, ARES units in both countries are encouraged to take part and to "talk up" the value of Amateur Radio as a community resource. Officials from the Canadian government have been invited, and ARRL Joel Harrison, W5ZN, has confirmed his intention to attend. Operations will feature virtually all transmission modes on most HF bands over the two-day period. Times and frequencies are yet to be determined.

A commemorative QSL card will be issued. QSLs may be sent direct to VO1ARES via VE9GLF, G. L. Friars, 35 Upper Quaco Rd, Baxters Corner, NB E25 2S2, Canada. All replies from VO1ARES will be via the bureau. Those wishing a direct reply, including Short Wave Listeners, must include an envelope and sufficient postage. Within Canada, please send a self-addressed stamped envelope. If outside of Canada, please include

sufficient International Reply Coupons (IRCs) to cover the cost of a letter from Canada to your country. This is imperative in order to receive a card directly; otherwise it will go via the bureau.

Listen for VO1ARES both before and after the special event. The call sign will be active September 27-October 1.

Upcoming issues of RAC's The Canadian Amateur (TCA) magazine and the RAC Web site <http://www.rac.ca/> contain further details of the event. -- Information provided by Bob Cooke, VE3BDB

==> Upcoming Special Events

Several upcoming Special Event operations were inadvertently left out of the September 2007 QST "Special Events" column. They appear below, as well as on the Special Events Web page <http://www.arrl.org/contests/spev.html>.

Aug 15-Aug 26, 0000 UTC-0400 UTC, Columbus, Ohio. John D. Kraus Memorial Amateur Radio Club, W8JK/WOW. 30th anniversary of the "WOW Signal." 7.045 14.045 7.200 14.250. QSL: Bruce Lerner, KC8VEB, 734 Suntree Dr, Westerville, OH 43081 <http://www.w8jk.org>.

Aug 17-Aug 19, 0000 UTC-2359 UTC, Cheboygan, Michigan. Oakland County ARPSC, K8S. Celebration of International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend. 7.270 14.270 21.270 28.370. Certificate: Gary Sklar, 7296 Green Farm Rd, West Bloomfield, MI 48322. The event will be held in cooperation with Great Lakes Lighthouse Keepers Association, local Michigan Branch, Mackinaw City, Michigan <k8ikw@aol.com>.

Aug 17-Sep 13, 1700 UTC-1700 UTC, Illinois River, Illinois. USS LST325 Radio Club, WW2LST. USS LST325 Summer Cruise Up Through the Illinois Heartland. 14.300 14.040 7.040 3.540. QSL: USS LST325 Memorial Ship, 840 LST Dr, Evansville, IN 47713 <http://www.lstmemorial.org>.

Aug 27-Sep 1, 1600 UTC-2359 UTC, Woodstock, Connecticut. Eastern Connecticut Amateur Radio Association, K1MUJ. 50th anniversary of the founding of Eastern Connecticut ARA. 3.825 7.175 14.125 21.215. QSL: ECARA, PO Box 63, Dayville, CT 06241 <http://www.qsl.net/K1MUJ>.

Aug 28-Aug 29, 1400 UTC-0659 UTC, Sacramento, California. Amateur Radio Emergency Communication Volunteers, N6S. California State Fair. 146.195 147.555 14.250 7.250. QSL: Patrick Schamun, N6ARO, 8237 Tiki Ln, Sacramento, CA 95828 <n6arophrs@lanset.com>.

==>SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "We Had Joy, We Had Fun, We Had Seasons in the Sun(spot)" Cook, K7RA, this week reports from the road in Hillsborough County, New Hampshire, that solar activity continues low. The sun is currently spotless, but sunspots may return around August 20. This week's average daily sunspot numbers were down about a point from last week's, from 12.4 to 11.3.

Expect quiet geomagnetic conditions over the next week, according to a forecast from the US Air Force, which predicts planetary A index for August 17-23 of 8, 5, 10, 5, 5, 10 and 8. But Geophysical Institute Prague has quite a different prediction for August 18. They predict quiet conditions for August 17, unsettled to active on August 18, unsettled August 19, quiet August 20-21, unsettled August 22, and quiet to unsettled August 23.

Sunspot numbers for August 9 through 15 were 14, 14, 13, 11, 13, 14 and 0 with a mean of 11.3. 10.7 cm flux was 67.4, 67.5, 67.6, 68.1, 67.7, 68.5, and 67.6, with a mean of 67.8. Estimated planetary A indices were 4, 13, 12, 6, 3, 6 and 8 with a mean of 7.4. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 2, 10, 7, 5, 2, 3 and 6, with a mean of 5.

For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>.

==>IN BRIEF:

* This weekend on the radio: This weekend, the ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest is on August 18-19. The NCCC Sprint (CW) is August 17 and 18. The ARCI Silent Key Memorial Sprint is August 18, while the SARTG WW RTTY Contest is August 18 and 19. The North American QSO Party (SSB), the Keyman's Club of Japan Contest and the Russian District Award Contest are August 18-19. The New Jersey QSO Party is August 18-19 and August 19-20. The Run for the Bacon QRP Contest is August 20. Next week, look for the CCC Sprint (CW) on August 24. The ALARA Contest, the Hawaii QSO Party, the SCC RTTY Championship, the YO DX HF Contest and the Ohio QSO Party are all on August 25-26. The SKCC Weekend Sprint and the SARL HF CW Contest are both August 26. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests/>, the ARRL Contester's Rate Sheet <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rate-sheet/> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more information.

* ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration: Registration remains open through Sunday August 19, for these on-line courses beginning on Friday, September 7: Technician License Course (EC-010); Amateur Radio Emergency Communications, Level 1 (EC-001); Radio Frequency Interference (EC-006); Antenna Design and Construction (EC-009); Analog Electronics (EC-012), and Digital Electronics (EC-013). To learn more, visit the CCE Course Listing page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html> or contact the Continuing Education Program Coordinator <cce@arrl.org>.

* Field Day Logs Received are Posted: All 2007 Field Day logs have been received and posted to the Claimed Scores page on the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/contests/claimed/>. They reflect all applications sent from the b4h Web applet, as well as those received via the US postal service and usable electronic submissions sent via regular e-mail

(non-Web applet submissions). According to Field Day Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, "In some cases we did not receive sufficient information, and those entries are not allowed to be used at this time. A follow-up e-mail was sent to those concerned that included a blank summary sheet and a request to please complete the form and resubmit. In cases where we have not heard back from those requests, the entries are currently not on the list and can't be included until complete information is received back by the ARRL." Those with missing entries, who have questions or who find errors in their listing should contact Henderson via e-mail <n1nd@arrl.org> or by phone at 860-594-0236 after Tuesday, August 28 when he returns from vacation. If you call before that date, Henderson asks that you "please leave a message and please be patient. I will work with you to resolve any problems."

* First Chinese ARISS Contact Scheduled: ARRL ARISS Program Manager Rosalie White, K1STO, reports that the first-ever Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) contact between China and the International Space Station (ISS) will take place August 26. American astronaut Clay Anderson, KD5PLA, will chat with students at the Nanjing No. 3 High School in Nanjing, Jiangsu in the People's Republic of China. The radio coordinator is Michael Chen, BD5RV. The school has been around for more than 100 years and has 3000 students in 64 senior and junior grade classes on three campuses. The school is well known for its Amateur Radio club and its 6-time-national-winner women's volleyball team. The Amateur Radio club has completed more than 20,000 QSOs with other stations from all over the world. There have been a total of 308 school-to-ISS contacts to date.

* Jim DeLoach, WU0I, wins July QST Cover Plaque Award: The winner of the QST Cover Plaque Award for July is Jim DeLoach, WU0I, for his article "Balloon-Lifted Full-Wave Loop Antennas." Congratulations, Jim! The winner of the QST Cover Plaque award -- given to the author or authors of the best article in each issue -- is determined by a vote of ARRL members on the QST Cover Plaque Poll Web page <http://www.arrl.org/members-only/qstvote.html>. Cast a ballot for your favorite article in the August issue by Friday, August 31.

* BPL Industry Representative Appointed to ARRL EMC Committee: ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, has appointed Brent Zitting, KB4SL, of Huntsville, Alabama, to serve on ARRL's ElectroMagnetic Compatibility (EMC) Committee. Zitting, a 25-year ARRL member, is employed by IBEC, a BPL manufacturer and integrator located in Huntsville, Alabama. The EMC Committee, chaired by Roanoke Division Director Dennis Bodson, W4PWF, consists of representatives from various industries that are interested in helping ARRL effectively and appropriately work with industry on interference issues. ARRL Laboratory Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, said he is pleased to see Zitting serve on the committee. "Brent has carried his ham radio experience to the BPL industry, quietly working behind the scenes to help it better understand Amateur Radio. Having his industry occupy a seat at our table is a positive step that will improve communication significantly." Zitting said he is enthusiastic about

serving as a member of the committee. "I look forward to helping the ARRL on this committee. BPL technology has made great progress in its ability to mitigate interference, which is good news for hams. I want to help the ARRL more fully understand the BPL industry so that both can be 'good neighbors.' I am pleased to be part of the solution."

* International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend 2007: More than 380 lighthouses in more than 48 countries -- from Argentina to Wales -- will be on the air for 2007 International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend (ILLW) organized by the Ayr Amateur Radio Group, Scotland. The event, held for the ninth year in a row, takes place Saturday, August 18 0001 UTC-Sunday, August 19 2359 UTC. While not a contest, the ILLW is more of a QSO Party and Amateur Radio demonstration. The ILLW aims to raise public awareness of lighthouses and lightships and the need for their preservation and restoration, promote Amateur Radio and foster international goodwill. Stations at more than 40 US lights are expected to be on the air for the event, and several stations will identify with special event call signs. Participating lighthouse/lightship stations do not have to be inside the structure or on the vessel itself; a Field Day-type setup at or adjacent to the light is sufficient. More information about the event, including a registration form, is available on the ILLW Web site <http://illw.net/2007_list.htm>.

* No ARRL Audio News This Week: There will be no ARRL Audio News Friday, August 17. Please adjust your calendars and programming accordingly. The ARRL Audio News will return next week on Friday, August 24.

* Let Us Know What You Think: What's your favorite part of The ARRL Letter? What kind of stories would you like to see in the Letter? Would you prefer the Letter in an HTML format? This is your Letter and your chance to let your voice be heard. Please send your suggestions to ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, at k1sfa@arrl.org, with the subject line "ARRL Letter Suggestions." All messages will be read and discussed, and we look forward to implementing positive suggestions into the ARRL Letter.

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The ARRL Letter is published Fridays, 50 times each year, by the American Radio Relay League: ARRL--the National Association for Amateur Radio, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111; tel 860-594-0200; fax 860-594-0259; <http://www.arrl.org>. Joel Harrison, W5ZN, President.

The ARRL Letter offers a weekly e-mail digest of essential and general news of interest to active radio amateurs. Visit the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org> for the latest Amateur Radio news and news updates. The ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/> also offers informative features and columns. ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> is a weekly "ham radio newscast" compiled and edited from The ARRL Letter. It's also available as a podcast from our Web site.

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==>ARRL News on the Web: <http://www.arrl.org>
==>ARRL Audio News: <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> or call
860-594-0384

==>How to Get The ARRL Letter

The ARRL Letter is available to ARRL members free of charge directly from ARRL HQ. To subscribe, unsubscribe or change your address for e-mail delivery:
ARRL members first must register on the Members Only Web Site <http://www.arrl.org/members/>. You'll have an opportunity during registration to sign up for e-mail delivery of The ARRL Letter, W1AW bulletins, and other material. To change these selections--including delivery of The ARRL Letter--registered members should click on the "Member Data Page" link (in the Members Only box). Click on "Modify membership data," check or uncheck the appropriate boxes and/or change your e-mail address if necessary. (Check "Temporarily disable all automatically sent email" to temporarily stop all e-mail deliveries.) Then, click on "Submit modification" to make selections effective. (NOTE: HQ staff members cannot change your e-mail delivery address. You must do this yourself via the Members Only Web Site.)

The ARRL Letter also is available to all, free of charge, from these sources:

* ARRLWeb <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>. (NOTE: The ARRL Letter will be posted each Friday when it is distributed via e-mail.)

* The QTH.net listserver, thanks to volunteers from the Boston Amateur Radio Club: Visit Mailing Lists@QTH.Net <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/letter-list>. (NOTE: The ARRL cannot assist subscribers who receive The ARRL Letter via this listserver.)

1411. WIANEWS for week commencing AUGUST 19 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-18 15:02:16 UTC
From: nationalnews@wia.org.au
Message-ID: <200708181000.l7IA09M07112@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4016
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,aus.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

This is WIANEWS for week commencing AUGUST 19 2007

NATIONAL NEWS

Michael Owen VK3KI WIA President:-

"Today I am making a number of important announcements.

A QSL Service at no cost is one of the benefits of WIA membership.

The WIA Board has made a number of important changes to the WIA QSL Service.

The changes will take effect from 1 December. Full details may be found on the WIA website.

All outwards cards must be sent to the Outwards Bureau, conducted on behalf of the WIA by Westlakes.

WIA Members should send their cards sorted in DX CC country order direct to the Outwards Bureau addressed to:

P.O. Box 3073
Teralba
NSW 2284

Affiliated clubs may collect cards on behalf of their WIA members and forward them in reasonable sized batches to the Outwards QSL Bureau.

The Outwards Bureau will confirm the WIA membership.

After 1 December, if a WIA member makes an arrangement with the local QSL Manager for their cards to be sent to them annually, then WIA will meet the cost of forwarding any cards received for that WIA member.

WIA members who are members of an affiliated club may instead through their club request that their cards be sent to them at their club.

Inward QSL Managers will retain non-members cards for at least one year before disposing of them, and will make available cards for collection by or on behalf of non-members in a manner convenient to the Manager

The WIA Board has also made changes to the rules for the WIA Awards, so enthusiastically run for us by WIA Awards Manager, Malcolm Johnson VK6LC.

As from 1 September new fees for awards will apply.

WIA Members will be entitled to one certificate and two Award up-dates per membership year at no charge.

The fees for further certificates and award updates for members, non members and overseas applicants have been increased and may be found on the WIA website.

After 1 December WIA awards will only be available to person resident in Australia who are WIA members. This follows the pattern set by many overseas societies.

Of course, WIA membership will not be required for applicants for WIA Awards resident outside Australia.

The application and verification rules have also been rewritten and now make it clear that applications that are not in order may be returned for correction.

Again, full information can be found on the WIA website.

The National Technical Advisory Committee, NTAC, is responsible for advising the WIA Board on technical matters, band plans and coordinating frequency assignments for repeaters, links and beacons. The National Repeater and Beacon Coordinator, a member of NTAC, provides "Letters of Coordination" as required by ACMA before licensing repeaters and beacons.

In consultation with Chairman John Martin VK3KWA a new procedure has been adopted for processing applications for repeater and beacon licences.
In short, the applications are to be lodged with the WIA national office, which will have the responsibility for ensuring that the correct experts are involved and for tracking the progress of the application.

Again information may be found on the WIA website.

A final note of a different kind.

I am very please that now 24 people have applied for qualification and registration as Learning Facilitators, which may be done on line.

I do ask that those of you who are planning to qualify to please get your application in to the WIA office as soon as possible, to help us to meet the 1 December deadline.

The application form is on the WIA website, and if you feel that there is a question you can't answer, then don't worry, don't answer it and if we need further information we shall contact you."

The National Technical Advisory committee, NTAC
http://www.wia.org.au/news/2007/20070815-03.php

WIA Announces Changes to WIA Awards Program...
http://www.wia.org.au/news/2007/20070815-02.php

WIA Announces Changes to WIA QSL Service...
http://www.wia.org.au/news/2007/20070815-01.php

HAMS ACROSS AUSTRALIA.

VK1
vk1 local news email broadcast@vk1.wia.ampr.org and ask for subscription.

VK2
web service:- http://www.arnsw.org.au/html/news_vk2wi.htm

COFFS HARBOUR VK2:- rebroadcast of WIA news each Sunday morning at 10:00am
on the VMF04 CB repeater - 476.500Mhz regards, James Doyle VK2FJAD

VK3
web service:- http://www.amateurradio.com.au/news/

MELBOURNE EMDRC broadcast Sunday Mornings at 9:30am
on VK3REC 147.175 prior to club net starting this Sunday 19A

VICTORIA VK3BWI NETWORK This broadcast will revert to 10.30am from 2 Sept.

VK4
web service local news:- www.wiaq.com/qnews/upload/qnewsbcast.htm
local news email qnews-vk-subscribe@yahoogroups.com subscribe in subject
field.

VK4WIM The MacKay Amateur radio Assn's call is in use as we speak from
this years lighthouse weekend at the Pine Islet lighthouse now located
at the Mackay Marina/Harbour complex.

VK5

It's here again. Yes it's the Goolwa Lunch Bunch Sunday August 26th.
Meet at 12.00 for lunch at 12.30 at the Goolwa Hotel. After lunch it's back
to the home of Cecily and Gary VK5ZK for afternoon tea and the usual good
fellowship.

Also coming up is the Radio Amateur's Old Timers Club of South Australia's
luncheon to be held on Thursday October 25th at the Marion Hotel, Marion
Road, Mitchell Park. Meet at 12.00 for lunch at 12.30pm. Don't forget your
senior's card.

If using public transport use bus M44 to stop 24.
RSVP before October 22nd to one of the following committee members.
President Jim McLachlan VK5NB at 82942992
Secretary Ray Deane VK5RK at 82715401 or
Assistant Secretary Ron Coat VK5RV at 82966681
Thanks to Ray Deane for that item.

VK6
web service http://www.vk6.net/newswest-index.html

Two lighthouses in Western Australia will be active this weekend for the
International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend. Operators will be working from
the Cape Naturaliste and Cape Leeuwin Lighthouses in the south west of the
state. Special call signs have been allocated, VK6CNL for Cape Naturaliste
and VK6CLL for Cape Leeuwin. Operation will be on the classic five HF bands
of 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10m although the sunspot cycle being what it is

operation will probably be limited to 40 and 20m. The stations will be on the air from 0800 local time on Saturday until late on Sunday

If you are interested and in the Margaret River area feel free to come along to the Lighthouses and see the teams in operation. Nigel VK6KHD along with XYL Jane VK6FJPD and Bernard VK6FBRB will be at Cape Naturaliste and Wally VK6YS with Bruce VK6CX will be at Cape Leeuwin. If you have not been to the lighthouses before it is worth the visit as there are well organized tours including a climb to the top of the lights for a magnificent if windy view. Whale watching is also possible from the coast at the lighthouses.

VK7
local area news :- http://reast.asn.au/news.php
your copy of vk7 local news, email vk7regionalnews-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

VK8
http://www.vkham.com/vk8da/ note an audio version available on this page.

EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO
PRESENTED BY KYLEA VK6FXYL

EDUCATION MEETS FUN IN NORTH QUEENSLAND

The North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention happens in Townsville September 21 to 23 and is promising to be bigger and better than ever.

Exhibitors including Navcom Electronics supported by Icom Australia and Vertex Standard Australia, TET Emtron Antennas, RDXG Jewellery, KVK Antenna Books, Wireless Institute of Australia plus technical lectures from Professor Mal Heron and Don Dinnie VK4ZCQ.

The prestigious Ken Robertson VK4KT Memorial Award is sure to go to someone most deserving in the field of VHF-UHF experimentation and education.

As folk travel from around Australia, please let the T.A.R.C. know if you'll be in town September 21-23 and register for the Convention by next Friday.

Registration Form send a message to the TARC email address
vk4wit@wia.org.au

FUTURE EXAMS

To find out when a club in YOUR area is hosting assessments and/or training in Amateur Radio go to wia.org.au and check out the club pages.

VICTORIA

Amateur Radio Victoria has announced that enrolments are now open for its Foundation Licence training and assessments weekend of September the 15th and 16th to be held at Box Hill North.
Inquiries to Barry Robinson VK3JBR 0419 808 323 or email
arv@amateurradio.com.au

QUEENSLAND

A FOUNDATION LICENSE COURSE IS TO BE HELD BY THE BAYSIDE
DISTRICT AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY INC AT IT'S CLUB MEETING ROOM
FOR THREE CONSECUTIVE SUNDAYS 9 till noon COMMENCING ON THE 26 TH AUGUST.
IT INCLUDES ALL THE COURSE INFORMATION AND PAPERWORK.
THE LOCATION IS AT THE ALEXANDRA HILLS HIGH SCHOOL CORNER OF
FINUCANE ROAD AND WINDEMERE ROAD, THE ENTRANCE IS FROM WINDEMERE ROAD.
PARKING IS OPPOSITE IN THE PARKING AREA.
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE PRESIDENT TOM ON 3396 5944 OR THE
SECRETARY DARRELL ON 3207 1118.
THE COST OF THE COURSE IS $35.00

HAM COLLEGE IN VK6

Do you live in or know someone in the Collie/Bunbury Region who wants to do their Foundation Course/exam -

Ham College is coming to you.....We are looking for people who are available on a weekend next month (September) to do a Foundation course and subsequent exam. If you are interested then please contact VK6MRS as soon as possible number is 0412 704 226.

In the Perth metropolitan area the next Foundation course is scheduled for 15th & 16th September - get your name in early to avoid disappointment. Number again is 0412 704 226.

To view future scheduled exams and associated information on courses for Ham College in VK6 please visit the western Australian Repeater Group site on www.warg.org.au and select the Getting your Amateur Licence link.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Chinese Peoples Daily have reported that students in Nanjing will have the opportunity to directly ask the US astronauts in the international space station questions through amateur radio.

After two years of waiting, the ARISS Program (Amateur Radio on the International Space Station program) has entered the final stage of preparation and students of Nanjing No.3 Middle School are almost ready to talk directly to the astronauts in the international space station.

Wang Long, teacher in charge of the amateur radio activities in Nanjing No.3 Middle School told the NEWSPAPERS reporter that according to the latest notice from National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), NASA has put this activity into its agenda and decided that the ARISS Program will be between August 24 and 26. On the occasion, student representatives of Nanjing No.3 Middle School will have a 10-minute talk with the US astronauts son Clayton will use the amateur radio device in the International Space Station to talk to students in Nanjing.

Wang Long said that the Station is expected pass over Nanjing at around 18:00 on August 26. Whether the communication activities will be held as scheduled is directly dependent on the performance of Shuttle "Endeavour" that was launched on August 8.

SMILE YOUR ON CANDID CAMERA

YourDay Video Technologies will be working with a UK theme park. When visitors enter Alton Towers, they will be given an RFID-enabled wristband.

By wearing the band throughout the day, they will be identified and videoed by cameras on every ride. These personalised video clips will be stored and later that day, visitors will be able to pick up a personalised DVD containing 30 minutes of footage, including full-motion video footage of the day.

(I just hope the system isn't extended to the pubs and clubs of a Friday Night!)

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NEWS FROM ARNEWSLINE

PRAISE FOR ARES RESPONSE TO CALIFORNIA'S ZACA FIRE

Amateur Radio and particularly the Amateur Radio Emergency Service units involved with California's giant Zaca wildfire near have drawn the praise of that anta Barbara County's fire department. Speaking at an August 1st Town Hall meeting of the fire-fighting Unified Command, Fire Department Public Information Officer Eli Eskow heaped praise on the hams who were out there backing up his fire fighting teams:

"There's one group I forgot to mention and thank personally. The Amateur Radio Emergency Services group has worked with us forever (applause) forever!! And on this event, this fire I have asked them many, many requests and chores. They've jumped at every opportunity to help us. They've carried mail. They have most importantly thrown their bodies in front of the public to stop them from going through closed roads, putting themselves in danger. They've been great. Anytime we've asked them anything, they jump at any opportunity to help us..."

KD5VNP TO MAKE TEACHER IN SPACE DREAM COME TRUE

A ham radio operator and teacher is on her way to space to help in further construction of the International Space Station and to make the goal of a teacher in space a reality. Mission Specialist Barbara Morgan, KD5VNP, is part of the crew of Shuttle mission STS-118. This is an 11 day construction and re-supply mission of the orbiter Endeavour to the I-S-S.

Barbara Morgan is what is known as an Educator Astronaut. Almost two decades ago she was the back-up for Christa McAuliffe in the Teacher in Space Project. McAuliffe and the rest of the seven member crew on board the Challenger were killed on January 28, 1986 in a launch accident caused when a seal ruptured on the solid rocket motor and burned through the external fuel tank. Now, 22 years later, Morgan will complete the dream of an educator teaching from space when she gets the chance to talk with and answer questions from schoolchildren on the ground via ham radio.

OPERATIONAL NEWS -

CONTEST COLUMN - D A T E L I N E

AUGUST 11/12 Remembrance Day Contest (The RD) wia.org.au

Please ensure all ELECTRONIC LOGS are sent to rdlogs@wia.org.au

Peter Harding VK4OD reports:- "Good morning all, particularly all those that took the time and patience to honour those fallen warriors from WW11, by participating in the 2007 RD contest, however your part is not complete until you get your logs away.

As I pen this report the 2007 RD Contest has been run and won by Someone!, this we will find out soon.

We have received 116 Emailed and 15 Postal Logs as of Wed night,

I understand that one of the Computerised logging programs has a minor glitch, that is no worries here, as I will pick up the anomaly as I go through the logs.

Please get your logs in as soon as possible before the cut-off date,

Under RD 2007 Rules

Para 17b In all cases, logs must be received by last mail on Monday 10 Sept. 07. Late entries will not be eligible."

AUGUST 26-27

ALARA CONTEST.

This ALARA contest is run over 36 hours to give everyone 2 bites at the 80m band.

For OMs only contacts with YLs count, while YLs can count ALL stations.

Club stations operated by YLs are certainly encouraged.

One highlight of the ALARA contest is that you may work the same station after a one hour interval on the same band. So it is worth while staying around
a tad longer for that extra contact for both yourself and the other station.

ALL DETAILS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 47 OF JULY'S AR MAGAZINE

7th World HST Championship will be held in Belgrade Serbia September 19-23rd.
www.hst2007.org

SEPTEMBER 22

The Second running of the Westlakes Cup is coming up on Saturday 22nd September commencing at 8.30 Eastern Australian Standard Time (10.30 Z).

Boat Anchor Sprints:
October (13).

Local ZL time: 2000 to 2100 hrs

Section 1: Old radios - all valves - i.e. ZC1, 19 set, Heathkits, any home brew set, but must have all valves.

Section 2: Any Hybrid transceiver (must have valve finals i.e. FT200, FTDX400/401, Drake, FT 101s, etc..

Amplitude Modulated signals only.

The overall winner shall be the entrant having the highest points score which will be published in the following New Zealand "Break-in".
(Jamie Pye ZL2NN, Editor NZART's InfoLine)

NOVEMBER 17/18 VK Spring VHF-UHF Field Day

CONTEST STORIES

Report on VK/ trans-Tasman 160M CW Contest: held 21st July -

The 2007 CW Contest was won by Greg Smith (ZL3IX) from Christchurch.

Allan Mason (VK2GR) from Sydney was 2nd, with Tony Burt (VK3TZ)
>From Melbourne, 3rd.

QRN made operating rather difficult and, unfortunately, the participation dropped off, compared to last year.

Only 27 VK's and 7 ZL's participated, and just less than half submitted logs.

It looks as though CW operators are diminishing, as Contest Manager Bruce Renn expected, now that CW is no longer an examination requirement.

Reducing the Contest duration this year, from 6 to 5 hours, didn't seem to help. It will be further reduced to 4 hours, next year, and if numbers continue to drop, the 160M CW Contest will be discontinued.

THE QNEWS WORK BENCH - the nuts and volts report -
(Measure twice - Cut once!)

Trevor Baylis, creator of the first wind-up radio, and the amazing electric shoe, has introduced the first wind-up MP3 player.

Available at the end of August, the Eco Media Player seems like an attention-deficit camper's dream come true.

The wind-up media player has a 1.8-inch colour screen and a lean 2GB of memory that can be expanded using an SD memory card.

Like a media junkie's Swiss Army knife, the Eco Media player features an MP3 player, a video player, an FM radio, and a flashlight, voice recorder, photo viewer, mobile phone charger, and an e-book viewer.

It also can be used as a portable storage drive in a PC.

MEDIA WATCH

SATRS the Singapore Ham Society has just had some 30 minutes on A LOCAL Singapore Radio Station.. take a listen to a short excerpt.

(hear it on www.wiaq.com.au/ftp/wianews.mp3) ((7 meg file)

NOW ROBERT BROOMHEAD - VK3KRB.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP --- MILITARY

Nick VK4YT on AM again with Warbirds Radio.

Mike VK4MIK advises that Nick VK4YT and helpers will be operating at the WARBIRDS display at Mareeba today Sunday August 19th, using restored military aircraft equipment on 3590 and 7070kHz AM from 10AM (0001UTC).

Last time he utilized the AM mode he ended up with stations calling him from all over which was terrific as he will be putting on a public display.

So, not only do you have to keep an ear out for the Grassy Hill Light crew near Cooktown on-air for the International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend but you also need to get the word around and help Nick get busy !!

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RESCUE RADIO

EMERGENCY FREQUENCIES REGION ONE
21.360 - 18.160 - 14.300 - 7.060 - 3.760 MHz.

A report in the Canadian publication, The Edmonton Journal, has reported on how Environment Canada enlists the help of amateur radio operators around the province to keep an eye on the sky.

Fifty ham radio operators from the Edmonton area have taken a five-hour course on the basics of meteorology and what to look for in cloud formations.

Another 50 from central and southern Alberta took the same training, all of it intended to avoid false reporting of would-be major storms.

Now, whenever Environment Canada issues a severe weather watch, it alerts the network of amateur radio volunteers. Volunteers then contact other members of the ham radio network, asking them to report signs of approaching severe weather, including lightning, hail or funnel clouds etc.

That eyeball-to-radio system represents a final stage of Alberta's tornado-warning system.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- VHF AND ABOVE

The UK 6 meter group are reporting how this month is the 50th anniversary of a World Record QSO between Clarrie VK5KL and Eugene W7ACS/KH6 which took place on 26 August 1947.

VK5KL Clarrie made the contact while he was living in Darwin. VK5 callsigns then were used for South Australia PLUS the Northern Territory.

Clarrie VK5KL, now lives in the Adelaide suburb of Enfield, where he is said to be still active on six metres.

Working in the Civil Aviation area, he was able to get a QANTAS pilot to bring hard to source, in Australia, components for his 6 meter rig from the UK.

During that 46-47 winter when W7ACS/KH6 was active on 50 MHz, he did also achieve for some very brief exchanges with VK4HR of Brisbane, however even though the pair heard one or the other, it was not a two way.

Clarrie VK5KL was fortunate to have been the first Aussie to make a two-way contact with Hawaii.
(UKSMG)

BB's DIARY ROOM - THE FUTURE, IN AMATEUR RADIO

2008

Sept 13 Alarameet 2008 will be held in Ulverstone Tasmania on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th September 2008. Susan VK7LUV for details.

2009
International Telecommunication Union's Telecom World 2009.

14th IARU R3 Conference Christchurch 12 - 16 October, 2009.

SOCIAL SCENE

SEPTEMBER 8
SUNSHINE COAST HAMFEST at Woombye School of Arts Hall.

SEPTEMBER 9 Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club Hamfest
St. Augustine's Hall Orr St.

SEPTEMBER 21-23
North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention
Happening in twin cities of Thuringowa and Townsville.

OCTOBER 6
Gold Coast Amateur Radio Society Annual Hamfest at Albert Waterways Hall.

JANUARY 20 2008

The Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group invite all amateurs to attend the 2008 Mid North Coast Radio Expo to be held in Coffs Harbour on Sunday 20th January.

The Expo is held at the St Johns Church Hall, Mc Lean Street, Coffs Harbour. Gary VK2ZKT is the Radio Expo Coordinator on 02 66 55 2 990 or visit the Groups comprehensive web site at www.mncarg.org

THE FINAL FINAL

WALKS

Jeff VK4XJJ is still going strong on his walk across Australia.

But he still wants to hear from YOU, and it is these calls in particular that keep him going!!

Amateurs are welcome to contact Jeff VK4XJJ on 7.045 MHz after 1730 EST. Ten minutes prior is for housekeeping, position, health, weather, temperature, walked distance, number of vehicles passed and how many stopped, etc.

About Tuesday 28th he should be in Normanton and have access to email. His walk ends at Karumba about Monday, 3rd September.

Then after a few days I will drive him on the return trip to thank those who donated and were kind to Jeff on his journey. I am in Stockton, Newcastle, north of Sydney and will drive 2,630 kilometres and 3 days to meet him.

Jeff's is walking "unsupported", alone and carrying a 28Kg backpack. His main communication is amateur radio. He is a member of the Wireless Institute of Australia who have been very helpful and present a Sunday News segment of Jeff's walk.

Some motorists stop to say hello and then produce a cup of tea and offer fruit. He started carrying 8 litres (8Kg) of water but dropped down to 2 litres as the motorists often offer water. Some creeks have water and this also replenishes his supply.

We had two years school in Nevada and Ohio 1951 to 1953. I (brother Bill) recently re-visited Boulder City for a 50th school reunion.

Jeff's website has a lot of information, we are after public awareness for DeafBlind and DeafBlind (NSW) Inc. in particular.
Our daughter was deafblind and Jeff has dedicated his walk to the group and friends she loved.

Regards, Bill Johnson VK2FWGJ

for Jeff Johnson VK4XJJ Walking for DeafBlind awareness

www.jeffswalk.com

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WIANews - we've reported...YOU decide.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".

Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of the National WIA.

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WIANews THANKS OUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS , OUR RELAY OPERATORS ACROSS THE WORLD FOR FORWARDING INFORMATION AND COMMENTS THEIR LISTENERS HAVE PASSED ON TO MAKE WIANews VK'S LEADING WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PROGRAM.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual

broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au
Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".
Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of QNEWS for the National WIA.
Thanks to to our dedicated band of broadcast volunteers who utilize their time and equipment in bringing you this weekly broadcast.
The purpose of "WIANews" is to rapidly provide news of interest to active amateurs residing in Australia and the globe.
We strongly encourage membership in the Wireless Institute of Australia and participation in the activities of local clubs.
Opinions expressed in "WIANews" are those of the writers who submit material and do not necessarily reflect those of the rebroadcasters, nor the National WIA.
Material may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, a credit to WIANews wouldn't go astray...
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1412. SARL News in English 18/8/2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-18 17:13:17 UTC
From: website@sarl.org.za
Message-ID: <BF75747D62CC4467A59D0DCB71864B2F@toron>
Source record: 4017
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 20 AUGUST 2007

You are listening to ZS6SRL the official Radio Station of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is transmitted every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. To listen to a web stream or Echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links for details.

This, and previous bulletins, can be downloaded from the www.sarl.org.za. You can also read or download previous bulletins from there and subscribe to receive future bulletins by email.

This transmission is by Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with relays on 3,695, 10,135, and 51,400 MHz as well as 438,825 and 1 297 MHz in the Pretoria area. (Other newsreaders please change to suit).

In the news today:

RADIO AMATEURS ONLY NEED A HAREC CERTIFICATE WHEN VISITING OVERSEAS

INTECNET ON 26 AUGUST TO LOOK AT SARL AWARDS

SA AMSAT SPACE SYMPOSIUM NOW ON THE WEB

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

RADIO AMATEURS ONLY NEED A HAREC CERTIFICATE WHEN VISITING OVERSEAS

As announced two weeks ago, Amateurs who have passed the May class A examination will automatically receive a HAREC certificate as part of the Examination fee. There has however been a delay in sending out certificates due to a major printer breakdown. Please do not call the NARC, the certificates for October 2006 and May 2007 will be mailed as soon as the new printer has been installed and some of the other backed-up printing has been dealt with.

Amateurs who have the old RAE certificate do not have to ask for a new HAREC certificate unless they are travelling overseas. To apply for a replacement certificate you are required to send a copy of the current amateur radio license plus an admin fee of R50 to the SARL. The fee may be paid electronically. Proof of an electronic or bank transfer must accompany the application.

As the issuing of HAREC certificates was outsourced by ICASA to the SARL, the R50 admin fee applies to both members and non members. This replaces the previous procedure and comes into immediate effect.

INTECNET ON 26 AUGUST TO LOOK AT SARL AWARDS

WAZS, other awards and QSL-ing will come under the spotlight during the next Intecnet on 26 August 2007. The guest speaker will be SARL Awards Manager, Tjerk Lammers, ZS6P. INTECNET will be on the air on Sunday 26 August at 20:00 immediately after the President's Net.

SA AMSAT SPACE SYMPOSIUM NOW ON THE WEB

The SA AMSAT Space Symposium programme is now available on the web at www.amsat.org.za. The symposium is part of Space Week 2007 and the celebration of the launch of Sputnik 1 in 1957. It will be held at the NARC and the Sentech Conference Centre on 6 October 2007. There is a substantial discount for delegates who register early. To get regular updates on the symposium send an email to saamsat@intekom.co.za.

TAKE YOU HANDHELD TO WORK DAY

Friday 5 October is the 'SARL take your hand-held transceiver to work day'. The objective of the day is to create awareness of Amateur Radio amongst your colleagues and customers during lunch and tea breaks or at any other available time during that day.

The SARL will make posters available that you can print and display as well as approaching media to print news stories.

Clubs are invited to promote the day locally. Please send the SARL the names of the editors of local newspaper and community radio stations so that a media data base can be created to distribute information to local media. Look at your local papers and send the information to armi@sarl.org.za with media in the subject heading.

RAE

Please be advised that the next Class B exam will be held on the 23rd August 2007. The results of this exam will be published on the SARL web page on about 4th September 2007.

All clubs and Training centres are advised that the closing date for registration for the October Class A & B exams will be the 20th September 2007. The examination date will be 18th October 2007.

SARL MEMBERSHIP FEE DEPOSITS

A friendly request from the SARL treasurer is that members who py for their membership renewals by direct deposit in the SARL bank account is that they ensure that the reference on the SARL's bank statement will indicate clearly who made the deposit. Your call sign should preferable be used as reference. Alternatively the deposit slip may be faxed to the office at 088 011 675 2793. Without this information your membership status may be shown incorrectly when the data base of the

SARL is updated.

CONTEST NEWS

The results of the Durban ARC Mid-winter 80 metre sprint have been released. Jan, ZS4JAN, took first place with 90 points, followed by Dennis, ZS4BS, with 78 points and John, ZS5JF, with 74 points.

The provisional results of the Boland 40 Metre Contest have been issued. Theunis, ZS2EC, took first place with 97 points, second was Raoul, ZS1REC, with 85 points and Jan, ZS4JAN ,in third place with 74 points.

Brad, ZS5BG, achieved the highest score in Div 5 and Ruaan, ZS6RMS, achieved the highest score in Div 6. No log sheets were received from Div 3. The highest score from a neighbouring country was achieved by Jack, V51KC, who also achieved overall fourth place in the contest. 21 log sheets were received.

The overall winner receives a 2007 ARRL Antenna Handbook (issue 21) which was donated by Kobus, ZS1DC, a Boland ARC member. Certificates will be posted soon.

The Boland ARC thanks all participants of the contest.

Vidi, ZS1EL, has received a certificate from the ARRL for 6th place in the world in the 2006 ARRL 10 m contest, mixed mode, high power.

Barry, ZS2EZ has received a plaque from CQ Magazine for the Africa winner of the 2007 CQ WW WPX RTTY Contest. Barry operated as Single Operator, All Band, High Power.

Southern African stations did well during the 2006 CQ WW DX Phone Contest. In the Multi Two category, ZS9X made 6,9 million points and 3DA0WW made 4,9 million points. In the Multi Single category, ZS5ZZ made 238,854 points. In the Single operator category, V51W made 2,9 million points. Other participants in this category are ZS5NK, ZS1EL, ZS6BRZ and ZS1JY.

CLUB NEWS

MIDLANDS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB WILL ADVERTISE AMATEUR RADIO

The MIDLANDS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, in conjunction with HAMNET, will be operating a radio station at the UNDERBERG FARMERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL SHOW on Saturday, 1st September 2007 and Sunday morning, 2nd September 2007.

They will be operating under the call sign of the Midlands Amateur Radio Club ZS5PMB on the 40 m band and the 2 m Underberg repeater.

Please keep a look out for this station on those days and participate. It is a wonderful opportunity to promote Ham radio.

PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the expected solar activity will be at very low levels. The geomagnetic field is expected to be quiet in general while reaching active levels on 25 August. The expected Effective Sun Spot number for the coming week will be less than 5.

20 m and 40 m will provide best opportunities for DX. There is a possibility of 20 m openings towards India from about 15:00 CAT. There may be weak 20 m openings to Australia from about 08:00. From 16:00 there may be 20 m openings towards Europe. For the early birds there is the possibility of weak 80 m openings towards the East Coast of the USA at about 04:00. Otherwise contacts to the USA are going to be very challenging.

For the CW and digital enthusiasts it will also be worth monitoring 10 MHz.

Locally conditions on 40 m is going to be good for today's Lighthouses-on-the-Air event.

It is once again time to work towards your 80 m WAZS award in the evenings. Remember that this is only a prediction and that HF always has the capability to surprise you. You will never know what you are missing unless you switch your rig on, listen and also call CQ.

Please visit www.spaceweather.co.za for further information.

DIARY OF EVENTS

17 - 19 August - International Light House weekend; 23 August - Class B RAE; 1 September - SARL@HOME; 1 September - West Rand ARC Flea market; 1 - 2 September - Midlands Amateur Radio Club, ZS5PMB, operational at Underberg Farmers Association Annual Show; 20 September - Closing date for registering for October RAE; 4 - 10 October - Special space programme; 6 October - SA AMSAT Space Conference; 18 October - Class A RAE.

SARL News invites clubs and individuals to submit news stories of interest to radio amateurs and shortwave listeners. Submit news stories if possible in both English and Afrikaans to www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date.

The SARL also invites you to listen to the programme Amateur Radio Mirror International, on the air every Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 590 kHz. For the web stream and echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links. A repeat transmission can be heard Mondays at 21:00 CAT on 3 215 kHz. Sentech sponsor the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

Today's South African Radio League news bulletin was compiled by Gustav,ZS6BWN, and transmitted by (your name and call sign)

Thank you for listening. 73

/EX

========== Message Ends ========== To edit or remove your entry from this mailing list go to www.sarl.org.za/members/admin/maildat.asp

1413. An ARRL mailing works!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-18 20:32:25 UTC
From: Dave Heil <k8mn@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <13celqf48kp8re6@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 4018

I typically toss most mailings received from the ARRL. They're either pleas for donations for this or that or a solicitation to purchase equipment insurance. A couple of days ago, I received a solicitation from the League for car insurance through MetLife. I was about to toss it when I remembered that my insurance was up for renewal in a few days.

I telephoned MetLife today and was surprised that the company's quote for car insurance using the ARRL group discount, saved me over $300 per year on car insurance.

Chalk one up for the ARRL.

Dave K8MN

1414. Diamond Terrace

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-18 20:37:27 UTC
From: Dave Heil <k8mn@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <13cem3u1mrljv8f@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 4019

I don't mind the idea that someone will be walking on bricks engraved with the call of a silent key. I mind the idea that the League will take a 35 cent brick, engrave it and charge someone a couple of hundred bucks to place it someplace where the donor will likely never have a chance to enjoy his pricey purchase. Since Mary Hobart (K1 More Money Honey) came aboard, the ARRL has been all about raising money through a number of elitist schemes.

I have some bricks and I just put up another tower. I think I'll buy a little sand, use my Dremel tool and engrave the callsigns of silent keys whom I remember fondly. I can place the bricks around the concrete tower base and look at 'em any time I choose.

Dave K8MN

1415. Re: Diamond Terrace

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-18 22:03:53 UTC
From: Bryan <bryan.swadenerNOSPAM@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <icadnR7_H9Yp_VrbnZ2dnUVZ_jGdnZ2d@giganews.com>
Source record: 4020

Dave Heil wrote:
> I don't mind the idea that someone will be walking on bricks engraved
> with the call of a silent key. I mind the idea that the League will
> take a 35 cent brick, engrave it and charge someone a couple of hundred
> bucks to place it someplace where the donor will likely never have a
> chance to enjoy his pricey purchase. Since Mary Hobart (K1 More Money
> Honey) came aboard, the ARRL has been all about raising money through a
> number of elitist schemes.
>
> I have some bricks and I just put up another tower. I think I'll buy a
> little sand, use my Dremel tool and engrave the callsigns of silent keys
> whom I remember fondly. I can place the bricks around the concrete
> tower base and look at 'em any time I choose.
>
> Dave K8MN

Hmm... if you add a brick for every memorable station you worked (DX,
ragchew, etc), you'll eventually have a large patio! ;^)
Bryan WA7PRC

1416. Re: Diamond Terrace

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-19 02:07:35 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <069fc399l3s1pn5g42todbktfvt35ac3ev@4ax.com>
Source record: 4021

On Sat, 18 Aug 2007 16:37:27 EDT, Dave Heil <k8mn@earthlink.net>
wrote:

> I mind the idea that the League will
>take a 35 cent brick, engrave it and charge someone a couple of hundred
>bucks to place it someplace where the donor will likely never have a
>chance to enjoy his pricey purchase.

What's the difference between that and the "John Smith Memorial
Chapel" or the "Bessie Jones Dining Room" at any other institution?
Personally, I don't want to be remembered by the "Phil Kane Toilet
Seat" but doing those brick things are a legit fundraising technique
nowadays, no different from selling dedications and memorial plaques
in the name of donors at many schools and congregations.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1417. Re: Diamond Terrace

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-19 02:35:06 UTC
From: Dave Heil <k8mn@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <13cfb2hokacpm83@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 4022

Bryan wrote:
> Dave Heil wrote:
>> I don't mind the idea that someone will be walking on bricks engraved
>> with the call of a silent key. I mind the idea that the League will
>> take a 35 cent brick, engrave it and charge someone a couple of hundred
>> bucks to place it someplace where the donor will likely never have a
>> chance to enjoy his pricey purchase. Since Mary Hobart (K1 More Money
>> Honey) came aboard, the ARRL has been all about raising money through a
>> number of elitist schemes.
>>
>> I have some bricks and I just put up another tower. I think I'll buy a
>> little sand, use my Dremel tool and engrave the callsigns of silent keys
>> whom I remember fondly. I can place the bricks around the concrete
>> tower base and look at 'em any time I choose.
>>
>> Dave K8MN
>
> Hmm... if you add a brick for every memorable station you worked (DX,
> ragchew, etc), you'll eventually have a large patio! ;^)
> Bryan WA7PRC

You're on to something. If I put the call of each station I worked
during the years I operated from Africa, I could brick the whole acre
and never have to mow again!

Dave K8MN

1418. Re: Diamond Terrace

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-19 04:34:13 UTC
From: pfriedmanNoSpam <p.paulfriedmanNoSpam@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <7r2dnadYQ8A98FrbnZ2dnUVZ_i2dnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4023

"Dave Heil" <k8mn@earthlink.net> wrote in message
news:13cem3u1mrljv8f@corp.supernews.com...
>I don't mind the idea that someone will be walking on bricks engraved with
>the call of a silent key. I mind the idea that the League will take a 35
>cent brick, engrave it and charge someone a couple of hundred bucks to
>place it someplace where the donor will likely never have a chance to enjoy
>his pricey purchase. Since Mary Hobart (K1 More Money Honey) came aboard,
>the ARRL has been all about raising money through a number of elitist
>schemes.
>
> I have some bricks and I just put up another tower. I think I'll buy a
> little sand, use my Dremel tool and engrave the callsigns of silent keys
> whom I remember fondly. I can place the bricks around the concrete tower
> base and look at 'em any time I choose.
>
> Dave K8MN
>

Dave:

I am not a fan of many things the ARRL does, but I really don't see the
objection to this scheme. It is not like the ARRL is fooling anyone.

Paul AB0SI

1419. Re: Diamond Terrace

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-19 04:34:49 UTC
From: Dave Heil <k8mn@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <13cfavinb23tu6e@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 4024

Phil Kane wrote:
> On Sat, 18 Aug 2007 16:37:27 EDT, Dave Heil <k8mn@earthlink.net>
> wrote:
>
>> I mind the idea that the League will
>> take a 35 cent brick, engrave it and charge someone a couple of hundred
>> bucks to place it someplace where the donor will likely never have a
>> chance to enjoy his pricey purchase.
>
> What's the difference between that and the "John Smith Memorial
> Chapel" or the "Bessie Jones Dining Room" at any other institution?

Very little, though I can pray at John's and eat at Bessie's. The best
I can do with the Diamond Terrace is hike to Newington and walk on the
bricks--or have someone send me a photo.

> Personally, I don't want to be remembered by the "Phil Kane Toilet
> Seat" but doing those brick things are a legit fundraising technique
> nowadays...

Sure, Phil. "Legit" it is. There's a historic railway baggage building
here and the local historical society is selling the same bricks you get
for the Diamond Terrace, only they're fifty bucks each and I can see 'em
anytime I want.

> ...no different from selling dedications and memorial plaques
> in the name of donors at many schools and congregations.

I'm holding out for my name on the Men's Room at the Madonna Inn between
San Francisco and L.A. on the 101.

Dave K8MN

1420. Re: Diamond Terrace

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-19 04:35:06 UTC
From: kelly@dvol.com
Message-ID: <1187494345.526946.18730@o80g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4025

On Aug 18, 4:37 pm, Dave Heil <k...@earthlink.net> wrote:
> I don't mind the idea that someone will be walking on bricks engraved
> with the call of a silent key. I mind the idea that the League will
> take a 35 cent brick, engrave it and charge someone a couple of hundred
> bucks to place it someplace where the donor will likely never have a
> chance to enjoy his pricey purchase. Since Mary Hobart (K1 More Money
> Honey) came aboard, the ARRL has been all about raising money through a
> number of elitist schemes.
>
> I have some bricks and I just put up another tower. I think I'll buy a
> little sand, use my Dremel tool and engrave the callsigns of silent keys
> whom I remember fondly. I can place the bricks around the concrete
> tower base and look at 'em any time I choose.

"The Wilmington & Western Railroad, owned and operated by Historic Red Clay Valley, Incorporated (HRCV), has recently installed a "brick paver" platform at Greenbank Station. This platform provides our passengers with solid footing when boarding and alighting from trains, and it connects Greenbank Station with the Red Clay Valley Visitor's Center, located in the former Yorklyn Station.

You can purchase an engraved paver to publicly show your support for the Wilmington & Western. 100 percent of the purchase price goes to the Railroad, and every cent is tax-deductible. Each engraved paver is limited to three, 15-space lines, at a cost of $100."

http://www.wwrr.com/home.htm

>
> Dave K8MN

w3rv

1421. FW: New Yahoo group: Vista-Ham

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-19 05:01:12 UTC
From: litoi <litoi@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <380-22007849211153875@earthlink.net>
Source record: 4026

> [Original Message]
> From: Jim Reisert AD1C <jjreisert@alum.mit.edu>
> To: <dx4win@mailman.qth.net>; <ct-user@contesting.com>;
<rtty@contesting.com>; <writelog@contesting.com>
> Date: 8/9/2007 8:41:54 PM
> Subject: [ct-user] New newgroup: vista-ham
>
> I have set up a Yahoo! group (reflector) for discussing hardware/software
> issues related to Windows Vista. You can find more information here:
>
> http://groups.yahoo.com/group/vista-ham/
>
> Please spread the word!
>
> 73 - Jim AD1C
>
>
> --
> Jim Reisert AD1C, <jjreisert@alum.mit.edu>, http://www.ad1c.us
> _____
> CT-User mailing list
> CT-User@contesting.com
> http://lists.contesting.com/mailman/listinfo/ct-user
> CT on the web: http://www.k1ea.com/

1422. IRTS Radio News Bulletin, Sunday August 19th 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-19 20:00:19 UTC
From: news at irts dot ie <devnull@panix.com>
Message-ID: <200708192000.l7JK07J16208@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 4027
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Irish Radio Transmitters Society
Radio News Bulletin

Sunday August 19th 2007

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2 metre Counties Contest

The 2 metres counties contest will take place on Sunday the 26th of August from 2 until 4 p.m. local time. This is a good opportunity for clubs and individuals to be active on VHF, even if you re not competitive this can be an enjoyable two hours so lets hope that we get a good turnout in the contest this year. Details and rules are available on the IRTS web site at www.irts.ie.

HF SSB Field Day

The IRTS SSB field day will take place over the first weekend (1st and 2nd) of September from 13:00 UTC on Saturday to 13:00 UTC on the Sunday. Again the grounds of Garbally College, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway will be available, thanks to Niall EI4CF and once again the Shannon Basin Club will be hosting their now famous Barbeque.

This is a multi-operator contest for portable stations and provides an opportunity for clubs and groups to practice their portable operating and station set-up skills. The Paddy Daly Microphone is awarded to the station with the highest checked score in the open section and the IRTS HF Shield is awarded to the station with the highest checked score in the restricted section. Details and rules are available on the IRTS web site.

CQIR Ireland Calling Contest

The Society's 75th Anniversary Contest CQIR will take place on the last weekend in September from 12:00 UTC on Saturday the 29th to 12:00 UTC on Sunday the 30th. There is great interest world wide being expressed in

this contest which is a celebration of Ireland and the Irish, throughout the world and with 40 million people in the United States alone claiming Irish forefathers; we expect that CQIR will be one of the largest 'one off' contests ever aired on the Amateur Bands. It is a 24-hour single operator contest with the emphasis on participation rather than winning and to this end every participant gains an entry ticket for a spectacular draw for every 75 QSO's made during the Contest.

The ticket drawn out of the EI/GI drum will win an all expenses paid long weekend in New York City for two people. ARRL have confirmed that this will include a visit to their national headquarters hosted by ARRL. Kinnitty Castle in Offaly will host the international winners for a week with flights for two from anywhere in the world. The prizes have been fully sponsored at no cost to the Society and this is really an excellent opportunity to celebrate the Society and its 75 years of service to Irish experimenters. We would encourage all Irish operators to be active during the Contest. So ring fence the last weekend of September in your diary, make an effort to have that new antenna up for the event and lets ensure a good show from the local Irish operators to support the international Irish who will no doubt come on the bands in their thousands for the contest. Full rules are on the IRTS website.

Notice from ComReg

ComReg would like to advise all Experimenters that there is currently a delay in the issue of Experimenter Renewals. During this delay, unless previously expressly indicated, no experimenter whose fee has been submitted is restricted from operating within normal licence conditions.

EI0MAR

During the past week, Tom O'Donnell (EI4Z) paid a visit to EI0MAR at the vintage radio museum in Howth. Tom is 93 years old and still hale and hearty as he proved by walking up the steep pathway to the Martello Tower housing the museum. Tom was accompanied by his son Philip who was a radio officer himself from 1968 until 1980 and operated with the call sign EI3DA maritime mobile.

Philip claims that his father is Ireland's oldest living radio experimenter. Is there anybody out there

who knows if this claim can be challenged?

EI0MAR will be celebrating the IRTS's 75th birthday by using the call sign EI75IRTS on Sunday 26th of August and on the first two Sundays in September. CW will be the main mode of operation although some CQ calls will also be made on SSB as well. If conditions are favourable, the 7 MHz band will be the main focus, to allow as many EIs as possible to work the special call sign. The station may also be QRV on the Saturdays of the same weekends. EI0MAR is QRV most Sundays between 11 and 3. Telephone and email contact details for EI0MAR are available on the museum website which is www.qsl.net/ei5em/museum.html. A link on the museum web page will take you to EI0MAR's own web site.

Church Broadcasts

For some weeks we have been carrying an item about broadcasts of Mass from a Church in the north Dublin area on 28.105 MHz FM. Stations are reminded to listen out for these transmissions on weekdays at 1000 hrs and on Sundays at 0900, 1000, 1100 and 1200 local time to try to identify the Church concerned. Stations in the Dublin area are asked to take bearings on the transmissions or try to identify the general area from which the transmissions originate. We would appeal again to stations in the Dublin area to put a little effort into identifying the source of the transmissions so that details can be forwarded to ComReg. We are getting international reports on these transmissions and we have an obligation to do something about them.

We have also received reports of transmission of Mass on 28.285 MHz. We do not have any idea yet where this transmission is originating. We would ask stations countrywide to listen on 28.285 MHz FM at the appropriate times in their areas so that this station can also be identified. If you hear anything worth reporting you should send a report to Thos Caffrey EI2JD the IRTS Intruder Watch coordinator at QTHR or to ﷺthoscaffrey at hotmail dot comﷺ with a copy to Sean Nolan EI7CD at QTHR or to ﷺei7cd at gofree dot indigo dot ieﷺ. The report should include date, time, frequency, signal strength, possible location of station if identified, beam heading in degrees from true north and any other relevant information. If the station is identified from an announcement of local events, details should be given. Should you hear anything, no action should be taken other than

forwarding a report as requested.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group

The next general meeting of South Eastern Amateur Radio Group will take place on Monday the 27th of August at 8.00 p.m. in the Roanmore Centre. All are welcome!

For up to date information, visit the groups' web site on www.searg.com.

Upcoming Rallies

Cork Radio Club Rally will take place on Sunday the 23rd of September in the Blarney Park Hotel. For information contact Con on 021-427136.

The Waterford Rally will take place on Sunday the 21st of October in the Woodlands Hotel, Waterford. For more information visit www.searg.com.

The Foyle and District Rally will take place on Sunday the 4th of November 2007 at the White Horse Hotel, Derry. For more information visit www.mn0aku.org.uk.

The Mayo Radio Rally will take place on Sunday the 18th of November in the Belmount Hotel, Knock, Co. Mayo. For more information contact Padraic Baynes, EI9JA @ QTHR.

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall, EI7IS at QTHR or by phone to 051-853806 or 087-6302026. Items for the radio news can also be faxed to 087 5 6302026. News should be submitted via e-mail to 'news at irts dot ie' for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Friday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday's bulletin.

1423. Re: An ARRL mailing works!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-19 21:00:00 UTC
From: "R. Scott" <lintardspamtrap@scotts-home.net>
Message-ID: <AcydnfYhed4GxFXbnZ2dnUVZ_h7inZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4028

Dave Heil wrote:
> I typically toss most mailings received from the ARRL. They're either
> pleas for donations for this or that or a solicitation to purchase
> equipment insurance. A couple of days ago, I received a solicitation
> from the League for car insurance through MetLife. I was about to toss
> it when I remembered that my insurance was up for renewal in a few days.
>
> I telephoned MetLife today and was surprised that the company's quote
> for car insurance using the ARRL group discount, saved me over $300 per
> year on car insurance.
>
> Chalk one up for the ARRL.
>
> Dave K8MN
>

Just check your statement next time carefully. I have had State Farm
for over 20+ years. AIG said they could save me and sure enough Saved
me over 300 dollars for the 6months on 2 cars and my motorcycle. But
at renewal time it was 300 MORE than what I got at State Farm. Called
AIG and they said it was just a normal rate raise. State Farm at
least took me back like I never left.

SO be careful about these low price lead ins. Also check your coverage.

Scotty W7PSK

1424. Amateur Radio NewslineT Report 1566 - August 17, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-20 10:26:59 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <E1IN0Le-00006r-DG@elasmtp-galgo.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 4029
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio NewslineT Report 1566 - August 17, 2007

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1566 with a release date of Friday, August 17, 2007 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. U-K hams wonder if their regulator will auction off am Amateur band, California emergency communications hams win mayoral praise and drivers say that texting is dangerous if yyou are behind the wheel. Find out the details on Amateur Radio NewslineT report number 1566 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

RADIO REGULATIONS: UK REGULATOR PROPOSES SELLINHG HAM BAND

Is U-K telecommunications regulator OFCOM getting ready to try to auction off a ham band? Jeramy Boot, G-4-N-J-H, is in Nottingham, England is here with more:

--

U-K telecommunications regulator has published proposals with relevance to the 3cm band. The proposals concern the award and auction of spectrum between 10 GHz and 40 GHz..

One range of frequencies under consideration coincides with the 3cm Amateur Satellite Service allocation.

I'm Jeramy Boot, G4NJH, and you are listening to the amateur radiop Newsline.

--

Details of the pending auction are on the Ofcom web site. Specific links to it can be found in the News section of the RSGB web site. The latter is in cyberspace at www.rsgb.org. (GB2RS)

**

RESCUE RADIO: FULLY INTEROPERABLE DIGITAL RADIO SYSTEM TO BE DEPLOYED BY NATIONAL GUARD

Back in the United States, the National Guard is getting a new fully interoperable digital voice and data communications system. Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, has the details:

--

The new satellite cased communications system will be developed and deployed by DataPath of Duluth, Georgia. DataPath will work with Applied Global Technologies to create communications multiple interoperable networks. These systems will permit federal, state and military first responders establish command and control capabilities at the site of a man-made or natural disaster within hours, anywhere in the United States.

According to a report from Radio World, DataPath, which builds satellite and wireless communications networks has won the $16.7 million contract from the Communications-Electronics Command in Fort Monmouth, New Jersey. The system it is developing will use its satellite communications base units to deliver high bandwidth to voice-over-IP telephones, video teleconferencing systems and to interoperable handheld radios for deployed National Guard teams and other first responders. It will also establish a nationwide Joint Incident Site Communications Capability for the Army National Guard. The contract also calls dor DataPath to provide a complete portable communications suite that will be transportable by use of a C-130 aircraft or other means for rapid deployment.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

--

DataPath says that it will deliver 32 systems based on a portable, fly-away satellite communications terminal. It has also developed a customized version by incorporating a 1.2-meter fly-away antenna in the package. (RW)

**

RESCUE RADIO: HAMWATCH AND THE NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

The mayor of South El Monte, California, has praised ham radio operators who assist her city and the nation in time of need and she did so in a most unusual way. On the air. Take a listen:

--

Mayor Figueroa: "To all of you Hamwatch operators, thank you for helping all of your cities. National Night Out - remember to say no to crime, leave yiur lights on and thank you for doing a great job. God bless you and god bless America."

--

That's Mayor Blanca Figueroa and the story of how she got to thank the ham community for its involvement is actually a story unto itself. One that kind of involves us here at Newsline. At least peripherally.

On Tuesday August 7th, communities across the nation participated in the "National Night Out." This is an opportunity for communities to to promote activities aimed at increasing security with programs such as Neighborhood Watch, Community Emergency Response Teams and of coarse Amateur Radio.

One such event was held in the City of South El Monte, a suburb of Los Angeles. That's where members of the Temple Station Hamwatch Group were present to display radio equipment and answer questions related to Ham Radio.

As part of the demonstration Deputy Hector Figueroa, KE6VRL, used a portable station to transmit what the group calls the "Amateur Radio Newsline - Check-In Net" at its regularly scheduled time on the local N6USO repeater. As the net was winding down, Mayor Figueroa requested a moment at the microphone. And as you heard, she used it to thank the members of Hamwatch and the Amateur Radio community for their ongoing efforts to communities all across the United States. (KE6VRL)

**

HAPPY HAM TIMES: MFJ ENTERPRIZES WANTS TO CELEBRATE #35 WITH YOU

And Martin Jue, K5FLU, wants to treat you to lunch, but there is a catch. Lunch will be served only on Friday and Saturday, September 7th and 8th at Martin's MFJ Enterprises factory in Starkville, Mississippi. This, as a part of the 35th anniversary of the founding of the company that bears his initials in its name.

K5FLU says that he started MFJ in October of 1972 in a small hotel room in downtown Starkville. His first product was a C-W filter kit that sold for under $10. Today M-F-J has grown into a diverse corporation that owns five separate companies with over 2500 products. And Martin Jue says that all this happened because you believed in him and the gear he manufactures.

As a way of saying thanks, K5FLU has set aside September 7th and 8th for a celebration with all of his ham radio friends that can make it to Starkville. In addition to the free lunch there will also be a special event station, license exams, factory tours and those all important door prizes.

M-F-J Enterprises is located at 300 Industrial Park Road in Starkville, Mississippi. Starkville is about 120 miles due West of Birmingham Alabama or 150 miles South East of Memphis, Tennessee. More information on this 35th anniversary event is on-line at www.mfjenterprises.com. To which we will add a "Happy 35th" and at least 35 more. (MFJ)

**

Break 1

With you 52 weeks a year. This week coming to you from Auckland, New Zealand, we are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations

around the world including the Rocky Mtn Radio League repeaters serving Denver and Bloomfield Colorado in the United States.

(5 sec pause here)

**

RADIO RIPOFF: IRTS WANS OF AD SCAM

Ireland's national ham radio society, the Irish Radio Transmitters Society is warning about a fraudulent operation involving the sale of amateur radio equipment. One which is being conducted through a series of small ads in recent editions of genuine radio magazines.

The equipment is being sold using an address in Oxford, England and another in the Isle of Wright. The source of the gear is supposed to be that of a deceased ham. Payment may be requested direct to an `Executor' as opposed to the actual person advertising. The Irish Radio Transmitters Society says that this scam has already cost one of its members in excess of 1,500 Euros to date. (IRTS)

**

ENFORCEMENT: FCC CITES TWO CALIFORNIA TIS STATIONS

The FCC appears to be cracking down on abuse of Traveler's Information Stations, CGC Communicator reports. The CGC Communicator reports that the newsletter notes that the FCC has given the state of California 20 days to respond to its July notice of violation. This, concerning one of those low-power AM systems in Los Angeles under the call WPHJ962.

According to the FCC, a commission agent found that the station was airing only a continuous loop saying: "This is Caltrans highway advisory radio WPHJ 962 broadcasting. This is a test message."

In its citation, the FCC pointed out that Travelers Information Stations must air only noncommercial voice information pertaining to traffic and road conditions, traffic hazard and travel advisories, directions, availability of lodging, rest stops and service stations and descriptions of local points of interest.

A separate notice but similar went to the City of Santa Monica, California. In this case a Travelers Information Service system was retransmitting a National Weather Service station. (CGC)

**

ENFORCEMENT: BEHRINGER FINED $1,000,000 FOR UNAUTHORIZED GEAR SALES
Electronics supplier Behringer USA, Inc. has been dinged with a proposed one million dollar fine by the FCC. This, for marketing 50 models of unauthorized radio frequency equipment in the United States without prior consent from the regulatory agency.
The gear in question is described as digital audio music devices. This says the FCC was a willful and repeated violation of Section 302(b) of

the Communications Act of 1934, and Section 2.803(a) of the Commission's Rules. (FCC)
**

RESCUE RADIO: ALABAMA GETS ALERT FM

The Alabama Broadcasters Association in association Global Security Systems has announced that five radio stations in that state are among the first there to deploy a digital alarm and messaging system called Alert FM.

Alert FM uses RDS technology to send targeted alerts that are delivered by satellite to FM broadcast transmitters and user end Alert FM receivers. Information can also be displayed on mobile devices, such as PDA's, cell phones and other receivers equipped to decode RDS.

As an a incentive, broadcasters that participate in the Alert FM program will get the RDS technology at no cost to them. They will also receive the ability to transmit non-emergency mesages, including song titles and artists, call letters, slogans or other information to their listeners.

Global Security Systems says its use of the FM infrastructure provides overlapping coverage, ensuring distribution over a large footprint. It believes the system ultimately will be able to reach millions of households in the state with a single message in seconds. More on the Alert FM system is on line at http://www.alertfm.com (GSS)

**

RESCUE RADIO: ON LINE WEATHER TRAINING COURSE FROM STORM-PREP.COM

If you want to learn how to interpret real-time weather data to recognize and learn how to prepare for the variety of weather hazards a new on-line training course offered by Storm-Prep may be what you need.

Storm-Prep is a new public education initiative that offers a self-study course titled "Anticipating, Recognizing, and Preparing For Deadly Weather". The course demonstrates how to use the Internet to access and interpret radar imagery, satellite imagery, and other taxpayer-funded weather data, and even sky clues. It also shows how to recognize the potential for, or the imminent threat of, deadly weather.

More information about Storm-Prep and the course is on-line at www.storm-prep.com (Via press release)

**

RADIO THEFT: GROUND SYSTEM TAKEN FROM CALIFORNIA STATION

The copper wire thefts at rafio facilities continue. Broadcast engineer Bill Ruck, writing in the CGC Communicator writes that he

recently received a call about transmitter problems at KDYA A.M. KDYA operates on 1190 kHz in Vallejo, California. Ruck says that when he arrived the transmitter looked okay but was seeing high reflected power. So he walked out to the tower to look for problems there. What he found was the entire the ground system was gone. The copper wire used for it had been stolen. Ruck says that he is now in the process of replacing it using barbed wire. (CGC)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: K3LSR NEW HEAD OF AIR FORCE MARS

Some names in the news. First from the ARRL comes word that Allen Eiermann, K3LSR, has been named the new acting chief of Air Force MARS. Eiermann holds a General class Amateur Radio license and is a former Navy and Marine Corps MARS member. He replaces Don Poquette who recently retired form the Air Force. (ARRL)

**

THE SOCIAL SCENE: ARRL GREAT LAKES CONVENTION IN OHIO SEPT 22

The ARRL Great Lakes Division Convention is being held on Saturday, September 22nd at the Sheraton Independence Hotel in Independence, Ohio. Among the seminar sessions will be Bob Heil K9EID and Chip Margelli K7JA hosting a Heil Sound Workshop. Other seminar sessions will feature such well known radio amateurs as Bob Allphin K4UEE, Bernie McClenny W3UR, Don Karvonen K8MFO and John Papay K8YSE. The featured banquet speaker is Joel Harrison W5ZN, President of the ARRL. Following the banquet a Wouff Hong ceremony will be held. More about this event is on-line at www.2007gldc.org (e-mail)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: HANDIHAMS CELEBRATE YEAR 40

And the Handiham 40th anniversary special event takes place August 25th through the 28th. Plans call for the call W0EQO to be operational from 1400 to 0200 U-T-C each day using SSB on 7.240 and 14.340 MHz, and C-W on 7.040 and 14.140 MHz. It should be noted that 14.140 is also a gathering spot for many Canadian Morse enthusiasts so the two groups will be co-sharing the frequency. More information including the QSL route is on line At www.handiham.org (Handi Hams)

**

THE SOCIAL SCENE: SCADS PICNIC IN SOCAL AUGUST 18

And this for shortwave listeners and monitor radio hobbyists. While a bit short notice, word that the Southern California Area DX'ers will hold its annual picnic on August 18th. The venue is the Point Vincente Interpretive Center in Rancho Palos Verdes, California. Festivities will start around 7am for set-ups and will end about 4pm local Pacific Coast time. Those planning to attend are urged to bring along a

battery operated receiver and portable antenna for some listening fun. (SCADS)

**

THE SOCIAL SCENE: WIN A FREE TRIP BY CELEBRATING THE IRTS AT 75

You might call this one work Ireland and win a free trip. This with word that the Irish Radio Transmitters Society's 75th Anniversary Contest called CQ I R, will take place on the last weekend in September.

CQ I R is being billed as a 24-hour single operator contest with the emphasis on participation rather than winning and to this end every participant gains an entry ticket for a spectacular draw for every 75 QSO's made during the Contest. Hams from outside of Ireland and England will be eligible to win a weeks vacation at Ireland's Kinnitty Castle in Offaly. The holder of a ticket drawn from the drum devoted to Ireland and England will win a week long weekend in New York City for two people that will include a side trip to visit ARRL headquarters in Connecticut.

The contest is being promoted as a celebration of Ireland and the Irish, throughout the world. The prizes have been fully sponsored at no cost to the Irish Radio Transmitters Society. Full rules are on the IRTS website. Its in cyberspace at www.irts.ie (Southgate, IRTS)

**

BREAK 2

The news never stops and neither do we. This week from below the Southern Cross, we are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

RADIO SAFETY: MAJORITY OF DRIVERS SAY TEXTING UNSAFE
Nine out of 10 adults drivers in the United States believe that operating a motor vehicle while sending or receiving text messages is dangerous and should be against the law. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, reports:
--
The determination is the result of a new survey conducted by polling over 2,000 adults between June 28 and July 3rd in research conducted by Harris Interactive for hands free mobile messaging service Pinger Incorporated.
According to the results, 91 percent of adults surveyed thought that drivers sending text messages or e-mails are as dangerous as those who have had a couple of drinks before getting behind the wheel. However, the survey also found that 66 percent of adults who drive a car and

have read text messages or e-mails while driving. 57 percent of the same people said they have sent text messages or e-mails while behind the wheel.
But that's not all. The survey found that 64 percent of adults who admitted to sending text messages while driving were between the ages of 18 and 34. Only 6 percent were 55 or older. And less we forget: Men and women were found to be of equal numbers in regard to sending text messages while driving.
Well, I won't and I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, for the Amateur Radio Newsline.
--
Six states including New York, California and Florida are considering legislation that would ban texting while driving. Washington state banned texting while driving in May. (ScienceOnLine)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: A GOOD SCIENCE EDUCATION HELPS

Researchers say students who had more math courses in high school did better in all types of science once they got to college. On the other hand, while high school courses in biology, chemistry or physics improved college performance in each of the individual sciences, taking a high school course in one science didn't result in better college performance in the others.

One of the study authors says the most important thing for high school science teachers is to make sure there's lots of math in whatever science course they teach. The head of the National Science Teachers Association said while the "correlation with math makes sense" it's not the necessarily the same as a cause and effect.

The research, which is being reported in the journal Science, was supported by the National Science Foundation. (NSF)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: A CALL FOR PAPERS

A third call for papers to be presented at the 2007 AMSAT Space Symposium and Annual Meeting has been announced. The emphasis for this year is an educational outreach to middle and high school students. In particular, papers on Students & Education, ARISS, AO-51, Phase 3 E, Eagle and other satellite-related topics are being solicited.

September 1st is the deadline for submitting electronic versions of papers for inclusion in the printed symposium proceedings. They go to Dan Schultz by e-mail to n8fgy at amsat dot org. The symposium itself is slated to be held October 25th to the 28th in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. (ANS)

**

RADIO IN SPACE: BRAZIL RESUMES SPACE PROGRAM

Brazil has taken its first steps in reviving its space program. In late July that nations aerospace agency launched one of its VSB-30 atmospheric sounding rockets. According to Brazilian officials the flight lasted about 20 minute with the experimental capsule plashing down on target in the South Atlantic. Brazil says that its goal is to develop the technology to launch heavy payload satellites into Earth orbit. (Space)

**

WORLDBEAT - AUSTRALIA: VK INTRODUCED DAB+

Australia is one of the latest nations to adopt the new DAB Plus system for digital audio broadcasting. Marilyn Syme, VK3DMS, reports from Victoria state:

--

Australian radio broadcasters recently switched on the first test transmissions of digital radio using DAB+ in Sydney, New South Wales.

The digital radio test is carrying a mix of talk and music, including pop and jazz, to allow the industry to test the sound quality of a variety of content at various bit rates.

A demonstration DAB+ receiver was developed for the test, as DAB+ receivers are not yet commercially available. A number of manufacturers have indicated they will have DAB+ products ready for overseas retail sale before Christmas. All commercial, SBS and ABC outlets in the capital cities are expected to avail themselves of Digital Conversion.

This is Marilyn, VK3DMS.

--

Australia has also joined a new DAB+ taskforce set up by the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union. Warner has been appointed chair of the task force, also represented are Brunei, Singapore and New Zealand. The taskforce plans to survey of regional broadcasters to ascertain their plans for digital radio, as well as to encourage nations to adopt DAB+. (WIA News)

**

ON THE AIR: A STRANGE OPERATING EVENT

Italy's 4th annual Strange Radio Event will take place between 0600 UTC on October 19th and 2200 UTC on the 21st. Many Italian stations will be using many special S-R-T suffix callsigns such as IS0SRT, II1SRT and IR8SRT and the Strange Radio Team is hoping to hear many other S-R-T suffix callsigns from other countries.

Strange Radio Team plaques will be awarded for this event and certificates will be available for those holding QSOs various S-R-T special callsigns.

The mode for this event is SSB only. More can be found on-line at www.strangeradioteam.com (SRT Release)

**

DX

In DX, word that the Greater Norwalk Amatuer Radio Club will be sponsoring a DXpedition from August 18th to the 19th. This, to activate Sheffield Island Lighthouse for International Lighthouse Weekend. Operation will use the callsign N1EV and will begin 1600 UTC on the 18th and end at around 1800 UTC on the 19th. Activity will be on 80 through 10 meters using SSB/CW/FSK in or around the IOTA calling frequencies. Plans are to run at least 2 stations for the entire event. QSL direct to N1EV.

And while a bit down the road yet, word that KK9A, will be active as P40A from Aruba during the CQ World Wide DX SSB Contest. That's planned for October 27th and 28th and he plans to operate as a single-operator all-band entry. QSL this one via WD9DZV.

And a first ever qualification and activation of Pelican Island takes place August 25th from 1400 to 2400 UTC. Look for W5P on or near 14.260 MHz, 7.260 MHz using various modes. Pelican Island is designated as United States Island TX050 located on Eagle Mountain Lake. QSL as directed on the air

Lastly, Don Field, G3XTT, reports that the long awaited 3B7C DXpedition to St. Brandon Island will take place between September 7th ad the 24th. Planners G3NUG and G3BJ have now confirmed the various logistical arrangements for their September operation. The island has also been visited to make a detailed site survey. And some good news for 6 meter enthusiasts. Even though magic band operations are not normally allowed from Mauritius and its outlying the DXpedition ha been able to gain a short-term permit for three fixed frequencies in the 50 MHz band. C-W will be on 50.090 and 50.102 and SSB on 50.145 MHz. More information is on-line at www.3b7c.com/

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: BRICKS IN THE MAIL

And finally this wee, there an old adage that there are always two sides to a story. Well that certainly applies to an almost legendary ongoing ham radio slug fest on the internet. Here's Jim Linton, VK3PC:

--

This concerns the sending of a box of house bricks and other rubbish, to a radio amateur who collected it from his post office, paying cash on delivery.

There was an expectation that the box would contain radio equipment. Not restraining his emotions one bit, the irate receiver of the box of

heavy and somewhat expensive rubbish took to his keyboard to attack the sender.

Counter claims were then made by the apparent sender of the box who tried to put some kind of justification on what had occurred.

It all apparently stems from a dissatisfaction over an earlier matter on a popular `for sale' and `wanted' advertising website.

Angry words like `integrity', `rip-off', `honesty' and `greed' are being used in these public exchanges between the two.

A small blessing however is they live some 2,000 kilometers apart and may never meet. Nonetheless those observing the internet battle remain either bemused or bored with the whole affair.

Neither side seemingly wants to give-up. It's all about personal pride, reputation and emotions continue running high over a very important issue - not.

I'm Jim Linton VK3PC and you're listening to the Amateur Radio Newsline.

--

All we can say to this is better that these kind of disagreements be fought in cyberspace than on the air. (WIA News)

**

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A News, that's all from the Amateur Radio NewslineT. Our e-mail address is newsline@arnewsline.org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline'sT only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio NewslineT, P.O. Box 660937, Arcadia, California 91066.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF, saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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1425. Any new guesses ?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-20 11:17:13 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Mv2dnRJ02Y2x5VTbnZ2dnUVZ_qiinZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 4030

Any one want to add a guess on ARS numbers change since the code was dropped?

1) Predict amount of change in ARS numbers between the IMPLEMENTATION date of the R&O for elimination of code testing and one year from that
> date.
2) Calculation of the number of licenses will be done by N2EY under the same principals that he uses now to calculate the number of licenses.
3) You must select whole numbers for your percentage.
4) You may select positive or negative percentages.
5) You may select a range but that range may not exceed a total of 4%. Note that your average will be used to determine who is closest. If the actual change is outside the range of everyone's guesses then the person whose limit is closest will be the winner.
6) You must submit your guess no later than six months after the IMPLEMENTATION date of the R&O.

Anyone else? Note if your guess doesn't show up on the list within a week, it may mean that my ISP is blocking it or that you are on my blocked senders list. You may still participate but you will have to have your guess submitted by someone who is not blocked.

Guesses submitted:

N8UZE: 1% less to 1% more
N2EY: 1% more to 2% more
KH6HZ: 1% less to 0% change
N3KIP: 2% more to 6% more
KH6O: 6% more to 10% more
KK6J: 12% more to 14% more
KC2HMZ: 5% more
K8BSG: 2% to 3% more <--- Added 02/18/06

Dee, N8UZE

1426. Re: Diamond Terrace

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-20 12:53:09 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fac2de$1koe$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4031

Dave Heil wrote:
> I don't mind the idea that someone will be walking on bricks engraved
> with the call of a silent key. I mind the idea that the League will
> take a 35 cent brick, engrave it and charge someone a couple of hundred
> bucks to place it someplace where the donor will likely never have a
> chance to enjoy his pricey purchase. Since Mary Hobart (K1 More Money
> Honey) came aboard, the ARRL has been all about raising money through a
> number of elitist schemes.

In the money raising game, it becomes difficult to come up with good ideas to raise that cash. Membership fees are one way. But when extra is needed, new ideas are needed. Sometimes a group will offer "lifetime" memberships. These can generate a bit more spending money. Those are a good deal for someone who became a lifetime member a long time ago, (what did a lifetime membership cost in 1970?) but that money is long gone.

So the engraved brick thing is one of the ways that ARRL and others use to keep things interesting. I've seen it on other places such as fishing piers like the one in Flagler beach Florida, where the pier gets knocked down by a hurricane every ten years or so. So they have a "buy a plank" effort. You "buy" one, and your name gets routed into the plank for all to see. The pier is rebuilt, and everyone is happy. You can even buy a bench or pier shelter.

The nice thing is that even those who do not buy a plank or other item are welcome to use the pier.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1427. Re: Diamond Terrace

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-20 13:03:56 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fac2u8$1bq4$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4032

Phil Kane wrote:
> On Sat, 18 Aug 2007 16:37:27 EDT, Dave Heil <k8mn@earthlink.net>
> wrote:
>
>> I mind the idea that the League will
>> take a 35 cent brick, engrave it and charge someone a couple of hundred
>> bucks to place it someplace where the donor will likely never have a
>> chance to enjoy his pricey purchase.
>
> What's the difference between that and the "John Smith Memorial
> Chapel" or the "Bessie Jones Dining Room" at any other institution?
> Personally, I don't want to be remembered by the "Phil Kane Toilet
> Seat" but doing those brick things are a legit fundraising technique
> nowadays, no different from selling dedications and memorial plaques
> in the name of donors at many schools and congregations.

It is a revenue generating technique that is becoming increasingly popular. We have a restored theater in town that raised funds this way. There are some sports venues in the area that have donors plaques posted in their facility - including bronze, silver, and gold donor plaques obviously based on how much money was donated.

While I can understand that some might consider it a vanity thing, I also know that without those donors, there probably wouldn't be a facility or theater for people to use.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1428. Re: An ARRL mailing works!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-20 17:03:11 UTC
From: Dave Heil <k8mn@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <13cji9tm8a0ace2@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 4033

R. Scott wrote:
> Dave Heil wrote:
>> I typically toss most mailings received from the ARRL. They're either
>> pleas for donations for this or that or a solicitation to purchase
>> equipment insurance. A couple of days ago, I received a solicitation
>> from the League for car insurance through MetLife. I was about to
>> toss it when I remembered that my insurance was up for renewal in a
>> few days.
>>
>> I telephoned MetLife today and was surprised that the company's quote
>> for car insurance using the ARRL group discount, saved me over $300
>> per year on car insurance.
>>
>> Chalk one up for the ARRL.
>>
>> Dave K8MN
>>
>
> Just check your statement next time carefully. I have had State Farm
> for over 20+ years. AIG said they could save me and sure enough Saved
> me over 300 dollars for the 6months on 2 cars and my motorcycle. But
> at renewal time it was 300 MORE than what I got at State Farm. Called
> AIG and they said it was just a normal rate raise. State Farm at
> least took me back like I never left.

I had a similar experience in going from State Farm to AIG. The trouble was, State Farm kept increasing my rates too. AIG raised my rates three years back after a commercial truck backed into my car while it was parked on the street. When I called to challenge the increase, I was told that West Virginia state law *permits* them to increase rates even if the insured is not at fault. The truck driver's insurance paid for repairs to my vehicle.

West Virginia insurance rates are awful, by the way, mostly because of the number of law suits and the number of deer.

> SO be careful about these low price lead ins. Also check your coverage.

My coverage is identical to what I had with State Farm and AIG. This is not a "lead in" price, it is a discount offered to ARRL members. Metlife/ARRL even knocks 50 bucks off my deductible every year that I go without a claim.

This ARRL/Metlife deal seems to be the real thing.

Dave K8MN

1429. Re: Diamond Terrace

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-20 22:37:26 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5itph3F3qv9r4U1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4034

"Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
news:fac2u8$1bq4$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu

[snip]

: : It is a revenue generating technique that is becoming
: : increasingly popular. We have a restored theater in
: : town that raised funds this way. There are some sports
: : venues in the area that have donors plaques posted in
: : their facility - including bronze, silver, and gold
: : donor plaques obviously based on how much money was
: : donated.
: :
: : While I can understand that some might consider it a
: : vanity thing, I also know that without those donors,
: : there probably wouldn't be a facility or theater for
: : people to use.
: :
: : - 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

I can see where they're going with it, but I agree with Dave - if I were to donate money in this way, I'd rather like to be able to see it from time to time.

Here in the UK I live very close to the National Motorcycle Museum where they have all manner of old British bikes going right back to around 1902. They invite funding in exactly this way, with the names of people who donate going up on a wall. I live close enough to visit and see it whenever I want, but others don't.

73 Ivor G6URP

1430. [DXNL] DXNL 1533 (Aug 22, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-20 22:47:06 UTC
From: Robert Busch - DL7VOA <dxnl@dxhf.darc.de>
Message-ID: <117713793050.20070821004308@dxhf.darc.de>
Source record: 4035
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.dx,rec.radio.info

DXNL 1533 - Aug 22, 2007
DX Newsletter

a free and weekly service of
DARC Committee "DX and HF contesting"
(http://www.darcdxhf.de)

editor: Helmut Schlaffer, DL7MAE
(e-mail: dxnl@dxhf.darc.de)

translation by: Bob, DL7VOA
(e-mail: dl7voa@darc.de)

IS0 - SARDINIA, EU-024
Flaviano,IS0/I2MOV, is staying in his house in Dolianova about 20km north of the island's capital Cagliari since Jun 27. Dolianova is the birthplace of his XYL and Flaviano will stay there until November. He is using an IC-706 MKII G, a vertical for 7/10/14/18/21/24/28 MHz and a homebrew dipole for 6m. Flaviano prefers CW operation and requests QSLs via bureau to his homecall. Due to bad condx he only logged some 500 QSOs with 95 countries yet.

TI9 - COCOS ISLAND, NA-012
The DXpedition scheduled for February 2008 is still seeking members to join the team, especially experienced CW operators. Until now only four HAMs confirmed their participation: TI7WGI, DH8WR, DL2AWG and EA1DR. Right now they still try to figure out whether they take part in the WPX RTTY Contest or the ARRL CW Contest (opinions can be mailed to DH8WR@dh8wr.de). Since they can stay there for only ten days (including the way back and forth) only one serious contest participation can be planned during this time.
Further information can be obtained from: http://www.ti9.eu.com

3D2 - FIJI
3D2MT is the callsign of Tomas,LY1F, which he plans to activate between Aug 28 and Sep 4. Tomas promises to show up mainly in CW on 80-10m with emphasis put on 80/40/30m and a participation in the All Asian Contest. Since Tomas is working in Australia at the moment all direct QSLs should be sent to: VK2CCC, Dr. Tomas Magyla, 7 Churchill Avenue, Wahroonga NSW-2076, Australia. If you send your QSLs via the LY bureau or his address in Lithuania a longer processing time must be included.

7O - YEMEN
After conducting a business trip to the Yemen Chris Lorek,G4HCL, is back in England now. Like announced in DXNL 1532 he became active as

7O/G4HCL working in SSB on 20m. His license was issued by Walid Hamed, the "communications manager" of Sana'a International Airport, and not by the official telecommunications authority of the country. This license granted permission to operate the airport's HF station on the amateur radio bands. Chris already contacted the DXCC manager Bill Moore,NC1L, concerning the DXCC credit of this operation.

SWEDEN, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
The 2007 "Scandinavian Young Ladies Radio Amateurs" (SYLRA) meeting takes place in Oestersund, in the north of Sweden, from Aug 23-26,2007. The special event station 8S3SYL will be operated during the hamfest. The QSL manager SM3CVM prefers QSLs via the bureau.
The ladies will also visit the station SI9AM in Morokulia on Aug 24, these QSLs should be sent via SM3CVM. More information can be found at: http://www.sylra.se/_sgg/m1_1.htm

SPAIN, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
Members of the "El Grupo RASE DX" are celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Spanish major league soccer team "Real Betis Balompie" (also known as Betis Sevilla) with an activity from Sep 3-16. The DX club members will use the prefixes AM, AN and AO and activate the special event station EG7CRB in CW/SSB/digital on HF/VHF. A special award is issued as well, more information about award and the radio activities can be downloaded from: http://www.rasedx.com

TI8II QRT DUE TO LIGHTNING
Carlos,TI8II, is momentarily QRT because his equipment has been damaged by a lightning including an ICOM 756pro 2, his computer, printer, scanner, rotor, antenna tuner and an Ameritron amplifier (3 KW).
He has backed-up his log recently and lost only his last 15 QSOs.
Xavier,EA3BHK, offered his help to Carlos. If you have any donations you can make please send an e-mail to: ti8ii_cont@ea3bhk.com

WORLD RUGBY ASSOCIATION CHAMPIONSHIP AWARD
The Rugby World Championships will be carried out in Great Britain and France this year. Many special event stations will be put on the air and a special award can be obtained during that event. TM0RWC, TM1RWC, TM2RWC, TM3RWC, TM4RWC, TM5RWC, TM6RWC, TM7RWC, TM8RWC and TM9RWC will be QRV during several days in September and/or October. The awards manager is Jean-Claude, F5IL. The award rules and an operating schedule can be found at: http://arala.44.free.fr/cmr.php

LINKS: Current SOTA activities (mountain summits) are announced at:
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/activations.php or
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/spots.php

K4UJ is building a DX reference WIKI with information about all DXCC entities at: http://dxreference.com
---
"The Arctic Challenge" is called the new awards program of the "French Polar Team". For the rules check out: http://f6kdf.ath.cx/f5nod

UPCOMING CONTESTS

Aug 25/26: SCC RTTY Championship
Aug 25/26: YO DX HF Contest
The rules for the 2007 YO DX HF Contest can be downloaded from:
http://www.radioamator.ro/contest/us/yodxhf2007rules.html
The 2006 results can be found on this website as well at:
http://www.radioamator.ro/contest/us/yodxhf2006/dx-results.pdf
Specialty: A special award free of charge will be issued to everybody
who works ten members of the "YO DX Club" during the contest. A member
list is online at: http://www.radioamator.ro/yodxclub/membri.php

IOTA collected by Fredy,DE0MST (e-mail: iota@dxhf.darc.de)

Island activities:
AS-138, BY5, Fujian Prov. Group: Vanga,BD7KLO/BY5, will be active from
Pingtan Island (aka Haitan) from Aug 23-26. QSL via BD7KLO.

EU-016, 9A, Dalmatia South Group: Giuseppe,9A/IK5WWA, plans to become QRV
from Solta (CI-126) from Aug 25 until Sep 1. He also intends to put
other islands on the air during this time. QSLs via IK5WWA.

EU-017, ID9, Eolie (Lipari): Fabio,ID9/IK8HJC, plans to hit the airwaves
from Vulcano Island (ME-018) between Aug 25 and Sep 1. QSL via IK8HJC.

EU-078, EA3, Gerona Province Group: Ten Spanish OPs will activate the island
Meda Grande (E-001) signing EG3MED on Aug 25/26. QSLs via EA3GM.

EU-125, OZ, Jylland West Group: Ric,OZ/DL2VFR, is going to work mostly in CW
from Roemoe Island between Aug 26 and Sep 1. QSL via DL2VFR.

EU-127, DL, Schleswig-Holstein S.W. Group: Marcel,DJ5MS/p, will be QRV from
Helgoland-Duene (SSB only, 100 watts) from Aug 27-29. QSL via DJ5MS.

EU-156, F, Basse-Normandie Reg. Group: The Granville ARC plans to activate
the rock Tombelaine Island as F5KAQ/p from Aug 24-26. QSL via F5RJM.

EU-172, OZ, Jylland East & Fyn Group: Stefan,OZ/DF8HS, announced to be QRV
in SSB/RTTY/PSK31 on all bands from Aug 26 until Sep 8. QSL via DF8HS.

EU-176, SM3, Gavleborg County Group: Some Swedish OPs are going to activate
Grimskaer Island in CW/SSB on 80-10m signing SD3N and SG3U from
Aug 24-26. QSL via bureau or direct.

SA-051, YV,Las Aves de Sotavento: The island is situated within a restricted
military area and the organizers hope to get the help of the Venezolan
navy to activate YW5AS with several OPs in SSB/CW/digital modes from
Aug 27-31 or even a little longer.

Lighthouse activities (WLOTA/ARLHS)

EA8/ON6ZK LH 1276 Aug 16-22
ID9/IK3SCB LH 1144 Aug 18-24
SD3N SWE-156 Aug 24-26
SG3U SWE-156 Aug 24-26

9A/DD1MAT LH 2375 Sep 1-15

Bandspots of the last 7 days

80m
E7/DL5KBA 3.780 2320Z via T94QK
OJ0B 3.501 2311Z via OH2BH (B)
ZS4U 3.795 2054Z (L), K3PD (d)
ZS6HA 3.795 2052Z
4S7NE 3.790 2031Z
9Q1EK 3.535 2215Z via SM5DQC (d)

40m
SN2JS 7.008 2352Z via SP5KCR
SV1EQU/8 7.094 2051Z EU-075, via HC (B), (L)
TM4CR 7.055 0733Z LH 0208

30m
OJ0B 10.107 1756Z via OH2BH (B)
4O4A 10.103 2255Z (d)
5B/DH2FW 10.107 0736Z via DH2FW (B)
7P8/OE2VEL 10.108 1759Z via OE2VEL (B)

20m
BG5BAJ 14.270 1506Z
BG7MVZ 14.254 1631Z (d)
BG7RJK 14.260 1550Z
BW0IR 14.218 1644Z
CV9T 14.204 1947Z via CX1TA
E20WXA 14.265 1517Z (B)
HH2FYD 14.190 2135Z via F6FYD (B)
MM/OK1FZM 14.253 1945Z EU-008, via HC (B)
MM0BNN/p 14.255 1237Z LH SCO 045, via M0BNN
MM0TDG/p 14.259 1244Z EU-059
OH3A 14.257 1955Z LH FIN 001, via OH3AA
OJ0B 14.190 1854Z via OH2BH (B)
OJ0MI 14.190 0711Z via OH2NAN
RK1B/0 14.023 2017Z via RV1CC (B)
VR10VVJ 14.260 1524Z via VR2VVJ
XU7TZG 14.220 1607Z via ON7PP (d)
5P0MF 14.052 0931Z via DH1LAO

10m
EI1KARG 28.500 2034Z LH IRE 077, via EI9VFB

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = LotW

Preview

DATE CALL DXNL

07Sep-24Sep 3B7C 1511
Sep 3D2 (JA8BMK) 1531
Nov or Dec 3D2AG/Rotuma 1522
28Aug-04Sep 3D2MT 1533 *
2006 -2007 3XM6JR 1484
-Apr/08 5H0RS 1515
-Apr/08 6W/EA4ATI 1515
01Sep- 6W/T98A 1531
01Aug-26Aug 8J1A 1530
31Jul-31Aug 8J1ESP 1528
01Aug-21Oct 8J3ARDF 1530
-31Aug 8J7VENUS 1528
01Apr-09Sep 8N3IAAF 1513
23Aug-26Aug 8S3SYL 1533 *
2007 9N7JO 1501

-Apr/09 A52VE 1512
-Nov A61TX 1496
09Sep-14Sep CQ4IPY 1522
-Feb/08 DP0GVN 1496
10Aug-28Aug DU9/DL5SDF 1531
31Jul-24Aug EA8TL/EA6 1529
15Aug-22Aug EA8/ON6ZK 1532
03Sep-16Sep EG7RCB 1533 *
2007 -2008 EI100S (I) 1501
-30Nov EW905B 1523

2008 FO/Clipperton 1521
NOW FW0MO/FW0YL 1530
-30Sep HG5MISSION 1532
-30Sep IA3GM 1528
18Aug-24Aug ID9/IK3SCB 1532
-Nov IS0/I2MOV 1533 *
2006 -2008 J28JA 1484/85
-Aug JA7QVK/DU7 1521
18Jul-30Sep JD1BMM 1530
15Aug-26Aug JW/DJ3KR 1531
Nov KH3/W7KFI 1525/31

01Aug-27Aug OX/HB9FMD 1529
19Aug-23Aug OX/PA3EXX/p 1532
16Aug-23Aug SV9/ON5NT 1532
-31Dec SX100VAR 1528
Sep -Oct T30 (JA8BMK) 1531
Oct - T31XX 1531
Oct? T33ZZ 1531
Feb/08 TI9 1533 *
NOW -2008 TL8QC 1459
07Sep-20Oct TM0-9RWC 1533 *

NOW -Sep TU2/F5LDY 1486

23Aug-08Sep V5/DJ8VC 1532
Jan -Dec VI3SAA 1499
-31Aug VO1GAM 1531
-Sep VP6AL 1530
Feb/08 VP6DX/Ducie 1521
May -Aug VP6TD 1517
-31Dec Z360M 1531
-Sep ZD9BCB 1500

* = new or updated
.. = and other calls

QSL information

GZ0F CORRECTION: via M0CMK
HA15SD via HA8PH (B)
HA1IP (d)
HA50KNA via HA3KNA (B)
HA8LCA via HA8RD (B)
HA9WM (d)
HA0ODT (d) or eQSL
HB100JAM via HB9DNA
HB100S via HB9AOF (B)
HB0/PC5A via PC5A
HC8/LX1NO via LX1NO (B)
HF1TSR via SP1TMN
HF580LP via SP5XSL
HF63PW via SP5KCR
HG7WHW (d) or eQSL
HL0LPM/3 via 6K2BWA (B)
HS1CHB via E21EJC (B)
IB0/IZ2ACD via IZ2ACD
IF9/IK1RGM via IK1RGM
II1TS via IZ1GJK (B)
II4GOR via IK3MZS
II0IPY via I0NZK (B)
IP2IPY via I2AZ
IR4OS via IZ4HWA (B)
IR8DX via IK8VRH (B)
IR0IPY via IZ0HTW (B)
IS0/4Z5KJ via W0MM (B)
IS0/IZ1EVK via IZ1EVK
IU2FV via IQ2MI (B)
J48NAR via HA0NAR
J79PAK via HB9CUA
L20X via LU2EE (B)
MJ0PCB/p via M0PCB (B)
MM/OK1FZM/p via OK1FZM (B)
MM0ABB (d)

M0DYI via SP4FCP (B)
M0TFO (d) or eQSL
MW0DYI via SP4FCP
N1P via W1ZE
N0T via K0BLT (B)
NY4A via AI4U (B)
OH1/DL6BBT via DL6BBT (B)
OL60HI via OK2PO
ON100SCOUT via ON4HRT (B)
ON60NOK via ON7YX (B)
OP7B via ON7BJ
OQ5A via ON4IG
OX/SM6DQR via SM6DQR (B)
TG9AVU eqsl.cc
TK/DL2RMC via DL2RMC (B)
TM2HRH via F6KTN
TM4ST via F4ELJ (B)
TM5VIN via F9KH
TO1USB via F1JXQ (d), eQSL
TO1YR via FM1HN (B)
4O/S59SV via S59SV
4O/YZ1EW via YZ1EW
5P0MF via DL3LBX
7Z1HL via DJ9ZB (B)
8S20OTC via SM7BHM
8S8MTB/mm via SK0MTB (B)
9A/OM8AA via OM8AA

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = Logbook of the World (LotW)

QSL via PY5EG, PY2OMS, ZW5B and PS2T: Mac,W3HC, was the QSL manager for
Oms,PY5EG, and all his special callsigns for the last ten years.
The NEW QSL manager is now Irv,K3IRV. His direct address is:
K3IRV, Irv McWherter, 11910 Coronada Pl, Kensington, MD 20895-2323, USA

QSL via TM7A: Laurent knew in advance that he will receive many QSL cards
for TM7A, a call which was reactivated during the last REF contest.
This call has been assigned to Laurent,F8BBL, already in 2003 and he
writes that French special callsigns may be re-issued several times.
Please do NOT send QSLs for the 2007 TM7A operation to him! The correct
QSL route for TM7A (2007) is via bureau to F5RPB or direct to F5PSC.

QSLs arrived via bureau: A45WD (via YO9HP), A52CDX (via F9DK),CQ0T (CT1ILT),
CS6T (CT1AES), CS9Z (CT3FJ), CT7T (CT1ILT),
DP1ANF (RK1PWA), EA6/DF1MM,EM15UARL (UT2UB),EO15EK,
EM5F (UX0FF), EO3Q (UR3QCW), FG5FI, FP/G3TXF,
IB0/OM0C (OM2FY), IS0N (OK1MG), JV800BV (JT1BV),
JT1BV, KP4JRS, LZ130B (LZ1KZA), LZ13ARDF (LZ1KZA),

LZ1900K (via LZ1BJ)

Many thanks for contributing to this issue of the DXNL are going to:
Carl Smith (QRZ DX), 425DX News, OPDX Bulletin, DF2CQ,DF6EX (WIN-QSL),DF7FC,
DJ5AV, DJ5MN, DK6CQ, DK8JB, DL1MAJ, DL1SBF, DL2VFR, DL3AMA, DL3IE, DL7VOA,
EA3BHK, F5NQL, I2MOV, MM0XAU, PA8KM, PY5EG, SM3CXS, YO2DFA, YV5EED and more.

The German PDF version can be found on the DARC homepage at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/bulls/dxmb/2007/dxmb1533.pdf

Subscribe or unsubscribe to the DXNL mailing list yourself at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedxms.htm

1431. Re: An ARRL mailing works!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-20 22:48:09 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <ua6kc39lf01kvasmscfqpg5dnt2b61f81l@4ax.com>
Source record: 4036

On Mon, 20 Aug 2007 13:03:11 EDT, Dave Heil <k8mn@earthlink.net>
wrote:

> When I called to challenge the increase, I was
>told that West Virginia state law *permits* them to increase rates even
>if the insured is not at fault. The truck driver's insurance paid for
>repairs to my vehicle.

I wonder whether anyone has sued the truck driver successfully for the
portion of increase in rates that was because of the collision, under
the "but for" rule (wouldn't have been increased that amount but for
the collision).
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1432. Re: Diamond Terrace

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-21 00:49:01 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5itpaaF3qrk5aU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 4037

"Dave Heil" <k8mn@earthlink.net> wrote in message
news:13cfavinb23tu6e@corp.supernews.com

[snip]

: : I'm holding out for my name on the Men's Room at the
: : Madonna Inn between San Francisco and L.A. on the 101.
: :
: : Dave K8MN

Hey, I might well be passing there in a couple of months, shall I look out
for it..?!

73 Ivor G6URP

1433. Re: Diamond Terrace

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-21 03:21:50 UTC
From: Dave Heil <k8mn@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <13ckmi1plq05aed@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 4038

Ivor Jones wrote:
> "Dave Heil" <k8mn@earthlink.net> wrote in message
> news:13cfavinb23tu6e@corp.supernews.com
>
> [snip]
>
> : : I'm holding out for my name on the Men's Room at the
> : : Madonna Inn between San Francisco and L.A. on the 101.
> : :
> : : Dave K8MN
>
> Hey, I might well be passing there in a couple of months, shall I look
> out for it..?!

The motel is easy to spot. It is pink and stone and looks like
something designed by a demented Playboy Bunny. Go down the stairs at
the right side of the main lobby. One of the Men's room fixtures must
be seen to be believed!

Dave K8MN

1434. Re: An ARRL mailing works!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-21 03:24:51 UTC
From: Dave Heil <k8mn@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <13ckmnnnfts1h54@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 4039

Phil Kane wrote:
> On Mon, 20 Aug 2007 13:03:11 EDT, Dave Heil <k8mn@earthlink.net>
> wrote:
>
>
>> When I called to challenge the increase, I was
>> told that West Virginia state law *permits* them to increase rates even
>> if the insured is not at fault. The truck driver's insurance paid for
>> repairs to my vehicle.
>>
>
> I wonder whether anyone has sued the truck driver successfully for the
> portion of increase in rates that was because of the collision, under
> the "but for" rule (wouldn't have been increased that amount but for
> the collision).
>

That's something that my non-litigious mind would never have put together, Phil. The poor schmo had enough problems that day. As he opened the door of his truck to find out what he'd hit, he took the side mirror off a passing car.

Dave K8MN

1435. Re: Diamond Terrace

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-22 02:36:29 UTC
From: Iitoi <Iitoi@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <fag724$al9$1@aioe.org>
Source record: 4040

"Dave Heil" <k8mn@earthlink.net> wrote in message
news:13cem3u1mrljv8f@corp.supernews.com...
>I don't mind the idea that someone will be walking on bricks engraved with the
>call of a silent key. I mind the idea that the League will take a 35 cent
>brick, engrave it and charge someone a couple of hundred bucks to place it
>someplace where the donor will likely never have a chance to enjoy his pricey
>purchase.

Give a 5-dollar bill to a Legionaire, and they'll present you with a 3-cent
paper poppy. It's a "token" of your donation, just like the 35-cent brick.

The Man in the Maze
QRL at Baboquivari Peak, AZ

--
Iitoi

1436. Re: Diamond Terrace

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-22 05:20:54 UTC
From: Dave Heil <k8mn@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <13cng021017eve1@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 4041

Iitoi wrote:
> "Dave Heil" <k8mn@earthlink.net> wrote in message
> news:13cem3u1mrljv8f@corp.supernews.com...
>> I don't mind the idea that someone will be walking on bricks engraved with the
>> call of a silent key. I mind the idea that the League will take a 35 cent
>> brick, engrave it and charge someone a couple of hundred bucks to place it
>> someplace where the donor will likely never have a chance to enjoy his pricey
>> purchase.
>
> Give a 5-dollar bill to a Legionaire, and they'll present you with a 3-cent
> paper poppy. It's a "token" of your donation, just like the 35-cent brick.

Actually, the Legionaire will just say thanks. A VFW member will give
you a poppy--even for a dime or a quarter.

Dave K8MN

1437. Welcome to rec.radio.info!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-22 06:00:06 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/welcome-1-1187762401@panix.com>
Source record: 4042
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.scanner,rec.radio.shortwave,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/welcome
Revision: 1.2 2007/07/21 18:09:02
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

*** Welcome to rec.radio.info! ***

Welcome to rec.radio.info, a group that aims to provide a noise-free
source of information and news for the entire rec.radio hierarchy.

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to the group
every month. You are now reading the first article, which explains what
rec.radio.info is, and answers some Frequently Asked Questions. The
second article is titled Posting Guidelines, and you only need to read
it if you want to submit an article to rec.radio.info.

You can skip to the next section of this article by searching for the
next
" -- " string. The sections available are:
- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?
- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?
- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?
- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.
- What type of material is considered inappropriate?
- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to
rec.radio.info?
- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?
- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to
speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

-- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?

The purpose or charter of rec.radio.info is to provide the Usenet
community with a resource for information, news, and facts about any and
all things radio.

All the other rec.radio groups are intended for discussions and general
chit chat about radio. Rec.radio.info will contain informational,
factual articles only. Follow-ups are redirected to an appropriate other
group, and further discussion (if any) will not take place in
rec.radio.info.

In order to ensure that rec.radio.info contains only appropriate
articles, it was decided to create the group as a moderated newsgroup.
```

-- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?

It provides a "tag" for each article to be assembled into a filtered presentation in rec.radio.info (even with cross-posting, only one message, with a unique Message-ID, is propagated across the net). This tag also facilitates a pre-existing method of dropping or canceling the articles locally within the discussion groups if you don't want to see them. This accommodates individuals who want to separate the bulletins from the discussions, discussions from the bulletins, as well as those who are adamant about not reading another newsgroup and wanted to see everything all in one basket.

With the total size of Usenet (in number of newsgroups and total traffic) doubling every year or so, this is no insignificant contribution to reducing information noise and chaos. Making the discussion groups a catch-all, and making extra newsgroups filters on that catch-all, is also the most realistic way to implement such a scheme (It's not intuitively obvious what the charter, contents, and general appropriate topics for each and every newsgroup are. Seeing FAQ's and charter/intro postings in the home newsgroup is beneficial for new readers).

By cross-posting one only is adding a few tens of bytes to each bulletin (to specify the extra group on the Newsgroups line), but are adding the capability for very powerful filtering features available on most news servers, listservers and readers. Your local news guru could probably explain these features in more detail.

In rn, for example, according to Leanne Phillips in her rn kill-file FAQ, add a line of the form:

/Newsgroups:.*[,]rec\.radio\.info/h:j

either in ~/News/KILL (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere) or ~/News/rec/radio/amateur/misc/KILL (if you don't want to see them just in rec.radio.amateur.misc). The latter method means your kill file will only be consulted during rec.radio.amateur.misc (and hence runs more efficiently), and will probably work for most people.

In nn, according to Bill Wohler in his nn FAQ, add a line of the form:

rec.radio.info:!s/:^

in ~/.nn/kill (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere), or put the following lines:

sequence
rec.radio.info
rec.radio.

at the end of ~/.nn/init in order to see all the rec.radio.info bulletins first, then read the remaining rec.radio.* without the bulletins.

More information about kill files may be obtained from Dave Fawthrop's Killfile FAQ at:

http://www.hyphenologist.co.uk/killfile/

-- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?

If you are new to Usenet and are not familiar with the terminology, you might want to read the general introductory articles found in the newsgroup news.announce.newusers. Doing so will make your life on the net much easier, and will probably save you from making silly beginner's mistakes.

If you think that at this moment you are reading an echo, a conference, or a bulletin board, I'd also strongly suggest a trip over to news.announce.newusers.

For the rest of this article, we will assume you have a basic knowledge of Usenet terminology and mechanics.

A moderated group means that any article that needs to be posted to the group has to be accepted by the moderator of the group. Since we need to ensure that followups to an article (discussion) do not show up in the rec.radio.info newsgroup, the `Followup-To:' header line contains a newsgroup that is appropriate for discussions about the specific article.

-- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.

Rec.radio.info is a moderated newsgroup, which means that all articles submitted to the group will have to be approved by the moderator first.

The current moderator of the group is the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team. Submissions to rec.radio.info can be posted, or e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Comments, criticisms, suggestions or questions about the group can be e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

But before you do so, please be sure to check out the "Posting Guidelines" article.

The influence of the moderator should be minimal and of an administrative nature, consisting chiefly of weeding out obviously inappropriate articles, while making sure correct headers etc. are used for the appropriate ones.

-- What type of material is considered inappropriate?

There are three broad categories of articles which will be rejected by the moderator:

1) Requests for information: rec.radio.info is strictly a one-way street. We receive information in our mailbox; we then post it to

rec.radio.info. Requests for specific information belong in the normal discussion newsgroups. If your request gets answered, you might consider passing the answer on to rec.radio.info, though. Especially if you can edit it into a informational, rather than a discussion, format.

2) Obvious discussion articles, or articles that appear unsubstantiated.

3) Commercial stuff: a relatively unbiased test of a radio product would be accepted, but any hint of for-profit might be reason for rejection. For three reasons: This is not the purpose of the list, for-profit is a controversial topic, and this list may be passed onto Amateur Packet Radio (where for-profit is prohibited except under certain provisos).

rec.radio.swap may be more deserving of the posting in any matter.

Similarly, copyrighted material generally cannot be used. If it's TRULY worthwhile to the net, We would recommend obtaining permission from the copyright holder. Please note the source, and if permission was given. We reserve the right to make the final decision concerning appropriateness in all situations. In most cases, a brief summary of, or pointer to, the copyrighted information may be all we can allow.

-- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to rec.radio.info?

Google has an excellent web interface to Usenet newsgroups. It is available at:

http://groups.google.com

It supports both reading and posting.

-- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?

Yes. See Google Groups above.

Effectively this means that anything you post to rec.radio.info will be permanently stored, so your work will not be lost.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as time critical.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires co-operation and goodwill

to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio hierarchy.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

1438. rec.radio.info Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-22 06:05:02 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines-1-1187762700@panix.com>
Source record: 4043
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.scanner,rec.radio.shortwave,rec.answers,news.answers

Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines
Revision: 1.5 2007/03/22 16:30:49
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

*** rec.radio.info - Posting Guidelines and Etiquette ***

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to this group
and to rec.answers/news.answers every month. You are now reading the
second article, which explains how to submit something to
rec.radio.info, and which answers some Frequently Asked Questions about
the submission process. The first article is titled "Welcome to
rec.radio.info", and it might be a good idea to check it out as well.

-- How do I submit something to rec.radio.info?

Two possibilities. You can use your newsreading software to just post
the article to rec.radio.info, as you would do with any other
newsgroup. The difference is that the software recognizes the special
status of rec.radio.info as a moderated group, and will e-mail your
article to us, the moderation team, instead of posting it to the group.

Alternatively, you can mail your article directly to us at the following
address:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Mailing us directly is probably (a wee bit) faster, but using the
transparency offered by the newsreading software is probably more
convenient.

If you have any questions, or wish to deal with some administrivia with
the moderation team, we suggest mailing to the following address:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

-- How soon will I see my article appear?

It depends on how busy we are. Your article reaches us as mail, we have
to read it first, give it the stamp of approval, and finally send it on
to the group. We will attempt to read and decide on all submissions
within 72 hours at the very least, though we will probably be able to
process submissions much faster in actual practice.

The site from which we moderate this newsgroup, "Public Access Internet
and Unix, NYC" (Panix), is directly connected to the Internet, and

articles posted at that site should appear at most major news sites, including Google Groups, the same day. The principal delay, therefore, will be the wait in the moderator's submission queue.

If you post a periodic article, and have shown to be trustworthy, we may allow you to post directly if the article is of a timely nature. See the section below on direct posting.

-- Should my article be in a specific format?

No. If it is not totally illegible, we will accept it, and if it does not have a correct subject-line we will correct it with your permission -- that's what a moderator is for.

However.

You could do us a big favor by making sure your article conforms to these simple requirements:

1) The article must present information, not discussion or requests, We will reject the article or require you to change the wording if it is worth it.
2) A good, descriptive Subject line.
3) Always mention what source you got the information from.
4) Don't forget to include a Followup-To header, at least if you don't want further discussion to automatically be forwarded to you, the poster, which is the default if the article is only posted to rec.radio.info.

As we said: if your article is appropriate we will post it even if you don't follow these guidelines, but then don't blame us for not processing it immediately. 'Perfect' articles we can send on with a couple of keystrokes. Stuff that needs minor editing is going to have to wait until we have time to do so.

Please do not waste both our and your time by posting requests, as this is an information only news group.

-- What about crossposting?

If you send something to rec.radio.info, just name any group you'd like to cross-post to in the Newsgroups field. Then, when we approve the article for rec.radio.info it will get automatically cross-posted to any other groups mentioned. This will also override the default Followup-To: poster, replacing it with the groups you cross posted to.

We would prefer if the group be cross-posted to the various discussion groups in the rec.radio.* hierarchy that are appropriate:

rec.radio.amateur.misc Amateur (ham) radio and related matters
rec.radio.amateur.packet Amateur Packet Radio discussions
rec.radio.amateur.policy Amateur Radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.noncomm Non commercial radio discussions
rec.radio.shortwave International broadcasting on the 'HF' bands

rec.radio.cb Citizens Band (27 MHz) discussion
rec.radio.scanner Scanner discussions (unsupported group)

or in one of the moderated groups:

rec.radio.amateur.moderated Amateur radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.broadcasting Discussion of *domestic* radio broadcasting

We will leave it up to the poster to decide which group(s) are appropriate, but reserve the right to add groups if we feel it has broader interest. We will consult with the poster first.

Notes on crossposting:

- rec.radio.broadcasting is also a moderated group. The rec.radio.broadcasting moderator prefers to review all articles himself before posting. Placing rec.radio.broadcasting before rec.radio.info on the Newsgroups line should accomplish this. We will typically abide by the rec.radio.broadcasting moderator's decision whether the article is appropriate for rec.radio.info.

- rec.radio.amateur.moderated is also a moderated group. As the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team manages both rec.radio.amateur.moderated and rec.radio.info, we can manage crossposting and approvals for both newsgroups. The rec.radio.amateur.moderated group does not allow crossposting to other discussion newsgroups, whether moderated or unmoderated. However, we would like to manage rec.radio.info as consistently as possible with how it was done by previous moderators, including the grandfathering of existing regular postings. Therefore, the submitter can choose rec.radio.amateur.moderated or the other unmoderated rec.radio.amateur.* discussion newsgroups for crossposting, but not both.

- Any FAQ or informational posting approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderation team that is also crossposted to any rec.radio.* newsgroup (besides just rec.radio.info) is also automatically pre-approved for rec.radio.info. See below for more information.

If you post to another moderated group, it may be better to make special arrangements with both moderators before posting by contacting us at our administrivia addresses.

In addition, cross-posts do not take up extra space; modern newsreaders can be configured to show you cross-posted articles only once anyway; not everybody reads rec.radio.info; and rec.radio.info was never meant to reduce the volume of the regular discussion newsgroups. But keep in mind that some of the mail gateways may filter out the informational postings (at request of the subscribers) to keep the load down.

You decide.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, can I make arrangements to help speed up delivery by posting directly from my site?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as timely.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires cooperation and good will to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio.* hierarchy.

If you are currently maintaining (or plan to maintain) a radio-related periodic information posting, you may wish to consider crossposting it to rec.answers/news.answers. Postings that are approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderators for this treatment are automatically pre-approved for crossposting to rec.radio.info (as the news.answers requirements are far more rigorous than the requirements this newsgroup ever plans to use). For more information about this option, consult the appropriate information articles and posting guidelines in rec.answers/news.answers.

Realize also, that even if your post is not approved for rec.answers/news.answers, it can still be approved for rec.radio.info. The intention is not so much to get every last bit of radio-related information on rec.answers/news.answers, but rather to provide an alternative avenue of approval (as well as grandfather existing maintainers of radio-related information and spare them additional bureaucratic hurdles). Again, crossposting to either rec.radio.info or rec.answers/news.answers, both, or neither, is at the discretion of the poster (subject to the approval of the moderators). You decide what is most appropriate for your article.

Please remember that as an information maintainer, you are not alone. There are many others on the net who maintain and post periodic information postings, using various intermediate-to-advanced features of Usenet (usually via automated tools). Various degrees of technical support and general hand-holding are available from many Usenet veterans. Send us some E-mail describing your needs to our administrative address below, and we'll try to help, or at least refer you to the right knowledgeable individual(s).

-- And Follow-ups?

If the only newsgroup you have specified is rec.radio.info, then the Followup-To: field will always be set to poster. If you do not want this, you must supply a Followup-To line of your own, and we will honor that one, as long as it is a subset of the original Newsgroups line.

If you specify newsgroups to cross-post to, then the Followup-To field will be set to include all the cross-posted groups, excepting rec.radio.info itself. Again, if you do not wish this behavior, supply your own Followup-To line.

We maintain other standards on the various RFC-1036 (news transport) header lines. For example, if the article is appropriate for passing into the Packet Radio Information Network, we encapsulate the Packet Bulletin Identifier (BID) in the Message-ID: news header line indicating the machine of origin as the ampr.org domain:

Message-ID: <$opa.55.1994@ampr.org>

where the Packet Radio BID, in this example, is `$OPA.55', and it was posted in the year 1994, because some of the Bid numbers are cycled yearly. Hopefully, this can be used as a key to re-introduce the articles for the Packet Radio network. Also, if the article is a repost of an already existing information article in the rec.radio heirarchy, we ensure that the References: header line is linked to that previously posted article. This also helps to tag articles, and may be used for additional filtering if needed.

Since the articles are archived, please use the Summary and Keywords header lines to help one search for your article.

-- Why have I received no reply from you?

We never reject anything in silence, and we make a point of it to answer all our mail. However, E-mail, like a brain cell, can and does get lost, every now and again.

So, if you send us something, and you don't see it appear it rec.radio.info, and you still have not heard from us in reply after say, five days, you can be pretty sure that either your mail never reached us, or that our answer has never reached you. In that case, please try again (We will filter out duplicates).

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

1439. Re: Diamond Terrace

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-22 16:48:35 UTC
From: David Lesher <wb8foz@panix.com>
Message-ID: <fahp1d$hj7$1@reader1.panix.com>
Source record: 4044

Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> writes:

> In the money raising game, it becomes difficult to come up with good
>ideas to raise that cash. Membership fees are one way. But when extra is
>needed, new ideas are needed. Sometimes a group will offer "lifetime"
>memberships. These can generate a bit more spending money. Those are a
>good deal for someone who became a lifetime member a long time ago,
>(what did a lifetime membership cost in 1970?) but that money is long gone.

I think it was $170.00 that I paid in 1971...
--
A host is a host from coast to coast.................wb8foz@nrk.com
& no one will talk to a host that's close........[v].(301) 56-LINUX
Unless the host (that isn't close).........................pob 1433
is busy, hung or dead....................................20915-1433

1440. Re: Diamond Terrace

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-22 17:44:06 UTC
From: Iitoi <Iitoi@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <fahqkhsut1@aioe.org>
Source record: 4045

"Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
news:fac2de$1koe$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...
> Those are a good deal for someone who became a lifetime member a long time
> ago, (what did a lifetime membership cost in 1970?) but that money is long
> gone.

The money isn't "long gone". Conventional practice for nonprofits is to invest
'life member' funds in a trust and withdraw based on an actuarial model.

The Man in the Maze
QRU on Baboquivari Peak, AZ

--
Iitoi

1441. Re: Diamond Terrace

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-22 17:44:36 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fahr4q$1gdi$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 4046

David Lesher wrote:
> Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> writes:
>
>
>
>> In the money raising game, it becomes difficult to come up with good
>> ideas to raise that cash. Membership fees are one way. But when extra is
>> needed, new ideas are needed. Sometimes a group will offer "lifetime"
>> memberships. These can generate a bit more spending money. Those are a
>> good deal for someone who became a lifetime member a long time ago,
>> (what did a lifetime membership cost in 1970?) but that money is long gone.
>
> I think it was $170.00 that I paid in 1971...

There ya go! Assuming that you joined at this time that year, your membership has cost $4.72 per year, and can only get smaller! Not a bad deal at all. My thoughts are that while that money was probably pretty handy for them in 1971, it was just one time money, and then a sort of deficit thereafter.

- 73 de mike KB3EIA -

1442. Re: Diamond Terrace

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-22 19:13:36 UTC
From: kelly@dvol.com
Message-ID: <1187805324.510561.132130@x35g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 4047

On Aug 22, 1:44 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> David Lesher wrote:
> > Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> writes:
>
> >> In the money raising game, it becomes difficult to come up with good
> >> ideas to raise that cash. Membership fees are one way. But when extra is
> >> needed, new ideas are needed. Sometimes a group will offer "lifetime"
> >> memberships. These can generate a bit more spending money. Those are a
> >> good deal for someone who became a lifetime member a long time ago,
> >> (what did a lifetime membership cost in 1970?) but that money is long gone.
>
> > I think it was $170.00 that I paid in 1971...
>
> There ya go! Assuming that you joined at this time that year, your
> membership has cost $4.72 per year, and can only get smaller! Not a bad
> deal at all. My thoughts are that while that money was probably pretty
> handy for them in 1971, it was just one time money, and then a sort of
> deficit thereafter.

Those monies have been invested over the years and have become a
helluva wad.

> - 73 de mike KB3EIA -

w3rv

1443. FW: SCC RTTY 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-22 20:19:48 UTC
From: Iitoi <Iitoi@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <380-22007832216870@earthlink.net>
Source record: 4048

> [Original Message]
> From: Kristjan Kodermac S50XX <s50xx@arrl.net>
> To: <undisclosed recipients>
> Date: 8/22/2007 1:01:17 PM
> Subject: SCC RTTY 2007
>
> Hello!
>
> Just to remind you. 24 hour SCC RTTY Contest starts on
> Saturday at 12.00 UTC.
>
> Previous results and contest rules are published on
> the SCC home page :
> http://lea.hamradio.si/~scc/rtty.html
>
> Send your Cabrillo logs to rtty@hamradio.si , deadline is Sept 15th.
>
> GL in the contest!
>
>
> Kristjan, S50XX
>

1444. FW: NCCC Thursday Sprint, Aug. 24, NS rules, 3 bands CW

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-22 20:20:22 UTC
From: litoi <litoi@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <380-22007832216615218@earthlink.net>
Source record: 3949

> [Original Message]
> From: Ken Keeler <kenkeeler@jazznut.com>
> To: <nccc@contesting.com>
> Date: 8/21/2007 10:58:37 PM
> Subject: [CQ-Contest] NCCC Thursday Sprint, Aug. 24, NS rules, 3 bands CW
>
> NCCC PRACTICE SPRINT continues this week, Aug. 23, local date in
> North America; Aug. 24, Z time
>
> --30 mins 0230-03Z (all NCCC practice sessions will be the same
> LOCAL START time, year round, UFN)
> -- Start 0230Z (1930 PDT, 2030 MDT, 2130 CDT 2230 EDT)
>
> This Thursday, use modified NS (NCCC Sprint) rules using three bands
> (160m is too frustrating in summer with 100w):
> BANDS: 20, 40, 80m: -- 14040, 7040, 3540 +/-5. SPREAD OUT!
> -- CW only, 100 watts, dupes allowed after 1 intervening Q 1 KHz QSY.
>
> The schedule of Thursday (sometimes Friday also) events through
> October is now posted on the NEXT NS page at:
> http://www.ncccsprint.com/next_ns.htm
>
> General rules and further info at: http://www.ncccsprint.com/
>
> -- Report scores near 3610 LSB after the practice, at 0300Z (8 PM PDT) on
> the weekly NCCC net), and the 3830 Score posting page (thanks to
> WA7BNM & N7WA).
>
> Next week, Aug. 30, same format; Sept. 6 & 7, NA Sprint rules.
>
> KB, N6RO
>

1445. Re: Diamond Terrace

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-22 20:42:00 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fai6lnsjk1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3950

kelly@dvol.com wrote:
> On Aug 22, 1:44 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:

>> deal at all. My thoughts are that while that money was probably pretty
>> handy for them in 1971, it was just one time money, and then a sort of
>> deficit thereafter.
>
> Those monies have been invested over the years and have become a
> helluva wad.

Around $815 at 5 percent annual interest. In itself not too bad, but
they didn't just invest all that money. Some percentage had to go toward
operating expenses.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1446. Re: Diamond Terrace

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-22 22:27:28 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <gvdpc3dd50mmdk1dltb60b37du9nndhmup@4ax.com>
Source record: 3951

On Wed, 22 Aug 2007 16:42:00 EDT, Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:

> Around $815 at 5 percent annual interest. In itself not too bad, but
>they didn't just invest all that money. Some percentage had to go toward
>operating expenses.
>

My impression was that they invested the money and lived off the
interest without touching the principal.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1447. Ham WIFI?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-23 00:29:15 UTC
From: Iitoi <Iitoi@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <faij0kvph1@aioe.org>
Source record: 3952

Since 802.11b/g have several channels in our shared 2390-2450MHz band, can a ham set up a "super WIFI" node using QRO?

I'm not proposing to do so, but the concept seems viable, so long as the node does not use encryption.

The Man in the Maze
QRV at Baboquivari Peak, AZ

--
Iitoi

1448. Re: Ham WIFI?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-23 04:28:01 UTC
From: dplatt@radagast.org
Message-ID: <tl4vp4-vvn.ln1@radagast.org>
Source record: 3953

In article <faij0kvph1@aioe.org>, Iitoi <Iitoi@earthlink.net> wrote:

>Since 802.11b/g have several channels in our shared 2390-2450MHz band,
>can a ham
>set up a "super WIFI" node using QRO?
>
>I'm not proposing to do so, but the concept seems viable, so long as the node
>does not use encryption.

This whole subject is rather controversial... there's been a lot of
discussion of it.

I believe that the general consensus is that you *can* do what you are
proposing, as long as you are careful to stay consistently within one
set of rules. That is, if you're using your ham Part 97 privileges,
you must:

- ID properly (using your callsign as the ESSID is the usual method),
and

- Stay strictly within the usage rules (i.e. no encryption, no
transmissions in which you have any sort of pecuniary interest), and

- Stay within the frequencies, power limits, and other technical
boundaries of Part 97. There are only one or two WiFi channel
numbers which you can use, without having the signal contain
significant energy which is either outside of the ham allocation
entirely, or falls into weak-signal parts of the 2.4-gig ham band
that are reserved for specialized uses according to the current
bandplan.

- Limit access to your system to other hams. Some people do this with
MAC-address restrictions. Others feel that using WEP encryption
is an acceptable way to do this (some claim that since the motive
is access control rather than obscuring-the-content, it doesn't
strictly violate the FCC regs against encryption; others
feel that it's OK if the actual WEP key is published somewhere).

QRO is something that you need to be careful about. Make sure that
you review the FCC Part 97 regs concerning spread-spectrum
transmissions. If you go above a certain power level, you are
required to have automatic power control implemented on the
transmitter, to keep the power down to the minimum which will deliver
a specified signal-to-noise ratio at the receiver.

I believe that the ARRL has proposed that the FCC eliminate this
particular restriction, but that hasn't actually happened yet.

And, of course, you may need to be concerned about the reactions of other (Part 15) WiFi users, who may come after you with torches and axes when they find that your QRO signal is preventing their laptops from getting to any access point more than 5' away. Of course, they'll be in the wrong, legally, but that's only a small part of the equation :-)

--
Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO
Friends of Jade Warrior home page: http://www.radagast.org/jade-warrior
I do _not_ wish to receive unsolicited commercial email, and I will boycott any company which has the gall to send me such ads!

1449. Re: Ham WIFI?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-23 04:28:32 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <lo0qc3pig12sj0ouaaib7ije3epejmqdr6@4ax.com>
Source record: 3954

On Wed, 22 Aug 2007 20:29:15 EDT, "Iitoi" <Iitoi@earthlink.net> wrote:

>Since 802.11b/g have several channels in our shared 2390-2450MHz band, can a ham
>set up a "super WIFI" node using QRO?
>
That question has come up every so often in the last 10 years, and the
answer is YES providing that all the ham rules - use of a channel
within the ham band, proper ID every ten minutes, control operator,
etc - are followed.

>I'm not proposing to do so, but the concept seems viable, so long as the node
>does not use encryption.

That is correct,
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1450. Re: Diamond Terrace

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-23 19:15:54 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fak2q3$s64$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3955

Phil Kane wrote:
> On Wed, 22 Aug 2007 16:42:00 EDT, Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:
>
>> Around $815 at 5 percent annual interest. In itself not too bad, but
>> they didn't just invest all that money. Some percentage had to go toward
>> operating expenses.
>>
>
> My impression was that they invested the money and lived off the
> interest without touching the principal.

Hey Phil, I think you are correct, but you could maybe clarify this for me.

On the audit from a couple years ago, I read the following:

Quote:

"The by-laws of the league provide for life membership in the league for
25 times the term membership annual dues rate. Dues are deferred and
recognized as income over the estimated life expectancy of the
respective life members (approximately 34 years). Investment earnings on
allocated life member investments are deferred and are recognized as
dues at an amount representative of the estimated cost to the league for
providing services to the life members."

End quote

If I read this correctly (and you would know an awful lot better than
me, so correct at will)

The life member pays their money (25X current dues)

The interest from the investment is considered the members dues.

The principle money is recognized as earnings over a period of 34 years.

Or does that mean that the principle is released after 34 years?

Where I might have a little confusion is that if the principle of the
lifetime memberships is always off limit is that they should be in the
"permanantly restricted" category.

A link to the pdf is here:

http://www.arrl.org/announce/annualreport/2004/final%20fs%20123104.pdf

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1451. Re: Ham WIFI?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-23 19:16:14 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5j55qnF3s6a0iU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 3956

"Phil Kane" <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote in message
news:lo0qc3pig12sj0ouaaib7ije3epejmqdr6@4ax.com
: : On Wed, 22 Aug 2007 20:29:15 EDT, "Iitoi"
: : <Iitoi@earthlink.net> wrote:
: :
: : : Since 802.11b/g have several channels in our shared
: : : 2390-2450MHz band, can a ham set up a "super WIFI"
: : : node using QRO?
: : :
: : That question has come up every so often in the last 10
: : years, and the answer is YES providing that all the ham
: : rules - use of a channel within the ham band, proper ID
: : every ten minutes, control operator, etc - are followed.
: :
: : : I'm not proposing to do so, but the concept seems
: : : viable, so long as the node does not use encryption.
: :
: : That is correct,
: : --
: :
: : 73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

Although you may wish to check with your ISP that they allow this. Many ISP's here in the UK specifically prohibit sharing of the connection by anyone outside the household, as the distinction between a private service and a public one can become blurred, whether or not a fee is charged.

You may also wish to take into account the possibility that if anyone uses *your* wireless connection to do something illegal like fraud or looking at pornography, *you* may be held responsible.

73 Ivor G6URP

1452. Re: Diamond Terrace

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-23 23:43:42 UTC
From: Dave Heil <k8mn@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <13crpq83lgpebcf@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3957

Michael Coslo wrote:
> Phil Kane wrote:
>> On Wed, 22 Aug 2007 16:42:00 EDT, Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:
>>
>>> Around $815 at 5 percent annual interest. In itself not too bad,
>>> but they didn't just invest all that money. Some percentage had to go
>>> toward operating expenses.
>>>
>>
>> My impression was that they invested the money and lived off the
>> interest without touching the principal.
>
>
>
> Hey Phil, I think you are correct, but you could maybe clarify this for me.
>
> On the audit from a couple years ago, I read the following:
>
> Quote:
>
> "The by-laws of the league provide for life membership in the league for
> 25 times the term membership annual dues rate. Dues are deferred and
> recognized as income over the estimated life expectancy of the
> respective life members (approximately 34 years). Investment earnings on
> allocated life member investments are deferred and are recognized as
> dues at an amount representative of the estimated cost to the league for
> providing services to the life members."
>
> End quote
>
> If I read this correctly (and you would know an awful lot better
> than me, so correct at will)
>
> The life member pays their money (25X current dues)
>
> The interest from the investment is considered the members dues.
>
> The principle money is recognized as earnings over a period of 34
> years.
>
> Or does that mean that the principle is released after 34 years?
>
> Where I might have a little confusion is that if the principle of
> the lifetime memberships is always off limit is that they should be in

> the "permanantly restricted" category.

Life Membership works out well for the League and can be a great bargain for the member. I'm 58 and I became a Life Member almost thirty years ago. I paid 25 times the 1978 dues. Dues have risen a number of times over the decades and are currently more than four times what I paid for Life Membership.

The downside is that my QST doesn't come in either a paper wrapper or a plastic envelope any more. QST content has been stripped away over the years. I need to pay extra for QEX for the good technical articles, station activities and the bulk of contest results are only on the web. I can always pay extra and become a member of the Diamond Circle and [tongue-in-cheek mode on] have a League Official drive to my home and deliver my QST on the day of printing.

Dave K8MN

1453. GB2RS NEWS Sunday 19 August 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-23 23:45:16 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200708232039.l7NKdT202831@panix1.panix.com>
Source record: 3958
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

1 GB2RS NEWS Sunday 19 August

The news headlines

* Ultra Wide Band becomes legal in UK

* New 6m GB2RS service

* Beware fraudulent adverts On Monday 13 August Ofcom made it legal to use approved ultra wide band equipment without a licence. Ultra wide band technology allows very fast wireless data transfer over short distances. It works by using very large chunks of spectrum at once. Approved equipment will operate between 3.1GHz and 10.6GHz. During consultations the RSGB expressed concerns that there may be mutual interference with several amateur microwave bands. Supporters of the technology say that the ultra wide band transmissions are of such low spectral density that interference to other services is unlikely. The full text of the statement can be found on the Ofcom web site.

A new GB2RS news reading will be starting up later this month on 6m in West Yorkshire. Readings will be on 51.53MHz FM in the Dewsbury and Wakefield areas. The two newsreaders appointed are Dave, G4CLI, and Robin, G1MHU. They will be reading the news each Sunday at 1100 local time. Listeners are invited to listen out for them and to call in after the news reading with reception reports.

Listeners are urged to be cautious when responding to printed advertisements for radio equipment. A fraudster has recently been advertising items from addresses in Oxford and the Isle of Wight. The items are generally described as 'silent key' or 'per pro' sales. Would-be purchasers have sent money and not received goods. The RSGB understands that police in Hampshire, Oxfordshire and the Irish Republic are currently investigating.

The Irish Radio Transmitters Society says is getting close to tracing the 10m religious broadcasts reported recently on GB2RS. The location has been narrowed down to somewhere on the northern side of the city of Dublin. Further work is still required to locate the actual transmitter. Transmissions have been noted on 28.105MHz FM at 10am local time on weekdays. Additional transmissions occur at 9am and 11am on Sundays.

A series of amateur radio licence courses will be starting shortly in Bath. Steve Hartley, G0FUW, and Mike Coombs, G3VTO, commence classes on 20 September. Classes run from 7 to 9pm every Thursday. The series begins with the Foundation level exam in November, Intermediate in

February and the Advanced exam in July. Courses are open to anyone. There is no obligation to progress through all three levels one after the other. For more information contact Steve Hartley on 01225 464394, weekday evenings, or by email to g0fuw@tiscali.co.uk.

The results of the RSGB 80m Club Championship 2007 have now been published on www.contesting.co.uk. The Bristol Contest Group took first place.

2 A reminder to any listeners wishing to operate HF in Greece under reciprocal arrangements. Greek regulations still require amateurs to prove proficiency in Morse before being permitted to operate below 30MHz. Further information can be found on the internet at www.raag.org/licensing_en.html.

Now a message from the Isle of Man Amateur Radio Society. In the light of the current Foot and Mouth Disease problems, precautionary restrictions on rambling have been put in place on the Isle of Man. This means that it is currently not possible to access or activate any summits for the Summits On The Air programme. For more information please contact John, GD0NFN, by email to iomars@manx.net.

And now for the details of rallies and events for the coming week

[Note to newsreaders: no events have been notified to us for August 19th.] On Sunday 26 August the Torbay ARS Communications Fair takes place from 10am at Newton Abbot Racecourse in Devon. Details from G4FCN, on 01803 812117 or by email to rally@tars.org.uk. On Sunday 26 August the Milton Keynes ARS Rally takes place from 10am at Holne Chase School, Buckingham Rd, Bletchley. Details from Mike, G3LFR, on 07973 264473, or by email to rally@mkars.org.uk. More details of these and future events can be found on pages 88 and 89 of the August edition of RadCom. Now for the news of special events A special event station GB1SL will be on the air from the Skerries Lighthouse until 19 August. The Lighthouse is situated in a group of Islands off the Anglesey coast in the Irish Sea. Operation is on 80 and 40 metres CW and SSB, 20 metres SSB and 6 metres. QSL via bureau or via GW0VML. Special event station GB4SML will be on the air until 19 August. Borders Rievers Amateur Radio Society will be activating from Saint Mary's Lighthouse Tynemouth Tyne Wear. Operation will be on the HF, VHF and UHF bands and they will be allocating 15 to 20 minute periods for M3s and QRP stations only to call in. All visitors are welcome. And now the HF DX news compiled from 425 DX News, the Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin and other sources.

Chae, HL5YI, will be active from Sorok Island (AS-060) for a few days starting on 19 August. He plans to operate on 40, 20, 17, 15 and 10 meters CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via home call, direct or bureau. Johan, PA3EXX, confirms he will be active from Rathbone Island (NA-243) as OX/PA3EXX/p between 19 to 23 August. QSL via home call, direct or bureau. David, F1JXQ, will be active as FG/F1JXQ from Guadeloupe (NA-102) until 20 August. He operates SSB and is likely to be found on

10 to 6 metres and 2m between 10 and 16 UTC. QSL direct to home call. Hans, ON6ZK, will be active as EA8/ON6ZK from Tenerife, Canary Islands (AF-004) until 22 August. He expects to operate mainly on 20 and 17 metres SSB with 25 watts. QSL via home call, bureau preferred. Mauro, IK3SCB, reports he plans to be active as IK3SCB/ID9 from Lipari Island (EU-017, IIA ME-001) until 24 August. QSL via bureau.

3 Ghis, ON5NT, reports he will be active holiday style as SV9/ON5NT from Crete until 23 August. QSL via home call. Gianni, IZ7FLP, will operate SSB as SV8/IZ7FLP from Zakynthos (EU-052) until 25 August. QSL via home call. Roland, HB9FMD, will be active as OX/HB9FMD from Ilulissat, Greenland until 27 August. He plans to operate mainly CW on the WARC bands. QSL via home call. Now the contest news The SARTG RTTY takes place until 19 August at various times on RTTY mode, on the 3.5 to 28MHz bands. The exchange takes the form of RST and serial number. The RSGB 70MHz Trophy Contest takes place on 19 August between 0900 and 1500 on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number, locator and postal district. The RSGB 1.3GHz to 2.3GHz activity evening takes place on 21 August between 2000 to 2230 hours on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. The YO DX Contest takes place from 1200 on 25 August until 1200 on 26 August, on CW and SSB on the 3.5 to 28MHz bands. The exchange takes the form of RST and serial number. Now the solar factual data for the period from 6 August to 12 August, compiled by Neil Clarke, G0CAS On the 6th, solar activity was low when several small C class solar flares took place, otherwise, solar activity was very low with no solar flares taking place. No effects were detected from the C class flares. Solar flux levels declined slightly from 70 units on the 6th to 67. The average was 68 units. The 90 day solar flux average on the 12th was 72 units, that's the same level as last week. X-ray flux levels remained below the minimum A1 level. Two effects from recurring coronal holes took place. The first was on the 7th with an Ap index of 23 units. The second occurred on the 10th and the 11th with an Ap of 13 and 12 units respectively. The average was Ap 11 units. The ACE spacecraft saw solar wind speeds increase from 290 kilometres per second on the 6th to 730 by the next day. Speeds gradually declined but on the arrival of the second coronal hole disturbance increased to 590 kilometres per second. Particle densities increased to 28 particles per cubic centimetre on the 6th and to 25 particles per cubic centimetre on thee 10th. Bz varied between minus 14 and plus 11 nanoTeslas during the disturbances and between minus and plus 3 nanoTeslas on the quiet days. HF propagation has mostly been rather flat, although there was again good 14MHz propagation to the Pacific for early risers. Sporadic-E continued daily on 28 and 50MHz, and there were also occasional openings on 70MHz. VHF aurora was reported early on the 7th and during the afternoon and evening of the 10th but only at high latitudes. And finally the solar forecast. This week the quiet side of the Sun will be rotating out of view. However, solar activity should still continue at very low levels. Solar flux levels are expected to show a slight rise during the coming week and by next weekend should be in the low 70's.

Geomagnetic activity is expected to be mostly quiet with just a slight

4 chance that activity could increase slightly towards next weekend. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitudes should be around 18MHz for the south and 15MHz for the north. The darkness hour lows are expected to be about 10MHz. Paths this week to Japan should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success rate of around 18MHz. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success rate will be about 14MHz. The best time to try this path will be between 0900 and 1400 hours UTC. Sporadic-E is still expected to take place as we move towards the end of the summer season. Openings on 144MHz are not expected now.

And that's all for this week from the propagation team.

5 Next, the Local News:

Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses

and website links where known.

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your

transmission.]

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST

and EAST ANGLIA On Sunday 19 August Basingstoke Amateur Radio Club is having a foxhunt. Contact Frank, M0AEU, by email to barc@2lo.info.

On Sunday 19 August Brede Steam Amateur Radio Society is operating from the bunker. Contact Steve, M0SSR, on 01424 720 815.

On Monday 20 August Burnham Beeches Radio Club is having a talk on switched mode power supplies. Contact G4XDU, on 01628625720.

On Monday 20 August Basingstoke Amateur Radio Club is having a club night. Contact Frank, M0AEU, by email to barc@2lo.info.

On Monday 20 August Braintree and District Amateur Radio Society is having an evening of scarecrow making and weekend planning. Contact John, M5AJB, on 01787 460 947.

On Monday 20 August Surrey Radio Contact Club is having a fix-it, advice, chin wag, and move-it-on evening. Contact Ray, G4FFY, on 020 8644 7589.

On Wednesday 22 August Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

On Wednesday 22 August Dover Radio Club is having a visit to the workshop at Smye Rumsby Ltd. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to

g4sau@DARC.org.uk.

On Wednesday 22 August Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is having a bank holiday quiz. Contact Jim, M1JJN.

On Wednesday 22 August Havering and District Amateur Radio Club is having an informal evening and BBQ. Contact Dave, 2E0EBV, on 07956 594 514.

On Wednesday 22 August Newbury and District Amateur Radio Society is having an auction. Contact Richard, G3ZGC, on 01635 46241, richard.jolliffe@vodafone.com.

On Wednesday 22 August Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is having an informal evening. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

On Thursday 23 August Echelford Amateur Radio Society is having a bring and buy sale, natter night and SSB field day discussion. Contact John Osborne, G4GSC, on 01784 451898.

On Friday 24 August Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is having a fox hunt. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Friday 24 August Torbay Amateur Radio Society is having a visit by RSGB President Angus Annan, MM1CCR. Contact Dave, G6FSP, by email to g6fsp@tars.org.uk.

6 On Sunday 26 August Radio Society of Harrow is operating G3EFX/P at the Harrow In Leaf horticultural show and fun weekend. Contact Linda, G7RJL, on 020 8386 8586, or on the web at www.g3efx.org.uk or Chris 01895 621 310.

On Sunday 26 August Southdown Amateur Radio Society is operating G1KAR at Beachy Head. Contact John, G3DQY, on 01424,424,319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

On Sunday 26 August Torbay Amateur Radio Society is having its rally at the Newton Abbot Race Course. RSGB President Angus Annan, MM1CCR, will be attending. Contact Dave, G6FSP, by email to g6fsp@tars.org.uk.

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST

On Monday 20 August Appledore and District Amateur Radio Club is having a BBQ. Contact Beryl, G1SVP. On Wednesday 22 August South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is on the air. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282.

On Wednesday 22 August Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is having a video night. Contact Tony, G0WMB, by email to tonytsgarc@beeb.net.

On Thursday 23 August Yeovil Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on microwaves by G4DCH. Contact Gary, 2E0BFJ (g.swain@tesco.net).

On Friday 24 August Cornish Radio Amateur Club is operating a special event station for the Volkswagen Jamboree at Stithians Showground. Contact Ian, 01872 561 058.

NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS

Waters and Stanton plc have asked the RSGB to inform listeners that their Matlock branch open day will be on Saturday 15 September and not on the 30th as advertised in the September RadCom.

On Monday 20 August Stourbridge and District Amateur Radio Society is having an open shack night. Contact John, M1EJG, on 01562 700 513.

On Tuesday 21 August Derby and District Amateur Radio Society is having a video show. Contact Martin, G3SZJ, on 01332 556 875.

On Tuesday 21 August Loughborough and District Amateur Radio Club is having its 6th DF, on 160m. Contact Chris, G1ETZ, on 01509 504 319.

On Wednesday 22 August Telford and District Amateur Radio Society is having an antenna support competition at Telford Town Park. Contact Mike, G3JKX, on 01952 299 677, or by email to mjstreetg3jkx@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Thursday 23 August Salop Amateur Radio Society is having an 'ask the Committee' natter night. Contact Glenda, G1YJB, on 01939 235 412.

On Friday 24 August Coventry Amateur Radio Society is having a construction night on the club project. Contact John, G8SEQ, on 02476 273 190, or by email to johng8seq@ntlworld.com.

On Friday 24 August Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is having a members forum evening. Details on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

7 On Saturday 25 August Lincoln Short-Wave Club is putting GB2CWP on the air at East Kirkby. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

On Monday 20 August Sheffield Amateur Radio Club is having a talk by the IOTA Team on its DXpedition for the 2007 IOTA Contest. Contact Trevor, M0TWS.

On Monday 20 August Thornton Cleveleys Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on construction by Dave, G8KBH. Contact Jack, G4BFH, by email to jack.duddington@btinternet.com.

On Tuesday 21 August Halifax and District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on DAB radio by Anthony, G0WFG. Contact Brenda, 2E0YKS, by email to wrenuk10@yahoo.com.

On Tuesday 21 August Pontefract District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk entitled 'make a 3 element 2 metre Yagi'. Contact Colin, G0NQE, on 01977 677 006, info@pontefractradioclub.org.

On Tuesday 21 August Stockport Radio Society is having a presentation on deterministic methods in radio systems engineering by Richard Newstead, G3CWI. Contact David, M1ANT, on 0161 456 7832.

On Tuesday 21 August Wakefield and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air. Contact Dave, G4CLI, on 07748 221 855, or by email to g4cli@hotmail.co.uk.

On Wednesday 22 August Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is on the air. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Wednesday 22 August Hornsea Amateur Radio Club is having an activity night for all members and guests. Contact Steve, G4GPY, on 01482 860 440, or by email to g4gpy@eddiesplace.karoo.co.uk.

On Wednesday 22 August Mid-Cheshire Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on SOTA. Contact Richard, G0JIT, by email to rsa@zetnet.co.uk.

On Friday 24 August South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is having a discussion on whether to log of not to log. Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999.

On Friday 24 August Tynemouth Radio Club is having a debriefing on International Lighthouse Day. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

NEWS FOR SCOTLAND

On Thursday 23 August Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is having a construction and on the air evening. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

NEWS FOR WALES

No news items have been received for Wales this week. NEWS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

No news items have been received for Northern Ireland this week.

8 And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast,

prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

1454. Re: Ham WIFI?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-24 03:19:58 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns9995E772BF79Dmcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 3959

"Ivor Jones" <ivor@despammed.invalid> wrote in
news:5j55qnF3s6a0iU1@mid.individual.net:

>
>
> "Phil Kane" <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote in message
> news:lo0qc3pig12sj0ouaaib7ije3epejmqdr6@4ax.com
>: : On Wed, 22 Aug 2007 20:29:15 EDT, "Iitoi"
>: : <Iitoi@earthlink.net> wrote:
>: :
>: : : Since 802.11b/g have several channels in our shared
>: : : 2390-2450MHz band, can a ham set up a "super WIFI"
>: : : node using QRO?
>: : :
>: : That question has come up every so often in the last 10
>: : years, and the answer is YES providing that all the ham
>: : rules - use of a channel within the ham band, proper ID
>: : every ten minutes, control operator, etc - are followed.
>: :
>: : : I'm not proposing to do so, but the concept seems
>: : : viable, so long as the node does not use encryption.
>: :
>: : That is correct,
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>: :
>: : 73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
>
> Although you may wish to check with your ISP that they allow this.
> Many ISP's here in the UK specifically prohibit sharing of the
> connection by anyone outside the household, as the distinction between
> a private service and a public one can become blurred, whether or not
> a fee is charged.
>
> You may also wish to take into account the possibility that if anyone
> uses *your* wireless connection to do something illegal like fraud or
> looking at pornography, *you* may be held responsible.

Some members of our club have been discussing this very thing. Some
say it is just plain illegal.

On the other hand, I am not at all sure.

1.It is not illegal to put a wirelss router on my Cable modem.

2. If there is a bad spot in my yard, I can say install a better
antenna on the router. (if indeed those commercial units do anything.

3. If I have a big yard, or say if I had a farm and wanted to get some internet access from one of my outbuildings, is it okay if I put a little yagi setup, esp if I am a Ham?

4. Now if I am wanting internet access at a mountaintop station that doesn't have access otherwise, is it illegal to do the same thing as in step 3?

My rationale is that I have paid for the service. As long as I am not doing anything that was illegal at the cable drop already, such as providing other people service, I am not doing anything that a wireless router does. I'm only giving it an antenna with a bit more punch.

note: I'm not a lawyer, so take this all with a grain of salt.

Probably the best thing to do is to call your ISP and carefully and properly frame the question.

73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1455. Re: Ham WIFI?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-24 05:34:48 UTC
From: dplatt@radagast.org
Message-ID: <n852q4-1li.ln1@radagast.org>
Source record: 3960

In article <Xns9995E772BF79Dmcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>,
Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:

> Some members of our club have been discussing this very thing. Some
>say it is just plain illegal.
>
> On the other hand, I am not at all sure.
>
> 1.It is not illegal to put a wirelss router on my Cable modem.
>
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>antenna on the router. (if indeed those commercial units do anything.
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> 3. If I have a big yard, or say if I had a farm and wanted to get
>some internet access from one of my outbuildings, is it okay if I put a
>little yagi setup, esp if I am a Ham?
>
> 4. Now if I am wanting internet access at a mountaintop station that
>doesn't have access otherwise, is it illegal to do the same thing as in
>step 3?

One thing to be aware of: the FCC requires that Part 15 radios and
their antennas be certificated as a complete system.

If you substitute a different antenna (other than one which the
radio's manufacturer has actually tested and certificated with the
radio), then the original certification of the Part 15 equipment is
voided, and it becomes (technically) illegal to use the radio to
transmit until you have it re-tested for compliance at a properly
equipped test facility.

This means that, if one wants to pick nits, most people who install
higher-gain aftermarket antennas on their 802.11 access points /
routers / cards may very well be operating illegally. I've only ever
heard of one case of a company fined for doing this (and they were
also operating with an illegally-high-powered amplifier)... I doubt
it's an issue that's on the FCC's radar, unless somebody files a
formal complaint about a specific situation.

These Part 15 rules don't apply if you're using the system within your
ham Part 97 privileges... but you then have to honor _all_ of the
rules for Part 97 use. You can't pick and choose (e.g. put on a
high-gain antenna and an amplifier under Part 97, and then use the
system on Part-15-only frequencies with encryption turned on and for
running a business). If you want to stay fully legal, you have to do
it one way or the other... within Part 15, or within Part 97.

> My rationale is that I have paid for the service. As long as I am
>not doing anything that was illegal at the cable drop already, such as
>providing other people service, I am not doing anything that a wireless
>router does. I'm only giving it an antenna with a bit more punch.

Unfortunately, modifications to the antenna itself are probably
outside of what Part 15 allows, unless you use an antenna that the
AP's manufacturer has actually certificated with that particular AP.

Sticking a passive reflector being the antenna, for a few dB of gain,
might not count as a modification to the actual antenna, and might
thus be legal.

The issue of whether it's OK to allow other people to use your home
wireless network, on a cable or DSL line, would be a contractual issue
between you and your ISP... I don't think it's an FCC issue at all.

--
Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO
Friends of Jade Warrior home page: http://www.radagast.org/jade-warrior
I do _not_ wish to receive unsolicited commercial email, and I will
boycott any company which has the gall to send me such ads!

1456. Re: Ham WIFI?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-24 13:50:58 UTC
From: xpyttl <xpyttl_NOSPAM@earthling.net>
Message-ID: <rhBzi.4$tw.0@newsfe12.lga>
Source record: 3961

"Dave Platt" <dplatt@radagast.org> wrote in message
news:n852q4-1li.ln1@radagast.org...
> In article <Xns9995E772BF79Dmcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>,
> Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
>
>> 1.It is not illegal to put a wirelss router on my Cable modem.
>>
>> 2. If there is a bad spot in my yard, I can say install a better
>>antenna on the router. (if indeed those commercial units do anything.

As has been pointed out, the better antenna probably won't comply with Part
15. Now, you can use your Part 97 privileges to extend your LAN, but once
you allow Internet content to travel that Part 97 circuit, how do you
prevent commercial content? Obscene content? Sounds like you are allowing a
non-licensed operator, e.g., Google, to use your circuit. Even if you have
some wonderful, magical firewall, it seems as if it might be difficult to
explain away the "pecuniary interest" clause, since you are essentially
extending a paid-for service.

IANAL, but it sounds like shaky ground to me. Of course, you could take
that attitude that the probability of an enforcement action is close to
zero, and you could be right. But I, personally, wouldn't try it.

..

1457. Re: Ham WIFI?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-24 16:51:48 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <famtjs$s14$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3962

xpyttl wrote:

> IANAL, but it sounds like shaky ground to me. Of course, you could take
> that attitude that the probability of an enforcement action is close to
> zero, and you could be right. But I, personally, wouldn't try it.

I've found the QST article dealing with this. Its called

IEEE 802.11 Experiments in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley, on page 35 of
the July 2005 QST. I would be surprised if QST allowed these amateurs to
write up their illegal activities.

QST has some links encouraging this activity also

http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/high-speed-digital/emergency-communications.html

It was written form an EC perspective, but the purpose is pretty clear.

I'll save further comment until I've read the issue.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1458. Re: Diamond Terrace

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-24 21:05:30 UTC
From: kelly@dvol.com
Message-ID: <1187976704.228647.242570@l22g2000prc.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3963

On Aug 23, 7:43 pm, Dave Heil <k...@earthlink.net> wrote:
> Michael Coslo wrote:
> > Phil Kane wrote:
> >> On Wed, 22 Aug 2007 16:42:00 EDT, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:

<<Everybody wrote>>

> . . . I can always pay extra and become a member of the Diamond Circle and
> [tongue-in-cheek mode on] have a League Official drive to my home and
> deliver my QST on the day of printing.

Mary . . ?

> Dave K8MN

w3rv

1459. Re: Ham WIFI?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-24 21:06:11 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <um5uc3lgm8jrph49ub2cmvemlmhe5slmjg@4ax.com>
Source record: 3964

On Thu, 23 Aug 2007 00:28:01 EDT, dplatt@radagast.org (Dave Platt)
wrote:

>And, of course, you may need to be concerned about the reactions of
>other (Part 15) WiFi users, who may come after you with torches and
>axes when they find that your QRO signal is preventing their laptops
>from getting to any access point more than 5' away. Of course, they'll
>be in the wrong, legally, but that's only a small part of the equation

About 15 years ago I was involved in an industry group called the Bay
Area Wireless Communications Alliance, made up of engineers and
manufacturers' marketing people in "Silicon Valley".

At the time the WiFi specs were just starting to be formulated, and
the consensus was that the digital spread-spectrum encoding would take
care of all interference problems. When I piped up and mentioned that
(QRO) ham radio will cause shutdown, all the digital types poo-pooed
the suggestion, while the three hams in the group just nodded their
heads in agreement.

Can they spell "Front End Overload" ? <ggg>
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1460. Re: Ham WIFI?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-24 21:08:35 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <vr6uc3567oh0s5vln6hb33s7ig6209o30n@4ax.com>
Source record: 3965

On Fri, 24 Aug 2007 12:51:48 EDT, Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:

>IEEE 802.11 Experiments in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley, on page 35 of
>the July 2005 QST. I would be surprised if QST allowed these amateurs to
>write up their illegal activities.
>
>QST has some links encouraging this activity also

The encouragement is to use said circuits for ham radio purposes -
WAS on 2.4 GHz ???
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1461. The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 34 (Friday, August 24, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-25 01:18:49 UTC
From: ARRL Letter Mailing List <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <200708250117.l7P1HPgu023910@linux11676.dn.net>
Source record: 3966
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

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***************
The ARRL Letter
Vol. 26, No. 34
August 24, 2007
***************

IN THIS EDITION:

* + Dean Downgraded to Tropical Depression, Hurricane Watch Net
Deactivated
* + ARRL Director Elections in November
* + The 2007 ARRL National Convention -- Gone, but Definitely not
Forgotten
* + GAREC-07 Celebrates Emergency Communications in Huntsville
* + ARES Teams Activated for Northwest Ohio Near-Record Flooding
* + FCC Enforcement Actions
* Solar Update
* IN BRIEF:
This Weekend on the Radio
ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Course Registration
+ Section Manager Elections Results Announced
+ Malaysia to Send Astronaut to ISS
Communications Museum Comes Back to Life
On-line Course Developer Needed
QST Wants You!
Let Us Know What You Think

+Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/>

==========================================================
==>Delivery problems: First see FAQ
<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/faq.html#nodelivery>, then e-mail
<letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
==>Editorial questions or comments only: S. Khrystyne Keane,
<k1sfa@arrl.org>
==========================================================

==> DEAN DOWNGRADED TO TROPICAL DEPRESSION, HURRICANE WATCH NET
DEACTIVATED

The remnants of Hurricane Dean, now Tropical Depression Dean, have
dissipated over Mexico and the heavy rain threat has diminished. The
Hurricane Watch Net (HWN) secured activation for Dean on Wednesday
afternoon at 1915 UTC after commencing operations last Friday. Despite
experiencing very poor propagation and noisy conditions on 20 meters,
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the net managed to provide the latest storm advisories from the National Hurricane Center (NHC) to amateurs and listeners in Dean's path.

As the storm powered through the Windward Islands, scraped Jamaica, threatened the Cayman Islands, Haiti, the Dominican Republic and finally crossed into Mexico, HWN was in frequent contact with the affected areas to collect real-time weather data from local hams, passing it to the NHC forecasters and informing the affected areas about what to expect next via official bulletins.

On Tuesday, Dean made landfall near Costa Maya or Majahual at 0830 UTC as a potentially catastrophic Category 5 hurricane. Earlier in the week, the storm slammed Jamaica as the eye passed within 50 miles of the South Coast of Jamaica as a Category 4 hurricane. The VoIP Hurricane Net solicited reports from any stations in the affected area or any stations that have contact with the affected area.

"We received numerous reports of estimated winds over 100 MPH in Corozal, Belize, with roofs off homes, power, electricity and phone service out in many areas. Similar damage was reported in Chetmual, Mexico from a relay from Connie, NH7IE, from a friend who lives in Chetmual, Mexico," said Rob Macedo, KD1CY, Director of Operations of the VoIP Hurricane Net.

WX4NHC Assistant National Hurricane Center Amateur Radio Station Coordinator, Julio Ripoll, WD4R, worked to get reports via the VoIP Hurricane Net and liaison was established with Spanish speaking Mexican stations on the XE2MCC EchoLink conference node: 255469. Ripoll received reports directly from that conference via Spanish, and Francisco Diaz-Gonzalez, NP3OD, from the VoIP Hurricane Net Control team, is monitoring that conference for reports. "We've received reports of trees down, power outages from the Telum and Campeche, Mexico, area as relayed via the XE2MCC conference and from other amateurs," Macedo said.

A report of 16 fishermen being stranded in the Middle Keys on Jamaica was confirmed by Julien Dedier, 9Z4FZ,from Trinidad, by making contact with the Trinidad Coast Guard who then verified the report with the Jamaican Coast Guard. All 16 fishermen took shelter in a Coast Guard building on the keys and were safe. Dedier relayed numerous other damage, storm surge and wind estimate reports from Jamaica to the net. "Thanks for the update on the fishermen and were glad to know they are safe," said Ripoll.

Ray Weber, KA1JJM, from Western Massachusetts SKYWARN, and Dave Taylor, KI4YIK, from Rock Hill, South Carolina, both were instrumental in relaying measured wind data reports. Ray had a contact in Lionel Town, Jamaica, who was a mariner, and Dave had a contact with a missionary in Jamaica that had wind instrumentation that clocked sustained wind speeds. "This is an example of gathering disaster intelligence information by all means possible which is a huge role for our net. If we don't have direct contact with the affected area, getting stations that can relay from other sources from both within the Amateur community

and from other contacts that Amateurs may have in the area can be of great help," Macedo said.

Between the *WX-TALK*/IRLP 9219 reflector system and the listen-only conferences, there were more than 150 connections from EchoLink PC users, as well as EchoLink and IRLP links and repeaters where people that were interested in Dean's impact on Jamaica monitored. This included relief agencies that monitored, such as the Salvation Army and the Southern Baptist Relief organization.

The Hurricane Watch Net activates on 14.325 MHz when a hurricane is forecast within 300 miles of landfall. - Information provided by HWN Manager Dave Lefavour, W7GOX, and Director of Operations of the VoIP Hurricane Net Rob Macedo, KD1CY

==> ARRL DIRECTOR ELECTIONS IN NOVEMBER

ARRL Chief Executive Officer and Board Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ, announced that the Ethics and Elections Committee of the ARRL Board of Directors has completed its review of the candidates' eligibility and has found all of them to be eligible. Ballots will be counted at ARRL HQ on November 16. The Divisions holding elections this year are Pacific, Rocky Mountain, Southeastern, Southwestern and West Gulf.

In the Pacific Division, Bob Vallio, W6RGG, of Castro Valley, California, was named Director for another three year term; Vallio was running unopposed. The rules state that if a candidate is running unopposed, he or she shall be declared the winner without balloting. Vallio has been Pacific Division Director since February 2003, when he assumed the position upon the death of Jim Maxwell, W6CF. For Vice Director in the Pacific Division, incumbent Andy Oppel, N6AJO, of Alameda, California will face Rob Brownstein, K6RB, of Santa Cruz, California.

Current Rocky Mountain Vice Director Division Brian Mileshosky, N5ZGT, of Albuquerque, New Mexico, is running for Director against Jeff Ryan, K0RM, of Westminster, Colorado. Current Director Warren G. "Rev" Morton, WS7W, of Casper, Wyoming, is not seeking re-election. Vice Director candidates for the Rocky Mountain Division are Dwayne Allen, WY7FD, of Devil's Tower, Wyoming, and Chris Howard, W0EP, of Fort Collins, Colorado.

Due to the retirement of ARRL Southeastern Division Director Frank Butler, W4RH, of Fort Walton Beach, Florida, after 50 years of elected service to the ARRL, the Southeastern Division Director's seat is open. Candidates are Sherri Brower, W4STB, of Vero Beach, Florida; Rudy Hubbard, WA4PUP, of Milton, Florida; Greg Sarratt, W4OZK, of Harvest, Alabama, and Carl Zelich, AA4MI, of Chuluota, Florida. Candidates for Vice Director of the Southeastern Division are incumbent Sandy Donahue, W4RU, of Dothan, Alabama, and Jeff Beals, WA4AW, of Loxahatchee, Florida.

Current ARRL Southwestern Division Director Dick Norton, N6AA, of Topanga, California, will face challenger Carl Gardenias, WU6D, of Perris, California. Current Vice Director for the Southwestern Division Edward J. "Ned" Stearns, AA7A, of Scottsdale, Arizona, is not seeking re-election; four candidates have stepped forward to seek that position: Tom Fagan, WB7NXH, of Tucson, Arizona; Joseph Madas, AE6JM, of Banning, California; Tuck Miller, NZ6T, of National City, California, and Marty Woll, N6VI, of Chatsworth, California.

Current ARRL West Gulf Division Director Coy Day, N5OK, of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, will face Ed McGinley, W5ETM, of Fort Worth, Texas, for that position. Incumbent Vice Director for the West Gulf Division, Dr David Woolweaver, K5RAV, of Harlingen, Texas, will face John Teer, AK5Z, also of Harlingen.

Ballots will be sent to all full members of the League in that Division who are of good standing as of September 10, 2007 (you must be a licensed radio amateur to be a full member). The ballots will be mailed not later than October 1, 2007 and, to be valid, must be received at ARRL HQ by noon Eastern Time on Friday, November 16, 2007.

Absentee ballots are available to those ARRL full members licensed by the FCC but temporarily residing outside of the US. Members overseas who arrange to be listed as full members in an appropriate Division prior to September 10, 2007, will be able to vote this year where elections are being held. Even within the US, full members temporarily living outside the ARRL Division they consider home may have voting privileges by notifying the ARRL Secretary prior to September 10, 2007, giving their current QST address and the reason another Division is considered home.

==> THE 2007 ARRL NATIONAL CONVENTION -- GONE, BUT DEFINITELY NOT FORGOTTEN

The 2007 ARRL National Convention, held August 18-19 in conjunction with the Huntsville Hamfest, lived up to its promise to be 'chock-full of activities and exhibits.' The centerpiece of the Convention was ARRL EXPO -- an entire exhibit area showcasing many ARRL programs and services. According to Charlie Emerson, N4OKL, vice president of the Huntsville Hamfest Association, more than 5000 people enjoyed the National Convention and hamfest.

ARRL Sales and Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, led the team that organized ARRL's exhibit and convention activities. "The Huntsville Hamfest Committee rolled out the red carpet for ARRL members and friends. We were delighted to sign up more than 150 new and renewing members throughout the event. But the greatest measure of this event's success was in the relationship-building that took place throughout these days. GAREC, the Huntsville Hamfest and the ARRL National Convention brought together the very best of our Amateur Radio Service."

Just prior to the hamfest, the 2007 Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference (GAREC-07), sponsored by the IARU, was Thursday and Friday, August 16-17. GAREC-07 registrants participated in

emergency communications-themed presentations, discussions and demonstrations.

ARRL staff and volunteers ran booths and tables at the Convention, showcasing the services and programs offered by the League. Representatives from various ARRL departments were in attendance, including the ARRL Lab, Public Relations, Publications, DXCC and Awards, and the ARRL VEC. The big ARRL Bookstore offered hundreds of books and other ARRL publications and merchandise, as well.

ARRL Officers and Directors were on hand, too, including President Joel Harrison, W5ZN and CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, as well as Vice Presidents Rick Roderick, K5UR, and Rod Stafford, W6ROD. Representatives from the IARU, including President Larry Price, W4RA, and Vice President Tim Ellam, VE6SH, made the trek to Alabama, as well.

ARRL Headquarters staff and Field Organization leaders gave more than a dozen short mini-forums on the ARRL Stage during the Convention in ARRL's big exhibit area. Presentations on the ARRL Stage included an update on Broadband over Power Lines (BPL) given by Ed Hare, W1RFI; suggestions for energizing young -- and potential -- hams, presented by ARRL Youth Contributing Editor and Georgia Assistant Section Manager/Youth Andrea Hartlage, KG4IUM; a "how-to" session on writing for QST, presented by ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA; an introduction to ARRL Operating Awards and the ARRL QSL bureau with ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L; tips for contesting with QST Contributing Editor and ARRL author Ward Silver, N0AX, and an overview of Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) presented by Rob Suggs, KB5EZ, NASA Space Environments Team Lead from the Marshall Space Flight Center.

ARRL staff presented forums at the hamfest, as well as on the ARRL Stage. ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, moderated the ARRL Membership Forum. ARRL Education Services Manager Debra Johnson, K1DMJ, led the ARRL Education Forums which included an overview of the ARRL's new Education Services Department. She also covered topics on the new ARRL mission statement on education, new licensing materials, enrichment courses and an update on ARRL outreach activities through the Education and Technology Program and Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS).

ARRL Membership Manager Katie Breen, W1KRB, took visitors on a virtual ARRL Headquarters tour, sharing stories of ARRL special event activities aimed at encouraging on-air activity among new and newly active hams, including real-time Web blogs and videos, Hello-Live! and the W1AW HF Open House. ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, talked about ARES and the media, and discussed ways to help public service activities capture the attention of the media. ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, and ARRL Web and Software Development Manager Jon Bloom, KE3Z, presented ARRL's Logbook of the World (LoTW) and the DXCC award program.

More than 8000 copies of the 2007 Public Relations brochure, "Getting the Message Through" were distributed at the Convention, as well as 200 copies of the revamped "Hello!" brochure, according to Pitts.

Another activity offered at the Convention this year was the ARRL Passport. While this activity was a smaller version of the one offered at the Dayton Hamvention, it provided the same excitement and thrill as its counterpart. Billed as the ultimate Convention scavenger hunt, those taking part this year searched the ARRL EXPO area and attended ARRL Forums to acquire special Passport codes that, once entered in the Passport, qualified the hunters to win one of two prizes. Out of nearly 500 entries, Richard Pavalonis, KE5ORR, of Santa Fe, Texas, won an Icom IC-7000 HF/VHF/UHF all-mode mobile transceiver, and Tim Shipman of Owensboro, Kentucky, son of Walter, KI4OHY, will have fun with the Yaesu FT-8577D HF/VHF/UHF all-mode mobile transceiver. Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all who participated.

For those who couldn't make it to Huntsville, Keane and Bloom together contributed to a Convention Weblog <http://www.arrl.org/blog/Huntsville%202007> that posted news and happenings direct from the ARRL EXPO area (and beyond!).

One of the busiest places at the ARRL EXPO was the Youth Lounge. Young people, ranging from ages of about 7 to 17 were all over the Convention and hamfest, exploring all that Amateur Radio has to offer. There were many foxhunts throughout the two days, as well as scavenger hunts, a ham radio quiz show, crafts, prizes and more.

Other hamfest forums covered contesting, emergency communications such as D-STAR, public service, education and many technical issues.

After the hamfest closed on Saturday, the ARRL Alabama Section held a reception for retiring ARRL Southeastern Director Frank Butler, W4RH. Butler is retiring after more than 50 years of elected service to the ARRL. He began his elected service as Section Communications Manager for the Western Florida Section. Butler plans to stay involved with the ARRL, attending the IARU Region 2 Committee Meeting in Brasilia, Brazil as a member of the ARRL delegation next month, and the ARRL Executive Committee Meeting in October, before his term ends January1, 2008.

Emerson said that Convention and hamfest attendance reached unprecedented levels. "The hamfest is getting into the 'unreal' category. We have reports of people coming in from everywhere." Both official hotels, the Embassy Suites (connected to the all air-conditioned Von Braun Center, site of the Convention and Hamfest) and the Holiday Inn (across the street) sold out before the hamfest.

When asked where the next ARRL National Convention would be held, Inderbitzen said, "We're glad to help evaluate National Convention applications, but the ultimate decision is made by the elected officials of the ARRL Board of Directors. In the meantime, we hope that all of our members can someday enjoy attending an ARRL National Convention."

==> GAREC-07 CELEBRATES EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS IN HUNTSVILLE

The third event of its kind, and the first ever held in the United States, the Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference (GAREC-07) took place August 16-17 in Huntsville, Alabama, just prior to the 2007 ARRL National Convention and Huntsville Hamfest.

Almost 100 people from all over the world came to Huntsville, making this truly a global event. GAREC's prevailing theme, how to apply advanced technologies to emergency communications, was echoed throughout the two-day event. From presentations to discussion groups to emergency vehicle displays to information about the latest in hardware, GAREC attendees had a sampling of just about everything pertaining to the Emergency Communications arena.

According to IARU International Coordinator for Emergency Communications Hans Zimmermann, F5VKP/HB9AQS, "Compared to the first two GAREC conferences [held in Tampere, Finland], the number of international participants was considerably lower. Region 1 [Europe, Africa, the Middle East], was represented by Ireland, France, Bulgaria, Finland, The Netherlands and South Africa. Region 2 [the Americas] had representatives from Brazil, Canada, the United States and Trinidad and Tobago. Region 3 [Asia and Oceania] submitted a detailed report, but sent their regrets due to a collision of dates with a major regional event."

ARRL Alabama Section Manager Greg Sarratt, W4OZK, said many large and essential organizations that work with Emergency Communications sent representatives to GAREC. "We saw representatives from the IARU, ARRL, Army MARS, American Red Cross, Southern Baptist Disaster Relief, Department of Homeland Security, The Salvation Army, industry and others." Sarratt said that organizations weren't the only attendees. "Many Section Emergency Coordinators (SEC), District Emergency Coordinators (DEC) and Emergency Coordinators (EC) from the ARRL field organization attended GAREC."

In addition to those ARRL volunteers and Southeastern Division Director Frank Butler, W4RH, CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ; Chief Technology Officer Paul Rinaldo, W4RI; Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, and Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager Dennis Dura, K2DCD, attended GAREC on behalf of the ARRL.

Both Pitts and Dura gave presentations. Pitts spoke about the need for a Public Information Officer (PIO) to be in the Joint Information Center (JIC) at any ARES deployment. "We lose far too many good stories because no one is in the right place speaking to media at the time of the incident. With a 24 hour news cycle, even a few hours later is too little too late. This idea was well received, and while many of the region's groups have recently added this to their action plans, approximately a dozen other groups stated that they will be adding this component to their activities. This information was also well received by some of the international representatives who asked for copies of our PR materials and permission to translate and modify them for use in their home countries," Pitts said.

Dura talked about using VoIP, EchoLink and IRLP for establishing and maintaining communications during hurricanes. The session discussed the methods of combining RF links to the Internet to establish a cohesive network. The VoIP Hurricane Net is another tool that Amateur Radio operators, the National Weather Service, the National Hurricane Center and emergency managers use to gather detailed information on local conditions.

Other presentations included the use of new technologies and modes in Emergency Communications, such as ALE, EchoLink/IRLP, D-STAR, Winlink 2000 and TSSG, an advanced system being developed in Ireland.

Outside of the conference venue, various Emergency Communications agencies brought their vehicles. Sarratt said, "An impressive fleet of emergency communications vehicles added a perfect hands-on hardware feel to GAREC. The vehicles were on display and tour for visitors to learn about serious mobile communications." These vehicles, hosted by Alabama Homeland Security, Alabama Baptist Disaster Relief, American Red Cross, The Salvation Army and the Tennessee Emergency Communications Association, were very popular, drawing large crowds. "Luckily, no emergencies occurred to take the vehicles away from us this weekend," Sarratt said.

While GAREC is not a decision-making body, its ideas and proposals will be submitted to the IARU to be included for discussion at their next Administrative Council meeting, scheduled for June 2008. These ideas may also be discussed at each of the three IARU Regions' upcoming meetings.

The conference made the recommendation to introduce the call sign suffix "/D." This suffix would be used by those in the Amateur Radio Service who handle traffic related to emergency and disaster situations. According to Pitts, this recommendation, made by Willem Visch, PG9W, would let anyone listening immediately know there was emergency traffic and lessen the chances of someone unintentionally breaking in on an emergency net.

Another recommendation included the extension of "EmComm Party on-the-Air." These are Emergency Communications exercises already in place in Region 1. Seppo Sisatto, OH1VR, Region 1 representative, proposed holding two annual international drills, lasting only 4 hours, beginning November 11. This, he said, recognizes that major calamities can and do cross international borders, and hams need to practice for such eventualities.

GAREC suggested that the IARU initiate studies in cooperation with its Member Societies and with specialized emergency communication groups. These studies would focus on the development and possible introduction of standard codes for use in international emergency communications, as well as on the need for the development of a list of standard resource types.

The conference announced its support of the IARU's Administrative Council decision to collect information from all Member Societies about

the status of implementation and application of the revisions to Article 25 of the ITU Radio Regulations (RR) resulting from WRC-03. The part of Article 25 concerning Emergency Communications says, "Amateur stations may be used for transmitting international communications on behalf of third parties only in case of emergencies or disaster relief. An administration may determine the applicability of this provision to amateur stations under its jurisdiction" (RR 25.3), and "Administrations are encouraged to take the necessary steps to allow amateur stations to prepare for and meet communication needs in support of disaster relief" (RR 25.9A).

GAREC appealed to all of the IARU Member Societies, as well as specialized emergency communications groups, encouraging the accession to and ratification of the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Response Operations <http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/emergencytelecoms/doc/tampere/S-CONF-ICET-2001-PDF-M07.pdf> by their respective national authorities. The US has not yet ratified this document, but word was received during GAREC that Ireland announced their accession to Tampere. There are currently 37 countries that have adopted Tampere.

The conference also appealed to the IARU to "further encourage the development and the application of new modes and technologies in emergency communications," and to support the development of training aids. This includes the handbook on emergency communications, initiated by the 2005 and 2006 GAREC conferences, "and the development of a handout to inform the public, in particular during major conferences such as the forthcoming WRC-07 <http://www.itu.int/ITU-R/index.asp?category=conferences&link=wrc-07&lang=en>, as already decided by the IARU Administrative Council in 2005." GAREC also asked the IARU to "continue its support to the continuation and further development of the GAREC concept and process."

GAREC also asked Amateur Radio contest organizers to include a provision in their rules that contest participants avoid frequencies in the immediate vicinity of the Center of Activity frequencies (as proposed at GAREC-05); these frequencies are 14.300, 18.160 and 21.360 MHz. According to Pitts, "This would minimize interference to weak or distant stations which may be passing emergency traffic, but not heard in the contest din." Region 2, of which the US is a part, has not adopted the Center of Activity frequencies, but they will be discussed at the Region 2 meeting in Brazil next month.

Zimmermann said, "With the conference in Region 2, GAREC has established itself in a major event in the field of Emergency Communications. What started in Region 1 as an independent event, has in 2006 found wider attention due to its combination with the International Conference on Emergency Communications (ICEC-06) and now with the ARRL National Convention in 2007. It is, however, only thanks to the hosts of these conferences, that they can fulfill the purpose set out from the

beginning.

"Only the actual implementation and application of the recommendations made by GAREC can be the ultimate criteria for the success of these conferences, as a tool for the further development of the role of the Amateur Radio Service in the provision of emergency communications. The appreciation expressed by numerous participants following each one of the so far three events, and the increasing interest demonstrated by the number of participants must be taken as an obligation to work even harder on the subject, rather than being considered a cause for satisfaction with what has been achieved. The statement of GAREC-07 shows that much remains to be done. In addition to new proposals, it reiterates some still pending issues raised in 2005 and 2006."

Sumner said GAREC stressed interoperability. "In explaining how they are applying specific advanced technologies to emergency communications, speaker after speaker identified interoperability with other technologies and networks as a key objective. It was a joy to share the GAREC experience with nearly 100 dedicated, committed Amateur Radio volunteers who were as intent on cooperating as on explaining and advocating their favorite technologies. This spirit of cooperation and the recognition of the need to preserve our interoperability bode well for the future of Amateur Radio emergency communications, and for our ability to continue to serve our local, national and global communities."

Sarratt agreed. "This was truly a successful conference. The knowledge gained on technology, networking, organizations and hardware exceeded our expectations. This knowledge and the relationships developed will pay many dividends during disaster relief efforts."

Tying it all together was a call that came in right as GAREC was closing. Beepers went off, text messages were received, radios echoed throughout the hall as the National Weather Service and SKYWARN issued an alert to North Alabama due to high winds and oncoming storms. Pitts said, "The alert and call for ham radio helped underscore the dedication and need for those volunteers better than any final speech could have done. It was like, 'The party's over - we go back to work!'"

==> ARES TEAMS ACTIVATED FOR NORTHWEST OHIO NEAR-RECORD FLOODING

Heavy rains over the past week began taking their toll on Northwest Ohio communities as near record flood levels peaked on Wednesday. Ohio Amateur Radio Emergency Service District 1 was especially hard-hit in the Hancock and Seneca County areas, and a command post at the Seneca County Emergency Operations Center was activated.

The city of Findlay experienced catastrophic flooding; according to Karl Erbland, K8ARL, District Emergency Coordinator for ARRL Ohio Section - District 1, this is the worst flooding in the area since 1913. Hancock County ARES Emergency Coordinator Bill Davis, N8PTJ, activated Hancock Emergency Radio Services ARES to provide support to numerous agencies,

including the Hancock County Emergency Management Agency, area fire departments, American Red Cross, the Sheriff and health district departments. Two shelters were set up, with the largest taking around 250 displaced persons.

The flooding affected every area of the city. The Blanchard River's almost-100-year-old record of 18.5 feet was nearly broken by a crest reading of 18.46 feet on Wednesday afternoon.

The Hancock County hams even had to be resourceful for their own services. A few days before the major flooding began, lightning struck the Findlay Radio Club repeater site during another severe storm. Radio communication during the flood was conducted on a simplex frequency, with additional support through their 440 MHz repeater.

Reports of cell phone failures and some problems with the state's 800 MHz digital system set the stage for Amateur Radio networks help to relieve some of these shortcomings. At an information meeting held on Thursday, EMA Director Garry Valentine, N8GIL, noted that agencies should learn to count on the Amateur Radio operators in emergencies to provide communication support, and that Amateur Radio has many capabilities for communicating. "Our amateurs are always there to assist," Davis said. "We can count on them in times like these."

Communications activities included the following: relayed from Emergency Operations Center to fire departments; facilitated delivery of food and water to Jenera, Ohio residents; assisted in the rescue of two elderly ladies and two people in wheelchairs; kept County Sheriff aware of road closures; tracked rescue operations for the Red Cross; tracked displaced persons being transported to Red Cross shelter; on standby for Water Command Center and City Command Operations; relayed Health and Welfare traffic; provided telephone service to some without home phone service; relayed between Seneca County and Hancock County EMA directors, and relayed between District Emergency Coordinator and Hancock County Emergency Coordinator.

Amateurs in Seneca County were put on standby Tuesday, August 21 when word came that the Ruffing Family Care Center (south of Tiffin, Ohio) might be in danger from the rising Sandusky River, which runs near the center's property. County Emergency Coordinator Mike Klaiss, KC8BUJ, and EMA Director Dan Stahl, KC8PBU, held an on-the-air meeting with ARES officers and the McCutchenville, Ohio fire chief to review the reports and predictions from the National Weather Service in Cleveland. ARES officers remained ready through the evening and Wednesday morning. Seneca County activated the Emergency Operations Center around 7 AM on Wednesday as the Sandusky River continued to rise and affect additional areas in the county.

Seneca County EMA Director Dan Stahl said: "Hams play a big part in the emergency operations plan and in the communications center at the EOC. We intend to use all the amateurs in Seneca County during disasters like these. They provide a trained and reliable pool of communicators capable

of assisting us."

Thursday brought a little relief from the rising waters but then came the rising temperatures and humidity levels. Disaster assessment was a hot job as temperatures rose to 91 degrees and similar levels of humidity. "There is a lot more to do across the entire affected area," said Erbland. "Our communities are extremely blessed to have such dedicated Amateur Radio operators. Our emphasis on ARRL communications training and the different FEMA courses such as Incident Command System and National Incident Management System is paying off. We're standing by for any needed communications as our communities recover."

ARRL Ohio Section Emergency Coordinator Frank Piper, KI8GW, said, "I am extremely proud of how well the Amateur Radio operators in Hancock, Seneca and all other counties affected by the weather this past week in the Ohio Section. This is why we plan and test our communication skills and equipment on a regular basis." -- Information provided by Karl Erbland, K8ARL, District Emergency Coordinator for ARRL Ohio Section - District 1; Bob Copas, K8OIL, Hancock County Liaison/Net Control Operator, and Bill Davis, N8PTJ, Hancock County ARES Emergency Coordinator

==> FCC ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

On August 23, the FCC's Enforcement Bureau released new Amateur Radio enforcement actions. Norman Ball, KE6VWN, of Sunland, California, and Richard Martin, KE6RJI, of Maywood, California, both received Warning Notices informing them that the FCC had received written complaints concerning the K6GE repeater and cited their "failure to follow rules set forth by the licensee/control operators of the repeater system for its users." They were told that they had been told to refrain from using this repeater system, "but have apparently ignored both verbal and written requests" to do so. Both Ball and Martin were informed by the FCC that if they use the repeater again after receiving their letters from the FCC, "[the FCC] will initiate enforcement action against your license, which may include revocation, monetary forfeiture (fine) or a modification proceeding to restrict the frequencies on which you may operate." The FCC warned Ball and Martin that fines "normally range from $7500 to $10,000."

Mark F. Hubeny, N9ZHW, of Kaukauna, Wisconsin, received notification from the FCC informing him that he never responded to their Warning Notice concerning the operation of his amateur station on non-amateur frequencies sent June 1 of this year. He was told he had 20 days to respond. The letter said, "Failure to respond appropriately to this letter of inquiry may constitute a violation of the Communications Act and our rules. We will afford you an additional 20 days from the date of this letter to respond."

Romeo C. Valdez, K6RMY, of San Jose, California, received notice from the FCC about a complaint filed against the operation of his station. "The complaint alleges that you are operating an unidentified repeater

on 147.735 MHz," the letter said. Valdez was directed to "review and fully address the complaint within 20 days of receipt of this letter. Failure to respond to this letter would be a separate violation of the Commission's rules."

Smith Trucking, Inc, of Smithfield, Pennsylvania, was cited by the FCC for "operating radio equipment without a license on the frequency 28. 535 MHz and causing interference to licensed stations in the Ten Meter Amateur Band. The drivers were observed operating unlicensed in April and May 2007 on Route 19 between the Fairmont, West Virginia area and the Haywood power plant near Shinnston, West Virginia." The FCC admonished Smith Trucking to "[p]lease advise your drivers that operation of radio transmitting equipment without a license is a violation of Section 301 of the Communications Act of 1934...and subject them to a fine or imprisonment, as well as in seizure of any non-certified radio transmitting equipment."

James T. Ogden, N7KPU, of Prescott Valley, Arizona, was advised by the FCC of a complaint from "the licensee of a coordinated repeater system, with supporting documentation, alleging that your N7KPU repeater is operating without coordination on 447.350/442.350 MHz and causing harmful interference. The complaint indicates that you have been contacted numerous times about this problem but have declined to address it." The FCC requested information from Ogden concerning the coordination, if any, of his repeater, and asked that he forward any complaints he might have received. The FCC also wants Ogden to describe in detail how his repeater is configured, "including all sites, IRLP links and addresses, using diagrams where necessary. Detail any changes in location since the coordination, if any, was issued." Ogden was informed that any information he provided will be used to determine what, if any, action the FCC might take in this matter.

The FCC issued an Order of Dismissal and Termination against Jack R. Sharples of Florida concerning the matter of his application for a new Amateur Radio license. In May, in a Hearing Designation Order, the FCC called Sharples "a convicted felon and registered sexual predator," and said "Sharples's felony conviction for at least one sexual-related offense involving children raises material and substantial questions as to whether he possesses the requisite character qualifications to be a Commission licensee. Although Sharples's felony adjudications occurred more than seven years ago, the nature of the criminal misconduct, and the fact that the Amateur Radio Service is particularly attractive to children, call into serious question whether he should be permitted to obtain an Amateur Radio authorization." Sharples had 20 days since the release of the HDO to file a written appearance; on June 19, "he submitted to the Presiding Judge a document in which he set forth reasons for filing an [Amateur Radio license] Application, notwithstanding his felony convictions [and] the document was received as a good faith Notice of Appearance. "Sharples, in a telephone call with the FCC requested more time to consider whether he would continue to prosecute his Application. The request was granted without

objection." On June 27, Sharples sent a fax to the Presiding Judge withdrawing his application for an Amateur Radio license. The FCC's request to dismiss the application with prejudice and terminate the preceding was granted, as was Sharples's application for an Amateur Radio license, also with prejudice, on August 1.

On March 8, 2007, David O. Castle, WA9KJI, of Evansville, Indiana, was first notified by the FCC to "refrain from using the repeater system operating on 146.79/146.19 and 147.15/147.75 MHz," stemming from a complaint by the trustee of the Tri-State Amateur Radio Society, W9OG. In May, 2007, the FCC notified Castle that it was designating his license renewal application for hearing in the wake of alleged misconduct extending back several years and continuing at least until earlier this year. In its Hearing Designation Order from May, the Commission said, "Since 1998, Castle has been warned repeatedly to refrain from intentionally interfering with radio communications; broadcasting without communicating with any particular station; causing interference on amateur repeaters; using amateur repeaters without authorization, and using indecent, slanderous or harassing language. We find that Castle's continuing course of conduct raises questions as to whether he possesses the requisite character qualifications to remain a Commission licensee." Castle was given 20 days to respond to the HDO, but according to the Memorandum Opinion and Order released August 20, 2007, "to date [August 1, 2007], no written appearance has been filed by, or on behalf of, Mr Castle. In addition, a prehearing conference was held on August 13, 2007, in the Commission's Washington, DC offices. No one attended or entered an appearance on behalf of Mr. Castle."

The Commission, however, did receive a number of communications by or on behalf of Castle, one requesting that the contents of the HDO be sent to him "'in an audible form (cassette or cd)"' because he has "'limited eye sight.'" The MO&O said Castle told the FCC "Travel will not be possible due to health and finances. Representation by an attorney is not in my budget." The FCC complied with Castle's request and sent him a disc containing audio files of all the documents released in his proceeding to date. Castle's daughter, Donna J. Dill, sent the Presiding Judge a fax on June 18 stating, among other things, that her father "'is not able to travel or hire an attorney...He tells me that he has sent his statement and this is all he is able to do as his eye sight is limited and health poor."

It was concluded through Castle's and Dills' submissions to the FCC that Castle did not intend to appear as directed, and "even assuming that these documents can somehow be construed as 'pleadings,' as defined in Section 1.204 of the Commission's Rules, they are procedurally deficient and may not, therefore, be considered." As such, it was ordered that Castle's application to renew his Amateur Radio license be dismissed with prejudice.

==>SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "I Wanna Be the One to Walk in the Sun(spot)" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: Conditions were quiet this week, with no geomagnetic disturbances and most days had zero sunspots. For the past two days, August 22-23, the sunspot number was 11 and 12, indicative of a single sunspot group. Slightly unsettled conditions are expected this weekend, with a planetary A index from August 24-30 expected at 8, 15, 15, 12, 8, 8 and 5. Sunspot activity is expected to remain low, as lone sunspot 969 moves across the sun. Geophysical Institute Prague predicts quiet conditions for August 24; unsettled August 25; quiet to unsettled August 26; quiet August 27; unsettled August 28, and quiet again August 29-30. Sunspot numbers for August 16 through 22 were 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 11 and 12 with a mean of 3.3. The 10.7 cm flux was 67.3, 67.6, 67.9, 67.8, 69.1, 69.3 and 70, with a mean of 68.4. Estimated planetary A indices were 7, 5, 4, 3, 2, 4 and 4 with a mean of 4.1. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 6, 2, 1, 2, 2, 3 and 2 with a mean of 2.6. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>.

==>IN BRIEF:

* This weekend on the Radio: This weekend, the CCC Sprint (CW) on August 24. The ALARA Contest, the Hawaii QSO Party, the SCC RTTY Championship, the YO DX HF Contest and the Ohio QSO Party are all on August 25-26. The SKCC Weekend Sprint and the SARL HF CW Contest are both August 26. Next week, look for the NCCC Sprint (CW) on August 31. The Russian RTTY WW Contest and the Wake-Up! QRP Sprint are on September 1. On September 1-2, check out the All Asian DX Contest (Phone), RSGB Field Day (SSB) and IARU Region 1 Field Day (SSB). The DARC 10 Meter Digital Contest is September 2, while the MI QRP Labor Day CW Sprint is September 3-4 and the ARS Spartan Sprint is September 4. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests/>, the ARRL Contester's Rate Sheet <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rate-sheet/> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more info.

* ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course Registration: Registration remains open through Sunday September 9, 2007, for these online courses beginning on Friday September 21: Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 2 (EC-002); Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 3 (EC-003R2); Antenna Modeling (EC-004); HF Digital Communications (EC-005); VHF/UHF -- Life Beyond the Repeater (EC-008), and Radio Frequency Propagation (EC-011). To learn more, visit the CCE Course Listing page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html> or contact the Continuing Education Program Coordinator <cce@arrl.org>.

* Section Manager Elections Results Announced: In the only contested Section Manager race this summer, Bill Hillendahl, KH6GJV, was re-elected as the ARRL San Francisco Section Manager. He received 237 votes and his opponent, Warren "TR" Reese, WB6TMY, received 134 votes. Election ballots were counted last week at ARRL Headquarters.

Hillendahl, of Santa Rosa, California, begins his third two-year term of office on October 1, 2007. The following incumbent ARRL Section Managers did not face opposition and were declared elected for their next terms of office beginning October 1, 2007: Jeff Ryan, K0RM, Colorado; Mark Tharp, KB7HDX, Eastern Washington; Susan Swiderski, AF4FO, Georgia; Phineas Icenbice, W6BF, Los Angeles; Ray Taylor, N5NAV, South Texas; Ann Rinehart, KA8ZGY, West Virginia. Jim Pace, K7CEX, of Centralia, Washington, will become the Western Washington Section Manager on October 1. Pace will take over the reins from Ed Bruette, N7NVP, who decided not to run for a third term of office. Pace has moved up through the section leadership ranks by previously serving as District Emergency Coordinator, Section Emergency Coordinator and presently as an Assistant Section Manager. Ron Murdock, W6KJ, who already had been declared elected as the new Sacramento Valley Section Manager as of October 1, began his term a little early on July 2. Murdock was appointed to fill in for Casey McPartland, W7IB, who stepped down because of a planned upcoming move out of the section.

* Malaysia to Send Astronaut to ISS: According to ARRL ARISS Program Manager Rosalie White, K1STO, earlier this month Malaysia announced that two Malaysian doctors have become new hams; one will be chosen to travel to the International Space Station under the Malaysian National Angkasawan Programme with Russia. Dr Sheikh Muszaphar Shukor, 9W2MUS, and Captain Dr Faiz Khaleed, 9W2FIZ, will make QSOs with students via ARISS. The two doctors regularly publicize ham radio and ARISS on their blog <http://www.angkasawan.com.my/blog/index.php?itemid=21>. For more information on the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station project, check out their Web page <http://www.rac.ca/ariss/oindex.htm>.

* Communications Museum Comes Back to Life: A generous individual who wishes to remain anonymous donated $40,000 to the Vintage Radio and Communications Museum of Connecticut, enabling the museum to pay off their debt to the town of Windsor, Connecticut. The donation comes as the museum plans to reopen this summer for the first time in more than seven years. Since that time, the museum has acquired a 20,000 square foot building in Windsor, and volunteers have been hard at work restoring the building for public use. The town of Windsor extended the museum at $35,000 loan that helped them pay insurance and other expenses while the group worked to ready its new location. A $100,000 state grant paid for major building upgrades, allowing the museum to plan for an August opening. The Vintage Radio and Communications Museum of Connecticut is dedicated to the preservation of old-time communications equipment and to educating the public. The museum displays radios, televisions, motion picture and telephone equipment, as well as vintage advertising and memorabilia. Audio, video and paper libraries, along with an extensive collection of schematics, are also available for research. For more information, visit their Web site <http://www.vrcmct.org>.

* Online Course Developer Needed: As a result of the success of the ARRL Education Services' online Technician licensing course, and due to

increasing demand for General Class licensing instruction, ARRL is looking for an experienced on-line course developer to create a General Class licensing instruction course on a contract basis. ARRL's current learning management platform is WebMentor. If you are interested in applying for this position, please send an e-mail <coursedev@arrl.org> describing your interest and experience. Please provide a daytime phone number in your e-mail.

* QST Wants You!: Have you ever thought of writing an article for QST? The official journal of ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio, QST is always on the lookout for articles that explore all the possibilities of ham radio. We are looking for stories and articles that present a project or idea that is useful and engaging to most hams. The story you have had brewing in your head for months might be perfect for QST or the ARRLWeb. For the Web, we're looking for short (1500 words maximum), general-interest articles that tell a particularly interesting story. At least one photo to accompany the story is mandatory. Send your submissions to QST Managing Editor Joel Kleinman, N1BKE <qst@arrl.org>.

* Let Us Know What You Think: What's your favorite part of The ARRL Letter? What kind of stories would you like to see in the Letter? Would you prefer the Letter in an HTML format? This is your Letter and your chance to let your voice be heard. Please send your suggestions to ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, at k1sfa@arrl.org, with the subject line "ARRL Letter Suggestions." All messages will be read and discussed, and we look forward to implementing positive suggestions into the ARRL Letter.

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The ARRL Letter is published Fridays, 50 times each year, by the American Radio Relay League: ARRL--the National Association for Amateur Radio, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111; tel 860-594-0200; fax 860-594-0259; <http://www.arrl.org>. Joel Harrison, W5ZN, President.

The ARRL Letter offers a weekly e-mail digest of essential and general news of interest to active radio amateurs. Visit the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org> for the latest Amateur Radio news and news updates. The ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/> also offers informative features and columns. ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> is a weekly "ham radio newscast" compiled and edited from The ARRL Letter. It's also available as a podcast from our Web site.

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The ARRL Letter also is available to all, free of charge, from these sources:

* ARRLWeb <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>. (NOTE: The ARRL Letter will be posted each Friday when it is distributed via e-mail.)

* The QTH.net listserver, thanks to volunteers from the Boston Amateur Radio Club: Visit Mailing Lists@QTH.Net <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/letter-list>. (NOTE: The ARRL cannot assist subscribers who receive The ARRL Letter via this listserver.)

1462. Re: Ham WIFI?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-25 04:19:02 UTC
From: dplatt@radagast.org
Message-ID: <lm24q4-dbv.ln1@radagast.org>
Source record: 3967

In article <um5uc3lgm8jrph49ub2cmvemlmhe5slmjg@4ax.com>,
Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:

>At the time the WiFi specs were just starting to be formulated, and
>the consensus was that the digital spread-spectrum encoding would take
>care of all interference problems. When I piped up and mentioned that
>(QRO) ham radio will cause shutdown, all the digital types poo-pooed
>the suggestion, while the three hams in the group just nodded their
>heads in agreement.
>
>Can they spell "Front End Overload" ? <ggg>

#chuckle#

I'm sure the smell of Magic Blue Smoke leaking out of the front-end,
and the whimpering sound of badly-abused demodulators, will stimulate
their spelling ability no end :-)

--
Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO
Friends of Jade Warrior home page: http://www.radagast.org/jade-warrior
I do _not_ wish to receive unsolicited commercial email, and I will
boycott any company which has the gall to send me such ads!

1463. Re: Ham WIFI?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-25 04:19:14 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <g76uc3pkpk8nlm7qeq4bdc5t2ef91fmhiv@4ax.com>
Source record: 3968

On Thu, 23 Aug 2007 23:19:58 EDT, Mike Coslo
<mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:

>Probably the best thing to do is to call your ISP and carefully and
>properly frame the question.

You are presuming that the ISP will understand what you are proposing!

Read the Terms of Service and get an opinion from a regulatory
professional who has your interests at heart, not the ISP's interests.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1464. Re: Ham WIFI?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-25 04:19:34 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <1g6uc3ttnol3pqvr51vjddeclac35qi8di@4ax.com>
Source record: 3969

On Fri, 24 Aug 2007 01:34:48 EDT, dplatt@radagast.org (Dave Platt)
wrote:

>Sticking a passive reflector being the antenna, for a few dB of gain,
>might not count as a modification to the actual antenna, and might
>thus be legal.

It doesn't count as a modification of the antenna, unless it's a
"periscope" antenna ("fly-swatter") used for Part 101 microwave
stations, and then it's proscribed because the side lobes exceed those
permissible for antennas in those services.

>The issue of whether it's OK to allow other people to use your home
>wireless network, on a cable or DSL line, would be a contractual issue
>between you and your ISP... I don't think it's an FCC issue at all.

It certainly is not.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
ARRL Volunteer Counsel

email: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1465. Re: Ham WIFI?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-25 04:19:45 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <gn6uc3983pssdmmvt3n393uhtj5oa61aos@4ax.com>
Source record: 3970

On Fri, 24 Aug 2007 09:50:58 EDT, "xpyttl"
<xpyttl_NOSPAM@earthling.net> wrote:

>IANAL, but it sounds like shaky ground to me. Of course, you could take
>that attitude that the probability of an enforcement action is close to
>zero, and you could be right. But I, personally, wouldn't try it.

As I advise my clients - both ham and commercial - what answer will
you have if or when you are caught with your hand in the cookie-jar?

Keeping out of trouble is easier than getting out of trouble.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
ARRL Volunteer Counsel

email: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1466. WIANEWS for week commencing AUGUST 26 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-25 10:28:39 UTC
From: nationalnews@wia.org.au
Message-ID: <200708251000.l7PA07j05463@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 3971
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,aus.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

This is WIANEWS for week commencing AUGUST 26 2007

NATIONAL NEWS

We start with news from Peter VK4OD who as contest manager of this years RD contest says logs are being received with errors!

"Good morning listeners, it has been particularly pleasing to receive all those logs this week, to date we have a total of 230 Electronic and postal logs, to those that have not yet sent in your log, however your part is not complete until you get your logs away.

Some of the logs received have revealed some errors, however, I contact those senders before declaring the winner's

Please get your logs in as soon as possible before the cut-off date,

Under RD 2007 Rules
Para 17b In all cases, logs must be received by last mail on Monday 10th September, 2007. Late entries will not be eligible.

Back to you graham."

Well from the RD weekend to the ILLW Weekend.

Last weekends International Lighthouse and Lightship weekend saw folk from Amateur Radio Victoria activate the Lighthouse and Time Ball Tower at Point Gellibrand near Williamstown with the call sign VK3WI.

A barbeque fed hungry operators at lunch time and a kettle and coffee kept the well fed operators awake when conditions on the air deteriorated.

VK3WI worked all bands and the whole place was buzzing with activity.

Jim VK3PC kept a watchful eye on the proceedings including guiding visiting operators to have a go at the main station. Apparently VK3WI had around 400 contacts and more than 23 lighthouses during the weekend.

Throughout the weekend, locals gathered to have a look and ask questions and were handed the now familiar "Calling CQ" brochures. The weather held out but was very cold. Other than that, it was an action packed ILLW weekend and a very good time was had by all. Well done all.

AMATEUR RADIO - HOME OF THE GOOD GUYS

And a NEW home for the 'good guys' of the C.G.A.R.C.

The Central Goldfields Amateur Radio Club has new club rooms in the old TAFE building at 59-63 Victoria Street North, on the corner of Station Street, Maryborough.

The club meets there on the first Friday of the month at 8pm in a room rented from the St John Ambulance Depot.

The CGARC is a very friendly and active club responsible for a considerable number of new Foundation Licensees getting on air.

Amateur Radio Victoria say inquiries can be made by contacting the club president Peter Rafferty VK3CC telephone 5460 4387 or for more details just goggle its webpage.

(http://gcarc.amateurradio.com.au/)

We spoke of "Good Guys".. none so "good' as silent key Chris Jones....

SFX:- Recording of Chris Jones talking on air

Yes that was the voice of Chris Jones Jones VK2ZDD - silent key.

Yesterday Saturday the 25th of August was the 12 month anniversary since Chris became silent key. Chris was an amazing person, his passion and enthusiasm for the Wireless Institute of Australia, the Foundation Licence, Amateur Radio, in fact everybody's health and well being in general was just simply amazing. Chris has so many friends and mates and we still do still miss him.

Someone else who was very close to Chris was Steve Leatheam VK2BGL.

"It has been just on a year now since we all lost our very good friend Chris Jones VK2ZDD. I was with Chris when he passed away on Friday morning August 25 last year. It was extremely sudden and was a great shock to all of his friends around the world.

So what has happened in the last year to all of us who were close to Chris? Well first and foremost, his best mate, Max his much loved Labrador I am pleased to report is fit and well in the care of Anne, Chris's sister and her family. He has lost a lot of his excess weight and at the age of 8 is a very active pooch spending lots of time enjoying weekends on their friend's farm down in the Southern Highlands. And he still does not bark.

Chris's house in Menai has been sold and is now no longer in the family. We all have treasured memories of the great parties and get togethers in his home.

Our EchoIRLP node IRLP 6222 EchoLink VK2BGL-L is still very active and has been relocated to Engadine with a VHF getaway as good if not slightly better than the old location in Chris's home at Menai.
Its frequency 146.550 is still populated with many of Chris's old friends and is one of the most active VHF simplex channels in Sydney.

The Papua New Guinea village library fund at last count was just nudging $10000 but there has been a delay on building the premises by the government.

The money is to be given to Paul and the village elders to purchase the books when the building is further advanced.

And myself? who had Chris as a good friend since 1966 and lived and worked with him for the last few years of his life? Well I have retired back to my old home town of Kiama on the South Coast where I spent the first 17 years of my life.

Would you call that a Sea change or Back to My Roots?

73 from Steve VK2BGL".

EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO
PRESENTED BY KYLEA VK6FXYL

The Wireless Institute of Australia's Foundation Licence Manual is a full colour manual consisting of 95 pages of information for those studying, or those who would just like a reference book for Foundation Licence Operators.

The manual contains the all relevant information you will need to know to successfully complete a training course to obtain our foundation licence.

It also contains a wealth of information a Foundation Licence operator will need. Items like Band Plans, Electrical Safety information, operating procedures such as the Q code, how to contact you local radio club, the WIA and much more.

For more information on obtaining the foundation licence manual please visit wia.org.au
(Alan VK4YAR)

FUTURE EXAMS

To find out when a club in YOUR area is hosting assessments and/or training in Amateur Radio go to wia.org.au and check out the club pages.

Participating clubs keep this site up to date and post the latest information for all to see.

Next Foundation Licence course, and Standard / Advanced assessments .....

VICTORIA

Helping Foundation Licensees to upgrade

Amateur Radio Victoria has a few vacancies in its latest Standard Licence Bridging Course to be held in September.

The course has been designed by Kevin Luxford VK3DAP to be delivered once a week on a week-day night over four weeks plus all day Saturday.

If you hold a Foundation Licence and want to enrol in this bridging course to be held in Melbourne please contact Barry Robinson VK3JBR on 0419 808 323 or email arv@amateurradio.com.au

Amateur Radio Victoria has announced that enrolments are now open for its Foundation Licence training and assessments weekend of September the 15th and 16th to be held at Box Hill North.

Inquiries to Barry Robinson VK3JBR 0419 808 323 or email arv@amateurradio.com.au

HAM COLLEGE Calls for Western Australia to get off the Couch

Come on get off the couch - fulfil that new years resolution and get your Ham licence.

Do you live in or know someone in the Collie/Bunbury Region who wants to do their Foundation Course/exam -

Ham College is coming to you......next month (September) - get your name on the list to do your Foundation course and subsequent exam. Come on - give me a call - you can do it in 1 weekend.

My number is 0412 704 226.

In the Perth metropolitan area the next Foundation course is scheduled for 15th & 16th September - get your name in early to avoid disappointment.

Want to upgrade that F call then - yep you guessed it - contact me a call and I will place you on the list for the next available course or exam session.

TASMANIA

Radio and Electronics Association of Southern Tasmania

For more information or enrol please contact Reg Emmett VK7KK by emailing regemm@ozemail.com.au or calling 0417 391 607

And remember Foundation Licence Manuals and CD's are available for purchase at McCann's Model World in Elizabeth St. Hobart at $20.

A quick reminder about "Intro to the Standard Licence" sessions on a Saturday afternoons from 1:00 to 4:00pm in the Domain clubrooms.

These sessions are an introduction to the standard licences and attempt to de-mystify the upgrading process.
(Ken VK7DY/Reg, VK7KK)

REAST Education & Assessments

http://reast.asn.au/events.php#TrainingCourses

We have now confirmed arrangements for the first REAST Standard Licence Training Courses.

Starting date is not yet confirmed as we are keen to have a few more starters.

The course will run for approximately 12 weeks on a Friday night from 7 to 10pm.

There will be a variety of presenters from REAST as the course
progresses.

There are still some places available but be quick.

Cost is $75 which covers the training CD, handouts, tea coffee, etc.

Application forms can be found on the REAST website

HAMS ACROSS AUSTRALIA.
(6five)

VK3
web service:- http://www.amateurradio.com.au/news/

>From next Sunday, the 2nd of September, a number of changes are happening to
this VK3BWI networked broadcast. With details here's Ross Pittard VK3FCE.

"Following a review by Amateur Radio Victoria of its putting to air of the
WIA weekly broadcast a number of changes will happen.

The main ones are that from the first broadcast in September it will go to air
half an hour earlier at 10.30am and a 40 metre call back re-introduced.

Amateur Radio Victoria has spent more than $3500 to upgrade its VK3BWI
HF transmission facilities with new feeders, multiple antennas, a new
80 metre transmitter and a frequency change for 40 metres to 7158 kilohertz.

The 40 metre call back, when it begins on the 2nd of September, will
particularly welcome reports from Foundation Licensees and the broadcast's
interstate listeners.

Regular listeners may have noticed a change to the 2-metre call-back through
the VK3RMM repeater.

The new format is a "check-in" by callsign only session, followed by the
F-Troop Net Controller who conducts a call back for anyone wishing to make a
comment or has a question.

These changes and much more, all in support of the WIA's weekly broadcast.

I'm Ross Pittard VK3FCE and you're listening to VK1WIA."

Thanks Ross, let us look at VK3 Broadcasts,

SUNDAY 9:30am
Melbourne VK3REC 147.175
Mildura (Sunraysia AR Group) 146.800 AND UHF CB 12

SUNDAY 10:30am (ARV VK3BWI NetWork)
3.615
7.158
10.130
147.250 VK3RMM Mt Macedon
146.700 VK3RML Mt Dandenong
147.225 VK3RWG Mt Baw Baw

439.800 VK3RMU Mt St Leonard

SUNDAY 7:30pm
Shepparton VK3RGV 146.650 MHz

SUNDAY 8:00pm VK3BWI AMATEUR RADIO VICTORIA Network.
3.615
7.158
10.130
147.250 VK3RMM Mt Macedon
146.700 VK3RML Mt Dandenong
147.225 VK3RWG Mt Baw Baw
439.800 VK3RMU Mt St Leonard

WEDNESDAY 8:30pm
Melbourne 147.175 VK3REC

David Ryan VK3LOZ of the EMDRC says their "Two Bob Show" is on the way.

Bob Tate & Bob Duckworth have offered to provide some training to other club members on the use of CRO's. The training will cover the many uses of the CRO with particular attention as to the connection of the test device to communication equipment.
To start the training off they will give a presentation at the Friday Coffee shop September 21. This will be followed by a hands on practical day at the East Burwood Club rooms on Saturday 22.
The club welcomes members and visitors to attend between 10.00 & 17.00 with a BYO BBQ at lunch time

The Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club Annual Hamfest will be held on the 9th of September at the regular venue, " The St. Augustine's Hall" in Orr St. Shepparton.
Doors will be opening to the public at 10am and for traders at 7.30am.
If you would like to book a table you can still contact Daryl, vk3kl@netspace.net.au
For the Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club, this is VK3KAL.

VK4
web service local news:- www.wiaq.com/qnews/upload/qnewsbcast.htm
local news email qnews-vk-subscribe@yahoogroups.com subscribe in subject field.

WIA Presidents Lunch Brisbane

The Queensland Club President's lunch is on again this year.
The lunch will be held at 12:00 in Brisbane, on Saturday 13th October.
The venue is yet to be finalised.

WIA President Michael Owen and WIA Director Ewan McLeod
will be present, as well as WIA Secretary Ken Fuller.
This is your opportunity to hear the WIA President and get
the latest WIA information. This will also be the first function
for the new Queensland Advisory Committee.

We would like to invite one attendee per club to the lunch.
This will ensure that we have a good coverage of radio clubs
in Queensland. Please consider sending a club member to
attend the lunch, and talk to and hear from
Michael Owen and Ewan McLeod.

Further details of the venue will be coming.
Please advise attendees to me qac@wia.org.au
or Ken Fuller vk4kf@wia.org.au

Regards, Don Wilschefski VK4BY Chairman Queensland Advisory Committee

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

>From Maine to Oregon, from Florida to Finland, more than 5,000 ham radio
operators gathered in downtown Huntsville last weekend to browse the latest
in radio electronics, learn about trends in the field and, for many, finally
meeting face to face.

This year's event drew more participants than normal. About 4,000 operators
typically attend the annual Huntsville Hamfest, said Charlie Emerson,
vice president of the Huntsville Hamfest Association.

This year the national convention of the ARRL drew an extra 1,000 operators
and vendors to the Von Braun Centre's South Hall.

And a small delegation of almost 100 more operators were there for a Global
Amateur Radio Emergency Communication Conference. "They made their U.S. debut
in Huntsville, Alabama," Emerson said.

While amateur radio is a hobby for many, the Federal Communications
Commission set aside the radio frequencies above the AM broadcast band for
use in emergencies.

Ham operators must be licensed by the FCC. Many wore their call letters on
caps or badges so they could meet one another for the first time during the
three-day event.

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NEWS FROM ARNEWSLINE

HAMWATCH AND THE NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

The mayor of South El Monte, California, has praised ham radio
operators who assist her city and the nation in time of need and she
did so in a most unusual way. On the air. Take a listen:

--

Mayor Figueroa: "To all of you Hamwatch operators, thank you for
helping all of your cities. National Night Out - remember to say no to
crime, leave your lights on and thank you for doing a great job. God
bless you and god bless America."

--

That's Mayor Blanca Figueroa and the story of how she got to thank the ham community for its involvement is actually a story unto itself. One that kind of involves us here at Newsline. At least peripherally.

On Tuesday August 7th, communities across the nation participated in the "National Night Out." This is an opportunity for communities to promote activities aimed at increasing security with programs such as Neighbourhood Watch, Community Emergency Response Teams and of course Amateur Radio.

One such event was held in the City of South El Monte, a suburb of Los Angeles. That's where members of the Temple Station Hamwatch Group were present to display radio equipment and answer questions related to Ham Radio.

As part of the demonstration Deputy Hector Figueroa, KE6VRL, used a portable station to transmit what the group calls the "Amateur Radio Newsline - Check-In Net" at its regularly scheduled time on the local N6USO repeater. As the net was winding down, Mayor Figueroa requested a moment at the microphone. And as you heard, she used it to thank the members of Hamwatch and the Amateur Radio community for their ongoing efforts to communities all across the United States. (KE6VRL)

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RSGB NEWS G4NJH

Monday 13 August Ofcom made it legal to use approved ultra wide band equipment without a licence. Ultra wide band technology allows very fast wireless data transfer over short distances.

It works by using very large chunks of spectrum at once. Approved equipment will operate between 3.1GHz and 10.6GHz. During consultations the RSGB expressed concerns that there may be mutual interference with several amateur microwave bands.

Supporters of the technology say that the ultra wide band transmissions are of such low spectral density that interference to other services is unlikely.

The full text of the statement can be found on the Ofcom web site.

The Irish Radio Transmitters Society says is getting close to tracing the 10m religious broadcasts reported recently on GB2RS. The location has been narrowed down to somewhere on the northern side of the city of Dublin.

Further work is still required to locate the actual transmitter.

Transmissions have been noted on 28.105MHz FM at 10am local time on weekdays. Additional transmissions occur at 9am and 11am on Sundays.

OPERATIONAL NEWS -

CONTEST COLUMN - D A T E L I N E

AUGUST 26-27

ALARA CONTEST.

This ALARA contest is run over 36 hours to give everyone 2 bites at the 80m band.

For OMs only contacts with YLs count, while YLs can count ALL stations.

Club stations operated by YLs are certainly encouraged.

One highlight of the ALARA contest is that you may work the same station after a one hour interval on the same band. So it is worth while staying around
a tad longer for that extra contact for both yourself and the other station.

ALL DETAILS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 47 OF JULY'S AR MAGAZINE

7th World HST Championship will be held in Belgrade Serbia September 19-23rd.
www.hst2007.org

SEPTEMBER 22

The Second running of the Westlakes Cup is coming up on Saturday 22nd September commencing at 8.30 Eastern Australian Standard Time (10.30 Z).

Boat Anchor Sprints:
October (13).
Local ZL time: 2000 to 2100 hrs

Section 1: Old radios - all valves - i.e. ZC1, 19 set, Heathkits, any home brew set, but must have all valves.

Section 2: Any Hybrid transceiver (must have valve finals i.e. FT200, FTDX400/401, Drake, FT 101s, etc..

Amplitude Modulated signals only.

The overall winner shall be the entrant having the highest points score which will be published in the following New Zealand "Break-in".
(Jamie Pye ZL2NN, Editor NZART's InfoLine)

NOVEMBER 17/18 VK Spring VHF-UHF Field Day

MEDIA WATCH

ABC LOCAL RADIO in Kalgoolie have interviewed Kalgoorlie amateur radio operator Lewis Pannell as part of the ABC's science week.

The news article provides some interesting background information on our hobby and shares amongst other things, that Lewis had communicated with NASA astronaut Andy Thomas during a space mission.

It's great to see Amateur Radio being promoted in such a positive way and the show also reported on Mr Pannell's recent attendance at a VK6 Ham Fest WHICH SAW enthusiasts travelling from across that state to talk all things amateur radio.

It is like a Trekkies for amateur radio enthusiasts. There were 350 people who travelled from Kalgoorlie, Kellerberrin and Perth to a ham fest According to Mr Pannell, radio equipment can range from $500 to thousands of dollars.

But, speaking on ABC Mr Pannell says the highlight for him as a radio ham was speaking Astronaut Andy during a space mission.

Another Kalgoorlie amateur radio operator, Des Martin, says the hobby of amateur radio is growing.

"In the last couple of years in Australia the number of hams has increased by at least 1000 probably 1500 and with the new regulations, it is a lot easier to get started. You don't have to know Morse code anymore, which did put a few people off," he said.

INTRUDER WATCH - ENFORCEMENT ZONE

Region III IARUMS Coordinator B.L.Manohar (Arasu) VU2UR
r3msc_iaru@rediffmail.com

IARU Monitoring System International Coordinator:-
Robert E. Knowles, ZL1BAD.

Len Martinson, ZL1BYA, is Monitoring Service co-ordinator for the NZART.
Lenmart@clear.net.nz

VK National Coordinator = Karl Hennig VK6XW intruders@wia.org.au

VK IARUMS reflector email to subscribe intruders@wia.org.au

VK Coordinators for I.A.R.U.M.S.
VK3TZE Jimmy intruders@wiavic.org.au
VK5EV John
VK7BBW Paul vk7bbw@bigpond.com

IARUMS NETS
Friday 0730 UTC 7.065.5 with VK4CEU David.

Amateur exclusive frequencies where any non-amateur signal is definitely an intruder, This listing by the late P29KFS, Rick Warnett.

Exclusive amateur only spectrum world wide
7.050 to 7.100
14.000 to 14.250
14.250 to 14.350 No broadcasters
21.000 to 21.450
24.890 to 24.990
28.000 to 29.700

We reported a week or two so back on interference to the VK5RMB Repeater at Harrogate on the E side of the Mount Lofty Ranges from a long range cordless phone operating on 2 Mtrs. After the offenders phone number and other info. was gathered, the ACMA was contacted. By the next morning the interference was gone .... wulla. The ACMA is obviously still doing a Stirling job with reported interference complaints in

SA.
(Rob 5MM)

NOW ROBERT BROOMHEAD - VK3KRB.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RADIO SCOUTING
http://www.scouts.com.au
http://www.scout.org/jota
http://www.wiaq.com/nationalnews/jotahead.htm

SCOUT JOTA HF Voice Calling Frequencies
3590, 7090, 14190, 21190, 28590 kHz
14290, 18140, 21360, 24960, 28390 kHz (DX)

This years 50th JOTA will run from October 19th at 22:00
hours to October 21st at 24:00 hours YOUR local time.

An official start will be given by the World Scout Bureau
radio station in Geneva, Switzerland on October 19th at
21:00 h UTC with a transmission in the 20 and 80 meter
bands and on EchoLink.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RESCUE RADIO

EMERGENCY FREQUENCIES REGION ONE
21.360 - 18.160 - 14.300 - 7.060 - 3.760 MHz.

WICEN group seeking ex submarine service radios - periscopes welcome too.

http://tas.wicen.org.au/

The show went ahead, not quite as planned by the Southern Tasmanian
Endurance Riders in the Wielangta forest south of Hobart, with WICEN
providing safety checkpoints. First it was fallen trees resulting
from the earlier fires that caused problems for the course setters.
Then the rains washed out the tracks they did find. Endurance ride
rules require 90% of the course to be accessible by vehicle in case
horses become lame and have to be floated out. It might have been
possible to literally float them out, but the requirement is for the
wheeled variety of horse conveyance.

So - last minute changes were necessary, resulting in deployment
changes for the WICEN teams. Steve VK7FSRC came to the rescue with a
text message to Bruce VK7MBD that he was being called on R5 from
Wielangta - No mobile phone coverage in that neck of the woods but R5
was making it. That call meant that Bruce and Scott VK7FREK had to
crawl out of bed earlier than planned and get to their new job
location some two hours earlier on Saturday morning.

The rest of the crew had arrived on Friday in pouring rain to set up
base and survey the new checkpoint locations. Waders were appropriate
footwear and four wheel drive almost essential - and that was just to
drive across the flat paddocks at base camp. Every footstep caused a
sideways fountain of muddy water - and a big clean up job later.

Fortunately, Peter VK7TPE took his caravan which provided some dining and socialising shelter for the wet but still happy campers.

The job went well with missing riders found, farriers called to replace lost shoes and floats to bring home the stragglers. 80MHz was used for voice, leaving 2 metres available for APRS tracking and a trial of the MEX packet tracking system. MEX was developed by WICEN South Australia for car rally tracking and scoring. The slower paced horse ride gave us a good opportunity to try it. All went well, but resource requirements might pose a problem for larger scale use and computer power supplies presented a 2m interference problem.

A great social and enjoyable weekend made all the more rewarding given the climatic challenges. The other amphibians were VK7s Chris FCDW, Garry JGD, John ZZ, Roger ARN, Scott HSE and Stu NXX.

Another demonstration of Amateur Radio in action providing a professional quality public service.

BB's DIARY ROOM - THE FUTURE, IN AMATEUR RADIO

2008

Sept 13 Alarameet 2008 will be held in Ulverstone Tasmania on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th September 2008. Susan VK7LUV for details.

2009
International Telecommunication Union's Telecom World 2009.

14th IARU R3 Conference Christchurch 12 - 16 October, 2009.

SOCIAL SCENE

The Blue Mountains Amateur Radio Club's WINTERFEST Hamvention will be held on Saturday September 1 at the 1st Blaxland Scout Hall, Reading Street Glenbrook NSW.

A number of commercial retailers of amateur radio equipment and accessories will be participating this year, as well as the WIA Bookshop, ARNSW Homebrew and Experimenters Group and WICEN, who will have displays of interest to radio amateurs and electronics enthusiasts alike. The popular flea market will be a feature again this year. Along with a monster sausage sizzle with hot and cold refreshments for sale.

Gates open at 10:00 am. General admission is $2 with children under 12 years free.

For details and up-to-the-minute news on Winterfest, just point your browser to www.bmarc.org

Sellers wishing to attend Winterfest, should send an email to secretary@bmarc.org

Don't forget to mark September 1 in your calendar, so you don't miss this year's BMARC WINTERFEST.

(John VK2QN Publicity Officer Blue Mountains Amateur Radio Club)

SEPTEMBER 8
SUNSHINE COAST HAMFEST at Woombye School of Arts Hall.

SEPTEMBER 9 Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club Hamfest
St. Augustine's Hall Orr St.

SEPTEMBER 21-23
North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention
Happening in twin cities of Thuringowa and Townsville.

OCTOBER 6
Gold Coast Amateur Radio Society Annual Hamfest at Albert Waterways Hall.

JANUARY 20 2008

The Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group invite all amateurs to attend the 2008 Mid North Coast Radio Expo to be held in Coffs Harbour on Sunday 20th January.

The Expo is held at the St Johns Church Hall, Mc Lean Street, Coffs Harbour. Gary VK2ZKT is the Radio Expo Coordinator on 02 66 55 2 990 or visit the Groups comprehensive web site at www.mncarg.org

THE FINAL FINAL

WALKS

Jeff VK4XJJ is still going strong on his walk across Australia.

But he still wants to hear from YOU, and it is these calls in particular that keep him going!!

Thursday, 23rd August, 2007.

Jeff is now 125 Kms south of Normanton.

Tuesday and Wednesday were record breaking walk days. 37Kms on Tuesday and 37.5 Kms on Wednesday.

Roger in Gympie VK4BNQ continues to provide a first class relay service for the group. Still on 7.045 MHz at 1730 EST.

Temperature for the past two weeks has ranged from 1 to 32 degrees C.

No walking on Friday 17th when camped 50Kms south of the Bourk & Wills Roadhouse as it rained most of the day and very cool.

VK4SWE (Lyn) on Sweers Island has kindly offered a nights accommodation. Lyn has also offered Jeff the use of her station to conduct his nightly sked from the "real" gulf . Could be a busy night! Sweers Island lies off shore from Karumba.

Brother Bill will try to reach Jeff after Normanton by car and walk a "little" of the way. Bill will take a 100 watt linear amplifier for Jeff, to assist with better communication on the way back. A tuned (approx. 10

metre), three piece aluminium tube vertical dipole will be set up on the wagon each night. It is an experiment and is Bill's antenna from Stockton. Should be an improvement away from the city noise!

Jeff continues to thank WIA and Editor Graham with their support and the wonderful amateurs who have taken time to communicate with Jeff.

Regards,

Bill Johnson VK2FWGJ

for Jeff Johnson VK4XJJ Walking for DeafBlind awareness

Web design & relay station Roger Stierli VK4BNQ

www.jeffswalk.com

Every Day, from 5:30pm Eastern on 40 meters, 7045 put out a call to VK4XJJ

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WIANews - we've reported...YOU decide.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".

Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of the National WIA.

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WIANews THANKS OUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS , OUR RELAY OPERATORS ACROSS THE WORLD FOR FORWARDING INFORMATION AND COMMENTS THEIR LISTENERS HAVE PASSED ON TO MAKE WIANews VK'S LEADING WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PROGRAM.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au
Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".
Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of QNEWS for the National WIA.
Thanks to to our dedicated band of broadcast volunteers who utilize their time and equipment in bringing you this weekly broadcast.
The purpose of "WIANews" is to rapidly provide news of interest to active amateurs residing in Australia and the globe.
We strongly encourage membership in the Wireless Institute of Australia and participation in the activities of local clubs.

Opinions expressed in "WIANews" are those of the writers who submit material
and do not necessarily reflect those of the rebroadcasters, nor the National
WIA.
Material may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, a credit to
WIANews wouldn't go astray...
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1467. Re: Ham WIFI?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-25 16:48:19 UTC
From: h <w@w.biz>
Message-ID: <13d0juumb9keif0@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3972

```
"Mike Coslo" <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net> wrote in message
news:Xns9995E772BF79Dmcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136...
> "Ivor Jones" <ivor@despammed.invalid> wrote in
> news:5j55qnF3s6a0iU1@mid.individual.net:
>
>>
>>
>> "Phil Kane" <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote in message
>> news:lo0qc3pig12sj0ouaaib7ije3epejmqdr6@4ax.com
>>: : On Wed, 22 Aug 2007 20:29:15 EDT, "Iitoi"
>>: : <Iitoi@earthlink.net> wrote:
>>: :
>>: : : Since 802.11b/g have several channels in our shared
>>: : : 2390-2450MHz band, can a ham set up a "super WIFI"
>>: : : node using QRO?
>>: : :
>>: : That question has come up every so often in the last 10
>>: : years, and the answer is YES providing that all the ham
>>: : rules - use of a channel within the ham band, proper ID
>>: : every ten minutes, control operator, etc - are followed.
>>: :
>>: : : I'm not proposing to do so, but the concept seems
>>: : : viable, so long as the node does not use encryption.
>>: :
>>: : That is correct,
>>: : --
>>: :
>>: : 73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
>>
>> Although you may wish to check with your ISP that they allow this.
>> Many ISP's here in the UK specifically prohibit sharing of the
>> connection by anyone outside the household, as the distinction between
>> a private service and a public one can become blurred, whether or not
>> a fee is charged.
>>
>> You may also wish to take into account the possibility that if anyone
>> uses *your* wireless connection to do something illegal like fraud or
>> looking at pornography, *you* may be held responsible.
>
> Some members of our club have been discussing this very thing. Some
> say it is just plain illegal.
>
> On the other hand, I am not at all sure.
>
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> 1.It is not illegal to put a wirelss router on my Cable modem. Yes
> it is not illegal... In fact most DSL and Cable Modems today come with
> built in wireless access points...
>
> 2. If there is a bad spot in my yard, I can say install a better
> antenna on the router. (if indeed those commercial units do anything. Yes
> Linksys allows the changing of antennas... You can use bigger indoor type
> antennas or an outside omni or yagi configuation.
>
> 3. If I have a big yard, or say if I had a farm and wanted to get
> some internet access from one of my outbuildings, is it okay if I put a
> little yagi setup, esp if I am a Ham?
> Yes you can...
>
> 4. Now if I am wanting internet access at a mountaintop station that
> doesn't have access otherwise, is it illegal to do the same thing as in
> step 3?
> No it is not illegal.
>
> My rationale is that I have paid for the service. As long as I am
> not doing anything that was illegal at the cable drop already, such as
> providing other people service, I am not doing anything that a wireless
> router does. I'm only giving it an antenna with a bit more punch.
> Go to www.linksysinfo.org and www.dd-wrt.com for info on how to use 3rd
> party firmware to optimize your routers...
>
> note: I'm not a lawyer, so take this all with a grain of salt.
> Do know the part 97 rules.. Also not just becuase a HAM Can run much
> higher power legally ie modify or amplify their routers signal... May or
> may not be a good thing in the eyes of your neighbors...
>
> Probably the best thing to do is to call your ISP and carefully and
> properly frame the question.
> Maybe maybe not... Just do not sell the service via your router to
> anyone else.. and you should be ok.. If only allowing HAMS access to your
> network and not the internet your ISP will careless..
> No need to allow them access to internet via a HAM RADIO WIFi Link .. Just
> allow them access to your system... ie have a local webserver serve up any
> ham radio pages you like them to see.. Link to a locally connected packet
> system to allow access via Packet. or Packet via the internet.. Your ISP
> wont care.. You may want to call them anyway, but do so after you know
> exactly what you are doing... If you confuse them they will simply error
> on the side of safety (Protecting them selves)... 73 jerry n9lya

>
> 73 de Mike KB3EIA -
>

1468. Re: Ham WIFI?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-25 16:48:44 UTC
From: h <w@w.biz>
Message-ID: <13d0k2lbq8n772@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3973

Hog Wash ... As a HAM Part 15 rules do not apply.. USe Part 97... As a ham
you can run much higher power and use gain antennas not marketed with the
router...

73 jerry n9lya
"Dave Platt" <dplatt@radagast.org> wrote in message
news:n852q4-1li.ln1@radagast.org...
> In article <Xns9995E772BF79Dmcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>,
> Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
>
>> Some members of our club have been discussing this very thing. Some
>>say it is just plain illegal.
>>
>> On the other hand, I am not at all sure.
>>
>> 1.It is not illegal to put a wirelss router on my Cable modem.
>>
>> 2. If there is a bad spot in my yard, I can say install a better
>>antenna on the router. (if indeed those commercial units do anything.
>>
>> 3. If I have a big yard, or say if I had a farm and wanted to get
>>some internet access from one of my outbuildings, is it okay if I put a
>>little yagi setup, esp if I am a Ham?
>>
>> 4. Now if I am wanting internet access at a mountaintop station that
>>doesn't have access otherwise, is it illegal to do the same thing as in
>>step 3?
>
> One thing to be aware of: the FCC requires that Part 15 radios and
> their antennas be certificated as a complete system.
>
> If you substitute a different antenna (other than one which the
> radio's manufacturer has actually tested and certificated with the
> radio), then the original certification of the Part 15 equipment is
> voided, and it becomes (technically) illegal to use the radio to
> transmit until you have it re-tested for compliance at a properly
> equipped test facility.
>
> This means that, if one wants to pick nits, most people who install
> higher-gain aftermarket antennas on their 802.11 access points /
> routers / cards may very well be operating illegally. I've only ever
> heard of one case of a company fined for doing this (and they were
> also operating with an illegally-high-powered amplifier)... I doubt
> it's an issue that's on the FCC's radar, unless somebody files a

> formal complaint about a specific situation.
>
> These Part 15 rules don't apply if you're using the system within your
> ham Part 97 privileges... but you then have to honor _all_ of the
> rules for Part 97 use. You can't pick and choose (e.g. put on a
> high-gain antenna and an amplifier under Part 97, and then use the
> system on Part-15-only frequencies with encryption turned on and for
> running a business). If you want to stay fully legal, you have to do
> it one way or the other... within Part 15, or within Part 97.
>
>> My rationale is that I have paid for the service. As long as I am
>>not doing anything that was illegal at the cable drop already, such as
>>providing other people service, I am not doing anything that a wireless
>>router does. I'm only giving it an antenna with a bit more punch.
>
> Unfortunately, modifications to the antenna itself are probably
> outside of what Part 15 allows, unless you use an antenna that the
> AP's manufacturer has actually certificated with that particular AP.
>
> Sticking a passive reflector being the antenna, for a few dB of gain,
> might not count as a modification to the actual antenna, and might
> thus be legal.
>
> The issue of whether it's OK to allow other people to use your home
> wireless network, on a cable or DSL line, would be a contractual issue
> between you and your ISP... I don't think it's an FCC issue at all.
>
> --
> Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO
> Friends of Jade Warrior home page: http://www.radagast.org/jade-warrior
> I do _not_ wish to receive unsolicited commercial email, and I will
> boycott any company which has the gall to send me such ads!
>

1469. Re: Ham WIFI?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-25 16:49:12 UTC
From: xpyttl <xpyttl_NOSPAM@earthling.net>
Message-ID: <leYzi.13$YD5.2@newsfe12.lga>
Source record: 3974

"Phil Kane" <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote in message
news:vr6uc3567oh0s5vln6hb33s7ig6209o30n@4ax.com...
> On Fri, 24 Aug 2007 12:51:48 EDT, Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:
>
>>IEEE 802.11 Experiments in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley, on page 35 of
>>the July 2005 QST. I would be surprised if QST allowed these amateurs to
>>write up their illegal activities.
>>
>>QST has some links encouraging this activity also
>
> The encouragement is to use said circuits for ham radio purposes -
> WAS on 2.4 GHz ???

Yes, I don't see any encouragement to use the capability to extend Internet
service. Now, more narrowly defined Internet service, something like
WinLink for example, might well be a neat use of this capability.

..

1470. Re: Ham WIFI?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-25 16:50:07 UTC
From: h <w@w.biz>
Message-ID: <13d0kct99h2pd5@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3975

exactly... Allow no Gateway to the internet... Only allow access to your station..

In my case.. WiFi user (HAMONLY) can access my BPQ/FBB Packet Station then link to the world via Packet (isolated protedcted acess) over the internet... But only to other Packet BBS's... No way to get Google or sexpit.com type web content... Winlink access would also be available.. But again NO INETNERT... Protect your self its not worth it if you screw up..

If I have a Ham Realted site I wish to make available to my wifi clients... They are hosted on my own server, and no way to get to inet.. Inet can get to my sites.. But visitor coming in on Ham Only Wifi cannot get to internet...

If you are simply trying to extend your range and want every tom dick and harry to have internet access... Keep Ham radio out of it... And use Part 15 Rules and live with what you have a Sudo ISP..

Ptherwide Ham Radio is cool and legal.. Just use common sense.. And do not allow Internet Access via your WiFi...

73 jerry
"Phil Kane" <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote in message news:vr6uc3567oh0s5vln6hb33s7ig6209o30n@4ax.com...
> On Fri, 24 Aug 2007 12:51:48 EDT, Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:
>
>>IEEE 802.11 Experiments in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley, on page 35 of
>>the July 2005 QST. I would be surprised if QST allowed these amateurs to
>>write up their illegal activities.
>>
>>QST has some links encouraging this activity also
>
> The encouragement is to use said circuits for ham radio purposes -
> WAS on 2.4 GHz ???
> --
>
> 73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
>
>>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
> Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon
>
> e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net
>

1471. wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-25 16:50:48 UTC
From: h <w@w.biz>
Message-ID: <13d0kn1pn739523@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3976

Again all this is ok.. If you like risks.. But best thing to do is not link to internet... A lot can be done without giving DIRECT access to the internet via your wifi link.. ie Packet, Locally Hosted websites, under your control. and packet winlink etc... At much higher power and with all kinds of homemade omni and directional antennas mounted as high as 200 feet... Just again leave the ISP out of it as long as theyc an only access yoru Station.. And only others on the internet via your Packet or Winlink stations you are ok...

As long as they do not violate Part 97 rules...

Forget part 15.. They will not apply to a licensed Amateur Radio op... But do think of your neighbors.... Even though you can run high power and outdoor antennas.. They may not like you interfering with their Gambling and or porn website viewing if you squash their signal..

>From: "Phil Kane" <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
>Subject: Re: Ham WIFI?
Date: Saturday, August 25, 2007 12:19 AM

On Thu, 23 Aug 2007 23:19:58 EDT, Mike Coslo
<mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:

>Probably the best thing to do is to call your ISP and carefully and
>properly frame the question.

You are presuming that the ISP will understand what you are proposing!

Read the Terms of Service and get an opinion from a regulatory professional who has your interests at heart, not the ISP's interests.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1472. GB2RS NEWS Sunday 26 August 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-25 19:00:32 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200708251900.l7PJ0EX22814@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 3977
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

1 GB2RS NEWS Sunday 26 August

The news headlines

* Ofcom to scrap Frequency Assignment Panel and Site Clearance Working Group

* Radio Communications Voluntary Service National Coordinator steps down

* Bumper participation in Lighthouses weekend

Ofcom has announced that it intends to end the National Frequency Assignment Panel (NFAP) frequency coordination and the Working Group on Radio Site Clearance (WGRSC) processes.

When applying to use radio spectrum in the UK, applicants are currently required to complete NFAP frequency co-ordination and WGRSC site clearance processes. These are operated by Ofcom on behalf of the Cabinet Office. Ofcom intends to end these processes on 31 August 2007. >From an Amateur Service aspect this should mean that the current process for repeater and similar applications in amateur primary bands should be reduced by some weeks. However, Ofcom will continue to carry out coordination on bands such as 70cm and 23cm in which the Amateur Service is a secondary user.

More than 380 lighthouses in over 48 countries were on the air for the 2007 International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend on 18 and 19 August. The event, now in its ninth year, is organised by the Ayr Amateur Radio Group. The weekend was more of a QSO party and amateur radio demonstration than a contest. Its aim was to raise public awareness of lighthouses and lightships, to promote amateur radio and foster international goodwill.

Dr Robin Bellerby, GM3ZYE has stood down from the position of Radio Communications Voluntary Service National Co-Ordinator. This role encompasses providing radio communications support of local community events and RAYNET. Until further notice any queries in this area should be directed to the Amateur Radio Department at the RSGB.

On 12 August, Murray Niman, G6JYB, of the Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society (CARS) presented two Smith Chart calculators to Trish Robinson of the Sandford Mill Museum. Smith Charts enable plotting of real and imaginary impedance for designing matching circuits - a process that is usually performed by computers now rather than by hand. The chart was developed by, and named after, Philip H Smith in 1938.

For more information on CARS and the amateur radio courses it offers contact Clive, G1EUC, on 01245-224577 or e-mail training 2007@g0mwt.org.uk.

The Glengormley Electronics Amateur Radio Society, GEARS - GN0XYZ, once again put MI6X on the air from Ballycarry for the IOTA contest.

This year they smashed their contact tally for 2006 by logging nearly 900 QSO's and 152 IOTA references in just over 18 hours of operation. A number of English amateurs who took part last year returned again this year to enjoy the famous 'Craic' before and after the event.

Over the past few years GEARS has become involved in the RSGB's IOTA contest operating from both Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic. In the last two years though they have stayed on home soil using their contest call of MI6X IOTA reference EU-115 from a community centre in the village of Ballycarry Co. Antrim.

2 The Spalding and District Amateur Radio Society has revamped and changed the title of the Tulipland award. It will now be known as the South Holland award. The club call signs G1DSP and G4DSP are both regularly on HF and VHF so please look for the call signs on the clusters. G4OO is used for special club events. For details on how to be eligible for the South Holland Award check the website www.sdars.org.uk or e-mail secretary@sdars.org.uk.

And now for the details of rallies and events for the coming week

[Note to newsreaders: Please use your judgement on which of the August 26th items to read out.] On Sunday 26 August the Torbay ARS Communications Fair takes place from 10am at Newton Abbot Racecourse in Devon. The show will be attended by RSGB President Angus Annan. Details from G4FCN, on 01803 812117 or by email to rally@tars.org.uk. On Sunday 26 August the Milton Keynes ARS Rally takes place from 10am at Holne Chase School, Buckingham Rd, Bletchley. Details from Mike, G3LFR, on 07973 264473, or by email to rally@mkars.org.uk.

On Monday 27 August Huntingdonshire Amateur Radio Society is having its Bank Holiday Monday Rally at St Neots Community College, Barford Road, St Neots, Cambridgeshire. Contact David, G7DIU, on 01480

431 333, or on the web at www.hunts-hams.co.uk. On Saturday 1 September the Rugby Amateur Transmitting Society Rally takes place at Stanford Hall,

Lutterworth. Details from T Humphries on 01455 552519, or on the web at www.rugbyats.co.uk. On Sunday 2 September the Andover Radio Amateur Club Autumn Boot Sale takes place at Wildhern village hall, SP11 0JE. Details from Terry, G8ALR, on 01980 629346. On Sunday 2 September the Newhaven Fort Amateur Radio Group Rally takes place from 10.30 at Newhaven Fort, Newhaven. Details from Eddie, G0ECW, on 01273 300772, or by email to eddie@zamboodle.demon.co.uk. More details of these and future events can be found on pages 88 and 89 of the September edition of RadCom. Now for the news of special events The Radio Society of

Harrow is running G3EFX/P at the Harrow in Leaf Show. Activity takes place on 26 and 27 August. Visitors to the station are welcome. There will also be activity from GB2DHH. Please check details on the club web site, www.g3efx.org.uk, before travelling. The Orkney Wireless Museum will be active as GB2OWM from 31 August to 5 September. Celebrating the 17th Orkney International Science Festival, the station will be at the Museum's premises at Kiln Corner, Kirkwall. Probable operating periods will be weekdays and Sunday afternoons between 1430 and 1630 and Saturday morning between 1000 and 1230pm. Activity will be primarily on HF SSB. For more information contract Bill, GM3IBU, QTHR or e-mail gm3ibu@orpheusmail.co.uk And now the HF DX news compiled from 425 DX News, the Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin and other sources.

Roland, HB9FMD, will be active as OX/HB9FMD from Ilulissat, Greenland until 27 August. He plans to operate mainly CW on the WARC bands. QSL via home call.

3 Jack, RW3QC, Valery, RZ6AU, Yuri, RU6UR and Alexander, RA6UF, will be active as UE6UFO from the Kharabalinsky district (RDA AO-16) and a few inland islands until 27 August. They plan to operate SSB and CW on 40, 20 and 15 metres. All of the QSOs will be confirmed automatically via the bureau. Glyn, GW0ANA, will be cruising the Outer Hebrides (EU-010) until 28 August. He will be there on holiday with friends and amateur radio activity will be secondary. He hopes to activate St. Kilda (EU-059). His call will be GM0ANA/p and he will operate SSB using an inverted V with battery power from a solar panel. QSL via home call. The Association of Radio amateurs of Venezuela and the Grupo DX Caracas will be active as YW5AS from Las Aves Islands (SA-051) on 27 to 31 August. They will operate SSB, CW and digital modes on the HF bands, plus VHF FM. QSL via DL3AMA. Giovanni, IZ2DPX and Flavio, IW2NEF, will be active as HB0/IZ2DPX and HB0/IW2NEF from Malbun, Liechtenstein on 1 to 3 September. They will be QRV on HF as well as 2 metres and possibly 70 MHz. QSL direct or via the bureau. W1AI reports he will be active as VP5/W1AI from Providenciales (NA-002), Turks and Caicos Islands on 1 to 8 September. He plans to operate CW and SSB on 160 to 6 metres. QSL via home call. Brad Crave, VK2LR, Raffy Shammay, VK2RF, M0GDY, Jim Ayling, VK2JA, Ras Shammay, VK2FROS, Eddy Hanham, VK2VEH, Grant Hinchcliffe, VK2TU. Are all operating in the UK from 2 September. They will be operating with VHF/UHF and HF in holiday mode. Now the contest news The RSGB 50MHz Activity Contest takes place on 28 August between 2200 to 2230 local on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. The RSGB SSB Field Day takes place between 1300 on 1 September to 1300 on 2 September on the 3.5 to 28MHz bands. The exchange takes the form of RST and serial number. The RSGB 144MHz Trophy contest takes place between 1400 on 1 September to 1400 on 2 September on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. Now the solar factual data for the period from 13 August to 19 August, compiled by Neil Clarke, G0CAS Solar activity was very low. The solar disc became spotless from the 15th. From mid evening on the 17th for a 30 hour period several small B class and numerous minor A class solar flares occurred, suggesting that a sunspot

group was about to rotate into view. However this has not yet happened. The last flare took place around midnight on the 18th. An explanation into levels of solar activity and strengths of solar flares can be found in the propagation section within the RSGB yearbook or at www.wikipedia.org and type solar flare in the search box. Solar flux levels averaged 68 units and varied little day to day. The 90 day solar flux average on the 19th was 71, that's one unit down on last week. X-ray flux levels remained below the minimum A1 level everyday. Geomagnetic was quiet. As forecast last week a small coronal hole disturbance took place on the 15th and the 16th. The `hole' had decreased in size to such an extent that the Ap index was only 8 units on the 15th and 7 the next day. The average was Ap 5 units. The ACE spacecraft saw solar wind

4 speeds increase to 490 kilometres per second on the 15th. Particle densities increased to 46 particles per cubic centimetre also on the 15th. Bz varied between minus and plus 6 nanoTeslas. The pattern of HF propagation differed little from the last couple of weeks, though the appearance of midevening propagation to Hawaii on 14MHz was a useful reminder that interesting contacts can sometimes be made on an apparently flat band. Sporadic E was reported on most days on 28MHz, though less frequently on 50 and 70MHz. And the new GB3RAL 40MHz beacon, testing on low power, was heard in Germany, Hungary, Sweden and Portugal, as well as in parts of the UK by tropo. It was also heard in Portugal on 70MHz. And finally the solar forecast. This week solar activity is expected to continue at very low levels, however, there is a slight chance that activity could increase to low on some days. Solar flux levels could be in the 70's for most of the week. Geomagnetic activity is expected to be quiet right up to next weekend when a recurring coronal hole disturbance is expected to commence. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitudes should be about 19MHz for the south and 16MHz for the north. The darkness hour lows should be around 9MHz. Paths this week to the East coast of North America should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success rate of about 18MHz. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success rate should be around 14MHz. The best time to try this path will be 1300 and 2100 hours UTC. Sporadic E could take place on some days.

And that's all for this week from the propagation team.

5 Next, the Local News:

Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses

and website links where known.

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your

transmission.]

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST

and EAST ANGLIA On Sunday 26 August the Radio Society of Harrow is operating G3EFX/P at the Harrow In Leaf horticultural show and fun weekend. Contact Linda, G7RJL, on 020 8386 8586, or on the web at www.g3efx.org.uk or Chris 01895 621 310.

On Sunday 26 August Southdown Amateur Radio Society is operating G1KAR at Beachy Head. Contact John, G3DQY, on 01424,424,319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

On Sunday 26 August Torbay Amateur Radio Society is holding its rally at the Newton Abbot Race Course with RSGB President Angus Annan, MM1CCR, attending the event. Contact Dave, G6FSP, by email to g6fsp@tars.org.uk.

On Monday 27 August Huntingdonshire Amateur Radio Society is having its Bank Holiday Monday Rally at St Neots Community College, Barford Road, St Neots, Cambridgeshire.. Contact David, G7DIU, on 01480 431 333, or on the web at www.hunts-hams.co.uk.

On Tuesday 28 August Horndean and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk by historian Madeleine Selby on 'Wickham - past and present'. Contact Stuart, G0FYX, on 023 9247 2846, or on the web at www.hdarc.co.uk.

On Wednesday 29 August Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is planning for HF Field Day. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

On Wednesday 29 August Dover Radio Club is having its school holiday net on GB3KS. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk.

On Wednesday 29 August Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is having its junk sale. Contact Jim, M1JJN.

On Wednesday 29 August Havering and District Amateur Radio Club is operating GB4HRC to celebrate over 40 years of the club. Contact Dave, 2E0EBV, on 07956 594 514.

On Wednesday 29 August Worthing and District Amateur Radio Club is planning for SSB Field Day. Contact Roy, G4GPX, on 01903 753 893.

On Friday 31 August Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is having a radio night. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Friday 31 August Wimbledon and District Amateur Radio Society is having a summer camp feedback discussion, led by Eric, G0KRT. Contact Jim, M0CON, on 020 8874 7456.

On Saturday 1 September Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is taking part in the HF Field Day. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

6 On Saturday 1 September Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is taking part in the HF Field Day. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by

email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Saturday 1 September Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is taking part in the SSB Contest with Police Gala Day on the Sunday. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

On Sunday 2 September Loughton and Epping Forest Amateur Radio Society is operating GB2EFF (Epping Forest Festival). Contact Marc, G0TOC, on 020 8502 1645, or by email to info@lefars.org.uk.

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST

On Wednesday 29 August South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is having session 6 of its Project OSS. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282.

On Wednesday 29 August Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is on the air. Contact Tony, G0WMB, by email to tonytsgarc@beeb.net.

On Thursday 30 August Yeovil Amateur Radio Club is having a committee meeting and putting the club station on the air. Contact Gary, 2E0BFJ (g.swain@tesco.net).

On Friday 31 August Guernsey Amateur Radio Society is having a talk by GU0UJC on an easy to build 2m antenna. Contact Phil, GU0SUP.

NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS

On Monday 27 August Gloucester Amateur Radio And Electronics Society is operating from the Escarpment. Contact Anne, 2E1GKY, on 01452 548478, daytime.

On Monday 27 August Lincoln Short-Wave Club is putting GB2CWP on the air at East Kirkby. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

On Monday 27 August Stourbridge and District Amateur Radio Society is having an open shack night. Contact John, M1EJG, on 01562 700 513.

On Tuesday 28 August Derby and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air. Contact Martin, G3SZJ, on 01332 556 875.

On Tuesday 28 August Wythall Radio Club is having a talk by Chris, G1VDP, on the Worked All Britain Awards. Contact Chris, G0EYO, on 07710 412 819, or by email to g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk, or on the web at www.wythallradioclub.co.uk.

On Wednesday 29 August Lincoln Short-Wave Club is having a video night. Contact John, G1TSL, on 01526 323 153.

On Wednesday 29 August Telford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on weather satellite reception by G8UGL. Contact Mike, G3JKX, on 01952 299 677, or by email to mjstreetg3jkx@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Thursday 30 August Salop Amateur Radio Society is having an equipment sale. Contact Glenda, G1YJB, on 01939 235 412.

On Friday 31 August Coventry Amateur Radio Society is having a video night. Contact John, G8SEQ, on 02476 273 190, or by email to johng8seq@ntlworld.com.

7 On Friday 31 August Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is having an internal quiz night. Details on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

On Friday 31 August Loughborough and District Amateur Radio Club is on the air. Contact Chris, G1ETZ, on 01509 504 319.

On Saturday 1 September Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is taking part in the RSGB SSB HF Field Day at Crich, Derbyshire. Details on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

On Saturday 1 September Wythall Radio Club is taking part in the HF SSB NFD. Contact Chris, G0EYO, on 07710 412 819, or by email to g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk, or on the web at www.wythallradioclub.co.uk.

NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

On Monday 27 August Sheffield Amateur Radio Club is having a VHF operating evening. Contact Trevor, M0TWS.

On Monday 27 August South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is having its monthly technical forum. Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999.

On Tuesday 28 August Halifax and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air at Rishworth with GX2UG. Contact Brenda, 2E0YKS, by email to wrenuk10@yahoo.com.

On Tuesday 28 August Wakefield and District Amateur Radio Society is preparing for the weekend's IARU Field Day with the contest manager Ken, 2E0SSQ. Contact Dave, G4CLI, on 07748 221 855, or by email to g4cli@hotmail.co.uk.

On Wednesday 29 August Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is on the air. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Friday 31 August South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is having a natter night BBQ. Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999.

On Friday 31 August Tynemouth Radio Club is having a Morse and operating night. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Friday 31 August Wakefield and District Amateur Radio Society is having a summer camp feedback session led by Eric, G0KRT. Contact Dave, G4CLI, on 07748 221 855, or by email to g4cli@hotmail.co.uk.

On Saturday 1 September Sheffield Amateur Radio Club is taking part in the SSB Field Day Contest. Contact Trevor, M0TWS.

NEWS FOR SCOTLAND

On Thursday 30 August Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is on the air and having Morse practice. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

On Friday 31 August Banff and Buchan Amateur Radio Club is having an evening of technical topics. Contact geraldbrt@aol.com.

On Saturday 1 September Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is taking part in the RSGB SSB Field Day 2007 as GM3BSQ/P at Walker Park. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

8 On Saturday 1 September Dundee Amateur Radio Club is taking part in SSB Field Day. Contact Martin, MM0DUN, on mm0dun@dundee-amateur-radio.co.uk, or on the web at www.dundee-amateur-radio.co.uk.

On Saturday 1 September West of Scotland Amateur Radio Society Club is taking part in SSB NFD. Details on the web at www.wosars.org.

On Sunday 2 September Dundee Amateur Radio Club is taking part in SSB Field Day. Contact Martin, MM0DUN, on mm0dun@dundee-amayeur-radio.co.uk, or on the web at www.dundee-amateur-radio.co.uk.

NEWS FOR WALES

On Saturday 1 September Swansea Amateur Radio Society is participating in the RSGB SSB Field Day. Contact Roger, GW4HSH, on 01792 404422.

NEWS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

No news items have been received for Northern Ireland this week. And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast,

prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

1473. SARL News in English 25/8/2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-25 19:33:33 UTC
From: website@sarl.org.za
Message-ID: <C969FCFFB6CF4E73BAFE4F524D55D693@toron>
Source record: 3978
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 26 AUGUST 2007

You are listening to ZS6SRL the official Radio Station of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is transmitted every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. To listen to a web stream or Echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links for details.

This, and previous bulletins, can be downloaded from the www.sarl.org.za. You can also read or download previous bulletins from there and subscribe to receive future bulletins by email.

This transmission is by Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with relays on 3,695, 10,135, and 51,400 MHz as well as 438,825 and 1 297 MHz in the Pretoria area. (Other newsreaders please change to suit).

In the news today:

INTO SPACE WITH AMATEUR RADIO TO CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL SPACE WEEK

PRESIDENT'S NET AND INTECNET FOR TONIGHT POSTPONED

TWO AMATEURS TO PROMOTE 6 METRE OPERATION

HANNES COETZEE WINS THE HF CONSTRUCTION COMPETITION

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

INTO SPACE WITH AMATEUR RADIO TO CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL SPACE WEEK

Learners in South Africa under the age of 18 are invited to participate in a special project to celebrate 50 years of man's endeavours in space. In October it will be 50 years ago that the first satellite, Sputnik 1, was launched by the Russians.

To celebrate the event several joint activities have been planned by the SARL, SA AMSAT and the South African Amateur Radio Development Trust. The youth event is called "Into Space with Amateur Radio" and features the following:

. A state of the art laptop to be won; . 10 learners will win a SARL 40 Metre DC Receiver kit; . 30 Learners will get an opportunity to speak with South Africa's first astronaut, Mark Shuttleworth via Amateur

Radio on 10 October 2007 and ask questions about Mark's experiences in space. . Every participant will receive a certificate to commemorate the event

There are two categories of entry

. School Group entry . Individual entry

Both categories require the participant to write an essay about "The future of Space in support of mankind". The essay must be the original work of the learner and be between 400 and 600 words.

Full details are available on the sponsoring organisations' web pages : www.sarl.org.za, www.amsatsa.org.za and www.amateurradio.org.za

Only 10 schools will be able to participate and must be in reach of the following repeaters in Greater Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Durban and Gauteng. Schools must send their requests to register before 5 September to youth@sarl.org.za. The closing date for essays entries is 25 September 2007

PRESIDENT'S NET AND INTECNET FOR TONIGHT POSTPONED

The President's Net and Intecnet will not take place this evening but will be on the air next Sunday 2 September. Join SARL President Graham Hartlett next Sunday at 19:00. Graham will discuss a major SARL propagation research project in which SARL members with access to a receiver capable of receiving the 7 MHz amateur band can participate. Intecnet follows at 20:00 with Tjerk Lammers, ZS6P, as the guest speaker. Tjerk will discuss SARL awards and QSL-ing. Both programmes promise to be of great interest.

Clubs wishing to link to the teleconference bridge should send an email to armi@sarl.org.za with the telephone number to be linked and details about the repeater to be used.

TWO AMATEURS TO PROMOTE 6 METRE OPERATION

Want a QSO on 6 metres FM or SSB? Join ZS4SM and ZS6DJD on the last Friday of the month at 20:00 CAT for a contact. The team will start on FM and later change over to SSB. The frequency to be used is 51,160 MHz. Give them a call this Friday 31 August.

HANNES COETZEE WINS THE HF CONSTRUCTION COMPETITION

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BPZ, won the HF construction competition with his entry of a direct conversion receiver for 40 metres. The project is called the "SARL 40 Metre DC receiver" and is intended as a ZR to ZS upgrade project that has lasting value. After the paper design was selected by the South African Amateur Radio Development Trust, Hannes was awarded R1 000 to develop and build a prototype. The receiver, which is housed in a neatly engraved cabinet, was presented at the Radio Technology in Action day in Gauteng last weekend. Hannes was also awarded a YAESU dual band mobile VHF transceiver sponsored by Verstay.

PARTICIPATION IN THE SARL DIGITAL CONTEST WINS ZS4SS A DUAL BAND HAND-HELD TRANSCEIVER

Johan Steyn, ZS4SS, was the outright winner in the SARL Digital Contest and won a YAESU VX-2R 2 m/ 70 cm micro handheld transceiver.

The SARL Digital Contest took place on 24 June on the 40, 6 and 2 metre bands. The contest is sponsored by the Lichtenburg Amateur Radio Club and is aimed at promoting the use of the PSK mode in South Africa.

"PSK is an interesting mode". Piet Badenhorst, SARL VHF Manager, said. "In many circles it is regarded as successor to RTTY. Congratulations to Johan. He won the contest with 280 points, way ahead of his nearest rival". Another hand-held transceiver can be won in the VHF/UHF contest on 22-23 September. The transceivers were donated by Kobus Conradie, ZS1DC/ZS6UZ, of LetsPlayRadio.

AUGUST EDITION OF RADIO ZS BURSTING WITH INTERESTING ARTICLES

The July-August edition of Radio ZS is in the post and now available on the web. It is bursting full of interesting articles and features. In an ongoing series under the heading Ham Pride: Legacies and Traditions, Dave Ingram, K4TWJ, tackles the issue of Morse code: "now that it is no longer compulsory, is it becoming a more popular mode? "

Karl Canitz, ZS1KC, takes readers on an expedition to the Hell and shares the Boland Amateur Radio club's experiences in this unique valley of the Western Cape.

Learn more about Software Defined Radio with ZS6BUJ and get that PC listening to the world - a must read!

Mike Bosch, ZS2FM, in his canny way asks the question "Is there still a future for Amateur Radio in this Modern Space Age? Has Amateur Radio lost some of it's magic?".

Eddie Leighton writes about the Kenwood TH-D7, an APRS enthusiast's dream. He shows the way to get going on this APRS painlessly.

ZS4JAN takes us out with a field station and ZS6AAW gives new meaning to Radio Scouting.

The web version can be downloaded in PDF and is only available to SARL members.

This edition of Radio ZS alone is enough reason to join the SARL, if you have not already done so. Get a membership application form on the web or call the office Monday to Friday between 09:00 and 13:00 at 011 675 2393 or send a mail to admin@sarl.org.za.

SARL 40 m MOBILE SPRINT - SUBMISSION OF LOG SHEETS

Log sheets for this competition, that was held on the 12th of August, must be e-mailed to zs1bak@mailbox.co.za or sent by snail mail to BARK P.O. Box 2105, DENNESIG, 7601.

Due to a technical error with the submission address, the cut off date for submissions has now been extended until 3 September 2007.

CLUB NEWS

The Adventure Radio Club held their AGM at Cape Columbine over the Light House weekend.

The following members were elected to the committee: Chairman Koos, ZS1KWV; Vice chairman/webmaster Jan, ZS1VDV; Secretary/treasurer Martin,ZS1SM.

The Highway Amateur Radio Club(HARC) held its AGM on Tuesday 21 August, and the following members were elected to the committee:

Chairman: ZS5BBO, Edwin Musto; Vice/Chairman: ZS5GMW, Garth Wheeler; Secretary: ZS5GR, Tony Mayall; Treasurer: ZS5FAB, Anne Bean; Members: ZS5JO, Jo Boes, ZS5ARS, Rudi Smook, ZR5SEP, Sean Pritchard & ZR5SDB, Sheldon Brown

The meeting was followed by the traditional snacks table.

Congratulations to the new committee members and a big thanks to the old committee for all the hard work.

The EAST RAND FLEA MARKET will take place on Saturday 6 October 2007 at 08:00 - 12:00 at the club house in Springs. Members will be QRV on 145,675 MHz, the East Rand repeater. Tables are R 20-00.

The flea market will followed by the 60th AGM of the East Rand Radio Club (Est. 1947) from 12:00 - 13;00.

See you at the flea market.

PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the expected solar activity will be at very low levels. The geomagnetic field is expected to be quiet in general while reaching minor storm levels on 3 September. The expected Effective Sun Spot number for the coming week will be less than 5.

20 m and 40 m will provide best opportunities for DX. There is a possibility of 20 m openings towards India from about 15:00 CAT. There may be weak 20 m openings to Australia from about 08:00. From 16:00 there may be 20 m openings towards Europe. For the early birds there is the possibility of weak 80 m openings towards the East Coast of the USA at about 04:00. Otherwise contacts to the USA are going to be very challenging.

For the CW and digital enthusiasts it will also be worth monitoring 10 MHz.

Locally conditions on 40 m is going to be good for this afternoon's SARL CW Contest. 80 m may be best for the shorter distances for example between Pretoria and Durban and Cape Town and Durban.

It is once again time to work towards your 80 m WAZS award in the evenings. Remember that this is only a prediction and that HF always has the capability to surprise you. You will never know what you are missing unless you switch your rig on, listen and also call CQ.

Please visit www.spaceweather.co.za for further information.

DIARY OF EVENTS

1 September - SARL@HOME; 1 September - West Rand ARC Flea market; 2 September - President's Net and Intecnet (postponed from 26 August); 1 - 2 September - Midlands Amateur Radio Club operational at Underberg Farmers Association Annual Show; 3 September - Cut off date for submissions of logs for BARK Mobile Sprint 20 September - Closing date for registering for October RAE; 4 - 10 October - Special space programme; 5 October - Take your handheld to work day; 6 October - SA AMSAT Space Conference; 6 October East Rand Flea market and AGM; 18 October - Class A RAE.

SARL News invites clubs and individuals to submit news stories of interest to radio amateurs and shortwave listeners. Submit news stories if possible in both English and Afrikaans to www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date.

The SARL also invites you to listen to the programme Amateur Radio Mirror International, on the air every Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 590 kHz. For the web stream and echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links. A repeat transmission can be heard Mondays at 21:00 CAT on 3 215 kHz. Sentech sponsor the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

Today's South African Radio League news bulletin was compiled by Gustav,ZS6BWN, and transmitted by (your name and call sign)

Thank you for listening. 73

/EX

========== Message Ends ========== To edit or remove your entry from this mailing list go to www.sarl.org.za/members/admin/maildat.asp

1474. Re: Ham WIFI?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-25 22:07:23 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <as31d3lfpe00au02vpch15hgblvin604nb@4ax.com>
Source record: 3979

On Sat, 25 Aug 2007 12:48:44 EDT, "h" <w@w.biz> wrote:

>Hog Wash ... As a HAM Part 15 rules do not apply.. USe Part 97... As a ham
>you can run much higher power and use gain antennas not marketed with the
>router...

Only if you use a WiFi channel that falls completely within the ham
band, and that all other Part 97 rules (ID, content, control operator,
no-encryption-for-secrecy. etc) are followed. Otherwise Part 97 will
not shield you.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
ARRL Volunteer Counsel

email: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1475. Re: Ham WIFI?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-25 22:08:18 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <q241d3dkf3k939gdqctorcm7bos616udu0@4ax.com>
Source record: 3980

On Sat, 25 Aug 2007 12:49:12 EDT, "xpyttl"
<xpyttl_NOSPAM@earthling.net> wrote:

>Yes, I don't see any encouragement to use the capability to extend Internet
>service. Now, more narrowly defined Internet service, something like
>WinLink for example, might well be a neat use of this capability.

Again, following the content rules of Part 97.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
ARRL Volunteer Counsel

email: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1476. Story Correction - Newscast 1567

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-26 09:17:46 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <E1IPDjr-0003C4-O4@elasmtp-banded.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 3981
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

RADIO EXPERIMENTS: GERMANY IN 500 KHZ LF EXPERIMENT

Five experimental German stations are now on the air in the 600 Meter Band. While most of the operators are German hams, the experiment is not classified as Amateur Radio because there is no 500 KHz or 600 meter ham radio allocation in the Germany.

Rather they are considered as being experimental stations that operate under special permission and use the special DI prefix. All stations are allowed to transmit only on 505.1 kHz with a bandwidth not exceeding 100 Hertz. They are also limited to an effective radiated power no greater than 9 watts.

All operators welcome QSL cards. Send them to the addresses that they give you on the air. (Southgate)

1477. IRTS Radio News Bulletin, Sunday August 26th 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-26 20:14:57 UTC
From: news at irts dot ie <devnull@panix.com>
Message-ID: <200708262000.l7QK08920366@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 3982
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Irish Radio Transmitters Society
Radio News Bulletin

Sunday August 26th 2007

Church Broadcasts

For some weeks we have been carrying an item about broadcasts of Mass from a Church in the north Dublin area on 28.105 MHz FM. Stations are reminded to listen out for these transmissions on weekdays at 1000 hrs and on Sundays at 0900, 1000, 1100 and 1200 local time to try to identify the Church concerned. Stations in the Dublin area are asked to take bearings on the transmissions or try to identify the general area from which the transmissions originate. We would appeal again to stations in the Dublin area to put a little effort into identifying the source of the transmissions so that details can be forwarded to ComReg. We are getting international reports on these transmissions and we have an obligation to do something about them.

We have also received reports of transmission of Mass on 28.285 MHz. We do not have any idea yet where this transmission is originating. We would ask stations countrywide to listen on 28.285 MHz FM at the appropriate times in their areas so that this station can also be identified. If you hear anything worth reporting you should send a report to Thos Caffrey EI2JD the IRTS Intruder Watch coordinator at QTHR or to ﷺthoscaffrey at hotmail dot com﷽ with a copy to Sean Nolan EI7CD at QTHR or to ﷺei7cd at gofree dot indigo dot ie﷽. The report should include date, time, frequency, signal strength, possible location of station if identified, beam heading in degrees from true north and any other relevant information. If the station is identified from an announcement of local events, details should be given. Should you hear anything, no action should be taken other than forwarding a report as requested.

MRG Experimenter Group

The MRG experimenter Radio Group VHF/UHF SSB Challenge 2007 will take place between 15:00 hrs and 18:00 hrs (local time) on Sunday the 9th of September.

The Fixed section will take place on 144 MHz and 432 MHz (SSB only) and the Portable section 144 MHz and 432 MHz (SSB only).

Any EI/GI operator holding an amateur/experimenter licence can participate. Closing date for logs is October the 9h 2007. Please forward completed logs to ei2mrg at yahoo dot com. Trophies will be presented to the winners of the fixed and portable sections later in the year. A full copy of the rules can be had by visiting www.geocities.com/ei2mrg.

Limerick Radio Club

Members of Limerick Radio Club took part in the recent International Lighthouse Weekend from Tarbert Island Lighthouse No. IRE 073. Two stations were in operation over the weekend and more than 300 contacts were made. Those taking part included Dermot EI2GT, Tony EI2AW, Mike EI2IX, John EI6IW, Simon EI7ALB and Alan EI8EM. Those requiring a QSL card should contact the QSL Manager, Alan EI8EM.

Limerick Radio Club wishes to advise repeater users that a new antenna has been installed on the 2-metre voice repeater. It is a Procom CXL2-3C 3db gain, vertically polarised omni-directional antenna. The club would appreciate signal reports from users. These can be sent to ei4lrc at eircom dot net.

The next meeting of the Club will be on the Thursday 11th of October at the usual venue, the Limerick Institute of Technology, Moylish at 19:30 local time. All those interested are welcome to attend.

EI0MAR

Last Friday week Fr. Finbarr Buckley, President of the IRTS paid a visit to EI0MAR at the vintage radio museum in Howth. It being a weekday, the club station was not QRV during Finbarr's visit. However, as it happened, a young student of opera, Caroline Cunningham, was visiting at the same time. Pat Herbert, the curator, played some old 78 records on one of the gramophones for the visitors including operatic arias by Margaret Burke-Sheridan the famous Irish opera singer. Not to be outdone, Caroline then proceeded to entertain Finbarr

and Pat by singing some operatic arias herself. Despite EI0MAR not being QRV, the group are sure that Finbarr enjoyed his visit and look forward to greeting him again in the future when the station is active. However, the best music EI0MAR can promise Finbarr next time is the music of Morse code.

EI0MAR will be celebrating the IRTS's 75th birthday by using the call sign EI75IRTS on the first two Sundays in September. CW will be the main mode of operation although some CQ calls will also be made on SSB as well. If conditions are favourable, the 7 MHz band will be the main focus, to allow as many EIs as possible to work the special call sign. The station may also be QRV on the Saturdays of the same weekends. EI0MAR is QRV most Sundays between 11 and 3. Telephone and email contact details for EI0MAR are available on the museum website which is www.qsl.net/ei5em/museum.html. A link on the museum web page will take you to EI0MAR's own web site.

HF SSB Field Day

The IRTS SSB field day will take place over the first weekend (1st and 2nd) of September from 13:00 UTC on Saturday to 13:00 UTC on the Sunday. Again the grounds of Garbally College, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway will be available, thanks to Niall EI4CF and once again the Shannon Basin Club will be hosting their now famous Barbeque.

This is a multi-operator contest for portable stations and provides an opportunity for clubs and groups to practice their portable operating and station set-up skills. The Paddy Daly Microphone is awarded to the station with the highest checked score in the open section and the IRTS HF Shield is awarded to the station with the highest checked score in the restricted section. Details and rules are available on the IRTS web site.

CQIR ? Ireland Calling Contest

The Society's 75th Anniversary Contest CQIR will take place on the last weekend in September from 12:00 UTC on Saturday the 29th to 12:00 UTC on Sunday the 30th. There is great interest world wide being expressed in this contest which is a celebration of Ireland and the Irish, throughout the world and with 40 million people in the United States alone claiming Irish forefathers;

we expect that CQIR will be one of the largest 'one off' contests ever aired on the Amateur Bands. It is a 24-hour single operator contest with the emphasis on participation rather than winning and to this end every participant gains an entry ticket for a spectacular draw for every 75 QSO's made during the Contest.

The ticket drawn out of the EI/GI drum will win an all expenses paid long weekend in New York City for two people. ARRL have confirmed that this will include a visit to their national headquarters hosted by ARRL. Kinnitty Castle in Offaly will host the international winners for a week with flights for two from anywhere in the world. The prizes have been fully sponsored at no cost to the Society and this is really an excellent opportunity to celebrate the Society and its 75 years of service to Irish experimenters. We would encourage all Irish operators to be active during the Contest. So ring fence the last weekend of September in your diary, make an effort to have that new antenna up for the event and lets ensure a good show from the local Irish operators to support the international Irish who will no doubt come on the bands in their thousands for the contest. Full rules are on the IRTS website.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group

The next general meeting of South Eastern Amateur Radio Group will take place on Monday the 27th of August at 8.00 p.m. in the Roanmore Centre. All are welcome!

For up to date information, visit the groups' web site on www.searg.com.

Upcoming Rallies

Cork Radio Club Rally will take place on Sunday the 23rd of September in the Blarney Park Hotel. For information contact Con on 021-427136.

The Waterford Rally will take place on Sunday the 21st of October in the Woodlands Hotel, Waterford. For more information visit www.searg.com.

The Foyle and District Rally will take place on Sunday the 4th of November 2007 at the White Horse Hotel, Derry. For more information visit www.mn0aku.org.uk.

The Mayo Radio Rally will take place on Sunday the 18th of November in the Belmount Hotel, Knock, Co. Mayo. For more information contact Padraic Baynes, EI9JA @ QTHR.

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall, EI7IS at QTHR or by phone to 051-853806 or 087-6302026. Items for the radio news can also be faxed to 087 5 6302026. News should be submitted via e-mail to ﷺnews at irts dot ieﷺ for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Friday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday ﷺs bulletin.

1478. TVI in the digital age

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-26 20:31:29 UTC
From: Iitoi <Iitoi@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <fasi5c$287$1@aioe.org>
Source record: 3983
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc

HDTV is inexorably moving across the country, even some XX.1, XX.2 channel leaking across from XE land.

Is this new digital product subject to the same TVI as analog, displaying the same "sound bars", "herringbone", etc., or do we need to decode new artifacts to know if our TVI is from radiated or conducted signals?

The Man in the Maze
QRM from Baboquivari Peak, AZ

--Iitoi

1479. Re: TVI in the digital age

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-27 01:51:07 UTC
From: dplatt@radagast.org
Message-ID: <j8c9q4-vd2.ln1@radagast.org>
Source record: 3984
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc

>HDTV is inexorably moving across the country, even some XX.1, XX.2 channel
>leaking across from XE land.
>
>Is this new digital product subject to the same TVI as analog, displaying the
>same "sound bars", "herringbone", etc., or do we need to decode new
>artifacts to
>know if our TVI is from radiated or conducted signals?

The artifacts seen on digital TV, such as they are, are very different from TVI artifacts on an NTSC broadcast signal. You won't see (or hear) sound bars, hum bars, herringbone, buzz, at all (unless perhaps your TVI is so powerful that it's getting directly into the final, analog stages of the TV... not likely unless you're running a kilowatt right next door).

You'll tend to see one of two types of interference artifact on DTV signals:

(1) Macroblocking. Square or rectangular portions of the picture will freeze, "tear up" or become monochrome.

(2) "Looking for signal" - the whole digital signal "drops out" and the TV blanks the screen and complains.

The audio will exhibit analogous dropouts - momentary gaps in the sound, or complete silence when the signal is lost entirely.

The character of the artifacts probably won't be terribly useful in figuring out if a ham transmitter is involved... you'll have to depend on the timing (e.g. if macroblocking starts happening when you key-down, your transmitter may be involved).

--
Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO
Friends of Jade Warrior home page: http://www.radagast.org/jade-warrior
I do _not_ wish to receive unsolicited commercial email, and I will
boycott any company which has the gall to send me such ads!

1480. Digicom>64 and Digicom>128 for the Commodore 64/128 Computers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-27 06:01:05 UTC
From: kilowattradio@gmail.com
Message-ID: <fatbmu0s9u@news3.newsguy.com>
Source record: 3985
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.digital.misc

http://home.comcast.net/~kilowattradio/files/digicom.html

You can download the programs and documentation for Digicom>64 & 128 Packet radio software and schematics to build a modem at the above web site.

1481. Re: wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-27 06:01:28 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns9999FFB13831mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 3986

"h" <w@w.biz> wrote in news:13d0kn1pn739523@corp.supernews.com:

> Again all this is ok.. If you like risks.. But best thing to do is
> not link to internet... A lot can be done without giving DIRECT access
> to the internet via your wifi link.. ie Packet, Locally Hosted
> websites, under your control.

I think there is some interpretation issues here. The use is not to look for pornography, and certainly the user would have MAC address restriction, so no one else should have access to that signal.

I'm talking about sending a signal to a remote site where Internet service is not available, and using that access to get to say a dx cluster or to a website set up to allow stations that are not in the same place communicate and log in a contest. Or to connect to Echolink for an emergency net.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1482. 160m Stealth

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-27 15:38:42 UTC
From: John Doe <hgorden@adelphia.net>
Message-ID: <YcednRIre7pNf0_bnZ2dnUVZ_hSdnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 3987

2 items

1] I have since found that Hustler did not make a 160m coil, but Pro-Am/Valor makes this item (VAL PHF160 = VALOR 160M 8' 3/8-24 WHP/PHF 160B) that I might be able to substitute in its stead.

2] I live in a Antenna Restricted Retirement Community (NO I CAN'T MOVE), and I have a 40ft pine tree in my back yard. I thought that I might try the above mentioned item in conjunction with lets say a "LDG AT-200 Pro" auto-tuner or equivalent. (Note - I cannot run any wires from the house to the tree in the air - they have to be buried. Also I do not have any fencing and my rain gutters are grounded.)

My idea is to strap either a metal or pvc painted pole near the top of the tree, with a mount bracket for the whip (of course all painted to look like the tree). I will have to feed it with RG-8x (painted) run down the tree and buried in a trench to the house.

As far as radials go - They are out of the question. Instead - what do you think if I should just roll up say 250ft of 13ga or so of single conductor wire about a foot in diameter, attached at the base of the mounting bracket (hung in the tree) and use it as a counterpoise? I might be able to hang in the lower branches of the tree - a waterproof box with a loading coil and attach the counterpoise there instead?

If I could tune TX/RX with this configuration, then I could possibly use it to cover all of the HF bands.

Of course, I would like to work DX, but if not possible, then at least conus.

Comments and suggestions welcomed.

73's Howard, W3CQH

1483. Re: 160m Stealth

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-27 17:54:48 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fav11s$t4i$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3988

John Doe wrote:
> 2 items
>
> 1] I have since found that Hustler did not make a 160m coil, but
> Pro-Am/Valor makes this item (VAL PHF160 = VALOR 160M 8' 3/8-24 WHP/PHF
> 160B) that I might be able to substitute in its stead.
>
> 2] I live in a Antenna Restricted Retirement Community (NO I CAN'T MOVE),
> and I have a 40ft pine tree in my back yard. I thought that I might try the
> above mentioned item in conjunction with lets say a "LDG AT-200 Pro"
> auto-tuner or equivalent. (Note - I cannot run any wires from the house to
> the tree in the air - they have to be buried. Also I do not have any
> fencing and my rain gutters are grounded.)
>
> My idea is to strap either a metal or pvc painted pole near the top of the
> tree, with a mount bracket for the whip (of course all painted to look like
> the tree). I will have to feed it with RG-8x (painted) run down the tree and
> buried in a trench to the house.
>
> As far as radials go - They are out of the question. Instead - what do you
> think if I should just roll up say 250ft of 13ga or so of single conductor
> wire about a foot in diameter, attached at the base of the mounting bracket
> (hung in the tree) and use it as a counterpoise? I might be able to hang in
> the lower branches of the tree - a waterproof box with a loading coil and
> attach the counterpoise there instead?

Whoa, quite a conundrum there, John. It seems to me that you're best bet would be to put up as much vertical wire as possible, (probably some 30 feet, and have a loading coil in the circuit, then have a tank circuit at the bottom to tune the wicked impedances you'll be looking at. You'd want at least the equivalent of 1/3 wave. On 80 meters, you'd be looking at around 70 feet or so. 160 meters is looking for more inductance yet. If you don't have a real pressing need for 160, it would be a good one to forgo.

The tank circuit will probably be needed even if you use an autotuner. It is a simple LC with variable cap and coupling transformer. Attach the lower part of tank to a ground rod, and give it a shot.

Here is a link from Cebik:

http://www.cebik.com/fdim/fdim4.html

You should be able to get fair performance out of this one - nothing great mind you, but it is after all a compromise antenna.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1484. Re: 160m Stealth

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-27 20:28:37 UTC
From: KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <1188238381.713060.317970@k79g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3989

On Aug 27, 10:38 am, "John Doe" <hgor...@adelphia.net> wrote:
>
> My idea is to strap either a metal or pvc painted pole near the top of the
> tree, with a mount bracket for the whip (of course all painted to look like
> the tree). I will have to feed it with RG-8x (painted) run down the tree and
> buried in a trench to the house.
>
> As far as radials go - They are out of the question. Instead - what do you
> think if I should just roll up say 250ft of 13ga or so of single conductor
> wire about a foot in diameter, attached at the base of the mounting bracket
> (hung in the tree) and use it as a counterpoise? I might be able to hang in
> the lower branches of the tree - a waterproof box with a loading coil and
> attach the counterpoise there instead?

Well, I suppose anything would be better than nothing, but you are going to be very limited with this setup. The rules of thumb here are make the radiating part of your antenna as long as possible to increase the radiation resistance, make the tuning elements as efficient as possible to avoid losses due to circulating currents. For verticals, radials allow higher efficiency and although you may be able to bring the antenna into resonance at the desired operating frequency without them, your radiated signal will usually benefit from as many of them as you can manage. Any radials will help, but just one that is coiled at the bottom of the vertical is not going to make up for all the compromises you are making with this design. 40 feet will make a pretty good vertical perhaps down to the 30 Meters but as you get on 40 meters and below it's getting pretty short.

On the low frequency bands, your vertical will have very narrow bandwidth are horrid radiation efficiency as you describe it. It may very well be usable for you, but there may be other options that will be more effective on the lower frequency bands (40, 80, 160 Meters).

Have you considered transmitting loops for the lower frequency bands? They have the advantage of being directional which can help you on both transmit and receive. Their efficiency is pretty bad, but when matched against a vertical configured as yours, I'd bet they would be as good or better in most respects. You will likely be power limited with these antennas, but properly designed and tuned they can work quite well. Keep the resistance of your loop and the losses in the matching network as low as possible and you may discover that they are better solutions for you.

Usually transmitting loops (or magnetic loops as they are sometimes called) are home grown affairs. I know of a few products available

for this.. I believe that MFJ has some loop tuner products, and Bail Isotron makes some things that look like loops to me for various low frequency bands. (These Isotron antennas have very mixed reviews and I would figure that they work fairly well when tuned correctly, but they are difficult to tune properly.) Usually the two biggest issues facing loops is the voltages and currents produced with very low transmit powers can be very large and finding the matching components that can handle the currents and voltages while not introducing IR losses. Making low resistance loops is not that hard, but finding variable capacitors that can handle the current and voltages produced in a single turn loop with even 100 Watts can be difficult (and expensive.) Going for more than 100 watts is possible, but will almost assure you of having to home grow just about the whole thing.

Loop antennas also present some unique operating challenges as their operating bandwidth is VERY limited (approaching SSB Bandwidths at times) so any frequency changes will include a lengthy period of time to re-tune and because they are usually located very close to the operator they can be an RF exposure risk. However, if properly built they are easy to rotate and provide some directional gain which can be a HUGE benefit over your standard vertical. You may be putting less power out of the loop, but it is concentrated in some directions so your effective power towards the intended location can be much higher.

My advice is to concentrate on your 40 foot tree for 30 meters and up and for 40 meters on down look to other options. The vertical just isn't going to perform well as you get down to the lower frequency bands. I'd also pretty much forget 160 meters unless you will be happy with a very small bandwidth and very poor performance on either loops or your current vertical idea.

By the way, I am interested in the Isotron antennas because I live in a very limiting CC&R environment and I have pretty much zero in the way of trees to hide antennas in. I'm pretty much limited to what I can hide in my attic. My trap dipole is pretty much junk on anything over longer than 30 meters, but what can I expect considering that it's only about 20 feet up, surrounded by the whole house's worth of electrical wire and furnace ducting while pretty much limited to about 60 feet long. Oh to get the sunspots back soon!

-= Bob =-

1485. Re: TVI in the digital age

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-28 22:46:02 UTC
From: Iitoi <Iitoi@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <fb26hv$hg7$1@aioe.org>
Source record: 3990
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.misc

I wonder if this workshop would be useful for some hams to attend (or at least plug into the audiocast and record it).

The Federal Communications Commission has announced the agenda topics and tentative speakers for the Digital Television Consumer Education Workshop to be held Wednesday, September 26, 2007, at FCC Headquarters, 445 12th St., SW, Washington, DC, in the Commission Meeting Room. The Workshop will begin at 8:00 AM and end at 3:45 PM.

A live audiocast of the hearing will be available at the FCC's website at http://www.fcc.gov/realaudio/#sep26 on a first-come, first-served basis. In addition, the hearing will be recorded, and the recording will be made available to the public.

For further information go to
http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-276258A1.doc

The Man in the Maze
QRM from Baboquivari Peak, AZ

--
Iitoi

1486. QRP and QRPp question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-29 19:23:15 UTC
From: Jack VK2CJC <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com>
Message-ID: <fb4gj0$1kh$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 3991

Hi all.

I've just decided to give QRP operation a serious go. I've bought myself a Oak Hills Research 100A 80m CW kit transceiver to get me started.

But my question is-

I have always believed that to qualify as QRP, the power level must be below 5 watts on CW, FM or PSK. And below 10 watts PEP on SSB.
AND.... that to qualify as QRPp, the power has to be below 1 watt on any mode.

Is this correct?

Thanks for reading
--
Jack VK2CJC / MM0AXL
Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group
www.mncarg.org

1487. Re: QRP and QRPp question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-29 20:04:47 UTC
From: The Shadow <Cranston@CobaltClub.com>
Message-ID: <GckBi.119417$xx1.21571@newsfe09.phx>
Source record: 3992

"Jack VK2CJC" <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com> wrote in message
news:fb4gj0$1kh$1@victor.killfile.org...
> Hi all.
>
> I've just decided to give QRP operation a serious go. I've bought myself a
> Oak Hills Research 100A 80m CW kit transceiver to get me started.
>
> But my question is-
>
> I have always believed that to qualify as QRP, the power level must be
> below 5 watts on CW, FM or PSK. And below 10 watts PEP on SSB.
> AND.... that to qualify as QRPp, the power has to be below 1 watt on any
> mode.
>
> Is this correct?
>
> Thanks for reading
> --
> Jack VK2CJC / MM0AXL
> Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group
> www.mncarg.org
>
Jack -- see Wikipedia URL;
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/QRP_operation

ARRL Sez
http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc/qrp/

FOR QRPp
http://www.rogerwendell.com/qrpaward.html

Lamont

1488. Re: QRP and QRPp question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-30 22:51:18 UTC
From: "Rick (W-A-one-R-K-T)" <get.my.email@from.qrz.com>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.08.30.21.11.12.639254@from.qrz.com>
Source record: 3993

```
Note that there was a time when anything under 100 watts was considered
QRP.
```

1489. Re: QRP and QRPp question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-08-31 20:56:30 UTC
From: Jack VK2CJC <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com>
Message-ID: <fb9tjm$sa3$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 3994

> Note that there was a time when anything under 100 watts was considered
> QRP.

A when valves were king, receivers were useless and operators were real
operators :o)

Makes you wonder what technology we will be using in another 100 years
though.....

1490. The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 35 (Friday, August 31, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-01 04:54:20 UTC
From: ARRL Letter Mailing List <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <200709010453.l814r231014628@linux11676.dn.net>
Source record: 3995
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter
Vol. 26, No. 35
August 31, 2007
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IN THIS EDITION:

* + FCC Issues Two Citations in Longstanding Power Line Noise Case
* + Tennessee Amateur Finds Innovative Way to Promote Ham Radio
* + Michigan Hams Activated Due to Storms and Tornado
* + ARRL Announces New Fall Publications
* + Lab Testing Changes Detailed in October QST
* + ARRL Continues Efforts on Interference to PAVE PAWS Radar Sites
* Solar Update
* IN BRIEF:
This Weekend on the Radio
ARRL Continuing Education Course Registration
+ ARRL Headquarters Closed in Observance of Labor Day
+ Upcoming Meteor Shower Can Be Boon for VHFers
ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference Sunday Seminar Announced
Malaysia to Celebrate 50 Years of Independence with Amateur Radio Event
QEX -- In This Issue
Let Us Know

+Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/>

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==>Delivery problems: First see FAQ
<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/faq.html#nodelivery>, then e-mail <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
==>Editorial questions or comments only: S. Khrystyne Keane, <k1sfa@arrl.org>
==========

==> FCC ISSUES TWO CITATIONS IN LONGSTANDING POWER LINE NOISE CASE

The Federal Communications Commission's Dallas Field Office issued Citations on July 25 to two utilities in a longstanding power line noise case in Lubbock, Texas. Bryan Edwards, W5KFT, of Lubbock, first reported the interference concerning the two involved utilities, Lubbock Power & Light (LP&L) and Xcel Energy, as early as 1994. The record shows that the FCC Dallas Field Office clarified the FCC rules with regard to power line noise for LP&L as early as 1998, and issued three letters to LP&L in 2003 and 2004. Xcel Energy was first issued an FCC letter in 2004.

The Citations to the Lubbock utilities said that due to an investigation conducted by the FCC's Dallas office May 22-25, 2007, they found that both LP&L and Xcel "caused harmful

interference to the reception of amateur communications to amateur licensee W5KFT in Lubbock, Texas," and that "Section 15.209 sets the general radiated emission limits for intentional radiators. The limit for the band 30 to 88 MHz is 100 micro-volts per meter measured at 3 meters. The attached list of strong electrical arcing points appears to exceed the value allowed even for intentional radiators." The list, attached to each Citation, included 44 separate "strong electrical arcing points" that were found near Edwards' home.

The FCC directed both LP&L and Xcel, pursuant to the Commission's Rules, to provide documents and information within 10 days of their respective Citations. "Because the source of harmful interference is emanating from more than one power company and past attempts have not resolved the problem, you must submit a written plan describing the planned resolution of this case," including LP&L's coordination with Xcel Energy and Xcel's coordination with LP&L, according to the Citations. Also, each company is "directed to provide a report every sixty (60) days, of work completed to resolve the interference until your distribution system is in compliance."

Each Lubbock utility was warned that "[v]iolations of the Act or the Commission's Rules may subject the violator to substantial monetary forfeitures, seizure of equipment through in rem forfeiture action, and criminal sanctions, including imprisonment." In rem is a civil forfeiture proceeding as opposed to a criminal forfeiture proceeding.

In its undated Response to the FCC's Citation, LP&L stated that it "does not admit to and specifically denies any violation of the [Communications] Act [of 1934] or any rule pertaining thereto," but "in order to comply with the...Citation, the City of Lubbock files this response." As a result of the Citations issued by the FCC, LP&L's Response stated that representatives from "Lubbock Power & Light met with Paul Leonard, P.E., Area Engineer with Xcel Energy to discuss the alleged findings regarding harmful interference to the reception of amateur communications by amateur licensee W5KFT in Lubbock, Texas."

Xcel's Response pointed out that the Citation acknowledges "that the source of harmful interference to amateur licensee W5KFT is emanating from more than one power company." Xcel also alleges that it "has been working with amateur W5KFT for a number of years in an effort to identify the source of, and a possible resolution for, the harmful interference he is experiencing. Xcel Energy has a good working relationship with the licensee and has coordinated with him on numerous occasions in attempting to resolve his interference problems."

Xcel goes on to assure the FCC that it will "retain an outside technical consultant to provide an unbiased assessment of whether the harmful interference to W5KFT is attributable to Xcel Energy's power system and if so, what corrective measures would be required." Edwards reported that on Thursday, August 30, he received a phone call from Paul Leonard, head of Xcel Energy in West Texas. Edwards said he was told that Xcel has contracted with Mike Martin, K3RFI, to come out to Lubbock in October to work on the line noise. "Leonard said they tried to get LP&L to participate with them and Mike, but they refused to do so," Edwards said. Martin owns and operates RFI Services, a firm dedicated exclusively to RFI locating and training. He has been locating interference sources for more than 25 years, solving an average of 500 complaints a year, according to the ARRL Lab. Martin has also given power line interference workshops at ARRL Headquarters.

ARRL Lab Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, said, "I am pleased to see the FCC taking a strong enforcement step in this case. It has gone on for a long time, and this Citation should serve to finally get things resolved. It is unfortunate that some of the power line cases

the ARRL is handling can't be resolved without the FCC taking formal action, but I expect that electric utilities across the country will now take notice of this case."

Most power line noise sources in fact can be located quickly and economically, Gruber said; many utilities in fact handle power line noise complaints as a matter of routine maintenance. "All it takes is a properly trained RFI investigator with modern noise locating equipment. By using noise signature techniques, the utilities would have had only to address those sources actually contributing to the problem. The message to utilities here is clear. Don't ignore power line noise complaints! Don't make the FCC get involved!"

For more information on this story, as well as links to the ARRL report, the FCC's Citations and the utilities' Responses, please see the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2007/08/30/100/?nc=1>.

==> TENNESSEE AMATEUR FINDS INNOVATIVE WAY TO PROMOTE HAM RADIO

About three years ago, Cliff Segar, KD4GT, and his wife Kati were looking for another place to live. After months of looking, they found their dream house in Rockwood, Tennessee. There was just one problem -- it was right on Interstate 40.

Two billboards were located within the Segar's new property. "They don't provide much in the way of income; basically just paying the annual property taxes in 'rural' Tennessee. Of the two billboards, Segar said the one "up front (from our house perspective)" is the prime space. It is larger and lighted and in use. The other billboard was not rented, and it was getting run down, with brush and trees overtaking its view from the Interstate.

This year, the ground lease for the two billboards came up for renewal. Segar said that this was his opportunity to do something useful. "Basically, the new lease for the previously unused billboard stipulated that the billboard company had the obligation to keep the brush and vegetation clear and, 'when the sign is not sold, lessee will agree to provide and install a vinyl face advertising Amateur Radio activities.'" Segar said that the only way the billboard company would agree to this stipulation was if they provided the vinyl facing at their expense. "This was even better than I thought it would be. Since the sign had not been sold at any time in the prior three years, I expect to see the sign for quite a long time," Segar said.

With the new lease signed, Segar sent an e-mail to ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, to let him know of this exciting development. "In case anyone is wondering if anyone in Newington reads e-mail, they do -- and frequently. In about an hour, Allen called me to work out the details," Segar said. Within two days, the ARRL graphics department had created the design for the vinyl facing.

"The only thing I requested," Segar said, "was to have a couple of 2 meter repeater frequencies listed for use by those of you driving past. The one repeater was basically a must since the Roane County Amateur Radio Club, in a moment of collective weakness, elected me president for the year. The only problem is that KE4RX/r is behind anyone who sees the sign. We needed a repeater that would continue to work with them for the next 30-plus miles." After a few discussions with Paul Drothler, WO4U, in Crossville, Tennessee, W4NSA/r was deemed the flagship repeater for use westbound. According to Segar, it is the primary repeater used by ARES during severe weather or other emergency situations. "If you are ever on I-40 between Cookville and Knoxville, dial in 146.895, pl 118.8 or 147.015+ and give a call. We will try to be listening, but please don't report that you caused an emergency slowing down to look at the sign!"

Segar says this billboard is not about him -- it is about Amateur Radio and the ways hams can promote it: "With the constant pressure from commercial interests on the spectrum allocated to the Amateur Radio Service, we all need to do something to promote the public benefit of the Amateur Radio Service. We are to be more than a hobby. It is part of our licensing agreement. It is even part of our name. We are to be a Service. I strongly urge everyone to think seriously about how they can be a service to their community through Amateur Radio. ARES is a good primary start and one that is most visible to the leaders of your community. Providing communication at public service events is another. But there are many more. To use an overworked clichï¿½, think outside the box. Become involved. Getting a DXCC or WAS award is great. A 5BDXCC shows even more dedication but it really doesn't help 'pay' for the spectrum we enjoy. Your city mayor or county supervisors really don't care that y!
ou managed to work Peter I Island on five bands at the bottom of the sunspot cycle -- there's nothing in it for them. Each of us needs to show our elected and appointed officials that Amateur Radio really is a high quality and vital Service to them. The sooner that happens, the easier it will be to put up that new antenna you've been wanting."

He continued: "Be innovative. The great folks in Newington are ready, willing and able to help you. Join the ARRL and get involved. Join a local club. Get active in ARES, RACES or a local CERT group. Spend a Saturday with a handheld radio at a parade. You and the thousands of other licensed operators in the Amateur Radio Service worldwide will continue to enjoy the challenges, joys and magic of Amateur Radio. This billboard is only part of my contribution. What's yours?"

==> MICHIGAN HAMS ACTIVATED DUE TO STORMS AND TORNADO

On Friday, August 24 at 5:15 PM (EDT), the National Weather Service issued a severe thunderstorm warning for Genesee County. This storm produced two tornados in the mid-Michigan area that caused severe damage to several towns. The greatest damage occurred in the City of Fenton located just south of Flint. The NWS confirmed that an EF2 tornado had touched down and had torn a path 26 miles long and up to 0.5 miles wide through Livingston, Oakland, Genesee and Lapeer County, damaging at least 250 homes and businesses. An EF2 tornado, using the Enhanced Fujita scale, is a wind estimate of 110-135 MPH in a three-second gust. More than 12,000 people lost power due to the storms.

Before the tornado hit, Michigan's Genesee County ARES and SKYWARN were activated due to a severe thunderstorm watch. The storm moved into the county with such heavy rain that visibility dropped down to zero at several points. Funnel clouds were seen in the western part of the county, but these could not be confirmed. The NWS issued a Tornado Warning based on confirmed sightings in the adjacent counties to the west, as well as reports from their Doppler radar.

As spotters continued to watch the storm, Randy Bond, N8VDS, spotted the funnel heading for Fenton and reported it to the NWS via his ham radio; Fred Moses Jr, W8FSM, confirmed the sighting. Moments later, the Genesee County 911 central dispatch center received a call that the roof on the brand new Tractor Supply Company store in Fenton had caved in and that the tornado had touched down. About half of the Fenton Community Center's roof was blown off, and debris from the building blew across the road to Fenton United Methodist Church.

Genesee County 911 called out the fire departments and activated their Fire Coordination Plan. Ham radio spotters have an agreement with Genesee County fire departments to provide supplemental communications for the departments. Hams were providing communications via the SKYWARN net and the Fire Coordination net.

As the county's fire departments started to move toward the building collapse in Fenton, hams were already on the scene. Bond and Mike Schafer, KB8RVP, shifted gears from weather spotters to Fire Coordination operators. At the request of the fire chief at the scene, Bond went to the Fenton City fire station and, using ham radio, assisted their dispatch center; the storm had damaged their radio fire communications tower, so Bond and Schafer started working dispatch for them using their ham radios until the dispatch center was able to resume normal fire communications.

Jerry Baker, KD8AYL, was next to arrive on the scene at the collapsed building and after meeting with the Incident Commander, Baker was assigned the task of setting up radio communications with more ARES volunteers in the Flint region.

As more reports of damage came in, the Fenton City and Township Fire Department became overloaded; their crippled communications tower did not help matters. ARES Emergency Coordinator for Genesee County Greg Ybarra, N8HXQ, coordinated the response during this incident and put out a call for help to District 3 Emergency Coordinator Greg Allinger, WA8OGJ. Allinger contacted other ARES units in the state, and Amateur Radio operators from nine Michigan counties responded to the Fenton area to help.

Evaluation of the damage started immediately after the storm. Baker was reassigned to a relief shelter to aid the Red Cross. What would normally have been a drive of less than 10 minutes took almost an hour due to trees and power lines down everywhere. "Trees as much as 36 inches in diameter and more than 100 years old had been ripped out of the ground by the storm; regular electric power was out and the damage reports just never seemed to end," he said.

The Genesee County Office of Emergency Management activated their Mobile Command Unit. The MCU has an Amateur Radio station in it, as well as radios for all public service organizations. The city set up a command post in the parking lot of the Fenton City fire department and began operations from there. Michigan State Police responded to the area and instituted an 8 PM curfew for everyone. State and local police set up road blocks. Access was restricted to police, fire, National Guard, Red Cross, Salvation Army or ARES.

ARES volunteers worked with all aspects of the incident. Damage reports and assessments continued until 1:30 AM Saturday when the Incident Commander determined everyone should break until 5:30 AM to get some rest.

==> ARRL ANNOUNCES NEW FALL PUBLICATIONS

The ARRL has announced its new fall publications lineup. ARRL Sales and Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, said, "ARRL's fall lineup includes the biggest new publication introductions this year. These new books will keep you current with rapid advances in radio operating and experimentation."

The ARRL Handbook for Radio Communications - 2008 (Eighty-Fifth Edition) uniquely serves both amateur experimenters and industry practitioners, emphasizing connections between basic theory and application. This 85th edition is both a useful introduction to radio communication and a source for answers to questions about every aspect of the state-of-the-art. Topics include Amateur Radio licensing requirements and operating activities, fundamental and advanced electronics and communications concepts, radio propagation and antenna theory, practical projects, repair techniques, references and much more. The Handbook includes descriptions for new and emerging wireless technologies involving digital signal processing (DSP) innovations, and radio applications utilizing software and the Internet. The book is filled with valuable references, practical examples

and projects. The CD-ROM at the back of the book includes all of the fully searchable text and illustrations in the printed bo!
ok, as well as companion software, PC board templates and other support files.

Revisions to the 2008 Handbook include new filter theory and design examples, including a HF/6 meter high-power low-pass filter project, and revised and expanded RF safety content -- including new insights into RF safety regulations and research. New projects include: MKII updated universal QRP transmitter; MicroR2 receiver and MicroT2 transmitter; ID-O-Matic-10-minute ID timer for individual, repeater or beacon control; simple computer-to-transceiver serial port interface and USB interface; keying adapter to interface vintage radios with modern gear (CW keying or amplifier TR keying), and more.

The softcover edition of the Handbook sells for $44.95; the hardcover sells for $59.95. As an early bird bonus, the ARRL Software Library for Hams CD-ROM, v 2.0, will be included with each Handbook ordered before October 31, 2007; this is a $20 value. The CD includes quick access to utilities, applications, and information; software for contesting, digital voice, HF digital (PSK31, MFSK16, MT63, and RTTY), meteor scatter and moonbounce, book excerpts and more, as well as programs for APRS, Winlink 2000, packet radio and satellite tracking. Both editions will be available in early October.

ARRL's HF Digital Handbook -- Fourth Edition is your guide to understanding the most active HF digital communication modes in use today. There is something here for every radio operator -- beginners and more advanced operators alike. And, as this technology rapidly advances, your increased understanding of digital communication techniques will make certain that you stay in the race as new modes and methods unfold. This 4th edition book includes expanded station setup information, discussion of PSKMail and other varieties of PSK, new content on Olivia, DominoEX, HF digital voice and image modes, and Automatic Link Establishment. Are you just getting started with exploring digital communications? All it takes is your sound-card-equipped computer and your HF transceiver. ARRL's HF Digital Handbook will guide you through the rest. This softcover book will be available in early October for $19.95.

ARRL's Low Power Communication -- Third Edition shows how you can explore the excitement of low-power radio operating. Discover how to build and operate low-power radio gear - the QRP way, with sections on equipment and station accessories, antennas and operating strategies. There are new sections on Emergency Communication and surplus military equipment, including how to restore and use this classic radio hardware. This book can be purchased alone for $19.95 and includes the complete assembly manual for the MFJ Cub Transceiver Kit, or with the MFJ-9340K 40M QRP-Cub CW Transceiver Kit for $99.95. Both editions will be available in early October.

FCC Rules and Regulations for the Amateur Radio Service is now available for only $5.95. The new 8-1/2 x 11 reference contains the complete Part 97 rules from Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations, effective February 23, 2007.

Antenna Compendium Volume 4, the popular antenna book from 1995, is being reprinted due to increasing demand. This is the fourth in the popular ARRL Antenna Compendium series. You'll find 38 articles inside, covering a wide range of topics. There are simple, practical antenna projects, and there are heavy-duty, theoretical treatments of complex arrays. When the sunspots are low, head for the low-bands - seven articles are devoted to 80 and 160 meters, including some truly gargantuan arrays. There are articles for mobile work, too. A section on portable or temporary antennas that will get you thinking about Field Day in June, regardless of what time of year you read it. The Antenna Compendium Volume 4 will be

available in September for only $20.

AC Power Interference Handbook, 3rd edition, revised, looks at the causes, effects, locating and correction of power-line and electrical interference, and includes a new locating concept! "This easy-to-read, very practical book, is a must for anyone responsible for solving interference problems." -- Vern Chartier, past chairman, IEEE T&D Committee. AC Power Interference Handbook is written by Marv Loftness, KB7KK, and published by Percival Technology. ARRL is the worldwide distributor for this title.

These books, as well as the complete ARRL library, are available from the ARRL Online store <http://www.arrl.org/catalog/>.

==> LAB TESTING CHANGES DETAILED IN OCTOBER QST

In the upcoming October issue of QST, the ARRL Lab introduces a series of significant new receiver tests. These are the result of development work and discussions with professionals in the radio industry over a period of several years.

One new test concerns receiver blocking gain compression and reciprocal mixing. The ARRL Lab describes Blocking Dynamic Range (BDR) as "a condition in which the weak [desired] signal is 'blocked' or suppressed" by a strong interfering signal. This is also known as desense or overload. In some cases, the cause is a reduction in receiver gain. In other cases ("noise limited" measurements), the cause is an increase in the receiver's internal noise due to the noise sidebands of the local oscillator mixing together with the strong interferer (also known as "reciprocal mixing"). The level of the noise masks the gain reduction effect on the desired signal. Instead of reporting the BDR as a noise limited measurement, the Lab will now be using narrow-band measurement techniques to "dig out" the desired signal on noise-limited measurements and determine the point of gain reduction.

To distinguish from earlier measurements, the name will be changed to "Blocking Gain Compression." A separate reciprocal mixing test indicates the level of noise increase within the receiver caused by the interfering signal. Together, these two measurements provide more information about how the receiver behaves with a single strong interfering signal.

>From 1983 onward, ARRL Product Review published IP3 (third order intercept) figures for receivers based on a noise floor intermodulation distortion (IMD) response level. In 1993, the level was changed to a response that produced an S5 reading on the receiver's own S-meter. The decision was based largely on this being a more typical average of signals that would be found on the bands. The drawbacks to this approach are that there is a great variation in S-meters from receiver to receiver (see Product Review, April 2005) and it overlooks the significant change that can often be observed in receivers at higher signal levels.

With this in mind, the ARRL Lab has decided to measure and report IP3 at three levels. The lowest level measurement is made at the noise floor, as has been done in the past. The middle level is done at a standard level of -97 dBm, defined as S5 in the IARU Region 1 standard for S-meters. For the highest level, instead of selecting a particular receiver response, the maximum level of expected interferer will be set to 0 dBm (S9 + 73 dB by the IARU standard, a loud signal indeed!). These three levels taken together should present the best overall view of a receiver's total performance, with each level being most useful in a particular context. For example, someone doing SSB or CW work on VHF would care most about the receiver performance at the noise floor, while on HF, an S5 level would be more useful.

According to ARRL Lab Test Manager Mike Tracy, KC1SX, members frequently ask why manufacturers' sensitivity specifications are given in microvolts but Product Review measurements are reported in dBm (decibels relative to a milliwatt). He said, "The chief reason is that manufacturers typically do not include a bandwidth in their specification, and measurements in different bandwidths are not directly comparable. All other things being equal, there is more noise power in a 3 kHz bandwidth than a 2.4 kHz bandwidth. To overcome that limitation, the sensitivity testing is done with a 500 Hz bandwidth filter, or as close to that as is available. This permits reasonable comparisons of different receivers." Although the filters that a receiver has cannot be changed, the variation in actual bandwidth can be determined by calculating the Equivalent Rectangular Bandwidth (ERBW). This is the width that the filter would have if it passed the same noise power and possessed the "ideal" sha!
pe of vertical sides and a flat passband response.

For more on the changes coming in future Product Reviews, be sure to check out the October issue of QST.

==> ARRL CONTINUES EFFORTS ON INTERFERENCE TO PAVE PAWS RADAR SITES

On August 13, the ARRL began sending "specific mitigation reduction numbers" to 122 repeater owners, recommending that they reduce their signal anywhere from 7 dB to 56 dB, according to ARRL Regulatory Information Branch Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND. These reductions, requested by the US Air Force and the Department of Defense, only concern those repeaters identified by the DoD as affecting the PAVE PAWS radar system.

"Some reductions are going to be attainable," Henderson said. "You can do 7 dB, but 56?" He said such a reduction would "not be realistic to achieve. While many of the affected repeater owners may not be able to achieve the required reductions, but that doesn't mean they shouldn't try to meet the goal. Everyone involved needs to continue trying to meet the DoD's requirements. This gives us the best chance to keep as many of these machines as possible on the air."

Henderson stressed that any order to shut down a repeater will come from the Federal Communications Commission, at the request of the DoD. "This situation only affects those repeaters on the DoD's list in Massachusetts and California. It does not affect the everyday, casual user of 70 cm. This is not a wide-spread threat to the 70 cm band."

Citing an increasing number of interference complaints, the US Air Force has asked the FCC to order dozens of repeater systems to either mitigate interference to the PAVE PAWS radars or shut down. The ARRL has been working with the DoD to develop a plan to mitigate alleged interference from 70 cm ham radio repeaters to this military radar system on both coasts. According to the DoD, the in-band interference from Amateur Radio fixed FM voice repeaters has increased to an unacceptable level. PAVE PAWS radars are used for national security functions, including early detection of sea-launched missiles. They are critical to our national defense and are in use 24 hours per day, seven days per week.

The Amateur Radio Service is a secondary user in the 420-450 MHz (70 cm) band, both by the Table of Frequency Allocations and the FCC Part 97 regulations. As such, Amateur Radio licensees, jointly and individually, bear the responsibility of mitigating or eliminating any harmful interference to the primary user, which in this case is the Government Radiolocation Service that includes the DoD PAVE PAWS systems.

==>SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "I'm Melting in the Sun, and This Is What They Call the Life" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: Sunspot numbers pulled up from zero this week, but barely. Average daily sunspot numbers rose more than nine points to 12.9. Geomagnetic conditions were quiet. Conditions have been quiet for so long that we may not appreciate this, as many of us wish for more solar activity and sunspots. Geophysical Institute Prague predicted earlier that August 31 would be quiet to unsettled, September 1 unsettled to active, unsettled conditions September 2-3, quiet September 4-5 and unsettled to active again on September 6. Over the same period, the US Air Force predicts planetary A index of 15, 25, 12, 12, 8, 5 and 15 for August 31-September 6. From the same prediction, it looks like September 8-17 may see a return of zero sunspot days. Sunspot numbers for August 23 through 29 were 12, 12, 14, 13, 12, 14 and 13 with a mean of 12.9. The 10.7 cm flux was 70.8, 71.6, 71.5, 70.1, 69.2, 70.1 and 69!
.6 with a mean of 70.4. Estimated planetary A indices were 2, 2, 8, 10, 12, 11 and 4 with a mean of 7. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 1, 1, 6, 10, 10, 9 and 4 with a mean of 5.9. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>.

==>IN BRIEF:

* This weekend on the radio: This weekend, look for the NCCC Sprint (CW) on August 31. The Russian RTTY WW Contest and the Wake-Up! QRP Sprint are on September 1. On September 1-2, check out the All Asian DX Contest (Phone), RSGB Field Day (SSB) and IARU Region 1 Field Day (SSB). The DARC 10 Meter Digital Contest is September 2, while the MI QRP Labor Day CW Sprint is September 3-4 and the ARS Spartan Sprint is September 4. Next week, don't forget the ARRL September VHF QSO Party, scheduled for September 8-10. The NCCC Sprint (CW) and the AGCW Straight Key Party are September 7. Another NCCC Sprint (CW), the SOC Marathon Sprint and the Swiss HTC QRP Sprint are September 8. The WAE DX Contest (SSB) and the Arkansas QSO Party are scheduled for September 8-9. The North American Sprint (CW) and the ARCI End of Summer Digital Sprint are both September 9. The Tennessee QSO Party is September 9-10, while the YLRL Howdy Days are September 11-13. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <htt!
p://www.arrl.org/contests/>, the ARRL Contester's Rate Sheet <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rate-sheet/> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more info.

* ARRL Continuing Education course registration: Registration remains open through Sunday, September 9, 2007, for these online courses beginning on Friday September 21: Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 2 (EC-002); Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 3 (EC-003R2); Antenna Modeling (EC-004); HF Digital Communications (EC-005); VHF/UHF -- Life Beyond the Repeater (EC-008), and Radio Frequency Propagation (EC-011). To learn more, visit the CCE Course Listing page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html> or contact the Continuing Education Program Coordinator <cce@arrl.org>.

* ARRL Headquarters Closed in Observance of Labor Day: ARRL Headquarters will be closed in observance of Labor Day on Monday, September 3. There will be no W1AW bulletin or code practice transmissions that day. ARRL Headquarters will reopen Tuesday, September 4 at 8 AM Eastern Daylight Time. We wish everyone a safe and fun Labor Day holiday.

* Upcoming Meteor Shower Can Be Boon for VHFers: VHFers, particularly those interested in meteor scatter, should be on the alert Saturday morning, September 1, for what could be a rare opportunity of excellent propagation. At 1137 UTC (+/- 20 minutes), the Earth's orbit

will cross through the dust trail of long-period comet C/1911 N1 (Kiess), which is expected to provide a short but active two hour outburst of bright (-2 to +3 magnitude) meteors radiating from the constellation Auriga. Predicted rates for this particular Aurigids vary from around 100 meteors per hour to up to 1000. If high rates are achieved, the meteors could provide "open-band" conditions during the peak times. It might certainly be worth a look on 2 meters (or higher) during the hour leading up to the peak and through the peak time period. The meteor radiant is ideally placed for North Americans, so the more stations that are active, the more people can take advantage of what might possibly happen in the ! sky on Saturday morning. If conditions turn out to be excellent, the best mode for information exchange will be on SSB, keeping calls and transmissions very short and exchanging minimal information, such as signal reports or grids. As usual, the best frequency on 2 meters will likely be 144.200 MHz, with stations spreading out from there if conditions warrant. -- Information provided by Steve McDonald, VE7SL

* ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference Sunday Seminar Announced: Robert McGwier, N4HY, will present "A Stroll through Software Radio, Information Theory and Some Applications" at the ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference Sunday Seminar in Hartford, Connecticut on September 30. The seminar will cover the basic building blocks of a simple software radio system, as well as a discussion of information theory and its practical use in communication systems. As time permits, McGwier plans to demonstrate several software radio systems ranging from the Softrock40 to the GnuRadio/USRP and the Flex5000. Attendees will receive packages containing tutorials and software. McGwier is the chairman of the ARRL Software Defined Radio Working Group, a member of the SDR Forum and a contributor to GnuRadio and vice president of engineering for AMSAT-NA. He is co-author with Frank Brickle, AB2KT, of DttSP, a software radio suite used in Flex Radio's PowerSDR to operate its SDR transc!
eivers. The ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference will be held September 28-30 at the Doubletree Hotel in Windsor Locks, Connecticut, just north of Hartford. For more information and registration, see the conference's Web site <http://www.tapr.org/dcc>, or call the TAPR office at 972-671-8277. Tickets for the Sunday Seminar are $25 and are separate from the conference registration fee.

* Malaysia to Celebrate 50 Years of Independence with Amateur Radio Event: Radio amateurs in Malaysia will celebrate its 50 years of independence from Great Britain with a nationwide Field Day August 30-September 1 with 9M50Mx special event call signs. The Malaysian Amateur Radio Transmitter's Society (MARTS) <http://www.marts.org.my/> invites Amateur Radio operators from all over the world to celebrate with Malaysia on air. The Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission granted these 9M50Mx special event call signs for the first time in history of Malaysian Amateur Radio. To celebrate the occasion, the Merdeka Field Day (MFD) -- Merdeka means independence in the Malay language -- has a total of 16 stations operating simultaneously in different cities, as well as in the middle of the jungle. QSL to the Bureau at PO Box 10777, 50724 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. -- Information provided by Lance M. T. Lai, 9W2LAI, MARTS Honorary Secretary

* QEX -- In This Issue: The September/October issue of QEX is out, and it is full of theoretical and practical technical articles. In this issue, Maynard Wright, W6PAP, explains the impedance graphing capabilities of some powerful computer software in "Octave for Circle Diagrams." Dr George Steber, WB9LVI, describes some simple circuits that combine with a digital oscilloscope, signal generator and PC to create "An Unusual Vector Network Analyzer." Mateo Campanella, IZ2EEQ, used a direct digital synthesizer IC and PIC microcontroller to build "A DDS Based QRSS (and CW) Beacon." Paolo Antonizzi, IW2ACD and Marco Arecco, IK2WAQ, team up to describe the design and lab testing of "Very High Q

Microwave Cavities and Filters." J. R. Laughlin, KE5KSC, designed a circuit to reduce background noise pick-up and feedback squeal for a "Differential Leveling Microphone." Steve Gradijan, WB5KIA, shares the news about a free software development tool by Code Gear from Borland in "Turbo Del!
phi Explorer: Develop Amateur Radio Projects for Windows with a Free Compiler." Fred Glenn, K9SO, describes his system of using Excel spreadsheets to compare antenna performance and propagation predictions by "Using Gain-Probability Data to Compare Antenna Performances." Contributing Editor L.B. Cebik, W4RNL, compares some circularly polarized satellite antennas in "Antenna Options." QEX is edited by Larry Wolfgang, WR1B (lwolfgang@arrl.org), and is published six times a year. Subscribe to QEX today <http://www.arrl.org/qex>.

* Let Us Know: What's your favorite part of The ARRL Letter? What kind of stories would you like to see in the Letter? Would you prefer the Letter in an HTML format? This is your Letter and your chance to let your voice be heard. Please send your suggestions to ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, at k1sfa@arrl.org, with the subject line "ARRL Letter Suggestions." All messages will be read and discussed, and we look forward to implementing positive suggestions into the ARRL Letter.

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The ARRL Letter is published Fridays, 50 times each year, by the American Radio Relay League: ARRL--the National Association for Amateur Radio, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111; tel 860-594-0200; fax 860-594-0259; <http://www.arrl.org>. Joel Harrison, W5ZN, President.

The ARRL Letter offers a weekly e-mail digest of essential and general news of interest to active radio amateurs. Visit the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org> for the latest Amateur Radio news and news updates. The ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/> also offers informative features and columns. ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> is a weekly "ham radio newscast" compiled and edited from The ARRL Letter. It's also available as a podcast from our Web site.

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ARRL members first must register on the Members Only Web Site <http://www.arrl.org/members/>. You'll have an opportunity during registration to sign up for e-mail delivery of The ARRL Letter, W1AW bulletins, and other material. To change these selections--including delivery of The ARRL Letter--registered members should click on the "Member Data Page" link (in the Members Only box). Click on "Modify membership data," check or uncheck the appropriate boxes and/or change your e-mail address if necessary. (Check "Temporarily disable all automatically sent email" to temporarily stop all e-mail deliveries.) Then, click on "Submit modification" to make selections effective. (NOTE: HQ staff members cannot change your e-mail delivery address. You must do this yourself via the Members Only Web Site.)

The ARRL Letter also is available to all, free of charge, from these sources:

* ARRLWeb <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>. (NOTE: The ARRL Letter will be posted each Friday when it is distributed via e-mail.)

* The QTH.net listserver, thanks to volunteers from the Boston Amateur Radio Club: Visit Mailing Lists@QTH.Net <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/letter-list>. (NOTE: The ARRL cannot assist subscribers who receive The ARRL Letter via this listserver.)

1491. Re: 160m Stealth

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-01 07:03:32 UTC
From: "Dr.Ace" <Ace@WH2T.com>
Message-ID: <e371b$46d8ea5a$4fc6202$31633@DIALUPUSA.NET>
Source record: 3996

"John Doe" <hgorden@adelphia.net> wrote in message
news:YcednRIre7pNf0_bnZ2dnUVZ_hSdnZ2d@comcast.com...
SNIPPED

> My idea is to strap either a metal or pvc painted pole near the top of the
> tree, with a mount bracket for the whip (of course all painted to look
> like the tree). I will have to feed it with RG-8x (painted) run down the
> tree and buried in a trench to the house.
>
> As far as radials go - They are out of the question. Instead - what do you
> think if I should just roll up say 250ft of 13ga or so of single conductor
> wire about a foot in diameter, attached at the base of the mounting
> bracket (hung in the tree) and use it as a counterpoise? I might be able
> to hang in the lower branches of the tree - a waterproof box with a
> loading coil and attach the counterpoise there instead?
>
> If I could tune TX/RX with this configuration, then I could possibly use
> it to cover all of the HF bands.
>
> Of course, I would like to work DX, but if not possible, then at least
> conus.
>
> Comments and suggestions welcomed.
>
> 73's Howard, W3CQH
>
>

Hello,
I remember reading some years ago about a 160 mtr "snake" antenna made
from a piece of coax that laid on top of the ground. About like a garden
hose might. You could even roll it up on a garden hose reel when not in use.
Part of the theory as I remember, was that on 160 mtr band almost no hams
have their antennas at least a 1/4 wave above ground and that RF ground can
be several feet below ground level depending on soil characteristics,
moisture content etc.
The snake antenna is a length of coax with the braid open at the feed point
and the
center and shield shorted at the far end . High voltages can easily be
generated, so it is a good idea to insulate the coax at the feed point, and
at the
far end 100% silicon caulking moisture.
The coax should NOT be an integral number of 1/2 wavelengths long.
Keep in mind that the "Snake" is a compromise antenna , so don't expect to
set any records with it.

Thinking about the "Snake" antenna reminded me of the "Cobra" antenna
http://www.nonstopsystems.com/radio/frank_radio_cobra.pdf

73, Ace - WH2T

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1492. [DXNL] DXNL 1534 (Aug29, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-01 15:23:53 UTC
From: Michael Oerter <dj5av@onlinehome.de>
Message-ID: <001c01c7e994$99cb0800$15b2a8c0@TOPEDO>
Source record: 3997
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.dx,rec.radio.info

DXNL 1534 - Aug 29, 2007
DX Newsletter

a free and weekly service of
DARC Committee "DX and HF contesting"
(http://www.darcdxhf.de)

editor: Helmut Schlaffer, DL7MAE
(e-mail: dxnl@dxhf.darc.de)

translation by: Mike, DJ5AV
(e-mail: dj5av@darc.de)

A3 - Tonga, OC-169
Ron, ZL1AMO, will be on vacation August 27th through September 16th on Lifuka (OC-169). He renewed his licence as A35EA for this activation.

EA8 - Canary Islands, AF-004
Heinz-Peter, EA8/DH1PS, is visiting Fuerteventura (WLOTA 0883) August 25th through September 8th for vacations mainly and will use his IC-706 MKIIG and a wire vertical (1/2 lambda for 20 m resp. 5/8 lambda on 17 m) on SSB. He might also activate a lighthouse e. g. CAI-040, Punta de Jandia. QSL via bureau to his home call DH1PS.

HB0 - Liechtenstein
Giovanni, HB0/IZ2DPX, and Flavio, HB0/IW2NEF, will be in Malbun 1st through 3rd September on 2.600 m ASL using shortwave, 2 m and 70 cm. They will try to get a HB0-call. QSLs via direct or also via bureau via home call.

J2 - Djibouti
Darko, T95A, is on a work assingment in Djibouti for one year at least. he will set up his station soon and be active as J28OO. QSL via K2PF, also sure via bureau.

J3 - Grenada, NA-024, NA-147
Gerd, J3/DL7VOG, will be in Grenada/NA-024 August 27th through 31st. Then he will change to Carriacou (NA-147) in The Grenadines through September 16th. Gerd prefers CW and RTTY on 6 to 160 m but will switch to SSB on request. QSLs via homecall, bureau preferred, and also by e-mail-request to qsl@dl7vog.de for a bureau card.

JD1 - Minami Torishima, OC-073
August 27th through September 18th Masafumi, JA6GXK, will be running JD1BMM from OC-073 again on 10 through 80 m with CW, SSB, PSK, RTTY

and SSTV.

P4 - Aruba, SA-036
Bob, W3BTX (P49T), and Roy, W3TEF (P4/W3TEF), will be active on
160 through 6 m, WARC incl, Sep 1st through 15th as P41USA for
the anniversary of the events in New York on 11th September 2001.
QSLs direct or via bureau to W3TEF.

SV9 - Crete, EU-015
Dick, SV9/G3URA, will be on the air August 27th through September 4th
mostly on CW, but also in the Russian RTTY-Contest as J49XF.

VP5 - Turks & Caicos, NA-002
"J.C." VP5/W1AI will be on Providenciales (NA-002) with CW and SSB on
all bands 160 through 6 m September 1st through 8th. QSL via homecall.

VU - India
Members of the "National Institute of Amateur Radio" (NIAR) in
Hyderabad are using the special call AT60MY through November 17th
for the 60th anniversary of India's independence. QSL via VU2NRO.

YB - Indonesia, OC-022
Rich, YB9/PA0RRS, is on Bali (OC-022, LH 2589) August 26th through
September 24th on 80 through 10 m. QSL via homecall, also via bureau.

ZD9 - Tristan da Cunha & Gough, AF-030
Brian, ZD9BCB, is leaving the weatherstation on Gough Septmber 14,
some weeks later than planned. You find Brian this Sunday at 1730 UTC
on 14.315 MHz. QSL via SQ8AQD, direct only.

9X - Ruanda
Correct QSL route for 9X5SP is via DL8YA, NOT DL8YR (DXNL 1532).
Operator Peter A. Stabusch manages the Deutschen Welle in Ruanda.
Since he started with his work for DW Kigali one year ago he tried
for a restart of ham radio with the administration in Ruanda. The
necessary laws existed already since some time but they lacked any
means of official monitoring. During an official meeting of DW with
the local authorities monitoring became a task of the HAMs in Ruanda
and Peter A. Stabusch was asked to cooperate and to be president of
"Rwanda Amateur Radio Union" by the "RURA" Administratiom.

Pacific: As announced in DXNL #1531 Toshi, JA8BMK, will start for a Pacific
tour in September. He will leave Japan for Fiji and continue to Tarawa,
West-Kiribati (T30). In mid October he will go from Tarawa for Central-
Kiribati as T31XX for at least 1 week and also the CQWW SSB-Contest.
Toshi will use 160 through 6 m on CW, SSB and RTTY. Containers with
his equipment were already shipped to Tarawa in late July. There may
be activity from Rarawa (T33ZZ) befor or after operation from Canton.

Malaysia, special call
Aziz, 9M2AU, will use 9M50MB August 31st for 50 years of independence
of Malaysia.

Austria, special call
August 31st through September 9th OE16B will be active for the Pope's visit. You get a special QSL if you contribute for El Molo Mission and School in Kenia with your QSL at least 1 IRC or 1 US $ to: ORF/OE16B, A-1136 Wien, Austria. There will also be QSLing via OEVSV-Bureau.

Russia, special calls
Alexander Kamalagin, UA4IF, was born 100 years ago. He became a ham in 1929, was a radio pioneer for Russia, well known Contester and DXer. For the anniversary special stations R100AK and R100IF are active until the end of this year. QSL via RW4HB, bureau ok. There is also an "Alexander Kamalagin Memory Award" to be found in the Web: http://www.samaraham.ru/main.php?d=awards/ua4if_memory_eng .

Spain, special calls
During the European Basketball-Championship 2007, "EURO-Basket 2007", taking place in Spain in Sept members of "Radio Club Henares" (EA4RCH) will use the special calls AN0EB, AN4EB, AN5EB, AN6EB and AN7EB, Sept 1st through 16th - AN0EB only while members of the Royal Family are visiting a game. QSLs for all calls via EA4RCH, direct or via bureau. Get the "HAM EUROBASKET 2007 AWARD" for QSOs/SWL-reports about four different of their special stations. Read more on http://www.radioclubhenares.org .

Silent Key: Only two weeks ago we received informations for DXNL from Sigi Kleine, DL3AMA. Now we learned that he died unexpectedly on August 14th at the age of 66 years. RIP.
QSL managing for YW5AS (SA-051) was taken over by DM4TI.

Upcoming Contests
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1. September: AGCW-DL Straight Key Party 40 m; www.agcw.de
1./2. September: JARL All-Asian DX-Contest, SSB;
1./2. September: IARU Region 1-Fieldday, SSB.

IOTA: collected by Fredy, DE0MST (e-mail: iota@dxhf.darc.de)

Island activities

EU-016, 9A, Dalmatia South Grp.: Mladen, 9A2NA, will be on the island of Korcula (CI-041) 01.-10.09. and intends to activate Cerin and Prznjak Mali (both IOCA-new).

EU-099, GJ, MJ, Les Minquiers Islands: A group of OPs of the Cambridge Wireless Society will activate Les Minquiers Islands 03.-07.09. as GH6UW/p. QSL via M0BLF (B/d).

EU-108, GM/MM, Treshnish Islands: Jim, MM0BQI/p will mainly use SSB (80-15m) 01.-03.09. from Lunga Island. QSL via HC (QRZ.com).

EU-110, 9A, Istra Group.: 9A/OK1JK, 9A/OK1UXH, and 9A/OK1JST, will be on Porer Island (CI-090) 24.08. through 02.09. QSL via OK1JST.

EU-170, 9A, Dalmatia North Grp.: OM Niko, 9A/DD1MAT, will activate Dugi Otok Island (CI-018) 01.-15.09, also in the WAE-Contest. QSL via HC.

EU-170, 9A, Dalmatia North Grp.: Lada, 9A5LO, (aka OK1LO) will stay on Pasman Island (CI-085) 03.09..

NA-029, VY2, Prince Edward Island: George, VY2/K3GV, will visit CIA PE-001 02. through 15.09., QSL via HC (B/d).

OC-138, VK4, QLD State (Torres Strait) Grp.: Nobi, JA1JCF, will be on Horn Island 31.08. - 02. 09. as VK4JCF. QSL via JARL (B/d).

Lighthouse activities (WLOTA/ARLHS):

9A/IK5WWA LH 2833 CRO-087 through 02.09.
ID9/IK8HJC LH 1001 through 01.09.
YB9/PA0RRS LH 2589 26.08.-24.09.
OZ/DF8HS LH 0726 26.08.-08.09.
9A4WW/p LH 0815 27.08.-03.09.
J3/DL7VOG LH 0718 27.08.-31.08.
J48XG LH 4132 31.08.-06.09.
F/HB9ASZ/p LH 2010 01.09.-22.09.
9A2NA LH 1315 01.09.-10.09.
9A/DD1MAT LH 2375 01.09.-15.09.
K3GV/VY2 LH 0523 02.09.-15.09.

Bandspots of the last 7 days

40m
KH6ZM 7.010 0507Z via I0MWI (d)

30m
IC8/N5KME 10.115 1827Z EU-031, via N5KME
SV9/ON5NT 10.107 2029Z via ON5NT

20m
CE3/VE7SV 14.023 1421Z via VE7SV (L)
E7/KX7M 14.254 1731Z
HR1AAB 14.200 2314Z via EA7FTR (B)
N0C 14.040 2334Z via W0WN
OH1VR/VP9 14.025 2050Z via OH1VR (d)
OX/PA3EXX/p 14.260 1809Z NA-242, via PA3EXX (B)
OX/PA3EXX/p 14.038 2313Z NA-242, via PA3EXX (B)
VE1OTA 14.278 2139Z NA-127, via VE1VOX (d)
9M6QQ 14.215 1723Z via DF5UG (B)

17m
BA4EG/5 18.076 0720Z AS-138, via BA4EG (d)
HL0LPM/3 18.070 0820Z AS-080, via 6K2BWA (B)
VR10XMT 18.145 1415Z via VR2XMT (B)
7Q7BJ 18.077 1631Z via G4AHK (d)

15m
SV9/ON5NT 21.260 1106Z via ON5NT

(d) = direct only
(B) = bureau ok
(L) = LoTW

Preview
=======
DATE CALL DXNL
07Sep-24Sep 3B7C 1511
Sep 3D2 (JA8BMK) 1534 *
Nov or Dec 3D2AG/Rotuma 1522
28Aug-04Sep 3D2MT 1533
29Aug2006-2007 3XM6JR 1484
- Apr 2008 5H0RS 1515
- Apr 2008 6W/EA4ATI 1515
01Sep- 6W/T98A 1531
31Jul-31Aug 8J1ESP 1528
01Aug-21Oct 8J3ARDF 1530
- 31Aug 8J7VENUS 1528
01Apr-09Sep 8N3IAAF 1513
- 03Sep 9A5LO, EU-170 1534 *
31Aug 9M50MB 1534 *
2007 9N7JO 1501

27Aug-16Sep A35EA 1534 *
- Apr 2009 A52VE 1512
- Nov 2007 A61TX 1496
- 17Nov AT60MY 1534 *
09Sep-14Sep CQ4IPY 1522
- Feb 2008 DP0GVN 1496
25Aug-08Sep EA8/DH1PS 1534 *
03Sep-16Sep EG7RCB 1533
2007/2008 EI100S (I) 1501
- 30Nov EW905B 1523
2008 FO/Clipperton 1521
now FW0MO/FW0YL 1530
03Sep-07Sep GH6UW/p 1534 *
01Sep-03Sep HB0/IZ2DPX.. 1534 *
- 30Sep HG5MISSION 1532
- 30Sep IA3GM 1528
- Nov IS0/I2MOV 1533
18Jul 2006-2008 J28JA 1484/85
- Aug 2008 J28OO 1534 *
27Aug-16Sep J3/DL7VOG 1534 *
27Aug-18Sep JD1BMM (MT) 1534 *

Nov 2007 KH3/W7KFI 1525/31
01Sep-03Sep MM0BQI/p 1534 *
31Aug-09Sep OE16B 1534 *
01Sep-15Sep P41USA 1534 *
- 31Dec 2007 R100AK/IF 1534 *
27Aug-04Sep SV9/G3URA 1534 *
- 31Dec SX100VAR 1528

Sep-mid Oct T30 (JA8BMK) 1534 *
from late Oct T31XX 1534 *
Oct? T33ZZ 1534 *
Feb 2008 TI9 1533
now-2007/2008 TL8QC 1459
07Sep-20Oct TM0-TM9RWC 1533
23Aug-08Sep V5/DJ8VC 1532
Jan2007-Dec2007 VI3SAA 1499
31Aug-02Sep VK4JCF 1534 *
- 31Aug VO1GAM 1531
01Sep-08Sep VP5/W1AI 1534 *
- mid Sep VP6AL 1530
Feb 2008 VP6DX/Ducie 1521
- 31Dec Z360M 1531
- 14Sep 2007 ZD9BCB 1534 *

* = new or updated
.. = and other calls

QSL information

A25MC via G4RCD (B)
DL2JRM/BA1RB via DL2JRM (B)
FS/DL2AU via DL2AU (B)
GB2PSL via G3UCA (d) or G3KUE (B)
GB2SCA via RSGB-Bureau or G0OOO (d)
GB2TBW via G0IQK
GB4BL via GX0NWM (B) or G0SBN (d)
OH0W via SM0WKA (8/07)
SF89IB via SM6CLU
SF0L via SM0LQB (B)
SI89B via SM6CLU
TM0LHG via PA0HEL or PA0RLM
V5/DJ8VC via DJ8VC (B)
V5/OE3MZC/p via OE3MZC (B)
3B8/RX3DD via RX3DD
3Z0LH via SP1DPA
4S7HIG via ON4HIL (B)
4S7NNG via JA4AVP
7S7SEG via SK7CA
8S20OTC via SM7BHM
8S6LL via SM6PVB
8S7GL via SK7CA
8S8MTB via SM0LQB (B)

T61AA: POBox 99, World Trade Centre, Victoria 8005, Australia

(d) = direct only
(B) = bureau ok
(*) = new QSL manager
(L) = Logbook of the world (LoTW)

QSLs arrived direct: BS7H (KU9C was manager, card came from OK1KT),
E51QMA (via OM2SA), TY6FB (QSO 2002, via F1PJB).

QSLs arrived via bureau: JT800OK (via OK1XC), JW0IC (RV1CC), KN5G/FS,
OC5I (DL5WM), NP2/AB8CK (UA3AGW), UN6G, V31YN (DJ4KW),
V5/DJ8VC, V5/SP7VC, VP5X (OH3RB), VP8LGT (VP8ON),
VY0ICE (VE2AWR), YK1BA (N5FF), Z36W, ZD8QD (K4QD),
3XM6JR (UA6JR), 4O3T (via PB2T).

Many thanks for contributing for this issue of DXNL are going to:
Carl Smith (QRZDX), 425DX News, OPDX-Bulletin, DD1MAT, DF6EX (for
WIN-QSL),DH1PS, DJ5AV, DJ6VM, DJ9ZB, DK8JB, DL1SBF, DL2BQV, DL3IE,
DL7UFR, DL7VOA, F5NQL, F6AJA, IZ2DPX, W1AI, 9X5SP, and more.

The German PDF version can be found on the DARC homepage at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/bulls/dxmb/2007/dxmb1533.pdf

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Subscribe or unsubscribe to the DXNL mailing list yourself at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedxms.htm

_____
Subscribe or unsubscribe to the DXNL mailing list yourself at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedxms.htm

1493. SARL News in English 1/9/2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-01 15:29:21 UTC
From: website@sarl.org.za
Message-ID: <D79630BDAA46459FB9602B94EBA1B651@toron>
Source record: 3998
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 02 SEPTEMBER 2007

You are listening to ZS6SRL the official Radio Station of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is transmitted every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. To listen to a web stream or Echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links for details.

This, and previous bulletins, can be downloaded from the www.sarl.org.za. You can also read or download previous bulletins from there and subscribe to receive future bulletins by email.

Your news reader this morning is Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with relays on 3,695, 10,135, and 51,400 MHz as well as 438,825 and 1 297 MHz in the Pretoria area. (Other newsreaders please change to suit).

SILENT KEY

It is with deep regret that we announce the passing of ZS1HM, Mark Hammond, on 18th September 2007 at the age of 85 years after a heart attack.. Mark has been very generous to the CTARC and bequeathed much of his shack equipment to the club. Our condolences go to his partner of many years, Dorothy, and his son, Brandon, who lives in Australia.

(PAUSE)

In the news today:

PROPAGATION RESEARCH AND AWARD HUNTING, TWO SUBJECTS FOR AN ENJOYABLE SUNDAY EVENING

22 NEW RADIO AMATEURS JOIN THE RANKS

DRAFT PLT REGULATIONS UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT

ICASA APPOINTS A NEW CEO

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

PROPAGATION RESEARCH AND AWARD HUNTING, TWO SUBJECTS FOR AN ENJOYABLE SUNDAY EVENING

Join Graham Hartlett this evening at 19:00 on the SARL President's net. Graham will discuss a major SARL propagation research project in which SARL members, with access to a receiver capable of receiving the 7 MHz amateur band, can participate.

Intecnet follows at 20:00 with Tjerk Lammers, ZS6P, as the guest speaker. Tjerk will discuss SARL awards and QSL-ing. He will be joined by award hunter Jan Botha, ZS4JAN, from Bloemfontein and DX-er Hans Kappetijn, ZS6KR, from Pretoria. Both are also keen contesters.

Clubs wishing to link their repeaters to the conference bridge should send an e-mail to armi@sarl.org.za before noon today giving details of repeater coverage and frequency and landline telephone number to be connected.

22 NEW RADIO AMATEURS JOIN THE RANKS

22 New Radio Amateurs joined the ranks this week after successfully passing the class B examination held 23 August at examination centres around the country. Unfortunately 2 of the 24 candidates did not make it this time. The highest marks were obtained by H J Coetzee who now holds the call sign ZU6H and H F Rolandi ZU5HR. Both achieved 97%.

The youngest candidate was J Ware, 13 years old, now holding the call sign ZU6SP. Congratulations and welcome to all the successful candidates. You are fortunate to have many years ahead of you in which to enjoy amateur radio.

The next ZU examination will be held at the same time on 18 October 2007. The closing date for registration is 20 September 2007.

The examiner, Graham Butler, thanks all who were involved in making the exams possible.

DRAFT PLT REGULATIONS UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT

ICASA has asked the EMC workgroup of the STANSA TC73 and TC80 committees to come up with draft regulations for type approval of PLT equipment as an interim measure. These interim standards will eventually be replaced by internationally accepted standards. There is however much debate amongst members of the International Special Committee on Radio Interference (CISPR) about international standards with an agreement seemingly some time off. CISPR meets in Australia later this month.

The Work group has held meetings over the past two weeks and hopes to complete a draft to be tabled at the TC80 meeting later this month. Once agreed at TC80, the draft will be forwarded to ICASA for further consideration and once agreed by the ICASA Council, the draft regulations will be published in the government gazette for comment.

The SARL is represented at the Workgroup and has made its input. There is much ongoing debate and unhappiness about the SARL's demands that all Amateur Radio HF frequencies be notched at the time of installation. In particular the vendors of PLT equipment would only

like to notch when an interference complaint is received. The SARL's view is that Radio Amateurs are licensed to operate on HF and that their rights should be protected.

There are many other issues on the table that still need resolving. There is a further meeting next week. Read more about PLT on the member's section of the SARL web.

ICASA APPOINTS A NEW CEO

ICASA has appointed Karabo Motlana as its new Chief Executive Officer. "Karabo Motlana has the experience, knowledge and respect of the industry necessary to lead ICASA in the right direction", ICASA Chairman Paris Mashile said.

Several other managerial posts had also been filled in the past few weeks and ICASA now has the right blend of engineers, lawyers, economists and public policy experts to get the job done. "We are now a team and a lot will be heard about the quantum difference we are going to make compared with the past. We are looking forward to a fruitful working relationship where we will be able to tackle some of the challenges facing us", Mashile said.

Motlana comes from Cell C where he was head of regulatory affairs and previously worked in Telkom's regulatory and government affairs department. He is joining ICASA as it tackles a massive workload, with a completely new licensing regime imposed on the telecoms sector, and a broadcasting sector undergoing a switch from analogue to digital technologies and new pay television players being licensed.

Motlana said he took the job because after 12 years of wrangling with ICASA from the other side, it was time to join up and see what he could do to help. "It's an ambitious agenda but one wants to find out what the issues are and whether they can be addressed through a rational process. We have a new legal framework and we are not operating in accordance with it. There is a whole raft of guidelines, directives and draft regulations and we need to take them seriously and apply them". He takes over from former CEO Jackie Manche, who resigned in December.

CONTEST NEWS

Results of previous competitions.

The Boland 40 metre competition.

21 logs were received. The final results are that Theunis, ZS2EC, came first with 97 points, Raoul, ZS1REC, occupies second position with 85 points and Jan, ZS4JAN, came third with 74 points.

Brad, ZS5BG, attained the highest score in Division 5 and Ruaan, ZS6RMS, attained the highest score in Division 6. No logs were received from Division 3. Die highest score from a neighbouring country is by Jack, V51KC, who is also in the overall fourth place. 21 logs were received.

The overall winner receives a 2007 ARRL Antenna Manual (21st edition) which was donated by Kobus, ZS1DC, a member of the Boland ARC. Certificates will soon be mailed.

SARL HF Phone contest.

24 log submissions were received for this contest, made up of 21 contest logs and 3 check logs and here are the provisional results:

Jan, ZS4JAN, takes first place with 201 points, closely followed by Andre, ZS2ACP, with 199 points and Gary, ZS5NK, in third place with 168 points. The best score on a single band was influenced by salt water. The 40 metre band provided the high scores with Andre, ZS2ACP, making 140 points, Theunis, ZS2EC, made 114 points, Barry, ZS2EZ, made 95 points and Allan, ZR1AAH, made 92 points. In the club competition, the Bloemfontein RAC takes first place with 428 points, followed by the Port Elizabeth ARS with 321 points and Pretoria ARC with 302 points. The complete results are available in HF Happenings 265.

Upcoming contests.

The Spring QRP Sprint will be run on Sunday 9 September from 14:00 to 16:00 CAT with phone, and CW activity on 40 metres.

The second leg of the SARL VHF/UHF Contest will be run in two sessions, the first from 18:00 CAT on Friday 21 September to 18:00 CAT on Saturday 22 September and from 18:01 CAT on Saturday to 12:00 CAT on Sunday 23 September. CW, FM, SSB and digital modes may be used on 6, 4 and 2 metres, 70 and 23 cm and higher allocations. Come and improve on your performance during the first leg.

The rules for both contests can be found in the 2007 SARL Contest Manual.

RAE COURSE

The Kempton Park Amateur Technical Society will be presenting a LADIES ONLY CLASS B (ZU) course on the 29th of September 2007. This class will be for one full day only.

Place: Kempton Park Amateur Radio Technical Society Club house at 58 Ysterhout Ave, Brichleigh, Kempton Park, Johannesburg. Date: Saturday, 29 September 2007. Time: 09:00 - 17:00. SARL Exam fee: R300 Adults & R200 under 25's. Course Fee: Free, if you bring your own manual.

Contact: Hannes, ZS6LW, to enroll for this course on 073 180 3506 or via email.

CLUB NEWS

Joint meeting by South Cape Radio Club and Garden Route Radio Club.

The South Cape Radio Club and Garden Route Radio Club invite their members and all other interested radio amateurs in their areas to a get together at Klein Brakrivier on Saturday 8 September. The purpose of the meeting is to strengthen the relationship between the two clubs

with the possibility of merging into one club in order to better represent the amateurs in the area concerned. The proceedings start at 12:00 at the Riverside Caravan Resort in Klein Brakrivier..

The meeting wil be in the form of a "bring-en-braai". For more information contact Chris, ZS1M, at 044 698 1154.

PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the expected solar activity will be at very low levels. The geomagnetic field is expected to be quiet in general while reaching minor storm levels on 2 and 3 September. The expected Effective Sun Spot number for the coming week will be less than 5.

20 m and 40 m will provide best opportunities for DX. There is a possibility of 20 m openings towards India from about 15:00 CAT. There may be weak 20 m openings towards Australia from about 08:00. From 16:00 there may be 20 m openings towards Europe and 40 m openings from 20:00. Contacts to the USA are going to be very challenging.

For the CW and digital enthusiasts it will also be worth monitoring 10 MHz.

Locally conditions on 40 m is going to be good during the day.

It is once again time to work towards your 80 m WAZS award in the evenings. Remember that this is only a prediction and that HF always has the capability to surprise you. You will never know what you are missing unless you switch your rig on, listen and also call CQ.

Please visit www.spaceweather.co.za for further information.

DIARY OF EVENTS

2 September, still today - Midlands Amateur Radio Club operational at Underberg Farmers Association Annual Show; 2 September, this evening - President's Net and Intecnet (postponed from 26 August); 3 September - Cut off date for submissions of logs for BARK Mobile Sprint; 8 September - Joint meeting of South Cape and Garden Route Radio Clubs at Klein Brakrivier; 9 September - The Spring QRP Sprint; 20 September - Closing date for registering for October RAE; 21 to 22 September - The second leg of the SARL VHF/UHF Contest; 29 September - Ladies Only ZU RAE course by Kempton Park RATS; 4 - 10 October - Special space programme; 5 October - Take your handheld to work day; 6 October - SA AMSAT Space Conference; 6 October East Rand Flea market and AGM; 18 October - Class A RAE.

SARL News invites clubs and individuals to submit news stories of interest to radio amateurs and shortwave listeners. Submit news stories if possible in both English and Afrikaans to www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date.

The SARL also invites you to listen to the programme Amateur Radio Mirror International, on the air every Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 590 kHz. For the web stream and echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links. A repeat transmission can be heard Mondays at 21:00 CAT on 3 215 kHz. Sentech sponsors the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

Today's South African Radio League news bulletin was compiled by George, ZS6NE, and transmitted by (your name and call sign).

Thank you for listening. 73.

/EX

========== Message Ends ========== To edit or remove your entry from this mailing list go to www.sarl.org.za/members/admin/maildat.asp

1494. Stake pocket antenna mount

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-01 16:37:59 UTC
From: Iitoi <Iitoi@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <fbc4e6efs2@aioe.org>
Source record: 3899

Putting an Icom 706 into my Arizona Cadillac. I've seen (but can't find now) a mount fora Hustler (and similar) antennae which fits in a stake pocket on a pickup. Anyone point me to a source?

The Man in the Maze
QRL on Baboquivari Peak, AZ

--
Iitoi

1495. Re: Stake pocket antenna mount

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-01 17:10:07 UTC
From: The Shadow <Cranston@CobaltClub.com>
Message-ID: <QSgCi.112475$dI1.29152@newsfe08.phx>
Source record: 3900

"Iitoi" <Iitoi@earthlink.net> wrote in message news:fbc4e6efs2@aioe.org...
> Putting an Icom 706 into my Arizona Cadillac. I've seen (but can't find
> now) a mount fora Hustler (and similar) antennae which fits in a stake
> pocket on a pickup. Anyone point me to a source?
>
> The Man in the Maze
> QRL on Baboquivari Peak, AZ
>
> --
> Iitoi
>
>
>
These maybe
GeoTool Pickup Truck Stake Pocket Antenna Mounts
The strongest antenna mount made for pickup trucks!

http://www.geotool.com/antmount.htm

Lamont

1496. GB2RS NEWS Sunday 2 September 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-01 19:00:58 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200709011900.l81J0Ti07876@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 3901
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

1 GB2RS NEWS Sunday 2 September

The news headlines

* 3B7C preparations nearly complete

* Global emergency conference successful

* Radio amateurs raising money for hospice The 3B7C St Brandon Island DXpedition is getting closer. Following the advance party of Neville, G3NUG, Don, G3BJ and Don, G3XTT, the remainder of the team expect to arrive on Isle du Sud on 4 September. Due to the complexity of the stations being set up, operations are expected to commence at midnight UTC on 7 September. However, the 6m beacon on 50.090MHz will be activated at the earliest opportunity so that 6m DXers can start to monitor for possible openings.

Other than their radio gear, contact with the outside world is limited to an Iridium satphone which will be used primarily for uploading logs. For more information log onto www.3b7c.com/. The QSL Manager is Neville, G3NUG, and bureau cards can be requested via the webpage.

The Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference, GAREC-07, took place on 16 and 17 August in Huntsville, Alabama. It is the third event of its kind, and the first ever held in the United States, just prior to the 2007 ARRL National Convention and Huntsville Hamfest.

Almost 100 people from all over the world attended the global event. The prevailing theme, how to apply advanced technologies to emergency communications, was echoed throughout the two days. The conference also included presentations, discussion groups and emergency vehicle displays informing attendees about the latest in hardware.

Richard Ross, MI1RDR and Paul, MI3CXM, are coming to England from Northern Ireland on 10 September. The pair will be holding kite displays and talks on kite flying. They will also be using kites to raise HF aerials. They aim to raise money for the Children's Hospice in Northern Ireland. Richard will have HF, VHF and UHF to his Motability car. They are hoping fellow radio amateurs will contact them while driving on 10 September from Troon to Boston, Licolnshire.

The events are open to everyone and for more details on where they will be taking place log onto www.niChildrensHospice.piczo.com/. To make a donation log onto www.justgiven.com/mirdr.

Radio amateurs in Malaysia celebrated 50 years of independence with a nationwide field day on 30 August to 1 September. Known as the Merdeka Field Day, the celebration saw 16 stations operating in cities and jungle. All participating stations were issued with special 9M50Mx callsigns. More information is on the web at www.marts.org.my.

On Friday 24 August the public Ramblage restriction imposed on the Isle of Man as a result of the UK outbreak of Foot and Mouth disease was lifted. Therefore SOTA activity can once again commence on the Island. Thank you to all amateurs who observed the temporary restriction.

Manchester 24GHz beacon GB3MAN became operational on Sunday 26 August at 0900 GMT. For more information log onto www.microwavers.org.uk/.

2 And now for the details of rallies and events for the coming week

[Note to newsreaders: Please use your judgement on which of the September 2nd items to read out, based on your time slot and distance from the event.] On Sunday 2 September the Andover Radio Amateur Club Autumn Boot Sale takes place at Wildhern village hall, SP11 0JE. Details from Terry, G8ALR, on 01980 629346. On Sunday 2 September the Newhaven Fort Amateur Radio Group Rally takes place from 10.30 at Newhaven Fort, Newhaven. Details from Eddie, G0ECW, on 01273 300772, or by email to eddie@zamboodle.demon.co.uk. On Friday 7 and Saturday 8 September the Leicester Amateur Radio Show takes place from 9.30am at Donington Park, Leicester, close to M1 junction 23A. Details from Geoff, G4AFJ, on 01455 823 344 or on the web at www.lars.org.uk. More details of these and future events can be found on pages 88 and 89 of the September edition of RadCom. Now for the news of special events

The Radio club de Binche will activate the special call sign ON4WAR to pay tribute to the Belgian Resistance during WW II. It will take place on 2 September. Old rigs such as Paraset and TR6 will transmit in CW on the 7MHz band from the dropping area of the Refuge B40 in Waudrez, Binche, Belgium. Some transmissions in SSB are also scheduled on the 7 MHz band. A special QSL card will be issued for this event. More info on www.on7ry.be. The Orkney Wireless Museum will be active as GB2OWM until 5 September. Celebrating the 17th Orkney International Science Festival, the station will be at the Museum's premises at Kiln Corner, Kirkwall. Probable operating periods will be weekdays and Sunday afternoons between 1430 and 1630, and Saturday morning between 1000 and 1230. Activity will be primarily on HF SSB. For more information contact Bill, GM3IBU, QTHR or e-mail gm3ibu@orpheusmail.co.uk. And now the HF DX news compiled from 425 DX News, the Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin and other sources.

Tomas, LY1F/VK2CCC, will be active as 3D2MT from the Fiji Islands until 4 September. He plans to operate mostly CW 80 to 17 metres, and to participate in the All Asian DX SSB Contest. QSL via VK2CCC direct or LY1F bureau. Dick, G3URA, will operate mostly CW as SV9/G3URA from Crete (EU-015) until 4 September. He will participate in the Russian RTTY Contest as J49X. QSL via G3URA, direct or bureau. Piero, IZ1CRA, reports he will be active mainly on 20 metres from Palau, Sardinia

(EU-024) until 6 September. QSL via home call, bureau preferred. DL5ME and DG3HWO will be active ss SD7ME from Oland Island (EU-037) on 6 to 11 September. They will operate CW and SSB on 40, 30, 20 and 17 metres. QSL route at qrz.com under SD7ME.

3 Geza, HA4XG, will be active on the HF bands plus 6 and 2 metres from Greece until 14 September. First he will operate as either J48XG or SV8/HA4XG from Corfu/Kerkyra Island (EU-052) until 6 September. QSL via home call, direct or bureau. Niko, DD1MAT, will operate holiday style as 9A/DD1MAT from Dugi Otok (EU-170, CI-018) until 15 September. QSL via home call. Ron, ZL1AMO, plans to operate holiday style from Lifuka (OC-169), Tonga until 16 September. He hopes to have his old call sign A35EA renewed. Five special call signs - namely AN0EB, AN4EB, AN5EB, AN6EB and AN7EB will be aired until 16 September for EuroBasket 2007, the Basketball European Championship that will be held in Granada, Sevilla, Palma de Mallorca (Balearic Islands), Alicante and Madrid. QSL for all call signs via EA4RCH, direct or bureau. Information on the relevant award can be found at www.radioclubhenares.org. Now the contest news The Irish Radio Transmitters Society's 75th Anniversary Contest CQIR will take place from 1200 UTC on 29 September. It is a 24 hour single operator contest with the emphasis on participation rather than winning. Every participant gains one entry ticket for a spectacular draw for every 75 QSO's made during the Contest. Full rules are on the IRTS website. The Worked All Europe Contest takes place on 8 September at 0000 to 2350 on 9 September on 3.5 to 28MHz SSB. The exchange takes the form of RS and serial number. The RSGB 144MHz Backpackers Contest takes place on 2 September between 1100 and 1500 on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. The RSGB 144MHz Activity and Club Championship takes place on 4 September between 2000 and 2230 local on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. Now the solar factual data for the period from 20 August to 26 August, compiled by Neil Clarke, G0CAS Solar activity was very low except for the 24th when a small C class solar flare took place and lifted activity to low. No effects on propagation were observed from this flare. Solar flux levels increased from 69 units on the 20th to 72 by the 24th and the 25th. The average was 70 units. The 90 day solar flux average on the 26th was 72, that's one unit up on last week. X-ray flux levels remained below the minimum A1 level everyday. Geomagnetic activity was quiet until around midday on the 26th, when a coronal hole disturbance commenced. Three days saw the Ap index at only 2 units. The most disturbed day was the 26th with an Ap of 10 units. The average was Ap 5 units. The ACE spacecraft saw solar wind speeds decline from 440 kilometres per second on the 20th to 290 by the 25th. Speeds increased to 520 kilometres per second the next day. Particle densities were low except for the 25th and the 26th, which increased to 37 and 71 particles per cubic centimetre respectively. Bz varied between minus and plus 3 nanoTeslas on the quiet days and between minus 12 and plus 16 nanoTeslas during the disturbance of the 26th. The higher HF bands have continued to provide few F-layer openings, though sporadic-E gave daily openings to

Europe and North Africa on 28MHz. There were also strong openings to the Continent on 50MHz, while 70MHz was open on several days. 14MHz remains the most consistent HF band for long-haul

4 propagation, being open from breakfast until late evening. And top-band, not usually a great performer at this time of year, has been open to South America during the dark hours. A sprinkling of auroral contacts took place late on the 26th from the more northerly stations. And finally the solar forecast. This week solar activity is expected to continue at very low levels. Solar flux levels should be around the 70 mark for most of the week. Due to 2 coronal holes geomagnetic activity should be unsettled to active levels for most of the week. This first disturbance should be in progress today. However, activity should decline tomorrow but only temporarily as the second disturbance is expected to start on Thursday or Friday. The first disturbance should be the stronger of the two. As with most coronal hole disturbances the strongest activity will take place right at the start of the disturbance. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitudes should be around 17MHz for the south and 14MHz for the north. The darkness hour lows are expected to be about 8MHz. Paths this week to the Middle East should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success rate of around 20MHz. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success rate will be about 16MHz. The best time to try this path will be between 1000 and 1500 hours UTC. And that's all for this week from the propagation team.

5 Next, the Local News:

Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses

and website links where known.

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your

transmission.]

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST

and EAST ANGLIA On Sunday 2 September Loughton and Epping Forest Amateur Radio Society is operating GB2EFF at Epping Forest Festival. Contact Marc, G0TOC, on 020 8502 1645, or by email to info@lefars.org.uk.

On Monday 3 September Braintree and District Amateur Radio Society is having members talks on their hobbies. Contact John, M5AJB, on 01787 460 947.

On Monday 3 September Burnham Beeches Radio Club is having a 2m foxhunt. Contact G4XDU, on 01628625720.

On Monday 3 September Southdown Amateur Radio Society is having a brief history of the spark gap and a talk on the Antique Wireless Association

Museum. Contact John, G3DQY, on 01424,424,319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

On Tuesday 4 September Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on the history of radar by Andrew Tyler, G1GKN. Contact Martyn, G1EFL, on 01245 469 008.

On Tuesday 4 September Cray Valley Radio Society is taking part in the 2m Club Championship. Contact Bob, BRS32525, on 020 8265 7735 after 8pm.

On Tuesday 4 September Horndean and District Amateur Radio Club is having a social evening. Contact Stuart, G0FYX, on 023 9247 2846, or on the web at www.hdarc.co.uk.

On Wednesday 5 September Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is having a general meeting. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

On Wednesday 5 September Dover Radio Club is having an operating and natter night. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk.

On Wednesday 5 September Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is having a natter night and operating the club station with G3VEF and G8KGI. Contact Jim, M1JJN.

On Wednesday 5 September Havering and District Amateur Radio Club is having an informal evening. Contact Dave, 2E0EBV, on 07956 594 514.

On Wednesday 5 September Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on DX by Roger, G3LDI. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

On Wednesday 5 September Southdown Amateur Radio Society is operating SSTV form the Halisham shack. Contact John, G3DQY, on 01424,424,319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

On Wednesday 5 September Worthing and District Amateur Radio Club is having an inquest following SSB field day and making plans for a special event station on Worthing Pier. Contact Roy, G4GPX, on 01903 753 893.

6 On Thursday 6 September Cray Valley Radio Society is having a talk on mobile radio installation by G8ITB. Contact Bob, BRS32525, on 020 8265 7735 after 8pm.

On Thursday 6 September Horsham Amateur Radio Club is having a bring, show and tell evening. Contact or on the web at www.harc.org.uk.

On Thursday 6 September Shefford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a welcome back evening. Contact David, G8UOD, on 01234 742 757.

On Friday 7 September Crystal Palace Radio and Electronics Club is having part 2 of its evening on home construction techniques. Contact Bob, G3OOU, on 01737 552 170.

On Friday 7 September Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is having a talk. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Friday 7 September Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is going by coach to the Leicester Radio Rally. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

On Friday 7 September Wey Valley Amateur Radio Group is having a club night focussing on CW contest logging and sending using SD with Andrew Vine, M0GJH. Contact or on the web at www.weyvalleyarg.org.uk.

On Saturday 8 September Radio Society of Harrow is operating G3EFX/P at Pinner village show. Contact Linda, G7RJL, on 020 8386 8586, or on the web at www.g3efx.org.uk or Chris 01895 621 310.

On Sunday 9 September Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is having a bright sparks informal evening. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

On Sunday 9 September Southdown Amateur Radio Society is operating G1KAR at Beachy Head. Contact John, G3DQY, on 01424,424,319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST On Tuesday 4 September Flight Refuelling Amateur Radio Society begins its Advanced licence training course. Contact Tony, G3PFM, on 01202 622 262.

On Wednesday 5 September Cornish Radio Amateur Club is having a Main meeting. Contact Ian, 01872 561 058.

On Wednesday 5 September Exmouth Amateur Radio Club invites members to bring their SWR meters for test. Contact g0uil@eclipse.co.uk.

On Wednesday 5 September South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on emergency service communications. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282.

On Wednesday 5 September Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on emergency planning in our everyday life. Contact Tony, G0WMB, by email to tonytsgarc@beeb.net.

On Wednesday 5 September Trowbridge and District Amateur Radio Club is having a presentation entitled "First response: An emergency FM broadcast system" by Mike Adams, M0ALW. Contact Ian, G0GRI, on 01225 864 698, E/W.

On Thursday 6 September Saltash and District Amateur Radio Club is having a construction evening. Contact Brian, M0BHG, on 01752 844 321.

7 On Thursday 6 September Swindon and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on setting up an internet gateway by Tony, G4LDL. Contact Mike, M5CBS, on 01793 826 465.

On Thursday 6 September Yeovil Amateur Radio Club is having a Building Blocks talk by G6LLP. Contact Gary, 2E0BFJ (g.swain@tesco.net).

NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS On Monday 3 September Gloucester Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is having its AGM. Contact Anne, 2E1GKY, on 01452 548478, daytime.

On Tuesday 4 September Derby and District Amateur Radio Society is having its junk sale. Contact Martin, G3SZJ, on 01332 556 875.

On Tuesday 4 September Loughborough and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk by Keith Dury on the Tornado 4-6-2 steam loco. Contact Chris, G1ETZ, on 01509 504 319.

On Tuesday 4 September Wythall Radio Club is taking part in the 2m Club Championship from shack. Contact Chris, G0EYO, on 07710 412 819, or by email to g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk, or on the web at www.wythallradioclub.co.uk.

On Wednesday 5 September Telford and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air on HF and having an open house meeting. Contact Mike, G3JKX, on 01952 299 677, or by email to mjstreetg3jkx@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Thursday 6 September Salop Amateur Radio Society is having a quiz. Contact Glenda, G1YJB, on 01939 235 412.

On Friday 7 September Coventry Amateur Radio Society is having a talk by G4GEE on Sun, Aurora and Radio. Contact John, G8SEQ, on 02476 273 190, or by email to johng8seq@ntlworld.com.

On Friday 7 September Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is on the air on VHF and UHF. Details on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

On Monday 3 September Sheffield Amateur Radio Club is having an open table meeting and HF operating night. Contact Trevor, M0TWS.

On Tuesday 4 September Chester and District Radio Society is having a talk on women in amateur radio by Lisa Mossop, M0LSA. Details on the web at www.chesterdars.org.uk, info@chesterdars.org.uk.

On Tuesday 4 September Pontefract District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on the practical use of an antenna analyser. Contact Colin, G0NQE, on 01977 677 006, info@pontefractradioclub.org.

On Tuesday 4 September Stockport Radio Society is having a talk by Jim Barlow, G3VOU, on operating /MM on the QE2. Contact David, M1ANT, on 0161 456 7832.

On Wednesday 5 September Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is on the air. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Wednesday 5 September Halifax and District Amateur Radio Society is preparing for its AGM at Rishworth. Contact Brenda, 2E0YKS, by email to wrenuk10@yahoo.com.

8 On Wednesday 5 September Mid-Cheshire Amateur Radio Society is having an open discussion on small projects. Contact Richard, G0JIT, by email to rsa@zetnet.co.uk.

On Friday 7 September South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is having a talk on making PCBs by Dave, G4UGM. Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999.

On Friday 7 September Tynemouth Radio Club is working on its QRP Homebrew Project. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Saturday 8 September Tynemouth Radio Club is having a heritage open day at St Hilda's Church. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

NEWS FOR SCOTLAND

On Sunday 2 September Dundee Amateur Radio Club is taking part in SSB Field Day. Contact Martin, MM0DUN, on mm0dun@dundee-amayeur-radio.co.uk, or on the web at www.dundee-amateur-radio.co.uk.

On Wednesday 5 September Paisley (YMCA) Amateur Radio Club is planning the year to come. Contact Jim, GM3UWX.

On Thursday 6 September Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is having its junk sale. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

On Thursday 6 September Moray Firth Amateur Radio Society is having a construction evening on multiband wire antennas with GM3NCS. Contact Jim, MM0SMD, on 01340 820 134.

On Friday 7 September Cockenzie and Port Seton Amateur Radio Club is having a club night. Contact Bob, GM4UYZ, on 01875 811 723.

On Friday 7 September West Of Scotland Amateur Radio Society is having a club night. Details on the web at www.wosars.org.

On Saturday 8 September Banff and Buchan Amateur Radio Club is having a junk sale. Contact geraldbrt@aol.com.

NEWS FOR WALES On Tuesday 4 September Carmarthen Amateur Radio Society is having a club meeting. Contact Les, GW8PSJ, on 01239 811 922.

On Wednesday 5 September Conwy Valley Amateur Radio Club is having a talk by Regional Manager Liz Cabban, GW0ETU. Contact Wynne, GW6PMC, on 01745 855 068.

On Saturday 8 September Swansea Amateur Radio Society is taking a coach trip to the Leicester Amateur Radio Show. Contact Roger, GW4HSH, on 01792 404422.

NEWS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

On Thursday 6 September Bangor and District Amateur Radio Club is having its AGM at the Boathouse, Groomsport. Contact Mike, GI4XSF, on 028 4277 2 383.

And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast,

prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

1497. IRTS Radio News Bulletin, Sunday September 2nd 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-02 20:00:26 UTC
From: news at irts dot ie <devnull@panix.com>
Message-ID: <200709022000.l82K07i00193@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 3902
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Irish Radio Transmitters Society
Radio News Bulletin

Sunday September 2nd 2007

Silent Key Billy Cantwell EI7GO

The many friends of Billy EI7GO will be saddened to hear of his death. Billy had been ill for a relatively short period and died peacefully at his home in Mullinahone on Monday last. Billy was one of the most regular callers into the weekly HF news bulletins and prided himself on being mostly the first to be heard on the 80-metre news call in.

Billy was an active member of the Tipperary Amateur Radio Group and participated regularly in various HF and VHF nets. He was extremely popular with all with whom he came in contact. Billy was blessed with an infectious good humour and a ready wit, which we all enjoyed. The experimenter community was well represented both at the removal on Tuesday evening and at the funeral Mass on Wednesday. The 'voice of downtown Mullinahone' as Billy humourously described himself is now silent and will be sadly missed by us all.

To his wife Stella, his son Liam and to his daughters Anne, Noelle, Ailish and Michelle we extend our sincerest sympathy. May he rest in peace.

Counties Contest

The 2-metre Counties Contest took place last weekend. The weather was good, which encouraged a number of stations to operate portable, however the lure of the All-Ireland semi-final may have contributed to the absence of a number of regulars. Most counties were heard at one time or another during the day, with the midland counties certainly well represented.

The Slieve Blooms proved a popular spot for portable stations, with Trevor EI2GLB and Joe EI7GY operating a few hundred metres apart on Wolftrap Mountain, county

Laois, and John EI4HS nearby, but over the border in county Offaly. All who participated in the contest, even those who gave out just a few points, are encouraged to send in their logs to the Contest Manager. The latest date for log entry is the 25th of September.

CQIR

September has arrived and our premier international event for our Jubilee year, the CQIR Contest is just around the corner.

A quick internet search will demonstrate just how much interest there is in the event from the international radio community. We hope your plans for the event are well advanced and we have set ourselves an ambitious target to have 250 EI and GI stations on the bands for part or all of the weekend. This is more of a QSO party than a contest so we would encourage the non-contesters to get involved and fly the flag for Ireland and the Society on the 29th and 30th next.

EI75IRTS will be QRV for the event with the LF night time operation from the EI7M site in Cork and a HF station for the Press located in the Pheonix Park in Dublin. In respect of the Dublin station, we are anxious to have some young operators on the operating team. If you are between 15 and 25 years of age, licensed or not, and are interested in helping out, please contact Paul EI2CA on 087 2523908 or email &#65533;paul at comma dot ie&#65533;.

MRG Experimenter Group

The MRG experimenter Radio Group VHF/UHF SSB Challenge 2007 will take place between 15.00 hrs and 18.00 hrs (local time) on Sunday the 9th of September. The Fixed section takes place on 144 MHz & 432 MHz, SSB only and the Portable section on 144 MHz and 432 MHz, SSB only.

Any EI/GI operator holding an amateur/experimenter licence can participate. Closing date for logs is October 9h 2007. Please forward completed logs to &#65533;ei2mrg at yahoo dot com&#65533; Trophies will be presented to the winners of the fixed and portable sections later in the year. A full copy of the rules can be had by visiting www.geocities.com/ei2mrg.

Tipperary Amateur Radio Group

The next meeting of the Tipperary Amateur Radio Group will take place on Thursday next the 6th of September at 8.00pm in Raheen House Hotel Clonmel.

Limerick Radio Club

The next meeting of the Club will be on the Thursday 11th of October at the usual venue, the Limerick Institute of Technology, Moylish at 19:30 hrs local time. All those interested are welcome to attend.

EI0MAR

EI0MAR will be celebrating the 75th anniversary of the IRTS by using the call sign EI75IRTS on the first two Sundays in September. CW will be the main mode of operation although some CQ calls will also be made on SSB as well. If conditions are favourable, the 7 MHz band will be the main focus, to allow as many EIs as possible to work the special call sign. The station may also be QRV on the Saturdays of the same weekends. EI0MAR is QRV most Sundays between 11 and 3. Telephone and email contact details for EI0MAR are available on the museum website which is www.qsl.net/ei5em/museum.html. A link on the museum web page will take you to EI0MAR's own web site.

Upcoming Rallies

Cork Radio Club Rally will take place on Sunday the 23rd of September in the Blarney Park Hotel. For information contact Con on 021-427136.

The Waterford Rally will take place on Sunday the 21st of October in the Woodlands Hotel, Waterford. For more information visit www.searg.com.

The Foyle and District Rally will take place on Sunday the 4th of November 2007 at the White Horse Hotel, Derry. For more information visit www.mn0aku.org.uk.

The Mayo Radio Rally will take place on Sunday the 18th of November in the Belmount Hotel, Knock, Co. Mayo. For more information contact Padraic Baynes, EI9JA @ QTHR.

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall, EI7IS at QTHR or by phone to 051-853806 or 087-6302026. Items for the radio news can also be faxed to 087 5 6302026. News should be

submitted via e-mail to ﷺnews at irts dot ieﷺ for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Friday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sundayﷺs bulletin.

1498. Re: 160m Stealth

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-02 22:52:20 UTC
From: John Doe <hgorden@adelphia.net>
Message-ID: <icCdnYNyQaKQvEbbnZ2dnUVZ_hWdnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 3903

"John Doe" <hgorden@adelphia.net> wrote in message
news:YcednRIre7pNf0_bnZ2dnUVZ_hSdnZ2d@comcast.com...
>2 items
>
> 1] I have since found that Hustler did not make a 160m coil, but
> Pro-Am/Valor makes this item (VAL PHF160 = VALOR 160M 8' 3/8-24 WHP/PHF
> 160B) that I might be able to substitute in its stead.
>
> 2] I live in a Antenna Restricted Retirement Community (NO I CAN'T
> MOVE), and I have a 40ft pine tree in my back yard. I thought that I
> might try the
above mentioned item in conjunction with lets say a "LDG
AT-200 Pro" auto-tuner or equivalent. (Note - I cannot run any wires from
the house to the tree in the air - they have to be buried. Also I do not
have any fencing and my rain gutters are grounded.)
>
> My idea is to strap either a metal or pvc painted pole near the top of the
> tree, with a mount bracket for the whip (of course all painted to look
> like the tree). I will have to feed it with RG-8x (painted) run down the
> tree and
buried in a trench to the house.
>
As far as radials go - They are out of the question. Instead - what do you
think if I should just roll up say 250ft of 13ga or so of single conductor
wire about a foot in diameter, attached at the base of the mounting bracket
(hung in the tree) and use it as a counterpoise? I might be able to hang in
the lower branches of the tree - a waterproof box with a loading coil and
attach the counterpoise there instead?
>
> If I could tune TX/RX with this configuration, then I could possibly use
> it to cover all of the HF bands.
>
> Of course, I would like to work DX, but if not possible, then at least
> conus.
>
> Comments and suggestions welcomed.
>
> 73's Howard, W3CQH
>
1] The 160m whip assy that I originally planned to use is CENTER-LOADED
which I think is better than a base loaded whip?

2] Someone suggested that I should run a length of bare wire up the tree
and use a TOPHAT. If I decide to go with a 30 or 40 foot length of bare

wire up the tree, How long should the TOPHAT wires be?

73's de Howard W3CQH

1499. [RAC-Bulletin] RAC Bulletin #14 - BC Section Manager elections

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-04 15:06:28 UTC
From: John Iliffe <john.iliffe@sympatico.ca>
Message-ID: <46DD7369.589294C9@sympatico.ca>
Source record: 3904
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

The deadline for receipt of returned ballots in the current British Columbia Section Manager election has been extended by ten (10) days to 1200 EDST, September 30, 2007.

This change has been made to address uncontrollable and unforeseen circumstances that caused a delay in the mailing of ballots to those RAC members who are qualified to vote in the election.

Sent by the RAC Bulletins from RACHQ mailing list robot.
Send comments to: rachq@rac.ca
For more information about the email robot, please visit:
http://rac.eton.ca/racbullemail.htm

1500. [DXNL] DXNL 1535 (Sep5, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-04 19:10:36 UTC
From: Michael Oerter <dj5av@onlinehome.de>
Message-ID: <000701c7ef00$46e1f380$15b2a8c0@TOPEDO>
Source record: 3905
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.dx,rec.radio.info

DXNL 1535 - Sep 5, 2007
DX Newsletter

a free and weekly service of
DARC Committee "DX and HF contesting"
(http://www.darcdxhf.de)

editor: Helmut Schlaffer, DL7MAE
(e-mail: dxnl@dxhf.darc.de)

translation by: Mike, DJ5AV
(e-mail: dj5av@darc.de)

GD - Isle of Man, EU-116
Lars, DF1LON, intends to be active from the Isle of Man September 6th through 10 as MD0LON on 80 through 10 m, possibly 6 m also, using SSB, CW and RTTY. QSL via home call, also via bureau. For the WAE-Contest (Sep 8/9th) he will be GD6IA (QSL for this call via CBA) or MD0LON.

SP - Poland
During an exhibition in the town of Kielce special call 3Z0MSPO is active September 3rd through 6th. QSL via SP7PKI, direct or via bureau.

VP8 - Falkland-Ilands, SA-002
Chris, GM0TQJ, will be on East Falkland Insel using the call VP8CXV September 8th through Januar 15th, 2008. He prefers SSB but will do also some RTTY and PSK31. QSLs will be answered after his return home.

VQ9 - Chagos-Archipel, AF-006
Jim, ND9M, finished his activity as VQ9JC with the end of August. He will be back on Diego Garcia in December 2007 after his leave for another 4 months.

VU - India
August 31st through September 30th, 2007 there is again a temporary authorization to use 30m band for Indian hams. NIAR special call AT60MY will be active on 10.106 MHz in this time frame.

YB - Indonesia, OC-022
Hans, PA0HOP, will be YB9AGH on Bali in September and October using CW, PSK31 and RTTY. QSL via PA0HOP, direct or via bureau.

ZD7 - St. Helena, AF-022
Tom, KC0W, went to St Helena September 5th for quite a time and is hoping to have is aerials erected by September 15th to start his radio adventure as ZD7X. Tom will take part in all great contests using SSB,

CW, RTTY and PSK on all bands 160 through 6 m. Favorite bands will be 30 m, 80 and 160 m. W0MM was selected to be his QSL manager, he will confirm direct as well es via bureau.

3B7 - St. Brandon, AF-015
Nearly 6 months ago we spread information on the DXpedition to St. Brandon (Isle du Sud, AF-015) by "FSDXA" in DXNL #1511. Now here the details about 3B7C: G3USR, GM3POI, N6HC, K3NA, G4TSH, G3XTT, G3SVL, G3NHL, G3IZD, G3BJ, G0OPB, EI5DI, DL7AKC, DK7YY, 9M6DXX, SM5GMZ, MD0CCE, G3NUG, as well as N6OX will be active September 7th (0000 UTC) through September 24th with twelve stations simultaneously. There will be monobanders for 30 through 6 m and verticals for the lowbands. August 12th the container arrived on Mauritius with six big (5 kVA) Diesel generators.
They also looked for a special authorization for 6 m, usually not available on Mauritius. Three fixed frequencies are authorised for them: 50.090 (CW), 50.102 (CW), and 50.145 MHz (USB).
After uploading of the logs on their web side www.3b7c.com a software will show those 30 top DXers with the biggest amount of bandpoints (= QSOs in CW, RTTY, PSK, SSB and FM per band).
Feedback messages can be sent by e-mail to 3b7c@g3wgv.com and will be made available to the team on a daily basis.
QSL via Neville, G3NUG, direct or via bureau or by LoTW. There will be an online QSL request on their web page too.
SWLs will have BRS32525 for a seperate QSL manager. They will use split frequence for nearly all QSOs on these frequencies:
MHz CW SSB RTTY FM PSK
1.8 1.822 1.842 - - -
3.5 3.502 3.795 3.570 - 3.580
7 7.002 7.052 7.035 - 7.037
10.1 10.102 - 10.137 - 10.140
14 14.022 14.145 14.085 - 14.071
18 18.072 18.145 18.100 - 18.100
21 21.022 21.295 21.085 - 21.071
24.9 24.892 24.945 24.920 - 24.920
28 28.022 28.495 28.075 29.580 28.071
50 50.102 50.145 - - -
50 MHz beacon transmitting on 50.090 MHz
They will produce a video about this DXpedition, you may order the DVD on the 3B7C homepage.

5H - Tansania: Scott, AC3A, will work in Tansania September 7th through 17th for "ORBIS International" (a humanitary organisation, protecting people from blindness). In his evening hours Scott intends to be active as 5H3EYE. QSL via AC3A.

5Z - Kenia: Chris, 5Z4/DL2MDU, is on vacation in Kenia September 10th through 24th and intends to be mainly active on CW "holiday style" with 100 wtts from an FT-897 with wire antennas for 10 through 80 m, prefering 17 m, 30 m and 40/80m. Chris prefers QSLing via DARC-Bureau.

9H - Malta, EU-023
A team from the Netherlands will have the 20th visit to Malta
September 8th through October 1st and will present the call 9H20
(nine hotel two zero) on 10 through 80 m. Team members will also be
on the air with their individual 9H3 calls. QSL for 9H20 via
PB9ZR/9H3ZR: Ruben van der Zwet, Barentzstraat 1, 2161 TJ Lisse,
The Netherlands. They do not like IRCs but will confirm automatically
via bureau for all QSOs without direct request until December 2007.

Finland, special call
Finland got its indepence December 6th 90 years ago. Due to this event
Finish stations may use the prefix OF instead of OH Sep 1st through
December 31st, 2007.

France, special call
This year's CDDXC-Conventio will be held by "Clipperton DX Club"
September 22nd in Puyloubier, Southern France. Special station TM8CDX
(QSL via F5CQ) will demonstrate this event September 8th through 22nd.

USA, special call
Robert, W2IK, will use special call W2IK/WTC911 September 11th 13:00Z
through 0300 UTC September 12th on 40, 20 and 15 m on SSB in memory of
the people that lost their lives in the attack to the World Trade
Center. QSL to W2IK, P.O. Box 6731, San Antonio, TX 78209, USA. More
information by http://hometown.aol.com/realhamradio/ .

LINKS:
======
Current SOTA activities (mountain summits) are announced at:
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/activations.php or
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/spots.php

Johnston-Atoll (KH3) is for sale according to these web sides:

http://propertydisposal.gsa.gov/Property/PropforSale/ShowProperty.ASP?PropertyID=1273
and
http://www.clui.org/clui_4_1/lotl/v29/o.html .

Upcoming Contests
----
8. September: Swiss HTC QRP Sprint;
8./9. September: WAEDC-Contest, SSB.
Find the rules for WAE on
www.darc.de/referate/dx/cqdlcont/fedcc.htm

IOTA: collected by Fredy, DE0MST (e-mail: iota@dxhf.darc.de)

Island activities

EU-037, SM7, Kalmar County Grp.: DL5ME and DG3HWO will visit Oland Island
September 6th through 11th using SD7ME. QSL for DL-stations via DL5ME,
others direct only.

EU-040, CT, Estremadura Prov. Grp.: Carlos, CT4HA/p, will be active on
Berlenga Grande Island (PIA=ES-001) September 7th through 9th.
QSL via bureau.

EU-072, SV8, Thessalia Region Grp.: OK1MBZ and OK1MKI will use SV8/...
September 10th through 20th on Skopelos Island. QSLs via homecalls.

EU-080, EA1, Pontevedra Prov. Grp.: Adolfo, EA1/EA7TV, is on Arosa Island
September 5th - 7th. QSL via HC (d/B).

EU-169, ZA, Albania Group.: Alfredo, IK7JWX, informs: If you got no reply
for your QSL to ZA0IS resp ZA0/IK7JWX about the activity in December
2002 (lost mail) feel free to request a new one by sending data of QSO
by e-mail to ik7jwx@libero.it.

NA-041, KL, Alexander Archipelago: Rick, K6VVA/KL7, will activate
Revillagigedo Island Sept 7 - 9th. QSL via N6AWD.

NA-044, VO2, NFLD Prov. South Grp.: Find Juergen, VO2/NF6J, hitting the air
waves Sept 6 - 13th from Battle Island (CIsa NF-049). QSL via DL7RV.

Lighthouse activities (WLOTA/ARLHS):

EA1/EA7TV LH 0368 05.09.-07.09.
MD0LON LH 0449 06.09.-10.09.
CT4HA/p LH 1054 POR-004 07.-09.09.
GD6IA LH 0449 08./09.09.
9A/ON4LO LH 4295 08.09.-20.09.
9A/OK1JK LH 0240 CRO-014 09.-14.09.
9A/OK1UXH LH 0240 CRO-014 09.-14.09.
9A/OK1JST LH 0240 CRO-014 09.-14.09.
SV8/I3BQC LH 1740 09.09.-26.09.
9H20 LH 1113 09.09.-30.09.

Bandspots of the last 7 days

160m
CX5BW 1.825 2340Z
9Q1EK 1.826 0020Z via SM5DQC (d), (L)

80m
5Q1A/p 3.782 1942Z via OZ5ESB

40m
J3/DL7VOG 7.012 0003Z via DL7VOG (B)
V55V/p 7.078 2231Z via DJ8VC (B)
YW5AS 7.003 2255Z SA-051, via DM4TI

30m
AN5EB 10.115 1628Z via EA4RCH (B)
CX7CO 10.116 2357Z via KA5TUF (B)
FM5WD 10.104 2215Z via W3HNK (d)
PP7AR 10.106 2327Z (B)
VP9/K3TRM 10.143 2101Z RTTY, via K3TRM

20m
AN7EB 14.216 1104Z via EA4RCH (B)
EA8/DH1PS 14.202 2002Z via DH1PS (B)
IM0MBP 14.064 1146Z RTTY, (B)
J3/DL7VOG 14.088 2309Z NA-024, via DL7VOG (B)
J3/DL7VOG 14.013 2026Z NA-147, via DL7VOG (B)
KL7HBK 14.040 2136Z NA-050, (B)
LX200D 14.020 1316Z via LX1KC (B)
LX200D 14.195 1821Z via LX1KC (B)
OA4/S57CQ 14.235 2319Z via S57DX (B)
OA4/S57CQ 14.004 2008Z via S57DX (B)
RK3DZJ/1 14.018 0851Z via RA3DZJ (B)
SV2MAC/8/p 14.210 1538Z EU-154, via SV2MAC (B)
TC25SG 14.180 1656Z via TA1HZ
TF3PPN 14.082 1725Z (B)
UN7MMM 14.278 1618Z via EA7FTR (B), or www.eQSL.cc
UN7QF 14.195 1108Z via EX2A (B)
V5/DJ8VC 14.277 0915Z via DJ8VC (B)
V55V/p 14.220 1836Z via DJ8VC (B)
YW5AS 14.021 1421Z SA-051, via DM4TI
YW5AS 14.260 2055Z SA-051, via DM4TI
4X0M 14.313 1608Z via 4X6HX
9M2CCO 14.300 1606Z
9M50MP 14.158 1609Z via 9M2TO (B)

17m
TC25SG 18.150 1546Z via TA1HZ
V5/DJ8VC 18.140 1606Z via DJ8VC (B)
YW5AS 18.160 2129Z SA-051, via DM4TI
YW5AS 18.069 2033Z SA-051, via DM4TI
9A5LO/p 18.077 0848Z EU-170, via OK1LO (B)

15m
V55V/p 21.285 1450Z via DJ8VC (B)

(d) = direct only
(B) = bureau ok
(L) = LoTW

Preview
=======
DATE CALL DXNL
07Sep-24Sep 3B7C 1511/1535 *
Sep 3D2 (JA8BMK) 1534
Nov or Dec 3D2AG/Rotuma 1522
29Aug2006-2007 3XM6JR 1484
03Sep-06Sep 3Z0MSPO 1535 *
- Apr 2008 5H0RS 1515
07Sep-17Sep 5H3EYE 1535 *
10Sep-24Sep 5Z4/DL2MDU 1535 *
- Apr 2008 6W/EA4ATI 1515
ab 1Sep 6W/T98A 1531

01Aug-21Oct 8J3ARDF 1530
01Apr-09Sep 8N3IAAF 1513
09Sep-01Oct 9H20 1535 *
2007 9N7JO 1501

27Aug-16Sep A35EA 1534
- Apr 2009 A52VE 1512
- Nov 2007 A61TX 1496
- 17Nov AT60MY 1534
09Sep-14Sep CQ4IPY 1522
- Feb 2008 DP0GVN 1496
25Aug-08Sep EA8/DH1PS 1534
03Sep-16Sep EG7RCB 1533
2007/2008 EI100S(I) 1501
- 30Nov EW905B 1523
2008 FO/Clipperton 1521
now FW0MO/FW0YL 1530
03Sep-07Sep GH6UW/p 1534
- 30Sep HG5MISSION 1532
- 30Sep IA3GM 1528
- Nov IS0/I2MOV 1533
18Jul 2006-2008 J28JA 1484/1485
- Aug 2008 J28OO 1534
27Aug-16Sep J3/DL7VOG 1534
27Aug-18Sep JD1BMM (MT) 1534
Nov 2007 KH3/W7KFI 1525/1531
06Sep-10Sep MD0LON 1535 *

31Aug-09Sep OE16B 1534
01Sep-15Sep P41USA 1534
- 31Dec 2007 R100AK/IF 1534
- 31Dec SX100VAR 1528
Sep-mid Oct T30 (JA8BMK) 1534
from late Oct T31XX 1534
Oct? T33ZZ 1534
Feb 2008 TI9 1533
jetzt-2007/2008 TL8QC 1459
07Sep-20Oct TM0-TM9RWC 1533
08Sep-22Sep TM8CDX 1535 *
23Aug-08Sep V5/DJ8VC 1532
Jan2007-Dec2007 VI3SAA 1499
01Sep-08Sep VP5/W1AI 1534
until mid Sep VP6AL 1530
Feb 2008 VP6DX/Ducie 1521
8Sep-15Jan2008 VP8CXV (Falkl.) 1535 *
11Sep W2IK/WTC911 1535 *
- Oct 2007 YB9AQH 1535 *
26Aug-24Sep YB9/PA0RRS 1534
- 31Dec Z360M 1531
now ZD7X 1535 *
- 14Sep 2007 ZD9BCB 1534

* = new or updated
.. = and other calls

QSL informations

N7C via W7VU (d)
N7L via K7VV
N0C via W0WN
OA4/S57CQ via S57DX (B)
ON100SCOUT via ON7IG
ON47FOUGA via ON6KN
ON4OSLN via ON4CJK
ON60HRT via ON7IG
ON60TWS via ON8RH (B)
OX/PA3EXX/p via PA3EXX (B)
PY5EG via K3IRV (*), (B)
R100AK via RW4HB (B)
R1000LE via UA3DDA
TA4/SQ5FLP via SQ5FLP
TC1LHW via TA1FR (B)
TC25SG via TA1HZ
VP8DIZ via G7KMZ (B)
VP8ROT via GM0HCQ (B)
YW5AS via DM4TI (*)
ZM3R via ZL3RG (B)
ZW5B via K3IRV (*), (B)
3D2MT via LY1F (B)
5Q1A/p via OZ5ESB
8S3SYL via SM3CVM (B)
9A5LO/p via OK1LO (B)
9M2/JH3GCN via JH3GCN (B)

(d) = direct only
(B) = bureau ok
(*) = new QSL manager
(L) = Logbook of the world (LoTW)

* QSL via 9Q1EK & 9Q1TB: QSLing used to be only direct via Osten, SM5DQC.
Now Osten added the logs to LoTW and will update on weekly basis.

* QSLs receided direct: A25HQ (via K5LBU), A25KDJ (W5KDJ), E51QMA (OM2SA),
and 3B7SP (via SP9SX).

* QSLs received via bureau: OM7M (OM3PA), OM8A (OM2VL), PJ2/K2PLF, R1ANN
(RZ3DJ), R750A (UA2FB), RW2F, ST2A & ST0RM (T93Y), ST2T (S57DX), V25WY
(W4OWY), 3A2MD, 3B8/OM0C (OM2FY), 5A7A (DL9USA), 6W/HB9DTE, 7Q7BP (G3RMC),
9M6AAC (DL2QT), and 9Q/ON7KEC.

Many thanks for contributing for this issue of DXNL are going to:
Carl Smith (QRZ DX), 425DXNews, OPDX-Bulletin, DF1LON, DF6EX (for
WIN-QSL), DH5NBK, DJ5AV, DJ9ZB, DK8JB,DL1SBF, DL3IE, DL7VOA,DL8RJ,
DL9RCF, F5NQL, F6AJA, IK7JWX, u.a.

The German PDF version can be found on the DARC homepage at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/bulls/dxmb/2007/dxmb1535.pdf

Subscribe or unsubscribe to the DXNL mailing list yourself at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedxms.htm

Subscribe or unsubscribe to the DXNL mailing list yourself at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedxms.htm

1501. Re: 160m Stealth

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-04 20:19:58 UTC
From: KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <1188934444.603305.289330@k79g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3906

On Sep 2, 5:52 pm, "John Doe" <hgor...@adelphia.net> wrote:
>
> 1] The 160m whip assy that I originally planned to use is CENTER-LOADED
> which I think is better than a base loaded whip?

Yes it is because the lower (below the load) portion of the antenna
would carry a higher current which increases the radiation
resistance. However, there is no free lunch here, because you must
then provide a larger reactance (More inductance in this case) to
bring the antenna into resonance which is likely to have more loss.
You can push this to extreme too, by doing what you suggest next only
in this case the inductive reactance turns to a capacitor as you pass
the end of the antenna...

> 2] Someone suggested that I should run a length of bare wire up the tree
> and use a TOPHAT. If I decide to go with a 30 or 40 foot length of bare
> wire up the tree, How long should the TOPHAT wires be?
>

Yes, you can add capacitive loading by adding a top hat to the top of
your antenna, thereby reducing the inductance required in your loading
coil. If you can add enough capacitance to your hat, you can eliminate
the inductive loading below, but it can be difficult to get a hat that
large in some cases. Capacitive loading is usually a lot more
efficient than a loading coil and has the added benefit of moving more
of the current up the antenna where it can contribute to the radiation
resistance number (making the antenna more efficient). This "top-hat"
is a set of wires that are roughly horizontal and attached to the top
of your vertical. Make it as big as you can hide in your tree I
suppose and expect to have to add additional inductive loading at your
base to bring it into resonance. Capacitance hats can be hard to hide
though, and difficult to construct.

The ARRL Antenna book would be a very good investment for you I
think. It has a wealth of information about how to figure out how
much your "top-hat" design might lower the resonance of your planned
antenna and how much additional inductive loading you might need. It
also has some nice antenna modeling software that also would help you
with your design ideas. (Instead of having to build and rebuild
possible antennas to find the best performer for your site, you can
model them and weed them down to a few most promising designs to try).

-= bob =-

1502. Latest RSGB News - now on VIDEO

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-06 21:50:33 UTC
From: LVN <gareth.paley@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <KdWdnbTZJdGD633bnZ2dneKdnZydnZ2d@bt.com>
Source record: 3907

Last weeks's (Sunday 2nd Sept). Bookmark and check for next weeks earlier
on.

http://www.gb3hv.com/gb3hv/newsclip.htm

Use your software (or otherwise) mixer to balance out the 2m talk-back and
check-in's (on
the right hand stereo audio channel) if you like.

--
--
10-10 de G1LVN
--
My call is M0WWS. I had an accident,
and I woke up in uk.radio.amateur.
Am I mad, in a coma, or back in time?

Amateur Radio - social networking since 1897

1503. Re: Latest RSGB News - now on VIDEO

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-07 01:46:30 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5kbm74F2sm3hU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 3908

"LVN" <gareth.paley@gmail.com> wrote in message
news:KdWdnbTZJdGD633bnZ2dneKdnZydnZ2d@bt.com
: : Last weeks's (Sunday 2nd Sept). Bookmark and check for
: : next weeks earlier on.
: :
: : http://www.gb3hv.com/gb3hv/newsclip.htm
: :
: : Use your software (or otherwise) mixer to balance out
: : the 2m talk-back and check-in's (on
: : the right hand stereo audio channel) if you like.
: :
: : --
: : --
: : 10-10 de G1LVN

First time I've seen this. Well done to all concerned..!

73 Ivor G6URP

1504. The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 36 (Friday, September 7, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-08 00:57:39 UTC
From: ARRL Letter Mailing List <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <200709072219.l87MJpCh027704@linux11676.dn.net>
Source record: 3909
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

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***************
The ARRL Letter
Vol. 26, No. 36
September 7, 2007
***************

IN THIS EDITION:

* + FCC to Lower Vanity Call Sign Fees September 17
* + NATO Group Releases Report on BPL
* + Hurricane Felix Downgraded; Amateur Radio Nets Stand Down
* + New ARRL Contest Manager to Begin in October
* + ARRL Delta Division Director Receives Lifetime Achievement Award
* + ARRL in Action: What Have We Been Up to Lately?
* Solar Update
* IN BRIEF:
This Weekend on the Radio
ARRL Continuing Education Course Registration
+ Pentagon ARC to Host Special Event Station Commemorating 9/11
+ The September/October NCJ Hits the Streets
ARISS Update
From the ARRL DXCC Desk
CONTACT! Is Out
ARRL Employment Opportunity
ARRL Introduces New Clothing Items for Women
Let Us Know What You Think

+Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/>

==========================================================
==>Delivery problems: First see FAQ
<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/faq.html#nodelivery>, then e-mail
<letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
==>Editorial questions or comments only: S. Khrystyne Keane,
<k1sfa@arrl.org>
==========================================================

==> FCC TO LOWER VANITY CALL SIGN FEES SEPTEMBER 17

The FCC will reduce the regulatory fee to obtain or renew an Amateur
Radio vanity call sign by more than 40 percent starting September 17.
In
a Report & Order (R&O) released August 6, "Assessment and Collection of
Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2007," in MD Docket 07-81, the
Commission will cut the fee from its current $20.80 to $11.70. This
```

marks the lowest fee in the history of the current vanity call sign program. The FCC is authorized by the Communications Act of 1934 (as amended) to collect vanity call sign fees to recover the costs associated with that program. The vanity call sign fee has fluctuated over the 11 years of the current program -- from a low of $12 to a high of $50. The FCC says it anticipates some 14,700 Amateur Radio vanity call sign "payment units" or applications during the next fiscal year, collecting $171,990 in fees from the program.

The vanity call sign regulatory fee is payable not only when applying for a new vanity call sign, but also upon renewing a vanity call sign for a new term. The first vanity call sign licenses issued under the current Amateur Radio vanity call sign program that began in 1996 came up for renewal last year. Call signs issued prior to 1996 are not considered vanity call signs, even if the holder was able to request a specific call sign.

Amateur Radio licensees may file for renewal only within 90 days of their license expiration date. All radio amateurs must have an FCC Registration Number (FRN) before filing any application with the Commission. Applicants can obtain an FRN by going to the ULS <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/> and clicking on the "New Users Register" link. You must supply your Social Security Number to obtain an FRN.

The ARRL VEC will process license renewals for vanity call sign holders for a modest fee. The service is available to ARRL members and nonmembers, although League members pay less. Routine, non-vanity renewals continue to be free for ARRL members. Trustees of club stations
with vanity call signs may renew either via the ULS or through a Club Station Call Sign Administrator, such as ARRL VEC.
License application and renewal information and links to the required forms are available on the ARRL Amateur Application Filing FAQ Web page <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/application-filing-faq.ht
m
l>. The FCC's forms page <http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html> also offers the required forms.

==> NATO GROUP RELEASES REPORT ON BPL

The Information Systems Technology group, part of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's (NATO) Research and Technology Organization (RTO),
released their report, "HF Interference, Procedures and Tools" (RTO-TR-IST-050), in June. This report "address[es] the concerns raised by the potential for unintentional radio interference to be caused by the widespread operation of broadband wire-line telecommunications systems."

BPL, also called Power Line Telecommunications (PLT) in Europe, uses existing power lines for telecommunications with data rates higher than 1 MBit per second. NATO said that since existing power lines were not

designed for such transmissions, "they will cause unintentional RF emissions which may adversely affect the established radio noise floor directly, or by cumulative propagation from many such sources. The existing HF background noise possibly may be increased via ground wave and/or sky wave propagation."

Not only could this be a problem for Amateur Radio operators, but NATO said that military users would be affected as well: "Increase of the existing HF noise floor by widespread use of PLT...will bring up problems for Military Radio Users as well as for HF Communication Intelligence (COMINT) in all NATO countries. The signal-to-noise ratio thus may be reduced for tactical and strategic HF radio as well as for fixed sensitive COMINT sites."

Saying that "PLT will produce the most problems regarding HF interference,"the report makes the assertion that ambient noise levels in Europe have not increased in the last 30 years. This was proved using
measurements made by the ITU in the 1970s compared with noise levels today, with the report saying that the "ITU Recommendations for natural and man-made noise in the HF-range are still valid in Europe."

The NATO report said "[r]ecent measurements carried out in Germany and Great Britain indicated that there is no remarkable difference between these measurements, specifically no increase of the ambient noise in quiet rural zones within the last 30 years. Based on these measurement results, the cumulative interference field strengths far away from telecommunication networks should not be higher than -15 dBuV/m (9 kHz bandwidth) across the entire HF range, if no measurable increase in minimum noise levels are to be tolerated."

Conversely, some European PLT proponents "in presentations and discussions have argued (without being able to prove it) that ITU recommendations based on measurements carried out in the 1970s are no longer valid, as the man-made and the ambient noise levels have increased since that time to considerable higher values (by up to 30 dB)."

The NATO report also indicated the following: A high probability that PLT would cause increased noise levels at sensitive receiver sites given
the projected market penetration; and the percentages are highly influenced by assumptions on transmitter EIRP (equivalent, or effective,
isotropic radiated power), PLT market penetration and duty cycle.

ARRL Laboratory Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, was pleased to see the report. "The findings described in this paper are based on good science. NATO has concluded that protection levels well below 0 dBuV/m are needed to prevent interference to sensitive HF operation. They studied distance extrapolation and concluded that 40 dB/decade is not the correct factor to use to make measurements at one distance, and related the measured

values to other distances. They also have advanced the state of the art and determined that the aggregate noise from large scale deployment of BPL will increase worldwide noise levels by skywave propagation."

Hare points out that NATO's report "pretty much echoes the ARRL's pleadings during the BPL rulemaking." The ARRL has constantly argued against the 40 dB/decade extrapolation factor that, while recommended by
the FCC, the report found, "was not confirmed by measurements carried out by other organizations."

The report acknowledges that there are no commonly accepted regulatory emission limits from PLT and recommends that countries work together to limit these emissions. "While it is highly desirable that the regulatory
limits on PLT emissions be harmonized throughout the NATO countries, the
RTG recognizes that NATO, by itself, has no regulatory authority over the emission limits. Therefore, it is recommended that NATO seek the implementation of this goal by working together with the national and international regulatory authorities."

The full report, "HF Interference, Procedures and Tools," can be downloaded in pdf format
<http://ftp.rta.nato.int/public/PubFullText/RTO/TR/RTO-TR-IST-050/$$TR-I
ST-050-ALL.pdf>.

==> HURRICANE FELIX DOWNGRADED; AMATEUR RADIO NETS STAND DOWN

As Hurricane Felix weakened rapidly over the mountains of Central America earlier this week, both the Hurricane Watch Net and VoIP Hurricane Net secured operations. According to the National Hurricane Center, Felix could produce total rainfall accumulations of 6-10 inches across northern Nicaragua and El Salvador, with 8-15 inches over much of
Honduras. Up to of 25 inches of rain was possible in mountainous areas, with these rains likely to have produced life-threatening flash floods and mud slides.

On Tuesday evening, September 4, the Hurricane Watch Net secured operations on 14.325 MHz after more than 20 hours of operation with Hurricane Felix. Initially commencing operation on Sunday evening, September 2, HWN gathered names, calls and specific locations of stations that would be able to report real-time weather conditions in the affected area and forwarded them to the National Hurricane Center in
Miami. Getting this information beforehand ensured accurate reporting of
a station's location when the storm actually arrived.

Two of the regular Net Control Stations -- Herman Cueva, HR1CP, in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, and Hector Godoy, HR3HGB, in La Ceiba, Honduras -- felt direct effects of the storm, but remained on the air available to help.

In addition to getting real-time reports of conditions in the affected area, the HWN also put out advisories in English and Spanish so that stations in the area of Felix's path could know what to expect. These reports were often relayed to the local authorities and media, since oftentimes HWN was the only source of information; all power, telephone and Internet were down. Butch Pieniek, NC4G (ex-WB4CKO), put in long hours sending out advisories in Spanish.

The Hurricane Watch Net normally commences operation when a hurricane comes within 300 miles of shore, or at the request of the NHC. It operates with designated Net Controllers who are experienced in taking these specific reports, net operations and especially working with the NHC in Miami. HWN provides the latest storm advisories in English and Spanish to those in the path of storms. The Hurricane Watch Net is a directed Net, and requests that non-member stations not in the affected area refrain from transmitting unless requested to do so by Net Control.
A clear frequency is appreciated, since reporting stations in the affected area(s) may be utilizing temporary or makeshift antennas, battery power or operating under conditions that don't allow the transmission of a reasonably strong signal.

The VoIP Hurricane Net was active from 0800 UTC, standing down at 0000 UTC Tuesday, September 4, to gather reports for WX4NHC, the Amateur Radio station at the National Hurricane Center.

The President of Honduras lauded Amateur Radio on the Voice of Honduras radio station: "The President of Honduras, Senor Manuel Zelaya Rosales, says thanks to the community of radio hams for the aid." Andoni Axpe Soto, EB1FGO, and a team of translators from the International Radio Emergency Support Coalition (IRESC) brought this news to the VoIP Hurricane Net.

IRESC also relayed a report to the VoIP Hurricane Net from Nicaragua TV that 5500 homes were destroyed, 13,000 people had officially been evacuated and 38,000 total people were affected by Hurricane Felix.

WX4NHC, the Amateur Radio Station at the National Hurricane Center, monitored the VoIP Net and other systems to gather reports and information. Julio Ripoll, WD4R, Assistant WX4NHC Coordinator, said, "Felix was the second Category 5 Atlantic hurricane to make landfall as a Category 5 this year. This has never happened before in recorded history. The ham radio reports will be part of this historic hurricane's
official NHC archives. WX4NHC extends its sincere thanks to all the ham radio operators from many countries and Nets for being the link between NHC and those in the path of this extremely powerful and dangerous hurricane. We hope that our continued efforts to spread the hurricane

warnings will help save lives. Our thoughts and prayers are with those people who were affected by Hurricane Felix, and hope that they can rebuild their lives quickly." -- Tnx to John Ellis, NP2B, HWN Liaison to ARRL, and Rob Macedo, KD1CY, Director of Operations, VoIP Hurricane Net

==> NEW ARRL CONTEST MANAGER TO BEGIN IN OCTOBER

The ARRL is pleased to announce that Sean Kutzko, KX9X, will be assuming the duties of ARRL Contest Manager beginning October 1. First licensed in 1982 as KA9NGH, Kutzko developed a taste for contesting after winning the Illinois section in the 1988 ARRL Novice Roundup. Since then, he has been active in both HF and VHF contesting, as well as HF DXing and VHF weak-signal communications.

A long-standing member of the Society of Midwest Contesters (SMC) and a strong advocate of mentoring new contesters, Kutzko has won several contest and DX awards, including several Top Ten finishes in the ARRL Sweepstakes SSB contest as a QRP entrant. He has been on two HF contest DXpeditions, including 6Y7M in the 1994 CQ WPX CW contest, and V26NA in the 1997 ARRL International DX CW Contest. Kutzko also enjoys activating rare grid squares by going on "Grid DXpeditions" in the continental US for the VHF/UHF community. In the late 1990s, Kutzko published a regular column in the National Contest Journal (NCJ) that focused on DX locations available for hams to rent for contests or DXpeditions.

Kutzko holds a BA in communications from the University of Illinois at Springfield and worked as an announcer and jazz host at National Public Radio (NPR) affiliates in Illinois and Indiana throughout the 1990s. Most recently, he was the Advertising and Marketing Director for Area Diesel Service, a diesel parts company based in Carlinville, Illinois. When he's not involved in Amateur Radio, Kutzko is an active musician, playing guitar, drums and ethnic percussion, and is working on his first solo CD. He enjoys studying music history and has a diverse musical appetite, ranging from classic rock, jazz, blues, bluegrass, West African highlife and even classical. He is a rabid baseball fan and follows the Chicago Cubs religiously.

ARRL Membership and Volunteer Programs Manager Dave Patton, NN1N, said, "I am very pleased to have Sean onboard. He is enthusiastic, bright, and an active contester, with VHF/UHF contesting and operating among his favorite activities." Kutzko replaces Tom Hogerty, KC1J, who resigned as ARRL Contest Manager in early August to pursue other opportunities.

==> ARRL DELTA DIVISION DIRECTOR RECEIVES LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

ARRL Delta Division Director Henry Leggette, WD4Q, received the Lifetime
Achievement Award from the Mississippi Valley State University National Alumni Association in June 2007. Leggette, a native of Kemper Springs, Mississippi, graduated from then-Mississippi Valley State College in 1967 with a BA in automobile mechanics. After graduation, he was the first MVSC graduate to receive an Amateur Radio license; there are only two other MVSU alumni amateurs in the country. Leggette completed all the undergraduate courses for a BSEE degree at Memphis State University (now University of Memphis), and in 1987, he earned an MSEE from that institution.

Leggette served three years in the US Army Signal Corps as a radio repairman. He was stationed at Fort Gordon, Georgia and Lenggries, Germany. Granted a Top Secret clearance, Leggette repaired radios and cryptographic electronic equipment.

Leggette had a distinguished US Civil Service career. He has served as an electronics technician for the Federal Aviation Administration at the
Memphis Air Traffic Control Tower and Memphis Air Route Traffic Center. He has received extensive training at the FAA Academy in Oklahoma City and at Rockwell Collins in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He has held management positions, including managing flight data processing and supervising electronics technicians in charge of the Telecommunications and Communication Unit at the Memphis ARTCC.

First elected Vice Director of the ARRL Delta Division in 1989, he has served on Volunteer Resources, Membership Services, National Emergency Response Planning and Public Relations committees. In 2005, he chaired the ARRL Toy Drive. This nationwide project sent more than 5000 toys and
$10,000 to children in areas affected by hurricanes Rita and Katrina.

A Life Member of the ARRL, Leggette became Director in January 2006, succeeding Rick Roderick, K5UR, on his ascension to ARRL Vice President.
He serves on the Administration and Finance, and Ethics and Elections committees. An ARRL Volunteer Examiner and Certified Instructor, Leggette also holds many ARRL awards, including Worked All States (WAS),
5 Band Worked All States (5BWAS), DXCC, Worked All Continents (WAC), as well as CQ magazine's Worked All Zones (WAZ).

==> ARRL IN ACTION: WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO LATELY?

The 2007 ARRL National Convention, held in conjunction with the Huntsville Hamfest, attracted thousands of visitors to its wide variety of activities, exhibits and presentations. The centerpiece of the Convention was ARRL EXPO. The 2007 Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference (GAREC-07), supported by the IARU, took place

just before the National Convention.

With graphics and public relations assistance from the ARRL staff, Cliff
Segar, KD4GT, has installed a ham radio message on an unused billboard on his property bordering Interstate 40 in Rockwood, Tennessee.

The ARRL is sending "specific mitigation reduction numbers" to 122 repeater owners in Massachusetts and California regarding the PAVE PAWS radar system, as requested by the US Air Force and Department of Defense.

Michigan's Genesee County ARES and SKYWARN were activated due to a severe thunderstorms and a tornado touchdown near Fenton. A command post
at the Seneca County (Ohio) Emergency Operations Center was activated after a week of heavy rains inundated several Northwest Ohio communities.

Editorial and production work has wrapped up on several new and revised ARRL publications: The 2008 Handbook, The HF Digital Handbook, Low Power
Communication, The ARRL Antenna Compendium Volume 4 and FCC Rules and Regulations. All are either available now or are expected by early October. The October issue of QST, and the September/October issues of NCJ and QEX, were released to the printer. In addition, the August edition of CONTACT! for public information volunteers was posted. The winner of the QST Cover Plaque Award for July is Jim DeLoach, WU0I, for his article "Balloon-Lifted Full-Wave Loop Antennas."

Robert McGwier, N4HY, will present "A Stroll through Software Radio, Information Theory and Some Applications" at the ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference Sunday Seminar in Hartford, Connecticut on September 30.

In the only contested Section Manager race this summer, Bill Hillendahl,
KH6GJV, was re-elected as the ARRL San Francisco Section Manager.

The final two ARRL Teachers Institutes were held at ARRL Headquarters. In all, 48 teachers representing 45 schools from around the country attended the four 2007 Teachers Institutes.

ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, has appointed Brent Zitting, KB4SL, of Huntsville, Alabama, to serve on ARRL's ElectroMagnetic Compatibility
(EMC) Committee.

All 2007 Field Day logs have been received and posted to the Claimed Scores page on the ARRL Web site. A record number of logs were received this year.

Earlier this summer, FEMARA made a $5000 donation to the ARRL
Foundation
to fund their New England FEMARA scholarships.

Chuck Skolaut, K0BOG, compiled and forwarded the monthly ARRL
Monitoring
System report to the IARU Region 2 coordinator.

The ARRL UHF Contest and 10 GHz and Up Contest were held.

ARRL membership will exceed 152,000 at the end of August. The ARRL
Letter now distributes to more than 65,000 ARRL members each week. The
number of candidates who took ARRL VEC exams from January 1 through
July
30 nearly doubled between 2006 and 2007, from 16,954 to 32,373.

A number of ARRL staff, Board members, officers and volunteers traveled
to the Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference and the
ARRL National Convention in Huntsville, Alabama. Norm Fusaro, W3IZ,
traveled to Hamfair in Tokyo, while Ed Hare, W1RFI, attended the West
Virginia State Convention in Weston. In addition, Chuck Skolaut, K0BOG,
took part in the Kansas State Convention in Salina.

==>SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Little Miss Sunspot" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: In little more
than two weeks the Northern Hemisphere will see the autumnal equinox,
marking the start of fall north of the equator and the beginning of
spring south of the equator. The exact time when both northern and
southern hemispheres are bathed in equal sunlight is 0951 UTC,
September
23, 2007. Even with few sunspots, this is the best time for long
distance communications between hemispheres. Sunspot numbers for August
30-September 5 were 15, 14, 26, 14, 15, 14 and 15 with a mean of 16.1.
The 10.7 cm flux was 71.6, 70.8, 70.8, 69.4, 68, 68.2 and 67.6 with a
mean of 69.5. Estimated planetary A indices were 6, 7, 11, 23, 12, 6
and
12 with a mean of 11. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 4, 7, 9,
17,
8, 4 and 10 with a mean of 8.4. . For more information concerning radio
propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation
page <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>.

==>IN BRIEF:

* This weekend on the radio: This weekend, don't forget the ARRL
September VHF QSO Party, scheduled for September 8-10. The NCCC Sprint
(CW) and the AGCW Straight Key Party are September 7. Another NCCC
Sprint (CW), the SOC Marathon Sprint and the Swiss HTC QRP Sprint are
September 8. The WAE DX Contest (SSB) and the Arkansas QSO Party are
scheduled for September 8-9. The North American Sprint (CW) and the
ARCI

End of Summer Digital Sprint are both September 9. The Tennessee QSO Party is September 9-10, while the YLRL Howdy Days are September 11-13. Next weekend, the ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest is September 15-16. The NCCC Sprint (CW) is September 14 and 15. The SARL VHF/UHF Contest is September 14-16. QRP Afield is September 15. Look for these contests the
weekend of September 15-16: Scandinavian Activity Contest (CW), South Carolina QSO Party, Washington State Salmon Run and the QCWA Fall QSO Party. The North American Sprint (SSB) is September 16. The Run for the Bacon QRP Contest and the 144 MHz Fall Sprint are September 17. The NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint is September 20. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests/>, the ARRL Contester's Rate Sheet <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rate-sheet/> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more info.

* ARRL Continuing Education course registration: Registration remains open through Sunday, September 9, 2007, for these online courses beginning on Friday, September, 21: Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 2 (EC-002); Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 3 (EC-003R2); Antenna Modeling (EC-004); HF Digital Communications
(EC-005); VHF/UHF -- Life Beyond the Repeater (EC-008), and Radio Frequency Propagation (EC-011). To learn more, visit the CCE Course Listing page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html> or contact the Continuing Education Program Coordinator <cce@arrl.org>.

* Pentagon ARC to Host Special Event Station Commemorating 9/11: On Sunday, September 9, the Pentagon Amateur Radio Club (PARC) will operate
a Special Event station commemorating the 6th anniversary of the attacks
that occurred on the Pentagon, the World Trade Center and over Pennsylvania in 2001. They will be operating on 10, 15, 20, 40 and 80 meters, both phone and CW where and when possible, with plans to operate
on a 12 hour basis (1200-2400 UTC). There will be a special QSL card available for stations that work K4AF. For more information, please contact Claude Hennessey, KG4TVN. QSL via PARC, PO Box 2322, Arlington, VA 22202. In addition, club members will operate from the station on Tuesday, September 11 as part of the commemoration

* The September/October NCJ Hits the Streets: The current issue of NCJ is loaded with everything today's contester needs. A review of Elecraft's new K3 transceiver is inside, as well as a look at the ergonomic tools contesters can use to make their time in the chair a bit
more comfortable. Take a look at the 80 and 160 meter antennas at the contest station of John Evans, N3HBX, and the SO2R set-up of Andrew Ross, ZS6AA. Stroll down NCJ-memory lane with a glimpse back to the beginnings of NCJ, as each of NCJ's editors talk about their stint and

the mark they left on both the magazine and the sport. All this and more
in the September/October issue of NCJ. NCJ is published by the ARRL and
is a bi-monthly publication; it is edited by Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA.
Subscribe at <http://www.arrl.org/ncj/>.

* ARISS Update: ARRL's Nebraska Section Manager Matt Anderson, KA0BOJ,
was at the radio controls initiating an ARISS QSO on August 29 between
astronaut Clay Anderson, KD5PLA (no relation), and students of the
Ashland-Greenwood School District in Ashland, Nebraska. Matt Anderson, a
past president of the Ashland Amateur Radio Club, handled radio ops with
Jim Shorney, NU0C; Art Zygielbaum, K0AIZ, and Carl Morones, N0ORL; ARISS
Mentor Keith Pugh, W5IU, assisted in setting up the contact. The school
district formed a committee of teachers from grades K-12 to promote
technology and space science, and the AARC's educational talks fit in
perfectly. A half-dozen area TV and radio stations credited Amateur
Radio for the educational event with Matt being featured in a video from
KFAB 1110 news radio
<http://www.kfab.com/cc-common/news/sections/newsarticle.html?feed=15937
7&article=2577691>, as well as an article in Lincoln's Journal-Star newspaper
<http://journalstar.com/articles/2007/08/30/news/local/doc46d60ab04e8641
09929910.txt>. NASA, ARRL and AMSAT co-sponsor the Amateur Radio on the
International Space Station (ARISS) program in the US, giving students
an opportunity to experience the excitement of Amateur Radio by talking
real-time directly with ISS crew members. - Tnx Rosalie White, K1STO,
ARRL ARISS Program Manager

* From the ARRL DXCC Desk: When sending cards to confirm 1x1 call signs,
the ARRL QSL Service requests you note somewhere on the card the person
who requisitioned the call sign. This will expedite routing to the
proper station and may result in quicker processing of cards handled
through the ARRL US Incoming Bureaus. To locate the person responsible
for a 1x1 call sign, please visit the NCVEC's 1x1 Special Event Call
Sign Web page <http://www.ncvec.org/1x1.php> and enter the 1x1 call
sign. When the screen appears, select the 1x1 call sign based on the
event you worked. Click "Details" on the right-hand side of the page to
determine the person responsible for the operation (see "Requisitioned
By"). Remember, call signs may be issued more than once, so following
the above procedure will allow the QSL Service to direct it to the
proper person. For more information on frequently asked questions
concerning the ARRL DXCC program, please see the DXCC FAQ page
<http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc/faq/>.

* CONTACT! Is Out: Are you an ARRL Public Information Officer (PIO) in need of information? Check out the September issue of CONTACT!, the monthly online newsletter designed to be a resource for PIOs, Public Information Coordinators (PICs) and anyone with an interest in Amateur Radio public or media relations activities. Each issue contains helpful articles and tips to help you spread the good word about Amateur Radio. September's issue features articles on National Preparedness Month, Public Relations and Emergency Communications, ways to find out haw many
licensed amateurs are in your community, Information on Scouting's Jamboree on the Air, how to speak to your "internal" audience and press release sites. You can view this month's edition at the CONTACT! Web page <http://www.arrl.org/pio/contact/>.

* ARRL Employment Opportunity: The ARRL's Sales and Marketing Department
is currently seeking a Product Marketing Specialist. The successful candidate will play a key role in marketing ARRL books, CDs, supply items and services. Direct marketing background and/or experience required. Responsibilities include copywriting for products, sales literature, catalogs and e-store; conducting direct mail and e-mail campaigns; mailing list segmentation, and regular reporting and sales analysis. A more complete job description can be found on the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/announce/jobs/>. Resumes and related correspondence should be sent to LouAnn Campanello, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111, FAX 860-594-0298, or via e-mail <lcampanello@arrl.org>.

* ARRL Introduces New Clothing Items for Women: Barker Specialties, the League's clothing supplier, and the ARRL have introduced new apparel items made especially for women. The ladies' line includes a yellow pima
polo with a navy blue banded cuffs and a feminine Johnny collar, and a slate blue ring-spun pima polo with a Y-collar and 2-button placket. There is also a women's colorblock jacket, featuring a polyester mesh lining and piping on inside seams, a zipper windguard, a hidden front zip pockets, adjustable cuffs, a drawcord hem and weather-stopping shell. All three of these items are embroidered with the ARRL logo. Check out these new items, as well as the new items in the men's line at
Barker Specialties ARRL Web page <http://www.barkerspecialty.com/arrl>.

* Let Us Know: What's your favorite part of The ARRL Letter? What kind of stories would you like to see in the Letter? Would you prefer the Letter in an HTML format? This is your Letter and your chance to let your voice be heard. Please send your suggestions to ARRL News Editor S.
Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, at k1sfa@arrl.org, with the subject line "ARRL Letter Suggestions." All messages will be read and discussed, and we look forward to implementing positive suggestions into the ARRL Letter.

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The ARRL Letter is published Fridays, 50 times each year, by the American Radio Relay League: ARRL--the National Association for Amateur Radio, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111; tel 860-594-0200; fax 860-594-0259; <http://www.arrl.org>. Joel Harrison, W5ZN, President.

The ARRL Letter offers a weekly e-mail digest of essential and general news of interest to active radio amateurs. Visit the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org> for the latest Amateur Radio news and news updates. The ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/> also offers informative features and columns. ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> is a weekly "ham radio newscast"
compiled and edited from The ARRL Letter. It's also available as a podcast from our Web site.

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==>ARRL News on the Web: <http://www.arrl.org>
==>ARRL Audio News: <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> or call 860-594-0384

==>How to Get The ARRL Letter

The ARRL Letter is available to ARRL members free of charge directly from ARRL HQ. To subscribe, unsubscribe or change your address for e-mail delivery:
ARRL members first must register on the Members Only Web Site <http://www.arrl.org/members/>. You'll have an opportunity during registration to sign up for e-mail delivery of The ARRL Letter, W1AW bulletins, and other material. To change these selections--including delivery of The ARRL Letter--registered members should click on the "Member Data Page" link (in the Members Only box). Click on "Modify membership data," check or uncheck the appropriate boxes and/or change your e-mail address if necessary. (Check "Temporarily disable all automatically sent email" to temporarily stop all e-mail deliveries.) Then, click on "Submit modification" to make selections effective. (NOTE: HQ staff members cannot change your e-mail delivery address. You must do this yourself via the Members Only Web Site.)

The ARRL Letter also is available to all, free of charge, from these sources:

* ARRLWeb <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>. (NOTE: The ARRL Letter will
be posted each Friday when it is distributed via e-mail.)

* The QTH.net listserver, thanks to volunteers from the Boston Amateur Radio Club: Visit Mailing Lists@QTH.Net <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/letter-list>. (NOTE: The ARRL cannot assist subscribers who receive The ARRL Letter via this listserver.)

1505. SARL News in English 8/9/2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-08 15:13:58 UTC
From: website@sarl.org.za
Message-ID: <E22DE5576A5A439A86B49254EF3F6BB5@toron>
Source record: 3910
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 09 SEPTEMBER 2007

You are listening to ZS6SRL the official Radio Station of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is transmitted every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. To listen to a web stream or Echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links for details.

This, and previous bulletins, can be downloaded from the www.sarl.org.za. You can also read or download previous bulletins from there and subscribe to receive future bulletins by email.

Your news reader this morning is Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with relays on 3,695, 10,135, and 51,400 MHz as well as 438,825 and 1 297 MHz in the Pretoria area. (Other newsreaders please change to suit).

SILENT KEYS

It is with deep regret that we have to announce the passing of one radio amateur some time ago and three recently:

Madelyn Greyling, ZS6LIE, a daughter of Ben, ZS6BEM, on 28 March 2007 after a serious motor accident.

Buck Taylor, G0OYH, ex-ZS1VP, passed away on 4 September 2007. Buck had been sick for some time.

Marthina Botha, ZS4MB, passed away on Friday 7 September 2007.

Frans Keulder, ZS6BXL, passed away yesterday morning 08 Sept 2007. He was the father of John, ZR6JWK.

We extend our sincerest condolences to the families and many friends of the deceased.

(PAUSE)

In the news today:

SARL AND HMO TO WORK ON A JOINT BEACON PROJECT

ZS6PTA TAKES TOP HONOURS IN VHF/UHF CONTEST

GET READY FOR THE FINAL LEG OF THE VHF/UHF CONTEST

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

SARL AND HMO TO WORK ON A JOINT BEACON PROJECT

The South African Radio League (SARL) and the Hermanus Magnetic Observatory (HMO) have agreed to work on a joint beacon and propagation research project which will involve participation by many SARL members.

The project was announced by SARL President Graham Hartlett, ZS6GJH, during last Sunday's President's net and will be known as the SARL 40 Metre Beacon Project.

The beacon service will be of great value in confirming actual propagation conditions in real time for research and prediction of the ionosphere. The Space Physics Group of the HMO includes an active ionospheric component, and provides ionospheric data for the purpose of Space Weather predictions, which includes HF propagation prediction. The HMO has recently become the Space Weather Regional Warning Centre for Africa, which includes amongst other parameters the provision of HF propagation predictions. Therefore, the current Space Weather provider and the HMO will now be working together to provide one Space Weather Centre for Africa.

The HMO will collect data from participating Radio Amateurs and Educational Institutions detailing the actual propagation paths between different areas in the country. This information will then be correlated with the HF propagation predictions that have been made for the given paths. In this way a validation procedure can be implemented and confidence levels placed on the predictions given out by the Space Weather Centre.

In addition, using information collected from the beacon service, student projects will be developed within the Space Physics group to improve the HF predictions over the South African region.

A number of volunteer Radio Amateurs will host beacons at their stations. A centralized database will be maintained that contains a record of each beacon, its host Amateur and its time slot.

Dr Bert von Rahden (ZS6LP) will coordinate the volunteer Amateurs and maintain the central beacon database, while John Williscroft (ZS6EF) will provide essential technical design and consideration and supply the 40 m beacons.

The 40 m beacon system has been modelled on the International Beacon Programme. Volunteer Amateur Stations situated in all areas of South Africa will be provided with a 40 mW automatic beacon that will transmit within a prescribed time slot. This time slot is unique to each transmitter. The transmission period will be 55 seconds.

The 40 mW level has been determined by on the air experiments between a station in the Division 6 area (ZS6LP) and a station in the Division 2 area (ZS2VJJ). This level has been found to give the best dynamic range

of varying propagation conditions. The 40 meter beacon, which will transmit in the CW mode for a short period, will send out the following message; "ZSXXXX", Locator data followed by a 6 second tuning period, giving the division that the station is located in. The repeat period is every 30 minutes for stage #1, with each beacon transmitting in turn to a maximum of 30 beacons. Each beacon will be internally clock synchronised before shipping the stations. In addition provision has been made for a stage #2 mode with 60 beacons transmitting in a 60 minute period. The stations receiving on the designated frequency will hear a sequence of beacons from around the country. A list of beacons and their times of transmissions will be published so that stations not hea

rd can be identified.

It is expected that the first 30 beacons will switch on in early October. More details will be posted on www.sarl.org.za and be included in future editions of SARLNEWS.

ZS6PTA TAKES TOP HONOURS IN VHF/UHF CONTEST

The Pretoria Amateur Radio Club has won the overall first leg of the 2007 SARL VHF/UHF contest with 841 811 points.

The divisional winners are:

ZS2: ZS2ACP, 3 508 points; ZS4: ZS4BFN, 41 445 points, Jan Botha 3 960 points; ZS6: ZS6PTA, 841 811 points, ZS6MRK 92 828 points.

No logs were received from ZS1, ZS3 and ZS5.

Congratulations to the winners.

CONTEST NEWS

GET READY FOR THE FINAL LEG OF THE VHF/UHF CONTEST

The second leg of the VHF contest takes place the weekend of 21 -23 September from 18:00 SAST on Friday to 12:00 CAT on the Sunday. This 42-hour contest has been divided into two sessions of 24 hours and 18 hours. This means that the same station can be worked in both sessions and thus increase the activity.

The contest is so designed to make it possible for any licensed Amateur to enter as a mobile or a fixed station and even a single or multi operator is acceptable during this time.

The following VHF and UHF frequencies can be used 50 to 51,5 MHz; 70 to 70,3 MHz; 144 to 145,55 MHz; 432 to 433,60 MHz; 1 296 to 1 296,50 MHz.

The following modes may be used: FM, SSB, CW and DIGITAL modes.

"It is a contest that can result in new DX records, but also provide fun and excitement", Piet Badenhorst, ZS6PJB, SARL VHF/UHF Manager, said. "Whether you have a hand-held and a Slim Jim antenna or a large

antenna array and base station, you will enjoy the contest".

The overall winner of the contest will become the owner of a YAESU VX-2R 2 m/ 70 cm micro handheld transceiver sponsored by Let's Play Radio.

Full details and the rules are posted on the home page of the SARL web at www.sarl.org.za.

The Spring QRP Sprint will be run this afternoon from 14:00 to 16:00 CAT. It is a phone and CW sprint on the 40 metre band. The exchange is a RS or RST report and the year you where first licenced. The rules are available in the 2007 SARL Contest Manual and were sent out on the HF Happenings mailing list.

ADHERENCE TO VHF AND UHF BAND PLANS IS IMPORTANT TO ACHIEVE MAXIMUM USE OF THE SPECTRUM

VHF and UHF band plans are devised to achieve maximum use of the spectrum allocated to Amateur Radio and adherence to the plans ensures interference free operation and ultimately that great satisfaction of hearing a weak or satellite signal and make a QSO.

Amateur satellites have a very broad footprint and to ensure world-wide interference free operation certain segments of the various frequency bands are set aside for this.

For instance, for FM voice communication with the International space station and other manned space vehicles, 145,200 MHz is set aside for simplex operation or 145,200/145,800 for transponder type operation. Please do not use these frequencies for ordinary ground based QSO's. The segment 145,800 - 146,000 MHz is set aside for satellite operation. Please do not use this segment for terrestrial operation. Similarly the segment 435,000 - 438,000 MHz is also set aside for the amateur satellite service.

Band plans are internationally coordinated by the International Amateur Radio Union by mutual agreement. Band plans are available on www.sarl.org.za, look in the left hand column for licences, open the page and then click on band plans.

CLUB NEWS

The AGM of the Bloemfontein Radio Amateur Club was held on Saturday 1 September 2007 and the following members were elected to serve on the committee:

Chairman: Jan Botha, ZS4JAN; Vice Chairman: Martin Schwella, ZS4MS; Secretary: Dennis Green, ZS4BS; Treasurer: Angeline van der Merwe, ZU4AN; Member: Philip Esterhuizen, ZU4PE.

Many thanks to the retiring committee members and strength to the new ones for the work that lies ahead.

PRETORIA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB FLEA MARKET AND AGM

The Pretoria Amateur Radio Club will hold their next Flea Market and AGM on 29 September 2007. The Flea market will take place between 08:00 and 11:00. Their AGM will start at 12:00. Both events will happen at the ZS6PTA clubhouse on the corner of Lynwood and University roads, Pretoria. Tables for the flea market may be booked with Almero, ZS6LDP, on 082 908 3359. People who would like to attent the AGM must please contact Johan, ZS6JHB, for catering purposes, on 082 492 3689.

PROPAGATION CONDITIONS

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the expected solar activity will be at very low levels. The geomagnetic field is expected to be quiet in general. The expected Effective Sun Spot number for the coming week will be less than 5. Fortunately with the arrival of spring, DX conditions are also blooming a bit.

15 m and 20 m will provide best opportunities for DX. There is a possibility of 15 and 20 m openings towards India from about 14:00 CAT. There may be weak 20 m openings to Australia from about 06:30. From 15:00 there may be 15 and 20 m openings towards Europe and 40 m openings from 20:00. Contacts to the USA are going to be very challenging.

For the CW and digital enthusiasts it will also be worth monitoring 10 MHz.

Locally conditions on 40 m is going to be good during the day. It is once again time to work towards your 80 m WAZS award in the evenings.

Remember that this is only a prediction and that HF always has the capability to surprise you. You will never know what you are missing unless you switch your rig on, listen and also call CQ.

Please visit www.spaceweather.co.za for further information.

DIARY OF EVENTS

9 September, this afternoon - The Spring QRP Sprint; 20 September - Closing date for registering for October RAE; 21 to 22 September - The second leg of the SARL VHF/UHF Contest; 29 September - Ladies Only ZU RAE course by Kempton Park RATS; 29 September - Pretoria ARC Flea Market and AGM; 4 - 10 October - Special space programme; 5 October - Take your handheld to work day; 6 October - SA AMSAT Space Conference; 6 October East Rand Flea market and AGM; 18 October - Class A RAE.

SARL News invites clubs and individuals to submit news stories of interest to radio amateurs and shortwave listeners. Submit news stories if possible in both English and Afrikaans to www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date.

The SARL also invites you to listen to the programme Amateur Radio Mirror International, on the air every Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on

145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 590 kHz. For the web stream and echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links. A repeat transmission can be heard Mondays at 21:00 CAT on 3 215 kHz. Sentech sponsors the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

Today's South African Radio League news bulletin was compiled by George, ZS6NE, and transmitted by (your name and call sign).

Thank you for listening. 73.

/EX

========== Message Ends ========== To edit or remove your entry from this mailing list go to www.sarl.org.za/members/admin/maildat.asp

1506. GB2RS NEWS Sunday 9 September 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-08 19:00:27 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200709081900.l88J0B129448@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 3911
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

1 GB2RS NEWS Sunday 9 September

The news headlines

* 3B7C DXpedition fires up

* Historic callsign returns to air soon

* Guilty verdict in ham murder case

Following the successful arrival of the 3B7C advance party, the remainder of the team arrived on Isle de Sud by 5 September. The team immediately set to work putting together the 6m beacon on 50.090MHz. Work then commenced on creating the numerous other stations to meet the target start time of midnight on 7 September. Operation will be on all bands simultaneously, from Top Band to 6m. Details of the DXpedition, including operating frequencies, propagation forecasts and logs, are on their web site at www.3B7C.com.

GB2SM, the permanent callsign of the former Science Museum amateur radio station in London, will shortly be back on the air. It will be based at the Science Museum's Swindon site. A unique arrangement has been made between the Science Museum and the Swindon and District Amateur Radio Club. The Notice of Variation for the callsign will be held by the club on behalf of the Science Museum. GB2SM will be used in partnership with the Science Museum at events and activities that specifically promote the Science Museum and communications inspired projects. For this purpose the callsign will be treated as a Special Event Callsign rather than a permanent call. Should a permanent amateur radio station be re-established at the London site the callsign would automatically revert to the permanent station.

Courts in Gambia recently sentenced two men to life imprisonment for the murder of Ron Ford, G3NKO. Tourist Mr Ford was killed in by two Gambian nationals in September 2002 while on holiday in the region. Passing sentence on Dawda Bojang and Kawsu Jarju in the Kanifing Magistrates' court, magistrate Buba Jawo said the evidence before the court had clearly shown that the prosecution has proven their case.

Nominations are invited for the recipient of the 2007 RAYNET Trophy, presented at the Convention and AGM each year. The closing date for nominations is Friday 21 September. Nominations should be sent without delay to the Company Secretary, Ian Jackson, G8RWH, c/o Hunters Moon, Station Road, Newton-leWillows, BEDALE DL8 1SX, marking the envelope "Trophy nomination".

The first International Pumping Stations on the Air event was held over the August bank holiday weekend and was a huge success. It was organized by Burton Amateur Radio Club and operated from Claymills Pumping Station. 12 stations registered to get involved in this new event. 128 stations contacted the club over the weekend, 79 on 2m and 49 on HF (SSB and CW). Their greatest distance was WN3R, Richard, in Rockville MD, USA on 20m SSB. Everyone who took part will receive a special event QSL card via the bureau. Club Secretary, Steve Warren, 2E0KPO, commented that he was pleased by the amount of pumping stations that took part and the number of visitors to the event. Now the group know the event was a success they are going to make arrangements for awards next year. They are planning on operating on the August bank holiday again next year. Anyone interested should log onto www.burtonarc.co.uk.

2 South Notts Amateur Radio Club has been awarded nearly ₯2,000 from the National Lottery. The club bid for the funding under the Awards for All scheme. They have bought a laptop computer, PowerPoint software and a digital projector to use for training at all three licence levels. Details on how to apply for National Lottery awards can be found at www.awardsforall.org.uk.

Waters and Stanton plc have asked the RSGB to inform listeners that their Matlock branch open day will be on Saturday 15 September and not on the 30th as they advertised in the September RadCom.

Hospital Radio Reading at the Royal Berkshire Hospital will be celebrating its 50th anniversary by broadcasting on 87.7MHz FM around the Reading area. Transmissions will be under an RSL license valid until 12pm on 11 September. The studio can be contacted on 0118 322 8508. Amateur station GB4HRR will be operating as well until 9pm on Sunday 9 September. Activity will be 80, 40 and 20 meters only.

Steve Hartley, G0FUW, and Mike Coombs, G3VTO, will be starting another series of their licence training courses in Bath on Thursday 20 September. Classes run from 7 to 9pm every Thursday. This year's series will begin with the Foundation level with the exam in November. Classes continue to Intermediate level with the exam in February and on to Advanced, with the exam in July. The Foundation course is open to anyone and there is no requirement to progress through all three levels one after the other. Anyone wishing to join the course should contact Steve Hartley, G0FUW, on 01225 464394, weekday evenings, or via email at g0fuw@tiscali.co.uk

And now for the details of rallies and events for the coming week

On 8 and 9 September the Gatwick Vintage Radio and Military Vehicle Weekend Club is meeting at Hunters Moon on the A217, post code RH6 0HU. The call M0VOG will be in use, and all-day radio activities are planned on 51.7MHz and 70.375MHz, narrow band FM. Other activity, including nets, will be on mixed modes on 3.615MHz, 3.577MHz, 7.143MHz and 5.5035MHz over the weekend. Net controller is Alan, G4GEN. The organisers invite you to join them and 'bring something vintage'.

More details of these and future events can be found on pages 88 and 89 of the September edition of RadCom. Now for the news of special events The Orkney Wireless Museum will be active as GB2OWM until 11 September. Celebrating the 17th Orkney International Science Festival, the station will be at the Museum's premises at Kiln Corner, Kirkwall. Probable operating periods will be weekdays and Sunday afternoons between 1430 and 1630, and Saturday morning between 1000 and 1230. Activity will be primarily on HF SSB. For more information contact Bill, GM3IBU, QTHR or e-mail gm3ibu@orpheusmail.co.uk. The Scarborough Special Events Group will be on the air as GB2QE on 15 to 16 September to mark the 40th anniversary of the liner Queen Elizabeth 2. Activity will be on 80 and 40m SSB and CW, plus 2m and 70cm. Further details from Roy Clayton, e-mail g4ssh@tiscali.co.uk And now the HF DX news compiled from 425 DX News, the Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin and other sources.

Andre', GM3VLB, will be signing as VY2/GM3VLB from 9 to 17 September and as VE1/GM3VLB from 17 to 22 September. Operation will be holiday style, probably early morning or late afternoon local time, primarily 20m for DX and 40m for local contacts.

3 Chris, DL2MDU, will be active as 5Z4/DL2MDU from Kenya on 10 to 24 September. He plans to operate holiday style mainly CW. QSL via bureau to home call. George, K3GV, will be active as K3GV/VY2 from Prince Edward Island (NA-029) until 15 September. Activity will be on 15 and 20 metres around the usual IOTA frequencies. QSL via home call, direct or bureau. A group of operators from the Radio Club SP9PZU will be active as SN10IPA until 16 September to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the foundation of the International Police Association, IPA, Slesian Provincial Group. QSL via SP9PZU bureau or SQ9ZM direct. Gerd, DL7VOG, will be active as J3/DL7VOG from Carriacou Island in the Grenadines (NA-147) until 16 September. He plans to operate on 160 to 6 metres CW and RTTY, with some SSB upon request. QSL via home call, bureau preferred. Special event call TM8CDX will be aired until 22 September for the 29th Convention of the Clipperton DX Club, that this year will be held at Puyloubier on 21 to 22 September. All of the QSOs will be confirmed automatically via the bureau; Direct requests should be sent to F5CQ. Francois, ON4LO, will be active as 9A/ON4LO from Mali Losinj (EU-136) until 28 September. Expect activity on the HF bands as well as on 6 metres. ARI Frascati members will operate as II0ERN on 14 to 30 September. The special call sign is for the second edition of the European Researchers' Night, which will take place on the 28th. QSL via operators' instructions. Now the contest news The Worked all Britain 144MHz QRP Contest takes place on Sunday 9 September from 1000 UTC and 1400 UTC. All rules and paperwork can be downloaded from www.worked-all-britain.co.uk. Please send all logs to Brian Stocks, G0BFJ, QTHR or e-mail g0bfj@worked-all-britain.co.uk. The Scandinavian Activity Contest takes place on 15 September at 1200 until 1200 on 16 September on the 3.5 to 28MHz bands, CW. The exchange takes the form of RST and serial number. The RSGB 432MHz Activity Night takes place on 11 September between 2000 and 2230 local on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. The RSGB 2nd 70MHz contest takes place on 16 September between 0900 and 1200 on all modes. The

exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. The Irish Radio Transmitters Society's 75th Anniversary Contest CQIR will take place from 1200 UTC on 29 September. It is a 24 hour single operator contest with the emphasis on participation rather than winning. Every participant gains one entry ticket for a spectacular draw for every 75 QSO's made during the Contest. Full rules are on the IRTS website.

4 Now the solar factual data for the period from 27 August to 2 September, compiled by Neil Clarke, G0CAS Solar activity continued at very low levels, even though, on the 1st two sunspot groups were visible. Solar flux levels started at 69 units then increased to 72 by the 30th. Levels then declined back to 69 by the 2nd. The average was 70 units. The 90 day solar flux average on the 2nd was 71, that's one unit down on last week. X-ray flux levels remained below the minimum A1 level throughout. Geomagnetic activity was at quiet levels but due to a well positioned coronal hole activity increased on the 1st and the 2nd with an Ap index of 11 and 23 units respectively. The average was Ap 11 units. The ACE spacecraft saw solar wind speeds increase from 360 kilometres per second to 690 by the 2nd. Particle densities were low except for the 1st, which increased slightly. Bz on the quiet days varied between minus 2 and plus 4 nanoTeslas and between minus and plus 8 nanoTeslas on the 2nd. The HF bands remained much the same as the last few weeks. There as been some DX at times for those you are around at the right time. Likewise, sporadic-E took place occasionally. Stations in the far north had the best of any auroral propagation conditions last weekend. And finally the solar forecast. This week the quiet side of the Sun is expected to be looking our way. Solar activity is expected to be very low. Solar flux levels should be in the 60's for most of the week. Geomagnetic activity should be mostly quiet. Saying that, activity could increase due to a small coronal hole on Tuesday or Wednesday. On it's last rotation, the hole had almost disappeared. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitudes should be around 18MHz for the south and 15MHz for the north. The darkness hour lows are expected to be about 8MHz. Paths this week to Australia should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success rate of around 19MHz. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success rate will be about 15MHz. The best time to try this path will be between 1000 and 1500 hours UTC. And that's all for this week from the propagation team.

5 Next, the Local News:

Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses

and website links where known.

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your

transmission.]

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST

and EAST ANGLIA On Monday 10 September Basingstoke Amateur Radio Club is having a club meeting. Contact Frank, M0AEU, by email to barc@2lo.info.

On Monday 10 September Coulsdon Amateur Transmitting Society is having a talk by Frank, G3ZMF. Contact Andy, G8JAC, on g8jac@btinternet.com.

On Monday 10 September Felixstowe and District Amateur Radio Society is having a rig clinic with Iain, G0OZS. Contact Paul, G4YQC, by email to paul.whiting@bt.com.

On Tuesday 11 September Harwell Amateur Radio Society is having a talk by Jan Verduyn, G0BBL, on his Trip to Tierra del Fuego and Antarctica - . Contact Martyn, G0THY, or by email to g0thy@btinternet.com.

On Wednesday 12 September Aylesbury Vale Radio Society is working on its club project, is on the air and having a discussion evening. Contact Roger, G3MEH, on 01442 826 651, or by email to roger@g3meh.com.

On Wednesday 12 September Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is discussing technical topics on APRS. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

On Wednesday 12 September Dover Radio Club is having a talk on the basics of amateur satellite operations by Brian, G8ZYZ. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk.

On Wednesday 12 September Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club An evening with Andrew G0AMS. Contact Jim, M1JJN.

On Wednesday 12 September Harwich Amateur Radio Interest Group is having a lecture on solar propagation software by Carl Thomson, G3PEM. Contact James, M0ZZO, on 01255 242 746.

On Wednesday 12 September Havering and District Amateur Radio Club is having a prize quiz with Dave, M3KNL. Contact Dave, 2E0EBV, on 07956 594 514.

On Wednesday 12 September Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is having an informal evening. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

On Wednesday 12 September Worthing and District Amateur Radio Club is having a visit by Rob Mannion, G3XFD, Editor of Practical Wireless. Contact Roy, G4GPX, on 01903 753 893.

On Thursday 13 September Echelford Amateur Radio Society is having a talk by Andrew Vine, M0GJH, on antenna modelling. Contact John Osborne, G4GSC, on 01784 451898.

On Thursday 13 September Reading and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk by John Warburton, G4IRN, on one man DXpeditioning. Contact Pete, G8FRC, on 01189 695 697, or on the web at www.radarc.org.

6 On Thursday 13 September Shefford and District Amateur Radio Society is having five minute talks by members about their aerials. Contact

David, G8UOD, on 01234 742 757.

On Thursday 13 September Southgate Amateur Radio Club is staging "The Great Erg Race". Contact Erik, 2E0ECR, on 0208 444 3247.

On Friday 14 September Cambridge and District Amateur Radio Club is having a foxhunt. Contact David, G8JKV.

On Friday 14 September Itchen Valley Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on PIC microcontrollers by Brian, G0UKB. Contact Liz, M0ACL, on 02380 254599.

On Friday 14 September Loughton and Epping Forest Amateur Radio Society is having a talk by Brian, 2E0FHU and Marc, G0TOC, on the trailer-mast restoration project. Contact Marc, G0TOC, on 020 8502 1645, or by email to info@lefars.org.uk.

On Friday 14 September Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is having a radio night. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Friday 14 September Wimbledon and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air and having a construction evening. Contact Jim, M0CON, on 020 8874 7456.

On Sunday 9 September Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is having a bright sparks informal evening. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

On Sunday 9 September Southdown Amateur Radio Society is operating G1KAR at Beachy Head. Contact John, G3DQY, on 01424,424,319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST On Monday 10 September Cornish Radio Amateur Club is having a computer section meeting with a talk by Peter, G3WKP, on Perranwell yesterday and today. Contact Ian, 01872 561 058.

On Tuesday 11 September Flight Refuelling Amateur Radio Society is running its Full Licence course. Contact Tony, G3PFM, on 01202 622 262.

On Wednesday 12 September South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is looking at photographs from members archives. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282.

On Wednesday 12 September Taunton and District Amateur Radio Club is operating the club station. Contact William, G3WNI, on 01823 666 234, or by email to g3wni@btinternet.com.

On Wednesday 12 September Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is on the air. Contact Tony, G0WMB, by email to tonytsgarc@beeb.net.

On Thursday 13 September Yeovil Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on satellite communications by G4DCH. Contact Gary, 2E0BFJ (g.swain@tesco.net).

7 NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS On Monday 10 September Gloucester Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is having a mini DF hunt. Contact Anne, 2E1GKY, on 01452 548478, daytime.

On Monday 10 September Stratford Upon Avon District Radio Society is having an open evening. Contact Jack, G3VYE, on 01926 641 988.

On Tuesday 11 September Eagle Radio Group is having a talk by Paul Boyd, MI3CXM, on building and flying kite antennas. Contact Terry, G0SWS, on 07979 733 640.

On Tuesday 11 September Loughborough and District Amateur Radio Club is having a computer night. Contact Chris, G1ETZ, on 01509 504 319.

On Wednesday 12 September Telford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a night of 'aerials and things'. Contact Mike, G3JKX, on 01952 299 677, or by email to mjstreetg3jkx@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Thursday 13 September Salop Amateur Radio Society is having its construction contest. Contact Glenda, G1YJB, on 01939 235 412.

On Thursday 13 September Tamworth Amateur Radio Society is having a construction night. Contact Colin Marks, G4ZPJ, on 01827 700 893, colin.marks2@ntlworld.com.

On Friday 14 September Coventry Amateur Radio Society is having a review of committee activities. Contact John, G8SEQ, on 02476 273 190, or by email to johng8seq@ntlworld.com.

On Friday 14 September Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is having a 2m VHF mobile fox hunt. Details on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

On Friday 14 September Tamworth Amateur Radio Society Foundation Course at St Francis' Church, Leyfields. Contact Colin Marks, G4ZPJ, on 01827 700 893, colin.marks2@ntlworld.com.

On Friday 14 September Wythall Radio Club will be operating a special event station at Hanbury Steam Rally. Contact Chris, G0EYO, on 07710 412 819, or by email to g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk, or on the web at www.wythallradioclub.co.uk.

NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

On Monday 10 September Sheffield Amateur Radio Club is having a talk and discussion on members' favourite websites and computer maintenance. Contact Trevor, M0TWS.

On Monday 10 September Thornton Cleveleys Amateur Radio Society is on the air. Contact Jack, G4BFH, by email to jack.duddington@btinternet.com.

On Monday 10 September the UK FM Group Western section is having its AGM at the Grappenhall Youth and Community Centre. Contact Steve, M0DFD, on 07830 354 914.

On Tuesday 11 September Pontefract District Amateur Radio Society is staging a DXpedition to Bishop Wilton Wold SOTA summit to activate G/TW-004 on HF and VHF, SSB and CW. Contact Colin, G0NQE, on 01977 677 006, info@pontefractradioclub.org.

On Wednesday 12 September Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is having a talk by Nick Packett on the work he does in Afghanistan. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

8 On Wednesday 12 September Halifax and District Amateur Radio Society is having a technical evening. Contact Brenda, 2E0YKS, by email to wrenuk10@yahoo.com.

On Wednesday 12 September Mid-Cheshire Amateur Radio Society is on the air on HF and VHF. Contact Richard, G0JIT, by email to rsa@zetnet.co.uk.

On Friday 14 September South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is having a talk by Ged, G8RSI, entitled "At last, The 1947 Transmitter". Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999.

On Friday 14 September Tynemouth Radio Club is having a Morse operating night. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Saturday 15 September Tynemouth Radio Club is having a combined field day and picnic for members. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

NEWS FOR SCOTLAND

On Monday 10 September Lothians Radio Society is having "The Presidents Address" at the Royal Ettrick Hotel. Contact Toby, MM0TSS, on 07739 742 367, or by email to enquiries@lothiansradiosociety.com, or on the web at www.lothiansradiosociety.com.

On Thursday 13 September Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on digital modes including WSJT, EME, Meteor Scatter, JT6M, FSK441 and JT65. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

On Friday 14 September West Of Scotland Amateur Radio Society is having a presentation by RSGB Regional Manager Gordon Hunter, GM3ULP, on what's new with the RSGB. Details on the web at www.wosars.org.uk.

NEWS FOR WALES On Friday 14 September Newport Amateur Radio Society is having its first meeting of the term at Bryhglas House, Newport. Contact Paul, GW7RIB, on nars@gw4ezw.fsnet.co.uk.

NEWS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

No news items have been received for Northern Ireland this week. And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast,

prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

1507. WIANEWS for week commencing SEPTEMBER 2 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-09 02:01:46 UTC
From: nationalnews@wia.org.au
Message-ID: <200709011000.l81A08g17430a@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 3912
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,aus.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

This is WIANEWS for week commencing SEPTEMBER 2 2007

LATE BREAKING NEWS

Jeff VK4XJJ who is walking across VK from Gulf to Gulf has met up with his Brother Bill who drove from VK2 into Normanton VK4

THEN THE "FUN" STARTED:- BILL PICKS UP THE DETAILS,

"At 3:15 a.m. while Jeff was asleep in his tent and I was in my swag alongside the front wheel of the retrace vehicle, someone took the keys from my shorts from under my pillow.

The car was pushed backwards and started at the second try and took off fast. (from 2 persons adjacent to us, who commented that "we" were noisy leaving).

I later thanked this couple for a loan of a pair of trousers!

Later Jeff woke me and asked "Where is the car?" I thought he was joking and asked "Where did you put it?".

So called TRIPLE 'ZERO' and reported to police who though off duty arrived in less than ten minutes.

After the usual descriptions of car etc, the police turned round to search the streets etc. Just round the corner the siren started and the chase was on. The police stopped chasing as it was too dangerous but kept following the tail lights. The offenders jumped out of the car while moving and took off. The car went through a barbed wire fence and came to a halt. The speed warning alarm in the police car was set at 180 Km!

Police drove our vehicle back to Normanton.

Some things were thrown out of the windows earlier and later collected by police. Most things seem intact including our amateur radios. An amount of cash was taken with some cash spilt loose in the back seat. Wallet later found under clothes etc on the front seat. Camera too, with some video footage taken by or new "friends". Police here in Normanton have downloaded the video for examination.

The police were very fast to respond, very kind and efficient.

Some damage to the car, dents, damaged bumper bar, paint scratches and windscreen rubber cut by the barbed wire.

All this without number plates as the car was half way through Queensland registration.

So Jeff is late leaving and will try to camp 20 Kms north of Normanton.

I will follow shortly later to his camp site and walk back a bit.

Regards to all,

Bill for Jeff".

VK Four or is that VK Pour(ing rain)?

As they say, it didn't rain, but it poured and poured and poured, then it rained a bit more.

With somewhere between 350 and 800 mm of rain recorded on the Sunshine Coast from Sunday 19th of August until Sunday 26th of August, it was going to be a wet week. Maybe VK4 Lovely Tewantin should change his catch phrase to VK4 Liquid Tewantin...

At 0815 on Friday 24 August 2007 North Coast WICEN/SES Specialist Communications Unit was activated by a
request from Emergency Management Queensland.

We activated the SCARC-WICEN caravan in its ideal position at Dulong which is up on the range behind Nambour.

Additional operators were sent to EMQ HQ at Caloundra and the Maroochydore and Tewantin SES Units. We were finally stood down at 1830 hrs that day, but requested to stay on alert.

Approximately 10 SCARC / WICEN personnel responded with Hervey Bay and Maryborough amateurs also on standby.

Thanks to Richard Philp VK4YRP WICEN Area Coordinator (North Coast Region) Chair - Wicen Queensland Secretariat for his effort and the efforts of the amateurs that helped.

This is Gordon VK4VP for WIA News

Fast net on power wire plan

A CONSORTIUM led by Optus is considering the use of powerlines to deliver broadband to homes, as it prepares to battle Telstra for rights to build a high-speed broadband network.

A story forwarded to us from VK6RO says G9, this OPTUS scheme was "not just confined to copper".

A spokesperson responding to questions raised at a broadband seminar last week said Optus was testing broadband over powerlines with several utility providers including Integral Energy, Energy Australia and CitiPower.

The story went on to say an Optus spokeswoman declined to comment on the trials when contacted, saying "Optus regularly conducts technology trials and we rarely comment on them."

Broadband over powerlines would provide the G9 with an alternative to fibre-based broadband technology that relied on Telstra's copper network.

Telstra has maintained that it would use all legal means at its disposal to block rivals gaining access to its copper to build the new network.

There are three main proposals to boost broadband speed in Australia and all rely on using Telstra's copper network for last-mile access to homes and premises.
(vk3jfk/vk6kad/vk6ro)

HAMS ACROSS AUSTRALIA.
(7tw)

VK1
vk1 local news email broadcast@vk1.wia.ampr.org and ask for subscription.

VK2
web service:- http://www.arnsw.org.au/html/news_vk2wi.htm

Tim VK2ZTM, writing on the vk2 pages reminds us of the VK2WI Morse Practice Transmissions on 3699 KHz from VK2WI.

Originally this robot unit had storage of 1100 words which lasted a bit over 2 hours. This has now been extended to over 2700 words which will take almost 6 hours to cycle through allowing more variation in the transmissions.

These transmissions are continuous 24/7 except for during the Sunday broadcast periods.

The content of this transmission actually details the development of the WIA's Dural facility itself.

(sourced to 2ZTM)

VK3
web service:- http://www.amateurradio.com.au/news/

Copies of the Proceedings volumes from all previous Gippsland Technical Conferences (GippsTech) are available for purchase.

1998 & 1999 are available on CD, whilst years 2000 to 2005 are available in hard copy. 2004, 2005 & 2006 include an electronic copy with full colour and some PowerPoint presentations.

Costs range from 10 to 20 dollars plus 5 dollars postage.

Contact Peter Freeman VK3KAI

E.Z.A.R.C. PO Box 273, Churchill, Vic 3842.

www.vk3bez.org/gippstech.htm

VK4
web service local news:- www.wiaq.com/qnews/upload/qnewsbcast.htm
local news email qnews-vk-subscribe@yahoogroups.com subscribe in subject field.

VK5

VK6
web service http://www.vk6.net/newswest-index.html

The West Australian State Government has launched a linked emergency service communication system that it believes will provide faster and better coverage for communities across WA.

Industry and Enterprise Minister Francis Logan launched the Emergency Connect WA project, which he said would use state-of-the-art technology to improve the communication capabilities of police, ambulance, fire and rescue services.

In a press release, Mr Logan said the communications network would also allow volunteer and government emergency services to directly communicate with each other and share real-time intelligence, which he believed would cut response times and improve coverage at remote communities.

"This network will use the latest and best technologies available, including internet protocol-based voice and data services and satellite technologies," Mr Logan said.

"Emergency organizations with bases in remote locations have little or no telecommunications infrastructure, making contact with command base very complicated," the Minister said.
(via vk6kad)

VK7
local area news :- http://reast.asn.au/news.php
your copy of vk7 local news, email vk7regionalnews-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Remember that world optical communications record set in VK7 back in February 2005? Well, a group of amateur radio enthusiasts in Utah have extended the record to over 170km. Congratulations to Clint KA7OEI and crew.

On September 5 the REAST Presentation night is titled "Hacking HF - Linux for Amateur Radio" at the Queens Domain clubrooms at 8pm. September 12 sees NTARC's meeting at Alanvale TAFE Block B at 7:30pm and REAST has the weekly ATV Experimenter's Night at 7:30pm. The regular NWTARIG broadcasts in the NW with a different program each night of the week commencing at 7.30PM on the VK7RNW & VK7RMD and 70CM ATV. Check the website for details.

73 from Justin, VK7TW

VK8
http://www.vkham.com/vk8da/ note an audio version available on this page.

EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO
PRESENTED BY KYLEA VK6FXYL/6MRS

Learners in South Africa under the age of 18 have been invited to participate in a special project to celebrate 50 years of man's endeavours in space.

In October it will be 50 years ago that the first satellite, Sputnik 1, was launched by the Russians. To celebrate this event several joint activities have been planned by the S.A.R.L, SA AMSAT and the South African Amateur Radio Development Trust.

The youth event is called "Into Space with Amateur Radio" and will give 30 Learners the opportunity to speak with South Africa's first astronaut, Mark Shuttleworth via Amateur Radio on 10 October 2007 and ask questions about Mark's experiences in space.

Now, how do these learners qualify?

They are required to write an essay about "The future of Space in support of mankind", and be between 400 and 600 words.

A GOOD SCIENCE EDUCATION HELPS

Amateur Radio Newsline report researchers saying students who had more math courses in high school did better in all types of science once they got to college.

On the other hand, while high school courses in biology, chemistry or physics improved college performance in each of the individual sciences, taking a high school course in one science didn't result in better college performance in the others.

One of the study authors says the most important thing for high school science teachers is to make sure there's lots of math in whatever science course they teach. The head of the National Science Teachers Association said while the "correlation with math makes sense" it's not the necessarily the same as a cause and effect.

The research, which is being reported in the journal Science, was supported by the National Science Foundation.

FUTURE EXAMS

To find out when a club in YOUR area is hosting assessments and/or training in Amateur Radio go to wia.org.au and check out the club pages.

Next Foundation Licence course, and Standard / Advanced assessments .....

VK2BWI Morse Practice Group

Just a brief reminder about the VK2BWI slow Morse broadcasts.

These broadcasts are held on Tuesday evenings, with Alan VK2ADB from the Snowy Mountains, and on Thursday evenings, with Ross VK2ER from Orange.

The time is 1000 UTC, and the frequency, 3.550 MHz.

So, if you are interested in learning, or improving your CW, then VK2BWI broadcasts might be a good start.

HAM College - VK6

Next Foundation course is set for 15th/16th September at the Whaleback golf course scout hall - if you have nominated to attend this course then please ensure you have made the relative payments prior to attending in order to confirm your position. If you can not attend then please let me know so I can allot you a place on the November course.

Ask yourself what you have done to encourage new people into the world of Ham Radio.

I sit on the train on my way to work and read through my study notes for the Advanced licence - you would be surprised to know that in the time I have been doing this I have spoken to several people about Ham radio, and they were very interested.

Recognise the importance of bringing people to this hobby - have you extolled the virtues of Ham radio to anyone this week. How about making it your goal for the week - tell someone about Ham radio - and be responsible for making your hobby grow.

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NEWS FROM ARNEWSLINE

SOUTH AFRICA RADIO LEAGUE TO ISSUE RAE CERTIFICATES

Amateur Radio restructuring continues in South Africa. This with word that the South Africa Radio League will now issue the nations Radio Amateur Exam certificates following an agreement having been finalized with that nations telecommunications regulator.

Candidates who pass the South African Class A Amateur Examination will be issued an international certificate. This document allows operation in all CEPT countries and several others outside Europe who are complying with the conditions of the internationally accepted examination.

Those who pass the introductory level Class B examination will be issued a Radio Amateur Exam certificate only. The class B examination is not compliant and the license issued for passing it cannot be used for operation in other countries. (SARL)

RADIO BUSINESS: CHIP MAKING DOWN IN 2006

If you are finding some integrated circuit chips hard to find, threes a reason. According to an industry group, the utilization rate of the world's chip manufacturing plants stayed below 90 percent for the second straight quarter of 2006. The usage rate was only 86.4 percent in the quarter bending December 30th. That was down from 88.5 percent in the July to September 2006 time period

VIRGIN GALACTIC AND NASA PARTNER IN RESEARCH

NASA and Virgin Galactic have signed an agreement to explore the possibility of working together to develop new spacesuits, hybrid rocket motors and other space technology.

The pact will allow NASA and Virgin Galactic to explore possible avenues of technology research that would make use of NASA's Ames Research Centre facilities. Some of the possible collaborations include developing protective heat shields for spaceships and vehicles that can travel at least five times the speed of sound.

Virgin Galactic, was founded by British entrepreneur Richard Branson. It plans to test-fly a vehicle being built by famed aerospace designer Burt Rutan next year and operate it commercially by 2009

RADIO THEFT: GROUND SYSTEM TAKEN FROM CALIFORNIA STATION

The copper wire thefts at radio facilities continue. Broadcast engineer Bill Ruck, writing in the CGC Communicator writes that he recently received a call about transmitter problems at KDYA A.M. KDYA operates on 1190 kHz in Vallejo, California. Ruck says that when he arrived the transmitter looked okay but was seeing high reflected power. So he walked out to the tower to look for problems there. What he found was the entire the ground system was gone. The copper wire used for it had been stolen. Ruck says that he is now in the process of replacing it using barbed wire.

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RSGB NEWS G4NJH

The Isle of Man Amateur Radio Society, in light of the current Foot and Mouth Disease problems, precautionary restrictions on rambling have been put in place on the Isle of Man.

This means that it is currently not possible to access or activate any summits for the Summits On The Air programme.

For more information please contact John, GD0NFN, by email to iomars@manx.net

Contesting University at the HF Convention

At this year's HF Convention on 13th October the RSGB will be running a Contest University.

This follows on from the hugely successful event held at Dayton in the USA earlier in the year. Sponsored by Icom, the Contest University will be a full day of lectures designed not only for newcomers but also for improving the skills of experienced contesters. You can learn about contesting, or improve your competitive edge. For more information go to www.rsgb.org/hfc.

Bumper participation in Lighthouses weekend

More than 380 lighthouses in over 48 countries were on the air for the 2007 International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend on 18th and 19th August.

The event, now in its ninth year, is organised by the Ayr Amateur Radio Group. The weekend was more of a QSO party and amateur radio demonstration than a contest. Its aim was to raise public awareness of lighthouses and lightships, to promote amateur radio and foster international goodwill.

OPERATIONAL NEWS -

CONTEST COLUMN - D A T E L I N E

SEPTEMBER 22

The Second running of the Westlakes Cup is coming up on Saturday 22nd September commencing at 8.30 Eastern Australian Standard Time (10.30 Z).

Boat Anchor Sprints:
October (13).
Local ZL time: 2000 to 2100 hrs

Section 1: Old radios - all valves - i.e. ZC1, 19 set, Heathkits, any home brew set, but must have all valves.

Section 2: Any Hybrid transceiver (must have valve finals i.e. FT200, FTDX400/401, Drake, FT 101s, etc..

Amplitude Modulated signals only.

The overall winner shall be the entrant having the highest points score which will be published in the following New Zealand "Break-in".
(Jamie Pye ZL2NN, Editor NZART's InfoLine)

NOVEMBER 17/18 VK Spring VHF-UHF Field Day

In a moment we will here again from Peter Harding the 2007 RD contest manager but first to SPECIAL EVENTS, BEACON AND NET ADVICE.

Celebrating the 4th International Polar Year 2007/2008, Portugal has been represented by the Official Special Event Amateur Radio Station CQ4IPY.

The importance of this Celebration gave to all participants the chance to get a Special CERTIFICATE . The CQ4IPY Certificate is for all Amateur Radio Operators and SWL's who can demonstrate the interest on this celebration and justify the dedication working at least the CQ4IPY on 3 (three) different Bands or 2 (two) different modes.

To get the Award just send the log with fee to cover Mail Expenses to:

CQ4IPY F.a.o. Mr. Manuel Alberto C. Marques
Post Office Box 41
2780-901 OEIRAS Portugal (Europe).

CQ4IPY, during the 4th International Polar Year in SSB/CW/PSK31/RTTY/SSTV on 80-10m will be on-the-air again from Sep 8-14. QSL CARD ok via the Bureau (via CT1BWW)

Please visit:

http://cq4ipy.bravehost.com

RD CONTEST MANAGERS REPORT

And good morning listeners, this week sees another small mail bag of snail mail and Electronic logs arrive for this years RD,

I have found some errors this week, and I have personally spoken to the sender as to why I was correcting their logs, thus avoiding the gripes after the finals are made public.

Some operators either have not read or fully understood this years rules in relation to log layout, I will send a copy of the Rules and the preferred log sheet and cover sheet layouts for their use next year.

Please get your logs in as soon as possible before the cut-off date,

Remember logs must be received by last mail on Monday 10th September, 2007.

Late entries will not be returned..

QST to all radio amateurs and IARU members:

Radio amateurs in Malaysia celebrate 50 years of nationhood by organizing a nationwide field day from August 30 till September 1, 2007, using 9M50Mx special event call signs.

The Merdeka Field Day (MFD) has a total of 16 stations operating simultaneously in different cities and middle of jungle to celebrate this occasion.

The regulator, Malaysian Communications & Multimedia Commission (www.mcmc.gov.my) has granted these 9M50Mx special event call signs for the first time in history of amateur radio.

MARTS, which is the call signs custodian & national society, invites amateur radio operators from all over the world to celebrate with Malaysia on air.

The HAM (Radio Amateur) communities in Malaysia will be joining Malaysians all over the country celebrating the 50th year of nationhood by organising this Field Day to Sept 1.

all over the world are already catching this very rare callsign, which is a must for DX-Chaser. In Kota Kinabalu, the Borneo Amateur Radio Club has been given a rare privilege to operate the 9M50MS station to represent Sabah.

The BARC Clubhouse at Bukit Sierra, Bukit Padang, is the centre of the radio operation, as the clubhouse is fully equipped to operate on all bands.

Epitomising the solidarity of the nation, all 9M50M stations would be in constant contact with the other stations to symbolise unity.

Members of the public, amateur radio enthusiasts and club members throughout the State of Malaysia are joining in the celebration.

QSL Bureau is: PO Box 10777, 50724 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

For more information on MFD, please visit www.marts.org.my

* Note: Merdeka means independence in Malay language. Malaysia (then Malaya) obtained its independence from the Great Britain on August 31, 1957.

Lance M T Lai, 9W2LAI
Honorary Secretary 2007-2008
Malaysian Amateur Radio Transmitters' Society

IARU - QSL Bureau of Portugal, Azores and Madeira

Remember, the solely Portuguese IARU QSL Bureau representative, for any contact made with any station, using on the callsign, one of the following prefixes

CQ0 to CQ9, CR0 to CR9, CS0 to CS9, CT0 to CT9 and CU0 to CU9

Being like this, QSL cards of stations of Portugal, Azores and Madeira, send to following address:

REP - REDE DOS EMISSORES PORTUGUESES
Rua D. Pedro V, 7-4
1250-092 LISBOA
PORTUGAL

to whom, all the QSLs via Bureau must be send.

For other contacts please use:

Phone: +351 213461186
Fax: +351 213420448
e-mail: rep@rep.pt

Please receive our friendly regards and the best 73

Carlos Nora - CT1END
REP President
NNNN

Rede dos Emissores Portugueses
Fundada em 1926
IARU Member since 1931
URL http://www.rep.pt

THE QNEWS WORK BENCH - EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: LIGHT WORX - WITH VK5MM

Last week Rex VK7MO and Justin VK7TW made some significant advances with light communication.

Previously Justin was able to get excellent WSJT copy from Rex over 5.3 km with cloud reflections.

Rex has now built an improved transmitter giving an additional 18 db performance and Justin has gained a further 4 dB on reception with a mirror reflector receiver that derives from an old X-ray machine.

Overall this 22 dB improvement in system performance is such that it is now un-necessary to have clouds to communicate and the weak scatter from particles in the atmosphere is sufficient to produce perfect copy on WSJT.

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: MODERN DAY FANTASTIC VOYAGE

Shades of the 1960's science fiction classic Fantastic Voyage. A news medical telemetry capsule that when swallowed travels through the digestive system becomes a sort of mini transponder has won federal approval. The wireless device, about the size of a large vitamin pill, journeys along the gastrointestinal tract collecting data and transmitting it to a receiver worn on the patient's belt or around the neck.

Doctors like the telemetry capsule because it can be given at the office and is reliable and non-invasive. They say that it is a way to diagnose an uncomfortable stomach condition and other digestive track problems on a real time basis. The Food and Drug Administration approved the device on July 19th following clinical trials that wrapped up in November 2006.

Manufactured by a company called Smart Pill, each of these micro transponders will sell for about $500 each. And for those of you not familiar with the 1966 movie Fantastic Voyage, its plot involves a diplomat who is nearly assassinated. In order to save him, a submarine and its crew are shrunken to microscopic size and injected into his blood stream. Their job is to burn away a blood clot before the patient expires. For now, the Smart Pill is likely as close to that scenario as medical science is going to get.

Fortunately - I guess, no information was supplied on if, or how, the capsule is retrieved.

Leaving you With that pleasant thought ... that's the QNews work Bench from the VK1WIA News Hub in South Australia.

NOW ROBERT BROOMHEAD - VK3KRB.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- FINAL FRONTIER

Twenty Chinese students talked directly to an astronaut in the International Space Station (ISS) via amateur radio in Nanjing on Sunday 26th.

The 20 students, aged 10 to 19 began talking to Clayton C. Anderson, a 48-year-old American astronaut at 18:50 p.m. at Nanjing No. 3 Middle School when the ISS was passing over Nanjing.

Tang Jiewen asked the first question: "Can you see our Great Wall from the ISS? "

"I'm sorry that I haven't seen it yet, but we hope to see it," Anderson's voice was clearly heard from the radio.

He also answered other questions popped out by students during the 10-minute conversation, telling students that ISS is very quiet with only sounds of astronauts' drinking water and air flowing, and robots are used to do simple work like fetching things.

"This is the first time for Chinese students to participate in the program of Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) to speak directly to astronauts in the ISS," said Wang Long, a teacher in charge of the Amateur

Radio activities from Nanjing No. 3 Middle School.

And as an aside, the wall must be working well as no mention of seeing rabbits was made!

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RADIO AMATEUR OLD-TIMERS

OLD TIMERS
Members and friends of the Radio Amateurs Old Timers Club Australia are reminded that the next news and information broadcast will take place on the first Monday of the Month.

using the RAOTC callsign of VK3OTN.

10.00 am Victorian time on 7.060 and 3.650 MHz plus 1.843 MHz AM, and 145.700.

On 14.150 MHz at 01.00 UTC beaming north and 02:00 UTC west from Melbourne

For those not yet retired, 8.30 PM Victorian time tune 80 mtrs 3.650 MHz.

In New Zealand, their Old Timers' Club net controllers have unanimously decided to change the time and frequency of the OTC (ZL) SSB weekly net.

>From Today, Sunday 2/9/07 onwards there will only be a net on 3.865 MHz at 1600 hrs.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RADIO SCOUTING

Tony VK7AX, President of N.W.T.A.R.I.G. is seeking help for JOTA 2007.

Regular amateurs assisting Scouts and Guides at each years' Jota located at Paton Park, being Susan VK7LUV and Alan VK7JAB, will not be available for this year's event.

NWTARIG is seeking help from local amateurs to fill this void.

If any amateurs (or Short Wave Listeners) can help out on Jota Weekend by providing assistance with communications at Paton Park, for just a short period or for the entire Jota weekend, please advise Tony VK7AX.

There is ample camping facilities for overnight stay if you so desire, and I know from experience that you will be well fed.

Again, if you can assist in any way, please contact Tony VK7AX, by telephone 64 25 29 23

nwtarig@spamex.com.

BB's DIARY ROOM - THE FUTURE, IN AMATEUR RADIO

2008

Sept 13 Alarameet 2008 will be held in Ulverstone Tasmania on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th September 2008. Susan VK7LUV for details.

2009
International Telecommunication Union's Telecom World 2009.

14th IARU R3 Conference Christchurch 12 - 16 October, 2009.

SEPTEMBER 8
SUNSHINE COAST HAMFEST at Woombye School of Arts Hall.

SEPTEMBER 9 Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club Hamfest
St. Augustine's Hall Orr St.

SEPTEMBER 21-23
North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention
Happening in twin cities of Thuringowa and Townsville.

OCTOBER 6
Gold Coast Amateur Radio Society Annual Hamfest at Albert Waterways Hall.

JANUARY 20 2008

The Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group invite all amateurs to attend the 2008 Mid North Coast Radio Expo to be held in Coffs Harbour on Sunday 20th January.

The Expo is held at the St Johns Church Hall, Mc Lean Street, Coffs Harbour. Gary VK2ZKT is the Radio Expo Coordinator on 02 66 55 2 990 or visit the Groups comprehensive web site at www.mncarg.org

REWIND - A LOOK BACK IN HISTORY
(Will McGhie VK6UU is WIA National Historian)

THAT FINAL ITEM: THE ARTISTRY OF ANCIENT GREECE IS IN THE SOUND

And finally this week, another kind of communications. That of the human voice and the way it could be heard for thousands of feet long before microphones, amplifiers and loud speakers were invented. The story is from ancient Greece. A not so ancient Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF, takes us back in time to about the 3d Century BC:

Science Daily reports that researchers at the Georgia Institute of Technology have pinpointed the elusive factor that makes the ancient amphitheatre the ancient Greek amphitheatre at Epidaurus an acoustic marvel. It's the seats.

The scientists say that the rows of limestone seats at Epidaurus form an efficient acoustics filter that hushes low-frequency background noises like the murmur of a crowd. At the same time it reflects the high frequency noises of the performers on stage off the seats and back toward the seated audience member. This in turn carries the performers voice all the way to the back rows of the theatre.

While many experts speculated on the possible causes for Epidaurus' acoustics, few guessed that the seats themselves were the secret of its acoustics success. There were theories that the site's wind - which blows primarily from the stage to the audience - was the cause. Others credited masks that may have acted as primitive loudspeakers

or the rhythm of Greek speech. More technical theories took into account the slope of the seat rows.

The report appeared in the April issue of the Journal of the Acoustics Society of America.

>From Auckland, New Zealand. for the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF,

The theatre at Epidaurus permits almost perfect intelligibility of un-amplified spoken word from the stage to all 15,000 spectators, regardless of their seating. What's not known if whether or not those who designed it were aware of the science of acoustics or if it was all nothing more than a lucky guess.

More about Epidaurus and its famed theatre is on-line at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Epidaurus and http://www.greeklandscapes.com/greece/epidaurus.html (Science Daily OnLine)

THE FINAL FINAL

WALKS

Jeff VK4XJJ is still going strong on his walk across Australia.

But he still wants to hear from YOU, and it is these calls in particular that keep him going!!

Every Day, from 5:30pm Eastern on 40 meters, 7045 put out a call to VK4XJJ

Good Afternoon Jeff's family and friends,

Met up with Jeff at Normanton on Tuesday at 1 p.m. Very warm but pleasant and a very friendly town.
Bill slept out under the stars last night, first time since age 15.

Sitting in the shade garden at Norman County Snacks and Supplies trying to keep cool. Very warm yesterday and today but lovely mornings and afternoons with the breeze. Jeff is attending to the car registration after my trip up from Stockton to Normanton.

Jeff has 72 Kms to walk to Karumba and finish his great walk and touch the waters of the Gulf of Carpenteria.

Since last Thursday Jeff walked 30 Kms for each of three days to arrive in Normanton early Sunday afternoon.

The Normanton Caravan Park allowed Jeff to erect his half wave 40m dipole semi-permantley during his three day stay.
His five watt radio once again performed well and has made many contacts while in Normanton.

Jeff is looking forward to using his 100 watt linear amplifier which will be delivered to Karumba.

Jeff and Bill have been invited and will fly to Sweers Island Resort for an overnight stay courtesy of Sweers Island Resort and Aero Tropics.

Special News: Jeff's regular sked on Thursday 6th September at 1730 hrs on 7.045 will be conducted from Sweers Island. VK4SWE Lyn has a 100 watt transmitter so many more contacts should be possible.

Jeff again thanks all the kind amateurs who have taken the time to talk to him. I have seen his long list of contacts in order, by state call sign.

Hornsby ARC have kindly offered to raise some money for DeafBlind through Jeff's walk. Thank you Secretary Dot.

Kind Regards,

Bill VK2FWGJ for Jeff VK4XJJ.

www.jeffswalk.com

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WIANews - we've reported...YOU decide.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".

Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of the National WIA.

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WIANews THANKS OUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS , OUR RELAY OPERATORS ACROSS THE WORLD FOR FORWARDING INFORMATION AND COMMENTS THEIR LISTENERS HAVE PASSED ON TO MAKE WIANews VK'S LEADING WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PROGRAM.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au
Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".
Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of QNEWS for the National WIA.
Thanks to to our dedicated band of broadcast volunteers who utilize their time and equipment in bringing you this weekly broadcast.
The purpose of "WIANews" is to rapidly provide news of interest to active amateurs residing in Australia and the globe.
We strongly encourage membership in the Wireless Institute of Australia and participation in the activities of local clubs.
Opinions expressed in "WIANews" are those of the writers who submit material

and do not necessarily reflect those of the rebroadcasters, nor the National WIA.
Material may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, a credit to WIANews wouldn't go astray...
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1508. WIANEWS for week commencing SEPTEMBER 9 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-09 02:02:39 UTC
From: nationalnews@wia.org.au
Message-ID: <200709081000.l88A07X14885@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 3913
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,aus.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

This is WIANEWS for week commencing SEPTEMBER 9 2007

AMATEUR RADIO - HOME OF THE GOOD GUYS

Pam, KF6VJR is searching for info on her Grandfather.

"Grandfather was a radio officer who helped to establish many wireless stations in Australia from 1912 Mt Gambier station til 1928, when he transferred to the Receiving Station of AWA at La Perouse.

He was also at the stations at Broome, Melbourne, Sydney, Thursday Island, Brisbane and Hobart.

This is stated in his obituary.

I live in the USA since my mother married (a Yank) at end of WW2 and moved here with my dad. I am trying to get more information on Henry (Harry) Freeman Coffey. He joined the Commonwealth Radio Service in 1912 after leaving the Marconi Company.

Any assistance or information you could share would be of great value to me.

Thank you,
Pamela Ferges KF6VJR"
rferges@hotmail.com

HAMS ACROSS AUSTRALIA.
(8zwm)

VK1
vk1 local news email broadcast@vk1.wia.ampr.org and ask for subscription.

VK2
web service:- http://www.arnsw.org.au/html/news_vk2wi.htm

Westlakes Amateur Radio Clubs Christmas Party will be held at the Eastern Tiger Restaurant, which is located in the Cardiff RSL building, December 2nd If you are interested get in touch with VK2FDNE Diane.

Brett Dawson VK2CBD down in the Orana Region ARC says the CSIRO Parkes Radio Telescope will be holding open days Saturday 22 and Sunday 23rd of September.

GET along and see one of the largest radio astronomy antennas in the world!

Tours will be taken by Observatory staff, and visitors will walk up through the control tower directly beneath the antenna structure, out onto the azimuth track, and back down through the centre of the tower.

Aside from seeing where "The Dish" movie was made, you'll also see the astronomers at work, and get an appreciation for what is done at this iconic facility.

The Orana Region Amateur Radio Club, the Orange & Districts Amateur Radio Club and the WIA will be on site with interesting demonstrations and they'll be talking to anyone who wants to know about how to get involved in amateur radio. There will be other attractions as well including helicopter rides, a jumping castle and face painting for the kids, as well as an outdoors screening of the movie "The Dish" on Saturday evening.

This will be quite spectacular with the real thing just meters behind the projection screen!

For more information please contact Brett Dawson by email vk2cbd@wia.org.au or go to the Parkes Observatory home page and follow the links to outreach and then 2007 Open days.

So GET along to Parkes The 22nd/ 23rd of September.

VK3
web service:- http://www.amateurradio.com.au/news/

Friday 21st September the EMDRC will present their "Two Bob Show" hosted by Bob VK3XP & Bob VK3AIC will provide some training to other club members on the use of CRO's. The training will cover the many uses of the CRO with particular attention as to the connection of the test device to communication equipment.

The Ballarat Hamvention will be held this year on Sunday 4th, November at the Great Southern Woolshed located on the Western Highway on the Melbourne Side of Ballarat.

A location map will be found in the October edition of our A.R. magazine.

Traders tables are available at $15 each and includes admission for one person. Traders can commence set-up between 8am and 10am via a separate entrance.

General entry is from 10am with entry tickets being presold to avoid the rush when the doors open. The entry fee is $6 per person with free entry to persons under 15 years of age.

Make sure you attend this well organised function to purchase the goodies you've been saving for all the year. Good parking is provided for all together with catering facilities including tea, coffee and soft drinks.

If you wish to book a table please contact Ian - Vk3AXH via email igm@netconnect.com.au
or by phone on 03 534 13 0 12 or look up the details at the BARG website barg.org.au

Announcing Centre Victoria RadioFest No. 2.

They're still talking about this year's inaugural event and it's coming back in February 2008.

The organising committee met last weekend and decided on some minor changes for a repeat success.

Second-hand traders, club corner, short-talk lectures, displays and the popular dipole factory will all return, plus some new exciting activities to be announced later.

All major commercial traders have already made commitments to be there again in 2008. They would not miss it and neither should you.

Three groups - Amateur Radio Victoria, and the Central Goldfields and the Midland radio clubs are mounting this event for the entire amateur radio community and general public.

For second hand table bookings that cost only $12.50 please contact Nick Angelo VK3UCK 0488 653 201, or check out the website radiofest.amateurradio.com.au

The Centre Victoria RadioFest at the Kyneton Racecourse is within an hour's drive of metropolitan Melbourne, Ballarat and Bendigo.

The date, put it in your calendar now, is Sunday the 10th of February 2008.

I'm Bruce Lees VK3FFF and you're listening to VK1WIA.

VK4
web service local news:- www.wiaq.com/qnews/upload/qnewsbcast.htm
local news email qnews-vk-subscribe@yahoogroups.com subscribe in subject field.

The North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention happens in the twin cities of Townsville and Thuringowa September 21 to 23 and there are still registrations rolling in. The absolute deadline is C.O.B. Tuesday 11th September. For an electronic copy of the Programme, Venue Maps and Registration Form Google to the TARC website www.tarc.org.au

VK6
web service http://www.vk6.net/newswest-index.html

VK7
local area news :- http://reast.asn.au/news.php
your copy of vk7 local news, email vk7regionalnews-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

VK8
http://www.vkham.com/vk8da/ note an audio version available on this page.

In the top end we will be holding one of our famous Auctions and Baaarbecues on
Saturday 13th of October starting at 1600 at the clubrooms. Bring along your unwanted items any Tuesday night or at the next meeting on the first of October. See you there.

Terry VK8TA advises that the morse sessions continue on Tuesday nights on 3.550
starting at 730pm.

Jota of course is coming up and planning is underway. This year JOTA will be on the weekend of 20 - 21 October at the Nightcliff scout hall pandanus st nightcliff. Contact frank VK8FT if you can assist at any time over the weekend.

Seanet 2007 is being held at LAMPANG in Thailand over four days 8th to 11th of November. Seanet is a great gathering of amateurs from all over the world particularly south east asia. Lots of eyeball qso's a dinner or three together, a good look around, operate the Seanet station and grab a few bargains. Checkout the website www.sabah.net.my/seanet/seanet_2007.htm or put Seanet 2007 lampang into your search engine.

That's it for the top end for this week and now to vk2 news

EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO
PRESENTED BY KYLEA VK6FXYL

22 NEW RADIO AMATEURS JOIN THE RANKS

22 New Radio Amateurs joined the South African ranks last week after successfully passing the class B examination held 23 August at examination centres around the country.

Only 2 of 24 candidates did not make it.

The highest marks were obtained by H J Coetzee who now holds the call sign ZU6H and H F Rolandi ZU5HR. Both achieved 97%.

The youngest candidate was J Ware, 13 years old, now holding the call sign ZU6SP.

Congratulations and welcome to all the successful candidates from your friends here in VK.
(SARL)

Saturday 22nd September the EMDRC will be running their CRO familiarization day. Members and visitors are welcome to bring along their own test equipment and ask the experts for the correct method of operation. Over the course of the day members and friends will be able to learn how to connect test equipment and interpret values using various CRO's. Also, if there is a need, those attending can bring along communication equipment to test with the CRO.

This will be a full day activity with a break for a BYO BBQ lunch. The activity will be held at the EMDRC clubrooms 12 a McCubbin Street in East Burwood and kicking off around 10:00am. The EMDRC extends an open and warm invitation to visitors" To register for attendance or for further information contact vk3er@emdrc.com.au

FUTURE EXAMS

To find out when a club in YOUR area is hosting assessments and/or training in Amateur Radio go to wia.org.au and check out the club pages.

BPL

Northern Tasmanian Amateur Radio Club's Next meeting at Alanvale TAFE is their "BPL SPECIAL"

The clubs special presenter, non other than a 'Pollie' who has shown an interest in BPL.

Mr Kerry Finch MLC will be giving as a talk on his times at the ABC through to his current position as a MLC. This is an opportunity for VK7 hams to "get in the ear" of a politician who has shown an interest in BPL.

Even if you only attend one meeting a year, this should be the one. 7:30pm Wednesday 12th September. Block B Alanvale TAFE.

NATO Report on BPL Interference

The following story come from Ed Hare W1RFI:

NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) has issued a report of the expected effects that widespread BPL (a.k.a. PLC or PLT) application would have on the HF spectrum. Particular emphasis is placed on ambient noise in "quite rural" zones and the "Absolute Protection Requirement". The calculations assume ubiquitous installation of BPL. The report concludes:

"a) High probability that PLT would cause increased noise levels at sensitive receiver sites given the projected market penetration; and

b) The percentages are highly influenced by assumptions on transmitter EIRP, PLT market penetration, and duty cycle."

The report's title is "HF Interference, Procedures and Tools"

http://reast.asn.au/vk7bplwatch_links.php#ScientificBPLStudies
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BPLandHamRadio/

(Ed Hare via the BPL and Ham Radio Mailing List)

Well the fight isn't over, our friends at the SARL in South Africa tell us DRAFT PLT REGULATIONS ARE UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Their regulatory body, ICASA has been hard at work and has asked the EMC workgroup of the STANSA TC73 and TC80 committees to come up with draft regulations for type approval of PLT (BPL) equipment as an interim measure.

Well Done.

These interim standards will eventually be replaced by internationally accepted standards. There is however much debate amongst members of the International Special Committee on Radio Interference (CISPR) about international standards with an agreement seemingly some time off.

The SARL even tell us that this CISPR will meet here in Australia later this month!

The Work group has held meetings over the past two weeks and hopes to complete a draft to be tabled at the TC80 meeting later this month. Once agreed at TC80, the draft will be forwarded to ICASA for further consideration and once agreed by the ICASA Council, the draft regulations

will be published in the government gazette for comment.

The SARL is represented at the Workgroup and has made its input.

There is much ongoing debate and unhappiness about the SARL's demands that all Amateur Radio HF frequencies be notched at the time of installation.

In particular the vendors of PLT equipment would only like to notch when an interference complaint is received. The SARL's view is that Radio Amateurs are licensed to operate on HF and that their rights should be protected.

Here Here!!!

There are many other issues on the table that still need resolving, and as soon
as the South African Amateur Society let us know, we'll bring it to the VK Ham populations notice... BPL truly a world wide problem child!!

BPL Interference - Not a dead parrot yet

Listeners may have the impression that, because there haven't been too many BPL news items from the WIA lately, that the threat of BPL interference in Australia is receding.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

Phil Waite VK2DKN reports

"BPL remains a serious threat to amateur radio. Everybody now knows that BPL interference to radio communications services is a serious problem that must be addressed, not least BPL equipment manufacturers who are striving to find ways to reduce the interference profile of their products.

Because of this, the WIA's focus has shifted from publicising BPL interference to the international Standards arena where decisions concerning permitted BPL interference limits will be made.

Most industrialised countries base their EMC limits on international Standards developed by the International Special Committee on Radio Interference, IEC, otherwise known as CISPR.

A group within CISPR, CISPR 22, determines the limits and measuring methods for radiated emission (through the air) and conducted emission (through the connecting cables) for information technology equipment, such as BPL equipment.

However CISPR22 limits and methods were developed a long time ago, long before BPL and other new communications technologies were thought of, and need to be revisited.

The WIA is a member of several Australian Standards committees having input to CISPR. In particular we are a member of a BPL working group making recommendations on BPL technology Standards.

The WIA's work on Standards committees involves more than just attending meetings. Recently we have taken hundreds of measurements of BPL emissions and co-produced a major report in preparation for an international meeting of CISPR to be held in Sydney this month. We have also measured ambient noise levels in an area we believe is likely to be used for a BPL trial. This vitally important work has taken a considerable amount of time and is the focus of our present activity.

Listeners will understand that much of the work we are doing in Standards committees, and elsewhere, is confidential and cannot be publicly released at this time. To have influence in these forums, we must abide by their rules and respect confidentiality requirements. The WIA will release as much information as it can to members as soon as is possible.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

VU2UKR Sunil from Delhi dropped us a line through the week to say that the 30 Meter band stretching from 10.100 to 10.150 MHz has been temporarily allocated to ALL Indian Hams to operate, The month of September only.

Also in India, Gopal VU2GMN in Chennai has just arrived home after attending the IARU Region 3 Directors meeting and posted this note to say "There are many items that will concern Indian amateurs".

Selecting a couple which will also interest us in VK (being part of region 3)

"the proposals that allocations be made to the amateur service to achieve a world wide exclusive band 7.0 to 7.3 MHz and a new secondary allocation around 5 MHz were not supported." The Directors agreed to report separately to member societies on these matters, making specific recommendations.

The Directors reviewed many other matters apart from preparation for WRC-07.

The Intruder report of B L Manohar "Arasu", VU2UR, the Regional MS Coordinator, was reviewed in depth, as were the concerns expressed by others. The need to provide better and more accessible information on this important service was identified and is being addressed. It was agreed to continue to seek action against certain intruders.

The difficulty reported by the Chairman of the Disaster Communications Committee, Jim Linton VK3PC to get responses from some societies was discussed. Also of concern was the potential barrier in national regulations that had not been up-dated to give effect to the changes to the international regulations following from WRC-03 to allow amateurs to practice the provision of emergency communications.

Gopal Madhavan
"Shreyas" Apartments
128(old63) Greenways Road
Chennai - 600 028

BE AWARE -- BE VERY AWARE

We tried to contact the folk involved in this next story, however it is an anonymous email and web address.

A station signing N6MRQ says he is giving free radios to hams in what he calls "3rd world countries!"

9 Ten Tec Radios away for free to deserving hams in poor nations. To win just submit a brief synopsis (about 300 words) of how you and your station serve your community!

A nice idea if true, and if you happen to win one, let us know so we may give credit where credits due... until then, just be aware!

Late news in say's "The Baker" was correct! HiHi.

VU2GMN again says, and I quote, "Ten Tec supports the STARS**** program in IARU
to promote amateur radio in developing countries and I was fooled into thinking
that this was an offshoot of that.

It has now been established that it is a hoax- one of our members contacted Ten Tec directly to verify and they do not know anything about it.

Obviously someone went to great length to fool us by sending to our e-mail ID's
and not as a general mail - So sorry if I led you all astray! Gopal."

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NEWS FROM ARNEWSLINE

GAREC-07 CELEBRATES EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS IN HUNTSVILLE

The third Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference took place August 16th and 17th in Huntsville, Alabama. This, just prior to the opening of the combined Huntsville Hamfest and 2007 ARRL National Convention. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, reports:

The ARRL Letter says that some 100 delegates from around the globe came to Huntsville, Alabama, for this global emergency communications gathering GAREC as it was called had a prevailing theme of how to apply advanced technologies to emergency communications. As such attendees were provided a sampling of just about everything pertaining to the Emergency Communications arena.

ARRL Alabama Section Manager Greg Sarratt, W4OZK, said many large and essential organizations that work with Emergency Communications sent representatives to Huntsville. This included representatives from the IARU, the ARRL, Army MARS, the American Red Cross, Southern Baptist Disaster Relief the Department of Homeland Security, The Salvation Army, industry and others. Also on hand were many Section Emergency Coordinators, District Emergency Coordinators and Emergency Coordinators from the ARRL field organization.

The League's Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, and its new Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager Dennis Dura, K2DCD, were among the presenters.. Pitts spoke about the need for a Public Information Officer to be in the Joint Information Centre at any ARES deployment.

Dura talked about using VoIP, EchoLink and IRLP for establishing and maintaining communications during hurricanes.

The session spent time discussing the methods of combining RF links to the Internet. This, to establish a cohesive network. The Voice over I P Hurricane Net is another tool that was discussed. Amateur Radio operators, the National Weather Service, the National Hurricane Centre and emergency managers use it jointly to gather detailed information on local conditions. Other presentations included the use of new technologies such as ALE, D-Star, Winlink 2000 and TSSG. TSSG is an advanced system being developed in Ireland.

The conference made a number of recommendation. Among this is to introduce the call sign suffix "/D." This would be used by those in the Amateur Radio Service who handle traffic related to emergency and disaster situations. This recommendation was made by Willem Visch, PG9W. He believes that it would let anyone listening immediately know there was emergency traffic and lessen the chances of someone unintentionally breaking in on an emergency net.

Another recommendation included the extension of "EmComm Party on-the-Air." These are Emergency Communications exercises already in place in ITU Region 1.

Seppo Sisatto, OH1VR, is the Region 1 representative. He proposed holding two annual international drills, lasting only 4 hours, beginning November 11. This, he said, recognizes that major calamities can and do cross international borders, and hams need to practice for such eventualities.

GAREC delegates also suggested that the IARU initiate studies in cooperation with its member societies and with specialized emergency communication groups These investigations would focus on the development and possible introduction of standard codes for use in international emergency communications. They would also look at the need for the development of a list of standard resource types.

They delegates also appealed to all of the IARU Member Societies, as well as specialized emergency communications groups, encouraging the acceptance to and ratification of the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Response Operations. That's a fancy way of saying that its time for all of the worlds radio oriented emergency communications providers to work hand in hand.

Other procedural issues were also covered at GAREC 2007. All attending consider the gathering to have been a major success.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennent, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

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WEIRD N WONDERFUL

APRS FOR HOOKERS JUSTIN VK7TW REPORTS

This story concerns the use of electronic over-the-air Automatic Position Reporting Systems (APRS) by prostitutes with radio equipment built right into specially designed platform shoes.

The GPS unit uses amateur radio frequencies to send data, which, ironically, was first developed at the United States Naval Academy (all the nice girls love a sailor...HIHI).

Note the mentioned use of Amateur Radio frequencies which, if true, would be an unauthorized use unless the hooker is a ham.

http://tinyurl.com/2xcp69
http://theaphroditeproject.tv/saftey/
http://www.bext.com/_CGC/

(Sourced from CG Communicator #807)

OPERATIONAL NEWS -

CONTEST COLUMN - D A T E L I N E

Good morning listeners, this is Peter Harding VK4OD this years RD manager.

This week sees a small trickle of mail and Electronic logs arrive for this years RD,

And again I picked up some errors, and I have contacted the sender and some of the software creators as to why the errors are occurring, again some operators not fully understanding the rules, concerning the bonus points system .

As this news goes to air on Sunday 9th Sept, you have less than 24 hours to get
your logs in. As from 18:00 tomorrow night Monday the 10th Sept, anything that is sent electronically will be rejected in the email dept. And snail mail will be returned unopened.

It was pleasing to see an operator from the very top of Cape York submit a log,
well done Lyn. (for those that know my XYL no it was not her). Our thanks go to
all those participated in this years RD contest, and now I am off to continue checking the entries.

NOVEMBER 17/18 VK Spring VHF-UHF Field Day

John Martin reports that this is a week later than in past years. The change of dates avoids clashes with some club activities that will taking place earlier in the month.

There are two minor changes in the rules:

1. Stations may enter both the 24 hour and 8 hour sections, but only if the station actually operates for more than 8 hours.
2. Changing locations: It is not in the spirit of the contest for grid-hoppers to set up more than one station and move between them. The rules now make it clear that not only the operator but also the station

must be moved when operating locations are changed.

Dates: Saturday and Sunday November 17 and 18, 2007.

Duration in all call areas other than VK6: 0100 UTC Saturday to 0100 UTC Sunday.

Duration in VK6 only: 0400 UTC Saturday to 0400 UTC Sunday.

The full contest details can be viewed here:

http://www.wia.org.au/contests/vu_fieldday/index.php

MEDIA WATCH

Also, importantly, when you send NATIONAL NEWS an item a couple of "must do's", and these have not changed over the years, just they seem to be forgotten or not passed on to club officers after elections etc.

1/ When you file audio always email us the script.

2/ When supplying script for someone else to read, PLEASE write as you'd expect to hear it! as an example always write in the 3rd person!! (Remember our readers are not you or your club so don't say things like "we are having a working bee... say 'club members' are having a working bee etc etc".)

3/ Don't send us links or photo's of stories , always write out the story in a manner in which it can be read and pasted to our text and audio services.

4/ If you want an item run 3 or more times, write different slants on the item, running the exact same item over and over would be dull/boring and lets face it, if you can't think of anything extra to say, that is probably a good sign that it will end up being a dull event!!

5/ WIA related material, eg BPL if Australian material will only be broadcast after clearance from the WIA unless said item is already in the public domain.

6/ Silent Keys are best sent to AR Magazine and your local state or club news rather than this WIA National News Service.

ARRL ANNOUNCES NEW FALL PUBLICATIONS

The ARRL has announced its new fall publications line-up. ARRL Sales and Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, said, "ARRL's fall line-up includes the biggest new publication introductions this year. These new books will keep you current with rapid advances in radio operating and experimentation."

The ARRL Handbook for Radio Communications - 2008 (Eighty-Fifth Edition) uniquely serves both amateur experimenters and industry practitioners, emphasizing connections between basic theory and application. This 85th edition is both a useful introduction to radio communication and a source for answers to questions about every aspect of the state-of-the-art. Topics

include Amateur Radio licensing requirements and operating activities, fundamental and advanced electronics and communications concepts, radio propagation and antenna theory, practical projects, repair techniques, references and much more. The Handbook includes descriptions for new and emerging wireless technologies involving digital signal processing (DSP) innovations, and radio applications utilizing software and the Internet. The book is filled with valuable references, practical examples and projects. The CD-ROM at the back of the book includes all of the fully searchable text and illustrations in the printed book!

ok, as well as companion software, PC board templates and other support files.

Revisions to the 2008 Handbook include new filter theory and design examples, including a HF/6 meter high-power low-pass filter project, and revised and expanded RF safety content -- including new insights into RF safety regulations and research. New projects include: MKII updated universal QRP transmitter; MicroR2 receiver and MicroT2 transmitter; ID-O-Matic-10-minute ID timer for individual, repeater or beacon control; simple computer-to-transceiver serial port interface and USB interface; keying adapter to interface vintage radios with modern gear (CW keying or amplifier TR keying), and more.

The softcover edition of the Handbook sells for $44.95; the hardcover sells for $59.95. As an early bird bonus, the ARRL Software Library for Hams CD-ROM, v 2.0, will be included with each Handbook ordered before October 31, 2007; this is a $20 value. The CD includes quick access to utilities, applications, and information; software for contesting, digital voice, HF digital (PSK31, MFSK16, MT63, and RTTY), meteor scatter and moonbounce, book excerpts and more, as well as programs for APRS, Winlink 2000, packet radio and satellite tracking. Both editions will be available in early October.

ARRL's HF Digital Handbook -- Fourth Edition is your guide to understanding the most active HF digital communication modes in use today. There is something here for every radio operator -- beginners and more advanced operators alike. And, as this technology rapidly advances, your increased understanding of digital communication techniques will make certain that you stay in the race as new modes and methods unfold. This 4th edition book includes expanded station setup information, discussion of PSKMail and other varieties of PSK, new content on Olivia, DominoEX, HF digital voice and image modes, and Automatic Link Establishment. Are you just getting started with exploring digital communications? All it takes is your sound-card-equipped computer and your HF transceiver. ARRL's HF Digital Handbook will guide you through the rest. This softcover book will be available in early October for $19.95.

ARRL's Low Power Communication -- Third Edition shows how you can explore the excitement of low-power radio operating. Discover how to build and operate low-power radio gear - the QRP way, with sections on equipment and station accessories, antennas and operating strategies. There are new sections on Emergency Communication and surplus military equipment, including how to restore and use this classic radio hardware. This book can be purchased alone

for $19.95 and includes the complete assembly manual for the MFJ Cub Transceiver Kit, or with the MFJ-9340K 40M QRP-Cub CW Transceiver Kit for $99.95. Both editions will be available in early October.

FCC Rules and Regulations for the Amateur Radio Service is now available for only $5.95. The new 8-1/2 x 11 reference contains the complete Part 97 rules from Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations, effective February 23, 2007.

Antenna Compendium Volume 4, the popular antenna book from 1995, is being reprinted due to increasing demand. This is the fourth in the popular ARRL Antenna Compendium series. You'll find 38 articles inside, covering a wide range of topics. There are simple, practical antenna projects, and there are heavy-duty, theoretical treatments of complex arrays. When the sunspots are low, head for the low-bands - seven articles are devoted to 80 and 160 meters including some truly gargantuan arrays. There are articles for mobile work, too. A section on portable or temporary antennas that will get you thinking about Field Day in June, regardless of what time of year you read it. The Antenna Compendium Volume 4 will be available in September for only $20.

AC Power Interference Handbook, 3rd edition, revised, looks at the causes, effects, locating and correction of power-line and electrical interference, and includes a new locating concept! "This easy-to-read, very practical book, is a must for anyone responsible for solving interference problems." -- Vern Chartier, past chairman, IEEE T&D Committee. AC Power Interference Handbook is written by Marv Loftness, KB7KK, and published by Percival Technology. ARRL is the worldwide distributor for this title.

These books, as well as the complete ARRL library, are available from the ARRL Online store
www.arrl.org/catalog/>.

VHF AND ABOVE

Serious 2m DX

Queensland to Western Australia on 2-metres is the aim this summer of an active VHF operator John Bisgrove VK4KK who is looking for serious VK6 stations to run skeds.

Jim Linton VK3PC says John is located at Gympie in grid square QF62HT and he's well equipped including being able to run a legal limit manned beacon 12 hours a day.

If you're in VK6, and a VHF DXer, then John VK4KK wants to hear from you. His email address is rainy.day@bigpond.com

THE LOWDOWN COLUMN INCLUDING PRECISION BEACON TRANSMISSIONS
Join the DownUnder LF Group's Mailing List:
http://www.egroups.com/list/lofexp/
lowexp@egroups
BEACONS www.qsl.net/zl1bpu/micro/Precision

SWEDEN: NORDIC HF CONFERENCE
Posted by: "Ray (VU3ORN)" vu3orn@gmail.com vu3orn

The latest Nordic High Frequency Conference was held August 14th to the 17th.

The 3 day program covers Very Low Frequency, Low Frequency as well as High Frequency operations.

The conference was initially planned for a limited audience of Nordic countries now. It has since gone international with contributions of papers, exhibits and participants from around the globe.

The Nordic conferences on H-F communications began back in 1986 in Sweden. Since then the event has been held every 3 years at Faro Island off Sweden's south-eastern coast. More about the Nordic HF Conference is on-line at http://www.nordichf.org

BB's DIARY ROOM - THE FUTURE, IN AMATEUR RADIO

2008

Sept 13 Alarameet 2008 will be held in Ulverstone Tasmania on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th September 2008. Susan VK7LUV for details.

2009
International Telecommunication Union's Telecom World 2009.

14th IARU R3 Conference Christchurch 12 - 16 October, 2009.

SOCIAL SCENE

SEPTEMBER 8
SUNSHINE COAST HAMFEST at Woombye School of Arts Hall.

SEPTEMBER 9 Shepparton and District Amateur Radio Club Hamfest
St. Augustine's Hall Orr St.

SEPTEMBER 21-23
North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention
Happening in twin cities of Thuringowa and Townsville.

SEPTEMBER 22-23

Brett Dawson VK2CBD down in the Orana Region ARC says the CSIRO Parkes Radio Telescope will be holding open days Saturday 22 and Sunday 23rd of September. The Orana Region Amateur Radio Club, the Orange & Districts Amateur Radio Club and the WIA will be on site with interesting demonstrations and they'll be talking to anyone who wants to know about how to get involved in amateur radio. There will be other attractions as well including helicopter rides, a jumping castle and face painting for the kids, as well as an outdoors screening of the movie "The Dish" on Saturday evening.

OCTOBER 6
Gold Coast Amateur Radio Society Annual Hamfest at Albert Waterways Hall.

NOVEMBER 4
The Ballarat Hamvention at the Great Southern Woolshed located on the Western Highway on the Melbourne Side of Ballarat. General entry for $6:00 is from 10am. details at the BARG website

www.barg.org.au

DECEMBER 2
Westlakes Amateur Radio Clubs Christmas Party will be held at the Eastern Tiger Restaurant, which is located in the Cardiff RSL building, interested? get in touch with VK2FDNE Diane.

JANUARY 20 2008

The Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group invite all amateurs to attend the 2008 Mid North Coast Radio Expo to be held in Coffs Harbour on Sunday 20th January.

The Expo is held at the St Johns Church Hall, Mc Lean Street, Coffs Harbour. Gary VK2ZKT is the Radio Expo Coordinator on 02 66 55 2 990 or visit the Groups comprehensive web site at www.mncarg.org

FEBRUARY 10 2008

Announcing Centre Victoria RadioFest No. 2.
Second-hand traders, club corner, short-talk lectures, displays and the popular dipole factory will all return, plus some new exciting activities to be announced later.
All major commercial traders have already made commitments to be there again in 2008.
For second hand table bookings that cost only $12.50 please contact Nick Angelo VK3UCK 0488 653 201, or check out the website radiofest.amateurradio.com.au

THE FINAL FINAL

WALKS

Jeff VK4XJJ has finished his walk across Australia.

But he still wants to hear from YOU!

Every Day, from 5:30pm Eastern on 40 meters, 7045 put out a call to VK4XJJ

www.jeffswalk.com

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WIANews - we've reported...YOU decide.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".

Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of the National WIA.

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WIANews THANKS OUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS , OUR RELAY OPERATORS ACROSS THE WORLD FOR FORWARDING INFORMATION AND COMMENTS THEIR LISTENERS HAVE PASSED ON TO MAKE WIANews VK'S LEADING WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PROGRAM.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au
Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".
Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of QNEWS for the National WIA.
Thanks to to our dedicated band of broadcast volunteers who utilize their time and equipment in bringing you this weekly broadcast.
The purpose of "WIANews" is to rapidly provide news of interest to active amateurs residing in Australia and the globe.
We strongly encourage membership in the Wireless Institute of Australia and participation in the activities of local clubs.
Opinions expressed in "WIANews" are those of the writers who submit material and do not necessarily reflect those of the rebroadcasters, nor the National WIA.
Material may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, a credit to WIANews wouldn't go astray...
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1509. Re: TVI in the digital age

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-09 02:17:47 UTC
From: Doug Smith W9WI <w9wi@invalid.nospam>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.09.08.22.49.19.490107@invalid.nospam>
Source record: 3914

On Sun, 26 Aug 2007 21:51:07 -0400, Dave Platt wrote:
> The artifacts seen on digital TV, such as they are, are very different
> from TVI artifacts on an NTSC broadcast signal. You won't see (or
> hear) sound bars, hum bars, herringbone, buzz, at all (unless perhaps
> your TVI is so powerful that it's getting directly into the final,
> analog stages of the TV... not likely unless you're running a kilowatt
> right next door).

Though given so many people are on cable/satellite these days, I would suggest that post-demodulator pickup will probably be the more common type of interference...

Sound bars, hum bars, and herringbone are all a function of analog reception. You won't notice any of that on a DTV receiver.

As Dave says, macroblocking and complete dropouts will be the most common problem. I doubt you'll see any other type of interference to the picture.

Direct RF pickup on external audio wiring will probably be a bigger problem. It'll sound just like RFI on stereo equipment. (since that's essentially what it is...)

1510. IRTS Radio News Bulletin, Sunday September 9th 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-09 20:00:27 UTC
From: news at irts dot ie <devnull@panix.com>
Message-ID: <200709092000.l89K07X17050@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 3915
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Irish Radio Transmitters Society
Radio News Bulletin

Sunday September 9th 2007

SSB Field Day

The SSB Field Day, held last weekend, seems to have attracted only one EI entry. Shannon Basin Club, using the call sign EI3Z/P, operated from the grounds of Garbally College. Propagation on the high bands during the weekend was generally poor the club had no QSO s on 10 metres and just a few on 15 metres. 20 metres produced some excellent DX at times, but suffered from deep fading at other times. Weather conditions were good for the field day station and the operators and visitors to the site enjoyed a barbecue on Saturday evening, prepared by Tony EI3HA.

Counties Contest

All who participated in the 2 metre counties contest, even those who gave out just a few points, are encouraged to send in their logs to the Contest Manager. The latest date for log entry is the 25th of September.

CQIR

September is well upon us and our premier international event for our Jubilee year, the CQIR Contest is just around the corner.

A quick Internet search will demonstrate just how much interest there is in the event from the international radio community. We hope your plans for the event are well advanced and we have set ourselves an ambitious target to have 250 EI and GI stations on the bands for part or all of the weekend. This is more of a QSO party than a contest so we would encourage the non-contesters to get involved and fly the flag for Ireland and the Society on the 29th and 30th next.

EI75IRTS will be QRV for the event with the LF nighttime operation from the EI7M site in Cork and a HF station for the Press located in the Phoenix Park in Dublin. In respect of the Dublin station, we are anxious to have some young operators on the operating team. If you are between 15 and 25 years of age, licensed or not, and are interested in helping out, please contact Paul EI2CA on 087 2523908 or email &#65533;paul at comma dot ie&#65533;.

EI0MAR

Tony, EI5EM, has updated and expanded the information booklet about the Vintage Radio Museum in Howth. As well as being a guide to the museum, the booklet is a potted history of the development of wireless technology. It details the 1903 and 1905 experiments carried out in Howth by Lee de Forestand the Marconi Company, and quotes from documents published at the time. A full page reproduction of the Dublin Penny Journal's report on de Forest's 1903 experiments is reproduced in the booklet.

This 22-page booklet is on sale in the museum for a small sum, but it can now be downloaded free from a link at the bottom of the museum website which is http://ei5em.110mb.com/museum.html . The website can also be easily located from the Google search engine with the keywords "museum, wireless, Howth."

EI75IRTS has been QRV from the museum for the last three weekends, mainly on 20-metres CW. The call-sign will also be QRV today (9 Sept.) and if conditions are favourable, the 40-metre band will be the main focus, SSB and CW.

Limerick Radio Club

The next meeting of the Club will be on the Thursday 11th of October at the usual venue, the Limerick Institute of Technology, Moylish at 19:30 hrs local time. All those interested are welcome to attend.

Theory Classes

There is a free course for the forthcoming radio theory exam running in the Ballyroan Community centre, Marian Rd, hosted by South Dublin Radio Club. It is held between eight and ten p.m. on Tuesday evenings. Also there will be a course held in Crossakiel, Kells held

on a Wednesday 8:30 to 10:30, hosted by the newly founded CARA club (Crossakiel Amateur Radio Association).

Also anyone interested in radio will find a visit to the clubs enjoyable. Call Michael (EI2GKB) on 0872481970 for details.

Upcoming Rallies

Cork Radio Club Rally will take place on Sunday the 23rd of September in the Blarney Park Hotel. For information contact Con on 021-427136.

The Waterford Rally will take place on Sunday the 21st of October in the Woodlands Hotel, Waterford. For more information visit www.searg.com.

The Foyle and District Rally will take place on Sunday the 4th of November 2007 at the White Horse Hotel, Derry. For more information visit www.mn0aku.org.uk.

The Mayo Radio Rally will take place on Sunday the 18th of November in the Belmount Hotel, Knock, Co. Mayo. For more information contact Padraic Baynes, EI9JA @ QTHR.

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall, EI7IS at QTHR or by phone to 051-853806 or 087-6302026. Items for the radio news can also be faxed to 087 5 6302026. News should be submitted via e-mail to &#65533;news at irts dot ie&#65533; for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Friday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday&#65533;s bulletin.

1511. What's a good Gel Cell battery to extend operating time with a HT?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-10 16:49:33 UTC
From: Dick Grady AC7EL <rng@richbonnie.com>
Message-ID: <qksae399eh8e89nkueim07ejsk2rrl90s1@4ax.com>
Source record: 3916

I'm looking for a portable rechargeable 12-volt battery, probably a gel cell, to extend my operating time with a VHF/UHF hand-held to about 12 hours of use.
I envision that I could power my radio by connecting its cigarette lighter power adapter to the portable battery. The portable battery should be comfortable to carry with me, for example: attached to my belt, or with an over-the-shoulder strap. Any ideas?
73 de Dick, AC7EL

1512. Re: What's a good Gel Cell battery to extend operating time with a HT?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-10 17:14:44 UTC
From: Cecil Moore <nospam@w5dxp.com>
Message-ID: <QXeFi.2179$Sd4.1704@nlpi061.nbdc.sbc.com>
Source record: 3917

Dick Grady AC7EL wrote:
> I'm looking for a portable rechargeable 12-volt battery, probably a gel cell, to
> extend my operating time with a VHF/UHF hand-held to about 12 hours of use.
> I envision that I could power my radio by connecting its cigarette lighter power
> adapter to the portable battery. The portable battery should be comfortable to
> carry with me, for example: attached to my belt, or with an over-the-shoulder
> strap. Any ideas?

Estimate the number of hours out of that 12 hours
that you would be transmitting. Multiply that by
the current consumption during transmit. Multiply
the rest of the hours by the current consumption
during receive. Add them together to get an
estimate of the necessary ampere*hour rating
for the gel cell. Be sure to take into account
the minimum operating voltage required by the
hand-held.
--
73, Cecil http://www.w5dxp.com

1513. Re: What's a good Gel Cell battery to extend operating time with a HT?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-10 18:59:25 UTC
From: kelly@dvol.com
Message-ID: <1189445607.034227.116420@19g2000hsx.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3918

On Sep 10, 12:49 pm, Dick Grady AC7EL <r...@richbonnie.com> wrote:
> I'm looking for a portable rechargeable 12-volt battery, probably a gel cell, to
> extend my operating time with a VHF/UHF hand-held to about 12 hours of use.
> I envision that I could power my radio by connecting its cigarette lighter power
> adapter to the portable battery. The portable battery should be comfortable to
> carry with me, for example: attached to my belt, or with an over-the-shoulder
> strap. Any ideas?
> 73 de Dick, AC7EL

I suggest you start here:

http://www.batterystuff.com/tutorial_battery.html

Then "run the numbers" per Cecil's post above.

Then Google "Gel Cell Batteries".

http://www.batterystation.com/gelcell.htm

http://www.batterymart.com/c-sealed-lead-acid-batteries.html

w3rv

1514. Re: What's a good Gel Cell battery to extend operating time with a HT?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-10 19:54:19 UTC
From: dplatt@radagast.org
Message-ID: <1rigr4-9cs.ln1@radagast.org>
Source record: 3919

In article <QXeFi.2179$Sd4.1704@nlpi061.nbdc.sbc.com>,
Cecil Moore <nospam@w5dxp.com> wrote:

>Estimate the number of hours out of that 12 hours
>that you would be transmitting. Multiply that by
>the current consumption during transmit. Multiply
>the rest of the hours by the current consumption
>during receive. Add them together to get an
>estimate of the necessary ampere*hour rating
>for the gel cell. Be sure to take into account
>the minimum operating voltage required by the
>hand-held.

... but do consider the possible benefits of using a lower-voltage battery. A lot of popular 2-meter HTs will develop a watt or so of output power on 6 volts, and a couple of watts on 8 volts. You only need 10-12 volts into the radio if you absolutely insist on getting the full 5 watts out.

Such an HT, fed from a 6-volt SLA battery, and equipped with a full-length "spaghetti noodle" whip antenna and a rat-tail wire counterpoise, would probably outperform the same radio fed from 12 volts but using only the standard lossy "rubber duck" antenna... and it would do so on both receive and transmit. The battery would weight only about half as much... or, conversely, would allow for twice the amp-hour capacity at the same battery weight.

--
Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO
Friends of Jade Warrior home page: http://www.radagast.org/jade-warrior
I do _not_ wish to receive unsolicited commercial email, and I will
boycott any company which has the gall to send me such ads!

1515. RF in shack, GFCI issues

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-12 09:56:59 UTC
From: BNB Sound <jon@bnbsound.com>
Message-ID: <1189573998.886060.73400@y42g2000hsy.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3920

I set up my Icom 735 in my shack, grounded the radio and tuner to a copper bus salvaged from an old fuse box with #12 wire. The bus is attached to a ground rod directly outside the window with six feet of #4 THHN. The antenna is a fan dipole cut for 40 and 20, 38 feet up on top of the house. Field strength numbers are from a Radio Shack SWR/FS meter and therefore completely arbitrary.

The GFCI outlet that protects the circuit the rig is on would sometimes operate fine for hours, and sometimes trip even with the rig power at the lowest setting. I finally got to taking some readings and found that I was having the most trouble on 40 meters. I changed my grounding several times until I finally arrived at the current configuration. The situation improved somewhat, and the thing rarely, if ever, trips on other bands. The readings from the FS meter seemed to be all over the place. Sometimes the GFCI would trip when the meter was reading 1 and sometimes it would work fine with the needle pegged.

I didn't take enough readings to generate a clear picture of what's happening, but it would appear that it was sensitive to very small segments of the 40 meter band. Power output and grounding factors seemed to have little if anything to do with it. I could have long QSOs, spin 20kc down the dial and pop the thing off. Another interesting issue is that since I swapped out the GFCI for a regular duplex outlet, there's less RF in the shack.

I assume the internal components were either part of, or reacting to, some ground loop issues. Anyway, I said all that just so I could ask if anyone else has had a similar experience, or if anyone has a better understanding of the physics/electrical engineering issues behind the problem.

Thanks in advance,
73
Jon - KC2PNF

1516. Re: RF in shack, GFCI issues

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-12 12:59:18 UTC
From: Cecil Moore <nospam@w5dxp.com>
Message-ID: <qoRFi.14924$3x.5792@newssvr25.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 3921

BNB Sound wrote:
> I assume the internal components were either part of, or reacting to,
> some ground loop issues. Anyway, I said all that just so I could ask
> if anyone else has had a similar experience, or if anyone has a better
> understanding of the physics/electrical engineering issues behind the
> problem.

The fan dipole is a balanced antenna. Coax is an
unbalanced feedline. Did you follow good engineering
practice and install a balun at the BALanced to
UNbalanced junction? I suspect you have common-mode
current problems (on your outside coax braid) which
a 1:1 current-choke-balun (or two) could reduce.
--
73, Cecil http://www.w5dxp.com

1517. Re: RF in shack, GFCI issues

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-12 16:20:21 UTC
From: richgr@panix.com
Message-ID: <fc93fr$mi3$1@reader1.panix.com>
Source record: 3922

In article <1189573998.886060.73400@y42g2000hsy.googlegroups.com>,
BNB Sound <jon@bnbsound.com> wrote:
>I set up my Icom 735 in my shack, grounded the radio and tuner to a
>copper bus salvaged from an old fuse box with #12 wire. The bus is
>attached to a ground rod directly outside the window with six feet of
>#4 THHN. The antenna is a fan dipole cut for 40 and 20, 38 feet up on
>top of the house. Field strength numbers are from a Radio Shack SWR/FS
>meter and therefore completely arbitrary.
>
>The GFCI outlet that protects the circuit the rig is on would
>sometimes operate fine for hours, and sometimes trip even with the rig

Replace the GFCI with a new one of a different brand.

--
Rich Greenberg N Ft Myers, FL, USA richgr atsign panix.com + 1 239 543 1353
Eastern time. N6LRT I speak for myself & my dogs only. VM'er since CP-67
Canines:Val, Red, Shasta & Casey (RIP), Red & Zero, Siberians Owner:Chinook-L
Retired at the beach Asst Owner:Sibernet-L

1518. Re: RF in shack, GFCI issues

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-12 17:47:10 UTC
From: Al Schmidt <kd6nt@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <d%SFi.7460$qV3.6627@trndny02>
Source record: 3923

"Cecil Moore" <nospam@w5dxp.com> wrote in message
news:qoRFi.14924$3x.5792@newssvr25.news.prodigy.net...
> BNB Sound wrote:
>> I assume the internal components were either part of, or reacting to,
>> some ground loop issues. Anyway, I said all that just so I could ask
>> if anyone else has had a similar experience, or if anyone has a better
>> understanding of the physics/electrical engineering issues behind the
>> problem.
>
> The fan dipole is a balanced antenna. Coax is an
> unbalanced feedline. Did you follow good engineering
> practice and install a balun at the BALanced to
> UNbalanced junction? I suspect you have common-mode
> current problems (on your outside coax braid) which
> a 1:1 current-choke-balun (or two) could reduce.
> --
> 73, Cecil http://www.w5dxp.com
>
I solved my GFCI issues with small valued capacitors line to natural at the
GFCI. I don't think the GFCIs like RF. If you try this make sure you use
capacitors rated for line voltage use.

KD6NT

1519. [RAC-Bulletin] #15 - RAC Online Store and Online Dues Payment Return

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-13 17:26:08 UTC
From: John Iliffe <john.iliffe@sympatico.ca>
Message-ID: <46E971E1.72A2AB3E@sympatico.ca>
Source record: 3924
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Amateurs are reminded that the RAC Store, accessible from the RAC home page at http://www.rac.ca/store , provides an online method to order a variety of RAC and ARES items, as well as to facilitate new and renewal RAC memberships and/or TCA subscriptions.

All orders or renewals processed through the online facilities wil receive an immediate e-mail confirmation. Please enter your normal e-mail address for the confirmation it cannot be forwarded through a <callsign>@rac.ca address.

Sent by the RAC Bulletins from RACHQ mailing list robot.
Send comments to: rachq@rac.ca
For more information about the email robot, please visit:
http://rac.eton.ca/racbullemail.htm

1520. Re: What's a good Gel Cell battery to extend operating time with a HT?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-14 00:06:36 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <9njje3hst73e8g7o848ubjc61kcf4l0ek7@4ax.com>
Source record: 3925

On Mon, 10 Sep 2007 13:14:44 EDT, Cecil Moore <nospam@w5dxp.com>
wrote:

>Estimate the number of hours out of that 12 hours
>that you would be transmitting. Multiply that by
>the current consumption during transmit. Multiply
>the rest of the hours by the current consumption
>during receive. Add them together to get an
>estimate of the necessary ampere*hour rating
>for the gel cell. Be sure to take into account
>the minimum operating voltage required by the
>hand-held.

I just got through trying to get discharge curves for my station's 12V
Group 27 AGM batteries (for those not familiar with "group" ratings,
this is the size of the battery normally found in compact or larger
automobiles). The manufacturer is Trojan Batteries, a very reputable
battery manufacturer.

What I needed was discharge curves for the battery down to 11.5V which
I have found (the hard way) is the minimum voltage below which most of
my electronic equipment starts going flaky.

>From the data that they supplied, for a discharge down to 11.5 V the
AH capacity of a battery is to be derated to 68% of the "industry
standard" 10.5V AH rating.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1521. Re: RF in shack, GFCI issues

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-14 04:16:41 UTC
From: BNB Sound <jon@bnbsound.com>
Message-ID: <1189731111.392988.188720@57g2000hsv.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3926

Thanks for the tips. There is a balun installed at the feedpoint,
forgot to mention that. I also forgot to mention changing the GFCI,
eventually trying all of three brands available in town. The
interesting thing, I thought, was that there was less RF present in
the shack after I took the last one out.

73,
Jon
KC2PNF

1522. [DXNL] DXNL 1536 (Sep 12, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-14 16:42:33 UTC
From: Robert Busch - DL7VOA <dxnl@dxhf.darc.de>
Message-ID: <146447255809.20070914183834@dxhf.darc.de>
Source record: 3927
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.dx,rec.radio.info

DXNL 1536 - Sep 12, 2007
DX Newsletter

a free and weekly service of
DARC Committee "DX and HF contesting"
(http://www.darcdxhf.de)

editor: Helmut Schlaffer, DL7MAE
(e-mail: dxnl@dxhf.darc.de)

translation by: Bob, DL7VOA
(e-mail: dl7voa@darc.de)

C5 - GAMBIA
Andre,ON7YK, plans to hit the bands once again as C56YK from Sep 14-27.
He announces SSB operation on 10-80m running 100 watts into a FD4.
QSL cards should be sent to his homecall.
An online QSL exchange is possible via http://www.eQSL.cc

FH - MAYOTTE, AF-027
Alain,F4RPW, moved to Mayotte (AF-027) and is now licensed as FH1LE.
He intends to show up in SSB/CW/PSK/RTTY with 100 watts, vertical and
a KT-34 yagi antenna.

FP - ST PIERRE ET MIQUELON, NA-032
John,FP/W9ILY, and Bob,FP/K9MDO are working from NA-032 from Sep 12-18.
While Bob prefers working primarily in SSB John takes care of the
digital modes RTTY and PSK. They are QRV on all bands from 10-80m using
two TS-570D radios and verticals which they stored at the hotel since
their last DXpedition. The QSL manager for FP/K9MDO is W9NJB.
W9ILY handles his QSLs himself. QSL via bureau is ok for both calls and
the logs of FP/W9ILY will be uploaded to the LotW after the operation.

OH0 - ALAND ISLANDS, EU-002
OH0Z will take part in both parts of the Scandinavian Activity Contest.
OH1JT will be the OP during the SAC Contest in CW on Sep 15/16.
The SSB part one week later will be operated by OH1RX, OH9MM and maybe
also other OPs. QSL via W0MM.

OJ0 - MARKET REEF, EU-053
OJ0B logged some 13.000 QSOs during August and the team members were
very busy mounting newer and better antennas on the lighthouse. The
second activity will be operated by OH0RJ, OH2BH, OH2MM, OH2PM, OH7EA
and OH8NC from Sep 15-24. They plan to work with up to three stations
during both SAC Contests (CW/SSB). Outside of the contest check here:
CW: 3.523, 7.023, 10.113, 14.033, 18.083, 21.033, 24.903, 28.033 MHz;

SSB: 3.775, 7.075, 14.175, 18.135, 21.275, 24.960 and 28.475 MHz.
Martti,OH2BH, will be the QSL manager again. Stamp collectors may get
special stamps from the market reef for 7 EUR or 10 US-$.

TK - CORSICA, EU-014
Heinz,TK/DF6ZY, will be active from Corsica (EU-014) from Sep 15-28.
His preferred mode is RTTY on 80-10m but he works also in SSB or SSTV
upon request. QSLs via DARC bureau or direct to his homecall.

4O - MONTENEGRO
K6MYC, N6TQS, I2MQP, JA1BK and UT5UT are going to visit Gojko,YU6AO,
from Sep 17-21. They will use his shack signing 4O1AO and 4O1M in CW/
SSB/RTTY/PSK31/SSTV/EME on 2-160m. All together will go to the
World High Speed Telegraphy Championship (HST) which takes place in
Belgrad (http://www.hst2007.org) from Sep 21-23. Last not least they
are also planning a side trip to the station of Hrane,YT1AD, from where
they will be QRV as YT5A until Sep 26.

8Q - MALEDIVES, AS-013
Chris,M0AJT, is working as 8Q7CT mostly in CW and only little SSB from
Dhonveli Island (AS-013) from Sep 7-14. His holiday equipment includes
a FT-900 with 100 watts and a G-Whip vertical.

ENGLAND, SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS
The "Scarborough Special Events Group" will be active as GB2QE on
Sep 15/16 to celebrate the 40th birthday of the ocean liner
"Queen Elizabeth 2". All QSOs will be confirmed via buro automatically.
Direct cards should be sent to G4SSH.

SPAIN, SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS
The ITU was founded as the "International Telegraph Union" in Paris in
1865. The modern name "International Telecommunication Union" has been
determined at a conference in Madrid in 1932. To mark the 75th anniver-
sary of this date all stations in Spain may use special prefixes
(AO for EA, AN for EB, AM for EC) between Sep 3 and Dec 9.

SILENT KEY
Gilles Simeon,F5PVF, who passed away on September 7 was one of the
active members of the "Radio Club de Provins" (F6KOP). He was also
involved in the planning of the DXpeditions 5V7C, 5H1C, TO7C and XT2C.

PIRATE: The call OH0Z was heavily misused by a pirate especially on 10.1 MHz
during the past time. Before you send a QSL to OH0Z please use their
online logsearch at: http://www.oh0z.net

LINKS: Current SOTA activities (mountain summits) are announced at:
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/activations.php or
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/spots.php

UPCOMING CONTESTS

Sep 15/16: Scandinavian Activity Contest (SAC) in CW

IOTA collected by Fredy,DE0MST (e-mail: iota@dxhf.darc.de)

Island activities:
EU-001, SV5, Dodekanes: Drew,GM3YOR, is going to spend his holiday on
Symi Island (Simi) from Sep 16-29. QSL via homecall.

EU-072, SV8, Thessalia Region Grp: Zdenek,9A/OK1MBZ, and Jindrich,9A/OK1MKI,
are activating Skopelos Island in CW from Sep 10-20.QSLs via homecalls.

EU-165, IS0, Sardinia's Coastal Islands: A team of the Sardinia QRP Club
will activate Quirra Island (IIA CA-009) signing IM0/IQ0QP on Sep 16
from 1000-1600 UTC.
QSL direct via PO Box 81, 09047 Selargius (CA), Sardinia, Italy.

NA-010, VE1, NS Province Group: Andre,VE1/GM3VLB, is working from the island
Cape Breton from Sep 12-17 and from Isle Madame on Sep 17/18.
He was already active as VY2/GM3VLB from Prince Edward Island (NA-029)
from Sep 9-12. QSLs via homecall (direct).

Lighthouse activities (WLOTA/ARLHS)

SV8/OK1MBZ LH 2221 Sep 10-20
SV8/OK1MKI LH 2221 Sep 10-20
SV5/ON4BB LH 0045 Sep 11-25
SV5/ON5JE LH 0045 Sep 11-25
SV9/G0SGB/p LH 1400 Sep 12-25
FP/W9ILY LH 1417 SPM-002 Sep 13-18
FP/K9MDO LH 1417 SPM-002 Sep 13-18
W3B USA-060 Sep 14/15
HQ0S or HQ6S LH 0061 Sep 23-28
YX5IOTA VEN-007 Sep 24-30
TK9Z LH 1390 Sep 28-Oct 5
JW8DW LH 0125 Oct 1-7
JW/OZ1HPS LH 0125 Oct 1-7
3C7Y LH 2977 Oct 5-14
IC8/OE1MHL LH 0689 Oct 7-12

Bandspots of the last 7 days

160m
3B7C 1.822 2303Z via G3NUG (B) (L)

80m
A52AM 3.793 2201Z via JA0JHA (B)
AN6EB 3.793 2049Z via EA4RCH (B)
3A/AI5P 3.508 1950Z via AI5P (B)
3B7C 3.795 1710Z via G3NUG (B) (L)

40m
AN4EB 7.014 2110Z via EA4RCH (B)
AN5EB 7.077 2144Z via EA4RCH (B)
AN7AEY 7.075 1804Z
AN7EB 7.056 1823Z via EA4RCH (B)

AO7HGS 7.056 1939Z via EA7URD
EI/DL5SE 7.009 0654Z
GH6UW 7.058 1609Z via M0BLF (B)
GH6UW 7.019 0626Z via M0BLF (B)
GI/DL5SE 7.004 0652Z
MD0LON 7.004 2202Z via DF1LON (B)
OE16B 7.085 0715Z see QRZ.com
OZ/DL1ANT/p 7.032 1629Z EU-088
OZ/DL6LZM 7.037 0903Z EU-172
OZ1DYI/p 7.057 0734Z EU-125, via bureau
PP5/DJ4CW 7.008 2154Z via AI4U (B)
R450KB 7.021 1903Z via UA6XT
YY4ABH 7.067 2341Z
3A/AI5P 7.013 1846Z via AI5P (B)
3Z0MSPO 7.058 2122Z via SP7PKI
4X0M 7.094 2102Z via 4X6HX

30m
CM6CAC 10.105 2237Z via EA5KB (B)
EG1SDC 10.106 2205Z via EA1AUM (B)
F/HB9ASZ/p 10.115 2056Z EU-074, via HB9ASZ
GH6UW 10.123 2222Z via M0BLF (B)
HF50SLO 10.110 2255Z via SP9PNB
J3/DL7VOG 10.114 2226Z NA-147, via DL7VOG (B)
XE3ARV 10.105 2251Z via EB7AEY (d)
YB9/PA0RRS 10.106 1550Z OC-022,via PA0RRS (B)
ZD8RH 10.106 2208Z via G4DBW (B)
3A/AI5P 10.109 1542Z via AI5P (B)
3B7C 10.109 2234Z via G3NUG (B) (L)

20m
AO1AHO 14.210 0814Z via EA1AHO
AO9IB 14.240 1758Z via EA9IB (B)
ID8/IZ2HXV 14.170 0703Z EU-144
J3/DL7VOG 14.264 1934Z NA-147, via DL7VOG (B)
J48XG 14.022 1856Z EU-052, via HA4XG (B)
K3RWN 14.260 2125Z NA-110
KH6ZM 14.085 0743Z via I0MWI (d)
OZ/DL6LZM 14.085 0808Z EU-172, RTTY, via HC/B
PP5/DJ4CW 14.260 1438Z via AI4U (B)
R450AD 14.082 0711Z RTTY, via UA6YW
TA4/LZ1VB 14.022 1932Z via LZ1VB (B)
VE9MY/VE2 14.260 1428Z via VE9MY (B)
XU7TZG 14.217 1808Z via ON7PP (d)
3B7C 14.142 1635Z via G3NUG (B) (L)
3B7C 14.022 1544Z via G3NUG (B) (L)
9V1DE 14.206 1735Z (B)

17m
AN5EB 18.075 0805Z via EA4RCH (B)
3B7C 18.109 1701Z via G3NUG (B) (L)

3B7C 18.109 0555Z via G3NUG (B) (L)
7Z1HL 18.077 1153Z via DJ9ZB (B)

10m
AN5EB 28.022 0910Z via EA4RCH (B)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = LotW

Preview

DATE CALL DXNL

07Sep-24Sep 3B7C 1511/35
Sep 3D2 (JA8BMK) 1534
Nov/Dec 3D2AG/Rotuma 1522
2006 -2007 3XM6JR 1484
17Sep-21Sep 4O1M & 4O1AO 1536 *
-Apr/08 5H0RS 1515
07Sep-17Sep 5H3EYE 1535
10Sep-24Sep 5Z4/DL2MDU 1535
-Apr/08 6W/EA4ATI 1515
01Sep- 6W/T98A 1531
01Aug-21Oct 8J3ARDF 1530
07Sep-14Sep 8Q7CT 1536 *
09Sep-01Oct 9H20 1535
2007 9N7JO 1501

27Aug-16Sep A35EA 1534
-Apr/09 A52VE 1512
-Nov A61TX 1496
-17Nov AT60MY 1534
14Sep-27Sep C56YK 1536 *
09Sep-14Sep CQ4IPY 1522
-Feb/08 DP0GVN 1496
03Sep-16Sep EG7RCB 1533
2007/2008 EI100S(I) 1501
-30Nov EW905B 1523
2008 FO/Clipperton 1521
12Sep-18Sep FP/W9ILY.. 1536 *
NOW FW0MO/FW0YL 1530

Sep 15/16 GB2QE 1536 *
-30Sep HG5MISSION 1532
-30Sep IA3GM 1528
-Nov IS0/I2MOV 1533
2006 -2008 J28JA 1484/85
-Aug/08 J28OO 1534
27Aug-16Sep J3/DL7VOG 1534
27Aug-18Sep JD1BMM (MT) 1534

Nov KH3/W7KFI 1525/31
15Sep-24Sep OJ0B 1536 *
01Sep-15Sep P41USA 1534

-31Dec R100AK/IF 1534
16Sep-29Sep SV5/GM3YOR 1636 *
-31Dec SX100VAR 1528
Sep -Oct T30 (JA8BMK) 1534
Oct - T31XX 1534
Oct? T33ZZ 1534
Feb/08 TI9 1533
15Sep-28Sep TK/DF6ZY 1536 *
NOW -2008 TL8QC 1459
07Sep-20Oct TM0-TM9RWC 1533
08Sep-22Sep TM8CDX 1535

Jan -Dec VI3SAA 1499
-Sep VP6AL 1530
Feb/08 VP6DX (Ducie) 1521
08Sep-15Jan VP8CXV (Falkl) 1535
12Sep-17Sep VY2/GM3VLB 1536 *
-Oct YB9AQH 1535
26Aug-24Sep YB9/PA0RRS 1534
-31Dec Z360M 1531
NOW ZD7X 1535
-14Sep ZD9BCB 1534

* = new or updated
.. = and other calls

QSL information

AN4EB via EA4RCH (B)
AN5EB via EA4RCH (B)
AN6EB via EA4RCH (B)
AN7AL via EA7NL
AN7EB via EA4RCH (B)
AO7TL via EB7FLW
AT60MY via VU2NRO (d)
CC2A via EA5KB (B)
CN8KD via EA5XX (B)
CQ7C via CT2GZB
CT/DL4IAL via DL4IAL
CT/F5AAR via F5AAR
CT7GIL via CS1AAM (B)
CU3F via CT1FMX (B)
CU8AS via HB9CRV (B)
CV1AA direct
CV9T via CX1TA
CX3CCC via CX2ABC (B)
DL0B via DK8QY

DR2T via DL1MUC
E51AKY via HL5KY (B)
E7/DL5KBA via T94QK
EA3/IK1GPG/p via IK1GPG (B)
EA8/DH1PS/p via DH1PS (B)
EA8/OK2ZI/p via OK2ZI
EC7DZZ/EA9 via EC7DZZ (B)
ED3AXZ via EA3AXZ
ED5URD/LH via EA5URD (B)
EG1CMC via EA1FE
EG1SDC via EA1AUM (B)
EG1SMP via EA2BT (B)
EG2CVC via EA2URV (B)
EH1LSI via EA1AUO
EH1SDC via EA1AUM (B)
EI1KARG via EI9FVB (B)
EM15B via UT1BC
EP2OD NOT EA7FTR! (pirate?)
EP4MRG via EP3PTT (d)
ES1/IZ8IYX via IZ8EPY (B)
G3RCV/p via G4DFI (B)
GB1LGG via MM0RAM (B)
GB1LKGG via MM0RDT
GB100J via G0REL
GB2AGG via MM1EQE
GB2BML via M0CNP (B)
GB2FL via G4NOK (B)
GB2FOX via M0ACL
GB2GP via M5ACX (B)
GB2IRS via G8BLS
GB2JBM via G4USW
GB2LBN via GM4UYZ (B)
GB2LGB via MM1AVR
GB2LHI via MM5PSL (B)
GB2LS via GM4VKB
GB2LT via GM7OKX
GB4HHL via G0RGH
GB4HLL via G0RGH
K2L via WB2YQH (B)
K4L via W4MOT (B)
K6VVA/KL7 via N6AWD (B)
K8E via N8MR (B)
K8S via K8IKW
PA1000ZTM via PI4RAZ (B) or PA3CNO (d)
PA100S via PD0PVQ
PA1VLD via PE1MAI
PA400MAR via PA3HFJ
PJ2/LY4F via LY1FF (B)
PJ2G via G3TXF (B)
RC150KTS via RU3SD (B)

YP0IP via YO8TLC (B)
YU8DX via DJ0LZ (d)
ZP8AE via EA7FTR (B)
ZP8VAO via EA7FTR (B)
ZV2CBV via PY2ZX (B)
ZZ2A via PY2ZX (B)
3A/AI5P via AI5P (B)
3Z0MK via SP7QHR
3Z0MSPO via SP7PKI
4Z5RL via DL5MHQ
5H4BL via IV3RTL
5R8UO via DF8UO
9H3YM via PE1OFJ (B)
9M2/G4VGO via OK1DOT (*)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = Logbook of the World (LotW)

QSL cards from Paris wanted: Laurent,F6GOX, writes that the "Association des Radioamateurs de Paris, ARP Radio-Club de Paris" is looking for QSLs of stations situated in Paris for the amateur radio museum in Paris. Please contact Laurent via the website of his club http://arp75.free.fr or via mail to: F6GOX, Laurent Beugnet, 66 Avenue de la Republique, 75011 Paris, France. The homepage of the museum is: http://arp75.free.fr/GalerieARP/index.php?/categories

YC4IBO: Syaiful Yazan, PO Box 100, Lubuklinggau 31601, Indonesia

QSLs arrived via bureau: AL7HX, OJ0LA (via LA9VDA), OD5PL (HB9CRV), SV9FBK, ST2A (T93Y), R1MVC (UA2 bureau), TC125ATA (TA1CM), SX3A, TM3ANT, TM6M (F6KHM), TO2ANT & TO2FG (F6HMJ), TF/DL2JRN, ZL6QH, 3W9JR (OK1JR), 4L9MR (UX3MR), 3A2MG, 4O6T (PB2T), 5A7A (DL9USA), 5T0EU (OR5EU), 5B4AIF, 6Y2Z (via K6VNX), 8Q7DV (UA9CLB), 9K2HN, 8Q7SH (DJ2BC), 8Q7VR (UR9IDX), 9H3L (DL8WAA)

Many thanks for contributing to this issue of the DXNL are going to: Carl Smith (QRZ DX), 425DXNews, OPDX Bulletin, AC3A, DF6EX (WIN-QSL), DF6ZY, DG5MKU, DJ5AV, DK8JB, DL1SBF, DL7VOA, DL8RJ, F5NQL, F6GOX, GM3YOR, IS0XDA, OH9MM, W1AW and others.

The German PDF version can be found on the DARC homepage at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/bulls/dxmb/2007/dxmb1536.pdf

Subscribe or unsubscribe to the DXNL mailing list yourself at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedxms.htm

1523. The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 37 (Friday, September 14, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-15 02:01:30 UTC
From: ARRL Letter Mailing List <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <200709150030.l8F0UsYe025176@linux11676.dn.net>
Source record: 3928
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter
Vol. 26, No. 37
September 14, 2007
****

IN THIS EDITION:

* + Candidate for ARRL Southwestern Division Director Disqualified; Norton Declared Re-Elected
* + Hurricane Humberto Causes Havoc on Gulf Coast
* + Look for the October Issue of QST in Your Mailbox
* + Nominating Petitions for ARRL Section Manager Candidates Sought
* + ARRL/TAPR Conference Lists Speaker Schedule
* + 1296 MHz WAS #1 Awarded to Texas Ham
* Solar Update
* IN BRIEF:
This Weekend on the Radio
ARRL Continuing Education Course Registration
+ Radio Appreciation Day is September 15
+ Representative Ross (D-AR), WD5DVR, Attends ARRL Arkansas State Convention
ARRL Helps MFJ Celebrate 35 Year Anniversary
ARISS Update
FCC Job Announcement
Let Us Know

+Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/>

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==>Delivery problems: First see FAQ <http://www.arrl.org/members-only/faq.html#nodelivery>, then e-mail <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
==>Editorial questions or comments only: S. Khrystyne Keane, <k1sfa@arrl.org>
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==> CANDIDATE FOR ARRL SOUTHWESTERN DIVISION DIRECTOR DISQUALIFIED; NORTON DECLARED RE-ELECTED

Carl Gardenias, WU6D, the challenger seeking the position of ARRL Southwestern Division Director, was declared disqualified Thursday by the ARRL Ethics and Elections Committee. Gardenias was running against incumbent Richard "Dick" Norton, N6AA. Due to the disqualification, the Committee has declared Norton re-elected.

According to ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, writing on behalf of the Committee, an e-mail signed by "Cathy K6VC, Newsletter editor" was sent on behalf of Orange Section Manager Carl Gardenias to ARRL Orange Section newsletter editors and Web masters, among others, on September 1 regarding the Southwestern Division election for Director and Vice Director. The e-mail encouraged "ARRL Full members to vote and vote wisely" in the upcoming election. Recipients were also asked to encourage clubs to "post to their websites and into their newsletter information regarding each candidate," and went on to list information, including e-mail addresses and campaign Web sites, for the two Director candidates and four candidates for Vice Director. Cathy Gardenias, K6VC, is Assistant Section Manager for the ARRL Orange Section and the wife of Carl Gardenias.

The information given in Cathy Gardenias' e-mail was incorrect, in that the e-mail address for Norton was wrong. The e-mail also stated that Norton and Vice Director candidate Marty Woll, N6VI, did not have campaign Web sites, when in fact they did.

Cathy Gardenias' e-mail went on to say that "Since all candidates are listed with e-mails and websites if they have one, there is no show of favoritism or bias. Please vote. Approved by the ARRL k1zz."

The ARRL Ethics and Elections Committee received a complaint regarding the misinformation and concluded that the email violated the standard of "truthful and not misleading" that applies to candidates' mailings. It instructed Sumner to notify Carl Gardenias that "a correction must be circulated to everyone who received the incorrect information, i.e. everyone on the above distribution list and anyone else to whom it may have been sent." Carl Gardenias was also told that should he "become aware of any postings of the original, uncorrected item, you should immediately endeavor to have them corrected or removed."

Specific language for the correction was supplied by the committee. It was to list correct e-mail addresses for each candidate, including Norton, and to supply the Web site addresses for Norton and Woll that had been missing from the original message. It was to further state, "Finally, the item was NOT approved by the ARRL or K1ZZ, as incorrectly stated," and that "The Orange Section regrets the errors and apologizes to those affected."

Carl Gardenias acknowledged receipt of Sumner's September 5 e-mail. On September 7, having seen no evidence of compliance with the Committee's directive, Sumner sent him another e-mail, asking for a copy of the correction that Gardenias was supposed to have sent out. Gardenias replied via e-mail, "OK on Monday we are at the convention," meaning the ARRL Southwestern Division Convention. Since that response, Gardenias has not communicated with Sumner, "nor has any evidence of your compliance with the committee's orders been received," according to an e-mail Sumner sent Gardenias September 13.

In that e-mail, Sumner reminded Gardenias that he was previously advised that "candidates' statements 'must be truthful and not misleading, which

matters will be conclusively determined by the Election Committee.' The standard of truth applies to all mailings by a candidate. The email that was sent on your behalf on September 1 violated this standard, as documented in my September 5 message. You failed to follow the instructions of the Ethics and Elections Committee to make a timely correction, although you had ample opportunity to do so."

Sumner advised Gardenias that he has "been disqualified as a candidate for the office of Director of the Southwestern Division. Your name will not appear on the ballot." Since Dick Norton is the only eligible candidate, Sumner said, the Committee has declared him re-elected.

==> HURRICANE HUMBERTO CAUSES HAVOC ON GULF COAST

Hurricane Humberto, a Category 1 hurricane and the first hurricane to make landfall in the US in two years, came ashore in Texas on Thursday, September 13 not even 50 miles from where Hurricane Rita hit in 2005. Stronger than initially expected, Humberto continued eastward toward Louisiana and Mississippi, where flood warnings were in effect.

In response to Humberto, several ARES groups were activated. According to Brazoria County Emergency Coordinator Terry Bowersmith, W5SRG, Brazoria County (Texas) ARES activated a complex Net at 6 PM Wednesday, involving repeaters in Freeport and Alvin. One member was dispatched to the Brazoria County Emergency Operations Center, and another to the Pearland EOC, while others remained in "standby ready condition. By 9 PM, Humberto had cleared Brazoria County with little rain and no damage, so we secured the operation," according to Bowersmith.

ARRL Louisiana Section Emergency Coordinator Gary Stratton, K5GLS, said Alan Levine, WA5LQZ, District Emergency Coordinator for Southwest Louisiana, reported minimal flood damage in his area, and little wind damage. "About three spans of power lines down in this area but should be repaired within a few hours. The weather has cleared that area and will continue along a projected path across central Louisiana and Northwest Mississippi today," Stratton said. "We were lucky that the system spawned offshore and moved inland quickly as a minimal hurricane."

Orange County (Texas) Emergency Coordinator Rocky Wilson, N5MTX, reported that as of Thursday, Orange County had a "massive power outage"; all schools are closed, as are most retail stores and businesses, until power can be restored, expected sometime on Saturday, September 15. "Most petrochemical facilities are shut down due to no power," Wilson said. Many oil refineries are located on the Texas Gulf Coast.

Humberto didn't even exist until Wednesday, only becoming a tropical storm that afternoon, strengthening from a tropical depression with 35 MPH winds, to a hurricane with 85 MPH winds in just 18 hours. Only three other storms have pulled off a similar feat, growing from depression to hurricane in 18 hours -- Blanche in 1969, Harvey in 1981 and Alberto in

1982 -- but all of them were out at sea at the time, not about to crash ashore like Humberto. A Bridge City, Texas man died when the carport at his home collapsed on him; Bridge City is between Port Arthur and Orange.

==> LOOK FOR THE OCTOBER ISSUE OF QST IN YOUR MAILBOX

The October issue of QST is jam-packed with all sorts of things today's Amateur Radio operator needs. From product reviews to experiments to contesting, the upcoming issue of QST has something for just about everyone.

This issue features the results of the 2007 QST Photo Contest. The ARRL Editorial and Production staff judged the nearly 50 entries and chose the best ones to be published in the magazine and in other ARRL products.

Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, Assistant Manager for ARRL's Membership and Volunteer Programs Department, reviewed the Yaesu FT-2000D HF and 6 meter transceiver. According to the ARRL Lab test results, "The FT-2000D offers 200 W of transmitter power or a cleaner 75 W in Class A mode. It's similar to the base model FT-2000 in other respects, with a lot of flexibility that rewards the operator who takes the time to learn about and test its many features and settings." There is also a report from the Lab describing the changes to the way ARRL conducts receiver testing.

Robert Conway, KA0VAN, tells of ways to put retired public service radios to use on 2 meters. Alan Applegate, K0BG, warns that using the wrong size fuse can damage your rig, and offers ways to make sure you have the correct fuse for the job. Kai Siwiak, KE4PT, finds a way to get around antenna restrictions by putting up an all-band attic antenna.

For all you contesters out there, the results of the 2007 ARRL International DX Phone Contest are in. Did you top your score from last year? How did your closest rival do? Find out all this and more in the recap by H. Ward Silver, N0AX. Also, find out about the upcoming School Club Roundup and 2007 ARRL November Sweepstakes Contest.

Look for your October issue of QST in your mailbox. QST is the official journal of ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio. QST is just one of the many benefits of ARRL membership. To join or renew your ARRL membership, please see the ARRL Web page <http://www.arrl.org/join>.

==> NOMINATING PETITIONS FOR ARRL SECTION MANAGER CANDIDATES SOUGHT

The ARRL Membership and Volunteer Services Department has announced that nominating petitions for Section Managers are currently being accepted until December 7 for the following Sections: Eastern New York, Eastern Pennsylvania, Louisiana, North Carolina, Pacific, San Diego, South Dakota and Virginia.

To be considered a valid nominating petition, it must be signed by no fewer than five full ARRL members who live in the Section concerned; photocopied signatures are not acceptable. Any candidate for the office of Section Manager must be a resident of the Section, an Amateur Radio licensee of Technician class or higher and a full member of the League for a continuous term of at least two years immediately preceding receipt of a nominating petition.

If more than one member is nominated in a single Section, ballots will be mailed from Headquarters on or before January 2, 2008, to full members of record as of December 7, 2007, which is the closing date for nominations. Returns will be counted February 19, 2008. Section Managers elected as a result of the above procedure will take office April 1, 2008. If only one petition is received from a Section, that nominee shall be declared elected without opposition for a two-year term beginning April 1, 2008.

For more information on this election, please see page 76 in the October issue of QST.

==> ARRL/TAPR CONFERENCE LISTS SPEAKER SCHEDULE

The ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference, scheduled for September 28-30 in Hartford, Connecticut, has released its slate of speakers. The three-day conference is an international forum for radio amateurs to meet, publish their work and present new ideas and techniques. Presenters and attendees will have the opportunity to exchange ideas and learn about recent hardware and software advances, theories, experimental results and practical applications.

Registration for the DCC is still open and will be available at the door.

Friday's speakers include Bob Bruniga, WB4APR, speaking about "The APRS Local Voice Repeater Initiative"; Ev Tupin, W2EV, speaking about "Growing APRS' Value within the Emergency First Responder Community"; Paul D. Wiedemeier, PhD, KE5LKY, will talk about "Performance Modeling of TCP and UDP over Packet Radio Networks Using the ns-2 Network Simulator"; ARRL Chief Technology Officer Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, will speak about "Results of HF Digital Protocol Survey"; Mel Whitten, K0PFX, will speak about "DRMDV for HF"; Bob McGwire, N4HY, is talking about "NUE-PSK31: A Digital Modem for PSK31 Field Operation Without Using a PC," and Bill Tracy, KD5TFD, will give an HPSDR update.

Saturday's line-up starts off with Steven Bible, N7HPR, and Robert McGwier, N4HY, giving an update on SuitSat-2; McGwier will also speak on AMSAT's Phase IV and "On a Method for Automatic Image Balancing in IQ Mixer Based Software Defined Receivers," as well as sharing presenting duties with Gerald Youngblood, K5SDR, with "The Flex 5000 and SDR Software." Roderick D. Mitchell, KL1Y, will speak about "The Integration of Amateur Radio and 802.11"; Martin Ewing, AA6E, will present "SurgeForge, Hamlib and Rigserve: Free Beer, Free Speech and Rig Control"; Frank Brickle, PhD, AB2KT, will talk on "The FSM Virtual Radio

Kernel: Why, What and How (in that order)"; John A. Hansen, W2FS, will speak about "The Nordic nRF2401 Single Chip Data Transceiver," and Hank Javin and Jerry Newman will present "Transmission Lines, Parameters and Application in Communications Systems."

Two introductory forums are also scheduled on Saturday: Intro to Eagle CAD, given by Dan Welch, W6DFW, and Intro to HF Digital, given by Steve Ford, WB8IMY. The TAPR annual meeting is scheduled for Saturday afternoon.

Sunday's Seminar, a four-hour presentation led by McGwier on the topic of "A Stroll through Software Radio, Information Theory and Some Applications" will cover the basic building blocks of a simple software radio system, as well as a discussion of information theory and its practical use in communication systems. As time permits, McGwier plans to demonstrate several software radio systems ranging from the Softrock40 to the GnuRadio/USRP and the Flex5000. Attendees will receive packages containing tutorials and software.

For more information on the ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference, please see the conference Web site <http://www.tapr.org/dcc>.

==> 1296 MHZ WAS #1 AWARDED TO TEXAS HAM

Al Ward, W5LUA, of Allen, Texas, is the first person to achieve the ARRL's Worked All States (WAS) on 1296 MHz, making him 1296 MHz WAS #1. Ward first started on his pursuit January 25, 1977, with his first 1296 MHz contact with Leroy May, W5HN (SK). His 30 year quest ended last week, with confirmed contacts with Wyoming, Utah and Idaho, giving Ward his last three needed states, thanks to Paul Perryman's, WA5WCP, EME DXpedition.

"I couldn't have done this without Paul," Ward said. "Also, thanks to Ron Roche, K0ALL, and Barry Malowanchuk, VE4MA, in North Dakota for number 47 in August. Without them, it just wouldn't have been possible." After collecting his 50th QSL card, Ward drove from his home in Texas to Little Rock, Arkansas so ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, could verify his cards and complete his WAS paperwork. "Verifying QSL cards from 30 years of activity brought back a lot of memories of several stations active on 1296, many who are Silent Keys now," Harrison said.

==>SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Sunspots Cast a Glare in My Eyes" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: The sun has been blank, no visible sunspots, for the past seven days, September 7-13. We may not see another spot until September 22, just before the autumnal equinox. Thursday evening, September 13, Spaceweather.com mentioned a coronal wind hitting earth this evening, September 14. The Interplanetary Magnetic Field (IMF) points south, making the Earth vulnerable to solar wind, but other sources don't call for an increase in geomagnetic activity today. We might assume that a solar wind from 27 to 28 days ago could return at this time, based on the rotation of the Sun relative to Earth. But looking back four weeks

does not reveal any heightened activity. Of course, it could be that the IMF pointed north, protecting earth from the coronal wind. Sunspot numbers for September 6 through 12 were 12, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0 and 0 with a mean of 1.7. The 10.7 cm flux was 66.7, 67.1, 66.6, 66.7, 66.9, 66.1 and 65.9 with a mean of 66.6. Estimated planetary A indices were 13, 12, 6, 2, 2, 2 and 2 with a mean of 5.6. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 8, 10, 3, 2, 2, 2 and 2 with a mean of 4.1. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>.

==>IN BRIEF:

* This weekend on the radio: This weekend, the ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest is September 15-16. The NCCC Sprint (CW) is September 14 and 15. The SARL VHF/UHF Contest is September 14-16. QRP Afield is September 15. Look for these contests the weekend of September 15-16: Scandinavian Activity Contest (CW), South Carolina QSO Party, Washington State Salmon Run and the QCWA Fall QSO Party. The North American Sprint (SSB) is September 16. The Run for the Bacon QRP Contest and the 144 MHz Fall Sprint are September 17. The NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint is September 20. Next week, the NCCC Sprint (CW) is September 21, while the AGCW VHF/UHF Contest is September 22. The Scandinavian Activity Contest (SSB) and CIS DX Contest are September 22-23. The SKCC Weekend Sprint is September 23 and the 222 MHz Fall Sprint is September 25. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests/>, the ARRL Contester's Rate Sheet <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rate-sheet/> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more info.

* ARRL Continuing Education course registration: Registration remains open through Sunday, September 23 for these online courses beginning on Friday, October 5: Technician License Course (EC-010); Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 1 (EC-001); Radio Frequency Interference (EC-006); Antenna Design and Construction (EC-009); Analog Electronics (EC-012), and Digital Electronics (EC-013). To learn more, visit the CCE Course Listing page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html> or contact the Continuing Education Program Coordinator <cce@arrl.org>.

* Radio Appreciation Day Is September 15: Amateur Radio operators around the country really don't need a special day to promote Amateur Radio, but Saturday, September 15 has been declared Amateur Radio Public Awareness Day. As part of the Department of Homeland Security's National Preparedness Month, ARRL Public Information Officers (PIOs) are using the day as a way to make the media more aware of our Service and especially its role in emergency communications. The purpose of Amateur Radio Public Awareness Day, held the third Saturday in September, is to make the public more aware of the existence, purposes and benefits of Amateur Radio. ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, said, "Through events such as Amateur Radio Public Awareness Day,

hams can take the opportunity to tell not only their friends and neighbors about the benefits of the Amateur Radio Service, they can take the opportunity to let the general public know, too. People willing to make face to face contacts are always the best ambassadors we have for Amateur Radio."

* Representative Ross (D-AR), WD5DVR, Attends ARRL Arkansas State Convention: Arkansas congressman Mike Ross, WD5DVR, was a featured speaker at the ARRL Arkansas State Convention on Saturday, September 8. Ross, who represents Arkansas' 4th District, spoke about the ham radio legislation he introduced in Congress, the "Emergency Amateur Radio Interference Protection Act of 2007" (HR 462). ARRL Lab Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, was also at the convention, speaking about BPL. Held at Queen Wilhelmina State Park in Mena, the convention drew hams from several nearby states including Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana and Mississippi. Ross is one of two licensed amateurs in congress; Greg Walden, W7EQI, of Oregon's 2nd District, is the other.

* ARRL Helps MFJ Celebrate 35 Year Anniversary: MFJ Enterprises observed their 35th anniversary with "A Day in the Park" open house September 7-8 at their Starkville, Mississippi headquarters. ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH, was on hand to help MFJ celebrate, as were Mississippi Section Manager Malcolm Keown, W5XX; ARRL Delta Division Director Henry Leggette, WD4Q, and Starkville Mayor R. Dan Camp. This two-day celebration was filled with tours of MFJ's facilities, a Friday evening bar-b-que and a Saturday fried chicken picnic. MFJ makes Amateur Radio equipment such as tuners, SWR wattmeters, antenna analyzers and power supplies. Martin Jue, K5FLU, founded the company in 1972 while he was still attending graduate school at Mississippi State University. A ham since high school, Jue decided to build products for hams -- his first products were active filters for CW and phone, selling for $9.95 and $12.95, respectively. Thirty-five years later, MFJ features more than 1000 products.

* ARISS Update: According to ARRL ARISS Program Manager Rosalie White, K1STO, Clay Anderson, KD5PLA, has started to make general QSOs with hams after signing off after making school QSOs, even turning on packet radio for a while. Anderson will continue making school QSOs until he returns to Earth, currently scheduled for late next month. Due to the schedule on the International Space Station, the crew will be "terribly busy" for the next six months; White said that ARISS QSO totals might be low during this time. The next contacts are scheduled for Monday, September 17 with Mitchell Elementary School in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and Friday, September 21 with Pueblo Magnet High School in Tucson, Arizona. To date, the ARISS program has had 315 Earth-to ISS QSOs. For more information on the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station program, please see the ARISS Web page <http://www.rac.ca/ariss/oindex.htm#ARISS%20Status>.

* FCC Job Announcement: The Federal Communications Commission has announced three job openings for Telecommunications Specialists in their Columbia, Maryland office. Starting salaries range from

$55,706-$103,220; relocation assistance is not available. Knowledge of high frequency propagation is a must. To be considered for these full-time, permanent positions, successful applicants must pass a background investigation, be eligible for a security clearance, have US citizenship, pass a drug test and be available for shift work. For more information, please send an e-mail to Diane Graham at the FCC <Diane.Graham@fcc.gov> and reference job number DEU-PSHS-2007-0006. The application deadline for these positions is Thursday, September 27. More about this opening can be found on the USAJOBS Web site <http://jobsearch.usajobs.opm.gov/getjob.asp?JobID=61989717&jbf574=FC00&brd=3876&AVSDM=2007%2D09%2D05+00%3A00%3A06&sort=rv&vw=d&Logo=0&FedPub=Y&caller=%2Fagency%5Fsearch%2Easp&FedEmp=N&SUBMIT1.x=51&SUBMIT1.y=2&ss=0&TabNum=1&rc=7>.

* Let Us Know: What's your favorite part of The ARRL Letter? What kind of stories would you like to see in the Letter? Would you prefer the Letter in an HTML format? This is your Letter and your chance to let your voice be heard. Please send your suggestions to ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, at k1sfa@arrl.org, with the subject line "ARRL Letter Suggestions." All messages will be read and discussed, and we look forward to implementing positive suggestions into the ARRL Letter.

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The ARRL Letter is published Fridays, 50 times each year, by the American Radio Relay League: ARRL--the National Association for Amateur Radio, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111; tel 860-594-0200; fax 860-594-0259; <http://www.arrl.org>. Joel Harrison, W5ZN, President.

The ARRL Letter offers a weekly e-mail digest of essential and general news of interest to active radio amateurs. Visit the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org> for the latest Amateur Radio news and news updates. The ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/> also offers informative features and columns. ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> is a weekly "ham radio newscast" compiled and edited from The ARRL Letter. It's also available as a podcast from our Web site.

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==>Delivery problems (ARRL member direct delivery only!):
letter-dlvy@arrl.org
==>Editorial questions or comments: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, k1sfa@arrl.org
==>ARRL News on the Web: <http://www.arrl.org>
==>ARRL Audio News: <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> or call 860-594-0384

==>How to Get The ARRL Letter

The ARRL Letter is available to ARRL members free of charge directly from ARRL HQ. To subscribe, unsubscribe or change your address for e-mail delivery:
ARRL members first must register on the Members Only Web Site <http://www.arrl.org/members/>. You'll have an opportunity during registration to sign up for e-mail delivery of The ARRL Letter, W1AW bulletins, and other material. To change these selections--including delivery of The ARRL Letter--registered members should click on the "Member Data Page" link (in the Members Only box). Click on "Modify membership data," check or uncheck the appropriate boxes and/or change your e-mail address if necessary. (Check "Temporarily disable all automatically sent email" to temporarily stop all e-mail deliveries.) Then, click on "Submit modification" to make selections effective. (NOTE: HQ staff members cannot change your e-mail delivery address. You must do this yourself via the Members Only Web Site.)

The ARRL Letter also is available to all, free of charge, from these sources:

* ARRLWeb <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>. (NOTE: The ARRL Letter will be posted each Friday when it is distributed via e-mail.)

* The QTH.net listserver, thanks to volunteers from the Boston Amateur Radio Club: Visit Mailing Lists@QTH.Net <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/letter-list>. (NOTE: The ARRL cannot assist subscribers who receive The ARRL Letter via this listserver.)

1524. rec.radio.amateur.moderated Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-15 06:00:10 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines-1-1189836002@panix.com>
Source record: 3929
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines
Revision: 1.3 2007/07/28 14:56:26
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rram/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

Welcome to rec.radio.amateur.moderated! This is a moderated newsgroup
for amateur radio operators and other people having an interest in the
Amateur Radio Service, as defined by national regulations and
international treaties. Following are the posting guidelines for this
newsgroup.

This message includes the following sections:

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter
2. Additional posting guidelines
2.1 Netiquette guidelines
2.2 Posting form requirements
2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files
2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting
2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources
2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability to hold
an amateur radio license
2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling
2.8 Guidelines regarding civility
2.9 Other unacceptable topics

------------------------------------------------------------------------

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter

rec.radio.amateur.moderated is an inclusive on-line community of amateur
radio operators and other people having an interest in the Amateur Radio
Service. Participants are invited to engage in open discussion of
amateur radio issues and exchange information about participating in the
hobby/service, in an atmosphere of civility, friendship, and fun.

Acceptable topics include but, are not necessarily limited to, questions
and discussions about amateur radio licensing, regulations, tips on
various aspects of setting up an amateur radio station, and sharing
operating experiences and insights.

Unacceptable posts include, but are not limited to, buy/sell/trade
posts, posts that are off-topic to the Amateur Radio Service, posts
```

promoting or defending unlawful activities, etc. Crossposts of regular discussion articles between rec.radio.amateur.moderated and other discussion newsgroups are not permitted.

Frequently-Asked-Questions lists and other information/bulletin/ announcement postings may be crossposted to rec.radio.info, rec.answers, and news.answers only with prior approval of the moderators of those newsgroups. In all such cases, an appropriate "Followup-To" header, containing only rec.radio.amateur.moderated, will be added by the moderators if one is not already provided.

Posters are encouraged to state their own views and share their experiences, but to refrain from making assumptions about the motivations of other newsgroup participants. Posters are expected to maintain a basic tone of civility. Prohibited uncivil discourse includes, but is not limited to, name calling.

Posts containing unsolicited advice questioning the right, worthiness, suitability and/or readiness of any individual (or members of any group) to be an amateur radio operator are unacceptable in this newsgroup. If an individual chooses to post asking for advice on when or whether to obtain an amateur radio license, or to participate in any type of lawful activity in the Amateur Radio Service, respondents should be careful to address their comments only to the original poster and not explicitly generalize to others in similar situations.

Similarly, posts that arbitrarily declare certain classes of amateur radio licenses, or certain members of national amateur radio societies (e.g., American Radio Relay League, Radio Amateurs of Canada, Radio Society of Great Britain, Wireless Institute of Australia, etc.), to be more or less worthy than others, are not permitted. Posts that politely encourage individuals to join their local amateur radio society, or to upgrade to higher classes of amateur radio license in order to enjoy greater operating privileges, are permitted, however. Posts that contain reasoned, civil, and fact-based discussion of the activities and internal politics of national amateur radio societies are also permitted.

Buy/Sell/Trade and Commercial Policy:

Posts containing offers to buy, sell, or trade are not permitted on rec.radio.amateur.moderated. The rec.radio.swap newsgroup was created for this purpose, and should be used instead. All such articles will be rejected by the moderators with the advice to re-post to that newsgroup.

Postings that are entirely commercial press releases, advertisements, or other public relations campaigns will not be permitted. Relatively unbiased announcements or reviews of new amateur radio-related products or services may be permitted at the discretion of the moderators. Such posters are asked to disclose their financial or professional interest, if any, in such products or services.

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2. Additional Posting Guidelines

2.1 Netiquette guidelines

Participants who are new to Usenet should familiarize themselves with the "netiquette" of Usenet as well as the particular posting guidelines for this group. Several useful posts for "newbies" can be found on the newsgroup news.announce.newusers or on the WWW at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/by-newsgroup/news/news.announce.newusers.html

Particularly helpful articles are:
Welcome to Usenet!
Rules for posting to Usenet
Hints on writing style for Usenet
A Primer on How to Work With the Usenet Community
Emily Postnews Answers Your Questions on Netiquette
Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Usenet

2.2 Posting form requirements

Any article that falls into any of the following categories will be automatically rejected:

A) Articles that contain original text of more than 75 characters per line
B) Crossposted articles to newsgroups not included in these Guidelines
C) Articles that contain more than 400 lines
D) Encoded binary files (except PGP and other short digital signatures)
E) Attachments to posts
F) Articles containing obscene language
G) Articles from individuals who have been suspended or banned from the newsgroup

2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files

Many people close each article they write with a few lines of common text. This may be a cute quip or quote, or may include information about their family, contact information, or disclaimers required by their employer, for example.

Signature files used on rec.radio.amateur.moderated posting must be no longer than 8 lines.

The content of a poster's signature need not be relevant to amateur radio, but it must not violate any of the other posting guidelines. (For example, name-calling that would not be acceptable in the body of a message is also unacceptable in a signature.) Posters may include Uniform Resource Locators (URL's) and business addresses in signature files, provided they comply with all the other guidelines regarding signatures.

2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting

Posts more than 20 lines long that also have more than 75% quoted text will be carefully reviewed by a moderator to determine if that degree of quoting is warranted. Posts with excessive quoted text may be rejected.

Posters must show a reasonable effort to trim the post they are replying to and to include just enough material to establish context. "Me too!" posts are discouraged, and, when posted, must edit the quoted material significantly.

2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources

Unsolicited announcements and pointers to web sites that are strictly commercial press releases, advertisements, or other public relations campaigns, are not permitted. However, a pointer to a website or other external source of information is permitted and encouraged in cases where it is relevant to an existing thread, with appropriate context being given in the post. A URL with no information about what a user should expect to find there will be rejected. A pointer to information that is off-charter for rec.radio.amateur.moderated will be rejected, as will a pointer which itself does not meet the rec.radio.amateur.moderated guidelines (such as a URL containing embedded name-calling).

Moderators are not responsible for verifying the contents of any external information source.

2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability hold an amateur radio license

Identifiable groups and individuals may not be asked/told/etc. not to obtain an amateur radio license, or to only obtain certain classes of amateur radio license. It is not permissible to make statements that a person or members of a specific group "should" not, or should not be allowed to, become an amateur radio operator.

Solicited advice of this type is permissible; however, posters must be careful not to explicitly generalize to others who are in some way "like" the poster asking the question. Stick to the individual asking for advice.

It is acceptable to discuss verified violations, documented in criminal convictions or other government enforcement actions, by a person or members of a specific group.

2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling

Nastiness addressed at a person is considered name-calling. Criticizing a person's *actions* is not, provided that it is done in a civil manner.

Attacks on an action which by their very nature include an accusation against the person's character are not acceptable. For example, "That's a lie" implies an intentional prevarication, and is considered name-calling. Acceptable ways of questioning the truth of a poster's statement include the more tactful "I don't think that's true," "I believe you are mistaken because..." or even simply "That's not true."

"That's not true and you know it" crosses back over into name-calling, however.

2.8 Guidelines regarding civility

By charter, posters are expected to maintain a civil tone in all their postings. The guidelines on name-calling cover part of that requirement, but not all of it.

In general, posters are expected to consider the reputations of other participants, and refrain from making unnecessary accusations or assumptions about the motivations of others. A good rule of thumb is to phrase your comments as your opinion -- "I think..." "It seems to me that..." "This makes me wonder whether..." etc...

Posters are expected to make factual claims, to debate topics openly and in good faith, and to accept honest criticism, all without provocation or prevarication. At least one professional organization, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), has recognized that such fair dealings are necessary components of ethical conduct, and has incorporated them into its Code of Ethics:

http://www.ieee.org/portal/pages/about/whatis/code.html

Though the Amateur Radio Service is not a professional endeavor, the moderators strongly feel that the IEEE Code of Ethics is also a worthwhile set of guiding principles for participants in the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup.

Posters are not required to support the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). However, they are expected to adhere to the spirit of the other parts of the ARRL's "Amateur's Code":

http://www.arrl.org/acode.html

2.9 Other unacceptable topics

Participants are reminded that the charter also prohibits posts promoting or defending unlawful operating practices.

Posts may discuss whether operating practices are unlawful, or engage in reasoned debate over why certain operating practices should or should not be unlawful. Posts may discuss enforcement actions, such as by the Federal Communications Commission in the United States or similar government agencies in other countries, and evidence gathered by parties such as Official Observers in support of complaints about unlawful operation.

Discussions of what practices constitute unlawful operation in the Amateur Radio Service should be limited to *factual* descriptions of the laws in various jurisdictions. Posters' *opinions* as to what practices they consider unlawful are not permitted. In particular, posters are cautioned not to extrapolate their country's laws and regulations to those in other parts of the world, as they may be quite different.

Posts that entirely concern themselves with other radio services or hobbies, such as Citizen's Band, General Mobile Radio Service/Family Radio Service, and Scanner or Shortwave Listening, are considered off-topic to the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup. Newsgroups such as rec.radio.cb, rec.radio.scanner, and/or rec.radio.shortwave may be more appropriate venues for such posts.

Posts that attempt to publicly criticize moderators or moderation | decisions in the newsgroup itself are also not permitted, as stated in | our original newsgroup charter. Please direct any such critical | feedback to our administrative contact address at the bottom of this | article, where it will be carefully considered by an appeals team of | moderators. This team is distinct from the initial team of moderators | that approves or disapproves article submissions, and thus can provide | independent oversight of moderation decisions. |

Similarly, if you see an obviously inappropriate article in our | newsgroup, please assume that it was a mistake or a direct forgery. The | moderation team makes every effort to protect the newsgroup from such | incidents, but they do happen, albeit rarely. You may also submit | feedback to the same address regarding such articles in our newsgroup, | but it is likely that our monitoring software and procedures have | already detected it, and we are actively handling the problem. Please | resist "piling on" with followups to the newsgroup when these incidents | occur, so that we don't have to reject such articles. |

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-amateur-moderated-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the misc.kids.moderated Posting Guidelines.)

1525. WIANEWS for week commencing SEPTEMBER 16 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-15 12:10:17 UTC
From: nationalnews@wia.org.au
Message-ID: <200709151000.l8FA09e11117@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 3930
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,aus.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

This is WIANEWS for week commencing SEPTEMBER 16 2007

LET US REWIND 7 DAYS, back to the broadcast of September 9.

".......'portantly, when you send NATIONAL NEWS an item a couple of "must do's", and these have not changed over the years, just they seem to be forgotten or not passed on to club officers after elections etc.

1/ When you file audio always email us the script.

2/ When supplying script for someone else to read, PLEASE write as you'd expect to hear it! as an example always write in the 3rd person!! (Remember our readers are not you or your club so don't say things like "we are having a working bee... say 'club members' are having a working bee etc etc".)

3/ Don't send us links or photo's of stories , always write out the story in a manner in which it can be read and pasted to our text and audio services.

4/ If you want an item run 3 or more times, write different slants on the item, running the exact same item over and over would be dull/boring and lets face it, if you can't think of anything extra to say, that is probably a good sign that it will end up being a dull event!!

5/ WIA related material, eg BPL if Australian material will only be broadcast after clearance from the WIA unless said item is already in the public domain.

6/ Silent Keys are best sent to AR Magazine and your local state or club news rather than this WIA National News Service.

VK4 QSL Manager

Here is Ewan McLeod VK4ERM, Vice President of the WIA.

The WIA Board has approved the appointment of Ray Crawford VK4HDX as VK4 QSL Bureau manager. The Board acted on the recommendation of the Queensland Advisory Committee, the National QSL Coordinator Neil Penfold VK6NE and the immediate past VK4 QSL Manager Eddie de Young VK4AN.

QSL Bureau services are available free to WIA members.

Ray Crawford VK4HDX is a member of the WIA, resides at 53 Moore Street Kingaroy
QLD 4610 phone (07) 4163 6940. Email: hamdxer59@bigpond.com. Ray is an active Dxer and was active in NZART before coming to Australia.

His home address is the address which will be circulated as the point for delivery of VK4 Inwards QSL Cards from overseas. Neil Penfold, WIA QSL National Coordinator, has recommended that Ray's home address be the address in
future for VK4 QSL Inwards deliveries and hence eventually the present Brisbane
Post Office Box will be closed.

For outward Bureau Cards, that is cards being sent from WIA members to overseas
contacts, Members should send their cards sorted in DX CC country order to the WIA Outwards QSL Bureau at:

WIA Outwards QSL Bureau
P.O. Box 3073
Teralba
NSW 2284

The present VK4 QSL manager Eddie de Young VK4AN has resigned due to other commitments. Eddie brought a good business outlook to the task of managing the
VK4 QSL Bureau following the successful years of operation under the management
of Shirley and Dave Gulley. Eddie brought a strong interest to the concepts of
managing a QSL Bureau and was always ready to suggest ways by which the system could be improved. Eddie and his family are a feature of many hamfests with his QSL cards and displays of his other interests.

HAMS ACROSS AUSTRALIA.
(vk1wx)

VK1
vk1 local news email broadcast@vk1.wia.ampr.org and ask for subscription.

The Canberra Region Amateur Radio Club has a busy schedule over the next four months.

WICEN will assisting with communications for the Fitz's Challenge bike ride,

The course of a million pines 2 day car rally both in September.

Other car rallies are scheduled for October, November and December.

The club will be supporting JOTA primarily from the site of the old NASA tracking station site Honeysuckle Creek and setting up a contest station for the VHF/UHF field day contest in November.

Also we have our regular monthly meetings with guest speakers,

This month Dik Elliot VK2KDE on Fibre Optic Networks,

October Phil Grimshaw VK4KVK on HF antennas and small back yards,

November our traditional Christmas party and trash 'N' treasure night.

Details of these activities can be found on the Canberra region Amateur Radio Club website.

VK2
web service:- http://www.arnsw.org.au/html/news_vk2wi.htm

VK3
web service:- http://www.amateurradio.com.au/news/

Annual Inter-club BBQ in VK3

The Central Goldfields Amateur Radio Club of Maryborough, Midland Amateur Club from Bendigo, the Ballarat Amateur Radio Group and Amateur Radio Victoria are getting ready for the "all welcome" BBQ on Sunday the 14th of October at Laanacoorie.

Organiser Peter Rafferty VK3CC says it's a BYO meat and drinks affair, with bread, butter, tea, coffee provided. The venue is the Laanacoorie Hall and begins at 10am.

Laanacoorie is on the Loddon River on the Eddington side of Bendigo about one third of the way between Maryborough and Bendigo.
(VK3PC)

VK4
web service local news:- www.wiaq.com/qnews/upload/qnewsbcast.htm
local news email qnews-vk-subscribe@yahoogroups.com subscribe in subject field.

Peter, VK4TGV has reported about the recent floods on the Sunshine Coast and how their Emergency Caravan was deployed and Club members sent to State Emergency Services sites to assist with the relay messages.

The SES was so impressed with their efforts that the club will be assisting the
SES in the design of their new Radio set-up.

Well Done Sunshine Coast

VK5

RADAR - Roxby and District Amateur Radio Group Would like to publicly thank the following people, VK2DQ Ron, VK3DAC Fred, VK5ZFW Peter, VK5ATQ Trevor and finally VK5PW Paul. These operators went to tremendous effort to travel to Roxby Downs on the weekend of the first and second of September to assist with the first training and assessment for the foundation class licence. The weekend went flawlessly and resulted in a tremendous growth of amateurs for the town. In numerical terms it works out to be 900% growth with 12 people sitting assessments and 9 of them deemed to be competent. Further more, one of participants also sat the Standard Regulations and Theory with a successful result. A top effort all round! But it does not end there!

The RADAR Group was also formed with Michael Wright VK5ARD and Mike Worby finalising their Assessor and Learning Facilitator credentials respectively. This leaves the newly formed group independent and able to conduct

assessments and training without the need to travel up to 6 hours each way. RADAR has already made solid moves toward the future with a 2 meter repeater (VK5ROX) licensed and under construction and a further repeater also planned on the 70 centimetre band. Both of these repeaters will have IRLP and EchoLink on board enabling the new licence holders to experience as much as possible without excessive financial outlay. JOTA is also just around the corner and the hope is that most of the local scouts and recent course participants might get a real taste of the amateur radio spirit.
(Michael VK5ARD Roxby And Districts Amateur Radio Group).

VK6
web service http://www.vk6.net/newswest-index.html

VK7
local area news :- http://reast.asn.au/news.php
your copy of vk7 local news, email vk7regionalnews-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

VK8
http://www.vkham.com/vk8da/ note an audio version available on this page.

EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO

Roxby Downs visit 1 Sep 2007.

It is springtime and the Sturt Desert Pea is not all that is blooming in the arid North of South Australia. Amateur Radio is blossoming at Roxby Downs. Over 500 Km North of Adelaide and part of the Olympic Dam mine, Mike VK5ARD a resident of Roxby Downs motivated a dozen young potential amateurs.

A visit by Fred Swainston for overall guidance, and Ron Bertrand for training how could you go wrong. Assessors from Adelaide were Peter VK5ZFW, Paul VK5PH, and Trevor VK5ATQ.

Much hard work of training and assessing was balanced by celebrations as it was
a very successful weekend. To top it off a new radio Club was formed. The Roxby
and Districts Amateur Radio Club. Listen for calls from Roxby Downs and welcome
new amateurs, and a new club, to the world of Radio Experimenters.

Another success for the WIA training program.

This is Trevor Quick VK5ATQ for 1 WIA news

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

The Singapore Amateur Radio Transmitting Society (SARTS) is pleased to announce their forthcoming Field Day on 6 and 7 October 2007 will see radio activity using the special call S 61 FD from Changi, Singapore. Operation will be on the HF bands 80-10m running 500Watts to vertical antennas.
(Peter Cook, 9V1PC, President SARTS).

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RSGB NEWS G4NJH

Historic callsign to return to the air

GB2SM, the permanent callsign of the former Science Museum amateur radio station in London, will shortly be back on the air.

It will be based at the Science Museum's Swindon site. A unique arrangement has been made between the Science Museum and the Swindon and District Amateur Radio Club. The Notice of Variation for the callsign will be held by the club on behalf of the Science Museum.

GB2SM will be used in partnership with the Science Museum at events and activities that specifically promote the Science Museum and communications inspired projects. For this purpose the callsign will be treated as a Special Event Callsign rather than a permanent call. Should a permanent amateur radio station be re-established at the London site the callsign would automatically revert to the permanent station.

Guilty verdict in ham murder case

Courts in Gambia recently sentenced two men to life imprisonment for the murder of Ron Ford, G3NKO.

Tourist Mr Ford was killed in by two Gambian nationals in September 2002 while on holiday in the region. Passing sentence on Dawda Bojang and Kawsu Jarju in the Kanifing Magistrates' court, magistrate Buba Jawo said the evidence before the court had clearly shown that the prosecution has proven their case.

WEIRD N WONDERFUL

The toothbrush with 'satnav'

As you clean your teeth, Oral-B's Triumph SmartGuide toothbrush transmits its exact location to a base unit.

The unit then shows you on an LCD screen which area of your mouth has been cleaned and a clock tells you how long you have left to brush.

The system uses technology similar to the Bluetooth system used with hands-free earpieces for mobile phones.

The LCD display can be mounted on the bathroom mirror or held in your free hand, picking up information as you brush.

The remote display also doubles up as a bathroom clock

Oral-B is hoping that the brush will be a stocking filler this Christmas and has planned its launch in Britain within weeks.

So for a whiter wider smile... at least for ORAL-B's shareholders, you know where to look!

OPERATIONAL NEWS - VK4FUQ AND VK5MM

MARKET REEF, OJ 0 B (ohjay zero bee) CHALLENGING THE ROUGH SEAS ONCE AGAIN

The August 2007 outing to Market Reef, OJ0B was designed to decorate the lighthouse with powerful antennas that can only be hoisted in good weather conditions. The group was successful, and in addition to making more than 13.000 QSOs a SteppIR beam plus an assortment of wire antennas were mounted at the light.

The newly composed group of OH0RJ, OH2BH, OH2MM, OH2PM, OH7EA and OH8NC plan to be operational from September 15 until, including both Scandinavian Activity Contests, with three stations. Now they have more flexibility since they have a resident helicopter at their disposal.

Outside of the contest their frequencies are as follows:

CW: 3523, 7023, 10113, 14033, 18083, 21033, 24903 and 28033 KHz
SSB: 3775, 7075, 14175, 18135, 21275, 24960 and 28475 KHz

Once again, if you are a stamp collector or wish to receive your QSL card with unique Market Reef stamps, you may send an SASE with 7 Euros

(10 USD) as your postage/donation to the Finnish Lighthouse Society via QSL manager OH2BH.

If you wish to tour the Reef in the spirit of adventure, you may follow in the footsteps of the August 2007 and November 2005 OJ0B activities:

http://sm0w.com and www.kolumbus.fi/oh2bn/pagemarket.htm

The Finnish Lighthouse Society has been active repairing the lighthouse this summer, and you may wish to follow their activities which include daily reporting and interesting general details.

http://www.lighthousesociety.fi/eng/

7th World HST Championship will be held in Belgrade Serbia September 19-23rd.
www.hst2007.org

SEPTEMBER 22
The Second running of the Westlakes Cup is coming up on Saturday 22nd September commencing at 8.30 Eastern Australian Standard Time (10.30 Z).

October 6th to 7th
2007 Oceania DX Contest

The EMDRC will be operating a portable station at Kurth's Kiln, located near Gembrook.

The Oceania DX contest has been around for many years in early October and was known previously as the VK/ZL Contest. Activity has increased over the last three years due to a huge promotional effort by a joint Australian and New Zealand Committee.

PHONE: 0800 UTC Saturday 6 October to 0800 UTC Sunday 7 October 2007

The Parks web page for Kurth Kiln is
http://svc015.wic028p.server-web.com/1park_display.cfm?park=238
the friends group is
http://home.vicnet.net.au/~fofkk/

Boat Anchor Sprints:
October (13).
Local ZL time: 2000 to 2100 hrs

Section 1: Old radios - all valves - i.e. ZC1, 19 set, Heathkits, any home brew set, but must have all valves.

Section 2: Any Hybrid transceiver (must have valve finals i.e. FT200, FTDX400/401, Drake, FT 101s, etc..

Amplitude Modulated signals only.

The overall winner shall be the entrant having the highest points score which will be published in the following New Zealand "Break-in".
(Jamie Pye ZL2NN, Editor NZART's InfoLine)

NOVEMBER 17/18 VK Spring VHF-UHF Field Day

The full details are on www.wia.org.au

Duration in all call areas other than VK6: 0100 UTC Saturday to 0100 UTC Sunday.

Duration in VK6 only: 0400 UTC Saturday to 0400 UTC Sunday.

The full contest details can be viewed here:

http://www.wia.org.au/contests/vu_fieldday/index.php

Sourced from the WIA Website.

CONTEST STORIES

Good morning listeners, this is Peter Harding VK4OD this years RD manager.

This week after the official closing times, some of the late comers tried to sneak in their late mail and Electronic logs for this years RD. In accordance with the Rules I have rejected and returned these late logs.

In the next couple of weeks it is anticipated that I will have all the logs listed on a website for you to peruse, and if your callsign along with what type of log you submitted IS NOT THERE, I will have a link to send me a message before we close the books off and declare the winners. PLEASE NOTE there will NOT be any scores listed, it is purely to make sure your logs are there. Listen to future broadcasts for the RD Logs location, and URL.

Until next week, this is Peter Harding VK4OD. 73s..

MEDIA WATCH

Greg VK5ZBD reporting on the Callbacks for the Adelaide 147Mhz Repeater for Sunday 9th of September says they " have finally cracked the Ton

in S.A. on the one Repeater with the one news broadcast.

VK5RAD with 102 Calls!

Congrats all round!!

LAB TESTING CHANGES DETAILED IN OCTOBER QST

In the upcoming October issue of QST, the ARRL Lab introduces a series of significant new receiver tests. These are the result of development work and discussions with professionals in the radio industry over a period of several years.

One new test concerns receiver blocking gain compression and reciprocal mixing. The ARRL Lab describes Blocking Dynamic Range (BDR) as "a condition in which the weak [desired] signal is 'blocked' or suppressed" by a strong interfering signal. This is also known as desense or overload. In some cases, the cause is a reduction in receiver gain. In other cases ("noise limited" measurements), the cause is an increase in the receiver's internal noise due to the noise sidebands of the local oscillator mixing together with the strong interferer (also known as "reciprocal mixing"). The level of the noise masks the gain reduction effect on the desired signal. Instead of reporting the BDR as a noise limited measurement, the Lab will now be using narrow-band measurement techniques to "dig out" the desired signal on noise-limited measurements and determine the point of gain reduction.

To distinguish from earlier measurements, the name will be changed to "Blocking Gain Compression." A separate reciprocal mixing test indicates the level of noise increase within the receiver caused by the interfering signal. Together, these two measurements provide more information about how the receiver behaves with a single strong interfering signal.

>From 1983 onward, ARRL Product Review published IP3 (third order intercept) figures for receivers based on a noise floor intermodulation distortion (IMD) response level. In 1993, the level was changed to a response that produced an S5 reading on the receiver's own S-meter. The decision was based largely on this being a more typical average of signals that would be found on the bands. The drawbacks to this approach are that there is a great variation in S-meters from receiver to receiver (see Product Review, April 2005) and it overlooks the significant change that can often be observed in receivers at higher signal levels.

With this in mind, the ARRL Lab has decided to measure and report IP3 at three levels. The lowest level measurement is made at the noise floor, as has been done in the past. The middle level is done at a standard level of -97 dBm, defined as S5 in the IARU Region 1 standard for S-meters. For the highest level, instead of selecting a particular receiver response, the maximum level of expected interferer will be set to 0 dBm (S9 + 73 dB by the IARU standard, a loud signal indeed!). These three levels taken together should present the best overall view of a receiver's total performance, with each level being most useful in a particular context. For example, someone doing SSB or CW work on VHF would care most about the receiver performance at the noise floor, while on HF, an S5 level would be more useful.

According to ARRL Lab Test Manager Mike Tracy, KC1SX, members frequently ask why manufacturers' sensitivity specifications are given in microvolts but Product Review measurements are reported in dBm (decibels relative to a milliwatt). He said, "The chief reason is that manufacturers typically do not include a bandwidth in their specification, and measurements in different bandwidths are not directly comparable. All other things being equal, there is more noise power in a 3 kHz bandwidth than a 2.4 kHz bandwidth. To overcome that limitation, the sensitivity testing is done with a 500 Hz bandwidth filter, or as close to that as is available. This permits reasonable comparisons of different receivers." Although the filters that a receiver has cannot be changed, the variation in actual bandwidth can be determined by calculating the Equivalent Rectangular Bandwidth (ERBW). This is the width that the filter would have if it passed the same noise power and possessed the "ideal" shape of vertical sides and a flat passband response.

For more on the changes coming in future Product Reviews, be sure to check out the October issue of QST.
(arrl audio news)

BB's DIARY ROOM - THE FUTURE, IN AMATEUR RADIO

2008

Sept 13 Alarameet 2008 will be held in Ulverstone Tasmania on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th September 2008. Susan VK7LUV for details.

2009
International Telecommunication Union's Telecom World 2009.

14th IARU R3 Conference Christchurch 12 - 16 October, 2009.

SOCIAL SCENE

SEPTEMBER 21-23
North Queensland Amateur Radio Convention
Happening in twin cities of Thuringowa and Townsville.

SEPTEMBER 22-23

Brett Dawson VK2CBD down in the Orana Region ARC says the CSIRO Parkes Radio Telescope will be holding open days Saturday 22 and Sunday 23rd of September. The Orana Region Amateur Radio Club, the Orange & Districts Amateur Radio Club and the WIA will be on site with interesting demonstrations and they'll be talking to anyone who wants to know about how to get involved in amateur radio. There will be other attractions as well including helicopter rides, a jumping castle and face painting for the kids, as well as an outdoors screening of the movie "The Dish" on Saturday evening.

OCTOBER 6
Gold Coast Amateur Radio Society Annual Hamfest at Albert Waterways Hall.

NOVEMBER 4
The Ballarat Hamvention at the Great Southern Woolshed located on the Western Highway on the Melbourne Side of Ballarat. General entry for $6:00 is from 10am. details at the BARG website

www.barg.org.au

DECEMBER 2
Westlakes Amateur Radio Clubs Christmas Party will be held at the Eastern Tiger Restaurant, which is located in the Cardiff RSL building, interested? get in touch with VK2FDNE Diane.

JANUARY 20 2008

The Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group invite all amateurs to attend the 2008 Mid North Coast Radio Expo to be held in Coffs Harbour on Sunday 20th January.

The Expo is held at the St Johns Church Hall, Mc Lean Street, Coffs Harbour. Gary VK2ZKT is the Radio Expo Coordinator on 02 66 55 2 990 or visit the Groups comprehensive web site at www.mncarg.org

FEBRUARY 10

Announcing Centre Victoria RadioFest No. 2.
Second-hand traders, club corner, short-talk lectures, displays and the popular dipole factory will all return, plus some new exciting activities to be announced later.
All major commercial traders have already made commitments to be there again in 2008.
For second hand table bookings that cost only $12.50 please contact Nick Angelo VK3UCK 0488 653 201, or check out the website radiofest.amateurradio.com.au

THE FINAL FINAL

(Audio Grab from TWIAR - Story of "JoeBubbles")

TONY VK7AX CONTINUES WITH STORY.

There is further irony to this story.
Tony VK7AX was possibly one of the last persons to speak with JoyBubbles...

WHY!!!

"JoyBubbles was speaking to yours truly (via the phone of course) arranging to have his 5 year Licence for VK4WBO renewed with the ACMA.

JoyBubbles had given his credit card details to me on Saturday 4th. August.

He agreed to check back 1 hour later to verify whether I was able to complete the payment.

THAT CALL NEVER CAME!!!!

JoyBubbles did complain about feeling very dizzy during our phone conversation.

During our conversation I asked him about the Minneapolis Bridge Collapse which had recently occurred. He told me he was located approximately 4Km from the bridge.

I must say this was a unique experience for me and certainly an honour to have been associated with this Blind Operator... all brought about by Amateur Radio.

I'm Tony VK7AX for the WIA National News from VK1WIA.

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WIANews - we've reported...YOU decide.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".

Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of the National WIA.

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WIANews THANKS OUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS , OUR RELAY OPERATORS ACROSS THE WORLD FOR FORWARDING INFORMATION AND COMMENTS THEIR LISTENERS HAVE PASSED ON TO MAKE WIANews VK'S LEADING WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PROGRAM.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au
Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".
Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of QNEWS for the National WIA.
Thanks to to our dedicated band of broadcast volunteers who utilize their time and equipment in bringing you this weekly broadcast.
The purpose of "WIANews" is to rapidly provide news of interest to active amateurs residing in Australia and the globe.
We strongly encourage membership in the Wireless Institute of Australia and participation in the activities of local clubs.
Opinions expressed in "WIANews" are those of the writers who submit material and do not necessarily reflect those of the rebroadcasters, nor the National WIA.
Material may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, a credit to WIANews wouldn't go astray...
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1526. SARL News in English 15/9/2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-15 15:26:08 UTC
From: website@sarl.org.za
Message-ID: <10CA61BBE5DD4D4DB4069309831C24F6@toron>
Source record: 3931
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2007

You are listening to ZS6SRL the official Radio Station of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is transmitted every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. To listen to a web stream or Echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links for details.

This, and previous bulletins, can be downloaded from the www.sarl.org.za. You can also read or download previous bulletins from there and subscribe to receive future bulletins by email.

Your news reader this morning is Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with relays on 3,695, 10,135, and 51,400 MHz as well as 438,825 and 1 297 MHz in the Pretoria area. (Other newsreaders please change to suit).

SILENT KEY

It is with deep regret that we have to announce the passing of Yvonne Vercueil, ZS6WV, on 1 September. We extend our sincerest condolences to her family and friends.

(PAUSE)

In the news today:

SARL WEBSITE COMPROMISED

EMC WORKGROUP OF STANSA SUBMITTED PLT STANDARD RECOMMENDATION TO ICASA

ICASA HAS GIVEN NOTICE TO MAKE REGULATIONS IN RESPECT OF LICENCE EXEMPTION

DST SPEAKER WILL REVIEW DEVELOPMENTS IN THE SOUTH AFRICAN SPACE ARENA AT SA AMSAT SPACE SYMPOSIUM

WEEKLY NET FROM SCI-BONO SCIENCE DISCOVERY CENTRE

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

SARL WEBSITE COMPROMISED

During this past week hackers managed to compromise the Forum section of the SARL web site and posted some undesirable content. Swift action was taken to remove the offending postings and as an interim measure the forum update on the home page has been removed. The Forum section was disabled and after some corrective action by the web administrators and the ISP it was returned to service. The forum update on the home page will remain blocked until a full investigation on how hackers managed to compromise the security systems that are in place have been concluded.

EMC WORKGROUP OF STANSA SUBMITTED PLT STANDARD RECOMMENDATION TO ICASA

The workgroup 6 of the STANSA's TC73 and TC80 technical committees have submitted their PLT draft regulations to ICASA for further consideration. There are a number of issues on which the workgroup could not reach census and on which ICASA will have to make a ruling. ICASA will discuss the proposal for an interim standard at the CISPR meeting to be held in Australia later this month. After finalising the interim standard, ICASA will publish the document for public comment before finally turning the draft into a regulation.

The regulations will fall away and be replaced by an international CISPR standard once the world body can agree on such a standard. It has been a long way in coming and current indications are that it could be quite some time away.

Perhaps the most significant inclusion in the document is the complaint procedure. This compels the operator of an interfering system to resolve the interference issue within a reasonable period. Further more there will be a public data base of PLT systems.

The SARL is still pursuing the compulsory inclusion of notching of the HF amateur bands.

ICASA HAS GIVEN NOTICE TO MAKE REGULATIONS IN RESPECT OF LICENCE EXEMPTION

ICASA has given notice of its intention to make regulations in respect of licence exemption for a host of low power devices. Comments on the proposals are invited and must reach the regulatory agency by 2 October.

The SARL is reviewing the extensive list to ensure that no amateur allocations are adversely affected. More details can be found on www.icasa.org.

DST SPEAKER WILL REVIEW DEVELOPMENTS IN THE SOUTH AFRICAN SPACE ARENA AT SA AMSAT SPACE SYMPOSIUM

Dr Valanathan Munsami of the Department of Science and Technology will review developments in the South African Space arena at the SA AMSAT Space Symposium to be held at the NARC on Saturday 6 October. He will focus on the DST's 10 year implementation plans and the drafting of a National Space Science Technology Strategy.

The full programme is available on www.amsatsa.org.za. Registration details are also available on the web site. To take advantage of the early registration opportunities, book as soon as possible. There are differentiated rates for SA AMSAT and SARL members.

WEEKLY NET FROM SCI-BONO SCIENCE DISCOVERY CENTRE

Here is exciting news for all school radio clubs and interested radio amateurs.

A new net, Sci-Net will start operations on the 2nd October from the amateur radio station, with call sign ZS6SCI, which is located in the Sci-Bono Science Discovery Centre, Gauteng. It is aimed to involve school stations from all over South Africa. This initiative is endorsed by the Gauteng Department of Education: Curriculum Devlopment. All radio amateurs are requested to are requested to inform their local school clubs and youth nets of this initiative, and to render assistance where needed. Remember to register your station beforehand with the SARL as an educational station because then the unlicenced youngsters may use your equipment to talk to others, but under your supervision.

Sci-Net will start daily at 11:00 CAT and the following frequencies will be used: 80 m - 3,650 MHz LSB; 40 m - 7,065 MHz LSB; 30 m - 10,130 MHz USB; 20 m - 14,265 MHz USB; 2 m - 145,650 and 145,750 MHz FM - Depending on the availability of the repeaters.

Youths will also be introduced to Amateur Radio at the Sci-Bono Science Discovery Centre Educational Station.

SUBSCRIBE TO HF HAPPPENINGS (Item compiled from HF Happenings 267)

HF Happenings is published weekly by Dennis, ZS4BS, and it contains HF and contesting news which is a must for DXers and contesters.

At present, the newsletter is mailed to 13 different e-mail groups because the ISP of Dennis only allows 25 e-mail addresses per group.

About two weeks ago, Dennis created a mailing list via GoogleGroups hoping to have it up and running very soon. Negotiations with this group were unsuccessful and Dennis asks that you PLEASE IGNORE the invitation from GoogleGroups to join the HF Happenings mailing list.

Last week Dennis went to YahooGroups and successfully created a mailing list there. PLEASE accept the invitation to join the HF Happenings mailing list from Yahoo. You can also join by using the e-mail address HF_Happenings-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

As soon as the membership of this group is up and running, Dennis will distribute HF Happenings via this mailing list. Dennis is looking forward to having you join the HF Happenings mailing list on YahooGroups!

PROPAGATION CONDITIONS

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the expected solar activity will be at very low levels. The geomagnetic field is expected to be quiet in general, increasing to minor storm levels on 29 and 30 September. The expected Effective Sun Spot number for the coming week will be less than 5. Fortunately with the arrival of summer, DX conditions are also warming up a bit.

15 m and 20 m will provide best opportunities for DX. There is a possibility of 15 and 20 m openings towards India from about 13:00 CAT. There may be 20 m openings to Australia from about 06:00. From 16:00 there may be 15 and 20 m openings towards Europe and 40 m openings from 22:00. Contacts to the USA are going to be very challenging.

For the CW and digital enthusiasts it will also be worth monitoring 10 MHz.

Locally conditions on 40 m is going to be good during the day. It is once again time to work towards your 80 m WAZS award in the evenings.

Remember that this is only a prediction and that HF always has the capability to surprise you. You will never know what you are missing unless you switch your rig on, listen and also call CQ.

Please visit www.spaceweather.co.za for further information.

DIARY OF EVENTS

9 September, this afternoon - The Spring QRP Sprint; 20 September - Closing date for registering for October RAE; 21 to 22 September - The second leg of the SARL VHF/UHF Contest; 29 September - Ladies Only ZU RAE course by Kempton Park RATS; 29 September - Pretoria ARC Flea Market and AGM; 4 - 10 October - Special space programme; 5 October - Take your handheld to work day; 6 October - SA AMSAT Space Conference; 6 October East Rand Flea market and AGM; 18 October - Class A RAE.

SARL News invites clubs and individuals to submit news stories of interest to radio amateurs and shortwave listeners. Submit news stories if possible in both English and Afrikaans to www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date.

The SARL also invites you to listen to the programme Amateur Radio Mirror International, on the air every Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 590 kHz. For the web stream and echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links. A repeat transmission can be heard Mondays at 21:00 CAT on 3 215 kHz. Sentech sponsors the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

Today's South African Radio League news bulletin was compiled by George, ZS6NE, and transmitted by (your name and call sign).

Thank you for listening. 73.

/EX

========== Message Ends ========== To edit or remove your entry from this mailing list go to www.sarl.org.za/members/admin/maildat.asp

1527. GB2RS NEWS Sunday 16 September 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-15 21:11:06 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200709151900.l8FJ09n02263@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 3932
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

1 GB2RS NEWS Sunday 16 September

The news headlines

* Worked All Britain group donates to GB4FUN

* 3B7C DXpedition now on the air

* Transmission 2007 draws closer

The 36th Leicester Amateur Radio Show took place on 7 and 8 September. At the show the Worked All Britain Group donated #1000 to the Radio Communications Foundation. The Foundation will be using the money to help fund the mobile classroom, GB4FUN, which was at the show. The cheque was presented to RSGB President Angus Annan, MM1CCR, by WAB President Brian Stocks, G0BFJ. More information on the WAB group is available online at www.worked-all-britain.co.uk.

Large numbers of enthusiasts braved severe traffic disruption and noise to attend the Leicester rally. The rally organisers have promised to ensure that next year's show does not again clash with a major motor racing event.

The Five Star DXers 3B7C St Brandon DXpedition started operating precisely on time at 8pm on 7 September. As of 4am on 14 September the team had completed over 55,000 QSOs. Despite some early teething problems, operations are continuing as planned. Early propagation favoured Europe over Japan. However, amateurs all over the world have been making successful contacts. Details of the DXpedition, including latest news, are on the web at www.3B7C.com.

The weekend of 22 and 23 September brings Transmission 2007, the fund raising event for the British Wireless for the Blind Fund. Many clubs and individuals are taking part, and trophies are on offer for both clubs and individuals for the most funds raised and the most contacts achieved. Details of how to take part, including sponsorship forms, can be found at www.blind.org.uk.

Recently Ofcom published an update on the proposed introduction of the licence exempt use of Digital PMR446 compliant private mobile radio (PMR) equipment in the 446.1 to 446.2MHz band. The document clarifies that this band will not become licence exempt, rather a band in which equipment that meets certain technical requirements may be operated on a licence exempt basis. The update can be found at www.ofcom.org.uk.

Tony, EI5EM, has updated and expanded the information booklet about the Vintage Radio Museum in Howth. As well as being a guide to the museum, the booklet is a potted history of the development of wireless technology. It details the 1903 and 1905 experiments carried out in Howth by Lee de Forest and the Marconi Company, and quotes from documents published at the time. A full page reproduction of the Dublin Penny Journal's report on de Forest's 1903 experiments is reproduced in the booklet. The RSGB web site contains a link where you can find more information.

Ofcom recently announced that over 200 new Foundation, Intermediate and Advanced licences were issued during August. New licensees are the lifeblood of our hobby and the RSGB congratulates all the new licensees on their exam successes.

2 A new publication has been announced to celebrate 50 years of Jamboree On The Air. The book is co-authored by Les Mitchell, G3BHK, Len Jarrett, VE3MYF and Richard Middelkoop, PA3BAR. A limited edition of The JOTA Story will be available shortly after the 50th JOTA on 20 and 21 October. The RSGB web site gives details of how to pre-order a copy from the authors.

And now for the details of rallies and events for the coming week On Sunday 23 September the Hornsea Amateur Radio Club Rally takes place at Floral Hall, Hornsea, East Yorkshire. More details of this and future events can be found on pages 88 and 89 of the September edition of RadCom. Now for the news of special events The Scarborough Special Events Group will be on the air as GB2QE on 16 September to mark the 40th anniversary of the liner Queen Elizabeth 2. Activity will be on 80 and 40m SSB and CW, plus 2m and 70cm. Further details from Roy Clayton, e-mail g4ssh@tiscali.co.uk. Celebrating the 4th International Polar Year 2007/2008, Portugal has been represented by the official special event amateur radio station CQ4IPY. The celebration gave all participants the chance to get a special certificate. The CQ4IPY certificate was for all amateur radio operators and SWL who worked CQ4IPY on three different bands or two different modes. For more information visit www.cq4ipy.bravehost.com/.

And now the HF DX news compiled from 425 DX News, the Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin and other sources.

Scott, AC3A, will be in Tanzania until 17 September. He plans to be active as 5H3EYE during his local evening hours. QSL via AC3A. Andre', GM3VLB, will be signing as VY2/GM3VLB until 17 September and as VE1/GM3VLB from 17 to 22 September. Operation will be holiday style, probably early morning or late afternoon local time, primarily 20m for DX and 40m for local contacts. John, W9ILY and Bob, K9MDO, will be active as FP/W9ILY and FP/K9MDO from Miquelon Island (NA-032) until 18 September. They plan to operate on 80 to 10 metres and to concentrate on SSB primarily FP/K9MDO and RTTY/PSK primarily FP/W9ILY. QSL FP/W9ILY via home call, direct or bureau logs will be uploaded to Log of The World. QSL FP/K9MDO via W9NJB, direct or bureau.

Special event call TM8CDX will be aired until 22 September for the 29th Convention of the Clipperton DX Club, which will be held at Puyloubier on 21 to 22 September. All of the QSOs will be confirmed automatically via the bureau; direct requests should be sent to F5CQ.

Bernardo, HB9ASZ, will be active holiday style as F/HB9ASZ/P from Brehat Island (EU-074) until 22 September. He will operate CW only with 100 watts into a multiband dipole. His favourite band is 30m. The Bittern DX Group will be active on 22 to 23 September as GB2TX as part of Transmission 2007.

Dani, EB1BOA and Javier, EC1KV, plan to be active as F/EB1BOA/P from several French lighthouses until 24 September. Further information at www.ea1cs.blogspot.com/. QSL via home call, direct or bureau.

3 Chris, DL2MDU, will be active as 5Z4/DL2MDU from Kenya until 24 September. He plans to operate holiday style mainly CW. QSL via bureau to home call. Now the contest news The Scandinavian Activity Contest takes place on 22 September at 1200 to 1200 on 23 September on the 3.5 to 28MHz bands, SSB. The exchange takes the form of RS and serial number. The RSGB 1.3GHz/2.3GHz Activity Evening takes place on 18 September at 2000 to 2230 on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. The Irish Radio Transmitters Society's 75th Anniversary Contest CQIR will take place from 1200 UTC on 29 September. Now the solar factual data for the period from 3 September to 9 September, compiled by Neil Clarke, G0CAS

As a small sunspot group rotated out of view the sun became spotless on the 7th. Solar activity was very low with no solar flares taking place. Solar flux levels declined from 68 units to 67. The average was 67 units. The 90 day solar flux average on the 9th was 70 units, that's one unit down on last week and the lowest level so far for this minimum. X-ray flux levels remained well below the minimum A1 level throughout the period. For the first half of the period geomagnetic activity was unsettled due to a recurring coronal hole. The most disturbed day was the 6th with an Ap of 13 units. Activity then declined and by the 9th the Ap index was only 2 units. The average was 9 units. The ACE spacecraft saw solar wind speeds decline from 680 kilometres per second on the 4th to 310 by the 9th. Particle densities were mostly low, however, an increase to 12 particles per cubic centimetre took place on the 6th and the 9th. Bz varied between minus 9 and plus 4 nanoTeslas on the most disturbed day and between minus 2 and plus 3 on the 9th. The more unsettled ionosphere meant that HF propagation was slightly below expected levels for much of the week, with the higher bands particularly quiet. However, 14MHz produced some good openings to Asia and Australia and, on the 8th, the attraction of a major contest and the 3B7C expedition brought activity even up to 28MHz. There was occasional sporadic-E on 28 and 50MHz and even one or two reports on 70MHz. VHF aurora was reported on the afternoon of the 2nd, but the disturbance was not substantial enough for it to reach mid-latitudes. And finally the solar forecast. This week the slightly more active side of the Sun is expected to be looking our way. Solar

activity should continue at very low levels, however, the occasional small C class solar flare cannot be ruled out. Solar flux levels are expected to increase to the low 70's for most of the week. Geomagnetic activity should be mostly quiet, at least till next Friday, when an arrival of a coronal hole disturbance is expected to commence and last over the weekend. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitudes should be around 19MHz for the south and 16MHz for the north. The darkness hour lows should be about 8MHz. Paths this week to South America should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success rate of about 24MHz. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success arte of around 17MHz. The best time to try this path will be between 1100 to 2000 hours UTC. And that's all for this week from the propagation team.

4 Next, the Local News:

Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses

and website links where known.

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your

transmission.]

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST

and EAST ANGLIA On Monday 17 September Braintree and District Amateur Radio Society is organising their entry for Transmission 2007. Contact John, M5AJB, on 01787 460 947.

On Monday 17 September Burnham Beeches Radio Club is having a talk entitled Digit on a PDA. Contact G4XDU, on 01628625720.

On Monday 17 September Surrey Radio Contact Club is having a talk by Andy, G8JAC, on the evolution of British Army Radio from WW11 to Clansman. Contact Ray, G4FFY, on 020 8644 7589.

On Monday 17 September Wey Valley Amateur Radio Group is having a club night and talk by Walter Blanchard, G3JKV, entitled transponders, here, there and everywhere. Details on the web at www.weyvalleyarg.org.uk.

On Tuesday 18 September Bromley Adult Education College starts its Advanced Licence Course. Contact 020 460 0020, or on the web at www.bromleyadulteducation.ac.uk.

On Wednesday 19 September Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is having an antenna testing evening. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

On Wednesday 19 September Dover Radio Club is having an operating and natter night. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk.

On Wednesday 19 September Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk by Chris, G8JFJ, on receiver noise, how to measure it, and does it really matter? Contact Jim, M1JJN.

On Wednesday 19 September Havering and District Amateur Radio Club is having an informal evening. Contact Dave, 2E0EBV, on 07956 594 514.

On Wednesday 19 September Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is running Team Radio Active with Peter, G3ASQ. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

On Wednesday 19 September Southdown Amateur Radio Society is operating SSTV and other modes from the Halisham shack. Contact John, G3DQY, on 01424,424,319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

On Wednesday 19 September Worthing and District Amateur Radio Club is having a construction contest. Contact Roy, G4GPX, on 01903 753 893.

On Thursday 20 September Cray Valley Radio Society is having a construction and small project evening - G0FDZ. Contact Bob, BRS32525, on 020 8265 7735 after 8pm.

On Thursday 20 September Horsham Amateur Radio Club is having a social evening at The Jolly Tanners, Staplefield. Details on the web at www.harc.org.uk.

5 On Thursday 20 September Shefford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on Enigma by John Alexander, G7GCK. Contact David, G8UOD, on 01234 742 757.

On Thursday 20 September Sutton and Cheam Radio Society is having a talk on software defined radio by Stan Rudcenko, G0KBL. Contact John, G0BWV, on 020 8644 9945, or by email to info@scrs.org.uk.

On Friday 21 September Cambridge and District Amateur Radio Club is having a junk sale. Contact David, G8JKV.

On Friday 21 September Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is having a radio night and table top sale. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Sunday 23 September Southdown Amateur Radio Society is operating G1KAR at Beachy Head. Contact John, G3DQY, on 01424,424,319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST Weston Super Mare Radio Society is organising an Intermediate licence course to commence on 16 October. If you are interested in joining the course please contact Dave, G4OKO, on 01934 823 628 by 1 October to book a place.

On Monday 17 September Appledore and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on life under the Waves by Laurence, G4XHK. Contact Beryl, G1SVP.

On Wednesday 19 September Exmouth Amateur Radio Club is having an operating night. Contact g0uil@eclipse.co.uk.

On Wednesday 19 September South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is having a display of working old domestic radios. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282.

On Wednesday 19 September Taunton and District Amateur Radio Club is discussing arrangements for GB0THW on Saturday. Contact William, G3WNI, on 01823 666 234, or by email to g3wni@btinternet.com.

On Wednesday 19 September Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is having a video night. Contact Tony, G0WMB, by email to tonytsgarc@beeb.net.

On Thursday 20 September Swindon and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on the Mode S ADS-B air traffic control system by Colin Irvin. Contact Mike, M5CBS, on 01793 826 465.

On Thursday 20 September Yeovil Amateur Radio Club is watching the FT5XO Kerguelen DXpedition DVD. Contact Gary, 2E0BFJ (g.swain@tesco.net).

On Saturday 22 September Taunton and District Amateur Radio Club is running special event station GB0THW to celebrate 100 Years of Scouting at The Huish Wood camp site. Contact William, G3WNI, on 01823 666 234, or by email to g3wni@btinternet.com.

6 NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS A vacancy has arisen for a Deputy Regional Manager covering South Derbyshire & South Nottinghamshire. If you live in the area and would like to help the RSGB's Regional Team to strengthen relationships between the Society and its membership, please contact Regional Manager Jim Stevenson, G0EJQ, on 0789 172 1081 or by email to g0ejq@rsgb.org.uk.

On Monday 17 September Gloucester Amateur Radio and Electronics Society will be operating with contacts to Lundy Island. Contact Anne, 2E1GKY, on 01452 548478, daytime.

On Tuesday 18 September Loughborough and District Amateur Radio Club will be having a vintage amateur radio night. Contact Chris, G1ETZ, on 01509 504 319.

On Tuesday 18 September Wythall Radio Club is having a talk by Callum, M0MCX, on Antenna Modelling. Contact Chris, G0EYO, on 07710 412 819, or by email to g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk, or on the web at www.wythallradioclub.co.uk.

On Wednesday 19 September Melton Mowbray Amateur Radio Society is having its AGM. Contact Phil, G4LWB, on phil@croxtonkerr.fsnet.co.uk.

On Wednesday 19 September Telford and District Amateur Radio Society is preparing for Hamfest. Contact Mike, G3JKX, on 01952 299 677, or by email to mjstreetg3jkx@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Thursday 20 September Salop Amateur Radio Society is having a slide show about Friedrichshafen by G8VZT. Contact Glenda, G1YJB, on 01939 235 412.

On Thursday 20 September Tamworth Amateur Radio Society is putting the club station on the air. Contact Colin Marks, G4ZPJ, on 01827 700 893, colin.marks2@ntlworld.com.

On Friday 21 September Coventry Amateur Radio Society is having its 75th Anniversary Dinner. Contact John, G8SEQ, on 02476 273 190, or by email to johng8seq@ntlworld.com.

On Friday 21 September Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is having a members forum. Details on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

On Saturday 22 September Melton Mowbray Amateur Radio Society is running a Foundation Licence training course at the new HQ in Dalby Road. Contact Geoff, G3STG, on 01664 480 733, g3stg@btinternet.com.

NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

On Monday 17 September Thornton Cleveleys Amateur Radio Society is having part one of a talk on radar by Dr A G Llewellyn. Contact Jack, G4BFH, by email to jack.duddington@btinternet.com.

On Tuesday 18 September Chester and District Radio Society is having a project night to build a crystal set, hosted by Alan Hopkinson. Details on the web at www.chesterdars.org.uk, info@chesterdars.org.uk.

On Tuesday 18 September Pontefract District Amateur Radio Society will be constructing an ATU for the HF doublet antenna. Contact Colin, G0NQE, on 01977 677 006, info@pontefractradioclub.org.

On Tuesday 18 September Stockport Radio Society is having an evening devoted to data modes. Contact David, M1ANT, on 0161 456 7832.

On Wednesday 19 September Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is having a talk by Nick Packett on the work he does in Afghanistan. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

7 On Wednesday 19 September Halifax and District Amateur Radio Society is having its AGM at Royal Oak, Halifax. Contact Brenda, 2E0YKS, by email to wrenuk10@yahoo.com.

On Friday 21 September South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is having a surplus equipment sale. Contact Ron on 0161 969 3999.

On Friday 21 September Tynemouth Radio Club is having a talk on making printed circuit boards by Bob, G0EDQ. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

NEWS FOR SCOTLAND

On Wednesday 19 September Paisley (YMCA) Amateur Radio Club is having a bring and buy sale. Contact Jim, GM3UWX.

On Thursday 20 September Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is having an inventory and equipment check. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

NEWS FOR WALES On Tuesday 18 September Carmarthen Amateur Radio Society is having a talk and demo of radio operation. Contact Les, GW8PSJ, on 01239 811 922.

NEWS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

No news items have been received for Northern Ireland this week. And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast,

prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

1528. [RAC-Bulletin] RAC Bulletin #16 - Report of the election committee - SEPTEMBER 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-16 20:04:04 UTC
From: John Iliffe <john.iliffe@sympatico.ca>
Message-ID: <46ED8B76.72E9847D@sympatico.ca>
Source record: 3933
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

On Friday, 7 September 2007 the RAC election committee met in Orillia ON. Susan Cooke, RAC Secretary, acted as chair of the meeting. The members of the committee were:

- Mrs Susan Cooke, VE3SUH, chair
- Mr Doug Campbell, VA3DC
- Mr Charles Doubrough, VA3SD
- Mr Peter Schuyffel, VE3JPP

Following a call for nominations in the Juyy/August issue of TCA the committee reviewed the nominations received for the position of Director in each of the following regions:

Quebec
Ontario South
Alberta/NWT/Nunavut

Results were as follows:

Quebec Regional Director

Only one nomination was received from the Quebec region. Based on the documents submitted and the RAC constitutional requirements, this nomination was found to be correct and complete. Since there were no other candidates, Mr Noel Marcil, VE2BR, has been acclaimed to this post for a term of 2007 and 2008.

Ontario South Director

Only one nomination was received from the Ontario South region. Based on the documents submitted and the RAC constitutional requirements, this nomination was found to be correct and complete. Since there were no other candidates, Mr Geoff Smith, VA3GS, has been acclaimed to this post for a term of 2007 and 2008.

Alberta/NWT/Nunavut Director

Having received no nominations for this position, the committee recommends that the board of directors proceed to make a seond call for nominations in accordance with the constitution, Article 6 i).

_____
Susan Cooke, VE3SUH
Secretary, RAC
Chair, Nomination Committee

Sent by the RAC Bulletins from RACHQ mailing list robot.
Send comments to: rachq@rac.ca
For more information about the email robot, please visit:
http://rac.eton.ca/racbullemail.htm

1529. IRTS Radio News Bulletin, Sunday September 16th 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-16 21:02:33 UTC
From: news at irts dot ie <devnull@panix.com>
Message-ID: <200709162000.I8GK06s02821@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 3934
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Irish Radio Transmitters Society
Radio News Bulletin

Sunday September 16th 2007

CQIR

With the CQIR Contest only two weeks away the sub committee are working hard to promote the event worldwide. There is excellent coverage on the various contest reflectors but we believe this event will also attract a lot of interest from non-contesters. It is more difficult to get the message out to these operators and we would ask our own DXers to actively promote the event on the bands over the next two weeks. You can stress the point that 75 QSO's with any stations in the contest will get them into the draw for the trip to Ireland, and then simply refer them to the IRTS website, www.irts.ie.

EI75IRTS will be very active before and during the event and we will have more details of these activities next week. If any members have contacts with local press or local radio stations, who are interested in covering the event, the Society can assist you with Press Releases and other support documentation. If you need assistance contact Paul EI2CA by email, 'paul at comma dot ie', or phone 087 2523908.

Short Range Devices (SRDs) on 10 GHz

ComReg is proposing to open the segment 10.4 to 10.42 GHz to licence-exempt Short Range Devices or SRDs. These will be mainly for movement detection in the context of traffic control and will have a power level of 500 milliwatts. There is an experimenter secondary allocation at 10.0 to 10.5 GHz. The EU notification procedure and the standstill period for observations means that a final position on this will not be adopted until early October at the soonest. The relevant document is ComReg 07/37 and is available on the ComReg website at www.comreg.ie. Any experimenter having concerns about this proposal can write to Jim Connolly

at ComReg.

Logs

Logs for EI7IRTS activity on CW and SSB are required by the QSL Manager, Denis, EI6HB immediately. There are a lot of direct QSL cards after arriving and QSO details must be checked before confirmation is sent out. Logs (preferably in ADIF format) should be sent to ei6hb at eircom dot net.

All who participated in the 2 metre counties contest, even those who gave out just a few points, are encouraged to send in their logs to the Contest Manager. The latest date for log entry is the 25th of September.

DXpedition to St Brandon

A group of mainly European amateurs are currently operating from Isle du Sud, one of about 16 small islands known as the Saint Brandon Rocks on an extended reef in the Indian Ocean northeast of Mauritius. The call sign being used is 3B7C, and well-known EI contester Paul O'Kane EI5DI is one of the operators. In their first 5 days of operation, the group clocked up 50,000 QSOs, of which almost 60% were on CW. Their signals have been heard on all HF bands in EI, and to date there are more than 100 QSOs with EI stations in the log. There is still plenty of time to work them, as the plan is to continue operating until Monday the 24th of September.

Galway Radio Experimenters Club

The Galway Radio Experimenters club (GREC) held its AGM in the Menlo Park Hotel on Tuesday last the 11th of September 2007. The agenda for the night was to discuss club issues, elect a new committee and to discuss the upcoming Marconi field day which is of course the 100th anniversary of the first commercial radio link between Europe and the United States. The new committee members elected are as follows:- Tom Frawley (EI3ER) as chairman. Damian Commins (EI2HG) as treasurer And Adrian Jackson (EI7DMB) Club secretary. Two ordinary committee members were also elected and these were Larry MCGriskin (EI9CN) and Tom McNamara (EI8DD).

It is the aim of the club to Run Classes in the New Year and to participate in most if not all of the upcoming field days and events. There was an excellent turn out for the meeting and the committee would like to thank the 24 members who took time out to attend.

EI0MAR

EI0MAR will be QRV on Saturday and Sunday the 29th and 30th of September for the CQIR event. On Saturday the station will be active between 1100 and 2200 UTC and also on the following morning. On Saturday evening, the North Dublin Radio Club's weekly meeting will take place at the station. The vintage radio museum in Howth, which houses EI0MAR, is located in the Martello tower in Howth. Access is up a steep pathway opposite the Abbey Tavern. Visitors are welcome and may operate the station using their own or the club's call sign. Further information on EI0MAR is available on the club's website. This is easily found by googling the words EI0MAR, Martello and Howth. A link to the museum web page will allow downloading of a free 22-page booklet about the tower and the history of wireless.

Marconi Clifden Celebrations

On the 17th of October 1907 Guglielmo Marconi sent his first commercial message from the then new station at Clifden, Ireland. This October in celebration of this historic event member of the Galway Radio Experimenters Club will be running a special event station from Saturday 13th to Wednesday 17th from Clifden. The club has been issued the call sign EI100MFT for the event, MFT been the last call sign used on the original station.

On the Wednesday they will be making a special linkup with the Marconi sister station in Glace Bay, Nova Scotia. Part of this linkup will be an exchange of greetings between President Mary McAleese and Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia the Honourable Mayann E. Francis. The group will also be honoured to have Princess Electra Marconi present as she is coming to Clifden for the festival along with an Exhibit from the Marconi Foundation in Bologna. The Galway Radio Experimenters Club will also be presenting a display of vintage equipment. More details on the festival can be found at www.clifden.ie. Visitors to the station are more than welcome and if you would like to participate this can also be arranged. For further information

please contact Enda Broderick (II2II) on 086-8676410 or
email: &#65533;enda dot Broderick at lightnet dot ie&#65533;.

Winlink Experiment

John, EI7IG, is experimenting/testing a Winlink Telpac Node in the Waterford area, if anyone is interested in participating, please contact him directly at 086-8167310.

Limerick Radio Club

The next meeting of the Club will be on the Thursday 11th of October at the usual venue, the Limerick Institute of Technology, Moylish at 19:30 hrs local time. All those interested are welcome to attend.

Theory Classes

There is a free course for the forthcoming radio theory exam running in the Ballyroan Community centre, Marian Rd, hosted by South Dublin Radio Club. It is held between eight and ten p.m. on Tuesday evenings. Also there will be a course held in Crossakiel, Kells held on a Wednesday 8:30 to 10:30, hosted by the newly founded CARA club (Crossakiel Amateur Radio Association).

Also anyone interested in radio will find a visit to the clubs enjoyable. Call Michael (EI2GKB) on 0872481970 for details.

Blarney Rally

The Cork Radio Clubs 16th Radio Rally will take plane on Sunday the 23rd of September at the Blarney Park Hotel. The rally will feature all the usual traders including club stands and the IRTS. The bring-and-buy will also feature and there is ample car parking.

Doors open at 11 a.m. For details, contact Con on 021-4270136 or 086-1071312.

Other Upcoming Rallies

The Waterford Rally will take place on Sunday the 21st of October in the Woodlands Hotel, Waterford. For more information visit www.searg.com.

The Foyle and District Rally will take place on Sunday the 4th of November 2007 at the White Horse Hotel, Derry. For more information visit www.mn0aku.org.uk.

The Mayo Radio Rally will take place on Sunday the 18th of November in the Belmount Hotel, Knock, Co. Mayo. For more information contact Padraic Baynes, EI9JA @ QTHR.

DX News

A team of 9 Greek amateur radio operators are going to activate the Syrian island of Arwad (AS-186) for the first time in the IOTA program, between the 1st and 13th of November. The callsign for this station will be YK9SV.

Activity is on all HF bands with at least 2 stations operating around the clock, including 6 meters and using CW, SSB, RTTY and PSK. QSL is via SV1JG. For latest info visit www.raag.org/arwad.

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall, EI7IS at QTHR or by phone to 051-853806 or 087-6302026. Items for the radio news can also be faxed to 087 5 6302026. News should be submitted via e-mail to news at irts dot ie for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Friday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday's bulletin.

1530. The "Diamond Terrace"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-17 14:23:52 UTC
From: David Stinson <arc5@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <1190034478.296010.243910@d55g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3935

First- Let me thank whomever had the courage (and patience)
to set up a moderated amateur radio group.
I just discovered it.
Thanks again.

Re: The ARRL "Diamond Terrace:"
There are several people I'd like to commemorate,
but the idea of putting their names under foot,
where teenagers spit their gum
and people wipe excrement off their shoes
is appalling beyond words.
I don't know who created this revolting national fad
of building "memorials" that people walk all over,
nor do I understand people who buy into this disgrace,
but I won't spend a cent
to put the memory of anyone for whom I care
under people's feet.

73 Dave AB5S

1531. VLF 9 KHz

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-17 14:24:47 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net>
Message-ID: <13et3746nodnj95@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3936

I've been following a conversation over on news:rec.audio.pro
originated by a guy who is getting what appears to be CW
RFI on his microphone(s) at 9 KHz. He also reported hearing
similar "whistling" on the AM BCB.

At first I thought of those submarine communication transmiters
in the Great Lakes area (the problem is in Michigan). But, although
they run megawatts, they appear to use either higher (14-60 KHz)
or lower (40-80Hz) frequencies. And the ones in upper Michigan
and Wisconsin appear to be shut down, anyway.

http://www.fas.org/man/dod-101/navy/docs/scmp/part07.htm

So is there anything at 9 KHz that could be an intermittent
source of CW? Some Googling around the inter-web didn't
turn up as much as I expected.

1532. Re: The "Diamond Terrace"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-17 17:00:55 UTC
From: KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <1190045444.990707.22290@w3g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3937

Dave,

I understand the feelings, but I think that there is more to the "Diamond Terrace" than just a bunch of bricks that folks walk on. I believe that the point of this idea is to help fund the ARRL and not just to put bricks on the ground. There are a number of ways to donate to the ARRL, this diamond terrace thing is just the latest fundraising idea. (Which by the way doesn't originate with the ARRL. I've seen this, get a special brick made thing, used for a number of years.)

I really don't think the intent was to offend anybody, only to provide a means of raising money for the ARRL. To that end I'm OK with it, though I am unlikely to participate for many of the same reasons you don't like the idea.

-= Bob =-

On Sep 17, 9:23 am, David Stinson <a...@ix.netcom.com> wrote:
>
> Re: The ARRL "Diamond Terrace:"
> There are several people I'd like to commemorate,
> but the idea of putting their names under foot,
> where teenagers spit their gum
> and people wipe excrement off their shoes
> is appalling beyond words.

1533. Re: The "Diamond Terrace"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-17 17:01:15 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fcmbfv$1cro$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3938

David Stinson wrote:

> Re: The ARRL "Diamond Terrace:"
> There are several people I'd like to commemorate,
> but the idea of putting their names under foot,
> where teenagers spit their gum
> and people wipe excrement off their shoes
> is appalling beyond words.
> I don't know who created this revolting national fad
> of building "memorials" that people walk all over,
> nor do I understand people who buy into this disgrace,
> but I won't spend a cent
> to put the memory of anyone for whom I care
> under people's feet.

There are some cultures in which to show another person the bottom of your feet is about as bad an insult as one make!

It is a pretty pervasive thing though, from the walk of the stars in Hollywood, to fishing piers to local theater fund raising projects.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1534. Re: The "Diamond Terrace"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-17 17:51:12 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net>
Message-ID: <5l7t20F6o4phU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 3939

"KC4UAI" wrote ...
> I understand the feelings, but I think that there is more to the
> "Diamond Terrace" than just a bunch of bricks that folks walk on. I
> believe that the point of this idea is to help fund the ARRL and not
> just to put bricks on the ground. There are a number of ways to
> donate to the ARRL, this diamond terrace thing is just the latest
> fundraising idea. (Which by the way doesn't originate with the ARRL.
> I've seen this, get a special brick made thing, used for a number of
> years.)
>
> I really don't think the intent was to offend anybody, only to provide
> a means of raising money for the ARRL. To that end I'm OK with it,
> though I am unlikely to participate for many of the same reasons you
> don't like the idea.

OTOH, many of us could think of someone (or something)
that would give us a satisfying feeling to think that people
were walking all over it. And to raise $$ for the ARRL is just
an additional bennefit! :-)

Do you think they would put "BPL" on a brick? (Or "FCC"? :-)

1535. Re: VLF 9 KHz

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-17 18:56:40 UTC
From: Cecil Moore <nospam@w5dxp.com>
Message-ID: <I4AHi.3195$ZA5.1666@nlpi068.nbdc.sbc.com>
Source record: 3940

Richard Crowley wrote:
> So is there anything at 9 KHz that could be an intermittent
> source of CW?

9 KHz is in the audio spectrum so it is probably
the product of mixing. What frequency is the
receiver tuned to? What are the IF frequencies?
What are the intermod possibilities?
--
73, Cecil http://www.w5dxp.com

1536. Re: The "Diamond Terrace"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-17 18:58:27 UTC
From: Cecil Moore <nospam@w5dxp.com>
Message-ID: <16AHi.3197$ZA5.850@nlpi068.nbdc.sbc.com>
Source record: 3941

KC4UAI wrote:
> I really don't think the intent was to offend anybody, only to provide
> a means of raising money for the ARRL.

Isn't the ARRL supposed to be non-profit?
--
73, Cecil http://www.w5dxp.com

1537. Re: VLF 9 KHz

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-17 19:19:26 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net>
Message-ID: <5l8238F6u0rcU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 3942

"Cecil Moore" wrote ...
> Richard Crowley wrote:
>> So is there anything at 9 KHz that could be an intermittent
>> source of CW?
>
> 9 KHz is in the audio spectrum so it is probably
> the product of mixing. What frequency is the
> receiver tuned to? What are the IF frequencies?
> What are the intermod possibilities?

It is being picked up directly by two Royer ribbon
microphones which contain an active impedance-
matching circuit implemented with a tube ("valve").
No IF involved there.

On his AM BCB receiver, he was complaining about
790KHz. We likely have no way of discovering his IF
frequency.

1538. Re: The "Diamond Terrace"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-17 19:20:41 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net>
Message-ID: <5l825uF6vg2gU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 3943

"Cecil Moore" wrote ...
> KC4UAI wrote:
>> I really don't think the intent was to offend anybody, only to provide
>> a means of raising money for the ARRL.
>
> Isn't the ARRL supposed to be non-profit?

"Non profit" doesn't mean "zero-budget" or
"no-income" or "can't raise money by selling
bricks". Does it?

1539. Re: VLF 9 KHz

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-17 19:51:04 UTC
From: Cecil Moore <nospam@w5dxp.com>
Message-ID: <iUAHi.3651$3Y1.1655@newssvr17.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 3944

Richard Crowley wrote:
> It is being picked up directly by two Royer ribbon
> microphones which contain an active impedance-
> matching circuit implemented with a tube ("valve").
> No IF involved there.

But it could certainly be intermod.
--
73, Cecil http://www.w5dxp.com

1540. Re: The "Diamond Terrace"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-17 19:54:42 UTC
From: Cecil Moore <nospam@w5dxp.com>
Message-ID: <iWAHi.3652$3Y1.2210@newssvr17.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 3945

Richard Crowley wrote:
> "Cecil Moore" wrote ...
>> Isn't the ARRL supposed to be non-profit?
>
> "Non profit" doesn't mean "zero-budget" or
> "no-income" or "can't raise money by selling
> bricks". Does it?

Did you answer a question with another question? :-)
--
73, Cecil http://www.w5dxp.com

1541. Re: The "Diamond Terrace"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-17 20:05:11 UTC
From: KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <1190057607.787597.316410@50g2000hsm.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3946

Cecil,

If you mean 501C 3 "non-profit" organization like the Red Cross,
United Way and the like, then the answer is "yes".

But you don't really think that selling these bricks for "profit" to
raise funds is a problem do you? Donations to the ARRL necessary to
get a 'brick" on the terrace are tax deductible. Just like buying
hymnals or seats with your choice of inscriptions for your local
church would be too. The University I graduated from has a similar
program where alumni can "donate" sums of money and get their choice
of inscriptions put on various things around the campus. Donate
enough and they will name a building after you, while you get the tax
write off. I don't see any problem with the ARRL doing their diamond
terrace thing from a tax law perspective.

-= bob =-

On Sep 17, 1:58 pm, Cecil Moore <nos...@w5dxp.com> wrote:
> KC4UAI wrote:
> > I really don't think the intent was to offend anybody, only to provide
> > a means of raising money for the ARRL.
>
> Isn't the ARRL supposed to be non-profit?

1542. Re: VLF 9 KHz

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-17 20:06:22 UTC
From: KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <1190055359.563588.219310@57g2000hsv.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3947

Well,

Having thumbed through the articles on the other news group (Some 300 of them), I'm almost certain that this problem is with his equipment, the grounding and shielding of that ribbon microphone and associated preamp and is likely to originate with some kind of local unintentional radiator located within his house (A switching power supply, plasma TV, Cable tuner etc.) Listening to the audio provided really makes me think there is some very noisy switching power supply in this mix somewhere.

I would start by verifying that the shield on that "special" 7 pin cable between the preamp and the mic is not damaged and I would invest in some of the clip on RFI cores that you can loop the microphone cable though a few times as close to the preamp as possible. He needs to be 100% sure that he has eliminated all the possible grounding problems (which it seems that he has a number based upon his posts) by lifting power and signal grounds where necessary to make sure there is only ONE path to ground from ANY piece of equipment.

In the end, I'll bet that it's the microphone/preamp that is to blame and getting that fixed can be something way beyond the scope of what can be discussed on Usenet effectively.

-= Bob =-

On Sep 17, 9:24 am, "Richard Crowley" <rcrow...@xp7rt.net> wrote:
> I've been following a conversation over on news:rec.audio.pro
> originated by a guy who is getting what appears to be CW
> RFI on his microphone(s) at 9 KHz. He also reported hearing
> similar "whistling" on the AM BCB.
>

1543. Re: VLF 9 KHz

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-17 20:07:08 UTC
From: KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <1190058726.642570.223950@r29g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3948

This tube is likely the thing that's rectifying stray RF that happens to come along for the ride so I suspect that the problem this guy is having is more likely to be shielding or grounding issues. The source of the RF is an open question, but I think it's a moot point because he seems to be getting a lot of RF from a number of sources which tells me there are some serious issues with his wiring. I would entertain the theory that this tube is needing some neutralization and may be doing some serious oscillation under certain external conditions, but I wouldn't undertake a technical discussion of how to fix that on Usenet given there is likely some 900 volts involved here and somebody could get killed.

-= bob =-

On Sep 17, 2:19 pm, "Richard Crowley" <rcrow...@xp7rt.net> wrote:
> It is being picked up directly by two Royer ribbon
> microphones which contain an active impedance-
> matching circuit implemented with a tube ("valve").
> No IF involved there.

1544. Re: The "Diamond Terrace"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-17 20:30:09 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net>
Message-ID: <5l86bkF6vcn9U1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 3849

"Cecil Moore" wrote in ...
> Richard Crowley wrote:
>> "Cecil Moore" wrote ...
>>> Isn't the ARRL supposed to be non-profit?
>>
>> "Non profit" doesn't mean "zero-budget" or
>> "no-income" or "can't raise money by selling
>> bricks". Does it?
>
> Did you answer a question with another question? :-)

OK, remove the last sentence and try it as a
declarative statement. :-)

1545. Re: VLF 9 KHz

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-18 01:55:16 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <ttbue3pj8tatink8juoeedu92e6v9m8vov@4ax.com>
Source record: 3850

On Mon, 17 Sep 2007 15:19:26 EDT, "Richard Crowley"
<rcrowley@xp7rt.net> wrote:

>It is being picked up directly by two Royer ribbon
>microphones which contain an active impedance-
>matching circuit implemented with a tube ("valve").
>No IF involved there.

Can you spell "audio rectification" ?? <ggg>
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1546. Can u Identify??

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-18 02:59:52 UTC
From: John Doe <hgorden@adelphia.net>
Message-ID: <RqKdnaotsfIEvnLbnZ2dnUVZ_jOdnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 3851

Chesapeake Microwave
MDL: 86-0142
Freq: 4 - 8 Ghz

SMA connector on 1 side of box & 4 SMA connectors on the other side of the aluminum box.

I think that it might be some kind of combiner or single input and multi-output device.

73's

1547. Re: The "Diamond Terrace"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-18 13:29:54 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fcognp$16cu$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3852

Cecil Moore wrote:
> Richard Crowley wrote:
>> "Cecil Moore" wrote ...
>>> Isn't the ARRL supposed to be non-profit?
>>
>> "Non profit" doesn't mean "zero-budget" or
>> "no-income" or "can't raise money by selling
>> bricks". Does it?
>
> Did you answer a question with another question? :-)

Non-Profit institutions raise money in many ways. Bake sales, hoagie sales, donate a vehicle and have it auctioned off with the proceeds going to the nonprofit. Volunteer Fire companies do it a lot, so do many other non-profits. It's actually a pretty good thing.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1548. Re: Can u Identify??

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-18 16:58:50 UTC
From: Mindraker <anon@anon.com>
Message-ID: <j5THi.45$W76.11@newsfe12.lga>
Source record: 3853

"John Doe" <hgorden@adelphia.net> wrote in message
news:RqKdnaotsfIEvnLbnZ2dnUVZ_jOdnZ2d@comcast.com...
> Chesapeake Microwave
> MDL: 86-0142
> Freq: 4 - 8 Ghz
>
> SMA connector on 1 side of box & 4 SMA connectors on the other side of the
> aluminum box.
>
> I think that it might be some kind of combiner or single input and
> multi-output device.
>
> 73's
>

Here is an example of an -adapter- with one male BNC on one side, and three
female BNC connectors on the other side:
http://www.jameco.com/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/ProductDisplay?langId=-1&storeId=10001&cat
alogId=10001&productId=207116
I'm not sure if that is similar to what you're looking at...
Fish around on that web site, you might find what you're looking for (I
found a male/female SMA/BNC adapter I was looking for on that web site).
-Mindraker

1549. Re: Can u Identify??

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-18 20:13:35 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5laei6F76v7gU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 3854

"Mindraker" <anon@anon.com> wrote in message
news:j5THi.45$W76.11@newsfe12.lga
: : "John Doe" <hgorden@adelphia.net> wrote in message
: : news:RqKdnaotsfIEvnLbnZ2dnUVZ_jOdnZ2d@comcast.com...
: : : Chesapeake Microwave
: : : MDL: 86-0142
: : : Freq: 4 - 8 Ghz
: : :
: : : SMA connector on 1 side of box & 4 SMA connectors on
: : : the other side of the aluminum box.
: : :
: : : I think that it might be some kind of combiner or
: : : single input and multi-output device.
: : :
: : : 73's
: : :
: :
: : Here is an example of an -adapter- with one male BNC on
: : one side, and three female BNC connectors on the other
: : side:
: :
http://www.jameco.com/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/ProductDisplay?langId=-1&storeId=10001&catalogId=10001&productId=207116
: : I'm not sure if that is similar to what you're looking
: : at...
: : Fish around on that web site, you might find what
: : you're looking for (I found a male/female SMA/BNC
: : adapter I was looking for on that web site). -Mindraker

Hmm, no I think that from the OP's description it's almost certainly some soet of diplexer/combiner. To the OP: is there a photo of it or something similar anywhere we can look at..? (Please post a link, not an actual image).

73 Ivor G6URP

1550. Re: Can u Identify??

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-19 10:09:42 UTC
From: Jeff <jeff@local.host>
Message-ID: <46f0d3e6$0$1344$834e42db@reader.greatnowhere.com>
Source record: 3855

> : : : Chesapeake Microwave
> : : : MDL: 86-0142
> : : : Freq: 4 - 8 Ghz
> : : :
> : : : SMA connector on 1 side of box & 4 SMA connectors on
> : : : the other side of the aluminum box.
> : : :
> : : : I think that it might be some kind of combiner or
> : : : single input and multi-output device.
> : : :
> : : : 73's
> : : :
> : :
> : : Here is an example of an -adapter- with one male BNC on
> : : one side, and three female BNC connectors on the other
> : : side:
> : :
> http://www.jameco.com/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/ProductDisplay?langId=-1&storeId=10001&catalogId=10001&productId=207116
> : : I'm not sure if that is similar to what you're looking
> : : at...
> : : Fish around on that web site, you might find what
> : : you're looking for (I found a male/female SMA/BNC
> : : adapter I was looking for on that web site). -Mindraker
>
> Hmm, no I think that from the OP's description it's almost certainly some
> soet of diplexer/combiner. To the OP: is there a photo of it or something
> similar anywhere we can look at..? (Please post a link, not an actual
> image).
>
> 73 Ivor G6URP
>

As I said before the MDL: 86-0142 is a 4 to 1 splitter/combiner?

Jeff

1551. Re: The "Diamond Terrace"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-19 18:31:08 UTC
From: Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-CB8867.13204219092007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 3856

Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:
>
> Non-Profit institutions raise money in many ways. Bake sales, hoagie
> sales, donate a vehicle and have it auctioned off with the proceeds
> going to the nonprofit. Volunteer Fire companies do it a lot, so do many
> other non-profits. It's actually a pretty good thing.

Once upon a time, the ARRL was able to pay its bills with dues
income, magazine sales and book sales. The fact that is must now resort
to such "creative" fundraising simply underlines the fact that it is
gradually but inexorably moving toward extinction.

1552. Re: The "Diamond Terrace"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-19 21:39:14 UTC
From: Steven Stone <spfleck@citlink.net>
Message-ID: <MPG.215b4aa1d4dc22c7989716@news.frontiernet.net>
Source record: 3857

```
| Once upon a time, the ARRL was able to pay its bills with dues
|income, magazine sales and book sales. The fact that is must now resort
|to such "creative" fundraising simply underlines the fact that it is
|gradually but inexorably moving toward extinction.
|

Or greedy or just plain too fat with paid employees for it's own good.
```

1553. Pennsylvania QSO Party Announcement

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-19 21:39:48 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fcrpee$172e$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3858
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Good day all

The Pennsylvania QSO Party is being held October 13 and 14, 2007.

The Pennsylvania QSO Party is celebrating it's 50th anniversary as the Friendly QSO Party.

A number of changes have been made to the party this year.

As usual Pennsylvania Ops work PA Counties, ARRL and VE sections, and DX. Out of state Ops work PA Counties. Counties and sections earn multipliers. Available modes are CW, SSB and FM, PSK 31 and RTTY.

CW Contacts are worth 2 points per QSO on 80 meters and 160 meters, and 1.5 points on 40 and above.

RTTY and PSK contacts are worth 2 points each.

SSB and FM contacts are worth 1 point each.

Contact with the Special Event station is worth 200 points.

Double score for QRP.

Mobile stations earn 500 point bonus for each county.
see rules for details.

Rover Stations earn 500 point bonus for each Operating position
see rules for details.

Certificates for all county and section winners, plaques for class winners.

For those not familiar with the PAQSO Party, a lot more info can be found at:

http://www.nittany-arc.net/paqso.html

Changes:

The PSK31 and RTTY classes tried as an experiment last year, are now included as a regular part of the party.

The rules have been greatly expanded due to popular demand. Instead of a one page rule sheet, we have added definitions and clarifications where needed. While the rules of the party are more or less the same as last year, the bands of operation have been defined, classes have been defined, and a few other tweaks have been added. County line station qualifications have been defined.

We have added a few new plaque classes.

A 20 meter "Good Neighbor" plaque has been added to encourage PA operators to get on 20 meters and operate more Out of State Ops.

An SSB only plaque has been added to complement the CW only plaque

A new class has been added - Multi Op Multi Transmitter Portable. This corrects a weird rule situation in which people who wanted to operate at say a camp with several friends and a couple transmitters had to either operate as a one location rover or could operate as a portable, but not compete Since MM portable sounds like one major lot of fun, it was the least we could do.

The club award has been reinstated. Sum the scores from OPs in your club and highest count wins. Trophy for first place, second through fifth get certificates.

The extension of the rules prompted another change.

Since the rules changes brought the rules to 8 pages, and that would double the size of the party mailings, it was decided to eliminate the mailings. Results and announcements are taking place via PDF file. In addition, this will enable the party results to come out much sooner than before. Given the universality of Adobe Reader these days, this should end up as a very positive change. The pdf's will be emailed out to recent party participants, or they can be downloaded from the Web site at:

http://www.nittany-arc.net/paqso.html

Certificates will still be printed and mailed by the party committee.

In order to ensure more rapid and accurate delivery of party promotional items, a T-Shirt Czar is being appointed so that that part of the post party work is accomplished in tandem with the scoring. There will be a special and new design 50th anniversary T-Shirt this year, as well as new design Coffee Mugs.

We are having a different special event station this year. There will be 5 stations distributed in the state operating under the W3P special event call sign. One of the stations will be in mobile operation, and the others will be in fixed position.

A 50th Anniversary certificate will be sent to stations who make contact with all 5 Special event stations. To qualify, work all 5 stations, and send a SASE to:

PAQSO Party 2007 c/o NARC
P.O. Box 614
State College PA 16804-0614

For the future.....

In 2009, the 1.5 point CW QSOs are going away. At that point, all CW QSOs will be worth 2 points.

County line stations point value will be revisited in the off season. We will possibly be giving out 1 QSO point per claimed county, instead of 1 QSO for the entire communication.

-73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1554. [DXNL] DXNL 1537 (Sep 19, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-19 23:21:29 UTC
From: Robert Busch - DL7VOA <dxnl@dxhf.darc.de>
Message-ID: <1381457615.20070920005857@dxhf.darc.de>
Source record: 3859
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.dx,rec.radio.info

DXNL 1537 - Sep 19, 2007
DX Newsletter

a free and weekly service of
DARC Committee "DX and HF contesting"
(http://www.darcdxhf.de)

editor: Helmut Schlaffer, DL7MAE
(e-mail: dxnl@dxhf.darc.de)

translation by: Bob, DL7VOA
(e-mail: dl7voa@darc.de)

FO - FRENCH POLYNESIA, OC-046
Freddy,F5IRO, has left Paris on Sep 12 and arrived in Papeete (OC-046)
meanwhile from where he is going to hit the airwaves as FO5RU until
Jan 15, 2008. If he does not get is licence instantly, he will be QRV
as FO/F5IRO temporarily. Activity takes place in CW/SSB/RTTY on all
bands. He may also make a short trip to a nearby IOTA Island.
His QSL manager Rafik,F5CQ, confirms QSOs either direct or via bureau.
An online log can be accessed at:
http://www.f5cq.net/dxp/2007-FO5RU/fo5ru-en.htm

HC - ECUADOR
The city of Cotacachi will be the QTH of Marcos,HC1/EA1APV, between
Sep 21 and Oct 20. Marcos is working there so the radio hobby occupies
only very little of his spare time. QSL via homecall.

HR - HONDURAS
A team of the Radio Club Honduras will be QRV from Swan Island (NA-035)
signing HQ8R from Sep 23-28. Swan was an own DXCC counter (KS4) until
Aug 31,1972, and was last activated in 2001. The team members HR2J,
K2BB, KB2PDW, K8LEE and W8GEX will work with three stations and two
amplifiers. QSL via the operator's address in the USA.

HS - THAILAND, AS-053
Eric,SM1TDE, is now living on the Thai resort island Phuket (AS-053)
and already applied for the callsign HS0ZHR.
Eric prefers the QSLs to be sent via the bureau to SM1TDE,
all mail to his address in Shweden (PO Box 94, S-62321 Ljugarn, Sweden)
will be forwarded to Thailand by Eric's father so expect some delays.

KP2 - AMERICAN VIRGIN ISLANDS, NA-106
Andrei,NP3D, Palmer,K4FO, and Dmytro,AK2P, will stay on the island of
St. Croix (NA-106) from Sep 23-30. They will sign KP2/NP3D in the
multi OP category of the CQWW RTTY Contest on Sep 29/30.

QSLs for KP2/NP3D via W3HNK (direct or LoTW).
NP2/K4FO (QSL via K4FO) and WP2/AK2P (QSL via AK2P) are working in CW/SSB/RTTY on all bands before the CQWW RTTY contest weekend.

P29 - PAPUA-NEW GUINEA
Hans,SM6CVX, Derek,G3KHZ, Steve,G4EDG, and Luis,CT1AGF, are visiting several islands belonging to Papua-New Guinea. The first activities will take place on Sep 22 from Buka Island which will also be the last stop of their trip. They can use four stations with two amplifiers, verticals and multi-band dipoles. Emphasis will be put especially on 80m and 160m during the nights but all other bands will be served as well. They are not sure if they have time for a trip to Kilinalau and which call they may use. More information about this DXpedition can be found at: http://www.rep.pt/P29-PapuaNewGuinea
This is their travelling schedule as of today:
Date Call Island /IOTA QSL via
Sep 24-29 P29VCX Nukumanu /OC-284 SM6CVX
Oct 2-6 P29NI Takuu /OC-283 G3KHZ
Oct 8-10 P29VLR Kilinalau/OC-256 SM6CVX

SU - EGYPT
SU8BHI will be the callsign of Gab,HA3JB, between Sep 21 and Nov 30. He plans to work in CW/RTTY/SSTV/PSK (only little SSB) on all bands and also during the CQWW RTTY and CW Contests.
Unfortunately QSLs only direct via HA3JB.
Please check out his homepage at: http://www.qsl.net/ha3jb

TF - ICELAND, EU-021
TF/G3SXW and TF/G4IRN will stay in Icelands (EU-021) capital city Reykjavik over the weekend. They will be QRV only in CW on 40-12m from Sep 21-23. QSLs via their homecalls or paperless via LoTW.

VK9W - WILLIS ISLAND, OC-007
Tomi,HA7RY, and George,AA7JV, will conduct a mini DXpedition with 500 watts and verticals signing VK9WWI from Willis (OC-007) between Sep 25 and Oct 5. George will go diving while Tomi spends the time on the high bands during the day and then AA7JV will shorten the nights on 80m/160m.

3A - MONACO
Ghis,ON5NT, is going to spend his holidays in Monaco from Sep 24-28. All activities as 3A/ON5NT (QSLs via homecall) will be sporadically.

5R - MADAGASCAR, AF-057
Manfred,DJ7RJ, will show up again as 5R8RJ from Sep 26 until Oct 26. Manfred will work in CW/SSB on 10-160m from Nosy Be Island (AF-057) using a K2 transceiver and a small amplifier with 500 watts output. His antenna will be an inverted L (15m vertically, 19m horizontally) with elevated radials and emphasis will be put on the lowbands.
QSL cards via bureau to DJ7RJ.

7Q - MALAWI
Harry,7Q7HB (G0JMU), is back again in Malawi and will stay there
for the next two months.
QSLs via his QSL manager G0IAS, unfortunately only direct.
Another stay is planned for January 2008 including operation on 160m.

9U - BURUNDI
When Sigi,DL7DF, and his DX experienced team are going on tour this
means not only a guaranteed QSL card but also a DX operation at its
best on all bands. Their next trip leads them to Burundi from where
they will be active as 9U0A from Sep 26 until Oct 9. They will work
in all modes (including SSTV) on all bands (160-6m) emphasizing the
lowbands and digital modes. They also have an extra station exclusively
for the digital modes because they expect the highest demand there.
Their equipment consists of four radios, three amplifiers, a Titanex
V80E Lowband vertical, another 18m high vertical, two 4-square-arrays
for 40m and 30m, two Hexbeams for 20-10m, a 5ele yagi for 6m and
beverages for receiving. The operators will be DK1BT (Manfred),
DL4WK (Wolf), DL7DF (Sigi) and his XYL Sabine, DL7UFN (Jan),
DL7UFR (Frank) and SP3DOI (Leszek). They will try to provide an online
log during the DXpedition on the website: http://www.dl7df.com
QSLs should be sent to DL7DF either direct or via bureau. His address:
DL7DF, Sigi Presch, Wilhelmsmuehlenweg 123, 12621 Berlin, Germany.
One US $ is not sufficient return postage for a letter outside Europe.

SOUTH PACIFIC - T30/T31 (update to DXNL 1534)
Toshi,JA8BMK, will leave Sapporo on Sep 23 stopping only one day on
Fiji and is expected to arrive in Western Kiribati (T30) on Sep 25.
He plans to hit the airwaves as T30XX for at least ten days from there.
His ship to Central Kiribati (T31) will leave on Oct 4 and is scheduled
to arrive five or six days later. Toshi intends to work as T31XX for
about two weeks and plans to work also in RTTY and PSK (besides the
usual modes CW and SSB). Not mentioned in his last press bulletin was
an eventual operation as T33ZZ. This is a list of his equipment:
IC-7000, TS-480HX, 650 W output, 4ele HB9CV, dipole for the lowbands,
a 160m vertical, 6m: 4ele HB9CV (100 W), 80/40m: dipole and vertical,
20/15/10m: 4ele HB9CV, 30/17/12m: rotary dipole. There will be no
online logs and your QSLs should be sent ("direct only") to JA8UWT.

SPAIN, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
Ramon,EA3EJI, and other OMs are going to put up a station in the famous
monastery Montserrat and will be QRV as AM3MM in all modes on all bands
from Sep 22-24. QSL via EA3MM, direct or via bureau.

SILENT KEYS
Very surprisingly Osten,SM5DQC, passed away on Sep 6 at the age of 66.
He was one of the most active Swedish DXers and the QSL manager of
9Q1EK and 9Q1TB. Osten phoned with 9Q1TB only one day earlier telling
him about his plans to maintain his antennas.

Laimonis Stepans,YL2PQ, was also a very active DXer and contester from
Latvia and passed away on Sep 8 at the age of 63.

LINKS: Pictures and an online log of 7U5CI on Grand Cavallo Island (AF-104)
can be found on the homepage: http://www.om1kw.com/7u5ci

Once again the "DX MAGAZINE" started a survey to find out the "Most
Wanted" DXCC entities. DXers from all over the world are encouraged
to vote until Oct 15 on: http://www.dxpub.com/dx_survey2007.html
---
Current SOTA activities (mountain summits) are announced at:
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/activations.php or
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/spots.php

UPCOMING CONTESTS

September 22/23: Scandinavian Activity Contest (SAC) in SSB

IOTA collected by Fredy,DE0MST (e-mail: iota@dxhf.darc.de)

Island activities:
EU-088, OZ, Kattegat Group: Bernd,OZ/DL8AAV, is working from the island
Laesoe (DIA NK-003) from Sep 17-29. QSL via homecall, bureau ok.

EU-172, OZ, Jylland East & Fyn Group: Lutz,OZ/DL3ARK, and Peter,OZ/DL4AMK,
will activate Langeland Island (DIA FY-019) from Sep 22-29.
QSLs via homecalls.

NA-110, W4, SC State Group: Several US HAMs will show up as N4R from
Folly Island (USI SC-015S) from Sep 22-29. QSL via K4KWK (B/d).

NA-128, VE2, QC Province Group: Igor,VE3ZF, and other HAMs from Canada and
the US will be QRV as VE2IDX Oerleans Island (CIsA QC-007) during the
ucoming W/VE Islands QSO Party. QSL via VE3ZF (B/d).

OC-019, KH6/7, Hawaiian Islands: Hans,KH6/SM3TLG, will be QRV from Maui
from Sep 19-22. QSL via homecall (B).

SA-044, YV5, La Tortuga Island: The 4M5DX crew with 14 operators will be
active as YX5IOTA from Tortuga Island (Cayo Herradura) from Sep 24-30.
QSL geht via IT9DAA (B/d).

Lighthouse activities (WLOTA/ARLHS):

FO5RU LH 0885 until Jan/2008
OJ0B LH 0542 MAR-001 Sep 15-24
TK/DF6ZY LH 1390 Sep 16-28
KH6/SM3TLG LH 0636 Sep 19-22
OZ/DL3ARK LH 0590 DEN-035 Sep 22-29
OZ/DL4AMK LH 0590 DEN-035 Sep 22-29
HQ8S LH 0061 Sep 23-28
YX5IOTA VEN-007 Sep 24-30
TK9Z LH 1390 Sep 28-Oct 5
JW8DW LH 0125 Oct 1-07
JW/OZ1HPS LH 0125 Oct 1-07
3C7Y LH 2977 Oct 5-14
IC8/OE1MHL LH 0689 Oct 7-12

VK6YS/p LH 2197 AUS-146 Oct 15-17
C6APR LH 0118 BAH-005 Oct 27/28
C6AXD LH 0118 BAH-005 Oct 27/28
C6AQO LH 0118 BAH-005 Oct 27/28
YK9SV SYR-003 Nov 1-15
WP3C LH 2802 Nov 24/25

Bandspots of the last 7 days

160m
3B7C 1.822 1946Z via G3NUG (B), (L)

80m
LX/DL6WT 3.515 2245Z
OH0Z 3.524 1945Z via W0MM (B)
SV8/OK1MBZ 3.515 2256Z EU-072
3B7C 3.502 2126Z via G3NUG (B), (L)
5Q0PI 3.545 1928Z via OZ6PI

40m
AN4EB 7.085 1847Z via EA4RCH (B)
DH9YPA/p 7.065 0737Z EU-042
FP/W9ILY 7.013 2235Z via W9ILY (B)
HB0/DF3VM 7.024 1748Z via DF3VM (B)
3B7C 7.003 2243Z via G3NUG (B), (L)
3B7C 7.052 2253Z via G3NUG (B), (L)

30m
LX/DL6WT 10.106 1940Z
3B7C 10.102 2131Z via G3NUG (B), (L)
9H20 10.120 1552Z via PB9ZR (B)

20m
C56YK 14.212 0736Z via ON7YK
CO8LY 14.071 2044Z PSK, via EA7ADH (B)
DM1DZ/HI7 14.072 2102Z PSK, via DM1DZ (B)
DM1DZ/HI7 14.224 2120Z via DM1DZ (B)
JW/OZ3ACQ 14.190 0743Z EU-026
JW/OZ7FOC 14.015 1450Z
K3B 14.243 1956Z via WX3B
LX/DK9WE 14.028 1259Z
OH0X 14.030 0832Z via OH2TA
P41USA 14.210 1950Z via W3TEF
VO2/NF6J 14.027 1258Z NA-044, via DL7RV (B)
VY0/KH0PR 14.007 1530Z NA-047, via JJ8DEN (B)
VY0/KH0PR 14.087 1934Z RTTY, NA-047, via JJ8DEN (B)
YV5AAX 14.071 2020Z PSK, via EA7FTR (B)
ZD7X 14.213 1909Z via W0MM (B)
3B7C 14.022 0946Z via G3NUG (B), (L)
3B7C 14.085 1005Z RTTY, via G3NUG (B), (L)
8Q7GS 14.260 1607Z AS-013, via IZ7ATN (B)
9H20 14.260 1324Z via PB9ZR (B)

17m
PJ2/LY4F 18.137 2039Z via LY1FF (B)
PJ4/PA3CNX 18.135 1602Z via PA3CNX (B)
ZD7X 18.143 1606Z AF-022, via W0MM (B)
3B7C 18.099 0904Z RTTY, via G3NUG (B), (L)

15m
3B7C 21.022 0933Z via G3NUG (B), (L)
3B7C 21.295 0945Z via G3NUG (B), (L)

12m
PY5EW 24.942 1855Z
3B7C 24.945 0912Z via G3NUG (B), (L)
3B7C 24.892 1318Z via G3NUG (B), (L)

10m
3B7C 28.022 0636Z via G3NUG (B), (L)
3B7C 28.495 0747Z via G3NUG (B), (L)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager

Preview

DATE CALL DXNL

24Sep-28Sep 3A/ON5NT 1537 *
07Sep-24Sep 3B7C 1511/35
Nov oder Dec 3D2AG/Rotuma 1522
2006 -2007 3XM6JR 1484
17Sep-21Sep 4O1M & 4O1AO 1536
-Apr/08 5H0RS 1515
26Sep-26Oct 5R8RJ 1537 *
10Sep-24Sep 5Z4/DL2MDU 1535
-Apr/08 6W/EA4ATI 1515
01Sep- 6W/T98A 1531
-Nov 7Q7HB 1537 *
01Aug-21Oct 8J3ARDF 1530
09Sep-01Oct 9H20 1535
2007 9N7JO 1501
26Sep-09Oct 9U0A 1537 *

-Apr/09 A52VE 1512
-Nov A61TX 1496
-17Nov AT60MY 1534
14Sep-27Sep C56YK 1536
-Feb/08 DP0GVN 1496
2007/2008 EI100S (I) 1501
-30Nov EW905B 1523
-15Jan FO5RU 1537 *
2008 FO/Clipperton 1521
NOW FW0MO/FW0YL 1530

-30Sep HG5MISSION 1532
21Sep-20Oct HC1/EA1APV 1537 *
23Sep-28Sep HQ8R (Swains) 1537 *
NOW HS0ZHR 1537 *

-30Sep IA3GM 1528
-Nov IS0/I2MOV 1533
2006 -2008 J28JA 1484/85
-Aug/08 J28OO 1534
Nov KH3/W7KFI 1525/31
19Sep-22Sep KH6/SM3TLG 1537 *
23Sep-30Sep KP2/NP3D 1537 *
22Sep-29Sep N4R (NA-110) 1537 *
15Sep-24Sep OJ0B 1536
22Sep-29Sep OZ/DL3ARK.. 1537 *
17Sep-29Sep OZ/DL8AAV 1537 *
02Oct-06Oct P29NI 1537 *
24Sep-29Sep P29VCX 1537 *
08Oct-10Oct? P29VLR 1537 *
-31Dec R100AK/IF 1534

21Sep-30Nov SU8BHI 1537 *
16Sep-29Sep SV5/GM3YOR 1636
-31Dec SX100VAR 1528
25Sep-04Oct T30XX 1537 *
10Oct-28Oct T31XX 1537 *
Oct? T33ZZ 1534
21Sep-23Sep TF/G3SXW.. 1537 *
Feb/08 TI9 1533
15Sep-28Sep TK/DF6ZY 1536
NOW -2008 TL8QC 1459
07Sep-20Oct TM0-TM9RWC 1533
08Sep-22Sep TM8CDX 1535

Jan -Dec VI3SAA 1499
25Sep-05Oct VK9WWI (Willis) 1537 *
-Sep VP6AL 1530
Feb/08 VP6DX (Ducie) 1521
08Sep-15Jan VP8CXV (Falkl.) 1535
-Oct YB9AQH 1535
26Aug-24Sep YB9/PA0RRS 1534
24Sep-30Sep YX5IOTA 1537 *
-31Dec Z360M 1531
NOW ZD7X 1535

* = new or updated
.. = and other calls

QSL information

AO1ABT via EA1ABT
AO1AHO via EA1AHO (B)

AO2AZ via EA2AZ
AO2COA via EA2COA
AO7AJR via EA7AJR
AO7HBP via EA7HBP
AO7HGS via EA7URD (B)
AO9IB via EA9IB (B)
EG1SDC via EA1AUM (B)
EG2SDC via EA1AUM (B)
EG3SDC via EA1AUM (B)
EG8SDC via EA1AUM (B)
EY/N3DXX via N3DXX
F/HB9ASZ/p via HB9ASZ
GB2MSL via GM3GG
GB2PBL via G5XW (d)
GB2SGG via GU6EFB
GB2SPX via G3VPT
GB4FGN via G8OHC
GB4SBS via G4KFK
GB4SGG via G4CWH
GB4SMB via G0HEM
GB4SML via Bureau or M1DZT (d)
GB4SUN via G6CJR
GB4YOU via G0REL
GB6RH via G0GDU
GB8CSL via GM1YPJ
GB8IDG via G6AJF
GB0HEL via GW0BBO
GB0HL via G4ARN (B)
GB0MGB via M0LRM
GB0NB via M0HFX (B)
GB0NGG via GM8KCS
GB0NHL via MM5AJW (d)
GC3GWB via M0DOL
GC4BRS/p via GW0ANA (B)
GH4LAB via G4IAR (d)
GH6UW via M0BLF (B)
GM1YOG via MM0BJA
GM4GTY via GI4GTY (B)
GM0RRK via MM0BJA
GW/DL5SE via DL5SE (B)
GX3CO via G3CO
GX3WSC via G3WSC
GX3YNN via G3YNN
GX0SCR via G4APL (B)
HB9LH via HB9DLO (B)
HB9TRY direct
HB9TXQ via DF2UQ (B)
HF150TG via SQ9JKD (B)
HF50SLO via SP9PNB (B)
HL13STCA via 6K2BWA

I1/EA9CP/p via EA9CP
IA5/IK2QEI via IK2QEI (B)
IC8/N5KME via N5KME
ID8/IZ2HXV via IZ2HXV (B)
IK3SCB/ID9 via IK3SCB (B)
I0/LZ2OG via LZ2OG
IP1DCI via IK1QFM
IS0/I5RFD via I5RFD (B)
IS0/IZ1DSH via IZ1DSH (B)
J48FYG via OE6FYG
J48XG via HA4XG (B)
JA2ZZZ via JH2UVL
JQ2EHG via JQ1BVI
KD2PZ via DK2PZ
K0M via N0XUK
KP4ED via EB7AEY (d)
KP4FRA via KP4DL
LA/DH8BQA/m via DH8BQA (B)
LC0VHF via LA8KV
LU2FLN via EA5KB (B)
LU9EI via LU7DZL
LX/DL1EKC/p via DL1EKC (B)
LZ1LNH via LB9JE (B)
MD0LON via DF1LON (B)
M0WDC via M0ZOL (B)
MX0BEE via M0CRM
NJ2BB via KB2BRR
OF1UU via R3AR
OH1VR/VP9 via OH1VR (d)
OH6ADHD via OH6KH
OH6NR via OH6LUW
OL1 via OK2XY
OL60HI via OK2PO
OZ/DL6DQI via DL6DQI (B)
OZ50JAM via OZ6HEJ (B)
OZ50JOTA via OZ4ADP (B), (L)
P41USA via W3TEF
PA/DL6ZFG/p via DL6ZFG (B)
PA61ST via PI4ADH (B)
PA6LH via PA0XAW
PA6LL via PH2CV (B)
PA6TD via PA3GQV
PI4F via PE5DX (B)
PI4LDN via PA7DA (B)
PI4VNW via PA7FL (B)
PI9NOZ via PA3FZV
PS2T via K3IRV (B)
PX2X via PY2ZX (B)
PY1/DJ4CW via AI4U (B)
R30ZF via RV9CVA

R450AD via UA6YW
R450KB via UA6XT
R5RRF/mm via RU3DI
RI1GK via RV1AQ (B)
RK0YWA/p via RA0WA (B)
RS9O via UA9OBA (B)
RW9FWR/m via RA9FDR
RX0LYP via RU0LM
S560L via S53AJK (B)
SA25QW via SK6QW
SA7SM via SM7YIN (d)
SD3N via SM3CXS (B)
SD7ME via DL5ME (B)
SM/G3LAS via G3LAS
SM2M via SM2LIY (L)
SM7JKD No QSL!
SN1LH via SP3VT
SN10IPA via SP9PZU
SN1TSR via SP1KQR (B)
SN2JS via SP5KCR
SN2NP via SP2BIK (B)
SN50PX via SP2PX
SN0NSV via SP9PKZ (B)
SV2/M0DOL via M0DOL
SV8/DL6MHW via DL6MHW (B)
SV9/ON5NT via ON5NT
SV9/SV1AVD via SV1AVD (B), (L)
SV0XAI/9 via LA4XFA
SZ8L via SV3GKE
T94XZ via DK6XZ
TF/DL2JIM/p via DL2JIM
TJ3SL via F5PSA (B)
TK/DL4FF via DL4FF (B)
TM1MV via F5KCC (B)
TM3RWC via F1PSH
TM4CR via F4ELJ (B)
TU2/F5LDY via F1CGN (B)
UE1OTA/1 via RZ1OA (B)
UE1RSM via UA1RJ (B)
UE1RSP/m via UA1RJ (B)
UE1SNA/1 via RA1QQ (B)
UE3YAR via RV3YR (d)
UE4CGT via UA4CDV
UE6DOO via RW6BJ
UE6DOO/6 via RW6BJ
UE6MAC/9 via RZ6MF (B)
UE60SWA via UA0SR
UE9GDA/m via RA9FD
UE0LAA via UA0LCZ (B)
UE0LLL via RU0LM

UN3M via EA7FTR (B)
UN7AD via RW6HS (d)
UN9L via LZ1YE (d)
V36M via W1JJ (d)
VK1GG via VK1TX (B)
VK3ILH/7 via VK3ER (B)
VK4GHL via VK4MIK
VO1GAM via VO1MX (B), (L)
VO2/NF6J via DL7RV (B)
VO2ZT via VE2TKH (B)
VP2V/W4WGA via W4WGA
VP2VEA via W5PF (B)
VR2MY via VR2KW (B)
VU2NGB via VK2BNG (d)
XE3ARV via EB7AEY (d)
XU7POS via ON7PP (d)
YB0AJZ via W7EB (d)
YB0AZ via W7TSQ (B)
YL/LY1CM/p via LY1CM (B)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = Logbook of the World (LotW)

QSLs arrived directly: A25HQ (K5LBU), BD7KLO/5 (AS-141), D2NX (JH7FQK),
FY1FL, BD7KLO/7 (AS-131 & 141), 5H0RS (via IT9YVO),
5N8NDP (via IK5JAN)

QSLs arrived via buro: A45WD, AX3NSB (via VK6NE), C6ARI (DL3OCH), CE2/DM3XI,
C93DY (UT5UGR), CM6CAC (EA5KB), CU1AAD,CU6X (EA3GHZ),
CU7X (EA3GHZ), ET3TK (OK1CU),FG/JJ2RCJ (AB2RF),
HH4/K4QD, H40HL (DS2GBV), HH4/K4QD, J37T (VE3EBN),
J39AH (WA4WTG), J48WT (SV2HPP), JT800OK (OK1XC),
KN5G/FS, LX2007D (LX1KC), LX2007G (LX1KC), OH0/RA0FU,
OQ1C (ON4UN), P29VCX (SM6CVX), R1ANF (RK1PWA),
R1ANN/mm & R1ANT (RZ3DJ), RI1NU (RN1NU), SV5/PA3GCV,
RU3HD/mm (RZ3DJ), ST0RM (T93Y), TK9EZ (EA4BT),
TM0EME (ON4ADN), TM3OBI (F5AEG), TM7C (F8BJI),
UU4JXM/p, TO2ANT (F6HMJ), TY7Z (F5MOO),V31HK (DL7BC),
V5/DJ8VC, V31JP (KA9WON), VE6RC/VO1 (NA-198),
VK9AA (DL8YR), VP5/SP7VC, VP8LGT (VP8ON), VY2/VK6VZ,
XU7TZG (ON7PP), YB1BAD (ON4RU), YI9AQ (OM3XX),YV2FEQ,
YV5AGS/7, YV5JF, YW9AJ (YV5AJ), Z35W,ZK1BWG (DL2BWG),
ZL40AGY (ZL1AGY), 3XD2Z & 3XM6JR (via UA6JR),
4L9VB (DJ8QP), 4X70R (4Z4TL), 4O6EME (DL3OCH), 4X6ZK,
5A1A, 5B4AHL, 9A5AN/p (OM2MF), 8S6KOS, 9K2HN, 9K9HQ

QSLs via LoTW : A25/KY4P, AH8LG, C56A, C56CW, C56DX, CT3/DL7DF, E30NA,
F/G6SFP/p, FG/DL5CF, FH/DL5CF,FW0MO,DL7DF/HI9,DL7DF/HR3,
IS0/DL5CF, IW9HII, J38BO, J38DF, J38FR, J38TF, J79RM,

KL7AA, MU/OK2SG, NP2KW, ON/G3VQO/p, OX/PA3EXX/p, OY4TN,
OZ/DL3FCG, PJ2/DL7DF, PJ2/DL7UFR, PJ2/PB2T, PY2KC,R50KP,
RN3ANT, RX9TX/6, SO6Y/2, SP5OXJ/1, SV5/OE2LCM/p, T30Y,
T33CW, TF/DL2NWK, TF/DL7BO, TF/DL7BY, TF/DL7UFR, TJ3SP,
TO5J, TY8A, V31MR, V31RM, V31UO, V52UUO,V5/DJ4SO,VK9DNX,
VP2MCS, VU7LD, VY2RAC, XE1MM, XF2RCS, XT2OW, XT2SX,XZ7A,
ZC4SXW, ZK1UO, ZL1TM.1A0KM, 3B8/DL7DF, 3DA0FR, 3XY7C,
3Y0X, 4O6T, 5V7VJ, 5W0CW, 5W0UO, 5Z4HW, 8P9II,9A/PA3EBT,
9G5SP, 9Q1EK sowie 9Y4/DL7DF

Many thanks for contributing to this issue of the DXNL are going to:
Carl Smith (QRZ DX), 425DXNews, OPDX Bulletin, DF6EX (WIN-QSL), DJ5AV,
DJ5IH, DJ7RJ, DK8JB, DL1SBF, DL3IE, DL7VOA, F5NQL, HA3JB and others.

Subscribe or unsubscribe to the DXNL mailing list yourself at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedxms.htm

1555. Re: Pennsylvania QSO Party Announcement

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-20 13:26:59 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13f4t5irg6q006@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3860

Michael Coslo wrote:

> The Pennsylvania QSO Party is celebrating it's 50th anniversary as the
> Friendly QSO Party.

Wow. Congratulations on such a long history.

> CW Contacts are worth 2 points per QSO on 80 meters and 160 meters, and
> 1.5 points on 40 and above.

I'm just curious about the rationale for this point structure, as I've never seen this kind of scoring. Is the idea to encourage activity on 80 and 160?

> In 2009, the 1.5 point CW QSOs are going away. At that point, all CW
> QSOs will be worth 2 points.

This seems much more reasonable to me.

73,
Steve KB9X

1556. Re: The "Diamond Terrace"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-20 14:18:10 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fctuat$1crg$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3861

Klystron wrote:

> Once upon a time, the ARRL was able to pay its bills with dues
> income, magazine sales and book sales. The fact that is must now resort
> to such "creative" fundraising simply underlines the fact that it is
> gradually but inexorably moving toward extinction.

That is a possible conclusion, but I'm not reading it that way.

As an example of a similar experience, when our club needed to raise money for a new repeater, it was something outside of regular dues, as well as being expensive and a pretty good way of emptying the treasury.

So we had a special fund raising project. People were asked to donate money to the repeater fund. Those who donated something like 100 dollars or more were given a coffee mug with a nice club logo on it. We got a new repeater.

The really interesting thing is that the repeater was open to all, even those who didn't contribute a penny to it, or thought it was a bad idea that the club should own a repeater, or that the old repeater that took so much maintenance - not by them of course - was still usable.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1557. Re: Pennsylvania QSO Party Announcement

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-20 14:19:02 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fctv6m$14uc$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3862

Steve Bonine wrote:
> Michael Coslo wrote:
>
>> The Pennsylvania QSO Party is celebrating it's 50th anniversary as the
>> Friendly QSO Party.
>
> Wow. Congratulations on such a long history.
>
>> CW Contacts are worth 2 points per QSO on 80 meters and 160 meters,
>> and 1.5 points on 40 and above.
>
> I'm just curious about the rationale for this point structure, as I've
> never seen this kind of scoring. Is the idea to encourage activity on
> 80 and 160?

That was the rationale. I guess at some point in the dark past, there wasn't much CW activity on 80 or 160. So they made that 2 points. Then apparently someone must have thought that 2 points was too much for the upper bands, and they settled on 1.5 points.

It is a nuisance I'd been working on getting rid of since I took over the party.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1558. [RAC-Bulletin] RAC Bulletin #18 - Tom Atkins, SK

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-20 15:44:21 UTC
From: John Iliffe <john.iliffe@sympatico.ca>
Message-ID: <46F29420.9EFB0413@sympatico.ca>
Source record: 3863
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

<Relay from QCWA - Wildrose Chapter>

==========

It is with deep regret to inform you of the passing of Tom Atkins, VE3CDM yesterday at the age of 82.

Tom was a QCWA Life Member as well a member of Wild Rose Chapter 151. He was the President of the Fred Hammond Chapter 73.

Amateur radio has lost a great Ambassador and advocate for amateur radio. He served as President of the former Canadian Radio Relay League (CRRL). As well Tom served as Secretary, Treasurer and President of the International Amateur Radio Union - Region 2 (IARU-R2) before retiring at the end of 2001.

Those who knew Tom will miss his great enthusiasm for his love of amateur radio and the many Amateur Radio friends he met over the course of many years.

RIP

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Sent by the RAC Bulletins from RACHQ mailing list robot.
Send comments to: rachq@rac.ca
For more information about the email robot, please visit:
http://rac.eton.ca/racbullemail.htm

1559. Re: The "Diamond Terrace"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-20 18:43:47 UTC
From: Jerseyj <jerseyj69@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <jerseyj69-D3AE59.13554920092007@comcast.dca.giganews.com>
Source record: 3864

In article <MPG.215b4aa1d4dc22c7989716@news.frontiernet.net>,
Steven Stone <spfleck@citlink.net> wrote:

> | Once upon a time, the ARRL was able to pay its bills with dues
> |income, magazine sales and book sales. The fact that is must now resort
> |to such "creative" fundraising simply underlines the fact that it is
> |gradually but inexorably moving toward extinction.
> |
>
> Or greedy or just plain too fat with paid employees for it's own good.

Or innovative and beginning new programs which require funding....

1560. BREAKING NEWS: NFCC VOTES TO RECOMMEND FCC TREAT ALL REPEATERS AS REPEATERS

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-21 09:36:14 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <E1IYekL-0005zC-IP@elasmtp-dupuy.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 3865
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

BREAKING NEWS FROM THE AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE

NATIONAL FREQUENCY COORDINATORS COUNCIL (NFCC) VOTES TO RECOMMEND FCC TREAT ALL REPEATERS AS REPEATERS

This arrived after our production deadline. We are issuing it as a special bulletin because it will affect the introduction of digital voice repeaters and restrict them to current repeater sub-bands as a method of protecting all other spectrum users from encroachment outside these subbands by digital voice repeating systems:

NFCC votes to recommend FCC treat all repeaters as repeaters

The membership of the National Frequency Coordinators' Council has voted to ask the FCC to treat all repeaters as repeaters, regardless of mode or transmission protocol. The following motion was adopted:

That the NFCC send a letter to the FCC that states that the NFCC believes that any amateur station, other than a message forwarding system, that automatically retransmits a signal sent by another amateur station on a different frequency while it is being received, regardless of any delays in processing that signal or its format or content, is a repeater station within the meaning of paragraph 97.3(a)(39) of the rules of the Federal Communications Commission, and should be treated as such.

Under the NFCC's proportional voting system, 93 votes were cast in favor of the motion by 19 members, and 54 against by 11 members.

The letter will be sent to the FCC's Bill Cross today.

1561. Suggestion for an HF starter rig

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-21 19:50:58 UTC
From: jimnlacy@pacbell.net
Message-ID: <XUTIi.796$6p6.319@newssvr25.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 3866

I am a newly licensed technician, study for the general exam. I plan to purchase an HF rig soon and would appreciate suggestions on a good starter rig. I am budgeting $800 for a rig and antenna. I would be happy with a good used rig but I am not sure where to start looking for information.

Thanks,

Jim KI6ISQ

1562. Re: Suggestion for an HF starter rig

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-21 21:24:37 UTC
From: KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <1190408033.649969.161060@w3g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3867

Jim,

Congratulations on the new ticket!

Well I would suggest that you look at some of the late 1970's and 80's vintage rigs to start. Much of this gear is very capable for basic station use (CW and SSB) and may even serve you well on some of the sound card based digital modes. I found a very nice Yaesu FT-101zd at an estate sale for $75 that covers 160-10 meters (sans 60 Meters) that only required some minor repairs that I could do myself. Attend your local radio club meetings and ask around, check E-bay and the local news papers for possible sources. Be patient and you should be able to get a very nice fully working rig for $300 or even less if you don't mind fixing it.

On the antenna budget I wouldn't know what to say except that the a good antenna can make a modest rig great and a bad antenna can make even the best rig worthless. Buying expensive antennas usually isn't "you get what you pay for" in terms of performance either so be careful here. Generally speaking, the larger and longer the antenna is, the more performance it will have. If you have the space and are allowed to put up antennas outside, I would suggest you build some wire antennas to start. If you can put up a G5RV or some other multi-band antenna you might be able to have a lot of fun at a pretty low cost. I think you can buy prebuilt versions of this antenna for under $200 or build your own for somewhat less. By all means, spend the time and money necessary to get an antenna system that performs well, or no amount of money spent on the rig will help you.

I'll warn you that with the sun spot cycle being at the low end, it will be a number of years before HF will be as active as it's been on the higher frequency bands for long haul communications. This means that you may want to concentrate on the 80-40 meter bands from an antenna perspective right now as the higher frequency bands may be limited to mostly local communications for the time being. (You don't have privileges as a Tech on 160 Meters if I recall correctly so we can forget that band for now.)

Other items you may want to consider in your budgeted items include:

1. Ground rods and ground wiring to get the best RF station ground possible.
2. Antenna "tuner" (If one is not included in the rig you buy)
3. 12 V DC power supply (if your purchased rig is DC powered)
4. Coax and connectors (For making up jumpers and antennas)

Most of this stuff can be liberated from hamfests and junk sales
fairly cheaply, or purchased online from a number of places.

-= bob =-

On Sep 21, 2:50 pm, <jimnl...@pacbell.net> wrote:
> I am a newly licensed technician, study for the general exam. I plan to
> purchase an HF rig soon and would appreciate suggestions on a good starter
> rig. I am budgeting $800 for a rig and antenna. I would be happy with a good
> used rig but I am not sure where to start looking for information.
>
> Thanks,
>
> Jim KI6ISQ

1563. The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 37 (Friday, September 14, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-21 23:02:49 UTC
From: ARRL Letter Mailing List <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <200709212236.l8LMa1SN006086@linux11676.dn.net>
Source record: 3868
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter
Vol. 26, No. 37
September 14, 2007
****

IN THIS EDITION:

* + Candidate for ARRL Southwestern Division Director Disqualified; Norton Declared Re-Elected
* + Hurricane Humberto Causes Havoc on Gulf Coast
* + Look for the October Issue of QST in Your Mailbox
* + Nominating Petitions for ARRL Section Manager Candidates Sought
* + ARRL/TAPR Conference Lists Speaker Schedule
* + 1296 MHz WAS #1 Awarded to Texas Ham
* Solar Update
* IN BRIEF:
This Weekend on the Radio
ARRL Continuing Education Course Registration
+ Radio Appreciation Day is September 15
+ Representative Ross (D-AR), WD5DVR, Attends ARRL Arkansas State Convention
ARRL Helps MFJ Celebrate 35 Year Anniversary
ARISS Update
FCC Job Announcement
Let Us Know

+Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/>

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==>Delivery problems: First see FAQ <http://www.arrl.org/members-only/faq.html#nodelivery>, then e-mail <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
==>Editorial questions or comments only: S. Khrystyne Keane, <k1sfa@arrl.org>
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==> CANDIDATE FOR ARRL SOUTHWESTERN DIVISION DIRECTOR DISQUALIFIED; NORTON DECLARED RE-ELECTED

Carl Gardenias, WU6D, the challenger seeking the position of ARRL Southwestern Division Director, was declared disqualified Thursday by the ARRL Ethics and Elections Committee. Gardenias was running against incumbent Richard "Dick" Norton, N6AA. Due to the disqualification, the Committee has declared Norton re-elected.

According to ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, writing on behalf of the Committee, an e-mail signed by "Cathy K6VC, Newsletter editor" was sent on behalf of Orange Section Manager Carl Gardenias to ARRL Orange Section newsletter editors and Web masters, among others, on September 1 regarding the Southwestern Division election for Director and Vice Director. The e-mail encouraged "ARRL Full members to vote and vote wisely" in the upcoming election. Recipients were also asked to encourage clubs to "post to their websites and into their newsletter information regarding each candidate," and went on to list information, including e-mail addresses and campaign Web sites, for the two Director candidates and four candidates for Vice Director. Cathy Gardenias, K6VC, is Assistant Section Manager for the ARRL Orange Section and the wife of Carl Gardenias.

The information given in Cathy Gardenias' e-mail was incorrect, in that the e-mail address for Norton was wrong. The e-mail also stated that Norton and Vice Director candidate Marty Woll, N6VI, did not have campaign Web sites, when in fact they did.

Cathy Gardenias' e-mail went on to say that "Since all candidates are listed with e-mails and websites if they have one, there is no show of favoritism or bias. Please vote. Approved by the ARRL k1zz."

The ARRL Ethics and Elections Committee received a complaint regarding the misinformation and concluded that the email violated the standard of "truthful and not misleading" that applies to candidates' mailings. It instructed Sumner to notify Carl Gardenias that "a correction must be circulated to everyone who received the incorrect information, i.e. everyone on the above distribution list and anyone else to whom it may have been sent." Carl Gardenias was also told that should he "become aware of any postings of the original, uncorrected item, you should immediately endeavor to have them corrected or removed."

Specific language for the correction was supplied by the committee. It was to list correct e-mail addresses for each candidate, including Norton, and to supply the Web site addresses for Norton and Woll that had been missing from the original message. It was to further state, "Finally, the item was NOT approved by the ARRL or K1ZZ, as incorrectly stated," and that "The Orange Section regrets the errors and apologizes to those affected."

Carl Gardenias acknowledged receipt of Sumner's September 5 e-mail. On September 7, having seen no evidence of compliance with the Committee's directive, Sumner sent him another e-mail, asking for a copy of the correction that Gardenias was supposed to have sent out. Gardenias replied via e-mail, "OK on Monday we are at the convention," meaning the ARRL Southwestern Division Convention. Since that response, Gardenias has not communicated with Sumner, "nor has any evidence of your compliance with the committee's orders been received," according to an e-mail Sumner sent Gardenias September 13.

In that e-mail, Sumner reminded Gardenias that he was previously advised that "candidates' statements 'must be truthful and not misleading, which

matters will be conclusively determined by the Election Committee.' The standard of truth applies to all mailings by a candidate. The email that was sent on your behalf on September 1 violated this standard, as documented in my September 5 message. You failed to follow the instructions of the Ethics and Elections Committee to make a timely correction, although you had ample opportunity to do so."

Sumner advised Gardenias that he has "been disqualified as a candidate for the office of Director of the Southwestern Division. Your name will not appear on the ballot." Since Dick Norton is the only eligible candidate, Sumner said, the Committee has declared him re-elected.

==> HURRICANE HUMBERTO CAUSES HAVOC ON GULF COAST

Hurricane Humberto, a Category 1 hurricane and the first hurricane to make landfall in the US in two years, came ashore in Texas on Thursday, September 13 not even 50 miles from where Hurricane Rita hit in 2005. Stronger than initially expected, Humberto continued eastward toward Louisiana and Mississippi, where flood warnings were in effect.

In response to Humberto, several ARES groups were activated. According to Brazoria County Emergency Coordinator Terry Bowersmith, W5SRG, Brazoria County (Texas) ARES activated a complex Net at 6 PM Wednesday, involving repeaters in Freeport and Alvin. One member was dispatched to the Brazoria County Emergency Operations Center, and another to the Pearland EOC, while others remained in "standby ready condition. By 9 PM, Humberto had cleared Brazoria County with little rain and no damage, so we secured the operation," according to Bowersmith.

ARRL Louisiana Section Emergency Coordinator Gary Stratton, K5GLS, said Alan Levine, WA5LQZ, District Emergency Coordinator for Southwest Louisiana, reported minimal flood damage in his area, and little wind damage. "About three spans of power lines down in this area but should be repaired within a few hours. The weather has cleared that area and will continue along a projected path across central Louisiana and Northwest Mississippi today," Stratton said. "We were lucky that the system spawned offshore and moved inland quickly as a minimal hurricane."

Orange County (Texas) Emergency Coordinator Rocky Wilson, N5MTX, reported that as of Thursday, Orange County had a "massive power outage"; all schools are closed, as are most retail stores and businesses, until power can be restored, expected sometime on Saturday, September 15. "Most petrochemical facilities are shut down due to no power," Wilson said. Many oil refineries are located on the Texas Gulf Coast.

Humberto didn't even exist until Wednesday, only becoming a tropical storm that afternoon, strengthening from a tropical depression with 35 MPH winds, to a hurricane with 85 MPH winds in just 18 hours. Only three other storms have pulled off a similar feat, growing from depression to hurricane in 18 hours -- Blanche in 1969, Harvey in 1981 and Alberto in

1982 -- but all of them were out at sea at the time, not about to crash ashore like Humberto. A Bridge City, Texas man died when the carport at his home collapsed on him; Bridge City is between Port Arthur and Orange.

==> LOOK FOR THE OCTOBER ISSUE OF QST IN YOUR MAILBOX

The October issue of QST is jam-packed with all sorts of things today's Amateur Radio operator needs. From product reviews to experiments to contesting, the upcoming issue of QST has something for just about everyone.

This issue features the results of the 2007 QST Photo Contest. The ARRL Editorial and Production staff judged the nearly 50 entries and chose the best ones to be published in the magazine and in other ARRL products.

Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, Assistant Manager for ARRL's Membership and Volunteer Programs Department, reviewed the Yaesu FT-2000D HF and 6 meter transceiver. According to the ARRL Lab test results, "The FT-2000D offers 200 W of transmitter power or a cleaner 75 W in Class A mode. It's similar to the base model FT-2000 in other respects, with a lot of flexibility that rewards the operator who takes the time to learn about and test its many features and settings." There is also a report from the Lab describing the changes to the way ARRL conducts receiver testing.

Robert Conway, KA0VAN, tells of ways to put retired public service radios to use on 2 meters. Alan Applegate, K0BG, warns that using the wrong size fuse can damage your rig, and offers ways to make sure you have the correct fuse for the job. Kai Siwiak, KE4PT, finds a way to get around antenna restrictions by putting up an all-band attic antenna.

For all you contesters out there, the results of the 2007 ARRL International DX Phone Contest are in. Did you top your score from last year? How did your closest rival do? Find out all this and more in the recap by H. Ward Silver, N0AX. Also, find out about the upcoming School Club Roundup and 2007 ARRL November Sweepstakes Contest.

Look for your October issue of QST in your mailbox. QST is the official journal of ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio. QST is just one of the many benefits of ARRL membership. To join or renew your ARRL membership, please see the ARRL Web page <http://www.arrl.org/join>.

==> NOMINATING PETITIONS FOR ARRL SECTION MANAGER CANDIDATES SOUGHT

The ARRL Membership and Volunteer Services Department has announced that nominating petitions for Section Managers are currently being accepted until December 7 for the following Sections: Eastern New York, Eastern Pennsylvania, Louisiana, North Carolina, Pacific, San Diego, South Dakota and Virginia.

To be considered a valid nominating petition, it must be signed by no fewer than five full ARRL members who live in the Section concerned; photocopied signatures are not acceptable. Any candidate for the office of Section Manager must be a resident of the Section, an Amateur Radio licensee of Technician class or higher and a full member of the League for a continuous term of at least two years immediately preceding receipt of a nominating petition.

If more than one member is nominated in a single Section, ballots will be mailed from Headquarters on or before January 2, 2008, to full members of record as of December 7, 2007, which is the closing date for nominations. Returns will be counted February 19, 2008. Section Managers elected as a result of the above procedure will take office April 1, 2008. If only one petition is received from a Section, that nominee shall be declared elected without opposition for a two-year term beginning April 1, 2008.

For more information on this election, please see page 76 in the October issue of QST.

==> ARRL/TAPR CONFERENCE LISTS SPEAKER SCHEDULE

The ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference, scheduled for September 28-30 in Hartford, Connecticut, has released its slate of speakers. The three-day conference is an international forum for radio amateurs to meet, publish their work and present new ideas and techniques. Presenters and attendees will have the opportunity to exchange ideas and learn about recent hardware and software advances, theories, experimental results and practical applications.

Registration for the DCC is still open and will be available at the door.

Friday's speakers include Bob Bruniga, WB4APR, speaking about "The APRS Local Voice Repeater Initiative"; Ev Tupin, W2EV, speaking about "Growing APRS' Value within the Emergency First Responder Community"; Paul D. Wiedemeier, PhD, KE5LKY, will talk about "Performance Modeling of TCP and UDP over Packet Radio Networks Using the ns-2 Network Simulator"; ARRL Chief Technology Officer Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, will speak about "Results of HF Digital Protocol Survey"; Mel Whitten, K0PFX, will speak about "DRMDV for HF"; Bob McGwire, N4HY, is talking about "NUE-PSK31: A Digital Modem for PSK31 Field Operation Without Using a PC," and Bill Tracy, KD5TFD, will give an HPSDR update.

Saturday's line-up starts off with Steven Bible, N7HPR, and Robert McGwier, N4HY, giving an update on SuitSat-2; McGwier will also speak on AMSAT's Phase IV and "On a Method for Automatic Image Balancing in IQ Mixer Based Software Defined Receivers," as well as sharing presenting duties with Gerald Youngblood, K5SDR, with "The Flex 5000 and SDR Software." Roderick D. Mitchell, KL1Y, will speak about "The Integration of Amateur Radio and 802.11"; Martin Ewing, AA6E, will present "SurgeForge, Hamlib and Rigserve: Free Beer, Free Speech and Rig Control"; Frank Brickle, PhD, AB2KT, will talk on "The FSM Virtual Radio

Kernel: Why, What and How (in that order)"; John A. Hansen, W2FS, will speak about "The Nordic nRF2401 Single Chip Data Transceiver," and Hank Javin and Jerry Newman will present "Transmission Lines, Parameters and Application in Communications Systems."

Two introductory forums are also scheduled on Saturday: Intro to Eagle CAD, given by Dan Welch, W6DFW, and Intro to HF Digital, given by Steve Ford, WB8IMY. The TAPR annual meeting is scheduled for Saturday afternoon.

Sunday's Seminar, a four-hour presentation led by McGwier on the topic of "A Stroll through Software Radio, Information Theory and Some Applications" will cover the basic building blocks of a simple software radio system, as well as a discussion of information theory and its practical use in communication systems. As time permits, McGwier plans to demonstrate several software radio systems ranging from the Softrock40 to the GnuRadio/USRP and the Flex5000. Attendees will receive packages containing tutorials and software.

For more information on the ARRL/TAPR Digital Communications Conference, please see the conference Web site <http://www.tapr.org/dcc>.

==> 1296 MHZ WAS #1 AWARDED TO TEXAS HAM

Al Ward, W5LUA, of Allen, Texas, is the first person to achieve the ARRL's Worked All States (WAS) on 1296 MHz, making him 1296 MHz WAS #1. Ward first started on his pursuit January 25, 1977, with his first 1296 MHz contact with Leroy May, W5HN (SK). His 30 year quest ended last week, with confirmed contacts with Wyoming, Utah and Idaho, giving Ward his last three needed states, thanks to Paul Perryman's, WA5WCP, EME DXpedition.

"I couldn't have done this without Paul," Ward said. "Also, thanks to Ron Roche, K0ALL, and Barry Malowanchuk, VE4MA, in North Dakota for number 47 in August. Without them, it just wouldn't have been possible." After collecting his 50th QSL card, Ward drove from his home in Texas to Little Rock, Arkansas so ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, could verify his cards and complete his WAS paperwork. "Verifying QSL cards from 30 years of activity brought back a lot of memories of several stations active on 1296, many who are Silent Keys now," Harrison said.

==>SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Sunspots Cast a Glare in My Eyes" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: The sun has been blank, no visible sunspots, for the past seven days, September 7-13. We may not see another spot until September 22, just before the autumnal equinox. Thursday evening, September 13, Spaceweather.com mentioned a coronal wind hitting earth this evening, September 14. The Interplanetary Magnetic Field (IMF) points south, making the Earth vulnerable to solar wind, but other sources don't call for an increase in geomagnetic activity today. We might assume that a solar wind from 27 to 28 days ago could return at this time, based on the rotation of the Sun relative to Earth. But looking back four weeks

does not reveal any heightened activity. Of course, it could be that the IMF pointed north, protecting earth from the coronal wind. Sunspot numbers for September 6 through 12 were 12, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0 and 0 with a mean of 1.7. The 10.7 cm flux was 66.7, 67.1, 66.6, 66.7, 66.9, 66.1 and 65.9 with a mean of 66.6. Estimated planetary A indices were 13, 12, 6, 2, 2, 2 and 2 with a mean of 5.6. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 8, 10, 3, 2, 2, 2 and 2 with a mean of 4.1. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>.

==>IN BRIEF:

* This weekend on the radio: This weekend, the ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest is September 15-16. The NCCC Sprint (CW) is September 14 and 15. The SARL VHF/UHF Contest is September 14-16. QRP Afield is September 15. Look for these contests the weekend of September 15-16: Scandinavian Activity Contest (CW), South Carolina QSO Party, Washington State Salmon Run and the QCWA Fall QSO Party. The North American Sprint (SSB) is September 16. The Run for the Bacon QRP Contest and the 144 MHz Fall Sprint are September 17. The NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint is September 20. Next week, the NCCC Sprint (CW) is September 21, while the AGCW VHF/UHF Contest is September 22. The Scandinavian Activity Contest (SSB) and CIS DX Contest are September 22-23. The SKCC Weekend Sprint is September 23 and the 222 MHz Fall Sprint is September 25. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests/>, the ARRL Contester's Rate Sheet <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rate-sheet/> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more info.

* ARRL Continuing Education course registration: Registration remains open through Sunday, September 23 for these online courses beginning on Friday, October 5: Technician License Course (EC-010); Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 1 (EC-001); Radio Frequency Interference (EC-006); Antenna Design and Construction (EC-009); Analog Electronics (EC-012), and Digital Electronics (EC-013). To learn more, visit the CCE Course Listing page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html> or contact the Continuing Education Program Coordinator <cce@arrl.org>.

* Radio Appreciation Day Is September 15: Amateur Radio operators around the country really don't need a special day to promote Amateur Radio, but Saturday, September 15 has been declared Amateur Radio Public Awareness Day. As part of the Department of Homeland Security's National Preparedness Month, ARRL Public Information Officers (PIOs) are using the day as a way to make the media more aware of our Service and especially its role in emergency communications. The purpose of Amateur Radio Public Awareness Day, held the third Saturday in September, is to make the public more aware of the existence, purposes and benefits of Amateur Radio. ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, said, "Through events such as Amateur Radio Public Awareness Day,

hams can take the opportunity to tell not only their friends and neighbors about the benefits of the Amateur Radio Service, they can take the opportunity to let the general public know, too. People willing to make face to face contacts are always the best ambassadors we have for Amateur Radio."

* Representative Ross (D-AR), WD5DVR, Attends ARRL Arkansas State Convention: Arkansas congressman Mike Ross, WD5DVR, was a featured speaker at the ARRL Arkansas State Convention on Saturday, September 8. Ross, who represents Arkansas' 4th District, spoke about the ham radio legislation he introduced in Congress, the "Emergency Amateur Radio Interference Protection Act of 2007" (HR 462). ARRL Lab Manager Ed Hare, W1RFI, was also at the convention, speaking about BPL. Held at Queen Wilhelmina State Park in Mena, the convention drew hams from several nearby states including Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana and Mississippi. Ross is one of two licensed amateurs in congress; Greg Walden, W7EQI, of Oregon's 2nd District, is the other.

* ARRL Helps MFJ Celebrate 35 Year Anniversary: MFJ Enterprises observed their 35th anniversary with "A Day in the Park" open house September 7-8 at their Starkville, Mississippi headquarters. ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH, was on hand to help MFJ celebrate, as were Mississippi Section Manager Malcolm Keown, W5XX; ARRL Delta Division Director Henry Leggette, WD4Q, and Starkville Mayor R. Dan Camp. This two-day celebration was filled with tours of MFJ's facilities, a Friday evening bar-b-que and a Saturday fried chicken picnic. MFJ makes Amateur Radio equipment such as tuners, SWR wattmeters, antenna analyzers and power supplies. Martin Jue, K5FLU, founded the company in 1972 while he was still attending graduate school at Mississippi State University. A ham since high school, Jue decided to build products for hams -- his first products were active filters for CW and phone, selling for $9.95 and $12.95, respectively. Thirty-five years later, MFJ features more than 1000 products.

* ARISS Update: According to ARRL ARISS Program Manager Rosalie White, K1STO, Clay Anderson, KD5PLA, has started to make general QSOs with hams after signing off after making school QSOs, even turning on packet radio for a while. Anderson will continue making school QSOs until he returns to Earth, currently scheduled for late next month. Due to the schedule on the International Space Station, the crew will be "terribly busy" for the next six months; White said that ARISS QSO totals might be low during this time. The next contacts are scheduled for Monday, September 17 with Mitchell Elementary School in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and Friday, September 21 with Pueblo Magnet High School in Tucson, Arizona. To date, the ARISS program has had 315 Earth-to ISS QSOs. For more information on the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station program, please see the ARISS Web page <http://www.rac.ca/ariss/oindex.htm#ARISS%20Status>.

* FCC Job Announcement: The Federal Communications Commission has announced three job openings for Telecommunications Specialists in their Columbia, Maryland office. Starting salaries range from

$55,706-$103,220; relocation assistance is not available. Knowledge of high frequency propagation is a must. To be considered for these full-time, permanent positions, successful applicants must pass a background investigation, be eligible for a security clearance, have US citizenship, pass a drug test and be available for shift work. For more information, please send an e-mail to Diane Graham at the FCC <Diane.Graham@fcc.gov> and reference job number DEU-PSHS-2007-0006. The application deadline for these positions is Thursday, September 27. More about this opening can be found on the USAJOBS Web site <http://jobsearch.usajobs.opm.gov/getjob.asp?JobID=61989717&jbf574=FC00&brd=3876&AVSDM=2007%2D09%2D05+00%3A00%3A06&sort=rv&vw=d&Logo=0&FedPub=Y&caller=%2Fagency%5Fsearch%2Easp&FedEmp=N&SUBMIT1.x=51&SUBMIT1.y=2&ss=0&TabNum=1&rc=7>.

* Let Us Know: What's your favorite part of The ARRL Letter? What kind of stories would you like to see in the Letter? Would you prefer the Letter in an HTML format? This is your Letter and your chance to let your voice be heard. Please send your suggestions to ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, at k1sfa@arrl.org, with the subject line "ARRL Letter Suggestions." All messages will be read and discussed, and we look forward to implementing positive suggestions into the ARRL Letter.

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The ARRL Letter is published Fridays, 50 times each year, by the American Radio Relay League: ARRL--the National Association for Amateur Radio, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111; tel 860-594-0200; fax 860-594-0259; <http://www.arrl.org>. Joel Harrison, W5ZN, President.

The ARRL Letter offers a weekly e-mail digest of essential and general news of interest to active radio amateurs. Visit the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org> for the latest Amateur Radio news and news updates. The ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/> also offers informative features and columns. ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> is a weekly "ham radio newscast" compiled and edited from The ARRL Letter. It's also available as a podcast from our Web site.

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==>ARRL News on the Web: <http://www.arrl.org>
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The ARRL Letter is available to ARRL members free of charge directly from ARRL HQ. To subscribe, unsubscribe or change your address for e-mail delivery:
ARRL members first must register on the Members Only Web Site <http://www.arrl.org/members/>. You'll have an opportunity during registration to sign up for e-mail delivery of The ARRL Letter, W1AW bulletins, and other material. To change these selections--including delivery of The ARRL Letter--registered members should click on the "Member Data Page" link (in the Members Only box). Click on "Modify membership data," check or uncheck the appropriate boxes and/or change your e-mail address if necessary. (Check "Temporarily disable all automatically sent email" to temporarily stop all e-mail deliveries.) Then, click on "Submit modification" to make selections effective. (NOTE: HQ staff members cannot change your e-mail delivery address. You must do this yourself via the Members Only Web Site.)

The ARRL Letter also is available to all, free of charge, from these sources:

* ARRLWeb <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>. (NOTE: The ARRL Letter will be posted each Friday when it is distributed via e-mail.)

* The QTH.net listserver, thanks to volunteers from the Boston Amateur Radio Club: Visit Mailing Lists@QTH.Net <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/letter-list>. (NOTE: The ARRL cannot assist subscribers who receive The ARRL Letter via this listserver.)

1564. The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 38 (Friday, September 21, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-22 04:11:27 UTC
From: ARRL Letter Mailing List <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <200709212303.l8LN3QmN023883@linux11676.dn.net>
Source record: 3869
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter
Vol. 26, No. 38
September 21, 2007
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IN THIS EDITION:

* + Get Ready For the Second Annual ARRL On-Line Auction!
* + IARU Region 2 Conference Completes Its Work in Brasilia
* + ARRL Dakota Division Vice Director to Resign as of October 1
* + ARRL Roanoke Division Director to be Feted by Radio Club of America
* + ARRL Continues to Deal with Department of Defense over PAVE Paws
Sites
* + FCC Amateur Radio Enforcement Correspondence Posted
* Solar Update
* IN BRIEF:
This Weekend on the Radio
ARRL Continuing Education Course Registration
+ Carl Gardenias, WU6D, Files Appeal with ARRL Executive Committee
+ ICOM Returns as November Sweepstakes Principal Awards Sponsor
Tom Atkins, VE3CDM (SK)
ARRL Receives MARS Call Sign
North Carolina Ham Celebrates 100th Birthday
L. B. Cebik, W4RNL, Wins August QST Cover Plaque Award
Hams Named to Key NASA Positions
Oklahoma Hams Assist with Accident Scene
Dayton ARA Looking to Honor Silent Keys
Let Us Know What You Think

+Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/>

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==>Delivery problems: First see FAQ
<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/faq.html#nodelivery>, then e-mail
<letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
==>Editorial questions or comments only: S. Khrystyne Keane,
<k1sfa@arrl.org>
============================================================

==> GET READY FOR THE SECOND ANNUAL ARRL ON-LINE AUCTION!

The Second Annual ARRL On-Line Auction kicks off October 24, running
until November 2 on the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/auction>.
This is your chance to pick up one-of-a-kind Amateur Radio items. To see
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what the Auction will offer this year, be sure to check out the Auction preview that begins October 17. Last year, the Auction attracted more than 4300 bidders from 36 countries. While the majority of buyers were from the USA, Canada and the UK, there were buyers from Australia, Malaysia, Grenada and Tanzania.

According to ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B, "Last year's on-line auction was our first and it was a great success. When the bidding ended, we realized that we had sold 104 items and we had raised just over $37,000." Proceeds from the auction benefit ARRL education programs including activities to license new hams, strengthen Amateur Radio's emergency service training, offer continuing technical and operating education, as well as creating instructional materials.

This year's auction will include many products tested by the ARRL Lab for QST Product Review. These items include an ICOM IC-7800, a Ten-Tec Omni VII, a Palstar Auto Antenna Tuner, an MJF 974H Balanced Antenna Tuner and a Heil Traveler Headset. There will be many vintage items offered, including the antique transmitter featured in John Dilks' "Old Radio" column in the November 2007 issue of QST. Also, returning by popular demand will be five ARRL Lab unique "junque" boxes.

==> IARU REGION 2 CONFERENCE COMPLETES ITS WORK IN BRASILIA

Completing a week that included lengthy committee meetings and a half-day tour of Brazil's capital city, the delegates to the 16th IARU Region 2 General Assembly in Brasilia met in Plenary assembly on Friday, September 14 to complete their work. Members of the ARRL's delegation included President Joel Harrison, W5ZN; Vice President Kay Craigie, N3KN, and husband Carter, N3AO; CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ; Southeastern Division Director Frank Butler, W4RH; Chief Technology Officer Paul Rinaldo, W4RI, and Technical Relations Specialist Jon Siverling, WB3ERA.

Committee A, which deals with administrative matters, was chaired by Norma Leiva, HR2NL, of Honduras; the ARRL's Siverling served as secretary and interpreter. This committee presented the first report of the Conference and made a number of recommendations for Conference action, all of which were adopted. They include:

The establishment of a Region 2 Relief Fund with an initial transfer of $5000 from the general reserve of Region 2; additional contributions will be solicited. The Fund will be administered by the Executive Committee and will be available solely to assist Region 2 Member-Societies whose club stations and buildings, including antenna systems, are damaged by natural disaster.

The Executive Committee will develop a conference call process for Region 2 that includes objectives, action plans, due dates and score cards in order to improve communication among the Member-Societies and the Executive Committee

An offer by Radio Club Argentino to be responsible for the Spanish translation of the IARU Region 2 electronic bulletin was accepted.

Terms of reference for the Amateur Radio in Education Project that was adopted by the 15th General Assembly in 2004 were revised slightly to simplify the grant application process and encourage applications.

The Conference recognized Wolf Baron, TI2BY, of San Jose, Costa Rica, for his outstanding service to Amateur Radio by conducting on-the-air training on Sunday mornings for more than five years.

Several recommendations from the Region 2 Working Group on Emergency Communications were adopted. These include establishing an Emergency Communications Committee that will be responsible to the Executive Committee for carrying out planning, training and the maintenance of equipment and personnel inventories for emergency assistance deployment.

The Conference next received the report of Committee B/C, a combined technical and operational committee dealing with both HF and VHF/UHF matters. This committee was chaired by Ramon Santoyo, XE1KK, of Mexico City, Mexico; the ARRL's Rinaldo, served as secretary. The Plenary adopted all of the Committee's recommendations, including: A new Region 2 band plan for 160-10 meters was adopted, effective January 1, 2008. The new plan is modeled on one adopted previously by IARU Region 1, with regional differences taken into account; steps were taken to try to reduce interference to national emergency Nets, including establishing an inventory of such Nets and calling their importance to the attention of the radio amateur community; and an IARU Region 2 Diploma was approved, with some details remaining to be worked out by the Executive Committee.

The next report was from the Finance Committee, Committee D, chaired by Treasurer Noel Donawa, 9Y4NED, of Trinidad and Tobago. The Plenary accepted two recommendations from Committee D. The first is an effort to reach out to Member-Societies that have fallen behind in meeting their dues obligations to Region 2; they will be offered the opportunity to pay their back dues through 2006 at a 25 percent discount if they do so by January 15, 2008. The Plenary also directed the Executive Committee to study the existing dues structure, along with options and alternatives, and to report to the next General Assembly.

The Conference accepted the offer of the Club de Radio Aficionados de El Salvador (CRAS) to host the 17th General Assembly in 2010.

The Conference's last order of business was the election of officers and other Executive Committee members for the next three years. Rod Stafford, W6ROD, declined to stand for re-election as President but will remain a Director. Moving to the office of President is Secretary Reinaldo Leandro, YV5AMH, of Venezuela. Dario Jurado, HP1DJ, of Panama was re-elected Vice President, and Donawa was re-elected Treasurer and Director. Santoyo was newly elected as Secretary and joins the Executive Committee for the first time. The other Directors were re-elected: Daniel A. Lamoureux, VE2KA, of Canada; Pedro Rodriguez, CO2RP, of Cuba; Marco Tulio Gudiel, TG9AGD, of Guatemala; Gustavo de Faria Franco, PT2ADM, of Brazil, and Ron Szama, LU2AH, of Argentina. A provision of the Bylaws was amended to permit the Executive Committee to consist of

10 members rather than the customary nine.

The conferees expressed their deep appreciation to LABRE, host of the 16th General Assembly, for its outstanding hospitality. Forty delegates and observers representing 18 countries in the Americas -- 11 in person, seven via proxy -- attended the Conference.

==> ARRL DAKOTA DIVISION VICE DIRECTOR TO RESIGN AS OF OCTOBER 1

Dakota Division Vice Director Twila Greenheck, N0JPH, announced her resignation effective Monday, October 1, due to family responsibilities; her term expires in 2008. She plans to continue serving the League as an ARRL Education Advisor and consultant to the Board of Directors' ad hoc Scouting Committee.

"Being part of the ARRL Board Family has been an incredible experience that I will always remember and cherish. The opportunity to serve with Director Jay Bellows representing the amateurs in the Dakota Division has surely been an honor," Greenheck said.

Bellows said, "Twila has been a joy to work with over the past eight years. From the first time I met her to the present she has been a tireless and effective advocate of increased ARRL efforts to reach out to youth and strengthen education in Amateur Radio. I look forward to her continued service to the League, especially as a member of the ARRL's Educational Advisory Group."

ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, will appoint a replacement.

==> ARRL ROANOKE DIVISION DIRECTOR TO BE FETED BY RADIO CLUB OF AMERICA

The Radio Club of America (RCA) has named ARRL Roanoke Division Director Dennis Bodson, PhD, PE, W4PWF, of Arlington, Virginia, as the recipient of the Sarnoff Citation. The award is given to recognize significant contributions to the advancement of electronic communications. Barry Goldwater, K7UGA (SK), was the first recipient of the Sarnoff Citation in 1973.

"I was shocked when I heard that I would receive the Sarnoff Citation," Bodson said. "I find it difficult to believe that I'll be on the dais with Walter Cronkite, KB2GSD." Bodson, Cronkite and QST and QEX author John S. "Jack" Belrose, PhD, VE2CV, are to receive the RCA's Armstrong Medal, the RCA's foremost achievement award and named for its first recipient, Major Edwin Armstrong, at the RCA's Annual Awards Banquet and Annual Meeting and Technical Symposium on November 16 in New York City. Andy Rooney of CBS's "60 Minutes" will be the keynote speaker.

Bodson, who is retired -- "Retired means different things to different people. I work, but on different things," he said -- displays an energy level that hardly anyone can match. Bodson is retired as chief of the Technology and Standards Division of the National Communications System (NCS) in 1998. In October 2005, he became a member of the executive staff of the Institute for Defense and Homeland Security where he is

director of Telecommunications and Sensor Systems. Bodson is an ARRL Life Member and a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE).

"Fifteen years ago, I had the opportunity [to serve on the ARRL Board of Directors]. I knew the former Division Director, and he suggested, 'get involved and run for Vice Director.' I was elected to that, and when he retired, I moved up to Director. I have enjoyed it, but everything comes to a change. I still have this year and two more years, and then I'll decide whether to run for re-election," Bodson said. He also is Vice President of the Arlington (Virginia) Amateur Radio Club (AARC).

Born in Washington, DC, Bodson always wanted to be an electrical engineer. He earned a BEE in 1961 and an MEE in 1963, both from The Catholic University of America in Washington. From 1963-1966, he served as an officer in the US Air Force assigned to the National Security Agency. From 1966-1969, he was with Vitro Laboratories, Atlantic Research Corporation and the US Army Materiel Command where he was engaged in research and development and systems engineering.

In 1970, Bodson began his long career with NCS, an interagency group of 23 federal departments and agencies managed by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). While at NCS, Bodson continued his formal education and earned a Master's in public administration in 1976 from the University of Southern California's Washington Center for Public Affairs, and completed his PhD in electrical engineering in 1985 from California Western University. In recognition of his accomplishments in federal service, in 1999 Dennis received the IEEE's Charles Proteus Steinmetz Award. According to the IEEE's Web site, the award is "presented to an individual for exceptional contributions to the development and/or advancement of standards in the field of electrical and electronics engineering."

IEEE has seen a lot of Bodson since his beginning days as a student engineer. "My major professor said, 'Become active in your professional society.' I took him at heart and did so and never regretted it," he said. After retiring from NCS, Bodson increased his IEEE involvement, and by 2000, he was chairman of the IEEE Vehicular Technology Society (VTS) Standards Committee, reflecting his work on standards at NCS. He was a senior editor for the VTS quarterly bulletin, "News Digest," and later became its editor. "I became editor because we needed to do something, but then we got a real editor, Dr James Irvine. We went from a bulletin to a 60 page magazine," he said. Bodson is a Life Fellow of IEEE, where new Fellowships are limited to no more than one-tenth of one percent of the membership per year, making elevation to the status of Fellow in IEEE a particularly high distinction.

Soon after his retirement from NCS, Bodson served as president of the IEEE Engineering Management Society (EMS). For his service to EMS, he was given the EMS Engineering Manager of the Year Award. The IEEE Standards Association (IEEE-SA) bestowed on Bodson the IEEE-SA Distinguished Service Award in 2002. Bodson was then was elected

President of VTS, where he continues on its board of governors as Junior Past President.

Bodson has written more than 60 technical articles and has published four books. He joined RCA in 1976, became a Fellow in 1981 and became an RCA Life Member in 1996.

The RCA banquet is open to members, non-members and guests. Registration is required; registration forms can be downloaded here <http://homeeverestkc.net/dbishop13322/registration_form/registration_form.doc>. To learn more about the Radio Club of America and their awards, please visit the RCA Web site <http://www.radioclubofamerica.org/>. The ARRL thanks RCA Fellow and ARRL Life Member Don Bishop, W0WO, for this information.

==> ARRL CONTINUES TO DEAL WITH DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE OVER PAVE PAWS SITES

The ARRL participated in a teleconference call on Wednesday, September 19, with the Department of Defense (DoD) regarding Amateur Radio repeaters interfering with the Air Force's PAVE Paws radar system.

According to ARRL Regulatory Branch Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, "The DoD acknowledges that it has seen changes at some repeater sites, but not all of them." He said the DoD has revisited the Massachusetts repeaters, located near Otis Air Force Base on Cape Cod, to "remeasure the numbers. Some Massachusetts repeater owners have volunteered to completely turn off their systems and some others have made changes, but more is needed at both PAVE Paws radar sites."

The DoD, Henderson continued, has identified additional sources of interference in Massachusetts. "This was not really unexpected and is part of what has become an ongoing project. The ARRL will begin working with these repeater owners as soon as the DoD provides us with specific information," he said.

In California, where more than 100 repeaters are being scrutinized by the DoD, Henderson said the majority of repeaters have not been mitigated: "The Air Force has not had a chance to revisit Beale Air Force Base for new measurements, but it will be happening soon."

Reports have circulated that a number of California repeater owners have decided to take no further action about mitigating the interference unless they receive official notice from the Federal Communications Commission. "If these reports are true," Henderson said, "it is unfortunate. The FCC has stayed abreast of the discussions between the League and the DoD, and they are prepared to act appropriately if they are contacted by the DoD."

He continued: "The DoD has indicated they are willing to allow the ARRL to continue its attempts to mitigate the interference; however, they have expressed a sense of urgency that this must come to a conclusion. Those waiting for FCC action may find it coming sooner rather than

later."

==> FCC AMATEUR RADIO ENFORCEMENT CORRESPONDENCE POSTED

On August 23, the FCC's Enforcement Bureau released new Amateur Radio enforcement actions. Todd C. Browne, KD0PA; Keith W. Coad, KW2C; Santos J. Rodriguez Colon, KP4DC; Jerry L. Counsellor, WE5JC; Pablo Diaz-Alequin, KP4MC, and Donald B. Flowers, NC4DF, all received letters from the Commission concerning their vanity call signs. These amateurs received their vanity call signs by stating they were former holders of these call signs, but the FCC can find no documentation substantiating their claims.

Robert C. Moldenhauer, W9CQ, also received a letter concerning his vanity call sign that he requested as a "close relative" of the former holder of that call sign. The FCC told Moldenhauer they can find no documentation of his claim.

Steve L. Wingate, K6TXH, received notice from the Commission that the recordings he had requested concerning complaints alleging his lack of station control and deliberate interference had been sent to him. Wingate was also granted an additional 30 days to respond to Commission correspondence.

The FCC Enforcement Bureau now posts Amateur Radio enforcement-related correspondence and documents -- with some exceptions -- on its own Web site <http://www.fcc.gov/eb/AmateurActions/Welcome.html>. Direct all questions concerning the Amateur Radio Service Enforcement Actions Web postings via e-mail only to Riley Hollingsworth <fccham@fcc.gov> in the FCC Spectrum Enforcement Division.

==>SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "All for the Love of Sun(spots)" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: Fifteen days in a row with no sunspots, but this may change soon. Take a look at sunspot numbers compared to solar flux for the current third quarter of 2007 <http://www.sec.noaa.gov/ftpdir/indices/quar_DSD.txt>. Notice that when there are zero sunspots, the solar flux (the amount of energy we receive from the Sun at a wavelength of 10.7 cm or 2800 MHz) is always below 70. Recently, the flux value has been below 70, and for some time now the US Air Force has predicted a slight rise in solar flux to 70 for today, September 21. You can see those predictions here <http://sec.noaa.gov/ftpmenu/forecasts/45DF.html>. If we examine predictions from early September on that page, note they show a return to 70 solar flux for September 17; later forecasts show it creeping out to September 18, then 19 and finally for yesterday, the prediction for today is 70. We also see the return of sunspot group 970 set for September 21-23 in September 21 Solar Region Summary <http://www.sec.noaa.gov/ftpmenu/forecasts/SRS.html>. It would be great to have at least one sunspot when fall returns. The official autumnal equinox is this weekend, September 23 at 0951 UTC. Sunspot numbers for September 13-19 were 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0 and 0 with a mean of 0. The 10.7

cm flux was 66.4, 66.8, 67.7, 67, 66.9, 66.5 and 66.8 with a mean of 66.9. Estimated planetary A indices were 2, 4, 4, 2, 2, 3 and 4 with a mean of 3. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 1, 3, 3, 2, 1, 2 and 2 with a mean of 2. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>.

==>IN BRIEF:

* This weekend on the radio: This weekend, the NCCC Sprint (CW) is September 21, while the AGCW VHF/UHF Contest is September 22. The Scandinavian Activity Contest (SSB) and CIS DX Contest are September 22-23. The SKCC Weekend Sprint is September 23 and the 222 MHz Fall Sprint is September 25. Next week, look for the ARRL EME Competition on September 29-30. The NCCC Sprint (CW) is September 28. On September 29-30, look for the CQ Worldwide DX Contest (RTTY), CQIR - Ireland Calling, the Texas QSO Party, FISTS Coast to Coast Contest and the UBA ON Contest (CW). The ARS Spartan Sprint is October 2. The YLRL Anniversary Party (CW) is October 2-4, the German Telegraphy Contest and the 432 MHz Fall Sprint are October 3. The SARL 80 Meter QSO Party is October 4. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests/>, the ARRL Contester's Rate Sheet <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rate-sheet/> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more info.

* ARRL Continuing Education Course Registration: Registration remains open through Sunday, October 7, 2007 for these online courses beginning on Friday October 19, 2007: Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 2 (EC-002); Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 3 (EC-003R2); Antenna Modeling (EC-004); HF Digital Communications (EC-005); VHF/UHF - Life Beyond the Repeater (EC-008), and Radio Frequency Propagation (EC-011). To learn more, visit the CCE Course Listing page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html> or contact the Continuing Education Program Coordinator <cce@arrl.org>.

* Carl Gardenias, WU6D, Files Appeal with ARRL Executive Committee: Carl Gardenias, WU6D, who was disqualified last week as a candidate in the race for Director of the ARRL Southwestern Division, filed an appeal with the ARRL Executive Committee on Monday, September 17. Gardenias was disqualified by the League's Ethics and Elections Committee for not acting promptly in response to communications from that committee requesting he correct misinformation sent out on his behalf concerning other candidates. The Executive Board is currently considering Gardenias' appeal.

* ICOM Returns as November Sweepstakes Principal Awards Sponsor: ICOM has generously agreed to serve for a third year as principal awards sponsor for the 2007 ARRL November Sweepstakes. The Amateur Radio equipment manufacturer's first such sponsorship was for the 2005 events.

The 2007 CW Sweeps takes place November 3-4, while the phone Sweeps is November 17-18. Under its agreement with ARRL, ICOM will be the principal sponsor for nearly 150 unsponsored contest plaques that recognize various levels of operating achievement in the popular annual competition. "Competitive operating events are the proving grounds for equipment, operators and antenna systems," said ARRL Membership and Volunteer Programs Manager Dave Patton, NN1N. "ICOM Amateur Radio Products National Sales Manager Ray Novak, N9JA, and ICOM recognize the importance of these testing grounds, as well as the high levels of achievement in contests that deserve to have 'some wood on the wall.' The Amateur Radio industry has been terrific in supporting many contests and activities run by ARRL, and we know first hand that participants appreciate the attention and devotion shown to these pursuits." Patton predicts nearly 3000 entries will be received for the November Sweepstakes this fall.

* Thomas B. J. Atkins, VE3CDM (SK): Former ARRL Canadian Division Director and IARU Region 2 President Tom Atkins, VE3CDM, passed away Tuesday, September 18. He was 81. Atkins was the last Director of the ARRL's Canadian Division before the Canadian Radio Relay League (CRRL), a predecessor to the Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC), began to operate independently in 1988. He served as ARRL Director from September 20, 1982 to January 1, 1988. Atkins also served as President of IARU Region 2 for two three-year terms, 1995-2001, after holding every other office in Region 2 -- Treasurer, Secretary and Vice President -- in succession between 1983 and 1995. He also served on the IARU Administrative Council and as an IARU Expert Consultant

* ARRL Receives MARS Call Sign: The ARRL now has a new Emergency Communications tool in its toolbox -- MARS call sign AAN1ARL. According to W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, "The call sign was requested to reflect both the holder of the license (ARRL) and the various MARS services (Army, Air Force and Navy)." The MARS station will be housed at W1AW, the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station. ARRL Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager Dennis Dura, K2DCD, said, "The establishment of an ARMY MARS call sign for W1AW begins a relationship with the Military Affiliate Radio System and the ARRL. Our two organizations are working toward the near-term establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding. Additionally, the League and MARS will utilize each other's personnel and technical capabilities to further enhance our emergency preparedness and response capabilities." The MARS program consists of licensed Amateur Radio operators who are interested in military communications on a local, national and international basis as an adjunct to normal communications. MARS has a long and proud history of providing worldwide auxiliary emergency communications during times of need. The combined three service MARS programs (Army, Air Force, and Navy-Marine Corps) volunteer force of more than 5000 dedicated and skilled Amateur Radio operators is the backbone of the MARS program. There are Army MARS stations in Japan, Korea, Hawaii, Panama, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, Alaska, Central America, Africa, Germany and the continental United States. MARS responders

operate on specially assigned military radio frequencies in voice, teletype and packet modes of communications.

* North Carolina Ham Celebrates 100th Birthday: Harry Mills, K4HU, of Hendersonville, North Carolina, celebrated his 100th birthday September 19. In 1922, when Mills was first licensed, there was no Federal Communications Commission; communications were regulated under the Department of Commerce with Herbert Hoover as Secretary of Commerce. Mills has been a member of the League since February 1, 1936 - more than 71 years; he is also a member of QCWA. Still active on the air, Mills can be heard twice weekly checking into the AM net on 3810 kHz, as well as the Chapter 76 QCWA SSB net on Saturday mornings on 3930 kHz. Mills credits a crystal receiver project from the Boy Scout handbook in 1919 for his interest in wireless and radio. ARRL Membership Manager Katie Breen, W1KRB, passed along birthday wishes: "On behalf of the Board, Staff and 152,000 members of ARRL -- we all wish a hearty Happy Birthday to Harry, K4HU. It's not too often that we have the opportunity to wish a Happy Birthday to someone who has been a member for 71 years -- yes, 71 years! I knew when I started here that we have thousands of dedicated members, but Harry exemplifies our long-time members. We are so pleased for Harry and wish him a very Happy 100th Birthday." -- Tnx John Dilks, K2TQN, and Harold Kinley, WA4GIB

* L. B. Cebik, W4RNL, Wins August QST Cover Plaque Award: The winner of the QST Cover Plaque Award for August is L. B. Cebik, W4RNL, for his article "A Short Boom, Wideband 3 Element Yagi for 6 Meters." Congratulations, L. B.! The winner of the QST Cover Plaque award -- given to the author or authors of the best article in each issue -- is determined by a vote of ARRL members on the QST Cover Plaque Poll Web page <http://www.arrl.org/members-only/qstvote.html>. Cast a ballot for your favorite article in the September issue by Sunday, September 30.

* Hams Named to Key NASA Positions: Veteran astronaut Ellen Ochoa, KB5TZZ, has been named Deputy Director of NASA's Johnson Space Center. Ochoa has served as Director of Flight Crew Operations at Johnson. She will succeed Bob Cabana, KC5HBV, who was named Director of NASA's Stennis Space Center in Mississippi. Ochoa and Cabana have each flown in space four times. Ochoa flew on space shuttle missions STS-56 on Discovery in 1993, STS-66 on Atlantis in 1994, STS-96 on Discovery in 1999 and STS-110 on Atlantis in 2002, logging a total of 978 hours in space. She became Deputy Director of Flight Crew Operations at Johnson in December 2002 and Director of Flight Crew Operations in September 2006. Cabana has logged more than 1010 hours in space. He served as pilot on STS-41 in 1990 and STS-53 in 1992, both on Discovery. He was mission commander on STS-65 on Columbia in 1994 and STS-88 on Endeavour in 1998, the first International Space Station assembly mission. "Having friends in high places is always a good thing," said ARRL ARISS Program Manager Rosalie White, K1STO. "It is a great thing for the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station program to have Ellen and Bob in these high-level positions at important NASA facilities. They are familiar with Shuttle Amateur Radio Experiment (SAREX) and ARISS;

recalling good experiences the two programs have provided students over the years can be very helpful to the future of Amateur Radio in space."

* Oklahoma Hams Assist with Accident Scene: On September 8, Myrna Cobb, KE5IAD, of Bethany, Oklahoma, and Victor Stillman, KE5LQU, of Edmond, Oklahoma, were driving home from an ARES exercise and talking with friends on the K5EOK EARS repeater in Edmond. As they were talking, a car about 150 yards ahead of them on the highway started hydroplaning. The car skidded into a tractor-trailer, causing caused both vehicles to wreck. Still on the radio, Cobb and Stillman told Frankie Tassone, KE5KQL, about the accident, giving him the accident details. Tassone then contacted the Oklahoma Highway Patrol. Cobb and Stillman were able to immediately respond when they pulled up on the scene. Stillman, a volunteer fire fighter and EMT, supplied first aid to the victims while Cobb directed traffic, keeping the scene clear for more than 20 minutes before the Highway Patrol arrived. - Tnx Mark D. Conklin, N7XYO

* Dayton ARA Looking to Honor Silent Keys: If you know of a ham who has died in service during the conflicts in Afghanistan or Iraq, the Dayton Amateur Radio Association would like to honor them. DARA is looking to publish a memorial page in the Hamvention 2008 program listing these SKs, with their name, call sign, branch of service, rank and unit. For more information, please contact Ed Collins, N8NUY <n8nuy@arrl.net>.

* Let Us Know What You Think: What's your favorite part of The ARRL Letter? What kind of stories would you like to see in the Letter? Would you prefer the Letter in an HTML format? This is your Letter and your chance to let your voice be heard. Please send your suggestions to ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, at k1sfa@arrl.org, with the subject line "ARRL Letter Suggestions." All messages will be read and discussed, and we look forward to implementing positive suggestions into the ARRL Letter.

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The ARRL Letter offers a weekly e-mail digest of essential and general news of interest to active radio amateurs. Visit the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org> for the latest Amateur Radio news and news updates. The ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/> also offers informative features and columns. ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> is a weekly "ham radio newscast" compiled and edited from The ARRL Letter. It's also available as a podcast from our Web site.

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registration to sign up for e-mail delivery of The ARRL Letter, W1AW
bulletins, and other material. To change these selections--including
delivery of The ARRL Letter--registered members should click on the
"Member Data Page" link (in the Members Only box). Click on "Modify
membership data," check or uncheck the appropriate boxes and/or change
your e-mail address if necessary. (Check "Temporarily disable all
automatically sent email" to temporarily stop all e-mail deliveries.)
Then, click on "Submit modification" to make selections effective.
(NOTE: HQ staff members cannot change your e-mail delivery address. You
must do this yourself via the Members Only Web Site.)

The ARRL Letter also is available to all, free of charge, from these
sources:

* ARRLWeb <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>. (NOTE: The ARRL Letter will
be posted each Friday when it is distributed via e-mail.)

* The QTH.net listserver, thanks to volunteers from the Boston Amateur
Radio Club: Visit Mailing Lists@QTH.Net
<http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/letter-list>. (NOTE: The ARRL
cannot assist subscribers who receive The ARRL Letter via this
listserver.)

1565. Welcome to rec.radio.info!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-22 06:00:09 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/welcome-1-1190440801@panix.com>
Source record: 3870
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.scanner,rec.radio.shortwave,rec.answers,news.answers

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Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/welcome
Revision: 1.2 2007/07/21 18:09:02
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** Welcome to rec.radio.info! ***

Welcome to rec.radio.info, a group that aims to provide a noise-free
source of information and news for the entire rec.radio hierarchy.

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to the group
every month. You are now reading the first article, which explains what
rec.radio.info is, and answers some Frequently Asked Questions. The
second article is titled Posting Guidelines, and you only need to read
it if you want to submit an article to rec.radio.info.

You can skip to the next section of this article by searching for the
next
" -- " string. The sections available are:
- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?
- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?
- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?
- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.
- What type of material is considered inappropriate?
- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to
rec.radio.info?
- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?
- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to
speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

-- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?

The purpose or charter of rec.radio.info is to provide the Usenet
community with a resource for information, news, and facts about any and
all things radio.

All the other rec.radio groups are intended for discussions and general
chit chat about radio. Rec.radio.info will contain informational,
factual articles only. Follow-ups are redirected to an appropriate other
group, and further discussion (if any) will not take place in
rec.radio.info.
```

In order to ensure that rec.radio.info contains only appropriate articles, it was decided to create the group as a moderated newsgroup.

-- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?

It provides a "tag" for each article to be assembled into a filtered presentation in rec.radio.info (even with cross-posting, only one message, with a unique Message-ID, is propagated across the net). This tag also facilitates a pre-existing method of dropping or canceling the articles locally within the discussion groups if you don't want to see them. This accommodates individuals who want to separate the bulletins from the discussions, discussions from the bulletins, as well as those who are adamant about not reading another newsgroup and wanted to see everything all in one basket.

With the total size of Usenet (in number of newsgroups and total traffic) doubling every year or so, this is no insignificant contribution to reducing information noise and chaos. Making the discussion groups a catch-all, and making extra newsgroups filters on that catch-all, is also the most realistic way to implement such a scheme (It's not intuitively obvious what the charter, contents, and general appropriate topics for each and every newsgroup are. Seeing FAQ's and charter/intro postings in the home newsgroup is beneficial for new readers).

By cross-posting one only is adding a few tens of bytes to each bulletin (to specify the extra group on the Newsgroups line), but are adding the capability for very powerful filtering features available on most news servers, listservers and readers. Your local news guru could probably explain these features in more detail.

In rn, for example, according to Leanne Phillips in her rn kill-file FAQ, add a line of the form:

/Newsgroups:.*[,]rec\.radio\.info/h:j

either in ~/News/KILL (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere) or ~/News/rec/radio/amateur/misc/KILL (if you don't want to see them just in rec.radio.amateur.misc). The latter method means your kill file will only be consulted during rec.radio.amateur.misc (and hence runs more efficiently), and will probably work for most people.

In nn, according to Bill Wohler in his nn FAQ, add a line of the form:

rec.radio.info:!s/:^

in ~/.nn/kill (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere), or put the following lines:

sequence
rec.radio.info
rec.radio.

at the end of ~/.nn/init in order to see all the rec.radio.info bulletins first, then read the remaining rec.radio.* without the

bulletins.

More information about kill files may be obtained from Dave Fawthrop's | Killfile FAQ at: |

http://www.hyphenologist.co.uk/killfile/ |

-- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?

If you are new to Usenet and are not familiar with the terminology, you might want to read the general introductory articles found in the newsgroup news.announce.newusers. Doing so will make your life on the net much easier, and will probably save you from making silly beginner's mistakes.

If you think that at this moment you are reading an echo, a conference, or a bulletin board, I'd also strongly suggest a trip over to news.announce.newusers.

For the rest of this article, we will assume you have a basic knowledge of Usenet terminology and mechanics.

A moderated group means that any article that needs to be posted to the group has to be accepted by the moderator of the group. Since we need to ensure that followups to an article (discussion) do not show up in the rec.radio.info newsgroup, the `Followup-To:' header line contains a newsgroup that is appropriate for discussions about the specific article.

-- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.

Rec.radio.info is a moderated newsgroup, which means that all articles submitted to the group will have to be approved by the moderator first.

The current moderator of the group is the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team. Submissions to rec.radio.info can be posted, or e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Comments, criticisms, suggestions or questions about the group can be e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

But before you do so, please be sure to check out the "Posting Guidelines" article.

The influence of the moderator should be minimal and of an administrative nature, consisting chiefly of weeding out obviously inappropriate articles, while making sure correct headers etc. are used for the appropriate ones.

-- What type of material is considered inappropriate?

There are three broad categories of articles which will be rejected by the moderator:

1) Requests for information: rec.radio.info is strictly a one-way street. We receive information in our mailbox; we then post it to rec.radio.info. Requests for specific information belong in the normal discussion newsgroups. If your request gets answered, you might consider passing the answer on to rec.radio.info, though. Especially if you can edit it into a informational, rather than a discussion, format.

2) Obvious discussion articles, or articles that appear unsubstantiated.

3) Commercial stuff: a relatively unbiased test of a radio product would be accepted, but any hint of for-profit might be reason for rejection. For three reasons: This is not the purpose of the list, for-profit is a controversial topic, and this list may be passed onto Amateur Packet Radio (where for-profit is prohibited except under certain provisos).

rec.radio.swap may be more deserving of the posting in any matter.

Similarly, copyrighted material generally cannot be used. If it's TRULY worthwhile to the net, We would recommend obtaining permission from the copyright holder. Please note the source, and if permission was given. We reserve the right to make the final decision concerning appropriateness in all situations. In most cases, a brief summary of, or pointer to, the copyrighted information may be all we can allow.

-- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to rec.radio.info?

Google has an excellent web interface to Usenet newsgroups. It is available at:

http://groups.google.com

It supports both reading and posting.

-- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?

Yes. See Google Groups above.

Effectively this means that anything you post to rec.radio.info will be permanently stored, so your work will not be lost.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as time critical.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires co-operation and goodwill to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio hierarchy.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

1566. rec.radio.info Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-22 06:05:02 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines-1-1190441101@panix.com>
Source record: 3871
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.scanner,rec.radio.shortwave,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines
Revision: 1.5 2007/03/22 16:30:49
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** rec.radio.info - Posting Guidelines and Etiquette ***

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to this group
and to rec.answers/news.answers every month. You are now reading the
second article, which explains how to submit something to
rec.radio.info, and which answers some Frequently Asked Questions about
the submission process. The first article is titled "Welcome to
rec.radio.info", and it might be a good idea to check it out as well.

-- How do I submit something to rec.radio.info?

Two possibilities. You can use your newsreading software to just post
the article to rec.radio.info, as you would do with any other
newsgroup. The difference is that the software recognizes the special
status of rec.radio.info as a moderated group, and will e-mail your
article to us, the moderation team, instead of posting it to the group.

Alternatively, you can mail your article directly to us at the following
address:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Mailing us directly is probably (a wee bit) faster, but using the
transparency offered by the newsreading software is probably more
convenient.

If you have any questions, or wish to deal with some administrivia with
the moderation team, we suggest mailing to the following address:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

-- How soon will I see my article appear?

It depends on how busy we are. Your article reaches us as mail, we have
to read it first, give it the stamp of approval, and finally send it on
to the group. We will attempt to read and decide on all submissions
within 72 hours at the very least, though we will probably be able to
process submissions much faster in actual practice.
```

The site from which we moderate this newsgroup, "Public Access Internet and Unix, NYC" (Panix), is directly connected to the Internet, and articles posted at that site should appear at most major news sites, including Google Groups, the same day. The principal delay, therefore, will be the wait in the moderator's submission queue.

If you post a periodic article, and have shown to be trustworthy, we may allow you to post directly if the article is of a timely nature. See the section below on direct posting.

-- Should my article be in a specific format?

No. If it is not totally illegible, we will accept it, and if it does not have a correct subject-line we will correct it with your permission -- that's what a moderator is for.

However.

You could do us a big favor by making sure your article conforms to these simple requirements:

1) The article must present information, not discussion or requests, We will reject the article or require you to change the wording if it is worth it.
2) A good, descriptive Subject line.
3) Always mention what source you got the information from.
4) Don't forget to include a Followup-To header, at least if you don't want further discussion to automatically be forwarded to you, the poster, which is the default if the article is only posted to rec.radio.info.

As we said: if your article is appropriate we will post it even if you don't follow these guidelines, but then don't blame us for not processing it immediately. 'Perfect' articles we can send on with a couple of keystrokes. Stuff that needs minor editing is going to have to wait until we have time to do so.

Please do not waste both our and your time by posting requests, as this is an information only news group.

-- What about crossposting?

If you send something to rec.radio.info, just name any group you'd like to cross-post to in the Newsgroups field. Then, when we approve the article for rec.radio.info it will get automatically cross-posted to any other groups mentioned. This will also override the default Followup-To: poster, replacing it with the groups you cross posted to.

We would prefer if the group be cross-posted to the various discussion groups in the rec.radio.* hierarchy that are appropriate:

rec.radio.amateur.misc Amateur (ham) radio and related matters
rec.radio.amateur.packet Amateur Packet Radio discussions
rec.radio.amateur.policy Amateur Radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.noncomm Non commercial radio discussions

rec.radio.shortwave International broadcasting on the 'HF' bands
rec.radio.cb Citizens Band (27 MHz) discussion
rec.radio.scanner Scanner discussions (unsupported group)

or in one of the moderated groups:

rec.radio.amateur.moderated Amateur radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.broadcasting Discussion of *domestic* radio broadcasting

We will leave it up to the poster to decide which group(s) are appropriate, but reserve the right to add groups if we feel it has broader interest. We will consult with the poster first.

Notes on crossposting:

- rec.radio.broadcasting is also a moderated group. The rec.radio.broadcasting moderator prefers to review all articles himself before posting. Placing rec.radio.broadcasting before rec.radio.info on the Newsgroups line should accomplish this. We will typically abide by the rec.radio.broadcasting moderator's decision whether the article is appropriate for rec.radio.info.

- rec.radio.amateur.moderated is also a moderated group. As the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team manages both rec.radio.amateur.moderated and rec.radio.info, we can manage crossposting and approvals for both newsgroups. The rec.radio.amateur.moderated group does not allow crossposting to other discussion newsgroups, whether moderated or unmoderated. However, we would like to manage rec.radio.info as consistently as possible with how it was done by previous moderators, including the grandfathering of existing regular postings. Therefore, the submitter can choose rec.radio.amateur.moderated or the other unmoderated rec.radio.amateur.* discussion newsgroups for crossposting, but not both.

- Any FAQ or informational posting approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderation team that is also crossposted to any rec.radio.* newsgroup (besides just rec.radio.info) is also automatically pre-approved for rec.radio.info. See below for more information.

If you post to another moderated group, it may be better to make special arrangements with both moderators before posting by contacting us at our administrivia addresses.

In addition, cross-posts do not take up extra space; modern newsreaders can be configured to show you cross-posted articles only once anyway; not everybody reads rec.radio.info; and rec.radio.info was never meant to reduce the volume of the regular discussion newsgroups. But keep in mind that some of the mail gateways may filter out the informational postings (at request of the subscribers) to keep the load down.

You decide.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, can I make arrangements to help speed up delivery by posting directly from my site?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as timely.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires cooperation and good will to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio.* hierarchy.

If you are currently maintaining (or plan to maintain) a radio-related periodic information posting, you may wish to consider crossposting it to rec.answers/news.answers. Postings that are approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderators for this treatment are automatically pre-approved for crossposting to rec.radio.info (as the news.answers requirements are far more rigorous than the requirements this newsgroup ever plans to use). For more information about this option, consult the appropriate information articles and posting guidelines in rec.answers/news.answers.

Realize also, that even if your post is not approved for rec.answers/news.answers, it can still be approved for rec.radio.info. The intention is not so much to get every last bit of radio-related information on rec.answers/news.answers, but rather to provide an alternative avenue of approval (as well as grandfather existing maintainers of radio-related information and spare them additional bureaucratic hurdles). Again, crossposting to either rec.radio.info or rec.answers/news.answers, both, or neither, is at the discretion of the poster (subject to the approval of the moderators). You decide what is most appropriate for your article.

Please remember that as an information maintainer, you are not alone. There are many others on the net who maintain and post periodic information postings, using various intermediate-to-advanced features of Usenet (usually via automated tools). Various degrees of technical support and general hand-holding are available from many Usenet veterans. Send us some E-mail describing your needs to our administrative address below, and we'll try to help, or at least refer you to the right knowledgeable individual(s).

-- And Follow-ups?

If the only newsgroup you have specified is rec.radio.info, then the Followup-To: field will always be set to poster. If you do not want this, you must supply a Followup-To line of your own, and we will honor that one, as long as it is a subset of the original Newsgroups line.

If you specify newsgroups to cross-post to, then the Followup-To field will be set to include all the cross-posted groups, excepting rec.radio.info itself. Again, if you do not wish this behavior, supply your own Followup-To line.

We maintain other standards on the various RFC-1036 (news transport) header lines. For example, if the article is appropriate for passing into the Packet Radio Information Network, we encapsulate the Packet Bulletin Identifier (BID) in the Message-ID: news header line indicating the machine of origin as the ampr.org domain:

Message-ID: <$opa.55.1994@ampr.org> |

where the Packet Radio BID, in this example, is `$OPA.55', and it was posted in the year 1994, because some of the Bid numbers are cycled yearly. Hopefully, this can be used as a key to re-introduce the articles for the Packet Radio network. Also, if the article is a repost of an already existing information article in the rec.radio heirarchy, we ensure that the References: header line is linked to that previously posted article. This also helps to tag articles, and may be used for additional filtering if needed.

Since the articles are archived, please use the Summary and Keywords header lines to help one search for your article.

-- Why have I received no reply from you?

We never reject anything in silence, and we make a point of it to answer all our mail. However, E-mail, like a brain cell, can and does get lost, every now and again.

So, if you send us something, and you don't see it appear it rec.radio.info, and you still have not heard from us in reply after say, five days, you can be pretty sure that either your mail never reached us, or that our answer has never reached you. In that case, please try again (We will filter out duplicates).

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

1567. SARL News in English 22/9/2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-22 16:01:48 UTC
From: website@sarl.org.za
Message-ID: <77B71B9AFD83462ABAAD63F2D84928AE@toron>
Source record: 3872
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2007

You are listening to ZS6SRL the official Radio Station of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is transmitted every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. To listen to a web stream or Echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links for details.

This, and previous bulletins, can be downloaded from the www.sarl.org.za. You can also read or download previous bulletins from there and subscribe to receive future bulletins by email.

Your news reader this morning is Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with relays on 3,695, 10,135, and 51,400 MHz as well as 438,825 and 1 297 MHz in the Pretoria area. (Other newsreaders please change to suit).

SILENT KEYS

It is with deep regret that we have to announce the passing of two radio amateurs recently.

George Cooke, ZS1JD, on 5 September due to heart failure in the age of 81 years. Our deepest sympathy is extended to his life partner Aileen and family and his many friends.

Jock Perrett, ZS1ZI, went silent key on Thursday 13th September 2007. Also to his relatives and friends, our deepest sympathy.

(PAUSE)

In the news today:

TAKE YOUR HAND-HELD TO WORK

REVISION OF THE SARL STUDY GUIDE

DISCUSSION ON BACAR INCLUDED IN SA AMSAT SPACE SYMPOSIUM

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

TAKE YOUR HAND-HELD TO WORK ON OCTOBER 5

Friday 5 October 2007 is the SARL National Take Your Hand-held to Work Day. The objective of the event is to create public awareness for amateur radio and the technology that it embraces.

Many repeaters will be linked through IRLP, the Internet Radio Linking Project, to create activity across the country. At this stage the following areas will be included: Pretoria, Johannesburg, Sandton, Kempton Park, Middelburg Mpumalanga; Nelspruit/White River, Durban, Harrismith and Cape Town.

IRLP is a reliably and inexpensively linking amateur radio system without the use of RF links, leased lines, or satellites. The IRLP uses Voice-Over-IP (VoIP) custom software and hardware. Coupled with the power of the Internet, IRLP links repeater sites or simplex stations to the world in a simple and cost effective way. IRLP operates a worldwide network of dedicated servers and nodes, offering very stable worldwide voice communications between hundreds of towns and cities.

If you are not at work on 5 October or are retired, come on the air and share your experiences with other radio amateurs talking from work.

RTA PRESENTATIONS NOW AVAILABLE ON THE WEB

The first of the presentations made at the SARL Radio Technology in Action days are now available on the web. The presentations are in PDF format and can be downloaded for printing or viewing on screen. Visit the RTA section of the web regularly as presentations will be added over the next two weeks. The URL is www.sarl.org.za, click on activity and then on RTA.

REVISION OF THE SARL STUDY GUIDE

The SARL is in the process of making some corrections to the SARL Radio Examination Study Guide. The objective of the edit process is to update details about the license conditions, spelling corrections and the inclusion of a section on digital communications.

Lecturers are invited to send in their comments and any changes they would like to be considered in the revised edition to be made available on the SARL web by the end of this year. Before making your input, please acquaint yourself with the HAREC syllabus available on the web.

Please send comments to Colin de Villiers with Study Guide in the subject line. Your input will be acknowledged and forwarded to the editing team. Colin's email address is devilc@mweb.co.za. The closing date for comments is 30 September 2007.

DISCUSSION ON BACAR INCLUDED IN SA AMSAT SPACE SYMPOSIUM

A discussion on the re-introduction of the BACAR project will feature on the SA AMSAT Space Symposium Agenda. The symposium will be held on Saturday 6 October at the SARL National Amateur Radio Centre. BACAR is the acronym for Balloon Carrying Amateur Radio, a project that resulted in great fun and excitement some years back. A BACAR project is planned for early next year.

There are many other presentations and discussions of interest. Book now by completing the registration form available on www.amsatsa.org.za. The registration fee includes refreshments and lunch.

SARL/HMO BEACON PROJECT TO THE DISCUSSED AT NEXT INTECNET

The next Intecnet will be held on Sunday 7 October starting at 20:00 CAT. Dr Lee-Anne McKinnell, ZS2LAW, and John Willescroft, ZS6EF, will discuss the ins and outs of the SARL/HMO beacon project to be going live soon. They will focus on the design of the beacons and some of the research aspects. Learn how you can contribute to propagation research. A PowerPoint presentation will be used during the Intecnet. The presentation will be available on the SARL Web later this week.

CONTEST NEWS

SARL 40 metre Mobile Competition.

The results of this competition that took place on 12 August are as follows:

1st Gerhard, ZS3TG - 438 points; 2nd Deon, ZS1AFU - 197 points; 3rd Koos, ZS1KWV - 181 points; 4th Paul, ZS6PR - 141 points; 5th Jan, ZS4JAN - 111 points.

A check log was received from Eddie, ZS6BNE.

SARL HF CW Contest.

The committee received seven logs for this contest. The results are as follows:

1st Allan, ZS1AAX and Vidi, ZS1EL with 64 points each; 2nd Hans, ZS6KR and Ed, ZS6UT with 60 points each; 3rd Jan, ZS4JAN with 58 points; 4th Gary, ZS5NK with 50 points; 5th West Rand ARC with 36 points.

In the Club competition for CW, Pretoria ARC takes first place with 120 points, followed by the Cape Town ARS and Overberg ARC with 64 points each, Bloemfontein RAC with 58 points, Highway ARC with 50 points and the West Rand ARC with 36 points.

The complete set of results have been published in HF Happenings 268.

SARL VHF/UHF Contest. Please make a note of the correct address for your log submission. By e-mail send it to zs6pjb@gmail.com and for snail mail use PO Box 4452, White River, 1240. DO NOT USE the address in the 2007 Contest Manual.

SARL CONTEST MANUAL

The SARL Contest Manual must be reviewed for use during 2008. The contest manager is awaiting comments and suggestions from members and clubs on the various contests as well as suggestions for any new contests to be included. This is for SARL as well as Club contests. Maybe some provincial QSO Parties, and more VHF sprints.

Send your suggestions and comments to hfcontests@netactive.co.za by 20 October 2007.

SAATI AGM

The Annual General Meeting of SAATI will take place on Saturday 6 October at 14:00 CAT in the club house of the Centurion Amateur Radio Club at the corner of Duncan and Prospect Streets, Pretoria. All are welcome and the meeting will be followed by a bring-and-braai for which SAATI will provide the consumeable RF.

PROPAGATION CONDITIONS

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, being away for two weeks, the following was submitted by Hans, ZS6AKV.

The current geomagnetic conditions are unsettled. A coronal hole on the solar disk is rotating into a geo-effective position which means that HF conditions can be disturbed.

Current predictions show an interesting tendency with late afternoon and early evening openings to Europe on 10, 15 and 20 metres. Australia seems to come into focus around 06:00 CAT when openings on 20 metres look promising. Around 20:00 openings can be expected on 40 metres but as that is in the middle of the night in most of Australia one will only find the most dedicated Dxer around.

>From around 14:00 the 20 metre band is likely to open towards India. The USA West Coast may provide some interesting DX opportunities from around 14:00 on 20 m and an hour or two later on 15 metres.

Amateur Radio Mirror International received some interesting shortwave listener reports on the 10:00 transmission on 17 590 kHz with good signals into Israel and Italy. Mind you the transmitter used runs 250 kW, but with the antenna favouring Africa.

The HF bands are at variable at the best of times. When you get an opportunity, call CQ DX, you may never know, the person on the other side of the world may just be listening. If we all just listen, we will never know if the bands are opening. For more predictions visit www.spacewaether.co.za.

DIARY OF EVENTS

23 September, today till 12:00 - Last opportunity to still score or give points away in the VHF/UHF contest; 29 September - Ladies Only ZU RAE course by Kempton Park RATS; 29 September - Pretoria ARC Flea Market and AGM; 30 September - Last day for comments on SARL study guide; 4 - 10 October - Special space programme; 5 October - Take your handheld to work day; 6 October - SA AMSAT Space Conference; 6 October East Rand Flea market and AGM; 6 October - SAATI AGM; 7 October - Intechnet; 18 October - Class A RAE; 20 October - Comments on SARL 2008 Competition Handbook to be in.

SARL News invites clubs and individuals to submit news stories of interest to radio amateurs and shortwave listeners. Submit news stories if possible in both English and Afrikaans to www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date.

The SARL also invites you to listen to the programme Amateur Radio Mirror International, on the air every Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 590 kHz. For the web stream and echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links. A repeat transmission can be heard Mondays at 21:00 CAT on 3 215 kHz. Sentech sponsors the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

Today's South African Radio League news bulletin was compiled by George, ZS6NE, and transmitted by (your name and call sign).

Thank you for listening. 73.

/EX

========== Message Ends ========== To edit or remove your entry from this mailing list go to www.sarl.org.za/members/admin/maildat.asp

1568. GB2RS NEWS Sunday 23 September 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-22 19:00:52 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200709221900.I8MJ0AZ01526@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 3873
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

1 GB2RS NEWS Sunday 23 September

The news headlines

* RAYNET on hand to help plane crash

* Nominations sought for G5RP Trophy

* 50th JOTA draws closer

South Sussex RAYNET group were on hand to help when a plane crashed at the Shoreham Airshow. Each year an emergency plan is rehearsed and refined, in the hope that it will never be needed. However on the weekend 15 and 16 September that practice paid off. On the Saturday a Hurricane nose dived into the ground, killing its pilot instantly. The incident happened off-field, and no one else was involved.

Two members of the team who witnessed the incident informed Control, who put everyone on high alert. The emergency channel sprang into use. The pre-prepared messages and procedure for Incident Off Field was broadcast, and acknowledgments sought from all on that net. This resulted in all access and departure gates being closed, all senior safety and administrative personnel being briefed, the PA Caravan being informed, and members of the public kept aware of the situation. Shortly after the accident, Spitfires flew a 'man missing' flypast in tribute to the downed pilot.

Time is running out to nominate for the G5RP Trophy. The trophy is an annual award to encourage newcomers to HF DXing. The award is not limited to youngsters or the newly-licensed; the HF DX bug can bite at any age or after many years of experience on other bands. If you are an established HF DXer and want to recommend someone to be awarded the G5RP Trophy for 2007, now is the time to send in your nomination. Your nominee should be an up and coming HF DXer who has made rapid progress in the last year and has some real achievements to show. Examples include a good total of new countries worked or some serious HF DXpedition activity.

This prestigious award will be presented this year at the RSGB's HFC 2007 Convention on 12 to 14 October. Send your nomination to John Gould, G3WKL, QTHR or by e-mail to g3wkl@btinternet.com, to arrive no later than Friday 28 September.

The 50th anniversary of Scouting's Jamboree on the Air is scheduled for 20 and 21 October. JOTA is the largest official scouting event in the world, with an expected 500,000 participants. Open to both boy and girl

Scouts, it is one of the few joint events between the two organisations, and one which attracts international sponsorship.

An example of a station activated for JOTA is GB50TYN. This will be operated by the Tynemouth Amateur Radio Club at the 3rd Tynemouth Scout Headquarters. The station will be operational on HF and 2m using CW, SSB and PSK. For more information on your nearest station log onto www.scout.org/jota/.

The RSGB's Train the Trainers scheme is to run again. The course continues to help tutors enhance the standard of their Foundation, Intermediate and Advanced licence courses. Alan Betts, G0HIQ and Brian Reay, G8OSN, will be presenting the course, which is free of charge to Instructors. The all day event takes place on Sunday 21 October in Motherwell.

2 For more information, and to register, contact RSGB Region 1 Manager Gordon Hunter, GM3ULP, on gm3ulp@aol.com or 01698 253394. Demand is expected to be high, so it is important to register as soon as possible.

The RSGB is offering those wishing to obtain a UK Amateur Radio Licence the opportunity to complete one, or more, of the required examinations over the weekend of the HF Convention, 12 to 14 October. Candidates must book their examinations prior to the event and must provide evidence they have completed the required practical assessments. There will be limited facilities to complete assessments at the HFC subject to arrangement. For further information and for booking examinations contact Susan Lloyd on susan.lloyd@rsgb.org.uk, or via the RSGB HQ switchboard on 0870 904 7373.

Candidates for the Foundation and Intermediate exams must contact Brian Reay, G8OSN, at ardc.chairman@rsgb.org.uk. In order for their progress on practical assessments to be verified. If required, Brian can also advise on finding a local tutor to complete practical assessments in advance of the HFC or the provision of assessment facilities at the HFC.

GB75PW will be on the air on 7MHz from the Practical Wireless offices in Broadstone, Dorset. The station will be active from 1300 to 1600 on Monday 24 September. The team will be marking the 75th anniversary of Practical Wireless magazine.

The British Amateur Teledata Group, BARTG, has undergone some changes recently. The group now has a new website www.bartg.org.uk which offers extra facilities and a new look for BARTG's magazine, Datacom.

And now for the details of rallies and events for the coming week [Note to newsreaders: Please use your judgement on which of the 23 September items to read out, based on your time slot and distance from the event.] On 23 September the British Wireless for the Blind Fund will be holding Transmission 2007. For more information contact Lesley on 01634 832 501 or e-mail lesley@blind.org.uk. On 23 September the Hornsea

Amateur Radio Club Rally takes place at Floral Hall in East Yorkshire. On 29 September the Rochdale and District Amateur Radio Society Rally takes place at St Vincent's Church Hall, Cutgate in Rochdale from 1030. For more details contact Dave, G0PUD, on 01706 632502 or email dave.shaw@zen.co.uk. On 30 September Telford Hamfest is being run again at Enginuity Museum, Coalbrookdale, Telford. Doors open at 1000. For more information contact Martyn, G3UKV, on 01952 255416, or email ukv@ukv.me.uk. The usual traders will be in attendance and there'll be the usual bring & buy stall. Space will be available outside. More details of this and future events can be found on pages 88 and 89 of the September edition of RadCom.

3 Now for the news of special events John Howard, G0BUV, will be operating special event call sign GB8CMC from Birmingham until 9 October. The event is celebrating the 800th anniversary of the Coleshill Market Charter. The Charter was awarded by King John on the 26 August 1207 on Church Hill in Coleshill, Warwickshire. The Border Amateur Radio Society is planning a special event using call signs GS0BRS and GX0BRS until 29 December. Club activity will be on HF and VHF. For club members both north and south of the border a special QSL will be available. For more details contact Ray Evans, GM0CDV, on 01573 228 730. And now the HF DX news compiled from 425 DX News, the Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin and other sources.

Chris, DL2MDU, will be active as 5Z4/DL2MDU from Kenya until 24 September. He plans to operate holiday style, mainly CW. QSL via bureau to home call. The last Fouga Magister aircraft still in use by the Belgian Air Force will perform its final flight on 27 September. To mark the event, the Belgian Air Force Amateur Radio Association will be active on all bands and modes as ON47FOUGA on 24 to 30 September. QSL via ON6KN, direct or bureau. Heinz, DF6ZY, will be active as TK/DF6ZY from Corsica (EU-014) until 28 September. He plans to operate on 10 to 80 metres mostly RTTY SSB and SSTV on request. QSL via home call, direct or bureau. Bernd, DL8AAV, will be active as OZ/DL8AAV/p from Laeso Island (EU-088) until 29 September. QSL via home call, direct or bureau. Lutz, DL3ARK, and Peter, DL4AMK, will be active as OZ/homecall from Hov Lighthouse on Langeland Island until 29 September. OZ/DL3ARK will be QRV in the Scandinavian Activity Contest, SSB. QSL via homecalls, direct or bureau. Drew, GM3YOR, will operate holiday style and CW only as SV5/GM3YOR from Symi, Dodecanese Islands (EU-001) until 29 September. A large group of Dutch amateurs will be going to Qawra, Malta (EU-023) for their 20th holiday DXpedition. They will operate on 80 to 6 metres CW, SSB and digital modes until 30 September using special callsign 9H20. QSL via PB9ZR. Now the contest news The CQ WW RTTY Contest takes place from 0000 on 29 September to 2359 on 30 September on the 3.5 to 28MHz. The exchange takes the form of RS and CQ Zone. The Ireland Calling CQ IR Contest takes place from 1200 on 29 September to 1200 on 30 September on the 3.5 to 28MHz bands, CW/SSB mode. The RSGB 50MHz activity evening takes place on 25 September from 2000 to 2230 local on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. The Irish Radio Transmitters Society's 75th

Anniversary Contest CQIR will take place at 1200 UTC on 29 September.

4 Now the solar factual data for the period from 10 September to 16 September, compiled by Neil Clarke, G0CAS This was the quietest week so far for this minimum with no events happing at all. Solar activity was very low. No solar flares or even sub flares took place. Solar flux levels varied between 66 and 68 units. That's what to expect at sunspot minimum. The average was 67 units. The 90 day solar flux average on the 16th was 70 units, that's the same level as last week. X-ray flux levels remained well below the minimum level. Even geomagnetic activity was very quiet. On the 10th to the 13th the Ap index was only 2 units. Even though a coronal hole disturbance arrived on the 14th and last through to the next day. The impact was very weak and the Ap index on both days was only 4 units. The average was Ap 3 units. The ACE spacecraft saw solar wind speeds decline to only 255 kilometres per second. Wind speeds at that speed are very rare. However, speeds increased to 440 by the 15th. Particle densities were low throughout. Bz varied between minus 1 and plus 5 nanoTeslas on the quiet days and between minus 8 and plus 9 nanoTeslas during the weak coronal hole disturbance. And finally the solar forecast. This week the slightly more active side of the Sun is expected to be looking our way. However, solar activity should continue at very low levels. Solar flux levels are expected to remain around the 70 mark. Geomagnetic activity should start at quiet levels but on Thursday the effects from a recurring coronal hole should arrive. This disturbance should last till the weekend. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitudes should be around 20MHz for the south and 17MHz for the north. The darkness hour lows should be about 8MHz. Paths this week to India should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success rate of around 22MHz. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success rate will be about 17MHz. The best time to try this path will be between 0900 and 1500 hours UTC. And that's all for this week from the propagation team.

5 Next, the Local News:

Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses

and website links where known.

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your

transmission.]

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST

and EAST ANGLIA On Sunday 23 September Southdown Amateur Radio Society is operating G1KAR at Beachy Head. Contact John, G3DQY, on 01424,424,319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

On Monday 24 September Basingstoke Amateur Radio Club Club Night. Contact Frank, M0AEU, by email to barc@2lo.info.

On Monday 24 September Felixstowe and District Amateur Radio Society is having a Thai cookery evening with Paul G4YQC. Contact Paul, G4YQC, by email to paul.whiting@bt.com.

On Tuesday 25 September Horndean and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk by Commander Bruce Nicolls, OBE, RN (retired) on the history of flag signaling. Contact Stuart, G0FYX, on 023 9247 2846, or on the web at www.hdarc.co.uk.

On Wednesday 26 September Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

On Wednesday 26 September Dover Radio Club is having a presentation on local broadcast radio by Matt, M1CMN. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk.

On Wednesday 26 September Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on a 160m QRP transmitter by Steve, G7HEP. Contact Jim, M1JJN.

On Wednesday 26 September Havering and District Amateur Radio Club is having a data on the air evening. Contact Dave, 2E0EBV, on 07956 594 514.

On Wednesday 26 September Newbury and District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on QRP by Ray, G4FON. Contact Richard, G3ZGC, on 01635 46241, richard.jolliffe@vodafone.com.

On Wednesday 26 September Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is having a Bright Sparks evening, designing QSL cards. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

On Wednesday 26 September Verulam Radio Club is enrolling candidates for the Foundation Course at Verulam School. Contact Norman, G8ATO, on 07773 628 912.

On Wednesday 26 September Worthing and District Amateur Radio Club is having a technical discussion on PME earthing by M0KEL. Contact Roy, G4GPX, on 01903 753 893.

On Thursday 27 September Echelford Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on the history of maritime radio by Olof Lundberg, G0CKV. Contact John Osborne, G4GSC, on 015784 451898.

On Thursday 27 September Reading and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on direct digital synthesisers by Mike Naylor, G4CDF. Contact Pete, G8FRC, on 01189 695 697, or on the web at www.radarc.org.

6 On Thursday 27 September Shefford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk by Terry, G4JXD. Contact David, G8UOD, on 01234 742 757.

On Friday 28 September Itchen Valley Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on Ham Radio Deluxe by John, G8IOK. Contact Liz, M0ACL, on 02380

254599.

On Friday 28 September Loughton and Epping Forest Amateur Radio Society is having a visit by Phillip Brooks, G4NZQ. Contact Marc, G0TOC, on 020 8502 1645, or by email to info@lefars.org.uk.

On Friday 28 September Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is having a skittles evening at the Royal Oak, Barcombe. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Friday 28 September Wimbledon and District Amateur Radio Society is having a slide show on Canada by Jim, M0CON. Contact Jim, M0CON, on 020 8874 7456.

SE On Saturday 29 September Basingstoke Amateur Radio Club is having a foxhunt weekend in the New Forest. Contact Frank, M0AEU, by email to barc@2lo.info.

On Saturday 29 September Gorleston Amateur Radio Society is having a club lunch at the Short Blue Public House. Contact David, G3OEP, on QTHR, 01493 662 323.

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST On Wednesday 26 September South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is having an on the air evening. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282.

On Wednesday 26 September Taunton and District Amateur Radio Club is operating the club station. Contact William, G3WNI, on 01823 666 234, or by email to g3wni@btinternet.com.

On Wednesday 26 September Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is on the air. Contact Tony, G0WMB, by email to tonytsgarc@beeb.net.

On Friday 28 September Guernsey Amateur Radio Society is having a talk by GU6EFB entitled "What is WSJT?" Contact Phil, GU0SUP.

NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS A vacancy has arisen for a Deputy Regional Manager covering South Derbyshire & South Nottinghamshire. If you live in the area and would like to help the RSGB's Regional Team to strengthen relationships between the Society and its membership, please contact Regional Manager Jim Stevenson, G0EJQ, on 0789 172 1081 or by email to g0ejq@rsgb.org.uk.

On Monday 24 September South Normanton, Alfreton and District Amateur Radio Club will be enrolling candidates for their intermediate and advanced licence courses. Enrolment will be at 7pm on 24 September at the Village Hall Community Centre, Market Street, South Normanton, DE55 2EJ. The advanced licence course commences on Tuesday 2nd October and the intermediate course commences on Wednesday 3rd October. For further details contact Russell Bradley, G0OKD, on 01773 783658 or email russell.bradleyg0okd@ntlworld.com.. Contact Russell, G0OKD, on 01773 783 658, russell.bradleyg0okd@ntlworld.com.

On Monday 24 September Gloucester Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is having a home construction bring and show evening. Contact Anne, 2E1GKY, on 01452 548478, daytime.

7 On Monday 24 September Stratford Upon Avon District Radio Society is having a talk on software defined receivers. Contact Jack, G3VYE, on 01926 641 988.

On Tuesday 25 September Derby and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air. Contact Martin, G3SZJ, on 01332 556 875.

On Tuesday 25 September Loughborough and District Amateur Radio is having a night on the air. Contact Chris, G1ETZ, on 01509 504 319.

On Wednesday 26 September Telford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on how to make decent omelettes. Contact Mike, G3JKX, on 01952 299 677, or by email to mjstreetg3jkx@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Thursday 27 September Coventry Amateur Radio Society is having a quiz night. Contact John, G8SEQ, on 02476 273 190, or by email to johng8seq@ntlworld.com.

On Thursday 27 September Salop Amateur Radio Society is working on the 2007 SARS construction project. Contact Glenda, G1YJB, on 01939 235 412.

On Friday 28 September Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is having an internal quiz night. Details on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

On Sunday 30 September Wythall Radio Club is taking part in Lord Pettitt's shooting competition. Contact Chris, G0EYO, on 07710 412 819, or by email to g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk, or on the web at www.wythallradioclub.co.uk.

NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

On Monday 24 September Sheffield Amateur Radio Club is having a quiz night. Contact Trevor, M0TWS. On Monday 24 September South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is having its monthly technical forum. Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999.

On Monday 24 September Thornton Cleveleys Amateur Radio Society is having part two of Dr A G Llewellyn's talk on radar. Contact Jack, G4BFH, by email to jack.duddington@btinternet.com.

On Tuesday 25 September Chester and District Radio Society is having a presentation on the International Short Wave League by Geoff Hoyles. Details on the web at www.chesterdars.org.uk, info@chesterdars.org.uk.

On Tuesday 25 September Pontefract District Amateur Radio Society is putting G3FYQ on the air from the club shack. Contact Colin, G0NQE, on 01977 677 006, info@pontefractradioclub.org.

On Tuesday 25 September Wakefield and District Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on Morse with Dave, G4CLI. Contact Dave, G4CLI, on 07748 221 855, or by email to g4cli@hotmail.co.uk.

On Wednesday 26 September Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is on the air. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Wednesday 26 September Mid-Cheshire Amateur Radio Society is holding its AGM. Contact Richard, G0JIT, by email to rsa@zetnet.co.uk.

On Thursday 27 September York Radio Club is having a talk and DVD on UFOs over Selby by M3UEO. Contact Peter, M1EHD, on 01904 769 509.

On Friday 28 September South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is having a talk on "PIC chip projects" by Ken, G4TZT. Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999.

8 On Friday 28 September Tynemouth Radio Club is having an operating and Morse night. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Saturday 29 September Wakefield and District Amateur Radio Society is running its Foundation Licence course. Contact Dave, G4CLI, on 07748 221 855, or by email to g4cli@hotmail.co.uk.

NEWS FOR SCOTLAND

On Monday 24 September Lothians Radio Society is having a talk on getting started on 9cm and 13cm by Peter Bates, GM4BYF. Contact Toby, MM0TSS, on 07739 742 367, or by email to enquiries@lothiansradiosociety.com, or on the web at www.lothiansradiosociety.com.

On Thursday 27 September Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is on the air and having Morse practice. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

On Friday 28 September Banff and Buchan Amateur Radio Club is having an on the air night. Contact geraldbrt@aol.com.

On Friday 28 September Cockenzie and Port Seton Amateur Radio Club is having its second 144MHz DF hunt, meeting in "The Old Ship Inn" car park. Contact Bob, GM4UYZ, on 01875 811 723.

On Friday 28 September West of Scotland Amateur Radio Society is having a radio testing evening, with Sam, GM4BGS, demonstrating how to test PMR and amateur radio equipment. Details on the web at www.wosars.org.

NEWS FOR WALES No news items have been received for Wales this week.
NEWS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

No news items have been received for Northern Ireland this week. And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast,

prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

1569. IRTS Radio News Bulletin, Sunday September 23rd 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-23 22:39:52 UTC
From: news at irts dot ie <devnull@panix.com>
Message-ID: <200709232000.I8NK08F06650@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 3874
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Irish Radio Transmitters Society
Radio News Bulletin

Sunday September 23rd 2007

CQIR

CQIR is just a week away and preparations are well in hand for the event. A large station is being assembled for the Press in the Phoenix Park and EI75IRTS will be QRV before and during the contest promoting the event worldwide. Low frequency operation for EI75IRTS will be from the EI7M site in Cork which will ensure a great signal on those bands. We would again encourage all EIs and GIs to make a big effort to get on the bands for what promises to be a great celebration of Ireland and the Irish wherever they may be throughout the world.

Dont forget that the first Irish entry pulled from the draw will win a long weekend for two in New York City, all expenses paid. You get a free entry for every 75 qsos made in the contest. Prizes are fully sponsored at no cost to the Society. This is a showcase event for the Society and, as always, good operating practice, friendliness and courtesy to other users of the spectrum should be the order of the day.

EI0MAR

EI0MAR will be QRV on Saturday and Sunday the 29th and 30th of September for the CQIR event. On Saturday the station will be active between 1100 and 2200 UTC and also on the following morning. On Saturday evening, the North Dublin Radio Club's weekly meeting will take place at the station. The vintage radio museum in Howth, which houses EI0MAR, is located in the Martello tower in Howth. Access is up a steep pathway opposite the Abbey Tavern. Visitors are welcome and may operate the station using their own or the club's call sign.

Further information on EI0MAR is available on the club's website. This is easily found by googling the words EI0MAR, Martello and Howth. A link to the museum

web page will allow downloading of a free 22-page booklet about the tower and the history of wireless.

Logs

Logs for EI75IRTS activity on CW and SSB are required by the QSL Manager, Denis, EI6HB immediately. There are a lot of direct QSL cards after arriving and QSO details must be checked before confirmation is sent out. Logs (preferably in ADIF format) should be sent to ei6hb at eircom dot net.

All who participated in the 2 metre counties contest, even those who gave out just a few points, are encouraged to send in their logs to the Contest Manager. The latest date for log entry is this Tuesday, the 25th of September.

Cork Radio Club

At the recent Annual General Meeting of the Cork Radio Club the following were committe was elected: Con EI7DJB Cathaoirleach; Dick EI6HH Cuntasoir; Frank EI6EVB Runai; John EI8HS, Vincent EI7HN, Finbarr EI1CS and Tony EI9ID.

Kerry Amateur Radio Group

The Kerry Amateur Radio Group will hold its annual general meeting on Saturday the 6th of October 2007 at 10 a.m. in the Muckross House Coffee Shop, Killarney. The annual election of officers will take place, and the following incumbents have been nominated: Ron Hahn, EI2JP, Chairman & Treasurer, John Costello, EI9ESB, Vice Chairman Billy O'Connor, EI7CQB, Hon. Secretary.

Ballots will be posted to all current members during the week of the 17th of September 2007. These must be received by the Board on or before the start of the AGM. After the AGM, there will be a more general disussion regarding the Group's activities and direction for 2007/2008. All members are requested to attend, and new members are always welcome.

DXpedition to St Brandon

The 3B7C DXpedition, operating from the Saint Brandon Rocks in the Indian Ocean, is still underway. By Wednesday last, the group had made more than 93,000

QSOs. CW continues to be the dominant mode, accounting for nearly 60% of QSOs to date.

160 metres has been the most difficult band for the group, partly due to the high level of atmospheric noise in the area in which the group is operating. Just 2% of QSOs to date have been on 160 metres. As regards modes, in addition to CW and phone, RTTY was also heard from Saint Brandon during the week. The group is not planning to use data modes other than RTTY.

As of Wednesday, there were 58 EI call signs in the log. Nicky EI9JF, who has worked them on 15 band/mode slots, is top of the list, followed closely by EI7BA, EI2JD, EI9FBB, EI3IO and EI4CF. The majority of QSOs with EI have been on 15, 17 and 20 metres. At the time of writing, there we 48 GI calls in the log, led by GI3OQR, GI4VIV and GI0KVQ.

The DXpedition finishes on Monday the 24th of September.

Short Range Devices (SRDs) on 10 GHz

ComReg is proposing to open the segment 10.4 to 10.42 GHz to licence-exempt Short Range Devices or SRDs. These will be mainly for movement detection in the context of traffic control and will have a power level of 500 milliwatts. There is an experimenter secondary allocation at 10.0 to 10.5 GHz. The EU notification procedure and the standstill period for observations means that a final position on this will not be adopted until early October at the soonest. The relevant document is ComReg 07/37 and is available on the ComReg website at www.comreg.ie. Any experimenter having concerns about this proposal can write to Jim Connolly at ComReg.

Winlink and APRS

John, EI7IG, is experimenting/testing a Winlink Telpac Node in the Waterford area. The frequency in use is 439.875 MHz and the callsign is EI3RCW-10. If anyone is interested in participating, please contact him directly at 086-8167310

Experiments in APRS are ongoing around the southeast on two metres using 144.800 MHz. A number of experimental digipeaters and Igates are in operation. The WX station EI2WRC is also using this frequency. For more

information on APRS visit www.aprs.org.

Limerick Radio Club

The next meeting of Limerick Radio Club will take place on Thursday the 11th of October at the usual venue, the Limerick Institute of Technology, Moylish at 19:30 hrs local time. All those interested are welcome to attend.

Marconi Clifden Celebrations

On the 17th of October 1907 Guglielmo Marconi sent his first commercial message from the then new station at Clifden, Ireland. This October in celebration of this historic event members of the Galway Radio Experimenters Club will be running a special event station from Saturday 13th to Wednesday 17th from Clifden. The club has been issued the call sign EI100MFT for the event, MFT been the last call sign used on the original station.

On the Wednesday they will be making a special linkup with the Marconi sister station in Glace Bay, Nova Scotia. Part of this linkup will be an exchange of greetings between President Mary McAleese and Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia the Honourable Mayann E. Francis. The group will also be honoured to have Princess Electra Marconi present as she is coming to Clifden for the festival along with an Exhibit from the Marconi Foundation in Bologna. The Galway Radio Experimenters Club will also be presenting a display of vintage equipment. More details on the festival can be found at www.clifden.ie. Visitors to the station are more than welcome and if you would like to participate this can also be arranged. For further information please contact Enda Broderick (II2II) on 086-8676410 or email: &#65533;enda dot Broderick at lightnet dot ie&#65533;.

Waterford Rally

The Waterford Radio and Electronics Rally will take place on Sunday the 21st of October at the Woodlands Hotel on the Dunmore Road in Waterford. South East Communications and Long Communications will be at the rally. The IRTS, AREN and a bring-and-buy stand will also feature.

Doors open at 11 a.m. and admission is 5 Euro, accompanied children are admitted free of charge. For

details including a directions map, visit the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group web site on www.searg.com.

Upcoming Rallies

The Foyle and District Rally will take place on Sunday the 4th of November 2007 at the White Horse Hotel, Derry. For more information visit www.mn0aku.org.uk.

The Mayo Radio Rally will take place on Sunday the 18th of November in the Belmount Hotel, Knock, Co. Mayo. For more information contact Padraic Baynes, EI9JA @ QTHR.

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall, EI7IS at QTHR or by phone to 051-853806 or 087-6302026. Items for the radio news can also be faxed to 087 5 6302026. News should be submitted via e-mail to news at irts dot ie for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Friday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday's bulletin.

1570. Re: BREAKING NEWS: NFCC VOTES TO RECOMMEND FCC TREAT ALL REPEATERS AS REPEATERS

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-24 16:16:24 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fd8lsv$1jf6$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3875

William M. Pasternak wrote:
> BREAKING NEWS FROM THE AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE
>
> NATIONAL FREQUENCY COORDINATORS COUNCIL (NFCC) VOTES TO RECOMMEND FCC
> TREAT ALL REPEATERS AS REPEATERS

I think that this is interesting, but have to say that I'm not sure just what this means. Are some repeaters treated as something else?

At first blush, it would seem that a repeater should always be treated as a repeater.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1571. [RAC-Bulletin] RAC Bulletin #20 - BC Incoming QSL Bureau - New Manager

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-24 16:43:29 UTC
From: John Iliffe <john.iliffe@sympatico.ca>
Message-ID: <46F7E86D.831A3620@sympatico.ca>
Source record: 3876
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

VE7UQ IS NEW MANAGER FOR INCOMING QSL BUREAU FOR BC

After 19 years of service, Dennis Livesey VE7DK has retired as BC Incoming
QSL manager. RAC BC/YT Director Ed Frazer VE7EF thanked Dennis for his many
years of QSL service to BC hams, and took on the task of finding a new
Bureau manager.

Taking over on September 24, 2007 as the Incoming QSL Bureau manager for BC
is Ken Clarke VE7UQ. Ken plans a team approach to speed the flow of QSL
cards, and will create a website to permit easy checking of user credits and
cards waiting. The new address for the Bureau is:

VE7-VA7 Incoming QSL Bureau
Ken Clarke VE7UQ
12441 - 58A Avenue, Surrey BC V3X 1X6
604-596-8786
ve7uq at shaw.ca

Receiving his Amateur licence in 1983, Ken's main interests are contesting
and DX, a DXCC member with 200 countries confirmed. He is a member of RAC,
ARRL, BC DX Club, and the Surrey Amateur Radio Club.

Sent by the RAC Bulletins from RACHQ mailing list robot.
Send comments to: rachq@rac.ca
For more information about the email robot, please visit:
http://rac.eton.ca/racbullemail.htm

1572. Re: Suggestion for an HF starter rig

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-24 17:46:36 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fd8or9fim1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3877

Hi Jim,

While most rigs these days are at least "pretty good", I would put out a shameless plug for a rig like the Kennwood TS-830.

I had the chance to go over one of those old beauties recently, and found it a sweet radio indeed. It has tube finals, and a very nice receiver. It has the Kenwood sound to boot. Lots of knobs if you are a tweaker. These can be found in the 3-400 dollar range.

Other radios I've had the chance to evaluate are the:

IC-761. A high quality radio. It is a big one though. But I like large radios.

IC-745. Second Generation synthesized Rig. Pretty good one. Smaller radio for the day. You could go mobile with this one.

IC-756 Pro - A fair radio. The Pro II is better, but probably priced outside your range.

I might suggest picking up a tuner such as one of the MFJ 300 watt ones. Then get ladder line, and throw a general purpose dipole in your trees. That for my money is the best starter antenna going, and can service you long after you're a newbie. Some do not like to have to tune the antenna, but I can say that It is possible to contest with such a setup.

Finally, look around and be patient, better deals come to the patient.

From 5.5 years ago......

My first setup was:

IC-745 - $250.00 used

MFJ 949 Tuner - $129.00 new

Ladder line - $30.00 new

Antenna wire - $12.00 for a 500 foot reel of #12 THNN

There is $421 dollars and on the air. I don't remember the costs of the nylon rope and misc stuff like end insulaters, but it wasn't much extra.

And of course, you won't find copper at that price, but you can expect to pay 60 or so for 100 feet of ladder line, and whatever outrageoous price for wire these days.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1573. Re: BREAKING NEWS: NFCC VOTES TO RECOMMEND FCC TREAT ALL REPEATERS AS REPEATERS

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-24 18:35:27 UTC
From: dplatt@radagast.org
Message-ID: <vrbls4-q6n.ln1@radagast.org>
Source record: 3878

In article <fd8lsv$1jf6$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>,
Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:

>I think that this is interesting, but have to say that I'm not sure just
>what this means. Are some repeaters treated as something else?

There's been some mention, recently, of the fact that some
coordinating groups have been treating D*Star digital repeaters
differently.

Because of the fact that such repeaters use a packet-based
transmission technology which receives each packet and validates it
before retransmitting it, there are people who feel that such systems
are more like AX.25 "store and forward" packet nodes / digipeaters
than they are like FM-voice repeaters. The fact that D*Star can also
be used to carry some fairly high-bandwidth data seems to contribute
to this feeling, as well.

>At first blush, it would seem that a repeater should always be treated
>as a repeater.

The NFCC seems to have agreed with you (with some amount of dissent).
Since D*Star systems retransmit the packets (digital-voice, or data)
on a different frequency than the one on which they receive, and tend
to keep the transmitter "hot" for as long as there's incoming receive
data, and are being used to carry a lot of voice traffic, it does seem
reasonable to treat them in a way which is analogous to the way in
which FM repeaters are treated.

--
Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO
Friends of Jade Warrior home page: http://www.radagast.org/jade-warrior
I do _not_ wish to receive unsolicited commercial email, and I will
boycott any company which has the gall to send me such ads!

1574. Re: Suggestion for an HF starter rig

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-25 01:27:57 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <13fgp0ilkqiepf7@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3879

"Michael Coslo" wrote

> I might suggest picking up a tuner such as one of the MFJ 300 watt ones.
> Then get ladder line, and throw a general purpose dipole in your trees.
> That for my money is the best starter antenna going, and can service you
> long after you're a newbie. Some do not like to have to tune the antenna,
> but I can say that It is possible to contest with such a setup.

I think it's even more than a "starter" antenna -- it's great, loads on just about any frequency, and if decently in the clear will work quite well. When I move to a place with the room for a hundred footer up in the trees, it will be the only antenna I'd really ever need for HF. However, I think a ladder-line fed antenna needs a tuner (i.e., transmatch) that has a pretty beefy balun. I had the MFJ-948 that gave me lots of trouble using a 55' long dipole with ladder line. I learned how to make a bigger and better 4:1 toroid balun to replace the dinky one that came with it... then it worked really well. Right, Cecil? ;-)

Howard N7SO

1575. Re: BREAKING NEWS: NFCC VOTES TO RECOMMEND FCC TREAT ALL REPEATERS AS REPEATERS

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-25 03:50:54 UTC
From: Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-E477C9.21115424092007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 3880

dplatt@radagast.org (Dave Platt) wrote:
>
> There's been some mention, recently, of the fact that some
> coordinating groups have been treating D*Star digital repeaters
> differently.
>
> Because of the fact that such repeaters use a packet-based
> transmission technology which receives each packet and validates it
> before retransmitting it, there are people who feel that such systems
> are more like AX.25 "store and forward" packet nodes / digipeaters
> than they are like FM-voice repeaters. The fact that D*Star can also
> be used to carry some fairly high-bandwidth data seems to contribute
> to this feeling, as well.
[...]

What are the pros and cons of such a policy? Does it seem like an
attempt to hinder the spread of D-Star or is it more likely to benefit
D-Star?

--
Klystron

1576. Re: wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-25 05:03:46 UTC
From: "Dr.Ace Ratliff" <Ace@WH2T.com>
Message-ID: <924e7$46f8870a$4e087a9$19167@DIALUPUSA.NET>
Source record: 3881

"Mike Coslo" <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net> wrote in message
news:Xns9999FFB13831mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136...
> "h" <w@w.biz> wrote in news:13d0kn1pn739523@corp.supernews.com:
>
>> Again all this is ok..
Snipped

> I'm talking about sending a signal to a remote site where Internet
> service is not available, and using that access to get to say a dx
> cluster or to a website set up to allow stations that are not in the same
> place communicate and log in a contest. Or to connect to Echolink for an
> emergency net.
>
> - 73 de Mike KB3EIA -
>

I am getting the parts together to very soon set up my own semi-long
distance Wi-Fi link.

Ace - WH2T

Also SEE

http://www.wifinetnews.com/archives/006518.html

A team in Venezuela went up a mountain and came down the unofficial holders
of the longest Wi-Fi link record at 167 miles. They used Linksys WRT54G
using open-source firmware (DD-WRT) using retrofitted satellite parabolic
dishes.
When I read this story initially I thought, well they may have used Wi-Fi
protocols, but this isn't Wi-Fi in the sense of regulation-conforming
unlicensed use within the signal limits. The last Wi-Fi distance winner,
Cincinnati teenagers who created a 125-mile link for DefCon's Wi-Fi
Shootout, clearly exceed Part 15 rules, but claim they were using Part 97
(amateur radio) rules. Part 97 ain't regular Wi-Fi.

.

1577. Re: BREAKING NEWS: NFCC VOTES TO RECOMMEND FCC TREAT ALL REPEATERS AS REPEATERS

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-25 05:41:44 UTC
From: dplatt@radagast.org
Message-ID: <sbjms4-4gn.ln1@radagast.org>
Source record: 3882

In article <xxx-E477C9.21115424092007@news.verizon.net>,
Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz> wrote:

> What are the pros and cons of such a policy? Does it seem like an
>attempt to hinder the spread of D-Star or is it more likely to benefit
>D-Star?

Well, as I read it, the new policy (if adopted by the FCC) simply puts D*Star repeaters on an equal footing with FM-voice repeaters, in terms of the portions of the band that they can use, and their basic operating rules. It might (depending on interpretation) rule out the operation of such repeaters on those frequencies which are normally assigned in the bandplan for packet systems (nodes and BBSes).

In areas of the country where the 2-meter and 440 repeater frequencies are fully allocated (major metro areas) this might tend to delay the availability of D*Star repeater coverage, as those wishing to set up such a digital-voice repeater would have to contend with other repeater owners for an allocation on any repeater frequency which might become available. Or, I suppose, they could persuade an existing voice repeater to switch over to D*Star operation.

In areas of the country with open repeater slots I doubt it will matter much, and I doubt that it will hinder operation in the 1.2-gig band at all (there isn't much ham activity in those allocations).

Whether this is an "attempt to hinder the spread of D*Star" is a question of motive, and I have no information about the motives of those who voted for the new proposal. It's possible, I suppose... but it's equally possible that some of the voters felt that D*Star proponents were trying to ignore a long-established precedent, and to do an "end run" around the groups which have been chartered to do repeater coordination and prevent (or at least reduce or manage) problems of repeater-induced interference.

So, there's probably politics on all sides, as is usually the case where humans are involved :-)

--
Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO
Friends of Jade Warrior home page: http://www.radagast.org/jade-warrior
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boycott any company which has the gall to send me such ads!

1578. Re: BREAKING NEWS: NFCC VOTES TO RECOMMEND FCC TREAT ALL REPEATERS AS REPEATERS

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-25 17:04:32 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fdbehu$1cte$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3883

Dave Platt wrote:
> In article <fd8lsv$1jf6$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>,
> Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:
>
>> I think that this is interesting, but have to say that I'm not sure just
>> what this means. Are some repeaters treated as something else?
>
> There's been some mention, recently, of the fact that some
> coordinating groups have been treating D*Star digital repeaters
> differently.
>
> Because of the fact that such repeaters use a packet-based
> transmission technology which receives each packet and validates it
> before retransmitting it,

I have to do a little studying on the D*star protocol here. I didn't know that the packets were validated. I had assumed that it would be similar to say the sort of digital used in audio applications. Bad assumption on my part.

> there are people who feel that such systems
> are more like AX.25 "store and forward" packet nodes / digipeaters
> than they are like FM-voice repeaters. The fact that D*Star can also
> be used to carry some fairly high-bandwidth data seems to contribute
> to this feeling, as well.

>> At first blush, it would seem that a repeater should always be treated
>> as a repeater.
>
> The NFCC seems to have agreed with you (with some amount of dissent).
> Since D*Star systems retransmit the packets (digital-voice, or data)
> on a different frequency than the one on which they receive, and tend
> to keep the transmitter "hot" for as long as there's incoming receive
> data, and are being used to carry a lot of voice traffic, it does seem
> reasonable to treat them in a way which is analogous to the way in
> which FM repeaters are treated.

The repeaters would have to be treated very carefully. As I read it, a digital repeater would take up 300 KHZ of space! Yoiks! I would have to think that these repeaters would be coordinated in the same way a regulre one would be. It will take some extra care, given the Bandwidth requirements.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1579. Re: BREAKING NEWS: NFCC VOTES TO RECOMMEND FCC TREAT ALL REPEATERS AS REPEATERS

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-25 19:34:10 UTC
From: Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-041203.13483525092007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 3884

Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:
> [...]
> The repeaters would have to be treated very carefully. As I read it, a
> digital repeater would take up 300 KHZ of space! Yoiks! I would have to
> think that these repeaters would be coordinated in the same way a
> regulre one would be. It will take some extra care, given the Bandwidth
> requirements.

Is that 300 kHz figure for digital voice (DV) or digital data (DD)?
It looks like DD is only offered on 1200 MHz, where that sort of
bandwidth requirement may not be a problem. The brochure for the Icom
ID-800 shows a "Digital transmission speed" of 4.8 kbps and a "Voice
coding speed" of 2.4 kbps (on 2 meters and 440), suggesting that
voice-only data rates will be consistent with data rates typically seen
on the Internet for voice-only streaming audio, such as the radio stream
on Bloomberg.com.

--
Klystron

1580. Re: BREAKING NEWS: NFCC VOTES TO RECOMMEND FCC TREAT ALL REPEATERS AS REPEATERS

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-25 19:34:22 UTC
From: Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-A19C31.14063825092007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 3885

dplatt@radagast.org (Dave Platt) wrote:
>
> Well, as I read it, the new policy (if adopted by the FCC) simply puts
> D*Star repeaters on an equal footing with FM-voice repeaters, in terms
> of the portions of the band that they can use, and their basic
> operating rules. It might (depending on interpretation) rule out the
> operation of such repeaters on those frequencies which are normally
> assigned in the bandplan for packet systems (nodes and BBSes).
> [...]

Icom has a band chart (made up by Gordon West) on its web site that shows specific band segments designated for Digital, without further explaining what the word "Digital" means (FM packet, DV or DD). This makes sense, as you wouldn't want to hear squeaking, squalking digital noises as you try to tune along an FM segment with an FM-only rig. My hope is that some underutilized segments of the 440 band (such as the ATV channel that covers 438 to 442) will be reassigned for digital use, repeaters as well as simplex.

> Whether this is an "attempt to hinder the spread of D*Star" is a
> question of motive, and I have no information about the motives of
> those who voted for the new proposal. It's possible, I suppose... but
> it's equally possible that some of the voters felt that D*Star
> proponents were trying to ignore a long-established precedent, and to
> do an "end run" around the groups which have been chartered to do
> repeater coordination and prevent (or at least reduce or manage)
> problems of repeater-induced interference.
>
> So, there's probably politics on all sides, as is usually the case
> where humans are involved :-)

That's understandable, but as MOST people understand, time marches on and thing change. The existing band plans are not carved in stone and all parties concerned will need to be realistic about the constant and never ending need for change and flexibility.

--
Klystron

1581. Re: BREAKING NEWS: NFCC VOTES TO RECOMMEND FCC TREAT ALL REPEATERS AS REPEATERS

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-25 20:13:56 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <7hpif31t5bl9bectasijrrbmki97plbmes@4ax.com>
Source record: 3886

On Tue, 25 Sep 2007 15:34:22 EDT, Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz> wrote:

> Icom has a band chart (made up by Gordon West) on its web site that
>shows specific band segments designated for Digital, without further
>explaining what the word "Digital" means (FM packet, DV or DD). This
>makes sense, as you wouldn't want to hear squeaking, squalking digital
>noises as you try to tune along an FM segment with an FM-only rig. My
>hope is that some underutilized segments of the 440 band (such as the
>ATV channel that covers 438 to 442) will be reassigned for digital use,
>repeaters as well as simplex.

"Digital Voice" (a la D-Star) has already been deemed to be "phone" as
the FCC defines it. The designations - right or wrong - are about the
"baseband", not the means used to carry it.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1582. Re: BREAKING NEWS: NFCC VOTES TO RECOMMEND FCC TREAT ALL REPEATERS AS REPEATERS

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-25 21:46:18 UTC
From: dplatt@radagast.org
Message-ID: <10cos4-tkm.ln1@radagast.org>
Source record: 3887

In article <xxx-A19C31.14063825092007@news.verizon.net>,
Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz> wrote:

> Icom has a band chart (made up by Gordon West) on its web site that
>shows specific band segments designated for Digital, without further
>explaining what the word "Digital" means (FM packet, DV or DD). This
>makes sense, as you wouldn't want to hear squeaking, squalking digital
>noises as you try to tune along an FM segment with an FM-only rig. My
>hope is that some underutilized segments of the 440 band (such as the
>ATV channel that covers 438 to 442) will be reassigned for digital use,
>repeaters as well as simplex.

Here in the SF Bay area, that latter suggestion would probably renew a
nasty, bloody band-war :-(

As I understand the history - for quite a few years, there was no ATV
activity hereabouts. A lot of repeater owners made informal use of
the 438 ATV band for auxiliary and control links (reacting to the fact
that the primary 2-meter and 440 allocations around here are very full).

A few years back, an ATV interest group set set up an ATV repeater on
a local mountaintop and lit it up.

The repeater owners howled, asserting that the ATV system was
transmitting on top of ongoing communications without listening first
(a violation of the FCC rules). The ATV group asserted that the
repeater auxiliary links shouldn't have been there in the first place,
as that usage was contrary to the northern California 440 band-plan
which had been in place for years.

I understand that the issue was escalated all the way up to the FCC,
and the FCC declined to make a definitive ruling, stating that it was
really an issue for the local-area frequency coordinators to deal
with... and the coordinators came down on the side of the agreed-upon
bandplan.

There's still frequent use of the ATV repeater up on the hill.

The situation may be easier to deal with in areas that don't have an
active ATV community. The ARRL's bandplan for the 70 cm band states
that local bandplans and agreements override the national plan
recommendations, so it seems entirely possible for local coordinators
to agree to open up the segment you're speaking of to non-ATV uses.

--
Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO

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1583. Re: BREAKING NEWS: NFCC VOTES TO RECOMMEND FCC TREAT ALL REPEATERS AS REPEATERS

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-25 22:20:04 UTC
From: Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-011145.16251925092007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 3888

Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:
>
> "Digital Voice" (a la D-Star) has already been deemed to be "phone" as
> the FCC defines it. The designations - right or wrong - are about the
> "baseband", not the means used to carry it.

I'm not sure that I follow how that affects band segment allocation.
SSB and AM are "phone" too, but that doesn't get them a space in the FM
repeater segment.

--
Klystron

1584. [RAC-Bulletin] RAC Bulletin #21 - Joint Canada and USA Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Preparedness Event

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-26 00:52:13 UTC
From: John Iliffe <john.iliffe@sympatico.ca>
Message-ID: <46F9AC7A.5A625908@sympatico.ca>
Source record: 3889
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

The Joint Canada and USA Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Preparedness Event is being conducted this weekend, Saturday, September 29 and Sunday, September 30, 2007. Simulated emergency traffic will be passed to and from the special event station at Signal Hill, St. John's, Newfoundland, with ARES stations in Canada and the United States taking part. Special event call sign VO1ARES will be used by the Signal Hill station and any Radio Amateur wishing to make contact is encouraged to do so before or after the formal demonstration of emergency traffic handling is completed. Please see the RAC website at <www.rac.ca> for the event web page at <www.rac.ca/fieldorg/aresjointevent.htm> to obtain all information.

Sent by the RAC Bulletins from RACHQ mailing list robot.
Send comments to: rachq@rac.ca
For more information about the email robot, please visit:
http://rac.eton.ca/racbullemail.htm

1585. Re: Suggestion for an HF starter rig

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-26 01:00:23 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13fjbofrs4qkq1b@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3890

Howard Lester wrote:
> "Michael Coslo" wrote
>
>> I might suggest picking up a tuner such as one of the MFJ 300 watt ones.
>> Then get ladder line, and throw a general purpose dipole in your trees.
>> That for my money is the best starter antenna going, and can service you
>> long after you're a newbie. Some do not like to have to tune the antenna,
>> but I can say that It is possible to contest with such a setup.
>
> I think it's even more than a "starter" antenna -- it's great, loads on just
> about any frequency, and if decently in the clear will work quite well. When
> I move to a place with the room for a hundred footer up in the trees, it
> will be the only antenna I'd really ever need for HF. However, I think a
> ladder-line fed antenna needs a tuner (i.e., transmatch) that has a pretty
> beefy balun. I had the MFJ-948 that gave me lots of trouble using a 55' long
> dipole with ladder line. I learned how to make a bigger and better 4:1
> toroid balun to replace the dinky one that came with it... then it worked
> really well. Right, Cecil? ;-)

I agree that a random length dipole fed with ladder line makes a great
antenna. I've used one for years with a traditional tuner. My
question: If I put a balun between the ladder line and the tuner, can I
use one of the automatic tuners built into modern rigs? If this works,
it provides the advantages of one simple antenna for multiple bands
without the hassle of having to retune when changing bands/frequencies.

73, Steve KB9X

1586. Re: Suggestion for an HF starter rig

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-26 01:18:52 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <13fjcrg4hcmtm98@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3891

"Steve Bonine" wrote

> I agree that a random length dipole fed with ladder line makes a great
> antenna. I've used one for years with a traditional tuner. My question:
> If I put a balun between the ladder line and the tuner, can I use one of
> the automatic tuners built into modern rigs? If this works, it provides
> the advantages of one simple antenna for multiple bands without the hassle
> of having to retune when changing bands/frequencies.

Steve, if the auto tuner can handle very high SWR's.. then sure. ;-)
Seriously, I don't think it'd work. I had one of those in-line baluns
designed for the purpose of being able to run RG8 coax through the wall to
the transmatch. The coax length was maybe 8 feet. My antenna was about 50'
long, fed with 450 window line, and I used it on all bands from 10 - 40m.
The balun was from RadioWorks and was rated at maybe, I forget.... 4KW? I
was running 100 watts and that balun got HOT. After a while, it seemed that
the balun broke down from the excessive heat and was no longer useable. (Can
that really happen?) That should give you an idea about the auto tuner idea
for this kind of setup.

It's really not that hard to re-tune a transmatch. Find the right settings
for each band [segment] and write down the numbers. There are typically just
three transmatch knobs to re-set, and it can be done in five seconds. OK,
maybe seven seconds. ;-)

Howard N7SO

1587. Re: Suggestion for an HF starter rig

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-26 02:18:05 UTC
From: dplatt@radagast.org
Message-ID: <b3sos4-gu2.ln1@radagast.org>
Source record: 3892

>I agree that a random length dipole fed with ladder line makes a great
>antenna. I've used one for years with a traditional tuner. My
>question: If I put a balun between the ladder line and the tuner, can I
>use one of the automatic tuners built into modern rigs? If this works,
>it provides the advantages of one simple antenna for multiple bands
>without the hassle of having to retune when changing bands/frequencies.

Depends a lot on the radio and on your individual installation.

The ATUs built into a lot of modern rigs are of the "line flattener"
persuasion. They're intended to be used with an antenna which isn't
too awfully far from a resonant 50-ohm load. As a rule of thumb, I'd
say that most of them can match a 3:1 load, some of them will cope
with most loads of up to 5:1, and few of them can handle 10:1 loads
at all well.

For what it's worth, the ATU in my Kenwood TS-2000 won't even attempt
to match anything above 10:1. It'll struggle with a lot of loads
between 5:1 and 10:1, depending on whether they're low-Z, high-Z,
and/or substantially reactive. I suspect that this ATU is probably
fairly typical of modern rigs.

External tuners often have a substantially wider matching range than
an internal line-matcher, and probably have significantly lower losses
when handling difficult loads.

An unbalanced tuner plus a robust balun is probably going to work
better than a rig's ATU plus a balun. The balun can be a problem in
either case, with difficult (high-Z) loads - it's not easy to build a
balun which has a high enough choking reactance to really balance out
the line currents well if it has to work into, say, 5000 ohms or so.
Link-coupled tuners seem to be a better technical choice for such
difficult loads, although (as per your comment) they aren't the most
convenient beasts in the world.

If your doublet length and feedline length leave you with reasonably
tolerable in-the-shack feedpoint impedances on the bands that you care
about, then you might want to consider a sort of hybrid approach. Use
a robust balun to connect to the feedline, and feed the unbalanced
side of the balun to a (bandswitched) set of L networks. You'd want
one L-network per band, selected to bring the impedance down to
somewhere in the 3:1 SWR range (or so) in the band center. The output
of the L networks would go to the transceiver.

With this approach, the L networks would perform the "gross" tuning of
the antenna feedpoint Z, and bring it down to the point at which the

transceiver's internal ATU could do the rest of the matching across
the full width of the band.

Since the L networks wouldn't need to provide an exact match for a 1:1
SWR, selecting the component values and tuning the networks would be
simplified.

--
Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO
Friends of Jade Warrior home page: http://www.radagast.org/jade-warrior
I do _not_ wish to receive unsolicited commercial email, and I will
boycott any company which has the gall to send me such ads!

1588. Re: Suggestion for an HF starter rig

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-26 03:03:15 UTC
From: xpyttl <xpyttl_NOSPAM@earthling.net>
Message-ID: <FCiKi.227$kv3.33@newsfe12.lga>
Source record: 3893

"Steve Bonine" <spb@pobox.com> wrote in message
news:13fjbofrs4qkq1b@news.supernews.com...

> I agree that a random length dipole fed with ladder line makes a great
> antenna. I've used one for years with a traditional tuner. My

I would strongly suggest against a random length doublet. A non-resonant doublet will have impedances all over the place. At some freuencies it cannot be matched at all, at others the losses in the tuner make you wish you hadn't been able to tune it. The trick is keeping those nasty spots out of the ham bands.

There are a number of G5RV type antennas that are doublets whose length has been chosen to keep those nasty spots out of the ham bands. Spend a few minutes looking up the right lengths for your doublet and avoid potentially a lot of grief.

Random length, of course, is random. you COULD get lucky. Or not ....

..

1589. Re: Suggestion for an HF starter rig

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-26 14:12:27 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13fkptfluq6e5df@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3894

xpyttl wrote:

> Random length, of course, is random. you COULD get lucky. Or not ....

I guess I'm lucky. I've never had a problem matching a random-length
dipole on any frequency I've tried. That does not imply, of course,
that any random length can be successfully used on any arbitrary frequency.

And of course, "random length" should have read "as long as possible,
given the placement of the trees."

Thanks to everyone who chimed in on using an external balum and an
automatic tuner. My gut told me that the consensus ("it won't work")
was correct, but it was nice to get some more factual backup for that.

1590. Re: Suggestion for an HF starter rig

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-26 21:29:16 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1190840590.891984.106460@r29g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3895

Steve Bonine posted on Wed, 26 Sep 2007 10:12:27 EDT

>xpyttl wrote:
>> Random length, of course, is random. you COULD get lucky. Or not ....
>
>I guess I'm lucky. I've never had a problem matching a random-length
>dipole on any frequency I've tried. That does not imply, of course,
>that any random length can be successfully used on any arbitrary frequency.
>
>And of course, "random length" should have read "as long as possible,
>given the placement of the trees."
>
>Thanks to everyone who chimed in on using an external balum and an
>automatic tuner. My gut told me that the consensus ("it won't work")
>was correct, but it was nice to get some more factual backup for that.

Steve, the factual backup on antenna matching has abounded
in texts, mostly the 'pro' kind, for years. It's been used for years
to impedance-match all kinds of things within a radio box...as well
as outside it. As to amateur equipment, the subject gets colored
(and both glamorized and defamed) by the lack of comparisons
to other matching equipment and the affinity that some have for
certain brands from certain manufacturers.

If you wish, I can send you a copy of the L-section matching math
that I've previously sent to Mike Coslo in e-mail. It isn't "formal"
but it is accurate, but it does involve simple algebra. The L-
sections are used in most of the automatic antenna tuners
because it is simple (and therefore low-cost) and adapts to the
measure-and-change L- or C- component algorithms that fit into
small microprocessor programs.

The heart of all of them is the Bruene RF voltage and current
detector that senses the phases of each at the load end. [or
variations on that 1955-beginning detector] The micro then
determines which parts of the L- or C-components are to be
switched in or out to get close to the ideal in-phase E & I of
RF for most power transfer.

Now the designer-manufacturers don't make auto-tuners that
will match ANYTHING...even though it CAN be done. To reduce
manufacturing costs they limit the number of internal inductors
and capacitors and THAT will reduce the ability to auto-match
anything. They are trying to be competitive on price. The newer
transceivers have SOME internal auto-tuning capability but they
clearly state the limits of their equipment. Not all separate auto-

tuners specify that. [I have both just as a backup]

"Baluns" aren't all perfect, either. They are good but just not perfect. Some are better than others but it would take ALL of them and some good lab test equipment to do a good comparison. However, MOST work well enough for amateur radio purposes and do allow for balanced-to-unbalanced line conversion at HF.

Now ANY impedance-matching tuner will let one load up just about anything. All that serves is to transfer the most RF power into a load. What is NOT known is WHERE all that RF is going. Unless some ham has a balloon-borne sensor and data transfer gizmo, NOBODY can know just where the pattern is going to be. Big trees WILL affect the pattern, especially changing it between dry and wet climate times and between different kinds of trees. So will structures and assorted conductive things (aluminum patio covers, small garden sheds, power, phone, and TV cables) all within the near-field (within five or so wavelengths). Even some houses which have had aluminum siding added on compared to similar houses with just wood or stucco or brick siding.

One can take an example of the U.S. Army's little AN/PRC-104 backpack transceiver. It covers the whole of HF using a whip antenna. It has had an auto-tuner built-in since it went operational in 1986. A human bean is a poor counterpoise for any antenna with HF wavelengths and soldiers aren't all "built to spec" for that purpose. Further, the transceiver and whip must operate from unknown field environments, in trees or well away from them, in swampy soil or dry desert. The transceiver can't get any higher than the soldier carrying it. But, the little built-in antenna tuner assures him that the whip antenna is going to get as much RF power into/out-of it as possible. The rest of it is trying to keep the whip as vertical as possible while in-use.

Now a PRC-104 won't win any DX awards or enable contacts with Antarctica or Yurp, but it is a case-in-point where an auto-tuner certainly helps maximize signals in a 1:10 frequency range with a practical-minimal fixed antenna, allowing for a highly-variaable counterpoise/ground-plane environment. The vertical whip will probably maximize its pattern between 10 and 40 degrees above horizontal, give-or-take. It works in practice (for the equivalent of QRP amateur-style). Works well enough, that is. The auto-tuner built-in certainly helps it.

Everyone's residential location varies greatly and only a very few are "perfect" (as to the antenna analyzer programs). One can load up practically anything with a tuner but only the shape and arrangement of conductive elements is going to determine where most of the RF goes to (or comes from). No tuner can

help that.

73, Len AF6AY

1591. [DXNL] DXNL 1538 (Sep 26, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-26 21:32:52 UTC
From: Robert Busch - DL7VOA <dxnl@dxhf.darc.de>
Message-ID: <123568048150.20070926232743@dxhf.darc.de>
Source record: 3896
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.dx,rec.radio.info

DXNL 1538 - Sep 26, 2007
DX Newsletter

a free and weekly service of
DARC Committee "DX and HF contesting"
(http://www.darcdxhf.de)

editor: Helmut Schlaffer, DL7MAE
(e-mail: dxnl@dxhf.darc.de)

translation by: Bob, DL7VOA
(e-mail: dl7voa@darc.de)

A5 - BHUTAN
OM Ed,N1UR, will be QRV from the Kingdom Bhutan signing A52UR in CW/SSB on all bands between Sep 28 and Oct 2. QSL via buro or direct to K2RET.

C9 - MOZAMBIQUE
Rodrigo,CT1BXT, hit the airwaves as C91R and will stay in Mozambique until August 2008. Rodrigo's favourite mode is RTTY but in the moment he is only working on 20m with 100 watts and a dipole. He plans to put up a beam for 10/12/15/17/20m soon. QSLs via his homecall.

EL - LIBERIA
"DAGOE" stands for "Dutch Amateurs Going On Expedition". The club members Arie Kleingeld,PA3A (EL2AK), Ad van Ginneken,PA8AD (EL2AG), Arie Noordzij,PA3AN (EL2AN), and Henk van Oosterhout,PA3AWW (EL2AO), are planning a major activity from Liberia from Oct 3-24. The operation on 80m/160m shall start on Oct 7 at latest. Due to the high demand they decided to work in RTTY as well. Liberia's infrastructure was totally destroyed during the civil war (1989-2003) and shall be supported with this DXpedition financially. You may request your QSLs with a donation after the DXpedition at: http://www.liberia2007.com/qslpolicy.php
The DAGOE members have three main goals:
1) Activate Liberia in a major style operation
2) The charity project with a call for donations
3) Supporting the "Liberia Radio Amateur Association" (LRAA) with equipment
The DXpedition will use two radios with amp's having the aim to log at least 25000 QSOs mainly in CW and SSB. Following antennas will be used:
160m/80m: vertical (80 radials)
40m: vertical (30 radials)
WARC: triband vertical
20/15/10m: 2ele tribander and a 3ele tribander.
QSL cards may be requested online at the address printed above. This

applies only to direct QSLs and a donation for the charity project is mandatory for that. If you send your QSLs direct you should enclose at least 2 US$ and send them to PA3AWW, Meelbeshof 8, 3355 BD Papendrecht, Netherlands. If you prefer QSLs via bureau please send them also via PA3AWW. There will be no eQSLs.

HB0 - LIECHTENSTEIN
Ekki,HB0/DF4OR, Tilman,HB0/DJ5BX, Thomas,HB0/DK9FEC, Peter,HB0/DL1FX, and Rainer,HB0/DL1ZBO, will activate the Principality of Liechtenstein again working in CW/SSB/RTTY on 80-10m from Sep 26 until Oct 1.
The crew will also take part in the CQWW RTTY Contest signing HB0/DF4OR on the weekend of Sep 29/30. All QSLs via homecalls.

HP - PANAMA
Jay Mills,HP3/K1YJ, was already active this year. He moved to Panama now and should receive his HP3 callsign soon.
QSLs for all his activities should be sent to his new QSL manager W4JS.

J6 - ST LUCIA, NA-108
Babs,J6/DL7AFS, Lot,J6/DJ7ZG, and Ju,J6/DL2ZAE, have flown to St. Lucia (NA-108) on Sep 23 and are working on 6-160m until Oct 11. They plan to operate with up to three stations simultaneously. Ju is a high speed CW OP and takes intensive care of this mode so that Babs and Lot may turn towards SSB and RTTY.
QSL cards for all calls should be sent to DL7AFS. More information can be found on their website: http://www.qsl.net/dl7afs

JW - SVALBARD, EU-026
Karl,LA8DW, and Lars,OZ1HPS, announced to become active in CW/SSB signing JW8DW and JW/OZ1HPS from Svalbard (EU-026) from Oct 1-7.
QSLs via bureau to their homecalls.

SV9 - CRETE, EU-015
Uli,DJ9XB, flew to Crete (EU-015) on monday. Main purpose of this trip is the participation in the CQWW RTTY Contest as J49XB (only) on 15m. All other bands (including 160m if he has enough space for an antenna) will be activated before and after the contest.Uli is QRV only in RTTY.

TI - COSTA RICA
Jean-Pierre,TI2/F6FQX, is working mainly in CW on HF until Oct 3.

TK - CORSICA, EU-014
The team "Equipo de DX4DX" consists of the OPs Pere,EA3CUU, Paco,EA4BT, Emilio,EA7AAW, Julio,EA7JB, Jose,EA7LS, and Ramon,EB4EPJ, and will put Corsica (EU-014) on the air between Sep 28 and Oct 5. Their call will be TK9Z in SSB/CW/RTTY/PSK on 160-10m. QSL via EA4BT, direct or bureau. More information can be found at: http://www.dx4dx.com

ZF - CAYMAN ISLANDS, NA-016
Don,W4YCH (ZF2DF), Janet,W6JND (ZF2JD), Larry,W6OMF (ZF2LH), Bob,W6BO (ZF2BO), Sue,K6SUE (ZF2MH), and Jim,W4JO (ZF2JO), will take part in the Multi/2 category of the CQWW RTTY Contest signing ZF2DF. They already hit the airwaves 6-160m using their individual calls since

Sep 24. The operation ends on Oct 1. All QSLs via homecalls.

8P - BARBADOS, NA-021
Richard,G3RWL, will be QRV again as 8P6DR from Barbados (NA-021) from Sep 28 until Oct 13. Richard is working in CW and digital modes on 10-80m running 100 watts into a G5RV antenna and also plans to take part in the upcoming CQWW RTTY Contest. He confirms the QSLs via bureau or direct via his homecall G3RWL. However QSLs may be requested as well via e-mail (g3rwl@amsat.org), there will be no eQSLs and if he finds you as a dupe in his log your chances to get a QSL are gone.

8Q - MALEDIVES, AS-013
Andrew,G7COD, is expected to hit the airwaves as 8Q7AK from the island Embudu (AS-013) between Sep 30 and Oct 12. He will work mainly in SSB but plans to operate also some CW on 30/20/17/15/12m. His preferred frequencies are 10.123, 14.147, 18.133, 21.253, 24.953 MHz (+/-10 kHz). He will try to be active from 0830-1030 UTC and from 1300-1515 UTC every day. QSLs direct or via bureau via his homecall.
Andrew states that all QSLs from previous 8Q7AK activities should be confirmed by now.

8R - GUYANA
8R1XR (DK6XR) and 8R1XT (DK8XT) will be QRV from Georgetown working in SSB/CW/RTTY on the usual DX frequencies between Sep 30 and Oct 13. QSLs via homecalls.

SOUTH PACIFIC TRIP
Ulli,DL2AH, is travelling the South Pacific planning activities from Niue (ZK2), Chatham (ZL7) and Norfolk (VK9ANH) on 40-10m between the end of September and mid-November. Ulli is working in SSB/RTTY using a FT-897 and loop antennas. The call for Niue is not known yet but he will show up as ZL7/DL2AH from Chatham. And this is his schedule:
ZK2 Sep 29-Oct 12
ZL7/DL2AH Oct 17-Oct 30 and after that
VK9ANH for about two weeks.
QSL cards via DL2AH, direct or via the bureau.

SILENT KEYS
Once again some wellknown DXers passed away last week.
W Denzil Evans,GW3CDP, passed away after a short illness at the age of 81 on Sep 15. Being one of the most active Welsh DXers he was #1 on the DXCC Honor Roll.

Abdule Rashid,S21AR, passed away on Sep 10. He was one of the persons who made the S21U DXpedition in 1990 becoming a success.

Alessio Ortona,I1BYH, was a former president of the Italian amateur radio league ARI. He passed away at the age of 79 on Sep 17.

More announcements for the upcoming CQWW Contest RTTY (Sep 29/30)
----
call category QSL info

AO8X SOAB EA8AUW
AY7X M/S WD9EWK
BX5AA SOSB (20m) direct or LoTW
D4C Multi/Single ?
E21YDP SOAB/LP
HR2/K2BB n/a K2BB
HR2/LT0E SOAB HQ2LAS
KP2/AH8DX SOAB AH8DX
OF8X M/? OH6KN
OH0Z SOAB W0MM
UU7J Multi/? UU0JM
WP3C SOAB/LP W3HNK
4K8F SOAB 4K8F
4O3A M/? LoTW
4X2Z Multi/Single 4X6UU

UPCOMING CONTESTS

Sep 22/23 Scandinavian Activity Contest (SAC) in SSB
Sep 29/30 CQWW RTTY Contest
Sep 29/30 CQ IR Contest (Ireland)
Sep 30 ON Contest, 80m

IOTA collected by Fredy,DE0MST (e-mail: iota@dxhf.darc.de)

Island activities:
AS-146, BY4, Shandong Prov. N.E. Grp.: BY1TX/4 and BY1TT/4 will activate
Chang Dao from Oct 1-6. QSL for BY1TX/4 via EA7FTR, BY1TT/4 via BY1TT.

EU-023, 9H, Malta: Colin,G3VCQ, is spending his holidays on Malta and signs
9H3WC in CW/SSB from Sep 22 until Oct 3.

NA-035, HR, Swan Island: The activity from Swan Island (HQ8R) planned for
Sep 23-28 has been cancelled due to transportation problems.

OC-139, VK5, Kangaroo Island: Masanori,VK1ANU, will be QRV in CW on 80/40/
20/17/15m running 100 watts into wires between Sep 28 and Oct 1.
QSL via JO2SLZ.

Bandspots of the last 7 days

80m
OH0AL 3.789 1959Z via OH9PF
OJ0B 3.792 1955Z via OH2BH (B)
TM1RHC 3.665 1936Z via F1BOW (B)
3B7C 3.795 0218Z via G3NUG (B), (L)

40m
LA/LZ1LNH 7.037 2113Z via LB9JE (B)
OJ0B 7.023 0545Z via OH2BH (B)
TM2OOT 7.016 0740Z via F5PTI (B)
TM2RWC 7.075 0733Z via REF bureau

TM8RWC 7.067 1058Z via REF bureau
9H20 7.037 2107Z PSK, via PB9ZR (B)

30m
J6/DL7AFS 10.124 2038Z RTTY, via DL7AFS (B)
TM3RWC 10.117 1102Z via F1PSH (B)
TM7RWC 10.115 1729Z via F5APM (B)
VY0ICE/VE2 10.103 2223Z via VE2TKH (B), (L)
3B7C 10.137 1755Z RTTY, via G3NUG (B, L)

20m
A41OD 14.290 1638Z
CE3/VE7SV 14.011 2212Z (L)
CO8LY 14.011 2054Z via EA7ADH
FP/K9MDO 14.194 1949Z via W9NJB (B)
J6/DL7AFS 14.024 1843Z via DL7AFS (B)
OZ/DL1EBR 14.270 1452Z EU-029, via DL1EBR (B)
SV5/IW1RLF 14.197 1758Z EU-001, via IW1RLF (B)
SV5/ON5JE 14.258 0725Z EU-001, via ON5JE (B)
TM6WRC 14.005 1919Z via F6KRD (B)
XQ4CW 14.022 2231Z
YB0BCU 14.200 1512Z (d)
VY0ICE/VE2 14.001 1602Z via VE2TKH (B), (L)
3B7C 14.022 0946Z via G3NUG (B), (L)
3B7C 14.145 1455Z via G3NUG (B), (L)

17m
AN7RB 18.135 1859Z via EA7URD (B)
C56YK 18.161 1818Z via ON7YK (B)
CE4WJK 18.130 1846Z
J6/DL7AFS 18.101 1623Z RTTY, via DL7AFS (B)
XU7TZG 18.132 0828Z via ON7PP (d)
3B7C 18.145 0921Z via G3NUG (B), (L)
3B7C 18.072 1445Z via G3NUG (B), (L)

15m
3B7C 21.022 0903Z via G3NUG (B), (L)
3B7C 21.295 0911Z via G3NUG (B), (L)
3B7C 21.086 0833Z RTTY, via G3NUG (B, L)

10m
OG0Z 28.455 0740Z via W0MM (B)
OJ0B 28.482 0746Z via OH2BH (B)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = LotW

Preview

DATE CALL DXNL

24Sep-28Sep 3A/ON5NT 1537
15Dec-20Jan 3D2AG/Rotuma 1522
2006 -2007 3XM6JR 1484
-Apr/08 5H0RS 1515
26Sep-26Oct 5R8RJ 1537
-Apr/08 6W/EA4ATI 1515
01Sep- 6W/T98A 1531
-Nov 7Q7HB 1537
01Aug-21Oct 8J3ARDF 1530
28Sep-13Oct 8P6DR 1538 *
30Sep-12Oct 8Q7AK 1538 *
30Sep-13Oct 8R1XR/8R1XT 1538 *
09Sep-01Oct 9H20 1535
22Sep-03Oct 9H3WC 1538 *
2007 9N7JO 1501
26Sep-09Oct 9U0A 1537

28Sep-02Oct A52UR 1538 *
-Apr/09 A52VE 1512
-Nov A61TX 1496
-17Nov AT60MY 1534
01Oct-06Oct BY1TX/4.. 1538 *
14Sep-27Sep C56YK 1536
-Aug/08 C91R 1538 *
-Feb/08 DP0GVN 1496
2007/2008 EI100S(I) 1501
03Oct-24Oct EL (PAs) 1538 *
-30Nov EW905B 1523
-15Jan FO5RU 1537
2008 FO/Clipperton 1521
NOW FW0MO/FW0YL 1530

26Sep-01Oct HB0 (DLs) 1538 *
21Sep-20Oct HC1/EA1APV 1537
-30Sep HG5MISSION 1532
CANCELLED HQ8R (Swan) 1538 *
NOW HS0ZHR 1537
-30Sep IA3GM 1528
-Nov IS0/I2MOV 1533
2006 -2008 J28JA 1484/1485
-Aug/08 J28OO 1534
23Sep-11Oct J6/DL7AFS.. 1538 *
01Oct-07Oct JW8DW.. 1538 *

Nov KH3/W7KFI 1525/1531
22Sep-29Sep N4R (NA-110) 1537
22Sep-29Sep OZ/DL3ARK.. 1537
17Sep-29Sep OZ/DL8AAV 1537
02Oct-06Oct P29NI 1537
24Sep-29Sep P29VCX 1537
08Oct-10Oct ? P29VLR 1537
-31Dec R100AK/IF 1534

21Sep-30Nov SU8BHI 1537
16Sep-29Sep SV5/GM3YOR 1536
-31Dec SX100VAR 1528

25Sep-04Oct T30XX 1537
10Oct-28Oct T31XX 1537
Oct? T33ZZ 1534
-03Oct TI2/F6FQX 1538 *
Feb/08 TI9 1533
28Sep-05Oct TK9Z 1538 *
15Sep-28Sep TK/DF6ZY 1536
NOW -2008 TL8QC 1459
07Sep-20Oct TM0-TM9RWC 1533

Jan -Dec VI3SAA 1499
25Sep-05Oct VK9WWI (Willis)1537
Feb/08 VP6DX (Ducie) 1521
08Sep-15Jan VP8CXV (Falkl.)1535
-Oct YB9AQH 1535
24Sep-30Sep YX5IOTA 1537
-31Dec Z360M 1531
NOW ZD7X 1535
24Sep-01Oct ZF2DF.. 1538 *
29Sep-12Oct ZK2 (DL2AH) 1538 *
17Oct-30Oct ZL7/DL2AH 1538 *
01Nov-15Nov VK9ANH (Norf.) 1538 *

* = new or updated
.. = and other calls

QSL information

A62ER via IZ8CML
EO1100R via UR4RZU
W6H via KO6SY
W6K via AE5MH
W6L via K6DF (FISTS Bureau)
W6M via W0SOE
W6O via K0DEW
W6P via KG0KP
ZC4LI (d) please do not send collected QSLs!
ZD7X via W0MM (B)
ZG2FK via ZB2FK (d)
ZW2IARU via PT2AA (B)
ZX2X via PY2ZX (B)
2E0PLA via N2RJ (NA), ON4IQ (rest of the world, d)
3Z80KKK via SP9PKZ (B)
3Z0CW via SP1DPA
3Z0MK via SP7PGK (B)
4N6DX via 4Z4DX (B)
4O/SP6T via SP7DQR

5B4/SP2JMB via SP2JMB
5H9KR NOT via KF9TC anymore!
8Q7CT via M0AJT
8R6USA via 8R1AK (d)
9A8GES via IK3GES (B)
9H20 via PB9ZR (B)
9M2GCN via JH3GCN (B)
9N7BN via JH1NBN (d)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = Logbook of the World (LotW)

CX0XT: Batallon de Apoyo y Servicios de Comunicaciones No 2, P.O. Box 6008,
Montevideo, Uruguay

QSLs arrived directly: A25CF (via K5LBU), VP2MRM (K3TRM), HI0C (via ON4IQ)

QSLs arrived via buro: A45WD (via YO9HP), C93DY (UT5UGR), D2DX (OH2BAD),
HB0/T94DX & HB0/T96O (both via T93Y), HZ1FS (EA7FTR),
JT800OK (OK1XC), KN5G/FS, ST2A (T93Y),TC2K4J (TA3YJ),
RA2FIA, TX5NK (DJ8NK), TZ6CW (K7WP), UK8UC,V47/AB2RF,
VP8LGT (VP8ON), VQ9LA,3B8/OM0C (OM2FY),3XD2Z (RW3AZ),
YK1BA, 5A7A (DL9USA), 5H1C (F5TVG), 5Z4LS (G3RWF),
6O0N (I2YSB), 7P8JF (DL7JAN)

Many thanks for contributing to this issue of the DXNL are going to:
Carl Smith (QRZ DX), 425DXNews, OPDX Bulletin, DF6EX (for WINQSL), DF7FC,
DJ5AV, DJ9XB, DJ9ZB, DK6XR, DK8JB, DK8XT, DL1SBF, DL1ZBO, DL3IE, DL7VOA,
F5NQL, NG3K, PA3AWW and others.

The German PDF version can be found on the DARC homepage at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/bulls/dxmb/2007/dxmb1538.pdf

Subscribe or unsubscribe to the DXNL mailing list yourself at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedxms.htm

1592. Re: Suggestion for an HF starter rig

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-26 23:46:46 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <13flrqp7bhiomd3@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3897

"AF6AY" wrote

Lots of good stuff snipped....

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> compared to similar houses with just wood or stucco or brick
> siding.

> Everyone's residential location varies greatly and only a very
> few are "perfect" (as to the antenna analyzer programs). One
> can load up practically anything with a tuner but only the shape
> and arrangement of conductive elements is going to determine
> where most of the RF goes to (or comes from). No tuner can
> help that.

I had to leave the important stuff... sorry to make everyone scroll down....
Len, I'm confused as to just what you're specifically referring to. Do you mean a doublet fed with balanced line (300 or 450 ohm window line) to a transmatch in the shack is something you don't recommend? Or are you referring to this system fed with coax to an autotuner? It'd seem to me that, as long as the system (fed with window line to keep the serious losses down to negligible) is in the clear, the transmission line is 90 degrees to the doublet for the "required" distance... all should be fine and the radiation pattern should emanate properly from the antenna itself, not so much the transmission line. ?

Howard N7SO

1593. Re: Suggestion for an HF starter rig

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-27 11:43:15 UTC
From: Mindraker <anon@anon.com>
Message-ID: <EQKKi.571$UN5.307@newsfe05.lga>
Source record: 3898

I have an ICOM T-90A (it's my first radio). It's a good "klunker" handheld radio for beginners. There's a lot you can learn with it; you can't break it unless you intentionally and deliberately try to. Some things are annoying, like the fact that the battery charge takes 14 hours, unless you have a special charger, and you can't transmit while the battery is charging, but all this is safety-oriented, apparently.
-Mindraker

<jimnlacy@pacbell.net> wrote in message
news:XUTIi.796$6p6.319@newssvr25.news.prodigy.net...
>I am a newly licensed technician, study for the general exam. I plan to
>purchase an HF rig soon and would appreciate suggestions on a good starter
>rig. I am budgeting $800 for a rig and antenna. I would be happy with a
>good used rig but I am not sure where to start looking for information.
>
> Thanks,
>
> Jim KI6ISQ

1594. Re: Suggestion for an HF starter rig

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-27 11:43:50 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1190888312.591643.59000@n39g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3799

On Sep 25, 11:03?pm, "xpyttl" <xpyttl_NOS...@earthling.net> wrote:
>
> I would strongly suggest against a random length doublet.
> A non-resonant
> doublet will have impedances all over the place.

That's true, but it's not a reason to reject the 'random length'
doublet.

> Spend a few
> minutes looking up the right lengths for your doublet
> and avoid potentially
> a lot of grief.

It's not just the doublet length that matters but also the length,
impedance and loss of the transmission line. Antennas like the
G5RV choose a combination of dipole and transmission line
length that present reasonable impedances on several bands.

A very useful tool is modeling software such as EZNEC or G4FGQ's
DIPOLE3. They will give useful predictions of shack-end impedance, so
you can judge if it's in matching range or not. So even if the antenna
is 'random' length, you can have a good idea if it will match and how
efficient it will be before you put it up.

With regard to transmatches, also called antenna tuners, for balanced
loads, the two typical amateur approaches are the unbalanced-tuner-
followed-by-a-balun method, and the link-coupled method. The
unbalanced-tuner-with-balun method assumes the balun does its job over
a wide range of impedances, which isn't always a good assumption,
while the link-coupled method can be complex to bandswitch.

A third method, described by AG6K, consists of a balun followed by an
L network - the balun is on the rig side of the transmatch rather than
the antenna side. Thus the balun only has to deal with 50 ohms
nonreactive once the L network is adjusted. Google AG6K to see a
description of his method. Although his tuner uses ganged roller
coils, fixed coils with taps could be used in a homebrew version for
simplicity and lower cost.

> Random length, of course, is random. you COULD get lucky.
> Or not ....

Modeling software can be a big help in removing the randomness.

73 es GL de Jim, N2EY

1595. Re: Suggestion for an HF starter rig

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-27 14:53:20 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fdgd5f$16b0$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3800

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
> On Sep 25, 11:03?pm, "xpyttl" <xpyttl_NOS...@earthling.net> wrote:
>> I would strongly suggest against a random length doublet.
>> A non-resonant
>> doublet will have impedances all over the place.
>
> That's true, but it's not a reason to reject the 'random length'
> doublet.

There are indeed certain lengths that are best avoided. Certainly you don't want the doublet to be near 1/4 wavelength in total length on a band you intend operating on. In the MFJ tuner manuals, there is some text on lengths you would want to avoid for our purposes.

>> Spend a few
>> minutes looking up the right lengths for your doublet
>> and avoid potentially
>> a lot of grief.
>
> It's not just the doublet length that matters but also the length,
> impedance and loss of the transmission line. Antennas like the
> G5RV choose a combination of dipole and transmission line
> length that present reasonable impedances on several bands.

Trick antennas such as the G5RV and OCF dipoles utilize some clever techniques to match impedance. Haven't used a G5RV, but my experience with the OCF has been fairly satisfactory. I would note that after it broke, I elected to put up another doublet with ladder line and tuner. I have been pleased with that.

> Modeling software can be a big help in removing the randomness.

Good advice. They are also an excellent method of comparing the efficiencies of the various antennas. Low VSWR is not always the mojr indicator of antenna performance.

One of the biggest reasons that I suggest the general purpose doublet is that the new Op gets an antenna up that doesn't have all of the foibles of a precise dipole, such as antenna height above ground, interaction with nearby objects, and can get multi-band operation in the deal.

The new guy or gal can then learn quite a bit by using the tuner to match up the antenna to the rig, and can see which bands are interesting to them.

Especially important, I believe is that they won't become confused and give up. I know when I started in this hobby, I got enough confusing

advice that at one point I almost hung it up because there appeared to be just no way that I could put up an antenna that would work. The antennas that I could put up were going to be too low to the ground, they were going to be too short, and on and on.

Fortunately my Elmer pulled me aside, and said "try this". Within a week, I had my doublet up and running, and I've worked the world with it.

Now I can cogitate on all the various antennas and their proponents without keeping myself off the air in the meantime.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1596. Re: Suggestion for an HF starter rig

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-27 18:27:30 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1190912411.752015.321830@y42g2000hsy.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3801

On Sep 26, 3:46?pm, "Howard Lester" <heyles...@dakotacom.net> wrote:
> "AF6AY" wrote
>
> Lots of good stuff snipped....
>
> > Now ANY impedance-matching tuner will let one load up just
> > about anything. All that serves is to transfer the most RF power
> > into a load. What is NOT known is WHERE all that RF is going.
> > Unless some ham has a balloon-borne sensor and data transfer
> > gizmo, NOBODY can know just where the pattern is going to be.
> > Big trees WILL affect the pattern, especially changing it between
> > dry and wet climate times and between different kinds of trees.
> > So will structures and assorted conductive things (aluminum
> > patio covers, small garden sheds, power, phone, and TV cables)
> > all within the near-field (within five or so wavelengths). Even
> > some houses which have had aluminum siding added on
> > compared to similar houses with just wood or stucco or brick
> > siding.
> > Everyone's residential location varies greatly and only a very
> > few are "perfect" (as to the antenna analyzer programs). One
> > can load up practically anything with a tuner but only the shape
> > and arrangement of conductive elements is going to determine
> > where most of the RF goes to (or comes from). No tuner can
> > help that.
>
> I had to leave the important stuff... sorry to make everyone scroll down....
> Len, I'm confused as to just what you're specifically referring to. Do you
> mean a doublet fed with balanced line (300 or 450 ohm window line) to a
> transmatch in the shack is something you don't recommend? Or are you
> referring to this system fed with coax to an autotuner? It'd seem to me
> that, as long as the system (fed with window line to keep the serious losses
> down to negligible) is in the clear, the transmission line is 90 degrees to
> the doublet for the "required" distance... all should be fine and the
> radiation pattern should emanate properly from the antenna itself, not so
> much the transmission line. ?

I'm trying to point out that any good tuner can "load up" to
ANYTHING...i.e., transfer RF power out of the transmitter
and into whatever the "load" is. If the "load" is just a
transmission line, a very lonnnnng one, the tuner will "load
up" on that. If the "load" is your favorite antenna type, it
will "load up" on that.

Once the RF power has been transferred into this load,
then it is up to the conductors in the "load" to radiate it

into whichever direction you expect it will go. But, do NOT expect ANY antenna to behave properly (for radiation) if its near field is impugned by nearby dielectric material or conductors.

Mostly I was making a comment on "loading up" phrases which I consider an incomplete description of what is really happening. A tuner, any tuner, will do the job of transferring RF into the "load." That isn't the whole story. Next is what the "load" does with it to create the EM wavefront. No tuner can help that.

If you are satisfied with your particular method of getting RF out of the transmitter and into some antenna, fine. Satisfaction is all part of the game. Such satisfaction is not the example to set for all. It seems to me that every-one's location is different and each presents a unique problem to solve for the more-optimum EM wavefront launch direction in that location.

Anyone who says that one kind of antenna is the "best" or one should "always" use a certain kind of balanced transmission line isn't looking at the whole picture. They are probably describing just the only (or a few) antenna installations they used. Yes, some antennas "work better" than others. In a particular location.

For someone just starting out, I would suggest just a vertical for HF. It is the least obtrusive to neighbors (can be described as a "flagpole") and most will perform adequately (to launch an EM wavefront) with a few radials for the "ground." No, it won't win awards or work DX "better" than Brand Y using Brand T transmission line, but it WILL radiate adquately...and that's the whole name of the game, ain't it? :-)

73, Len AF6AY

1597. Re: Suggestion for an HF starter rig

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-28 04:00:55 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1190931537.165922.80080@r29g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3802

On Sep 27, 10:53?am, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote:

> > it's not a reason to reject the 'random length'
> > doublet.

> There are indeed certain lengths that are best avoided.
> Certainly you
> don't want the doublet to be near 1/4 wavelength in total
> length on a
> band you intend operating on.

Why not, other than the fact that such a short dipole will present a feedpoint impedance that has a low resistive part and a high reactive part?

> In the MFJ tuner manuals, there is some
> text on lengths you would want to avoid for our purposes.

Never had an MFJ - my transmatches are all homebrew. I've read the MFJ manuals, and it seems to me that they were trying to avoid lengths of antenna-plus-feedline that would present very low or very high impedances at the Transmatch end of the line.

> > It's not just the doublet length that matters but also the length,
> > impedance and loss of the transmission line. Antennas like the
> > G5RV choose a combination of dipole and transmission line
> > length that present reasonable impedances on several bands.

> Trick antennas such as the G5RV and OCF dipoles
> utilize some clever
> techniques to match impedance.

I don't consider the G5RV and OCF to be 'trick' antennas. They're simply intelligent combinations of dipole and feed systems that have been worked out to present reasonable impedances so that line losses and Transmatch requirements are reasonable.

> Haven't used a G5RV, but my experience
> with the OCF has been fairly satisfactory. I would note that after it
> broke, I elected to put up another doublet with ladder line and
> tuner. I have been pleased with that.

In the dipole-category of HF antennas, I've used G5RVs, OCFs, dipoles fed with ladder line and a Transmatch, coax-fed dipoles, fan dipoles and coax fed trap dipoles. Plus inverted-V versions of most of those.

In my experience they are all comparable radiators of RF *if* they are implemented in a way that keeps feedline/transmatch loss low and gets the antenna up and in the clear. IOW, none of them are magic, and they all have their applications.

> They

[antenna software]

> are also an excellent method of comparing the
> efficiencies of the various antennas.

Not just the antenna but the feedline system as well.

> One of the biggest reasons that I suggest the general purpose
> doublet is
> that the new Op gets an antenna up that doesn't have all of the
> foibles
> of a precise dipole, such as antenna height above ground,
> interaction
> with nearby objects, and can get multi-band operation in the deal.

That's true to a point, but there are other tradeoffs, such as the absolute need for a Transmatch, the need to avoid certain lengths, and the difficulty of handling balanced lines in some situations.

IMHO, it is better to have a station that works well on a few bands than to have one that works poorly on all bands. Many multiband antennas, such as many commercially-manufactured "all band" HF trap verticals, are so full of compromises that their performance on some bands is highly compromised.
>
> Fortunately my Elmer pulled me aside, and said "try this". Within a
> week, I had my doublet up and running, and I've worked the world
> with it.

That's the ultimate test of any antenna system: what have you worked with it?

My first HF antenna was an inverted L - what some would call a "random wire", even though there was nothing random about it.
It was end-fed and worked against a ground/counterpoise system consisting of the radiator piping and a lone ground rod. I made many QSOs with it and later versions.

The big problem with HF/MF antennas for the radio amateur is that the best choice is so dependent on the site and what the amateur intends to do. This is why it is impossible to give general advice about HF antenna types that is any good, without knowledge of the available resources and intended use.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1598. Re: Suggestion for an HF starter rig

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-28 13:01:25 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13fpuomdfo8i1dc@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3803

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:

> The big problem with HF/MF antennas for the radio amateur is that
> the best choice is so dependent on the site and what the amateur
> intends to do. This is why it is impossible to give general advice
> about HF antenna types that is any good, without knowledge of
> the available resources and intended use.

That's a very good point, especially in today's world in which so many people live in close proximity to their neighbors and there are often restrictions on what can be erected for an antenna. My mindset tends to be stuck back in the 60's suburbia where the biggest problem was where the trees were in relation to the length of the skyhook desired, and no one particularly cared if ladder line was more unsightly than coax.

This line of thinking reminded me of a rather unique antenna-related probem that one of my childhood Elmers faced. The transmitting antenna for one of the 100 KW clear-channel AM stations was literally in his back yard. His antenna was a long wire that fed directly into the shack, and he grounded it when not in use with a knife switch. When you opened that knife switch you could literally draw a small arc of RF from the nearby transmitter. He shunted this unwanted signal to ground during operation with a low-pass filter, but it did create an interesting show for us wide-eyed young visitors to his shack.

I don't know how much bypassing and other fiddling he had to do because of the ambient RF level just from being that close to that much RF. I wonder how many of today's hams, faced with this obstacle, would simply decide that operation on HF was not possible.

In fact, I wonder if today's FCC restrictions on exposure to RF would even permit houses that close to a 100 KW transmitter.

73, Steve KB9X

1599. Re: Suggestion for an HF starter rig

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-28 13:22:59 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <13fq00uldl76i9a@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3804

<N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote

> The big problem with HF/MF antennas for the radio amateur is that
> the best choice is so dependent on the site and what the amateur
> intends to do. This is why it is impossible to give general advice
> about HF antenna types that is any good, without knowledge of
> the available resources and intended use.

You're right. We've (I've) made assumptions of property conditions that may not exist for the OP. My little 50 footer with ladder line was technically in the clear, but its apex was only 7 feet above the flat roof. The transmission line could only drop straight down for about 6 feet, then run suspended across the top of the roof for 20 feet, then down to the shack. Yet I worked DXCC with it, including serious long-haul, from 10 - 40 meters. We don't know the OP's situation.

Howard N7SO

1600. Re: Suggestion for an HF starter rig

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-28 13:29:44 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fdivbv$ms2$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3805

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
> On Sep 27, 10:53?am, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>> N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>
>>> it's not a reason to reject the 'random length'
>>> doublet.
>
>> There are indeed certain lengths that are best avoided.
>> Certainly you
>> don't want the doublet to be near 1/4 wavelength in total
>> length on a
>> band you intend operating on.
>
> Why not, other than the fact that such a short dipole will present a
> feedpoint impedance that has a low resistive part and a high reactive
> part?

That's a pretty good reason, though. 1/4 wavelength dipoles - make sure to read that as total antenna length, not 1/4 wavelength per leg, are just a troublesome combination that a lot of tuners can't tune very well.

>> In the MFJ tuner manuals, there is some
>> text on lengths you would want to avoid for our purposes.
>
> Never had an MFJ - my transmatches are all homebrew. I've read the MFJ
> manuals, and it seems to me that they were trying to avoid
> lengths of antenna-plus-feedline that would present very low or very
> high impedances at the Transmatch end of the line.

Pretty much the case. I would surmise that the more you have to tune out that way off impedance, the more loss you might have. It's the old thing about the tuner being able to match a coat hanger. I suppose so, but it probably isn't the best way to go.

>>> It's not just the doublet length that matters but also the length,
>>> impedance and loss of the transmission line. Antennas like the
>>> G5RV choose a combination of dipole and transmission line
>>> length that present reasonable impedances on several bands.
>
>> Trick antennas such as the G5RV and OCF dipoles
>> utilize some clever
>> techniques to match impedance.
>
> I don't consider the G5RV and OCF to be 'trick' antennas. They're
> simply intelligent combinations of dipole and feed systems that

> have been worked out to present reasonable impedances so that
> line losses and Transmatch requirements are reasonable.

They are very clever. The OCF especially is a joyful playground to work on with antenna design programs. It is a great way to learn both the programs and antenna theory.

> IMHO, it is better to have a station that works well on a few bands
> than to have one that works poorly on all bands. Many multiband
> antennas, such as many commercially-manufactured "all band" HF trap
> verticals, are so full of compromises that their performance on some
> bands is highly compromised.

Often the idea of "low SWR" is put out as if it is the sole criteria. In defense of SWR lovers, modern Rigs really hate High SWR, especially reactance of the capacitive kind. But a 50 ohm resistor has 1.1:1 VSWR, and some manufacturers have taken advantage of that sort of thing in the past.

On the subject of antennas that work well on a band or two, it is sound technical advice. The problem as I see it is that most new folks these days start out with an "all band" radio, and are inclined to want a antenna that is likewise all band.

>> Fortunately my Elmer pulled me aside, and said "try this". Within a
>> week, I had my doublet up and running, and I've worked the world
>> with it.
>
> That's the ultimate test of any antenna system: what have you worked
> with it?

A lot of Western and Eastern EU, Great Britain, Iceland, Norway, most of South/Central America, about half of Africa, Israel, Australia, Antarctica, and a couple others. No JA or far eastern countries, but I haven't tried really hard, I just work 'em if I happen to hear them.

I once accidentally worked a fair part of a contest once on 75 meters on probably around 3 watts, mostly into California - I had tuned the antenna, and forgot to turn the power back up. I had works around 25 QSO's before catching that one.

Of course, that isn't quantified data, it's just anecdotal. But running at QRP levels does make for a more stern test of an antenna's abilities, especially if there isn't obvious signs of it, such as not getting calls answered. Sold me on the thing.

The technical details are that it is a 96 foot total length dipole, up around 55 feet, the center support is a short length of pvc tubing. The ladder line is soldered to the respective dipole wire. Ladder line makes an almost straight drop to the Shack window. Definitely not the best thing going, but not too bad.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1601. Re: Suggestion for an HF starter rig

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-28 16:50:36 UTC
From: KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <1190991045.719978.112390@w3g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3806

On Sep 28, 8:22 am, "Howard Lester" <heyles...@dakotacom.net> wrote:
> <N...@AOL.COM> wrote
>
> > The big problem with HF/MF antennas for the radio amateur is that
> > the best choice is so dependent on the site and what the amateur
> > intends to do. This is why it is impossible to give general advice
> > about HF antenna types that is any good, without knowledge of
> > the available resources and intended use.
>
> You're right. We've (I've) made assumptions of property conditions that may
> not exist for the OP. (snipp)
> We don't know the OP's situation.

Well, based on his call sign and the FCC's data for the address I did
a bit of detective work and found that this guy will have some unique
issues to deal with. The aerial photos of the address indicate that
there are some mature looking trees about so some random length wire
antenna may be possible. The lots seem very small compared to the
size of the houses too, what we'd call zero lot line homes in the
Texas area.

However, the most interesting thing is that it seems that he is
located in a valley with some fairly high mountains about that may
limit even the best HF antenna situation. This is clearly a problem
to the west as the QTH seems to be located on the base of the
mountains to the west.

I do like the random wire ideas though. This months QST has a brief
description of one installation of a random wire loop in an attic.
You just never quite know how these will perform until you put them up
and try. It can be discouraging if things don't work out though.

-= Bob =-

1602. Re: BREAKING NEWS: NFCC VOTES TO RECOMMEND FCC TREAT ALL REPEATERS AS REPEATERS

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-28 19:29:53 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <nclqf3dqsk9ta6il50g7jlc2cc46as3n2d@4ax.com>
Source record: 3807

On Tue, 25 Sep 2007 18:20:04 EDT, Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz> wrote:

> I'm not sure that I follow how that affects band segment allocation.
>SSB and AM are "phone" too, but that doesn't get them a space in the FM
>repeater segment.

"But for" voluntary band plans, they could operate there without being
in violation of FCC band allocation rules.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1603. Re: wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-28 20:16:31 UTC
From: "Dr.Ace Ratliff" <Ace@WH2T.com>
Message-ID: <81b3c$46fd4477$4e0b116$23189@DIALUPUSA.NET>
Source record: 3808

> "Mike Coslo" <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net> wrote in message
> news:Xns9999FFB13831mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136...
>> "h" <w@w.biz> wrote in news:13d0kn1pn739523@corp.supernews.com:
>>
>>> Again all this is ok..
> Snipped
>
>> I'm talking about sending a signal to a remote site where Internet
>> service is not available, and using that access to get to say a dx
>> cluster or to a website set up to allow stations that are not in the same
>> place communicate and log in a contest. Or to connect to Echolink for an
>> emergency net.
>>
>> - 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

I bought a "Buffalo WHR-HP-G54" Wireless-G broadband router & acess point
with high gain antenna.
I flashed the Router's firmware with software I got from Sveasoft and now my
router can transmit up to 1 watt fully adjustable. And I also have extra
frequency/channels not usually availabe in the U.S.
I believe that as a licensed amateur radio op. I am legal !

Sveasoft firmware adds over one hundred new features to your ASUS,
Buffalotech, Linksys, and Netgear wireless routers including power boost up
to 1000%!
http://www.sveasoft.com/component/option,com_frontpage/Itemid,1/

73, Ace - WH2T = "We're Hot 2 Trot"

.

1604. Re: wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-28 21:39:10 UTC
From: dplatt@radagast.org
Message-ID: <8s80t4-eie.ln1@radagast.org>
Source record: 3809

In article <81b3c$46fd4477$4e0b116$23189@DIALUPUSA.NET>,
Dr.Ace Ratliff <Ace@WH2T.com> wrote:

> I bought a "Buffalo WHR-HP-G54" Wireless-G broadband router & acess point
>with high gain antenna.

>I flashed the Router's firmware with software I got from Sveasoft and now my
>router can transmit up to 1 watt fully adjustable. And I also have extra
>frequency/channels not usually availabe in the U.S.

>I believe that as a licensed amateur radio op. I am legal !

Maybe yes, maybe no.

As I understand it, you have a choice. You can either operate the
router/radio, unmodified, under the FCC's Part 15 rules. In this mode
of operation you must comply with all of the Part 15 rules (which
generally require the use of certificated radio equipment... and
modifying the radio or antenna would void this certification).

Or, you can modify it, and then operate under the amateur-radio rules.
In this scenario, you must operate entirely within your ham privileges
as defined by Part 97, and follow all of those rules. You would be
allowed to modify the radio, as long as the resulting modifications
fall within the technical requirements given in Part 97. You can
transmit, but *only* within the frequency ranges specifically
authorized for amateur-radio use (these overlap the normal 802.11
frequencies but do *not* include all of the 802.11 channels!). Your
transmitter must ID itself according to the "10-minute rule", you may
not use encryption for the purpose of obscuring the transmissions, and
you may not have a pecuniary interest in the operation of the radio.

You cannot, I believe, "have it both ways" at the same time... e.g.
operate a modified radio outside of the normal set of 802.11 channels,
but use the router for commercial purpose or (according to most
interpretations) use WEP or WPA encryption for the purpose of keeping
your transmissions private.

--
Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO
Friends of Jade Warrior home page: http://www.radagast.org/jade-warrior
I do _not_ wish to receive unsolicited commercial email, and I will
boycott any company which has the gall to send me such ads!

1605. The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 39 (Friday, September 28, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-28 22:55:53 UTC
From: ARRL Letter Mailing List <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <200709282254.l8SMslVj019849@linux11676.dn.net>
Source record: 3810
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter
Vol. 26, No. 39
September 28, 2007
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IN THIS EDITION:

* + New Vice Director Appointed in Dakota Division
* + Spectrum Defense Fund Marks Eleventh Year
* + Amateur Radio Goes To Washington
* + Get Ready for JOTA
* + Simulated Emergency Test Scheduled for October
* + ARRL Welcomes USTTI Students
* Solar Update
* IN BRIEF:
This Weekend on the Radio
ARRL Continuing Education Course Registration
+ Florida Hams Help Nab Burglary Suspects
+ ARRL Again Participating in the Combined Federal Campaign
Pension Protection Act Streamlines Charitable Donations from IRAs
Diamond Terrace Still Shining Bright
Redeem Those Soon-to-Expire International Reply Coupons
New Name for Space Environment Center
Let Us Know What You Think

+Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/>

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==>Delivery problems: First see FAQ
<http://www.arrl.org/members-only/faq.html#nodelivery>, then e-mail <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
==>Editorial questions or comments only: S. Khrystyne Keane, <k1sfa@arrl.org>
==========

==> NEW VICE DIRECTOR APPOINTED IN DAKOTA DIVISION

ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, has appointed Greg Widin, Kï¿½GW, of Stillwater, Minnesota, as Dakota Division Vice Director. Widin has been a licensed ham and ARRL member for more than 40 years. Originally licensed as WB2ZSH, he became Kï¿½GW in Minnesota in the late 1970s after obtaining his Amateur Extra class license. Currently Vice President and Training Director for the Stillwater Amateur Radio Association, Widin has also served as Assistant Section Manager and Technical Specialist in the Minnesota section; he is an ARRL Life Member.

Employed with 3M Company since 1982, Widin earned his AB in 1974 from Kenyon College in Ohio and his PhD in hearing science from the University of Minnesota in 1979. He completed a post-doctoral fellowship at MIT's Research Laboratory of Electronics in 1982, followed by an MS in management of technology in 1992 from the University of Minnesota. Widin is a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and Phi Beta Kappa. He is also the holder of five US patents.

Widin belongs to the Twin Cities DX Association and Minnesota Wireless Association. Widen holds Worked All States (WAS) on HF, DXCC (294 entities confirmed) and is just shy of WAS on 6 meters. His main current operating interests are DX and casual contesting along with ARES and emergency communications; he also enjoys constructing electronic equipment. Widin also is a member and serves as treasurer of Boy Scout Troop 224 in West Lakeland and Woodbury, Minnesota.

==> SPECTRUM DEFENSE FUND MARKS ELEVENTH YEAR

First begun in 1996 to protect the 2 meter band from "Little LEOs" (low-earth orbiting satellites), the ARRL's Spectrum Defense Fund marks its eleventh annual appeal this year, urging members to take a stand to protect the Amateur Radio spectrum from broadband over power lines (BPL). The ARRL's concern is not whether BPL will ultimately succeed or fail, but whether the federal government will fulfill its obligation to ensure that BPL systems - if and when they are deployed - will not pollute the radio spectrum.

ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, calls protecting the radio spectrum against BPL interference "a good example of how the ARRL works on all fronts to protect Amateur Radio. We must be patient -- spectrum defense is a never-ending mission. We must be resolute, not discouraged by the occasional setback. We must be creative, seeking alternate paths to success. Above all, we must be accurate; credibility is a precious commodity that is too easily lost."

The ARRL first brought problems concerning BPL interference to light five years ago in the October 2002 issue of QST, calling it a potential source of "radio smog." In that time, the League has fought hard to protect our precious spectrum, including the fight for "stronger protection against BPL interference in the FCC's rules, and when the FCC failed to go far enough we took them to court -- a huge but necessary financial commitment. We have taken our case to Congress, seeking legislation directing the FCC to do a serious study of the interference issue. We have done our technical homework, verifying the inadequacy of the FCC's rules and documenting violations by irresponsible BPL companies," Sumner said.

He continued: "But we also have cooperated with reputable firms, helping them to understand the seriousness of the issue and the steps they need to take to avoid problems with radio amateurs. We've made some important gains on that front -- no thanks to the FCC, which (unlike many in the BPL industry) remains more interested in defending its early errors than in correcting them."

Sumner does explain that BPL interference issues are not all that the Spectrum Defense Fund is allocated for. He says that next year, the ARRL will begin its preparation for the 2011 World Radiocommunication Conference; agenda items for WRC-11 will be discussed this year in Geneva at WRC-07. "We will continue to defend our spectrum access against reallocation as well as against the insidious threats posed by unlicensed devices and systems," he said.

All ARRL members are an essential part of the team that will ensure that we win the fight over spectrum encroachment. With a successful Spectrum Defense Fund campaign, "the ARRL is able to stand up for Amateur Radio -- just as the League has done since its founding nearly a century ago," Sumner said.

He pointed out that the proceeds to the Spectrum Defense Fund are restricted to being used only for that purpose - spectrum defense: "When you make your contribution, you can be sure that your contribution is spent on these, and only these activities. If you've checked the ARRL audited financial statements that we post on the ARRL Web site each year, you know that the expenses attached to protecting our frequencies are never fully funded by the Spectrum Defense Fund. Membership dues and other revenues cover the rest. In fact, every penny of income the ARRL receives is devoted to the protection, promotion and advancement of Amateur Radio. It's why the League was created in 1914 and why it exists today."

For more information on how you can support the ARRL's efforts to protect the Amateur Radio spectrum, please see the Spectrum Defense Fund page on the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/defense>.

==> AMATEUR RADIO GOES TO WASHINGTON

Army MARS Chief Stuart S. Carter, AAA9A, has invited the ARRL and Amateur Radio representatives to join a Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) demonstration outside the Capitol building in Washington, DC on October 3. Hams around the country are asked to aid in the demonstration by making HF contacts during the day. With help from Laura Abshire, Legislative Aide to Representative Mike Ross, WD5DVR (D-AR), Tricia Russell, Legislative Aide to Representative Steve Israel (D-NY), and coordination of the myriad details by "Pudge" Forrester, W4LTX, Systems Administrator for Representative Roscoe Bartlett (R-MD), the "show" is set for next Wednesday, and hams around the country can help.

ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, said, "Thanks to a MARS invitation to join in a demonstration, and excellent coordination work by Forrester, the October 3 demonstration of Amateur Radio and MARS emergency communications will be front and center in the open space between the Capitol building and the Botanic Garden in Washington, DC." Pitts went on to say that the regional MARS organization is planning to conduct an exercise demonstrating emergency communications at the Capitol, as well.

The exercise assumes a Category 3 hurricane, Hurricane Quincy, will make landfall on October 2 over the coastal areas of Delaware, Maryland, DC and Virginia. Quincy will progress northward to New Jersey and Pennsylvania and then travel inland to the south, returning to the Atlantic Ocean on October 5

via the Carolinas and Georgia. During this time, MARS resources will be challenged by ongoing events in every part of the country, including ice storms, tornadoes, severe thunderstorms, and earthquakes.

There will be a communication trailer, tent type shelter, four HF transceivers -- voice, PSK, and Winlink -- and VHF equipment at the site. The local Voice of America (VOA) organization and MARS have local repeaters and digipeaters available. Power will come from solar panels and generators with battery backup. The emergency communications trailer, owned by the Blue Ridge Association, Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware, part of the Southern Baptist North American Missions Disaster Relief Ministries, will also be on hand.

Representatives from ARRL headquarters, including Pitts, will be there. They will have ARRL public relations materials as well as video that shows the negative impact of BPL if current FCC rules are not modified. In addition, there are special materials for Members of Congress and their staff advocating Amateur Radio's positions on several legislative issues, including information to solicit co-sponsorship of H.R. 462 and H.R. 2743.

While MARS will be conducting their drill on their frequencies, Amateur Radio operations are scheduled from 1400-2100 UTC. While there may be last minute changes, plans are to try to center HF voice contacts around 14.250 and 7.250 MHz, and on PSK at 14.070 MHz. "By showing Members of Congress our nationwide capabilities and potentials, we advance the Service in many ways," Pitts said.

Representatives Ross and Bartlett plan to stop by. Army MARS is sending their Chief of Operations Grant Hays from Arizona. Mike Barrett, K3MMB, of the Transportation Security Administration's Office of Security Operations is aiding with the operations and logistics.

==> GET READY FOR JOTA

Jamboree on the Air will celebrate its 50th year this year when it gets on the air October 19-21. Normally a 48 hour event, this year's JOTA will be 50 hours long in recognition of the anniversary. The fun begins at 2200 (local time) October 19 and ends at midnight (local time) October 21.

An on-the-air operating event sponsored by the World Scout Bureau, JOTA was founded in 1958 by Les Mitchell, G3BHK. It has grown to become the largest international Scout event. More than half a million Scouts and Guides in more than 100 countries participate in JOTA, involving as many as 10,000 Amateur Radio stations.

The event relies on the Amateur Radio community and local hams for its success. Getting Boy and Girl Scouts (including Cubs and Brownies) on the air to talk with other Scouts around the world provides a great opportunity to expose youth to Amateur Radio. Some troops and clubs team up to make a big splash with lots of activities, radios and antennas, offering a variety of modes to experience. For others, JOTA provides an opportunity to coach a smaller group of Scouts and to just have fun talking on the radio. Scouts usually enjoy communicating by speaking into a microphone, but some radio

amateurs are able to provide other modes, such as slow-scan TV or amateur TV, satellites, packet radio, RTTY or even EME!
For more information on the 2007 Jamboree on the Air, please visit the ARRL JOTA Web site <http://www.arrl.org/scouts/jota> where you can find general rules, suggested exchanges and recommended frequencies. There will also be a place on the ARRL Web site to tell your JOTA stories at <http://www.arrl.org/scouts/jota/Stories/>.

==> SIMULATED EMERGENCY TEST SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER

America was abruptly reminded of the critical role of Amateur Radio in 2005 as Amateur Radio operators came from all over the country to provide emergency communications when other systems failed during Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. In 2007, Amateur Radio operators continued to provide lifesaving services in many floods and wildfires around the country. Because of the complexity of today's normal communications systems, they are often overwhelmed in a disaster. These painful lessons are being tested again on October 6 and 7 as Amateur Radio operators around the country conduct their annual Simulated Emergency Test.

This year, Amateur Radio operators will be replicating many scenarios that have crippled normal communications in the recent past. These include flooding, wildfires, bombings, ice storms, hurricanes and earthquakes. Something new for this year are plans for responses in case of pandemic flu and the probability that large populations will need to shelter at home and not be able to go out.

Using emergency powered radios and working with local agencies, hams will establish radio communications networks that can be used should there be a failure or overload of normal services.

While the ARRL has scheduled the Simulated Emergency Test for October 6-7, some ARRL Sections have scheduled their SET for different dates. Please check with your Section Manager or Section Emergency Coordinator for the date of the SET in your Section.

==> ARRL WELCOMES USTTI STUDENTS

Next month, the ARRL will welcome six students from various countries from all over the world who want to learn how to administer and regulate Amateur Radio programs in their home countries. This course, offered by the United States Telecommunications Training Institute (USTTI), will help participants create, administer and foster an Amateur Radio Service in their countries.

Designed for those in developing countries who regulate and manage their country's Amateur Radio Service, this course will help participants learn just who are radio amateurs. ARRL staff instructors will help course participants discover the ever-expanding universe of Amateur Radio communication. They will explain why Amateur Radio operators, upwards of three million individuals in virtually every country of the world, have earned licenses to operate stations in these services and why they are recognized, both by their governments and internationally, as a valuable voluntary telecommunications resource. Course participants will also discover

how a telecommunications administration can bring the benefits of a healthy Amateur Service to its nation.

Now in its 25th year, USTTI is a nonprofit venture involving leading US-based communications and information technology corporations and leaders of the federal government cooperating to provide tuition-free management, policy and technical training for talented professionals from the developing world.

==>SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Ain't No Sun(spots) When She's Gone" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: Last week's report stated the possibility that zero-sunspot days were about to end, but no such luck. Instead we've seen no sunspots for three weeks straight, since September 7. Geophysical Institute Prague predicts unsettled conditions for September 28, unsettled to active September 29, unsettled September 30, quiet October 1, unsettled October 2-3 and quiet to unsettled October 4. Sunspot numbers for September 20 through 26 were 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0 and 0 with a mean of 0. The 10.7 cm flux was 66.8, 66.9, 66.7, 66.3, 66.1, 66.2 and 66.5 with a mean of 66.5. Estimated planetary A indices were 10, 9, 11, 15, 10, 6 and 3 with a mean of 9.1. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 6, 7, 10, 11, 7, 5 and 2 with a mean of 6.9. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>. To read this week's Solar Report in its entirety, check out the W1AW Propagation Bulletin page <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw/prop/>.

==>IN BRIEF:

* This Weekend on the Radio: This weekend, the ARRL EME Competition is on September 29-30. The NCCC Sprint (CW) is September 28. On September 29-30, the CQ Worldwide DX Contest (RTTY), CQIR - Ireland Calling, the Texas QSO Party, FISTS Coast to Coast Contest and the UBA ON Contest (CW) are on the air. The ARS Spartan Sprint is October 2. The YLRL Anniversary Party (CW) is October 2-4, the German Telegraphy Contest and the 432 MHz Fall Sprint are October 3. The SARL 80 Meter QSO Party is October 4. Next week, look for the NCCC Sprint (CW) on October 5. On October 6, be sure to check out the TARA PSK Rumble Contest, the NCCC Sprint (CW), the International HELL-Contest (80 meters) and the EU Autumn Sprint (SSB). The Oceania DX Contest (SSB), the California QSO Party and the PRO CW Contest are October 6-7. Tune in for the International HELL-Contest (40 meters), the UBA ON Contest (6 meters) and the RSGB 21/28 MHz Contest on October 7. The YLRL Anniversary Party (SSB) is October 9-11 and the 10-10 International 10-10 Day Sprint and NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint are both October 10. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests/>, the ARRL Contester's Rate Sheet <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rate-sheet/> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more info.

* ARRL Continuing Education Course Registration: Registration remains open through Sunday, October 7, 2007 for these online courses beginning on Friday October 19, 2007: Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 2 (EC-002);

Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 3 (EC-003R2); Antenna Modeling (EC-004); HF Digital Communications (EC-005); VHF/UHF - Life Beyond the Repeater (EC-008), and Radio Frequency Propagation (EC-011). To learn more, visit the CCE Course Listing page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html> or contact the Continuing Education Program Coordinator <cce@arrl.org>.

* Florida Hams Help Nab Burglary Suspects: Some hams in Florida got an earful when they heard what turned out to be teenagers planning various robberies over the Jupiter Farms 444.400 MHz CERT repeater. On September 8, Al Moreschi, AG4BV, of Jupiter, and John Levey, KI4HTL, a retired police officer, of Palm Beach Gardens, overheard, according to Moreschi, "what sounded like men talking about committing a burglary and we were monitoring them on one of the local ham repeaters." Moreschi said he and his fellow hams notified local law enforcement agencies of the break-in, but the alleged thieves "didn't describe the house well enough to get the exact address." The amateurs kept listening for the vandals to show up again on the repeater. On September 21, they were in luck. This time the hams were ready and had set up recording devices to capture the break-in as it transpired. Moreschi said he and his fellow hams recognized the voices and started recording; they also called the police. The last transmission heard over the air by the suspects was, "Code Red, Code Red, Code Red. There are cops everywhere, dude!" Three suspects were captured and arrested: one at the scene, one who was walking down a nearby road and one at a local grocery store. An official with the local sheriff's office said that the suspects were charged with burglary for the two break-ins; the three are suspects in other local robberies, as well. The tapes made by the hams are in the custody of the sheriff. Moreschi said that the suspects might also be facing charges from the Federal Communications Commission for operating without an amateur license. "We don't know how these kids got hold of the ham radios. Their transmissions came right over the CERT repeater, and that has a special tone and you have to have a special tone to key it up," Moreschi said.

* ARRL Again Participating in the Combined Federal Campaign: For the sixth year running, the US Office of Personnel Management has designated the ARRL to participate in the 2006 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). In the past, this campaign for federal government civilian employees, US Postal Service workers and members of the military has generated more than $100,000 for ARRL programs. The CFC provides an easy way to support ARRL's effort to represent its members and all radio amateurs. Similar to the United Way, the CFC encourages individuals to pledge by payroll deduction to non-profit organizations of their choice. The ARRL encourages eligible radio amateurs to consider the League when designating campaign recipients. Those wishing to select the ARRL to receive all or part of their payroll deductions should designate organization 10099 when completing their CFC donor forms. Donations to ARRL can be designated for Diamond Club contributions, the ARRL Spectrum Defense Fund orthe ARRL Education & Technology Program. Or, donors may make unrestricted contributions to the League. One important note: Since the CFC does not provide the ARRL with the names of individual donors, the ARRL Development Office would appreciate a copy of the donor form to ensure that each contribution is applied according to the donor's wishes and that the contribution or pledge can be properly acknowledged. The 2007 CFC ends

December 15

* Pension Protection Act Streamlines Charitable Donations from IRAs: The ARRL Development Office notes that a provision of the Pension Protection Act (PPA) of 2006 offers an opportunity for certain IRA holders to give something back to Amateur Radio by donating to the Spectrum Defense Fund, to the ARRL Education and Technology Fund or for the ARRL Diamond Club -- which provides flexible funding for a variety of programs not supported by member dues. "Individuals who are at least 70-1/2 and support nonprofits of their choice may use IRA or Roth IRA assets as a convenient, tax-efficient source to make contributions while conserving non-IRA assets," ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH, points out. "Contributions must be made directly from the IRA to the organization, not to a donor-advised fund, gift annuity or trust." Hobart says contributions of up to $100,000 may be made by December 31, 2007: "A direct contribution from an IRA to a qualified organization is excluded from income," she emphasizes. "We have received significant support through this program. I hope you are considering a year-end gift to the ARRL." This two-year program expires December 31, 2007. Hobart urges prospective donors to consult with a financial advisor before taking advantage of this opportunity. Contact Hobart <mhobart@arrl.org> for more information or call 860-594-0397. You can also visit the ARRL's PPA Web site <http://www.arrl.org/development/ppa.html#top> for more information.

* Diamond Terrace Still Shining Bright: While there is still plenty of room in the Diamond Terrace for those who wish to honor their own call sign or that of a family member or friend, the seasons are changing and soon there will be snow in Connecticut. The final brick installation of 2007 will be taking place in the next month or so before the ground freezes. Now is a good time to go ahead and make a contribution to the Diamond Club and have your brick placed in the Terrace before the end of the year. Don't forget to request a Lucite replica of the brick -- this makes a great addition to your shack, or you can give it to the family of a Silent Key or your Elmer. Please visit the ARRL's Diamond Terrace Web site for more information <https://www.arrl.org/forms/development/donations/diamondclub/terrace.html>.

* Redeem Those Soon-to-Expire International Reply Coupons: If you have old US-issued International Reply Coupons (IRCs), they can still be redeemed, but you need to do it very soon. IRCs issued prior to 2002 (the old small ones) can be redeemed for one penny less than the issue (stamped) price, and must be redeemed by October 10. IRCs with an expiration date of December 31, 2006 can also be redeemed for one penny less than the issue price; these must be submitted to the post office by September 1, 2008. All non-US stamped IRCs issued prior to December 31, 2006 are non-redeemable. For more information, please refer to pages 28 and 57 in US Postal Bulletin 22215 <http://www.usps.com/cpim/ftp/bulletin/2007/pb22215.pdf>, dated September 13, 2007. Thanks to "The Daily DX" for this information.

* New Name for Space Environment Center: The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) will rename the Space Environment Center (SEC) effective Monday, October 1, 2007. The new name will be the Space Weather Prediction Center (SWPC). The center is one of the nine National Centers for

Environmental Prediction (NCEP) within NOAA's National Weather Service. The center provides real-time monitoring and forecasting of solar and geophysical events, conducts research in solar-terrestrial physics and develops techniques for forecasting solar and geophysical disturbances. According to the SEC Web site, "The new name aligns the space weather center with the other NCEP centers and more clearly conveys its operational nature." The SEC Forecast Center is jointly operated by NOAA and the US Air Force. For more information, please visit the SEC Web site <http://sec.noaa.gov/>.

* Let Us Know What You Think: What's your favorite part of The ARRL Letter? What kind of stories would you like to see in the Letter? Would you prefer the Letter in an HTML format? This is your Letter and your chance to let your voice be heard. Please send your suggestions to ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, at k1sfa@arrl.org, with the subject line "ARRL Letter Suggestions." All messages will be read and discussed, and we look forward to implementing positive suggestions into the ARRL Letter.

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The ARRL Letter is published Fridays, 50 times each year, by the American Radio Relay League: ARRL--the National Association for Amateur Radio, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111; tel 860-594-0200; fax 860-594-0259; <http://www.arrl.org>. Joel Harrison, W5ZN, President.

The ARRL Letter offers a weekly e-mail digest of essential and general news of interest to active radio amateurs. Visit the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org> for the latest Amateur Radio news and news updates. The ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/> also offers informative features and columns. ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> is a weekly "ham radio newscast" compiled and edited from The ARRL Letter. It's also available as a podcast from our Web site.

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==>ARRL News on the Web: <http://www.arrl.org>
==>ARRL Audio News: <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> or call 860-594-0384

==>How to Get The ARRL Letter

The ARRL Letter is available to ARRL members free of charge directly from ARRL HQ. To subscribe, unsubscribe or change your address for e-mail delivery:
ARRL members first must register on the Members Only Web Site <http://www.arrl.org/members/>. You'll have an opportunity during registration to sign up for e-mail delivery of The ARRL Letter, W1AW bulletins, and other material. To change these selections--including delivery of The ARRL Letter--registered members should click on the "Member Data Page" link (in the Members Only box). Click on "Modify membership data," check or uncheck the appropriate boxes and/or change your e-mail address if necessary.

(Check "Temporarily disable all automatically sent email" to temporarily stop all e-mail deliveries.) Then, click on "Submit modification" to make selections effective. (NOTE: HQ staff members cannot change your e-mail delivery address. You must do this yourself via the Members Only Web Site.)

The ARRL Letter also is available to all, free of charge, from these sources:

* ARRLWeb <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>. (NOTE: The ARRL Letter will be posted each Friday when it is distributed via e-mail.)

* The QTH.net listserver, thanks to volunteers from the Boston Amateur Radio Club: Visit Mailing Lists@QTH.Net <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/letter-list>. (NOTE: The ARRL cannot assist subscribers who receive The ARRL Letter via this listserver.)

1606. Re: Suggestion for an HF starter rig

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-29 01:51:21 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1191019646.480981.129450@r29g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3811

On Sep 27, 2:27?pm, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
>
> If you are satisfied with your particular method of getting
> RF out of the transmitter and into some antenna, fine.
> Satisfaction is all part of the game. Such satisfaction is
> not the example to set for all. It seems to me that every-
> one's location is different and each presents a unique
> problem to solve for the more-optimum EM wavefront
> launch direction in that location.

> Anyone who says that one kind of antenna is the "best"
> or one should "always" use a certain kind of balanced
> transmission line isn't looking at the whole picture. They
> are probably describing just the only (or a few) antenna
> installations they used. Yes, some antennas "work
> better" than others. In a particular location.

All that is certainly true. But I don't see anyone
saying that one kind of antenna is "best" for all locations,
or that one should "always" use a certain kind of transmission
line in all applications.

It's also not the whole story, either, because what
must also be considered is the sort of radio operation
that is being considered. Does the ham want only DX,
or regional/national QSOs? Several bands, or only one
or two? Will operation be confined to one part of a band,
or spread out over the entire band?
What time of day will most operating take place?
Will there be ragchewing, net operations, contesting?

All that and more have an effect on what the 'best'
antenna is for a given location.

> For someone just starting out, I would suggest just a
> vertical for HF.

Depending on a whole bunch of factors, that could be
good advice, or very bad advice.

> It is the least obtrusive to neighbors

Not always. It depends on the location. A wire
antenna can be much less noticeable than an
HF vertical in many situations.

> (can
> be described as a "flagpole")

Perhaps, but I don't think anyone who has
seen a typical manufactured amateur HF
trap vertical would consider "flagpole" an
accurate description.

> and most will perform
> adequately (to launch an EM wavefront) with a few radials
> for the "ground."

Maybe - and maybe not.

The performance of an HF vertical is dependent on
many factors, such as the ground system, objects
in the near field, how much loading is used to obtain
resonance, ground losses in the Fresnel zone, etc.

> No, it won't win awards or work DX
> "better" than Brand Y using Brand T transmission line,
> but it WILL radiate adquately...and that's the whole name
> of the game, ain't it? :-)

It may not radiate adequately.

For example, on the lower HF bands such as 80/75 and 40 meters,
the dimensions of a full-size quarter-wave vertical and radials may
become impractical (60+ feet on 80/75, 30+ feet on 40 meters).
Most trap vertical designs use a considerable amount of
inductive loading on those bands, reducing the efficiency and
radiation resistance as well as the SWR bandwidth.

The lack of high-angle radiation from such a vertical may make it
almost useless for daytime and closer-than-DX-but-farther-than-local
communication on those bands. An amateur located in a valley, such as
the one who started this thread, might prefer
useful radiation that leaves the antenna at angles that would leave
the valley.

At this point in the sunspot cycle, the amateur bands above 11 MHz are
often useless for ionospheric propagation much of the time,
particularly during darkness hours. Having an effective antenna for
the lower HF bands can be the difference between making QSOs
and not making them.

There's also the cost factor.

Yes, "everyone's location is different and each presents a unique
problem to solve". Which means that recommending a vertical
antenna to someone just starting out could be very bad advice unless a
lot more information was gathered first.

And if Brand Y using Brand T transmission line works better,
why not use it?

IMHO, the "whole name of the game" is useful radio communication. IOW, making QSOs.

I have seen situations where it was good advice to tell a ham starting out on HF to put up a vertical. I have also seen situations where that would be very bad advice. Same for dipoles of various kinds, loops, random wires, etc.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1607. Re: Suggestion for an HF starter rig

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-29 01:51:58 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1191020929.295018.110330@y42g2000hsy.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3812

On Sep 28, 9:29?am, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> > On Sep 27, 10:53?am, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:

> > Why not,

[use a 1/4 wave dipole]

> > other than the fact that such a short dipole will present a
> > feedpoint impedance that has a low resistive part and a high reactive
> > part?
>
> That's a pretty good reason, though. 1/4 wavelength dipoles - make sure
> to read that as total antenna length, not 1/4 wavelength per leg, are
> just a troublesome combination that a lot of tuners can't tune very well.

I'm not convinced. Depending on the transmission line impedance and
length, the shack-end Z could be within the matching range
of the Transmatch.

> > I don't consider the G5RV and OCF to be 'trick' antennas.
> > They're
> > simply intelligent combinations of dipole and feed systems that
> > have been worked out to present reasonable impedances so that
> > line losses and Transmatch requirements are reasonable.
>
> They are very clever. The OCF especially is a joyful
> playground to work
> on with antenna design programs.
> It is a great way to learn both the
> programs and antenna theory.

Agreed. But so are other implementations such as trap dipoles and
the classic dipole-with-ladder-line feed, where you try different
dipole and transmission-line lengths.

> Often the idea of "low SWR" is put out as if it is the sole criteria.

Too often.

> In
> defense of SWR lovers, modern Rigs really hate High SWR,
> especially
> reactance of the capacitive kind.

Well, that depends on how you define 'modern'...

> But a 50 ohm resistor has 1.1:1 VSWR,
> and some manufacturers have taken advantage
> of that sort of thing in the past.

Not just in the past. Google "Maxx-comm matcher" (try different
spellings). Those folks are still in business.
>
> The problem as I see it is that most new folks these
> days start out with an "all band" radio, and are inclined to want a
> antenna that is likewise all band.

Which may or may not be a good idea. If the only bands that
are open when you have time to operate are ones where your
antenna works poorly, the result is going to be frustration.

> A lot of Western and Eastern EU, Great Britain, Iceland,
> Norway, most of
> South/Central America, about half of Africa, Israel, Australia,
> Antarctica, and a couple others.

On which bands?

> No JA or far eastern countries, but I
> haven't tried really hard, I just work 'em if I happen to hear them.

Of course from EPA, VK-land is about the antipodes.
>
> I once accidentally worked a fair part of a contest once on 75
> meters on
> probably around 3 watts, mostly into California - I had tuned the
> antenna, and forgot to turn the power back up. I had works
> around 25
> QSO's before catching that one.

Situational awareness, that's all. With my rig, the power level is
pretty obvious.

> Of course, that isn't quantified data, it's just anecdotal. But running
> at QRP levels does make for a more stern test of an antenna's
> abilities,
> especially if there isn't obvious signs of it, such as not getting calls
> answered. Sold me on the thing.

The Ultimate Test is "what have you worked on it?" Theory is great
but the real proof is in the QSOs.

> The technical details are that it is a 96 foot total length dipole, up
> around 55 feet, the center support is a short length of pvc tubing.

I suspect that the 96 foot length was decided because that's what
would fit in the available space.

> The ladder line is soldered to the respective dipole wire. Ladder
> line makes
> an almost straight drop to the Shack window. Definitely not the

> best
> thing going, but not too bad.

Actually, what you describe is pretty close to optimum for a simple multiband antenna system in limited space, which I suspect is the main issue.

Are you using true ladder line, or "window line" (Twin Lead with holes punched in the insulation)? True ladder line (heavy wire, wide spacing, mostly air insulation) has lower loss and less weather effects. If the line is short there's not much difference, but as frequency and line length increaseit can be worth changing out.

Depending on the shack-end impedances, different Transmatches can have more or less loss. The worst-case scenario is where a 4:1 balun is used with a shack-end impedance that has low resistive and high reactive values. The poor Transmatch has to try to deal with one quarter of the resistive part!

73 de Jim, N2EY

1608. Re: wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-29 08:22:34 UTC
From: "Dr.Ace Ratliff" <Ace@WH2T.com>
Message-ID: <eeac6$46fdda43$4e04e8f$27217@DIALUPUSA.NET>
Source record: 3813

"Dave Platt" <dplatt@radagast.org> wrote in message
news:8s80t4-eie.ln1@radagast.org...
>
> In article <81b3c$46fd4477$4e0b116$23189@DIALUPUSA.NET>,
> Dr.Ace Ratliff <Ace@WH2T.com> wrote:
>
>> I bought a "Buffalo WHR-HP-G54" Wireless-G broadband router & acess point
>>with high gain antenna.
>
>>I flashed the Router's firmware with software I got from Sveasoft and now
>>my
>>router can transmit up to 1 watt fully adjustable. And I also have extra
>>frequency/channels not usually availabe in the U.S.
>
>>I believe that as a licensed amateur radio op. I am legal !
>
> Maybe yes, maybe no.
>
> As I understand it, you have a choice. You can either operate the
> router/radio, unmodified, under the FCC's Part 15 rules. In this mode
> of operation you must comply with all of the Part 15 rules (which
> generally require the use of certificated radio equipment... and
> modifying the radio or antenna would void this certification).
>
> Or, you can modify it, and then operate under the amateur-radio rules.
> In this scenario, you must operate entirely within your ham privileges
> as defined by Part 97, and follow all of those rules. You would be
> allowed to modify the radio, as long as the resulting modifications
> fall within the technical requirements given in Part 97. You can
> transmit, but *only* within the frequency ranges specifically
> authorized for amateur-radio use (these overlap the normal 802.11
> frequencies but do *not* include all of the 802.11 channels!). Your
> transmitter must ID itself according to the "10-minute rule", you may
> not use encryption for the purpose of obscuring the transmissions, and
> you may not have a pecuniary interest in the operation of the radio.
>
> You cannot, I believe, "have it both ways" at the same time... e.g.
> operate a modified radio outside of the normal set of 802.11 channels,
> but use the router for commercial purpose or (according to most
> interpretations) use WEP or WPA encryption for the purpose of keeping
> your transmissions private.
>
> --
> Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO

Dave,
I agree with your point of view.
I said "And I also have extra
frequency/channels not usually availabe in the U.S."
The extra frequency/channels are European. I have set the router NOT to use
them. I was just commenting that they are there.
I named my router and network WH2T so any time it is transmitting it
transmits my callsign.
I am not using WEP or WPA encryption, I live in a very rural area.
Very 73, Ace www.WH2T.com

.

1609. WIANEWS for week commencing SEPTEMBER 30 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-29 08:38:43 UTC
From: nationalnews@wia.org.au
Message-ID: <200709290835.I8T8ZwJ20428@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 3814
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,aus.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

This is WIANEWS for week commencing SEPTEMBER 30 2007

NATIONAL NEWS

What is the best future direction of the WIA Grant scheme?
That is the question that the WIA Board asks members advice.
VK4ERM Ewan McLeod VP WIA joins us.

The 2007 Grant Committee has now reported and the WIA Board decisions on allocations of grants has been publicised on the WIA web site and in this News item.

The committee made a number of comments about the 2007 scheme and the Board believes that WIA members should have the opportunity to provide input into any changes to future schemes of this kind....

The WIA Board believes the grant schemes can be an important element of supporting the development of amateur radio. Affiliated Clubs in particular should consider what could be done to make the scheme more appropriate given the comments and observations of the Grant Committee.

The full text of the Grant Committee comments are on the WIA web site but in essence what they said was this:

Firstly, the committee considers that the scheme is not working as well as it could They believe that Innovation is not being stimulated. For instance they noted that no 2007 applications were received for digital communications, APRS or any other newer technology or innovative projects. They suggest that future grant schemes should redesigned to promote innovation in special interest areas. This, they argue, should promote clubs to look outward into newer areas of technology applicable to amateur radio.

The committee was disappointed that many clubs have an overwhelming focus on operating and maintaining repeater communications systems, where most of the technology involved is well established. They felt that few grant applications focused on the promotion of amateur radio or the WIA. Most promotion was incidental to the project being applied for.

The Grant Committee also commented on the need for a different approach to promoting training opportunities, which they felt were best dealt with by some other approach than competitive grants. I should note here that members will be aware of the very excellent brochures on amateur radio and on the WIA we have produced and distributed widely. These make a big impact on our marketing and promotion tasks...

Finally in their comments, the committee noted that the grants scheme requires a reporting mechanism and this is a matter we will follow up in our correspondence with clubs and in future schemes.

I would ask all members to consider these issues and give us advice by the closing date of 1st December this year. In particular the WIA Board would like to hear how you think your club would see the grants scheme evolving.

Comments should be forwarded to the WIA Secretary no later than 1 December 2007. Comments may be emailed to secretary@wia.org.au or by post to the Secretary WIA at PO Box 2175 Caulfield Junction Vic 3161.
Subject head emails or mark envelopes "Future Direction of WIA Grant Scheme.

VK4ERM Ewan McLeod VP WIA

Brett VK2CBD reports that a very successful open weekend was held at the CSIRO Parkes radio telescope last week with about 3500 people in attendance. About 2000 people took the opportunity to have a close look around the facility on one of the many 30 minute guided tours that were conducted.

The WIA, Orana Region ARC and the Orange and Districts ARC were all in attendance handing out lots of information and advice for those interested in amateur radio. Most of the promotional material and give always which included caps and stubby holders from Icom Australia, CD's full of AR related programs and information, copies of AR, and the now well known "Calling CQ" pamphlets were given away during the weekend. All in all a fantastic result for amateur generally and for the Orana and Orange Clubs. Brett would like to acknowledge the splendid job done by all those involved, including Brian VK2KML, James VK2FQZL , John and Jean VK3???, Jamie VK2???, Bob VK2???, Phil VK2FIL, and Greg VK2???.

HAMS ACROSS AUSTRALIA.
(3vim)

VK1
vk1 local news email broadcast@vk1.wia.ampr.org and ask for subscription.

BREAK IN
An attempted break in has taken place at the club rooms in Farrer.
Entry was gained to the compound by cutting the chain on the side gate.
Despite some heavy duty attempts on the shack door they were unable to gain entry. The existing lock was damaged in the attempt however it still prevented entry to the shack. Security has been further enhanced thanks to Alan VK1WX.

VK2
web service:- http://www.arnsw.org.au/html/news_vk2wi.htm

OCTOBER 27-28
The Wagga Amateur Radio Club is this year's host for the Riverina Field Day.

The Field Day is being held on the 27th and 28th of October. So please pencil the date into your calendar.

The venue is again the clubhouse in Small St. The usual flea markets, Trade and other displays will run continuously in the hall from 9am on Sunday.

There will be a Field Day dinner to mark the opening and will be held at Clubrooms on the Saturday evening. It will take the form of a smorgasbord. Bookings are essential.

More Field Day information can be obtained from the club's website http://wagga.radiocorner.net/

Wagga Wagga is the largest inland city in NSW and is well situated halfway between Sydney and Melbourne. These days it is a very leisurely 4 and a half hour drive from Sydney's outskirts with the majority of the trip on dual lane highway. So why not plan a getaway and join us for the weekend.

For more information contact John VK2YW on 02 6926 5471 AH or vk2yw@wia.org.au

Allan VK2JED informs us all that Westlakes Amateur Radio Club will be holding its First Field/Market Day on the 11th November, Lee Andrews Communications will be at this event.
The gates will be open to the community at 8am and will close around 4pm.

VK2JED has also asked that members and visitors please have a look through their gear to see if there is anything that they would like to donate to Westlakes club for this event.

VK3
web service:- http://www.amateurradio.com.au/news/

IRLP Nodes on the move.

In line with the new simplex frequencies for IRLP nodes, several VK3 gateways have made the change. VK3DRB node 6340 has moved to 145.400 , new node VK3RVZ node 6506 is on 145.350 and VK3HFS Node 6167 soon to be an R call has moved to 145.325

VK4
web service local news:- www.wiaq.com/qnews/upload/qnewsbcast.htm
local news email qnews-vk-subscribe@yahoogroups.com subscribe in subject field.

Central Highlands AGM winding up today

As the News goes to air this morning those who have
attended the Central Highlands Amateur Radio Club
Annual General Meeting at Camp Fairbairn near Emerald
are getting ready to bid farewell to each other and wend
their ways back home.

This mornings Recovery Breakfast put the icing on the cake
for a terrific weekend.

There will be more on the AGM Election in this and next weeks local QNEWS dispatch.
(vk4zz)

EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO
PRESENTED BY KYLEA VK6FXYL

Prasad VU2PTT, has given a talk to a Mass Communication & Journalism class at a leading college at Bangalore about the usefulness of Amateur Radio in general.

This at the request of the Professor of the class.

The more we are able to spread the "good word" about our hobby, the stronger it becomes, world wide!

The final version of the talk is available, contact vu2ptt@gmail.com

CONGRATULATIONS - RESULTS

In Summerland, northern VK2, their YOUNGEST HAM HAS RECEIVED HIS CALL.

Aaron Smith has received his Call, VK2FUNN. From Ocean Shores, he is 10 years old. Congratulations Aaron. Also VK2FUNN's entire family are all licensed.

FUTURE EXAMS

To find out when a club in YOUR area is hosting assessments and/or training in Amateur Radio go to wia.org.au and check out the club pages. Participating clubs keep this site up to date and post the latest information for all to see.

NEW SOUTH WALES

Summerland (Lismore), their next Foundation course/exam will be 10-11 November If you know of any prospects, advise them of this date and let John VK2JWA or Duncan VK2DLR of their details.

Summerland Amateur Radio Club. VK2SRC Ph.: +61 02-66247247
Club: 414 Richmond Hill Rd. Email: vk2src@sarc.org.au
GOONELLABAH, NSW. 2480. http://www.nor.com.au/community/sarc/
Post: PO Box 524 IRLP: 6220

VICTORIA

EMDRC Foundation Licence Course
Course: SATURDAY OCTOBER 6TH, 9AM-1PM
Assessment: SUNDAY OCTOBER 6TH, 9AM-1PM

"Your Entry Into Amateur Radio", the course handbook, is available from EMDRC meetings, in-store at Strictly Ham in Bayswater, or posted by WIA www.wia.org.au

QUEENSLAND

The Redcliffe Club will be conducting Foundation licence training at the Club rooms commencing on 8 October. Alan Jenner, VK4KZ, will hold classes every Sunday for 4 Sundays, commencing 10.30 am and finishing at 3 pm. If you wish to join these classes please contact Alan by phone, 5497 4634 or email him at alan.jenner@bigpond.com.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Adelaide Hills Amateur Radio Society will run Foundation licence's
at the Aviation Museum, 56 Lipson Street Port Adelaide, November
3rd and 4th. Contact the course convenor, Sasi Nayar on 0417 858 547

Examinations are hosted by South Coast Amateur Radio Club.
Those interested in sitting for foundation or license upgrades,
please contact by email
vk5kbj@internode.on.net

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

HAM COLLEGE WA RESULTS

Congratulations to all those people who participated in the last Foundation Course and subsequently on passing your exam. I would like to personally congratulate Brian and Ann from Collie who I am sure we will hear on the air very soon.

Don't forget next exam session for Ham College is the 27th October - If you want to upgrade that call then now is the time to get studying and get your name in to me - call 0412 704226. Last Foundation course for 2007 will be November - book early to avoid disappointment.

and finally some words of wisdom.

An OM will pay $2 for a $1 item he needs.
An XYL will pay $1 for a $2 item that she doesn't need.

A YL worries about the future until she gets an OM.
An OM never worries about the future until he gets an XYL!

A successful OM is one who makes more money than his XYL can spend.
A successful YL is one who can find such a man!

BPL WITH VK2DKN PHIL WAITE

In last week's broadcast I mentioned that the WIA was attending the international CISPR BPL working group meeting in Sydney.

The aim of this Working Group is to set measuring methods and propose emission limits in order to protect established radio services in the frequency band 1.6 to 30 MHz from interference from BPL.

The meeting was attended by about 40 people with several representatives from countries such as France, Germany, UK, USA and Australia. The WIA attended as an observer.

At the last Working Group meeting in Geneva (which Australia did not attend) those present agreed to submit a draft proposal to change the test method for measuring conducted emission from BPL modems.

The Australian group presented three papers to this latest meeting in Sydney which suggest that, without modification, the proposed change would relax the emission limits for BPL modems by at least 20dB.

Following spirited technical discussion a sub-group of 10 technical experts was formed to investigate the issues and report back to the next CISPR BPL Working Group meeting in Washington, late January.

CISPR is where the rubber meets the road as far as BPL is concerned, and as CISPR's charter is to protect radio communications services the outcome from the BPL working group will be very interesting. We believe it will be very difficult for CISPR to adopt methods and limits which both allow BPL to operate and also protect HF radio communications services.

This is Phil Wait, VK2DKN, for the WIA.

SILENT KEYS

Jim VK5NB who died last week. He was a president of the SA division for some time and involved right up until the winding up of the SA Division. He was passionate about the WIA and the need for a strong membership. Jim also was proud of his radio museum. He loved restoring vintage broadcast sets and older ham radio equipment.
Jim was the president of the Adelaide Hills Club until his passing and was very involved with his church and other volunteer work in the community. As Bob VK5NZ told me "He will be sorely missed Graham."

INTERNATIONAL NEWS - VK5MM

SOUTH AFRICA

TAKE YOUR HAND-HELD TO WORK ON OCTOBER 5

Friday 5 October 2007 is the SARL National Take Your Hand-held to Work Day. The objective of the event is to create public awareness for amateur radio and the technology that it embraces.

Many repeaters will be linked through IRLP, the Internet Radio Linking Project, to create activity across South Africa.

If you are not at work on 5 October or are retired, come on the air and share your experiences with other radio amateurs talking from work.

CANADA

A joint Canada and USA Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Preparedness Event is being conducted this weekend, 29 and 30th. Simulated emergency traffic is being passed to and from a special event station at Signal Hill, St. John's, Newfoundland, with A.R.E.S. stations in Canada and the United States taking part.

Special event call sign VO1ARES will be used by the Signal Hill station and any Radio Amateur wishing to make contact is encouraged to do so before or after the formal demonstration of emergency traffic handling is completed.

Please see www.rac.ca

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NEWS FROM ARNEWSLINE

TEXAS CB'ER FINED $7000 BUT WILL ONLY PAY $225

A Texas CB operator originally fined $7000 for his refusal to permit a station inspection will now only have to pay a token $225.

The operator was originally issued a $7000 Notice of Apparent Liability to Monetary Forfeiture. This after an inspector from the FCC's Houston office tracked interference to CB channel 19 to Winton's residence. When told to turn off the transmitter Winton obliged but he refused to let the inspector look over his gear.

The FCC rules say that he must permit such an inspection or expect punitive action. In April the FCC did just that by issuing the $7000 fine. But he provided proof he could not pay and the FCC decided to adjust the amount down to the $225 level. Once he pays it will be. case closed.

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: THE SAGA OF AO-7 CONTINUES

Like a Timex watch, its still ticking. Of coarse we are referring to the AO-7 ham radio satellite which was one of the earliest birds that radio amateurs had to work with. Amateur Radio Newsline's Fred Vobbe, W9HDU, takes a look at this aging but still operational ham radio miracle on orbit:

The Amsat OSCAR 7 ham satellite was launched on November 15, 1974 on a Delta rocket from Vandenberg Air Force Base, Lompoc, California. It initially stopped transmitting in 1981 after a battery failure. But it sprang back to life on June 21st 2002. Since its miraculous emergence from the long term battery problem, AO-7 has been an available to use.

SSB in Mode A is the normal with several QSOs able to take place at a time. Mode A uses an uplink from 145.850 to 145.950 MHz and a 10 meter downlink of 29.400 to 29.500 MHz . This transponder is linear, non-inverting.

Numerous reports of its switching between mode A and B have been verified. Mode B uses an uplink of 432.125 to 432.175 MHz and downlinks on 145.975 -through 145.925 MHz. But there is a bit of a problem in using Mode B. Due to changes in Amateur Service and Amateur Satellite Service there are questions as to legality of Amateurs transmitting to AO-7. The uplink frequency predates the WARC '79 allocation of 435 to 438 MHz by the International Telecommunications Union for the Amateur Satellite Service. This puts the uplink in 70cm weak signal segment. Potential users should realize that when they are uplinking Mode B to a satellite, they are no longer operating in the Amateur Service but instead operating in the Amateur Satellite Service. Thus they are subject to Amateur Satellite Service rules. Therefore uplinking to AO-7 is possibly illegal since the Amateur Satellite Service is not permitted at 432.1 MHz.

But in Mode A, the AO-7 the satellite has a much larger footprint than AO-51 and is in view much longer. It also requires some of the simplest gear of any ham radio bird currently in flight. Equipment that you will find in almost every ham shack, world-wide.

For the amateur radio Newsline. I'm Fred Vovve, W8HDU.

So dust off those mode A high frequency receivers and 2 meter SB transmitters or transverters and try to make a contact on the AO-7 bird. It may take a little more effort to use, but it's fun and rewarding.

==========

RSGB NEWS G4NJH

RAYNET on hand to help plane crash

South Sussex RAYNET group were on hand to help when a plane crashed at the Shoreham Air show.

Each year an emergency plan is rehearsed and refined, in the hope that it will never be needed. However on the weekend 15th and 16th September that practice paid off. On the Saturday a Hurricane nose-dived into the ground, killing its pilot instantly. The incident happened off-field, and no one else was involved.

Two members of the team who witnessed the incident informed Control, who put everyone on high alert. The emergency channel sprang into use. The pre-prepared messages and procedure for Incident Off Field was broadcast, and acknowledgements sought from all on that net. This resulted in all access and departure gates being closed, all senior safety and administrative personnel being briefed, the PA Caravan being informed, and members of the public kept aware of the situation.

Shortly after the accident, Spitfires flew a 'man missing' flypast in tribute to the downed pilot.

OPERATIONAL NEWS - VK4FUQ

VK2BPL has supplied provisional results of the 2007 Westlakes Cup.

VK2ATZ has declared itself Ineligible to qualify for a place in the results. This is in the Spirit of the Contest.

1st Place Full and Standard Calls VK2AEA 37 points
2nd Place Full and Standard Calls VK3ZPF 36 points
Equal Second VK2VV 36 points
3rd Place Full and Standard Calls VK2OJ 33 points

1st Place Foundation Calls VK2FWAZ 39 points
2nd Place Foundation Calls VK2FBRK 35 points
3rd Place Foundation Calls VK3FIDX 33 points

These results are based on the Claimed Scores recorded at the end of the Contest and will be ratified on receipt of Log Sheets

An estimated 40 to 50 stations took part in the Contest and monitoring stations reported no departure from the rules and spirit of the contest.

SARL CONTEST MANUAL

The SARL Contest Manual is to be reviewed for use during 2008. The contest manager for the SARL takes comments and suggestions from members and clubs on the various contests as well as suggestions for any new contests to be included.

This is for SARL as well as Club contests.

A great idea... is the WIA contest Manager tuned in today? HiHi

Peter Parker VK3YE on the QRP reflector has posted a great summary of his travels thru VK6 working QRP.

His observations from GERALDTON are worth noting.

Good local activity on 160m on 1840 SSB in the evenings, especially from stations around Bunbury. Contacts up to 550km were made with 4w from Geraldton despite the makeshift antenna.

Good 80m results to the south west during the day (attribute this to the over-water path from Geraldton and the low sunspots).

40m within VK6 is currently very poor (for distances up to 500km). At further distances it would be OK (see later).

A highlight was working VK6KGQ. Lewis was running a 1w DSB kit transceiver. Signals up to 55 over the 700km path from Kalgoorlie.

DX worked included W4GF on 30m & 8N0CLE on 40m. There is some YB CW activity on 160m but couldn't make contact.

Eastern states contacts from Geraldton included VK3OM SSB on 20m, VK3IM CW on 40m, VK4VFX on 80m & VK3XU on 80m.

Peter then moved on to the township of DOODLAKINE

Did listening tests to experience the RF quiet location. People in towns and cities don't know what they're missing until they go to places like this with zero noise.

VK6ADI CW beacon (3.686 MHz) at Beverley (?) was strong during the day. Apparently QRP but didn't know how low.

40m was amazing. During the middle of the day (noon - 2pm EAST) SSB stations from VK2, 3, 4, 5 & 7 were audible from over 2500km away, with some 'armchair copy'.

This proves that DX propagation in sunspot minima years can be good but to take full advantage of it on the lower bands you need an RF quiet location as even s3 noise will smother many signals.

73, Peter.

NOW ROBERT BROOMHEAD - VK3KRB.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- INTERNET --- THE HAMS DOMAIN

North West Tasmanian Amateur Radio Interest Group's Packet BBS (VK7NW) has been enhanced with a new facility, enabling reading of bulletins by Web Access

The last 500 Bulletins can be read by accessing a special Web Page running Java Script. Bulletins can be read by 4 sorting methods, by Date / Time, route designator, Topic or sender's call.

Both EchoIRLP Nodes 6124 & 6616 can be monitored by remote Web Access. Their current status, most recent connected nodes incoming & outgoing both IRLP and EchoLink connected stations can be monitored using some new facilities associated with these nodes.

The Local DTMF access codes have been completely updated and node users can now access on demand, local status, nightly broadcast news replays, Weather Reports, Voicemail, Random node Call, just to name a few.

All these "U BEAUT" facilities and the links for access can be found at the web addresses on the email and internet editions of this broadcast.

VK7AX's Home Page at http://www2.vk7ax.id.au/ or the Club's web Page at: http://www.vk7ax.id.au/nwtarig/

(Tony VK7AX, President NWTARIG)

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP --- MILITARY

Dayton ARA is looking to Honour Silent Keys, who have died in service during the conflicts in Afghanistan or Iraq. DARA is looking to publish a memorial page in the Hamvention 2008 program listing these SKs, with their name, call sign, branch of service, rank and unit.
(arrl letter)

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RADIO AMATEUR OLD-TIMERS
http://www.raotc.org.au

Coming up is the Radio Amateur's Old Timers Club of South Australia's annual luncheon to be held on Thursday October 25th at the Marion Hotel, Marion Road, Mitchell Park. Meet at 12.00 for lunch at 12.30pm. Don't forget your senior's card.

If using public transport use bus M44 to stop 24.

RSVP before October 22nd to one of the following committee members.

Secretary Ray Deane VK5RK at 82715401 or

Assistant Secretary Ron Coat VK5RV at 82966681

Members and friends of the Radio Amateurs Old Timers Club Australia are reminded that the next news and information broadcast will take place on the first Monday of the Month.

using the RAOTC callsign of VK3OTN.

10.00 am Victorian time on 7.060 and 3.650 MHz plus 1.843 MHz AM, and 145.700.

On 14.150 MHz at 01.00 UTC beaming north and 02:00 UTC west from Melbourne

For those not yet retired, 8.30 PM Victorian time tune 80 mtrs 3.650 MHz

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RESCUE RADIO

EMERGENCY FREQUENCIES REGION ONE
21.360 - 18.160 - 14.300 - 7.060 - 3.760 MHz.

WICEN EVENTS IN VK1
Phil VK1ZPL is a busy man planning many weekends of activity.

October 13/14th LCCC (Course of a Million Pines) 2 Day Car Rally
October 21 Brindabella Classic (Mt Ginini Run)
October 28 Fitz's Challenge Bike Ride with Stromlo Park as HQ.
November 17 National Capital Rally (NatCap)

The ARRL now has a new Emergency Communications tool in its toolbox -- MARS call sign AAN1ARL.

According to W1AW Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, "The call sign was requested to reflect both the holder of the license (ARRL) and the various MARS services (Army, Air Force and Navy)." The MARS station will be housed at W1AW, the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station.

ARRL Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager Dennis Dura, K2DCD, said, "The establishment of an ARMY MARS call sign for W1AW begins a relationship with the Military Affiliate Radio System and the ARRL.
(arrl letter)

SOCIAL SCENE

OCTOBER 6
Gold Coast Amateur Radio Society Annual Hamfest at Albert Waterways Hall.

October 14
Annual inter-club BBQ in central Victoria.

Members of the Central Goldfields Amateur Radio Club of Maryborough, Midland Amateur Club from Bendigo, the Ballarat Amateur Radio Group and Amateur Radio Victoria will attend this event at Laanacoorie next month.

Organiser Peter Rafferty VK3CC explains that it's a BYO meat and drinks affair, with bread, butter, tea, coffee provided.

Apart from being a really great social occasion, last year's BBQ resulted in the cooperative venture - the Centre Victoria RadioFest at Kyneton.

The BBQ will be at the Laanacoorie Hall, the date Sunday the 14th of October starting at 10am.

Laanacoorie is on the Loddon River on the Eddington side of Bendigo about one third of the way between Maryborough and Bendigo.

OCTOBER 27-28
The Wagga Amateur Radio Club is this year's host for the Riverina Field Day.

The Field Day is being held on the 27th and 28th of October. So please pencil the date into your calendar.

The venue is again the clubhouse in Small St. The usual flea markets, Trade and other displays will run continuously in the hall from 9am on Sunday.

There will be a Field Day dinner to mark the opening and will be held at Clubrooms on the Saturday evening. It will take the form of a smorgasbord. Bookings are essential.

More Field Day information can be obtained from the club's website http://wagga.radiocorner.net/

Wagga Wagga is the largest inland city in NSW and is well situated halfway between Sydney and Melbourne. These days it is a very leisurely 4 and a half hour drive from Sydney's outskirts with the majority of the trip on dual lane highway. So why not plan a getaway and join us for the weekend.

For more information contact John VK2YW on 02 6926 5471 AH or vk2yw@wia.org.au

NOVEMBER 4
The Ballarat Hamvention at the Great Southern Woolshed located on the Western Highway on the Melbourne Side of Ballarat. General entry for $6:00 is from 10am. details at the BARG website
www.barg.org.au

NOVEMBER 11
Westlakes Amateur Radio Club Field/Market Day. Gates open 8am, close 4pm.

DECEMBER 2
Westlakes Amateur Radio Clubs Christmas Party will be held at the Eastern Tiger Restaurant, which is located in the Cardiff RSL building, interested? get in touch with VK2FDNE Diane.

DECEMBER 9
Summerland Amateur Radio Club at Lismore are holding their Christmas Party
Ph: 6624 7247
Club: 414 Richmond Hill Rd. Email: vk2src@sarc.org.au
GOONELLABAH, NSW. 2480. http://www.nor.com.au/community/sarc/
Post: PO Box 524 IRLP: 6220

JANUARY 20 2008

The Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group invite all amateurs to attend the 2008 Mid North Coast Radio Expo to be held in Coffs Harbour on Sunday 20th January.

The Expo is held at the St Johns Church Hall, Mc Lean Street, Coffs Harbour. Gary VK2ZKT is the Radio Expo Coordinator on 02 66 55 2 990 or visit the Groups comprehensive web site at www.mncarg.org

FEBRUARY 10

Announcing Centre Victoria RadioFest No. 2.
Second-hand traders, club corner, short-talk lectures, displays and the popular dipole factory will all return, plus some new exciting activities to be announced later.
All major commercial traders have already made commitments to be there again in 2008.
For second hand table bookings that cost only $12.50 please contact Nick Angelo VK3UCK 0488 653 201, or check out the website radiofest.amateurradio.com.au

Sept 13 Alarameet 2008 will be held in Ulverstone Tasmania on Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th September 2008. Susan VK7LUV for details.

2009
International Telecommunication Union's Telecom World 2009.

14th IARU R3 Conference Christchurch 12 - 16 October, 2009.

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WIANews - we've reported...YOU decide.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".

Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of the National WIA.

HOP TO SPECIFIC WIANews TOPICS

WIA WEB ZONE, www.wia.org.au

WIANews THANKS OUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS , OUR RELAY OPERATORS ACROSS THE WORLD FOR FORWARDING INFORMATION AND COMMENTS THEIR LISTENERS HAVE PASSED ON TO MAKE WIANews VK'S LEADING WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PROGRAM.

E-mail WIANews WITH VK STORIES.

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Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".

Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of QNEWS for the National WIA.

Thanks to to our dedicated band of broadcast volunteers who utilize their time and equipment in bringing you this weekly broadcast.

The purpose of "WIANews" is to rapidly provide news of interest to active amateurs residing in Australia and the globe.

We strongly encourage membership in the Wireless Institute of Australia and participation in the activities of local clubs.

Opinions expressed in "WIANews" are those of the writers who submit material and do not necessarily reflect those of the rebroadcasters, nor the National WIA.

Material may be reproduced in whole or in part, in any form, a credit to WIANews wouldn't go astray...

1610. SARL News in English 29/9/2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-29 12:31:14 UTC
From: website@sarl.org.za
Message-ID: <81C5948CA84A429587D86631A55A4F84@toron>
Source record: 3815
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 30 SEPTEMBER 2007

You are listening to ZS6SRL the official Radio Station of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is transmitted every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. To listen to a web stream or Echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links for details.

This, and previous bulletins, can be downloaded from the www.sarl.org.za. You can also read or download previous bulletins from there and subscribe to receive future bulletins by email.

Your news reader this morning is Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with relays on 3,695, 10,135, and 51,400 MHz as well as 438,825 and 1 297 MHz in the Pretoria area. (Other newsreaders please change to suit).

SILENT KEY

It is with deep regret that we have to announce the passing of Tony Cartwright, ZS6BKO, on 22 September 2007 after a long illness. We extend our condolences to his wife Cory, family and many friends.

(PAUSE)

In the news today:

CLUBS TO ADMINISTER ZU EXAMS

SA AMSAT SPACE SYMPOSIUM POSTPONED TILL NEXT YEAR

INTECNET AND PRESIDENT'S NET NEXT WEEKEND

LEARNERS TO TALK WITH MARK SHUTTLEWORTH

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

CLUBS TO ADMINISTER ZU EXAMS

The SARL is pleased to announce that the SARL has finalised the arrangement for affiliated clubs to offer the class B examination for their students. The new arrangement mean that Class B examinations can be conducted at any time of the year in addition to the national examinations held in May and October.

The procedure to be followed is in its final preparation stage and will be discussed during next Sunday's President's net. The necessary documentation will also be available on the members section of the web from next Sunday.

SA AMSAT SPACE SYMPOSIUM POSTPONED TILL NEXT YEAR

SA AMSAT has postponed its Space Symposium till next year. The organisation made that decision in view of the lack of support for the event. When questioned, many would be delegates said that there are too many other events during this time of the year. On October 6 alone there are two other club meetings and flea markets in the Gauteng area with more meetings either side of the date.

The SA AMSAT committee will review alternative dates and make a further announcement soon.

INTECNET AND PRESIDENT'S NET NEXT WEEKEND

The President's net will be held next Sunday 7 October starting at 19:00 and will be followed by the Intecnet.

SARL President, Graham Hartlett, will talk about plans for the 2008 AGM and nominations for Council which are due soon.

The Intecnet will feature a discussion on the HMO/SAR 40 metre beacon Programme led by Dr Lee-Anne McKinnell of the HMO. John Willescroft, ZS6EF, who is constructing the beacon equipment, will discuss the design and operational issues. A PowerPoint presentation will be available on the web from later this week. Visit www.sarl.org.za and click on ARMI.

Clubs wishing to link their repeaters should send details of the telephone number to armi@sarl.org.za by Saturday 6 October.

SPECIAL EVENT STATION CELEBRATES LAUNCH OF SPUTNIK 1

The Boland Amateur Radio Club will celebrate the launch of the world first satellite, Sputnik 1, with a special event station operating from the satellite ground control centre of the University of Stellenbosch over the weekend of 6 and 7 October.

Sputnik was the world's first satellite launched by the Russians 50 years ago on 4 October 1957. South Africa's first satellite SunSat OSCAR 35 was launched on 23 February 1999, a few months over 42 years later. Both events were however significant. Sputnik 1 showed the world that the science fiction writings of several authors were not so much fiction and SUNSAT showed what determination can achieve.

The station will be active on HF and VHF and use the callsign ZS50SPUT. A commemorative QSL card will be mailed to all stations that send a confirmation to P O Box 273, Strand 7140. Please enclose a DL size stamped self addressed envelope.

Members of the Boland Amateur Radio Club will be operating the special event station throughout October

LEARNERS TO TALK WITH MARK SHUTTLEWORTH

Learners from various parts of South Africa will talk to Mark Shuttleworth on Wednesday 10 October. Learners were selected from an essay competition entries. There are still 2 days left for individual entries. Visit www.sarl.org.za for details. The best entry will win the writer a laptop computer.

SARL PRESIDENT ADDRESSED FET TEACHERS

Graham Hartlett, ZS6GJH, addressed a group of teachers who attended a training course at the Ekurhuleni College for Further Education and Training arranged by the Department of Communications. The objective of the course is to train teachers to take amateur radio into their colleges.

He cited amateur radio not just as a fun activity, but an activity that has a positive outcome on the further training of young people in the Science, Engineering and Technology disciplines.

Further Education and Training (FET) colleges strive to provide high-quality education and training to help learners equip themselves with the qualifications and skills needed to start out on a chosen career path. "Amateur Radio can make a valuable contribution in this career choice and in addition teach basic technical and communication skills that will equip young people to render services to their community such as disaster communication and communication during large sporting events.

SARL 80 METRE QSO PARTY

The second leg of the SARL 80 metre QSO Party will be run on Thursday 4 October, starting at 19:00 CAT and ending 3 hours later. It is a phone only contest on the segment 3,603 to 3,700 MHz. The exchange is your call sign, a RS report and a serial number starting at 001. The complete rules can be found in the 2007 SARL Contest Manual.

LOCAL HF FREQENCIES ARE UNSTABLE TO DEPRESSED Spaceweather.co.za reports that the solar wind speed has reached 575 km/s, with the Bz component of the interplanetary magnetic field northwards which means that the earth's magnetosphere offers maximum protection from solar winds.

Geomagnetic conditions are at active levels. Local HF working frequencies are unstable to depressed. The outlook for this week is that a coronal hole on the solar disk has rotated into a geo-effective position and that more disturbed HF conditions can be expected. The sun has been blank for 21 consecutive days, but yesterday a new sunspot was emerging. Locally 40 metres should provide a good path between Cape Town and Pretoria for most of the day from around 6 am but trailing off fast after 6pm when 80 metres becomes a viable proposition. For the

Durban - Pretoria path 40 metres will open a little later around 8 am and also trail of by the late afternoon. 80 metres is a good option on both paths during the evenings but best between 18:00 and 22 hours. Cape Town to Durban offers similar openings as for the Durban to Pretoria path. DX wise between 16:00 and 20:00 CAT first 15 metres will open for a short while and then 20 metres both to the East coast and short path to the West Coast of the USA.

DIARY OF EVENTS

30 September - Last day for comments on SARL study guide; 4 October - SARL 80 metre QSO Party; 4 - 10 October - Special space programme; 5 October - Take your handheld to work day; 6 October East Rand Flea market and AGM; 6 October - SAATI AGM; 6 - 7 October - Special station ZS50SPUT on the air; 7 October - President's Net and Intechnet; 18 October - Class A RAE; 20 October - Comments on SARL 2008 Competition Handbook to be in.

SARL News invites clubs and individuals to submit news stories of interest to radio amateurs and shortwave listeners. Submit news stories if possible in both English and Afrikaans to www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date.

The SARL also invites you to listen to the programme Amateur Radio Mirror International, on the air every Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 590 kHz. For the web stream and echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links. A repeat transmission can be heard Mondays at 21:00 CAT on 3 215 kHz. Sentech sponsors the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

Today's South African Radio League news bulletin was compiled by George, ZS6NE, and transmitted by (your name and call sign).

Thank you for listening. 73.

/EX

========== Message Ends ========== To edit or remove your entry from this mailing list go to www.sarl.org.za/members/admin/maildat.asp

1611. Re: wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-29 13:41:11 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13fslev8re90u53@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3816

Dr.Ace Ratliff wrote:

> I named my router and network WH2T so any time it is transmitting it
> transmits my callsign.

Unfortunately, that doesn't meet the FCC requirements for identification.

From 97.119:

(b) The call sign must be transmitted with an emission authorized for
the transmitting channel *in one of the following ways*:
(1) By a CW emission. When keyed by an automatic device used only for
identification, the speed must not exceed 20 words per minute;
(2) By a phone emission in the English language. Use of a standard
phonetic alphabet as an aid for correct station identification is
encouraged;
(3) By a RTTY emission using a specified digital code when all or part
of the communications are transmitted by a RTTY or data emission;
(4) By an image emission conforming to the applicable transmission
standards, either color or monochrome, of ï¿½73.682(a) of the FCC Rules
when all or part of the communications are transmitted in the same image
emission.

Maybe you could teach the router CW . . . or RTTY . . .

1612. Re: wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-29 16:30:40 UTC
From: an old friend <kb9rqz@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <1191081019.175422.4150@g4g2000hsf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3817

On Sep 29, 9:41 am, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
> Dr.Ace Ratliff wrote:
> > I named my router and network WH2T so any time it is transmitting it
> > transmits my callsign.
>
> Unfortunately, that doesn't meet the FCC requirements for identification.
>
> From 97.119:
>
> (b) The call sign must be transmitted with an emission authorized for
> the transmitting channel *in one of the following ways*:
> (1) By a CW emission. When keyed by an automatic device used only for
> identification, the speed must not exceed 20 words per minute;
> (2) By a phone emission in the English language. Use of a standard
> phonetic alphabet as an aid for correct station identification is
> encouraged;
> (3) By a RTTY emission using a specified digital code when all or part
> of the communications are transmitted by a RTTY or data emission;
> (4) By an image emission conforming to the applicable transmission
> standards, either color or monochrome, of 73.682(a) of the FCC Rules
> when all or part of the communications are transmitted in the same image
> emission.
>
> Maybe you could teach the router CW . . . or RTTY . . .

i rather suspect your quote is outdated or incomplete PSK-31 signal
are ided in psk-31 Hell is hell pactor in pactor

why would a wifi signal be any different

1613. Re: wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-29 17:12:03 UTC
From: dplatt@radagast.org
Message-ID: <6jd2t4-nh2.ln1@radagast.org>
Source record: 3818

In article <13fslev8re90u53@news.supernews.com>,
Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> wrote:

>> I named my router and network WH2T so any time it is transmitting it
>> transmits my callsign.
>
>Unfortunately, that doesn't meet the FCC requirements for identification.
>
> From 97.119:
>
>(b) The call sign must be transmitted with an emission authorized for
>the transmitting channel *in one of the following ways*:
>(1) By a CW emission. When keyed by an automatic device used only for
>identification, the speed must not exceed 20 words per minute;
>(2) By a phone emission in the English language. Use of a standard
>phonetic alphabet as an aid for correct station identification is
>encouraged;
>(3) By a RTTY emission using a specified digital code when all or part
>of the communications are transmitted by a RTTY or data emission;
>(4) By an image emission conforming to the applicable transmission
>standards, either color or monochrome, of §73.682(a) of the FCC Rules
>when all or part of the communications are transmitted in the same image
>emission.
>
>Maybe you could teach the router CW . . . or RTTY . . .

The strict reading you're making of 97.119 would also appear to make illegal almost all AX.25 packet radio systems, as well as PSK31, Olivia, MFSK, and the other sound-card modulations... since none of these identify via either CW, or via "RTTY" in the classic meaning of the term (i.e. FSK modulation using Baudot code). Rather, the callsign is transmitted via the same modulation scheme as the rest of the textual traffic being carried.

I believe that the FCC has a broader view of the issue, in that they use the phrase "RTTY emission using a specified digital code". If one interprets this as meaning "a transmission of alphanumeric characters, using a digital code whose details are publicized", then this covers both the "modified 802.11 access point" (since the callsign is transmitted as part of an ASCII string, sent via one of the standardized and well-published 802.11 modulations) and all of the packet and sound-card modes.

If the FCC were of a mind to interpret the rules to require that the ID'ing be done either in CW, or in "classic" RTTY, I believe that they

would have done so decades ago when AX.25 over AFSK modulations first became popular, or more recently when PSK31 and MFSK and etc. came into use. I've not heard or read any hint that they intend to do so.

If you're using some sort of _experimental_ digital code, or an exotic modulation scheme which has not yet been publicized, then you'd need to identify in CW or in a published digital code to stay legal. I believe that at least one of the sound-card modulation systems can embed a narrow-bandwidth CW ID inside the wider-bandwidth signal, so that casual listeners using SSB receivers can hear the ID... a neat and courteous trick.

--
Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO
Friends of Jade Warrior home page: http://www.radagast.org/jade-warrior
I do _not_ wish to receive unsolicited commercial email, and I will boycott any company which has the gall to send me such ads!

1614. Re: wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-29 19:17:44 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5m7jlcFc6ivvU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 3819

"Dave Platt" <dplatt@radagast.org> wrote in message
news:6jd2t4-nh2.ln1@radagast.org
: : In article <13fslev8re90u53@news.supernews.com>,
: : Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> wrote:

[snip]

: : : Maybe you could teach the router CW . . . or RTTY . .
: : : .
: :
: : The strict reading you're making of 97.119 would also
: : appear to make illegal almost all AX.25 packet radio
: : systems, as well as PSK31, Olivia, MFSK, and the other
: : sound-card modulations... since none of these identify
: : via either CW, or via "RTTY" in the classic meaning of
: : the term (i.e. FSK modulation using Baudot code).
: : Rather, the
: : callsign is transmitted via the same modulation scheme
: : as the rest of the textual traffic being carried.

Every packet TNC I've ever used has the option to set the station callsign
to identify in CW. I belive it's a requirement to do so every 15 minutes
here in the UK but it's been a while since I operated on packet so it may
have changed. I notice a few voice repeaters have a voice ID mode now,
although they still ID in CW as well.

73 Ivor G6URP

1615. GB2RS NEWS Sunday 30 September 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-29 19:19:05 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200709291900.l8TJ0Ap09646@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 3820
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

1 GB2RS NEWS Sunday 30 September

The news headlines

* 3B7C operation extended

* HF Convention draws closer

* Bell Hill 10GHz beacon transmits new mode

The successful 3B7C DXpedition was extended for a day beyond its initial target. Operations were finally closed down at 0331z on Tuesday 25 September. The group managed a grand total of 135,718 QSOs, making it the third most-worked DXpedition of all time. Like 3B7C, the two most worked DXpeditions, D68C and 3B9C, were all operated by the Five Star DXers Association. Congratulations to all those involved.

The RSGB HF Convention is drawing closer. This premier event, sponsored by Icom and Martin Lynch and Sons, takes place from 12 to 14 October. This year the Convention is at its new home, the Wyboston Lakes conference centre in Bedfordshire. Highlights of this year's convention will include a major talk on 3B7C by members of the team plus trophy presentations, lectures, learning experiences and demonstrations. Full details of the RSGB HF Convention can be found online at www.rsgb.org/hfc and more information can also be obtained from the booking line on 0870 904 7379.

The 10GHz beacon GB3SCX at Bell Hill, Dorset, has started transmitting a new mode. In addition to its normal CW ident, it is now sending Dual Frequency CW with ident, DFCWi. Dots and dashes are made the same length, but transmitted on different frequencies. A third tone is used to indicate the gaps between the dots and dashes. The new mode is intended to be easily seen on waterfall displays like Spectrum Lab, but can be decoded by ear. For more details log onto www.scrbg.org/g4jnt/.

Icom has launched a new website to support and provide information on D-STAR. The site contains sections about the history, features and technical matters regarding D-STAR. There is also a UK forum. For more information log onto www.d-staruk.co.uk/.

The European Commission has guaranteed funding for the European satellite radio navigation programmes, EGNOS and Galileo. The move means that the deployment phase of Galileo will be funded entirely from the Community budget. Galileo transmit frequencies include 1260 to 1300MHz and concerns have been expressed about mutual interference with the 23cm band and CAA radars.

And now for the details of rallies and events for the coming week [Note to newsreaders: Please use your judgement on whether to read the 30 September event, based on your time slot and distance from the event.] On 30 September the Telford Hamfest takes place at the Enginuity Museum, Coalbrookdale, Telford. Doors open at 10 am. For more information contact Martyn, G3UKV, on 01952 255416, or email ukv@ukv.me.uk.

2 On 7 October Nantwich Bunker Trust are having a surplus electronic and electrical sale. The sale starts at 1000 at French Lane, Nantwich, Cheshire. For more information log onto www.hackgreen.co.uk/. More details of these and future events can be found on pages 88 and 89 of the October edition of RadCom. Now for the news of special events The Singapore Amateur Radio Transmitting Society, SARTS, will be operating special event station S61FD on their Field Day on 6 and 7 October. They will be operating from Changi, Singapore. Operation will be on the HF bands 80 to 10m running 500 Watts to vertical antennas. John Howard, G0BUV, will be operating special event call sign GB8CMC from Birmingham until 9 October. The event is celebrating the 800th anniversary of the Coleshill Market Charter. The Charter was awarded by King John in 1207. Warrington Amateur Radio Club will be celebrating its 60th anniversary year by operating the special call sign GB6WRS throughout the month of October. The station will be active on all bands each day of the month. The Border Amateur Radio Society is planning a special event using call signs GS0BRS and GX0BRS until 29 December. Club activity will be on HF and VHF. For club members both north and south of the border a special QSL will be available. For more details contact Ray Evans, GM0CDV, on 01573 228 730. And now the HF DX news compiled from 425 DX News, the Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin and other sources.

Andrew, G7COD, will be operating using 8Q7AK from the Island of Embudu, Maldives from 30 September to October 12. He will be using SSB with a little CW on 30 to 12 metre bands. For more information check 8Q7AK on QRZ.COM. George, AA7JV (VK2NU) and Tomi, HA7RY, plan to be active as VK9WWI from the Willis Islands (OC-007) until 4 October, depending on weather.

P29VLR is the call sign issued to CT1AGF for the IOTA operations from Papua New Guinea. This is the call SM6CVX, G3KHZ and G4EDG will be using from Kilinalau Island on 8 October for three days. QSL via SM6CVX. Now the contest news The RSGB Contest Committee has organised two new sprint contests. The sprint format requires stations to QSY often, and not maintain a run frequency. That means that different skills and operating styles are needed compared with a traditional contest. The contests will be held on Wednesday 3 October for the CW event on 3.520 to 3.570MHz from 1900 to 2030 UTC. The second contest will be held on Wednesday 10 October for the SSB event on 3.600 to 3.650MHz from 1900 to 2030 UTC. The exchange consists of callsigns, serial number, and the operator's name or nickname. Full details, including the important QSY element, can be found at www.rsgbhfcc.org. The PSK Rumble Contest takes place on 6 October from 0000 to 2359 on the 1.8 to 50MHz bands on PSK mode. The exchange takes the form of name

and DX Prefix.

3 The Oceania DX Contest takes place from 0800 on 6 October to 0800 on 7 October on the 1.8 to 28MHz bands on SSB. The exchange takes the form of RS and serial number. The EU Sprint Contest takes place on 6 October from 1600 to 1959 on the 3.5, 7 and 14MHz bands on SSB. The exchange takes the form of both callsigns, SN, name and nickname. The RSGB 144MHz activity and Club Championship takes place on 2 October from 2000 to 2230 local on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. The RSGB 432MHz to 248GHz Contest takes place from 1400 on 6 October to 1400 on 7 October on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. The RSGB 1.3 and 2.3GHz trophies Contest takes place on 6 October from 1400 to 2200 on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. Now the solar factual data for the period from 17 September to 23 September, compiled by Neil Clarke, G0CAS Once again solar activity was very low with no solar flares of any description taking place. Solar flux levels were steady at 67 units until the 23rd when 66 was recorded. The average was 67. The 90 day solar flux average on the 23rd was the same level as last week at 70 units. X-ray flux levels remained below the minimum A1 level throughout. Geomagnetic activity was very quiet at first, for example, on the 17th the Ap index was only 2 units. Activity increased on the 20th due to a recurring coronal hole, this disturbance was still on going on the 23rd. However, the Bz has been mostly northwards resulting in very little geomagnetic activity taking place. The most disturbed day was the 23rd with an Ap of 15 units. The average was Ap 8 units. The ACE spacecraft saw solar wind speeds increase from 310 kilometres per second to 730 by the 23rd. Particle densities were low except for the 20th and the 21st which increased to 20 and 15 particles per cubic centimetre respectively. Bz varied little at first during the quiet days and between minus 9 and plus 7 nanoTeslas during the disturbance. Propagation on the higher HF bands remained poor, though the St Brandon expedition was again worked on all bands except 6 metres. From the 20th onwards high-latitude paths were adversely affected by geomagnetic activity. On 3.5 and 7MHz, though, early risers with well-equipped stations could work into New Zealand. Geomagnetic disturbance brought a handful of auroral reports on the 20th but all came from high latitudes. There were occasional reports of sporadic-E up to 50MHz. And finally the solar forecast. This week solar activity is expected to continue at very low levels. Solar flux levels are expected to be in the high 60's for most of the week. Geomagnetic activity should start at elevated levels due to recurring coronal hole. However, by midweek activity should decline to very quiet levels. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitudes are expected to be about 19MHz for the south and 16MHz for the north. The darkness hour lows should be around 8MHz. Paths this week to India should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success rate of about 23MHz. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success rate will be around 17MHz. The best time to try this path will be between 0800 and 1400 hours UTC. And that's all for this week from the propagation team.

4 Next, the Local News:

Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses

and website links where known.

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your

transmission.]

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST

and EAST ANGLIA On Monday 1 October Burnham Beeches Radio Club is screening the Secret War video. Contact G4XDU, on 01628625720.

On Monday 1 October Southdown Amateur Radio Society is having a visit to Harvey's Brewery at Lewes. Contact John, G3DQY, on 01424,424,319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

On Monday 1 October Surrey Radio Contact Club is having its autumn surplus equipment sale. Contact Ray, G4FFY, on 020 8644 7589.

On Tuesday 2 October Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society is having its AGM followed by a talk on how to use Echolink. Contact Martyn, G1EFL, on 01245 469 008.

On Tuesday 2 October Horndean and District Amateur Radio Club is having a social evening. Contact Stuart, G0FYX, on 023 9247 2846, or on the web at www.hdarc.co.uk.

On Tuesday 2 October Leiston Amateur Radio Club is having a talk by Sam Jewell, G4DDK, on what the microwave bands have to offer. Contact Dave, G4HUP, on 01473 737 717, g4hup@btinternet.com.

On Tuesday 2 October Stevenage and District Amateur Radio Society is having a VHF operating night. Contact Neil, M0ARH, on 01438 217 077.

On Wednesday 3 October Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is having a general meeting. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

On Wednesday 3 October Dover Radio Club is having an operating night. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk.

On Wednesday 3 October Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is operating the club station with G3VEF and G8KGI. Contact Ken, M0KLS, on 02392 797 240.

On Wednesday 3 October Havering and District Amateur Radio Club is having its Q3 business review meeting. Contact Dave, 2E0EBV, on 07956 594 514.

On Wednesday 3 October Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on sunspots by Stuart, G7KBF. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

On Wednesday 3 October Southdown Amateur Radio Society is operating at the Halisham shack. Contact John, G3DQY, on 01424,424,319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

On Wednesday 3 October Worthing and District Amateur Radio Club is going back to basics. Contact Roy, G4GPX, on 01903 753 893.

On Thursday 4 October Colchester Radio Amateurs meet for the AGM at the Colchester Institute. Contact Kevan, 2E0WMG, by email to colchesterradioamateurs@hotmail.co.uk or on 07766543784.

5 On Thursday 4 October Cray Valley Radio Society is having a talk on EMC in the shack by G3SPJ. Contact Bob, BRS32525, on 020 8265 7735 after 8pm.

On Thursday 4 October Horsham Amateur Radio Club is having a junk sale. Details on the web at www.harc.org.uk.

On Thursday 4 October Maidenhead and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on radio astronomy by Geoff Cottrell, G3XGC. Contact John, G8RYW, on 01628 628 463, or by email to g8ryw@tesco.net.

On Thursday 4 October Shefford and District Amateur Radio Society is planning for CQWW. Contact David, G8UOD, on 01234 742 757.

On Friday 5 October Cambridge and District Amateur Radio Club is discussing members' shacks. Contact David, G8JKV.

On Friday 5 October Crystal Palace Radio and Electronics Club is having its home construction competition. Contact Bob, G3OOU, on 01737 552 170.

On Friday 5 October Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is having a talk. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Friday 5 October Wey Valley Amateur Radio Group is having a talk by Roger Western, G3SXW, entitled "More DXing adventures". Details on the web at www.weyvalleyarg.org.uk.

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST On Wednesday 3 October Cornish Radio Amateur Club is having a talk by Bob, G4EIK, on the design and construction of a QRP CW transceiver. Contact Ian, 01872 561 058.

On Wednesday 3 October Exmouth Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on computer interfacing by Dean, G0UIL. Contact g0uil@eclipse.co.uk.

On Wednesday 3 October South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is having a technical matters meeting. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282.

On Wednesday 3 October Taunton and District Amateur Radio Club is having its AGM. Contact William, G3WNI, on 01823 666 234, or by email to g3wni@btinternet.com.

On Wednesday 3 October Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on alternative energy in the home. Contact

Tony, G0WMB, by email to tonytsgarc@beeb.net.

On Wednesday 3 October Trowbridge and District Amateur Radio Club is having short talks by club members Mike Adams, M0ALW, on Geocaching, followed by Jan Verduyn, G0BBL, with an introduction to DSP software. Contact Ian, G0GRI, on 01225 864 698, E/W.

On Thursday 4 October Saltash and District Amateur Radio Club is having its annual junk sale. Contact Brian, M0BHG, on 01752 844 321.

On Thursday 4 October Swindon and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk entitled "Morse etc" by Colin Potter, M0DDT. Contact Mike, M5CBS, on 01793 826 465.

6 NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS On Sunday 30 September Wythall Radio Club is taking part in Lord Pettitt's shooting competition. Contact Chris, G0EYO, on 07710 412 819, or by email to g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk, or on the web at www.wythallradioclub.co.uk.

On Monday 1 October Gloucester Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is having a talk on virtual radio by Cliff, G8CQZ. Contact Anne, 2E1GKY, on 01452 548478, daytime.

On Tuesday 2 October Derby and District Amateur Radio Society is having a junk sale. Contact Martin, G3SZJ, on 01332 556 875.

On Tuesday 2 October Loughborough and District Amateur Radio Club is having an open forum on test and measurement. Contact Chris, G1ETZ, on 01509 504 319.

On Tuesday 2 October Wythall Radio Club is taking part in the 2m club championship from the shack. Contact Chris, G0EYO, on 07710 412 819, or by email to g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk, or on the web at www.wythallradioclub.co.uk.

On Wednesday 3 October Telford and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air and having an open house. Contact Mike, G3JKX, on 01952 299 677, or by email to mjstreetg3jkx@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Thursday 4 October Salop Amateur Radio Society is having a calibration night with G8DIR. Contact Glenda, G1YJB, on 01939 235 412.

On Friday 5 October Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is having an HF on the air night. Details on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

A new amateur radio club is being formed for the Bolton area. The inaugural meeting of the Bolton Wireless Club takes place at the Technical and Innovation Centre, Minerva Road, Bolton on the evening of Tuesday 2 October. For more information please contact Ernie, G4YYB, on 07882 158 730, or by email to g4yyb@ntlworld.com.

On Monday 1 October Sheffield Amateur Radio Club is having an open table meeting and HF & satellite operating night. Contact Trevor,

M0TWS.

On Monday 1 October Thornton Cleveleys Amateur Radio Society Club is on the air. Contact Jack, G4BFH, by email to jack.duddington@btinternet.com.

On Tuesday 2 October Chester and District Radio Society is having a surplus sale. Details on the web at www.chesterdars.org.uk, or my email to info@chesterdars.org.uk.

On Tuesday 2 October Stockport Radio Society is having a video evening, watching the 3YOX Peter Island DXpedition video. Contact David, M1ANT, on 0161 456 7832.

On Tuesday 2 October Wakefield and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air. Contact Dave, G4CLI, on 07748 221 855, or by email to g4cli@hotmail.co.uk.

On Wednesday 3 October Denby Dale Amateur Radio Society is having a surplus sale. Contact David, G6OCD, on 0700 5947317, or by email to david.g6ocd@ntlworld.com.

On Wednesday 3 October Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is preparing for its rally. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

7 On Wednesday 3 October Mid-Cheshire Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on the design of linear amplifiers by Steve, G0DQQ. Contact Richard, G0JIT, by email to rsa@zetnet.co.uk.

On Thursday 4 October Grimsby Amateur Radio Society is having its AGM. Contact Brian, G4DXB, on 01472 231 383.

On Friday 5 October South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is having a computer clinic with Dave, G4UGM. Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999.

On Friday 5 October Tynemouth Radio Club is inviting its members to 'get knotted'. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Friday 5 October the Border Amateur Radio Society is having its AGM at the St John Ambulance Hall, 8 Tweed Street, Berwick on Tweed. Contact Ray, GM0CDV, on 01573 228730.

On Saturday 6 October Wakefield and District Amateur Radio Society is running its Foundation Licence course. Contact Dave, G4CLI, on 07748 221 855, or by email to g4cli@hotmail.co.uk.

NEWS FOR SCOTLAND

The RSGB's Train the Trainers scheme continues to help tutors enhance the standard of their Foundation, Intermediate and Advanced licence courses. On Sunday 21 October another in the series will take place in Motherwell. Alan Betts, G0HIQ, and Brian Reay, G8OSN, will be presenting the course, which takes a full day and is free of charge to

Instructors. For more information, and to register, contact RSGB Region 1 Manager Gordon Hunter, GM3ULP, on 01698 253394 or by email to gm3ulp@aol.com. Demand is expected to be high, so it is important to register as soon as possible.

On Monday 1 October West of Scotland Amateur Radio Society Club is entering the SSB NFD. Details on the web at www.wosars.org.

On Wednesday 3 October Paisley (YMCA) Amateur Radio Club is taking part in the UHF National Field Day. Contact Jim, GM3UWX.

On Thursday 4 October Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is having a Junk Sale. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

On Thursday 4 October Moray Firth Amateur Radio Society is having a construction evening for VHF antennas. Contact Jim, MM0SMD, on 01340 820 134.

On Friday 5 October the Border Amateur Radio Society is having its AGM at the St John Ambulance Hall, 8 Tweed Street, Berwick on Tweed. Contact Ray, GM0CDV, on 01573 228730.

On Friday 5 October Cockenzie and Port Seton Amateur Radio Club is having a club night. Contact Bob, GM4UYZ, on 01875 811 723.

On Friday 5 October West Of Scotland Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on software defined radio by GM6OQN. Details on the web at www.wosars.org.

On Sunday 7 October Cockenzie and Port Seton Amateur Radio Club is taking part in the RSGB 21/28MHz contest. Contact Bob, GM4UYZ, on 01875 811 723.

8

NEWS FOR WALES On Tuesday 2 October Carmarthen Amateur Radio Society is having a club meeting. Contact Les, GW8PSJ, on 01239 811 922.

NEWS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

On Thursday 4 October Bangor and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on the IRTS Swaziland DXpedition by Pete, GI4VIV. Contact Mike, GI4XSF, on 028 4277 2 383.

And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast,

prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

1616. Re: wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-29 19:25:33 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <46fe8c78$0$61625$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 3821

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

In <1191081019.175422.4150@g4g2000hsf.googlegroups.com> an old friend <kb9rqz@hotmail.com>
writes:

>On Sep 29, 9:41 am, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
>> Dr.Ace Ratliff wrote:
>> > I named my router and network WH2T so any time it is transmitting it
>> > transmits my callsign.
>>
>> Unfortunately, that doesn't meet the FCC requirements for identification.
>>
>> From 97.119:
>>
>> (b) The call sign must be transmitted with an emission authorized for
>> the transmitting channel *in one of the following ways*:
>> (1) By a CW emission. When keyed by an automatic device used only for
>> identification, the speed must not exceed 20 words per minute;
>> (2) By a phone emission in the English language. Use of a standard
>> phonetic alphabet as an aid for correct station identification is
>> encouraged;
>> (3) By a RTTY emission using a specified digital code when all or part
>> of the communications are transmitted by a RTTY or data emission;
>> (4) By an image emission conforming to the applicable transmission
>> standards, either color or monochrome, of ?73.682(a) of the FCC Rules
>> when all or part of the communications are transmitted in the same image
>> emission.
>>
>> Maybe you could teach the router CW . . . or RTTY . . .

>i rather suspect your quote is outdated or incomplete PSK-31 signal
>are ided in psk-31 Hell is hell pactor in pactor

>why would a wifi signal be any different

I presume by "hell," you mean "Hellschreiber:"

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hellschreiber

I believe that Mark may be correct on this point. The excellent link
to the K5YFW article at the ARRL TIS site given previously:

http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/high-speed-digital/emergency-communications.html

is unfortunately silent on the topic. However, one could argue that if there was an FCC requirement to provide additional identification other than the WiFi mode, the article would have mentioned it. Also, searching the web for "spread spectrum identification requirements" finds references to narrowband (i.e., CW) identification requirements in 97.119b(5), which appears to have been deleted in the current version of FCC Part 97. In fact, it was explicitly deleted in 1999 as a result of FCC Docket 97-12 and RM-8737:

ftp://ftp.tapr.org/ss/fcc99234.pdf

Quoting the above document:

"With respect to the station identification requirement, we will revise the rule as TAPR requests because we find that Section 97.119(b)(5) of the Commission's rules is unclear and also duplicates Sections 97.119(b)(1) and (2). [64] Stations transmitting SS emission types can identify themselves using the methods specified in either of these sections."

[...]

Identification for WiFi appears to be reasonably covered under 97.119b(3) above, which is from the current version of FCC Part 97:

http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/news/part97/

The other relevant sections of Part 97 that appear to support this view include 97.113:

http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/news/part97/b.html#113

97.305:

http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/news/part97/d-305.html#305

97.309:

http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/news/part97/d-305.html#309

and 97.311:

http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/news/part97/d-305.html#311

the gist of which seems to be that RTTY or data emissions may be used for identification, and the permissible RTTY or data emissions include any "unspecified digital code". Other restrictions for WiFi appear to be that the communications via spread spectrum or other "unspecified digital code" must be only with U.S. stations, or stations in countries that authorize spread spectrum or other "unspecified digital code" communications for amateurs, be on bands authorized for spread-spectrum (i.e., high UHF/microwave and up), not be "encoded for the purpose of obscuring their meaning (e.g., encryption such as WEP or WPA), have technical parameters that have been publicly documented, and meet specified power limits.

- --
73, Paul W. Schleck, K3FU
pschleck@novia.net
http://www.novia.net/~pschleck/
Finger pschleck@novia.net for PGP Public Key

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v1.4.5 (SunOS)

iD8DBQFG/ow26Pj0az779o4RAr93AJ9wOAyyau7l0XQAeTwyFbbU52MibQCgiBbA
tQTi32UcKZMKwa30oZ04LDs=
=aRbb
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----

1617. Re: wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-29 23:22:51 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13ftnhve2d3f3c6@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3822

Paul W. Schleck wrote:

> the gist of which seems to be that RTTY or data emissions may be used
> for identification, and the permissible RTTY or data emissions include
> any "unspecified digital code".

I stand corrected. Thanks.

73, Steve KB9X

1618. Re: wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-30 14:41:12 UTC
From: Jeff <jeff@local.host>
Message-ID: <46ff6673$0$1339$834e42db@reader.greatnowhere.com>
Source record: 3823

```
"> : : The strict reading you're making of 97.119 would also
> : : appear to make illegal almost all AX.25 packet radio
> : : systems, as well as PSK31, Olivia, MFSK, and the other
> : : sound-card modulations... since none of these identify
> : : via either CW, or via "RTTY" in the classic meaning of
> : : the term (i.e. FSK modulation using Baudot code).
> : : Rather, the
> : : callsign is transmitted via the same modulation scheme
> : : as the rest of the textual traffic being carried.
>
> Every packet TNC I've ever used has the option to set the station callsign
> to identify in CW. I belive it's a requirement to do so every 15 minutes
> here in the UK but it's been a while since I operated on packet so it may
> have changed. I notice a few voice repeaters have a voice ID mode now,
> although they still ID in CW as well.
>
> 73 Ivor G6URP
>

Many TNC2 clones do not have a cw ident facility, depending on what software
version they have installed.

Also in the UK it is no longer a requirement to id in morse, the new licence
regulations now say:

"by the same type of transmission that is being used for the communication"

Regards
Jeff
G8HUL
```

1619. IRTS Radio News Bulletin, Sunday September 30th 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-30 20:00:20 UTC
From: news at irts dot ie <devnull@panix.com>
Message-ID: <200709302000.l8UK08I23494@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 3824
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Irish Radio Transmitters Society
Radio News Bulletin

Sunday September 30th 2007

CQIR (Sundays news readers only)

A large station is in operation for the Press in the Phoenix Park and EI75IRTS will be QRV during the contest promoting the event worldwide. Low frequency operation for EI75IRTS is from the EI7M site in Cork. The first Irish entry pulled from the draw will win an all expenses long weekend for two in New York. You get a free entry for every 75 QSO's made. This is a showcase event for the Society and, as always, good operating practice, friendliness and courtesy to other users of the spectrum should be the order of the day.

EI0MAR is also QRV for CQIR today from the Vintage Radio Museum in Howth • visitors are welcome.

Tipperary Amateur Radio Group

The next meeting of the Tipperary Amateur Radio Group will be held on Thursday next, the 4th of October in Raheen House Hotel Raheen Road, Clonmel at 8.00 p.m. All are welcome.

Kerry Amateur Radio Group

The Kerry Amateur Radio Group will hold its annual general meeting on Saturday the 6th of October 2007 at 10 a.m. in the Muckross House Coffee Shop, Killarney. The annual election of officers will take place, and the following incumbents have been nominated: Ron Hahn, EI2JP, Chairman & Treasurer, John Costello, EI9ESB, Vice Chairman Billy O'Connor, EI7CQB, Hon. Secretary.

After the AGM, there will be a more general discussion regarding the Group's activities and direction for 2007/2008. All members are requested to attend, and new members are always welcome.

Limerick Radio Club

The next meeting of Limerick Radio Club will take place on Thursday the 11th of October at the usual venue, the Limerick Institute of Technology, Moylish at 19:30 hrs local time. All those interested are welcome to attend.

Dxpedition to St. Brandon

The Five Star DXers Association DXpedition to St. Brandon finished on Tuesday last, with over 137,000 QSO's in the 3B7C log. Paul EI5DI was among the operators, and this provided an added interest for EI stations. The 3B7C log includes almost 90 EI call signs and over 60 MI/GI call signs.

This has been one of the biggest DXpeditions (in terms of QSO totals) in recent times. No doubt, full details of the team's achievements will be publicised over the next few months. A quick look at the details that have been published suggest that European stations dominate the log.

Winlink and APRS

John, EI7IG, is experimenting/testing a Winlink Telpac Node in the Waterford area. The frequency in use is 439.875 MHz and the callsign is EI3RCW-10. If anyone is interested in participating, please contact him directly at 086-8167310.

Experiments in APRS are ongoing around the southeast on two metres using 144.800 MHz. A number of experimental digipeaters and Igates are in operation. The WX station EI2WRC is also using this frequency. For more information on APRS visit www.aprs.org.

Marconi Clifden Celebrations

On the 17th of October 1907 Guglielmo Marconi sent his first commercial message from the then new station at Clifden, Ireland. This October in celebration of this historic event members of the Galway Radio Experimenters Club will be running a special event station from Saturday 13th to Wednesday 17th from Clifden. The club has been issued the call sign EI100MFT for the event, MFT been the last call sign used on the original station.

On the Wednesday they will be making a special linkup with the Marconi sister station in Glace Bay, Nova

Scotia. Part of this linkup will be an exchange of greetings between President Mary McAleese and Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia the Honourable Mayann E. Francis. The group will also be honoured to have Princess Electra Marconi present as she is coming to Clifden for the festival along with an Exhibit from the Marconi Foundation in Bologna. The Galway Radio Experimenters Club will also be presenting a display of vintage equipment. More details on the festival can be found at www.clifden.ie. Visitors to the station are more than welcome and if you would like to participate this can also be arranged. For further information please contact Enda Broderick (II2II) on 086-8676410 or email: &#65533;enda dot Broderick at lightnet dot ie&#65533;.

3-Watt CW QSO

Tony EI5EM was on holidays recently in the Algarve and on the evening of the 16th of September was relaxing on the first floor balcony listening to 20 metres on his Elecraft KX1 QRP transceiver. Band conditions seemed good and the 25-foot antenna wire draped over the balcony with a 10-foot counterpoise seemed to be receiving well. The first station heard calling CQ was EI6IZ, Brendan in Mayo. More in hope than in expectation, Tony, operating as CT/EI5EM, replied to Brendan's call. Contact was made and reports exchanged. Tony's KX1 had an output power of 3 Watts. Taking this QRP level and the compromise antenna in use into consideration, Tony was pleased to receive a 519 report from Brendan and to give a 599 in return.

This CW QSO serves to prove what can be achieved on CW even at such low power levels and with an improvised antenna. Of course great credit must go to Brendan, EI6IZ for plucking Tony's weak signal out of the QRM and QRN to complete a really satisfying QSO.

Waterford Rally

The Waterford Radio and Electronics Rally will take place on Sunday the 21st of October at the Woodlands Hotel on the Dunmore Road in Waterford. South East Communications and Long Communications will be at the rally. The IRTS, AREN and a bring-and-buy stand will also feature.

Doors open at 11 a.m. and admission is 5 Euro, accompanied children are admitted free of charge. For details including a directions map, visit the South

Eastern Amateur Radio Group web site on www.searg.com.

Upcoming Rallies

The Foyle and District Rally will take place on Sunday the 4th of November 2007 at the White Horse Hotel, Derry. For more information visit www.mn0aku.org.uk.

The Mayo Radio Rally will take place on Sunday the 18th of November in the Belmount Hotel, Knock, Co. Mayo. For more information contact Padraic Baynes, EI9JA @ QTHR.

Talk on TETRA Digital Radio

There will be a free talk on TETRA digital radio in Dublin on the Thursday the 11th of October at 6 p.m. TETRA radio is a new secure radio system currently being rolled out by the Gardai and is in use on the LUAS tram system in Dublin. This system which operates in the UHF band features mobile phone like dialling as well as group calling like most PMR analogue systems. It may be rolled out in the future for all emergency and public services. The talk will be held at Engineers Ireland, 22 Clyde Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4, which is beside the American Embassy.

Marconi Lectures

The first commercial transatlantic message was transmitted from Marconi's Station in Clifden to his North American complex in Glace Bay, Nova Scotia almost 100 years ago. Marconi's achievements will be celebrated with a series of Marconi Centenary commemorative events from October the 12th to the 17th in Clifden, coordinated by the Clifden Chamber of Commerce. The celebrations include a lecture by Paul Duffy, Chartered Engineer and historian, entitled "Marconi-The Engineering Marvel". This lecture will take place at the Clifden Station House Theatre on Sunday the 14th of October at 1 p.m. Michael Sexton, Chartered Engineer and author of "Marconi: The Irish Connection", will give a lecture on the national aspect of Marconi's work at the Clifden Station House Theatre on Monday the 15th of October at 1 p.m.

Professor Peter Kennedy will chair a forum entitled "Whither Wireless Communications? Marconi's Legacy in the 21st Century" on Tuesday the 16th of October at Clifden Station House Theatre. This forum will reflect

on Marconi's achievements and the future for wireless communications in an era of ubiquitous connectivity.

Amateur Radio Mailing List

An International Youth Mailing list has been established by Duncan MacLachlan KU�DM. The aim is to promote the hobby amongst Young Operators worldwide and forging friendships in the process. The list is already growing in popularity with a healthy number of subscribers.

If you are under 25 years of age and would like to join, send an email to Jonathan 2I0JVI describing your interests and anything else you think relevant to �mi3jvi at yahoo dot co dot uk�. Your details shall then be forwarded to Duncan.

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall, EI7IS at QTHR or by phone to 051-853806 or 087-6302026. Items for the radio news can also be faxed to 087 5 6302026. News should be submitted via e-mail to �news at irts dot ie� for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Friday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday�s bulletin.

1620. Re: wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-09-30 20:56:17 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <lu20g3140hp2b4ud33tv144tkf52shm9cv@4ax.com>
Source record: 3825

On Sat, 29 Sep 2007 13:12:03 EDT, dplatt@radagast.org (Dave Platt)
wrote:

>If the FCC were of a mind to interpret the rules to require that the
>ID'ing be done either in CW, or in "classic" RTTY, I believe that they
>would have done so decades ago when AX.25 over AFSK modulations first
>became popular, or more recently when PSK31 and MFSK and etc. came
>into use. I've not heard or read any hint that they intend to do so.

At one time, CW identification was required for all data type amateur
emissions including RTTY. Indeed, MixW, the most popular sound-card
data program, still makes provision for this. Recent interpretations,
though, allow for ID using the mode of communication. During my
"reign", we (the San Francisco office of the FCC) at my urging
actually acquired a PK-232 TNC and the software to go with it!
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
ARRL Volunteer Counsel

email: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1621. Re: wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-01 17:03:40 UTC
From: Bruce in Alaska <fast@btpost.net>
Message-ID: <fast-2D3A2A.08553701102007@netnews.worldnet.att.net>
Source record: 3826

In article <lu20g3140hp2b4ud33tv144tkf52shm9cv@4ax.com>,
Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:

> On Sat, 29 Sep 2007 13:12:03 EDT, dplatt@radagast.org (Dave Platt)
> wrote:
>
> >If the FCC were of a mind to interpret the rules to require that the
> >ID'ing be done either in CW, or in "classic" RTTY, I believe that they
> >would have done so decades ago when AX.25 over AFSK modulations first
> >became popular, or more recently when PSK31 and MFSK and etc. came
> >into use. I've not heard or read any hint that they intend to do so.
>
> At one time, CW identification was required for all data type amateur
> emissions including RTTY. Indeed, MixW, the most popular sound-card
> data program, still makes provision for this. Recent interpretations,
> though, allow for ID using the mode of communication. During my
> "reign", we (the San Francisco office of the FCC) at my urging
> actually acquired a PK-232 TNC and the software to go with it!
> --
>
> 73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
> ARRL Volunteer Counsel
>
> email: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net
>

We had the same unit in the Region X Office in Seattle........

Bruce in alaska
--
add <path> before @

1622. Re: wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-02 03:00:12 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fdra23$11hi$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3827

Phil Kane wrote:
> On Sat, 29 Sep 2007 13:12:03 EDT, dplatt@radagast.org (Dave Platt)
> wrote:
>
>> If the FCC were of a mind to interpret the rules to require that the
>> ID'ing be done either in CW, or in "classic" RTTY, I believe that they
>> would have done so decades ago when AX.25 over AFSK modulations first
>> became popular, or more recently when PSK31 and MFSK and etc. came
>> into use. I've not heard or read any hint that they intend to do so.
>
> At one time, CW identification was required for all data type amateur
> emissions including RTTY. Indeed, MixW, the most popular sound-card
> data program, still makes provision for this. Recent interpretations,
> though, allow for ID using the mode of communication. During my
> "reign", we (the San Francisco office of the FCC) at my urging
> actually acquired a PK-232 TNC and the software to go with it!

I had heard that the SSID could be set with the callsign.

When we look at the purpose for ID'ing, the idea is to allow identity of a signal in case of a problem with it (bad signal, illegal operations, etc) If we were looking at a WI-fi type signal, one of the best ways to identify it would be by that SSID. If we had to use another method, then the person who is doing the identifying would have the unenviable task of listening for a CW signal at the end of all that computer party trash signal.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1623. Re: wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-02 04:48:36 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <gci3g3d9pk2647d836uukd71ceksp0sl1r@4ax.com>
Source record: 3828

On Mon, 1 Oct 2007 23:00:12 EDT, Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:

>If we had to use another method, then
>the person who is doing the identifying would have the unenviable task
>of listening for a CW signal at the end of all that computer party trash
>signal.

The reason for CW ID was that the FCC Field Engineers and Monitoring
Station techs could read the ID "off the air" because we were all
code-qualified. That was in the days before they had any decent
decoders/TNCs/computers. That was also the real reason for the long
delay in approving spread spectrum usage by amateurs. Once the
facilities had the equipment to read the ID in the format being used,
the restrictions were lifted.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1624. Re: wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-02 12:15:39 UTC
From: Jon Kåre Hellan <dev@null.com>
Message-ID: <1m4ph968h0.fsf@persaunet.uninett.no>
Source record: 3829

Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> writes:

> On Mon, 1 Oct 2007 23:00:12 EDT, Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:
>
>>If we had to use another method, then
>>the person who is doing the identifying would have the unenviable task
>>of listening for a CW signal at the end of all that computer party trash
>>signal.
>
> The reason for CW ID was that the FCC Field Engineers and Monitoring
> Station techs could read the ID "off the air" because we were all
> code-qualified. That was in the days before they had any decent
> decoders/TNCs/computers. That was also the real reason for the long
> delay in approving spread spectrum usage by amateurs. Once the
> facilities had the equipment to read the ID in the format being used,
> the restrictions were lifted.

How long until voice ID is required for CW signals?

73
LA4RT Jon

1625. Re: wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-02 12:47:46 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13g4ff3n09kce@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3830

Phil Kane wrote:

> The reason for CW ID was that the FCC Field Engineers and Monitoring
> Station techs could read the ID "off the air" because we were all
> code-qualified. That was in the days before they had any decent
> decoders/TNCs/computers. That was also the real reason for the long
> delay in approving spread spectrum usage by amateurs. Once the
> facilities had the equipment to read the ID in the format being used,
> the restrictions were lifted.

How "well known" does the protocol have to be in order to qualify for this concept of using it to ID the signal? If I want to experiment with a protocol that is sufficiently different from what's being used that the FCC can't obtain commercial equipment to decode it, THEN do I need to ID it using a "known" protocol?

There's a bit of a lose/lose situation here. If the FCC is willing to accept ID using the experimental protocol, they've effectively removed the requirement to ID and cannot enforce the prohibition on encryption (since any unknown protocol looks like encryption). If they require an ID that they can decode, it precludes work with experimental protocols like spread spectrum and the type of experiment that started this thread (modifying a commercial product that isn't capable of CW id).

1626. Re: wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-02 13:11:57 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <13g4gse5h0ghkc5@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3831

"Jon K�re Hellan" wrote

```
>> The reason for CW ID was that the FCC Field Engineers and Monitoring
>> Station techs could read the ID "off the air" because we were all
>> code-qualified.

> How long until voice ID is required for CW signals?

Good one!

N7SO
```

1627. Re: Suggestion for an HF starter rig

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-02 19:20:04 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fdtuij$157a$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3832

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
> On Sep 28, 9:29?am, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>> N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>>> On Sep 27, 10:53?am, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>
>>> Why not,
>
> [use a 1/4 wave dipole]
>
>>> other than the fact that such a short dipole will present a
>>> feedpoint impedance that has a low resistive part and a high reactive
>>> part?
>> That's a pretty good reason, though. 1/4 wavelength dipoles - make sure
>> to read that as total antenna length, not 1/4 wavelength per leg, are
>> just a troublesome combination that a lot of tuners can't tune very well.
>
> I'm not convinced. Depending on the transmission line impedance and
> length, the shack-end Z could be within the matching range
> of the Transmatch.

A few years back I did a modeling of an antenna that was 1/4 wavelength
long at I think 40 meters. The SWR of the antenna was approaching
infinite. If I get the chance, I'll model it again tonight - I'm doing
the mass mailing for the PAQSO party tonight, and if all goes well, I
should have a little time.

>>> I don't consider the G5RV and OCF to be 'trick' antennas.
>>> They're
>>> simply intelligent combinations of dipole and feed systems that
>>> have been worked out to present reasonable impedances so that
>>> line losses and Transmatch requirements are reasonable.
>> They are very clever. The OCF especially is a joyful
>> playground to work
>> on with antenna design programs.
>> It is a great way to learn both the
>> programs and antenna theory.
>
> Agreed. But so are other implementations such as trap dipoles and
> the classic dipole-with-ladder-line feed, where you try different
> dipole and transmission-line lengths.
>
>> Often the idea of "low SWR" is put out as if it is the sole criteria.
>
> Too often.
>

>> In
>> defense of SWR lovers, modern Rigs really hate High SWR,
>> especially
>> reactance of the capacitive kind.
>
> Well, that depends on how you define 'modern'...

Non-tube? Don't get me wrong, I LOVE tube rigs.

>> But a 50 ohm resistor has 1.1:1 VSWR,
>> and some manufacturers have taken advantage
>> of that sort of thing in the past.
>
> Not just in the past. Google "Maxx-comm matcher" (try different
> spellings). Those folks are still in business.

That's the one I was referring to. Hard to imagine they are still doing
business.

>> A lot of Western and Eastern EU, Great Britain, Iceland,
>> Norway, most of
>> South/Central America, about half of Africa, Israel, Australia,
>> Antarctica, and a couple others.
>
> On which bands?

Mostly 20 and 40. Just a few of the near out of country neighbors on 80.

>> The technical details are that it is a 96 foot total length dipole, up
>> around 55 feet, the center support is a short length of pvc tubing.
>
> I suspect that the 96 foot length was decided because that's what
> would fit in the available space.

Yup, I tried a few dipoles that were longer, and made a Z shape. They
worked okay, but were a lot more maintenance. Lots of tree whipping in
storms here, and I almost made plastic pully's into the end insulators
to combat the extra movement. But I went back to the 96 foot length

>> The ladder line is soldered to the respective dipole wire. Ladder
>> line makes
>> an almost straight drop to the Shack window. Definitely not the
>> best
>> thing going, but not too bad.
>
> Actually, what you describe is pretty close to optimum for a simple
> multiband antenna system in limited space, which I suspect is the
> main issue.

I agree. What really surprised me was that the performance on 75 meters
was pretty acceptable. I mostly get down there during contests, and have
had nice results. Worked enough people to make it worthwhile.

> Are you using true ladder line, or "window line" (Twin Lead with
> holes punched in the insulation)? True ladder line (heavy wire, wide
> spacing, mostly air insulation) has lower loss and less weather
> effects. If the line is short there's not much difference, but as
> frequency and line length increase it can be worth changing out.

I use the window line. I have heard of the advantages of the true ladder line, and certainly the higher impedance is one of them. I've heard of some of the drawbacks of window line, such as it's performance when wet.

I did take issue with the test method cited by many, in which the window line was dunked in water that included a wetting agent. My contention is that the experiment showed the effects on window line with wetted line.

My experience has been that window line does not wet in this manner. When the experimenter has to add a chemical to coat the line with water, it is altering the conditions and producing results germane to only those conditions.

I wonder what would happen to open wire ladder line under those conditions?

1628. Re: wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-02 20:14:15 UTC
From: Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-53B52C.15392702102007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 3833

Jon Kare Hellan <dev@null.com> wrote:
>
> How long until voice ID is required for CW signals?

My guess is that within about 10 years, CW usage will be about as
rare as AM usage is today.

--
Klystron

1629. Re: wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-02 23:57:03 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <fhm5g3d0hmsqn03c16ab8l3ckaq1s0r6jf@4ax.com>
Source record: 3834

On Tue, 2 Oct 2007 08:15:39 EDT, Jon Kï¿½re Hellan <dev@null.com> wrote:

>How long until voice ID is required for CW signals?

AFAIK Morse qualification is still required for FCC agents.

I'm a "fly on the wall" at one of the few Manual Morse Marine Public
Coast Stations in the US and there isn't a mike in the whole place!
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1630. Re: wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-03 00:18:15 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <4dn5g31tgold1vlbmu3unkecjopjp9atah@4ax.com>
Source record: 3835

On Tue, 2 Oct 2007 08:47:46 EDT, Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> wrote:

>How "well known" does the protocol have to be in order to qualify for
>this concept of using it to ID the signal? If I want to experiment with

>a protocol that is sufficiently different from what's being used that
>the FCC can't obtain commercial equipment to decode it, THEN do I need
>to ID it using a "known" protocol?

For your listening and dancing pleasure, we present the golden tones
of Section 97.303 of the FCC Rules:

==
ï¿½97.309 RTTY and data emission codes.

(a) Where authorized by ï¿½ï¿½97.305(c) and 97.307(f) of this part, an
amateur station may transmit a RTTY or data emission using the
following specified digital codes:

(1) The 5-unit, start-stop, International Telegraph Alphabet No. 2,
code defined in ITU-T Recommendation F.1, Division C (commonly known
as ï¿½Baudotï¿½).

(2) The 7-unit code specified in ITU-R Recommendations M.476-5 and
M.625-3 (commonly known as ï¿½AMTORï¿½).

(3) The 7-unit, International Alphabet No. 5, code defined in IT--T
Recommendation T.50 (commonly known as ï¿½ASCIIï¿½).

(4) An amateur station transmitting a RTTY or data emission using a
digital code specified in this paragraph may use any technique whose
technical characteristics have been documented publicly, such as
CLOVER, G-TOR, or PacTOR, for the purpose of facilitating
communications.

(b) Where authorized by ï¿½ï¿½97.305(c) and 97.307(f) of this part, a
station may transmit a RTTY or data emission using an unspecified
digital code, except to a station in a country with which the United
States does not have an agreement permitting the code to be used. RTTY
and data emissions using unspecified digital codes must not be
transmitted for the purpose of obscuring the meaning of any
communication. When deemed necessary by a District Director to assure
compliance with the FCC Rules, a station must:

(1) Cease the transmission using the unspecified digital code;

(2) Restrict transmissions of any digital code to the extent
instructed;

(3) Maintain a record, convertible to the original information, of
all digital communications transmitted.

==
What it comes down to is if the ID can't be decoded, the station has
to be found the old fashioned way: DFing, and the operator confronted.
The harder it is to be found, the closer the scrutiny.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1631. Re: wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-03 00:23:13 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <3vn5g3t6hkd27ts86jj2b5ti0kglg0om9s@4ax.com>
Source record: 3836

On Tue, 2 Oct 2007 16:14:15 EDT, Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz> wrote:

> My guess is that within about 10 years, CW usage will be about as
>rare as AM usage is today.

Don't tell that to the brass-pounders.

And CW is not dead in the Maritime Service, either. Just last month a new Manual Morse Maritime Public Coast Station was licensed by the FCC, making almost as many now as when RCA and Mackay/Globe ruled the airwaves. Indeed, some of them are resurrected "old" stations.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1632. Re: Suggestion for an HF starter rig

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-03 00:59:31 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fdublj$1658$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3837

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
> On Sep 27, 2:27?pm, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:

> There's also the cost factor.
>
> Yes, "everyone's location is different and each presents a unique
> problem to solve". Which means that recommending a vertical
> antenna to someone just starting out could be very bad advice unless a
> lot more information was gathered first.
>
> And if Brand Y using Brand T transmission line works better,
> why not use it?
>
> IMHO, the "whole name of the game" is useful radio
> communication. IOW, making QSOs.
>
> I have seen situations where it was good advice to tell a ham starting
> out on HF to put up a vertical. I have also seen situations where that
> would be very bad advice. Same for dipoles of various kinds,
> loops, random wires, etc.

The main reason that I recommend a dipole over a vertical is that it is general purpose, and just doesn't take as long to put up and get going.

My first dipole was up and running in a day. Then I put up my vertical while I could operate. The vertical took a lot longer to install. I had to pour the concrete base, and running the ground wires was the sort of project that I put them in as long as my back could stand it, until I came up with my trenching method. The tuning of the antenna required several putitup takeitdowns. and 75 meters was very touchy - it still is too sharp tuning to take in the whole voice or CW sections. THe results are that I had two nice antennas, but the vertical is more of a specialized instrument, one that I switch to or from depending mostly on how far away the other Op is - but even then, conditions will change and one or the other antenna will operate better than the other at different times.

My experiments with both have allowed me to definitively state that between the dipole and the ground mounted vertical, the best performer is yes.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1633. Re: wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-03 01:00:26 UTC
From: Jack VK2CJC <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com>
Message-ID: <fducbu$5n9$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 3838

> My guess is that within about 10 years, CW usage will be about as
> rare as AM usage is today.

I feel CW will take a little longer before it becomes rare.

When people moved from AM to SSB it was seen as upgrading. It was another more efficient mode for the same voice information. Of course there were the "die hards", and there is still some AM nets around today. Although you have to really search for them.

CW is a different thing. It has fanatical followers and the home brew crew will always see CW as the "first mode".

I think CW will become an eccentrics choice, but will still be heard on amateur bands throughout my lifetime (I'm hoping for another 50 years:) even if it becomes a "sked only" mode like some of the rarer data modes.

Wait and see I guess :o)
--
Jack VK2CJC / MM0AXL
FISTS #9666
CW Ops QRP Club #753
Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group
www.mncarg.org

1634. Re: wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-03 01:01:04 UTC
From: LVN <gareth.paley@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <ytqdnVgp_rpOWJ_anZ2dneKdnZydnZ2d@bt.com>
Source record: 3839

"Klystron" <xxx@yyy.zzz> wrote in message
news:xxx-53B52C.15392702102007@news.verizon.net...
> Jon Kare Hellan <dev@null.com> wrote:
>>
>> How long until voice ID is required for CW signals?
>
>
> My guess is that within about 10 years, CW usage will be about as
> rare as AM usage is today.
>
rubbish, I built my first CW TX when I was 9 and I guess I've got at least
another 40 years left in me yet.

- plus my top band 2 watt 160m AM kit set sits pride of place atop my HF
rice box -

Nowt wrong with AM (or CW) IMHO

(BTW I use Wifi for posting to newsgroups from the shack, my SSID is set to
default - I don't need an amateur call to use it)

--
--
10-10 de G1LVN
--
My call is M0WWS. I fell off a ladder,
and I woke up in rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Am I mad, in a coma, or back in time?

Amateur Radio - social networking since 1897

1635. Re: Suggestion for an HF starter rig

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-03 01:23:40 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <13g5rogc5scvt31@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3840

"Michael Coslo" wrote

> A few years back I did a modeling of an antenna that was 1/4 wavelength
> long at I think 40 meters. The SWR of the antenna was approaching
> infinite. If I get the chance, I'll model it again tonight - I'm doing the
> mass mailing for the PAQSO party tonight, and if all goes well, I should
> have a little time.

I'd think a strict 1/4 wave, regardless how it's fed, would be pretty horrific on that specific band. (But I couldn't explain why...it's just from what I've read.) That's why I made mine (55 feet) so that it was under 1/4 wave for 40, and more than 1/4 for all the higher bands.

As for window line being affected by water... yes, it is, but I never found it a big deal. As I recall, I just retuned some of the transmatch settings to accommodate. I used both 450 and 300 ohm window line... and even tv twinlead. What fun I had one night when I heard a cat playing on my flat roof, and I could tell he was playing with the transmission line that was suspended about a foot off the roof... I transmitted 100 watts and heard him take off like a shot!

BTW, I wonder what happened to the OP? Did we drive him away? ;-)

Howard N7SO

1636. Re: Suggestion for an HF starter rig

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-03 02:18:02 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1191375899.871806.175300@n39g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3841

On Oct 2, 3:20?pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> > On Sep 28, 9:29?am, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:

> > Depending on the transmission line impedance and
> > length, the shack-end Z could be within the matching range
> > of the Transmatch.
>
> A few years back I did a modeling of an antenna that was 1/4
> wavelength
> long at I think 40 meters. The SWR of the antenna was
> approaching infinite.

???

With reference to what sort of feedline? SWR only has meaning
wrt a particular line impedance.

> If I get the chance, I'll model it again tonight -

TNX

> >> In
> >> defense of SWR lovers, modern Rigs really hate High SWR,
> >> especially
> >> reactance of the capacitive kind.
>
> > Well, that depends on how you define 'modern'...
>
> Non-tube? Don't get me wrong, I LOVE tube rigs.

There have been non-tube ham rigs for a couple decades now....

In a way, we have come full circle.

Look back 50-odd years, and most ham rigs could match
an SWR of 3 or 4 to 1 without a tuner, because they had fairly
wide-range pi-networks.

That was sacrificed to the desire for miniaturization, but even as
late as the early 1980s, there were rigs with tube finals that could
match 2:1 SWR or so.

Meanwhile the SS rigs wanted 50 + j0 loads for their no-tune finals,
so Transmatches became very common - so common, that rigs began to
offer them built-in, so the rig could match SWR of 3 or 4 to 1. Only
difference was automation.

The more things change....

> > Google "Maxx-comm matcher" (try different
> > spellings). Those folks are still in business.

> That's the one I was referring to. Hard to imagine they are still
> doing business.

The ARRL Product Review where they tested one, then X-rayed
it and opened it up to show the resistors was well over 20 years
ago.

The fact of the matter is that they *do* work - just not very well.

> Mostly 20 and 40. Just a few of the near out of country
> neighbors on 80.

WInter nights are coming. That's when 80 and 40 really come into
their own.

> > I suspect that the 96 foot length was decided because
> > that's what
> > would fit in the available space.
>
> Yup, I tried a few dipoles that were longer, and made a
> Z shape. They
> worked okay, but were a lot more maintenance.
>Lots of tree whipping in
> storms here, and I almost made plastic pully's into the end
> insulators
> to combat the extra movement. But I went back to the
>96 foot length

IMHO, amateur radio antenna design is no more than
10% electrical engineering and no less than 90%
mechanical engineering. In many cases it's 5%/95%.

> > Actually, what you describe is pretty close to
> > optimum for a simple
> > multiband antenna system in limited space, which
> > I suspect is the
> > main issue.
>
> I agree. What really surprised me was that the performance
> on 75 meters
> was pretty acceptable.

Not really a surprise to me. While short, the 96 footer and lowloss
feed system will put significant RF in usable directions.

> I mostly get down there during contests, and have
> had nice results. Worked enough people to make it worthwhile.

CW SS is a month away....

> > Are you using true ladder line, or "window line" (Twin Lead with
> > holes punched in the insulation)? True ladder line
> > (heavy wire, wide
> > spacing, mostly air insulation) has lower loss and less weather
> > effects. If the line is short there's not much difference, but as
> > frequency and line length increase it can be worth changing out.
>
> I use the window line. I have heard of the advantages of the true
> ladder
> line, and certainly the higher impedance is one of them.

Higher impedance in and of itself doesn't make the difference.
What matters is the lower loss due to more copper and less
dielectric.

The ocarc transmission line loss calculator does balanced lines as
well as coax.

> I've heard of
> some of the drawbacks of window line, such as it's performance > when wet.
>
> I did take issue with the test method cited by many, in which
> the window
> line was dunked in water that included a wetting agent.
> My contention is
> that the experiment showed the effects on window line with
> wetted line.
>
> My experience has been that window line does not wet
> in this manner.
> When the experimenter has to add a chemical to coat
> the line with water,
> it is altering the conditions and producing results germane to only
> those conditions.

I agree. A spray with the garden hose will adequately simulate a
rainy day, I think.

I think your biggest possible improvement would be to
see how lossy your tuner/transmission line combo really is, and
improve it if possible.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1637. Re: wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-03 03:09:55 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <qo16g3tl8enfq070fi3bn070d1c8jpf2qk@4ax.com>
Source record: 3842

On Tue, 2 Oct 2007 21:01:04 EDT, "LVN" <gareth.paley@gmail.com> wrote:

>- plus my top band 2 watt 160m AM kit set sits pride of place atop my HF
>rice box -

The prize 160m TX is, of course, the Bauer 707 broadcast transmitter -
a 1 KW (output) AM rig that's about the size of a refrigerator.
They're a rare bird, because as BC stations discarded them, hams
picked them up. They can also do CW with a little terminal swapping.

Fritz Bauer designed beautiful stuff....
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1638. Manual Morse

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-03 04:10:43 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13g65hp6ta81376@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3843

Phil Kane wrote:

> I'm a "fly on the wall" at one of the few Manual Morse Marine Public
> Coast Stations in the US and there isn't a mike in the whole place!

What is the purpose of the station? What stations does it communicate
with and what traffic is exchanged?

By "manual Morse" I assume you mean, "not sent by computer"?

1639. Re: wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-03 11:33:36 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1191409095.748569.89730@19g2000hsx.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3844

On Oct 2, 8:47?am, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
> How "well known" does the protocol have to be
> in order to qualify for
> this concept of using it to ID the signal?

IANAL, but, from what I've read, if the FCC or anyone
else with interest can find it, that's good enough.

For example, if you want to know how to decode PSK31,
you can look it up many places.

> If I want to experiment with
> a protocol that is sufficiently different from what's being used that
> the FCC can't obtain commercial equipment to decode it, THEN
> do I need
> to ID it using a "known" protocol?

That's probably a pretty good working definition of
"well known". In the case of a mode like PSK31, you don't
even need special equipment to decode.Just a computer with soundcard,
an interconnect cable, and some free software.
>
> There's a bit of a lose/lose situation here. If the FCC is willing to
> accept ID using the experimental protocol, they've effectively
> removed
> the requirement to ID and cannot enforce the prohibition on
> encryption
> (since any unknown protocol looks like encryption).

Unknown protocols are not allowed. It has to be possible for
FCC or any interested party to decode the transmission.

They define encryption as *intentionally* encoding to hide the
meaning of a transmission.

> If they require an
> ID that they can decode, it precludes work with experimental
> protocols
> like spread spectrum and the type of experiment that started this > thread
> (modifying a commercial product that isn't capable of CW id).

SS is a different game because, unlike "narrow" modes, it not
only can require special knowledge/equipment to decode, but
can also require special knowledge/equipment to even know it
is a radio signal and not noise. That's why amateur SS operation
requires keeping a log.

If someone puts a several-MHz wide DSSS signal on 2 meters,
will folks listening with FM, AM or SSB receivers even know
it is being done? Or will they just experience a rise in the noise
floor?

It seems to me that FCC's view has changed over the years
in the direction of deregulation of ID.

In the past, they wanted everyone with a receiver and a little
skill to be able to ID any amateur transmission,

Today they only care if FCC can ID any amateur transmission.

Two of the reasons the "regulation by bandwidth" proposals
were so overwhelmingly opposed was that they would have
allowed data transmissions in the 'phone subbands, and removed
many of the restrictions on 'robots'. So an amateur 'phone station
not equipped to decode could be unable to ID an interfering data
station.

If I had my druthers, the bands would be divided into three
subbands-by-mode: CW, data, voice/image.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1640. Re: wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-03 14:47:13 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <470382fb$0$61684$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 3845

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

In <1191409095.748569.89730@19g2000hsx.googlegroups.com> N2EY@AOL.COM writes:

[...]

>SS is a different game because, unlike "narrow" modes, it not
>only can require special knowledge/equipment to decode, but
>can also require special knowledge/equipment to even know it
>is a radio signal and not noise. That's why amateur SS operation
>requires keeping a log.

Only if specifically required to by the District Director, per the
latest version of FCC Part 97.311:

http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/news/part97/d-305.html#311

There is currently no a-priori requirement for all amateurs using SS
mode to keep a complete log of all transmitted content. The SS rules
were substantially deregulated/liberalized in 1999 as a result of 97-12,
including deletion of the narrowband ID requirement, the requirement to
use only certain direct-sequence spreading codes, and the a-priori
logging requirement (unless required by FCC officials).

I agree with Phil and Jim that a reasonable interpretation here is that
the FCC wants to be able to decode transmissions at least in principle,
possibly after the fact, and after the source has been DF'd and they've
"replayed the tape" (though recording the wide swaths of bandwidth
required by SS would seem to be a technical challenge of its own), not
necessarily to always be able to decode/ID any arbitrary amateur signal
in real time.

[...]

- --
73, Paul W. Schleck, K3FU
pschleck@novia.net
http://www.novia.net/~pschleck/
Finger pschleck@novia.net for PGP Public Key

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v1.4.5 (SunOS)

iD8DBQFHA4K76Pj0az779o4RAvnYAJ0SQ1m1K31K9wbwFZzVoCBcPz/1rgCfQvi/
9CjGHApVnRT9VcdL2REgkhg=
=9Lhh
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----

1641. Re: wifi

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-03 19:08:27 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <5op7g3hd5pkqdrdi2t6hbq2jhmepepdssg@4ax.com>
Source record: 3846

On Wed, 3 Oct 2007 10:47:13 EDT, Paul W. Schleck
<pschleck@oasis.novia.net>" wrote:

> (though recording the wide swaths of bandwidth
>required by SS would seem to be a technical challenge of its own), not
>necessarily to always be able to decode/ID any arbitrary amateur signal
>in real time.

They seem to do this on NCIS and CSI and similar TV programs all the
time.... <ggg>

Interesting to note that our consulting engineering company is named
CSI Telecommunications....but OUR CSI does not mean "Crime Scene
Investigators" - it's the initials of the predecessor parent company
whose business had nothing to do with communications or crime scenes.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1642. [DXNL] DXNL 1539 (Oct 3, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-03 20:05:07 UTC
From: Robert Busch - DL7VOA <dxnl@dxhf.darc.de>
Message-ID: <160446566158.20071003220105@dxhf.darc.de>
Source record: 3847
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.dx,rec.radio.info

DXNL 1539 - Oct 3, 2007
DX Newsletter

a free and weekly service of
DARC Committee "DX and HF contesting"
(http://www.darcdxhf.de)

editor: Helmut Schlaffer, DL7MAE
(e-mail: dxnl@dxhf.darc.de)

translation by: Bob, DL7VOA
(e-mail: dl7voa@darc.de)

A5 - BHUTAN
Kunio Saito,A52VE (JA8VE), had to leave Bhutan on Sep 3 due to health problems. He intended to stay until March 2009.

FM - MARTINIQUE, NA-107
Philippe (ex F8EFU) will live on Martinique (NA-107, DIFO FM-001) for a longer period of time. After hurricane "Dean" he has no telephone or internet at the moment but his radio is working and he is active as FM5LD mostly in CW on 30m. He is running 50 watts into a dipole and plans to put up more wires in the near future. Please send your QSLs via the FM bureau or direct to Philippe Schlegel, Caserne Redoute, BP 616, 97261 Fort de France, Martinique, via France.

FO - CLIPPERTON ISLAND, NA-011
TX5C will be the callsign of the DXpedition to Clipperton scheduled for March 2008. The radio amateurs will be accompanied by a scientific team which is going to study the ecosystem of Clipperton.
The latest information is published at: http://www.clipperton2008.org

H40 - TEMOTU ISLANDS, OC-178
Mike,KM9D, and Jan,KF4TUG, have left Wallis and Futuna and are now on their way to Tikopia Island (OC-178) in the Temotu province. Their call will be H40MY but is not known how long they are ging to stay there. Their QSL manager is OM2SA.

HV - VATICAN CITY
IK0FVC has got the permission to use the callsign HV50VR, "VR" stands for Vatican Radio. Vatican Radio celebrates its 50th anniversary at the moment and the callsign was first aired on Sep 27. Activities can be expected in the upcoming major contests. Unfortunately the QSL manager IW0GPN confirms only direct, but the logs will be uploaded to the LoTW. IK0FVC has also put a new station on the air with HV6SP.
QSL also via IK0FVC, only direct and not very reliably so some rumours

say he collects bucks instead of stamps.

T6 - AFGHANISTAN
Ross (ex VK1UN, VK8UN, 4W6UN, EX1UN) is now active as T61AA from the
city of Faizabad. The length of his stay is not known but he was heard
on 20m after 1200 UTC and on 17m after 0500 and 1330 UTC.
T6 is the new official prefix for Afghanistan, YA calls are not issued
anymore. The QSL route for T61AA is via Ross Ballantyne, PO Box 99,
World Trade Centre, Victoria 8005, Australia.

TK - CORSICA, EU-014
Mike,TK/DL3VTA, and Wolfgang,TK/DL1DVP, will be active from
Corsica (EU-014) in SSB/CW/RTTY/PSK31/63 from Oct 7-14.
QSLs direct or via bureau to their homecalls.

VK9/L - LORD HOWE ISLAND, OC-004; VK9/N - NORFOLK ISLAND, OC-005
Jack,HB9TL/VK6CTL, will be QRV from Lord Howe Island (OC-004) signing
VK9CLF in SSB on 80-10m from Oct 8-18.
After that he will activate Norfolk Island (OC-005) as VK9CNF from
Oct 19-25. QSL cards should be sent direct via HB9QR.

ZL7 - CHATHAM ISLANDS, OC-038
Jacek,ZL7/SP5EAQ, Wojciech,ZL7/SP9PT, Marek,ZL7/SP9BQJ, and
Jozef,SP9-31029, will be active in SSB, CW and RTTY from Oct 5-18.
QSLs via homecalls.

3B7 - ST BRANDON ISLANDS, AF-015
3B7C went QRT on Sep 25 at 0331 UTC. After loggging 135.500 QSOs 3B7C
is ranking third after D68C and 3B9C in the list of the DXpeditions
with the most QSOs. Here is the band and mode breakdown:
10m - 7.958 30m - 13.460 Phone: 51.754
12m - 8.851 40m - 19.906 CW: 79.217
15m - 18.887 80m - 13.267 RTTY: 6.549
17m - 21.052 160m - 2.922
20m - 31.577
All details about 3B7C can be found online at: http://www.3B7C.com

3C - EQUATORIAL-GUINEA, AF-010
Fred,KH7Y, Vic,EA5YN, Luis,EA5BRE, and Elmo,EA5BYP, will show up as
3C7Y from Equatorial-Guinea from Oct 5-14 and the team states this is
the first activity since five years. The team will be active in CW/SSB/
RTTY on all bands from Bioko Island (AF-010) and one station per mode
shall be active all around the clock. They have beams for 6/10/15/20m,
a rotary dipole for 40m and normal dipoles for the other bands.
QSLs via EA5BYP. Further information can be obtained from their website
http://personal.telefonica.terra.es/web/ea5yn/3c7y.htm

5H - TANZANIA
Pat,W8FV, is going to put up his expedition tent on the southern lake-
front of Lake Victoria from where he will be QRV as 5H9PD from Oct 6-9.
QSLs via W8FV.

7Q - MALAWI
Ely,IN3VZE, is spending his holidays on the southwestern lakefront of
Lake Malawi. Listen for 7Q7CE on all bands from Oct 4-25.
QSL via bureau to IN3VZE or direct to:
IN3VZE, Ely Camin, Corso 3 Novembre 136/2, 38100 Trento, Italy.

9Q - DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO
John,SM5DJZ, is the new QSL manager of 9Q1TB and 9Q1EK, after their
last manager SM5DQC passed away. Direct QSLs should be sent to:
Jan Hallenberg, Vassunda Andersberg, SE-741 91 Knivsta, Sweden.
The logs will still be uploaded to the LotW and online logs are still
available at: http://www.logsearch.de

FRANCE, SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS
TM0VDM will be QRV from Oct 6-19 to celebrate the 100th birthday of
the poet Maxence Van der Meersch (1907-1951). QSL via F5KEB.

SWITZERLAND, SPECIAL EVENT STATIONS
HB9SPACE will be active during the World Space Week from Oct 4-10.
To celebrate the 50th anniversary of astronautics there will be special
activity by the Swiss astronaut Claude Nicollier,HB9CN, from the museum
of military aviation "Clin d'Ailes" in Payerne on Oct 6.
QSL via bureau to HB4FR.
His operating schedule and details can be found at: http://www.hb4fr.ch

LINKS: Current SOTA activities (mountain summits) are announced at:
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/activations.php or
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/spots.php

Ludwig van Beethofen was an enthusiastic CW fan. You don't believe it?
Click this link and be amazed: http://www.zerobeat.net/morse505.html

UPCOMING CONTESTS

Oct 1-7: CW activity week of the German DTC e.V.
Oct 2-4: YLRL Anniversary Party
Oct 3: German Telegraphy Contest (DTC)
Oct 6: European Sprint Contest and DARC Hell Contest 80m
Oct 6/7: Oceania DX Contest and IARU-Region-1 UHF/SHF Contest
Oct 7: RSGB 21/28 MHz Contest and DARC Hell Contest 40m

IOTA collected by Fredy,DE0MST (e-mail: iota@dxhf.darc.de)

Island activities:
AS-146, BY4, Shandong Prov. N.E. Grp.: BY1TK/4 and BY1TT/4 are working from
Chang Dao Island from Oct 1-6. QSL BY1TK/4 via EA7FTR, BY1TT/4 via HC.

EU-001, SV5, Dodekanes: Andy,DL4OK (NX1S), plans to show up as SV5/NX1S in
QRP on 20m during his holidays on Kos Island between Sep 29 and Oct 13.
If possible he will also activate the old lighthouse Akra Ayios Foukas
(LH 1730, DOD 063). QSLs via bureau or direct to DL4OK.

EU-010, GM/MM, Outer Hebrides: The Workington & District ARC plans to become
active from Barra Island signing MS0WRC from Oct 6-12. They also intend

to make short trip to the islands Vatersay and Eriskay.
QSLs via MX0WRC or G0MTD.

OC-142/VK4/QLD State Centre Group; OC-160/VK4/QLD State North Group,
OC-171/VK4/QLD State South Group: Chris,DK2CRN (VK2AMB/4), and
Georg,DL1ECG (VK2ALU/4), will visit following islands from Oct 16-26:
Fraser Isl./OC-142 (WLOTA LH 2976), Heron Isl./OC-142, Dunk Isl./OC-171
and Hamilton Isl./OC-160. They will run 100 watts into a double Zepp
and an Outbacker. This is a holiday activity and no DXpedition!
QSLs via homecalls (direct/bureau).

Lighthouse activities (WLOTA/ARLHS)

FM5LD LH 1041 resident
8P6DR LH 0999 Sep 27-Oct 14
TK9Z LH 1390 Sep 28-Oct 5
SV5/NX1S LH 1730 DOD-063 Sep 29-Oct 13
JW8DW LH 0125 Oct 1-7
JW/OZ1HPS LH 0125 Oct 1-7
3C7Y LH 2977 Oct 5-14
IC8/OE1MHL LH 0689 Oct 7-12

Bandspots of the last 7 days

80m
DR1COTA 3.508 2252Z via DL1ATR (B)
HV50VR 3.798 2115Z via IW0GPN (d)
J6/DL7AFS 3.524 0546Z via DL7AFS (B)
ON47FOUGA 3.722 1949Z via ON6KN
TM0RWC 3.654 1809Z via F6KMX
TM3WRC 3.653 2100Z via F6PSH
TM6WRC 3.511 1918Z via F6KRD (B)
V85SS 3.505 1642Z see QRZ.COM
4S7NE 3.795 2127Z
9U0A 3.506 2120Z via DL7DF (B)

40m
HB0/DJ3HJ 7.065 0802Z via DJ3HJ (B)
HB0/PE8E/p 7.093 0811Z via PE8E
HZ1IK 7.035 2125Z PSK, via DK7YY (B)
J6/DL7AFS 7.092 2332Z via DL7AFS (B)
J6/DL7AFS 7.038 2147Z RTTY, via DL7AFS (B)
LZ170VL 7.062 2152Z via LZ1KZA
ON47FOUGA 7.062 2152Z via ON6KN
PE1DTU 7.060 0832Z EU-038
VK9WWI 7.001 2040Z via HA7RY
3Z0MK 7.025 0709Z via SP7QHR
9H20 7.065 2138Z via PB9ZR (B)

30m
DF3ZE/p 10.114 1848Z EU-042
J6/DL7AFS 10.104 2057Z OP Ju, via DL2ZAE (B)

LX2007G 10.102 0738Z via LX1KC (B)
VK9WWI 10.104 0721Z via HA7RY
5B/DL6RAI 10.107 1611Z via DL6RAI (B)
9U0A 10.105 2303Z via DL7DF (B)

20m
AO1ABT 14.241 0948Z via EA1ABT
CT9M 14.090 1757Z via CS3MAD (B)
J6/DL7AFS 14.091 2158Z RTTY, via DL7AFS (B)
J6/DL7AFS 14.177 2046Z via DL7AFS (B)
P29VCX 14.260 1337Z via SM6CVX (d)
P29VCX 14.040 0907Z via SM6CVX (d)
SU8BHI 14.016 1446Z via HA3JB (d)
SV8/OE3GRU 14.247 0723Z
TM8RWC 14.192 0931Z (B)
5B/DL2MLU 14.128 1632Z RTTY, via DL2MLU (B)
5B/DL6RAI 14.087 0818Z RTTY, via DL6RAI (B)
9M2MT 14.085 1627Z RTTY, (d)
9U0A 14.031 0710Z via DL7DF (B)
9U0A 14.170 1455Z via DL7DF (B)
9U0A 14.107 1720Z RTTY, via DL7DF (B)

17m
HB0/DJ3HJ 18.125 1546Z via DJ3HJ (B)
HB0/DJ9ZB 18.145 1926Z via DJ9ZB (B)
HB0/DL9RCF 18.073 1513Z via DL9RCF (B)
HB0/DL9RCF 18.148 1356Z via DL9RCF (B)
J6/DL7AFS 18.072 2001Z via DL7AFS (B)
J6/DL7AFS 18.101 1623Z RTTY, via DL7AFS (B)
ON47FOUGA 18.145 0846Z via ON6KN
P29VCX 18.070 0747Z via SM6CVX (d)
VQ9LA 18.104 1457Z RTTY, see QRZ.com
VY0ICE/VE2 18.077 1500Z via VE2TKH (B)
ZF2BO 18.100 1632Z via W6BO
5B/DL6RAI 18.073 1513Z via DL6RAI (B)
5U5U 18.150 0905Z see QRZ.com
9U0A 18.070 0620Z via DL7DF (B)

15m
CT9M 21.084 0852Z via CS3MAD (B)
YB4IR 21.081 0842Z RTTY, OC-143
9U0A 21.002 0714Z via DL7DF (B)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = LotW

Preview

DATE CALL DXNL

05Oct-15Oct 3C7Y 1539 *
15Dec-20Jan 3D2AG/Rotuma 1522
2006 -2007 3XM6JR 1484
-Apr/08 5H0RS 1515
06Oct-09Oct 5H9PD 1539 *
26Sep-26Oct 5R8RJ 1537
-Apr/08 6W/EA4ATI 1515
01Sep- 6W/T98A 1531
04Oct-25Oct 7Q7CE 1539 *
-Nov 7Q7HB 1537
01Aug-21Oct 8J3ARDF 1530
28Sep-13Oct 8P6DR 1538
30Sep-12Oct 8Q7AK 1538
30Sep-13Oct 8R1XR/8R1XT 1538
2007 9N7JO 1501
26Sep-09Oct 9U0A 1537

-Nov A61TX 1496
-17Nov AT60MY 1534
01Oct-06Oct BY1TK/4.. 1538
-Aug/08 C91R 1538
-Feb/08 DP0GVN 1496
2007/2008 EI100S(I) 1501
03Oct-24Oct EL (PAs) 1538
-30Nov EW905B 1523
-15Jan FO5RU 1537
NOW H40MY 1539 *
21Sep-20Oct HC1/EA1APV 1537
NOW HS0ZHR 1537

-Nov IS0/I2MOV 1533
2006 -2008 J28JA 1484/85
-Aug/08 J28OO 1534
22Sep-11Oct J6/DL7AFS.. 1538
01Oct-07Oct JW8DW.. 1538
Nov KH3/W7KFI 1525/31
06Oct-12Oct MS0WRC 1539 *
02Oct-06Oct P29NI 1537
08Oct-10Oct ? P29VLR 1537
-31Dec R100AK/IF 1534

21Sep-30Nov SU8BHI 1537
29Sep-13Oct SV5/NX1S 1539 *
-31Dec SX100VAR 1528
25Sep-04Oct T30XX 1537
10Oct-28Oct T31XX 1537
Oct ? T33ZZ 1534
NOW T61AA 1539 *
-03Oct TI2/F6FQX 1538
Feb/08 TI9 1533
28Sep-05Oct TK9Z 1538
07Oct-14Oct TK/DL1DVP.. 1539

NOW -2008 TL8QC 1459
07Sep-20Oct TM0-TM9RWC 1533
06Oct-19Oct TM0VDM 1539 *
Mar/08 TX5C (Clipp.) 1539 *

Jan -Dec VI3SAA 1499
01Nov-15Nov VK9ANH (Norf.) 1538
08Oct-18Oct VK9CLF (LH) 1539 *
19Oct-25Oct VK9CNF (Norf.) 1539 *
25Sep-05Oct VK9WWI (Wi.) 1537
Feb/08 VP6DX/Ducie 1521
08Sep-15Jan VP8CXV (Fal.) 1535
-Oct YB9AQH 1535
-31Dec Z360M 1531
NOW ZD7X 1535
29Sep-12Oct ZK2 (DL2AH) 1538
17Oct-30Oct ZL7/DL2AH 1538
05Oct-18Oct ZL7/SP9PT.. 1539 *

* = new or updated
.. = and other calls

QSL information

A62ER via IZ8CLM (correction to DXNL 1538)
AM5ANF via EC5ANF (B)
AM7ABV via EC7ABV
AN1HNW via EB1HNW
AN4EB via EB4EB
AN5CNK via EB5CNK (B)
AN7RB via EB7RB
AO1ABT via EA1ABT
AO1AHO via EA1AHO (B)
AO1CCW via EA1CCW (B)
AO1FN via EA1FN
AO1HS via EA1HS
AO5EM via EA5EM
AO5FL via EA5FL (B)
AO5FX via EA5FX
AO6AZ via EA6AZ (B)
AO7AAW via EA7AAW
AO7AC via EA7AC
AO7CWA via EA7CWA (B)
AO7HMI via EA7HMI (B)
AO8ATE via EA8ATE (B)
AO8AUW via EA8AUW (B)
B7P via BD7IXG
BY7OK via BD7IXG
C91R via CT1BXT (B)
CO2HQ via EB7AEY (d)
CO3JN via EB7AEY (d)

CX2AQ via EA5KB (B)
D2NX via JH7FQK (B)
FP/K9MDO via W9NJB
HD2A via HC2GT
HF40PAZ via SP6PAZ (B)
HF63DNI via SP5PPW
HL13STCA via 6K2BWA
HP3/K1YJ via W4JS (*)
HV50VR via IW0GPN (d)
J44XG via HA4XG (B)
J6/DL7AFS via DL7AFS (B)
JW/OZ3ACQ via OZ3ACQ
KH0/JR4GPA via JR4GPA (starting in 2008 only direct)
K6O via KB9CR (B)
K0D eQSL, (L)
K0RC eQSL, (L)
SD7ME via DL5ME (d)
SG5W via SM5IMO
SG5X via SM5AQD
SI7T via SM7LZQ (B)
SL0W via SM0AJU
UK8OK via EA7FTR (B)
V21RW (d)
VK1ANU/5 via JO2SLZ
VK9WWI via HA7RY
VP8CXV via GM0TQJ (B)
VY0/KH0PR via JJ8DEN (B)
VY0ICE/VE2 via VE2TKH (B)
W2IK/WTC911 via W2IK
5B/DL6RAI via DL6RAI (B)
5P9A/p via OZ3RIN
6I2D via XE2D (L)
9U0A via DL7DF (B)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = Logbook of the World (LotW)

IW0GPN: Alessandro Carletti, Via Morlupo 81, I-00060 Capena (Roma), ITALIEN.

QSLs arrived direct: 1A0KM (via IK0FTA)

QSLs arrived via bureau: JT800OK (OK1XC), KN5G/FS, RA2FIA, ST2A (T93Y),
TC2K4J (TA3YJ), TO2ANT (F6HMJ), TX5NK (DJ8NK),
TZ6CW (K7WP), UK8UC, V47/AB2RF, VP8LGT (VP8ON),
VQ9LA, YI9LZ (LZ1ZF), YK1BA, 3B8/OM0C (OM2FY),
3XD2Z (RW3AZ), 5A7A (DL9USA), 7Q7BP (G3MRC),
9K2USA (9K2RA), 9K9HQ via 9K2CQ

Many thanks for contributing to this issue of the DXNL are going to:
Carl Smith (QRZ DX), 425DXNews, OPDX Bulletin, DF2CQ, DF6EX (WIN-QSL),

DJ5AV, DK8JB, DL1ECG, DL1SBF, DL3IE, DL4OK, DL7VOA, F5NQL, HB9BOU, IN3VZE,
IZ8CLM, SWL Norbert Maybaum and others.

The German PDF version can be found on the DARC homepage at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/bulls/dxmb/2007/dxmb1539.pdf

Subscribe or unsubscribe to the DXNL mailing list yourself at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedxms.htm

1643. Re: Suggestion for an HF starter rig

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-04 19:59:50 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fe30dp$1gdq$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3848

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
> On Oct 2, 3:20?pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>> N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>>> On Sep 28, 9:29?am, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>
>>> Depending on the transmission line impedance and
>>> length, the shack-end Z could be within the matching range
>>> of the Transmatch.
>> A few years back I did a modeling of an antenna that was 1/4
>> wavelength
>> long at I think 40 meters. The SWR of the antenna was
>> approaching infinite.
>
> ???
>
> With reference to what sort of feedline? SWR only has meaning
> wrt a particular line impedance.

When I came up with infinite SWR, I didn't spend a whole lot more time
on the antenna. I could probably match it with a super long piece of
coax, and attendant loss, but it is really so much easier to change the
length so it isn't 1/4 wave on any desired frequency I might want, have
the SWR at a manageable level, and use the tuner.

I look at it as one of those things that are easy to avoid.

<snippage>

>> I've heard of
>> some of the drawbacks of window line, such as it's performance > when wet.
>>
>> I did take issue with the test method cited by many, in which
>> the window
>> line was dunked in water that included a wetting agent.
>> My contention is
>> that the experiment showed the effects on window line with
>> wetted line.
>>
>> My experience has been that window line does not wet
>> in this manner.
>> When the experimenter has to add a chemical to coat
>> the line with water,
>> it is altering the conditions and producing results germane to only
>> those conditions.
>

> I agree. A spray with the garden hose will adequately simulate a
> rainy day, I think.

That is the case. I have heard that some ladder line will get "frosted" by sandstorms or even have moss grow on them, which could lead to trouble re wetting, or being somewhat submerged in a wet substance, but that is kind of extreme. I've got 5 year old window line that still has the water bead up on the poly.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1644. "Fony Fonetics?"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-04 20:00:51 UTC
From: Alan WA4SCA <ALANBIDDLE70@YAHOO.COM>
Message-ID: <skgag395vp3noj3f8s3gg07avqpeoj0jpv@4ax.com>
Source record: 3749

Hi,

Years ago, I had a list, now long lost, of "Fony Fonetics." It was a humorous phonetic alphabet of words which either were odd exceptions where the sound did not match the spelling, or were exotic and hard to distinguish over the air, such as using syzygy for "S" or Gemini for "G." I tried the usual Google route, and am wondering if anyone happens to have a list. I think the original may have been in one of the ham magazines.

Alan
WA4SCA

--
Alan
WA4SCA

1645. Re: "Fony Fonetics?"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-04 23:10:02 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13gaqjhdee8l07b@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3750

Alan WA4SCA wrote:

> Years ago, I had a list, now long lost, of "Fony Fonetics."

I don't know if I found the one you had, but here's one from rec.humor.funny

The same old standard phonetic alphabet (which you
would use to describe spelling "Wilson" as "Whiskey, India,
Lima, Sierra, Oscar, November") has been used by aircraft
pilots, millitary personnel, and many others for many years
now. So, I finally decided to come up with something a bit
more "original" for those people who annoy me:

A Are N Nine
B Bee O Owe
C Cite P Pseudonym
D Double-U Q Queue
E Eye R Rap
F Five S Sea
G Genre T Tsunami
H Hoe U Understand?
I I V Vie
J Junta W Why
K Knot X Xylophone
L Lye Y You
M Me Z Zero

People don't ask me to spell anything over the
phone anymore.

****

From uk.radio.amateur <b5$PrQAAgnGxEw9S@luthien.demon.co.uk>

A - arear
B - beer
C - cheer
D - deer
E - ear
F - fear
G - gear
H - hear
I - idea
J - jeer
K - keyer
L - leer
M - mere

N - near
O - oesophagus
P - peer
Q - queer
R - rear
S - seer
T - tear
U - urea
V - veer
W - weir
X - xylophone (!)
Y - year
z - zaire

and a followup <823893520anb@kirsta.demon.co.uk>

Aye
Bee
Cue
Double-u
Ell
Four
Gibe
Hour
Iambic
Jay
Knot
Lye
Mnemonic
Nine
Owe
Pea
Quay
Repeat
See
Tea
Urn
Veldt
Write
Xenon
You
Zero

And here's one in <mf6jtugcbo909846qro35ikq35msog19bv@4ax.com>

Aeon

Bdellium

Cereal

Djakarta

Euphoria

Futtock

Gnome

Hour

Ian

Jalepeï¿½o

Knee

Llama

Mnemonic

Ngami

Oedipus

Pneumonia

Quito

Roentgen

Sforzando

Tchaikovsky

Ursula

Veldt

Wretch

Xylophone

Yclept

Zloty

1646. Re: "Fony Fonetics?"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-05 20:02:07 UTC
From: Alan WA4SCA <ALANBIDDLE70@YAHOO.COM>
Message-ID: <vv4dg3tejn0ooak8nt76mnan5rf9oa19ag@4ax.com>
Source record: 3751

Steve,

It is too long ago to remember exactly, but those are all exactly the
type of thing I remember. Many thanks! I definitely need to head
over to rec.humor.funny as well.

--
Alan
WA4SCA

1647. The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 40 (Friday, October 5, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-06 01:50:42 UTC
From: ARRL Letter Mailing List <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <200710060138.l961cnlb021009@linux11676.dn.net>
Source record: 3752
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

****
The ARRL Letter
Vol. 26, No. 40
October 5, 2007
****

IN THIS EDITION:

* + Son of First Ham to Operate in Space to Follow in Father's Footsteps

* + ARRL/TAPR Celebrate 26th Annual Digital Communications Conference
* + ARRL and MARS Team Up for Washington Demo
* + Look for the November Issue of QST in Your Mailbox
* + Nominations Now Being Accepted for the 2007 ARRL International Humanitarian Award
* + NASA TV Shows Launch, Docking of Spacecraft, More
* Solar Update
* IN BRIEF:
This Weekend on the Radio
ARRL Continuing Education Course Registration
+ ARRL Executive Committee Upholds Ethics and Elections Committee's Decision
+ James Michener, K9JM, Wins September QST Cover Plaque Award
Mark the "Play on PropNET" Weekend on Your Calendar
Notes from the ARRL DXCC Desk
ARRL Shipping New Books
Longtime ARRL Staffer Retires
Let Us Know What You Think

+Available on ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/>

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==>Delivery problems: First see FAQ <http://www.arrl.org/members-only/faq.html#nodelivery>, then e-mail <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
==>Editorial questions or comments only: S. Khrystyne Keane, <k1sfa@arrl.org>
==========

==> SON OF FIRST HAM TO OPERATE IN SPACE TO FOLLOW IN FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS

Richard Garriott, KE5QNX, son of Owen Garriott, W5LFL, will be launching into space and living aboard the International Space Station in October 2008 as a client of Space Adventures. Owen Garriott operated the world's first Amateur Radio Station from space, W5LFL, as part of the Spacelab

mission on the space shuttle Columbia (STS-9) in 1983; he is on the Astronaut Advisory Board of Space Adventures. Space Adventures is a company that allows private citizens the chance for space travel on Russian Soyuz spacecraft at an estimated cost of $30-55 million per person. Richard, who is Space Adventures vice chairman, has applied for his grandfather's call sign, W5KWQ. He plans on making Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) contacts when he is in space.

Richard will be the sixth private citizen to venture into space. According to his Web site <http://www.richardinspace.com>, his "main objective for his mission is to encourage commercial participation. By fostering the involvement of individuals, companies and organizations in his spaceflight Richard hopes to demonstrate that there is commercial potential in private space exploration, while furthering the understanding of space. Richard plans to demonstrate this by taking on various commercial projects, corporate sponsors for his mission activities and by helping companies market their products though their association with an actual space mission."

A self-described experienced terrestrial explorer -- "I have traveled to all seven continents on adventures that have included tracking mountain gorillas in Rwanda, canoeing down the Amazon, diving in a submarine to the Titanic and trekking Antarctica in search of meteorites" -- Richard says on his Web site that he is excited about his trip into space. "Journeying to space has been a dream of mine since I was young. So for me, space exploration was tangible, it was part of my family's DNA. But I was also acutely aware of the costs and complexity that kept it under the purview of the government. There was no imaginable way I was going to get a front-row seat like my father." Richard, 46, is the first American second-generation astronaut. In Russia, Sergey Volkov, 34, a pilot, is set to fly to the ISS as commander next spring. His father, Aleksandr, rocketed into orbit in the 1980s and early 1990s.

The first commercial research partner involved in Richard's space mission is ExtremoZyme, Inc, a biotechnology company co-founded by his father. According to his Web site, "Richard will operate an ExtremoZyme protein crystallization experiment loaded with proteins, many of which have important cellular functions and are often associated with common human diseases. Having access to these superior crystals will enable researchers to learn more about the molecular structure of these proteins, which is essential for protein engineering and drug design."

A well-known computer game developer, Richard, also known in the gaming world as Lord British, was the owner of now-defunct Origin Systems. The company is best known for gaming software such as the Ultima fantasy computer role-playing game series, Wing Commander and Crusader. Richard then founded Destination Games, which has since merged with NCsoft where he is an executive producer; his new game, Tabula Rasa, is set to be released by NCsoft later this month.

Rosalie White, K1STO, ARRL ARISS Program Manager, said, "With Richard's fame with the general public and Owen's fame in the science industry and

with ham radio operators, Richard's planned ARISS educational activities should generate a great deal of interest for ham radio in all ages and types of people. This will be good for Amateur Radio and ARISS. The ARISS Team is really looking forward to supporting his ARISS school goals; we were so pleased to hear that he's already earned his ham license."

Richard lives in Austin, Texas. His home, Britannia Manor, has been featured on MTV. -- Thanks to Fred Maia, W5YI, for some information.

==> ARRL/TAPR CELEBRATE 26TH ANNUAL DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE

The ARRL and TAPR held their 26th Annual Digital Communications Conference this past weekend, September 28-30, in Hartford, Connecticut. The DCC is an international forum for radio amateurs to meet, publish their work and present new ideas and techniques. Presenters and attendees had the opportunity to exchange ideas and learn about recent hardware and software advances, theories, experimental results and practical applications.

With more than 150 in attendance during the three-day event, ARRL Chief Operating Officer Harold Kramer, WJ1B, said, "It was exciting to see and hear about the latest developments in Amateur Radio digital technology. The depth of knowledge, commitment and enthusiasm were very impressive and bode well for the future of Amateur Radio."

According to QST Editor Steve Ford, WB8IMY, many of Friday's seminars were devoted to the Automatic Position Reporting System (APRS). Bob Bruninga, WB4APR, gave the first session of the conference, "The APRS Local Voice Repeater Initiative." Bruninga is the developer of APRS.

Other seminars at the conference included "The Flex 5000 and Software Defined Radio Software," "HPSDR Update," "AMSAT's Phase IV," "A Method for Automatic Image Balancing in IQ Mixer Based Software Defined Receivers" and "Suit-Sat 2 Update." Ford also gave a standing-room-only seminar on an introduction to HF digital.

Ford said one of the highlights at the DCC was the NUE-PSK device. This gizmo makes it possible to do PSK31 without a PC. There is no word yet on when kits will be available for this item. "The latest Flexradio software-defined transceiver also drew a great deal of attention," Ford said. RPC Electronics debuted their all-in-one APRS tracker (2 meter transmitter, packet TNC and GPS receiver in one compact package). The company said it would be available for sale in December, just in time for holiday giving.

A popular feature of the DCC was the Demonstration Room. This was a place for participants to set up their projects for everyone to see, as well as a place for vendors to demonstrate their equipment.

ARRL New England Division Director Tom Frenaye, K1KI, spoke to conference participants Saturday morning, welcoming them to the DCC. TAPR held their annual meeting later that day.

The 2008 Digital Communications Conference will be in Chicago, but no date has been set. Check out the TAPR Web site <http://www.tapr.org> for more information.

==> ARRL AND MARS TEAM UP FOR WASHINGTON DEMO

The ARRL and Virginia radio amateurs associated with the Army Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) put their emergency communications skills to the test on October 3, demonstrating to members of Congress and other Federal agencies how ham radio continues to work when other means of communications are disabled during hurricanes or other natural or man-made disasters. The demonstration took place in a compact portable communications center erected on the Capitol grounds near the Rayburn House Office. More than 50 MARS operators from Virginia, Maryland, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Delaware and other states participated in the event.

According to the scenario issued by exercise planners, the event assumed a Category 3 hurricane named Quincy that deposited heavy rains over a multi-state area on October 2 and made landfall in the Delaware, Maryland and Virginia region later that day. The "storm" moved north into New Jersey and Pennsylvania, turned counterclockwise and traveled southward before returning to the Atlantic through the Carolinas and Georgia on October 5.

During the exercise, MARS operators also monitored other Amateur Radio emergency frequencies and coordinated the exchange of messages across their networks as well, honing their ability to work with other radio emergency providers such as the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES).

ARRL Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager Dennis Dura, K2DCD; ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH, and ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, made the trek down to Washington. "As the unusually hot October sun fried us, despite the lack of sunspots," Pitts said, "representatives of ARRL, MARS and the Southern Baptist Disaster Response organizations fought poor propagation to make contacts through the day primarily on VHF, 20 and 40 meters. Dennis Dura worked the ARRL's HF rig most of the day as W1AW/3. Arkansas Congressman Mike Ross, WD5DVR -- one of only two Amateur Radio operators in Congress -- also made contacts from the site."

Pitts said that the ARRL team used the "When All Else Fails Banner" at the site. "We hoisted the banner in front of the Capitol dome. It attracted many vacationing hams in the area who stopped by to see what was happening, and some even were able to be brief 'guest operators.' But the day was mostly spent showing Amateur Radio capabilities to the Congressional staffers and others who work behind the scenes to make the wheels of government go. Janet Worthington, KB3PDS, of Chwat & Co -- the ARRL's lobbying firm -- was able to use the demonstration as a topic and drop off ARRL materials about HR 462 <http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c110:H.R.462:> and Amateur Radio in every congressional office."

MARS operators used a variety of modes to move messages from the originator to the final recipient, depending on the operating conditions in place at the time. Operators used voice, CW and WinLink2000 to move messages. WinLink uses an e-mail-type interface, making it simpler for served agencies to send and receive their emergency traffic.

MARS volunteers are required to complete a variety of training courses to be a part of the program. They use personal radio equipment and are capable of operating on emergency power when conditions dictate. Many members are former servicemen and women who first learned radio communication skills while serving in the Army. MARS is a Department of Defense sponsored organization of Amateur Radio operators trained and equipped to provide emergency communications for military and government agencies when normal links are interrupted by accident, natural calamity or hostile action. W1AW recently received a MARS call sign - AAN1ARL. For additional information about Army MARS, visit their Web site at <http://www.netcom.army.mil/mars/>. -- Some information provided by Jeff Slusher, KE5APC/AAT3PD, Public Relations Manager for Virginia Army MARS.

==> LOOK FOR THE NOVEMBER ISSUE OF QST IN YOUR MAILBOX

The November issue of QST is jam-packed with all sorts of things today's Amateur Radio operator needs. From product reviews to experiments to contesting, the upcoming issue of QST has something for just about everyone.

This issue features an article by ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, on the National Football League's Game Day Frequency Coordinator Program in her article "Football: Fumbles, Field Goals and Frequencies." Game Day Frequency Coordinators, many of whom are hams, are responsible for coordinating more than 300 frequencies for broadcast, referees, coaches and quarterbacks, as well as parking and security frequencies and more at each NFL game.

Did you miss the 2007 ARRL National Convention in Huntsville, Alabama? Catch up on all the activities with the ARRL Convention coverage in November's QST. The convention, held in conjunction with the Huntsville Hamfest and the Global Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Conference, drew more than 5000 people.

If you're in the market for a dual-band mobile transceiver, this is an issue you don't want to miss. Both the Kenwood TM-V71A Dual Band Mobile Radio and the ICOM IC-2820H Dual Band FM Transceiver are featured in November's Product Review.

ARRL Regulatory Branch Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, explains how the FCC's recent actions affect you in his article, "The New Road Map to the FCC Rules."

Rich Roznoy, K1OF, wants to make sure you have the right kind of antenna for your car. You'll want to read his article, "A Comparison of HF Mobile Antenna Designs." If you need an easy-to-make Yagi antenna for your handheld transceiver, be sure to check out the article by Tom Hart, AD1B.

Get out your calendars and make sure you're on the air for the ARRL 160 Meter Contest, November 30-December 2, and the ARRL 10 Meter Contest, December 8-9. November QST has the official contest announcements and indicates just what you need to do to participate in these great operating events.

Look for your November issue of QST in your mailbox. QST is the official journal of ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio. QST is just one of the many benefits of ARRL membership. To join or renew your ARRL membership, please see the ARRL Web page <http://www.arrl.org/join>.

==> NOMINATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE 2007 ARRL INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Nominations are open for the 2007 ARRL International Humanitarian Award <http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/awards/humanitarian.html>. The award is conferred upon an amateur or amateurs who demonstrate devotion to human welfare, peace and international understanding through Amateur Radio. The League established the annual prize to recognize Amateur Radio operators who have used ham radio to provide extraordinary service to others in times of crisis or disaster.

The awards committee is now accepting nominations from Amateur Radio, governmental or other organizations that have benefited from extraordinary service rendered by an Amateur Radio operator or group. Nominations should include a summary of the nominee's actions that qualify the individual (or individuals) for this award, plus verifying statements from at least two people having first-hand knowledge of the events warranting the nomination. These statements may be from an official of a group (for example, the American Red Cross, The Salvation Army, a local or state emergency management official) that benefited from the nominee's particular Amateur Radio contribution. Nominations should include the names and addresses of all references.

All nominations and supporting materials for the 2007 ARRL International Humanitarian Award must be submitted in writing in English to ARRL International Humanitarian Award, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111 USA. Nomination submissions are due by December 31, 2007. In the event that no nominations are received, the committee itself may determine a recipient or decide to make no award. The winner of the ARRL International Humanitarian Award receives an engraved plaque and a profile in QST and other ARRL venues.

==> NASA TV SHOWS LAUNCH, DOCKING OF SPACECRAFT, MORE

If you have ever wanted to see what goes on when a spacecraft launches into space or docks with the International Space Station (ISS), be sure to check out NASA TV <http://www.nasa.gov/ntv> on your computer. You can watch live coverage of preparations for the launch, the launch and even the docking and hatch openings and closings as spacecraft arrive and leave the ISS.

NASA's Expedition 16 Commander Peggy Whitson, Soyuz Commander, Flight Engineer Yuri Malenchenko, RK3DUP, and Malaysian spaceflight participant

Sheikh Muszaphar Shukor, 9W2MUS, are set to launch October 10 at 1321 UTC from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan. Their Soyuz TMA-11 craft is planned to dock to the station on October 12 at 1427 UTC. Coverage for this event begins October 10 at 1230 UTC. Coverage of the Soyuz docking with the ISS, opening of Soyuz's hatch door and the post-docking news conference from Moscow begins October 12 at 1400 UTC.

NASA Flight Engineer Clay Anderson, KD5PLA, who has been on the station since June, will remain with Whitson and Malenchenko until the arrival of space shuttle Discovery on the STS-120 mission. NASA astronaut Dan Tani, KD5TXE, will arrive on that mission to replace Anderson, who will journey home on Discovery.

Expedition 15 Commander Fyodor Yurchikhin, RN3FI, Soyuz Commander and Flight Engineer Oleg Kotov and Shukor will return to Earth October 21 at 1032 UTC in their Soyuz TMA-10 spacecraft now docked to the ISS. Yurchikhin and Kotov have been aboard the station since April. Coverage for this event begins October 21 at 0345 UTC.

==>SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "Eleven Angels of Mercy Sighin' Over That Black Hole in the Sun" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: After 21 days of no sunspots, a sunspot reappeared, but only briefly. In fact, it was one sunspot, number 971, that emerged on September 28 for just a few days. Now we are back into a zero-sunspot period of indeterminate length, just four days so far. Solar wind provided geomagnetic disturbances, with September 29 being the most disturbed day. There was another rise in activity centered on October 3. Currently, the Air Force predicts a moderate rise in geomagnetic activity peaking October 20 with a planetary A index of 15, and a much larger rise to planetary A index of 25 on October 26. But spaceweather.com reports another solar wind stream to arrive on or around October 11. Geophysical Institute Prague predicts quiet conditions October 5-7, unsettled October 8, quiet to unsettled October 9, quiet October 10 and quiet to unsettled October 11. Sunspot numbers for September 27 through October 3 were 0, 15, 16, 17, 12, 0 and 0 with a mean of 8.6. The 10.7 cm flux was 67.1, 67.2, 67.6, 65, 67.7, 66.4, and 67.3 with a mean of 66.9. Estimated planetary A indices were 19, 21, 26, 12, 8, 9 and 18 with a mean of 16.1. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 10, 15, 24, 11, 7, 5 and 9 with a mean of 11.6. . For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>. To read this week's Solar Report in its entirety, check out the W1AW Propagation Bulletin page <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw/prop/>.

==>IN BRIEF:

* This Weekend on the Radio: This weekend, look for the NCCC Sprint (CW) on October 5. On October 6, be sure to check out the TARA PSK Rumble

Contest, the NCCC Sprint (CW), the International HELL-Contest (80 meters) and the EU Autumn Sprint (SSB). The Oceania DX Contest (SSB), the California QSO Party and the PRO CW Contest are October 6-7. Tune in for the International HELL-Contest (40 meters), the UBA ON Contest (6 meters) and the RSGB 21/28 MHz Contest on October 7. The YLRL Anniversary Party (SSB) is October 9-11 and the 10-10 International 10-10 Day Sprint and NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint are both October 10. Next week, the ARRL School Club Roundup is October 15-19. The NCCC Sprint (CW) is October 12. The Microwave Fall Sprint, EU Autumn Sprint (CW) and FISTS Fall Sprint are October 13. The Makrothen RTTY Contest, Oceania DX Contest (CW) and Pennsylvania QSO Party are October 13-14. The North American Sprint (RTTY) and UBA ON Contest (SSB) are October 14. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests/>, the ARRL Contester's Rate Sheet <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rate-sheet/> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more info.

* ARRL Continuing Education Course Registration: Registration remains open through Sunday, October 21 for these online courses beginning on Friday, November 2: Technician License Course (EC-010); Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 1 (EC-001); Radio Frequency Interference (EC-006); Antenna Design and Construction (EC-009); Analog Electronics (EC-012), and Digital Electronics (EC-013). To learn more, visit the CCE Course Listing page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html> or contact the Continuing Education Program Coordinator <cce@arrl.org>.

* ARRL Executive Committee Upholds Ethics and Elections Committee's Decision: The ARRL Executive Committee has completed its consideration of the appeal filed by Carl Gardenias, WU6D, of the decision of the ARRL Ethics and Elections Committee disqualifying him as a candidate for Director of the Southwestern Division. Based on its own independent review, the Executive Committee voted unanimously by teleconference to affirm the decision. This decision was communicated to Mr Gardenias on October 1, along with detailed findings of fact and conclusions of the committee. The Executive Committee is meeting this weekend and will release additional information after the meeting.

* James Michener, K9JM, Wins September QST Cover Plaque Award: The winner of the QST Cover Plaque Award for September is James Michener, K9JM, for his article "Maximum Gain Portable HF Yagi." Congratulations, James! The winner of the QST Cover Plaque award -- given to the author or authors of the best article in each issue -- is determined by a vote of ARRL members on the QST Cover Plaque Poll <http://www.arrl.org/members-only/qstvote.html> Web page. Cast a ballot for your favorite article in the October issue by Wednesday, October 31.

* Mark the "Play on PropNET" Weekend on Your Calendar: Play on PropNET is a two-day, worldwide event designed to promote PSK31 and propagation study on the 30 meter band. This event, scheduled for 0000 UTC October 6-2359 October 7, will be on 10.1395 MHz. Simply download PropNetPSK

<http://www.propnet.org/>, a free PropNET software program, configure it for your station and activate for the weekend. PropNetPSK software will place the PSK stream at +1500 Hz (10.1410 MHz true). In normal operation, the software will cause your station to automatically ID at regular intervals (several times per hour) throughout the weekend. If your licensing authority requires that an operator be present whenever transmitting, switch to "Lurker" mode when you are away. This will allow your station to monitor and report anything that is heard, even if it isn't transmitting. PropNET uses the Internet as a reporting tool. Participants who are connected to the Internet (even using intermittent dial-up connections) will have their reports sent to a mapping system that will graphically display everything that is "caught" (a PropNET term for received). Transmitting stations will have their call signs shown on the map. Receive-only stations (Lurkers) will display using their 6-cipher grid-locator rather than call sign. Don't worry if you don't have an Internet connection at your station, as others will hear your transmission and report it to the Internet. As an added benefit, all stations that report activity will have their activity added to an animated GIF file at the end of each UTC day. All worldwide activity will be captured to that animation and will be able to be played back at a later time. All amateur and SWL stations worldwide are encouraged to participate for this first event of its kind. Thanks to the 30 Meter Digital Group for suggesting this activity and to the PropNET community of experimenters for supporting it. -- Ev Tupis, W2EV

* Notes from the ARRL DXCC Desk: ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, wants you to know that there is a feature on the DXCC Web site <http://www.arrl.org/awards/dxcc> that lets you verify that your DXCC application has been received, and when. Near the middle of the Web page, Moore says, is a link titled "List of DXCC Applications Received." Click on this link, and you will see applicants' call signs (listed alpha-numerically) and date the applications were logged into the DXCC computer. Note: this is not the date received from the post office -- it is the date the application was logged into the DXCC system. At the top of the page is a date. This date is always the Friday of the current estimated period DXCC is mailing applications. Due to the sheer volume of applications that pass through DXCC, applications before and even after this period may already be in progress. From this information, you can estimate the turnaround time of your application. Using today's date, look at the mailing date on the Web site. The difference between these two dates is the approximate turn-around time - if today's date is September 10, 2007 and the date shown on the Web page is June 29, 2007, the estimated turn-around time can be determined to be approximately three months.

* ARRL Shipping New Books: The ARRL is shipping three new ARRL publication editions: "The 2008 ARRL Handbook," "ARRL's HF Digital Handbook" and "ARRL's Low Power Communication." An early bird bonus CD is guaranteed for members and customers who place orders for The ARRL Handbook by October 31. You can find ordering details and more information at ARRL Online Product Catalog <http://www.arrl.org/shop>.

These books are also available from ARRL publication dealers. Find the dealer nearest you by going to the ARRL Dealer Locator Web page <http://www.arrl.org/catalog/dlrsearch.phtml>.

* Longtime ARRL Staffer Retires: Eileen Sapko, ARRL Awards Manager, retired September 28 after 23 years at League HQ. We wish her the best!If you have any questions concerning any of the ARRL awards programs, please direct them to Bill Moore, NC1L <bmoore@arrl.org>.

* Let Us Know What You Think: What's your favorite part of The ARRL Letter? What kind of stories would you like to see in the Letter? Would you prefer the Letter in an HTML format? This is your Letter and your chance to let your voice be heard. Please send your suggestions to ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, at k1sfa@arrl.org, with the subject line "ARRL Letter Suggestions." All messages will be read and discussed, and we look forward to implementing positive suggestions into the ARRL Letter.

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The ARRL Letter is published Fridays, 50 times each year, by the American Radio Relay League: ARRL--the National Association for Amateur Radio, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111; tel 860-594-0200; fax 860-594-0259; <http://www.arrl.org>. Joel Harrison, W5ZN, President.

The ARRL Letter offers a weekly e-mail digest of essential and general news of interest to active radio amateurs. Visit the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org> for the latest Amateur Radio news and news updates. The ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/> also offers informative features and columns. ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> is a weekly "ham radio newscast" compiled and edited from The ARRL Letter. It's also available as a podcast from our Web site.

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letter-dlvy@arrl.org
==>Editorial questions or comments: S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, k1sfa@arrl.org
==>ARRL News on the Web: <http://www.arrl.org>
==>ARRL Audio News: <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> or call 860-594-0384

==>How to Get The ARRL Letter

The ARRL Letter is available to ARRL members free of charge directly from ARRL HQ. To subscribe, unsubscribe or change your address for e-mail delivery:
ARRL members first must register on the Members Only Web Site <http://www.arrl.org/members/>. You'll have an opportunity during registration to sign up for e-mail delivery of The ARRL Letter, W1AW

bulletins, and other material. To change these selections--including delivery of The ARRL Letter--registered members should click on the "Member Data Page" link (in the Members Only box). Click on "Modify membership data," check or uncheck the appropriate boxes and/or change your e-mail address if necessary. (Check "Temporarily disable all automatically sent email" to temporarily stop all e-mail deliveries.) Then, click on "Submit modification" to make selections effective. (NOTE: HQ staff members cannot change your e-mail delivery address. You must do this yourself via the Members Only Web Site.)

The ARRL Letter also is available to all, free of charge, from these sources:

* ARRLWeb <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>. (NOTE: The ARRL Letter will be posted each Friday when it is distributed via e-mail.)

* The QTH.net listserver, thanks to volunteers from the Boston Amateur Radio Club: Visit Mailing Lists@QTH.Net <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/letter-list>. (NOTE: The ARRL cannot assist subscribers who receive The ARRL Letter via this listserver.)

1648. WIANEWS for week commencing OCTOBER 7 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-06 14:12:54 UTC
From: nationalnews@wia.org.au
Message-ID: <200710061000.l96A07312455@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 3753
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,aus.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

This is WIANEWS for week commencing OCTOBER 7 2007

Richard VK3JFK and his crew are performing miracles with lots of hard work on the APRS front in VK3

VK3 APRS PATH CHANGE:-

Remember to change your Mobile Tracker or Kenwood radio's due to the implementation of the APRS "New n-N Paradigm".

Over time the old RELAY,WIDE and RELAY,WIDE2-2 paths will not longer work in Victoria. They will be replaced with the path of WIDE1-1,WIDE2-1 for mobiles and [your local digi],WIDE2-1 for home and fixed stations.

To implement the "New n-N Paradigm" all you need to do is edit the APRS path in your tracker, Kenwood radio or home station and change it to;

- WIDE1-1,WIDE2-1 for your mobile.

- [Your local Digi],Wide2-1 for your home station. (Replace [Your local Digi] with the closest digipeater to you)

In a few instances you may need to use the path of WIDE1-1,WIDE2-2 for mobiles.

For the recommended path in your area visit http://vk3.aprs.net.au/packet_path_guide.htm

The following VK3 area Digipeaters only support the "New n-N Paradigm"; VK3RCV-1, VK3RON-1, VK3RLV-1, VK2RBX-1.

VK3ROW-1 and VK3RMD-1 will be upgraded to support only the "New n-N Paradigm" over the next few weeks.

IF you don't change your path you may no longer be able to access the VK3 area APRS RF Network.

WICEN & APRS:-

WICEN is getting ready for the annual Rally of Melbourne Event (10th & 11th of November) which is held in the Healesville area each year.

This year more use of APRS is expected. You may have noticed a number of digipeaters with a W overlay on the icon on your map. These are the WICEN digis that being setup on 145.200Mhz for the Rally.

They will be used for Rally scoring as well as APRS.

During the Rally you should be able to watch the tracked vehicles from feeds on APRS-IS as the rally APRS data is being fed into an IGate. WICEN may use ACMA approved operational call signs for the event. Please do not use these digipeaters for general APRS traffic.

The second rally event to use APRS this year will be the Alpine Rally held on the 24th and 25th of November. This rally is held in the Bairnsdale area.

It will be using the APRS digipeaters VK3REB-1, VK3VHF-1 as well as 2 portable digipeaters. The event will operate on 145.175Mhz for scoring and Rally APRS traffic. During this time all non-local APRS traffic will be removed from the RF Network and local stations that are not involved in the event are requested to reframe from using APRS for the period of the event.

This event will also be fed to APRS-IS.

(Richard VK3JFK VK3 APRS Coordinator).

Richard VK2SKY says a US ham taking part in the World Solar Challenge hopes to be on 30m with APRS so we could follow his progress, www.findu.com
But he needs to borrow a rig, preferably from someone in VK5

The race is Oct 20 through Oct 27, Darwin to Adelaide.

Andrew, KE7ESD (atemme@gmail.com) says "To make it easier on getting/returning the equipment, we will have team members coming through Adelaide early this week. They will then be travelling up to Darwin. I will be arriving in Darwin
on the 16th".

p.s. I'm in the process of getting my Australian license right now!

Now KE7ESD's email address...

atemme@gmail.com

Australian D-Star News.

Things are hotting up in the Australian D-Star world.
Since NTAC allocated the segment in the band plan for D-Star operations there has been a lot of simplex activity in Melbourne particularly on 145.125Mhz.

D-Star simplex contacts have been reported from Box Hill to Murchison, a distance if approximately 150Kms. Both stations where using base station antennas however one station was using an ICOM IC-91AD hand held.

Amateurs seem to be embracing the D-STAR technology in a very enthusiastic way, in fact, one local ham outlet in Melbourne has been so busy, he is talking about taking holidays!!!

The Melbourne D-Star team are working hard to have the first Melbourne D-Star repeater VK3RWN online ASAP. The second D-Star repeater, VK3RMM will be operational before the end of the year. The VK3RMM analogue voice repeater will operate in parallel with the VK3RMM digital D-Star repeater.

On Friday night an informal talk was given to the Maryborough (Vic) Amateur Radio Club by Peter VK2TQ and Richard VK3JFK on D-Star.
At the same time in the Blue Mountains Henry, VK2OM was giving a D-Star talk to the member of the Blue Mountains Amateur Radio Club.

There are a number of new concepts to learn about DStar operations. It's not the same as using an analogue repeater, yet it opens up a new range of options for operators such as DPRS, D-Star SMS and noise free international digital voice intercommunications through D-Star Gateways and the internet.

To assist operators to gain and share their knowledge, experience and local information on D-Star the WIA has set up a National D-Star email list. You can joint the National D-Star list by going to http://lists.wia.org.au/mailman/listinfo/dstar and fill out the details to subscribe.

A web site is being developed at www.dstar.org.au

The web site contains some basic information on D-Star and the Australian D-Star scene. The National D-Star web site is currently being built and will be on line soon.

HAMS ACROSS AUSTRALIA.
(4vks)

VK1
vk1 local news email broadcast@vk1.wia.ampr.org and ask for subscription.

VK2
web service:- http://www.arnsw.org.au/html/news_vk2wi.htm

CENTRAL COAST AMATEUR RADIO FIELD DAY

On Sunday 17th February 2008 the Central Coast Amateur Radio Club Field Day will again be held at the Wyong Race Course. This is the most popular field day in Australia, generally drawing about two thousand interested amateurs and electronic hobbyists each year.

Major Australian radio and electronic equipment suppliers will be in attendance with displays of the latest radio and electronic equipment for sale.

Displays will also be provided by several amateur radio clubs and special interest groups and throughout the day an interesting lecture program will be provided.

The Newcastle Embroiders Guild will also be providing craft activities throughout the day which should be of great interest to the XYL's.

The extensive car boot sale area will again be very active, providing a wide choice of goods for sale. As usual the free tea, coffee and chat area will operate but this time in a new bigger location. The various food outlets providing hot and cold sit down or take away food will also operate as usual.

As a new feature this year to promote further socialisation by those attending the field day, an Official Dinner will be held at the venue on the evening of Saturday 16th February 2008. This will be a buffet style meal with a guest speaker who will talk on an interesting radio relevant subject.

This Field Day provides the greatest opportunity for the amateur operator or electronic enthusiast to see and purchase all the latest gear in one location and meet up with a very wide range of like minded enthusiasts a great opportunity to meet up with old friends and make new friends.

More details will soon appear on the Central Coast Amateur Radio Club's web site www.ccarc.org.au.

How about you put it in your calendar as a must do event!

OCTOBER 27-28
The Wagga Amateur Radio Club is this year's host for the Riverina Field Day.

The venue is again the clubhouse in Small St. The usual flea markets, Trade and other displays will run continuously in the hall from 9am on Sunday.

There will be a Field Day dinner to mark the opening and will be held at Clubrooms on the Saturday evening. It will take the form of a smorgasbord. Bookings are essential.

More Field Day information can be obtained from the club's website http://wagga.radiocorner.net/

For more information contact John VK2YW on 02 6926 5471 AH or vk2yw@wia.org.au

VK3
web service:- http://www.amateurradio.com.au/news/

VK4
web service local news:- www.wiaq.com/qnews/upload/qnewsbcast.htm
local news email qnews-vk-subscribe@yahoogroups.com subscribe in subject field.

QAC office officers :-

VK4AHW Harvey Wickes
VK4AQ Ross Anderson
VK4BY Don Wilschefski
VK4UH Kevin Johnstone

VK5

VK6
web service http://www.vk6.net/newswest-index.html

VK7
local area news :- http://reast.asn.au/news.php
your copy of vk7 local news, email vk7regionalnews-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

NEW VK7 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

David Potter VK7YUM • WIA Nominee
Clayton Reading VK7ZCR • REAST Nominee
Jason Reilly VK7ZJA - NTARC Nominee
Peter Rumble VK2IY/4KX • NWTARIG Nominee

In short the functions of the Advisory Committee as defined by the
National WIA include:

Provision of advice and information to the board in relation to
matters identified by the board;

Promote amateur radio, the WIA and membership;

Making available and encouraging others to make available local news
for WIA broadcasts and releases; and,

Liaising with affiliated clubs.

http://www.wia.org.au/news/2007/20070502-02.php

EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO PRESENTED BY KYLEA VK6FXYL

CLUBS TO ADMINISTER ZU EXAMS

The SARL is pleased to announce that the SARL has finalised the arrangement
for affiliated clubs to offer the class B examination for their students.
The new arrangement mean that Class B examinations can be conducted at ANY
time of the year in addition to the South African national examinations held
in May and October.

SARL PRESIDENT ADDRESSED FET TEACHERS

Graham Hartlett, ZS6GJH, addressed a group of teachers who attended a
training course for Further Education and Training arranged by the Department
of Communications. The objective of the course is to train teachers to
take amateur radio into their colleges.

He cited amateur radio not just as a fun activity, but an activity that has a
positive outcome on the further training of young people in the Science,
Engineering and Technology disciplines.

Further Education and Training (FET) colleges strive to provide high-quality
education and training to help learners equip themselves with the
qualifications and skills needed to start out on a chosen career path.

"Amateur Radio can make a valuable contribution in this career choice and in
addition teach basic technical and communication skills that will equip young
people to render services to their community such as disaster communication
and communication during large sporting events.

FUTURE EXAMS

To find out when a club in YOUR area is hosting assessments and/or
training in Amateur Radio go to wia.org.au and check out the club pages.

Participating clubs keep this site up to date and post the latest information for all to see.

Also check the text edition of each news edition, where we do keep a secondary listing.

On the audio broadcast we will continue to give new information when it is received, but just in case you miss it one week, you can always access our text

Help amateur radio continue to grow

Do you know someone who could be interested in joining our hobby? Then encourage them to enrol in a Foundation Licence training course.

Next Foundation Licence course, and Standard / Advanced assessments .....

NEW SOUTH WALES

Summerland (Lismore), their next Foundation course/exam will be 10-11 November
If you know of any prospects, advise them of this date and let John VK2JWA or Duncan VK2DLR of their details.

Summerland Amateur Radio Club. VK2SRC Ph.: +61 02-66247247
Club: 414 Richmond Hill Rd. Email: vk2src@sarc.org.au
GOONELLABAH, NSW. 2480. http://www.nor.com.au/community/sarc/
Post: PO Box 524 IRLP: 6220

ARNSW regularly holds Foundation Licence Assessments as well as Exams for Standard and Advanced Licences.
Held on the last weekend of each EVEN numbered month.

Waverley Amateur Radio Society (SYDNEY)
They hold Foundation Licence courses regularly, email the club at exams@vk2bv.org
OR visit vk2bv.org or call Simon, VK2UA on 9328 7141.

VICTORIA

At Bendigo classes and licence assessments are conducted by Ross Pittard VK3FCE who can be contacted via email vk3fce@internode.on.net

The Central Goldfields Amateur Radio Club, Maryborough regularly holds classes. Contact Peter Rafferty VK3CC on 5460 4387 or email majorca49@hotmail.com

QUEENSLAND

The Redcliffe Club will be conducting Foundation licence training at the Club rooms commencing on 8 October. Alan Jenner, VK4KZ, will hold classes every Sunday for 4 Sundays, commencing 10.30 am and finishing at 3 pm. If you wish to join these classes please contact Alan by phone, 5497 4634 or email him at alan.jenner@bigpond.com.

On the Gold Coast and want to talk to the world through their IRLP and EchoLink systems? Or already licensed and wish to upgrade Foundation

to Standard? Well classes are held at the Nerang Clubhouse of the
GCARS, ring Roy VK4IG on 5539 3530 Exams can be taken at a time
to suit you.

TARC WIA Exams Information
Exam sessions are held on demand with WIA Assessors and assessment packs
available for all 3 levels of licensing.
Contact theTARCinc WIA Exams Regional Co-ordinator Roger/VK4CD 0417 638366.
www.tarc.org.au/tarcexam.htm

Tablelands Radio and Electronics Club
TREC WIA Exams Information
TREC will conduct exam sessions as required, at a time to suit the
candidate. WIA Assessors and assessment packs are available for all 3
levels of licensing.
Contact the TREC WIA Exams Co-ordinator Dale VK4DMC on 4091 3700 or
vk4dmc@wia.org.au for further information.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Adelaide Hills Amateur Radio Society will run Foundation licence's
at the Aviation Museum, 56 Lipson Street Port Adelaide, November
3rd and 4th. Contact the course convenor, Sasi Nayar on 0417 858 547

Examinations are hosted by South Coast Amateur Radio Club.
Those interested in sitting for foundation or license upgrades,
please contact by email
vk5kbj@internode.on.net

TASMANIA

Radio and Electronics Association of Southern Tasmania

For more information or enrol please contact Reg Emmett VK7KK by
emailing regemm@ozemail.com.au or calling 0417 391 607

And remember Foundation Licence Manuals and CD's are available for
purchase at McCann's Model World in Elizabeth St. Hobart at $20.

A quick reminder about "Intro to the Standard Licence" sessions
on a Saturday afternoons from 1:00 to 4:00pm in the Domain clubrooms.

These sessions are an introduction to the standard licences and
attempt to de-mystify the upgrading process.
(Ken VK7DY/Reg, VK7KK)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Marconi Clifden Celebrations

On the 17th of October 1907 Guglielmo Marconi sent his first commercial
message from the then new station at Clifden, Ireland. This October in
celebration of this historic event members of the Galway Radio Experimenters
Club will be running a special event station from Saturday 13th to Wednesday
17th from Clifden. The club has been issued the call sign EI100MFT for the

event, MFT been the last call sign used on the original station.

On the Wednesday they will be making a special linkup with the Marconi sister station in Glace Bay, Nova Scotia. Part of this linkup will be an exchange of greetings between President Mary McAleese and Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia the Honourable Mayann E. Francis. The group will also be honoured to have Princess Electra Marconi present as she is visiting Clifden for the festival along with an Exhibit from the Marconi Foundation in Bologna. The Galway Radio Experimenters Club will also be presenting a display of vintage equipment.

More details on the festival can be found at www.clifden.ie. Visitors to the station are more than welcome and if you would like to participate this can also be arranged. For further information please contact Enda Broderick (II2II) on 086-8676410 or email: &#65533;enda dot Broderick at lightnet dot ie&#65533;.
{irts}

The first commercial transatlantic message was transmitted from Marconi&#65533;s Station in Clifden to his North American complex in Glace Bay, Nova Scotia almost 100 years ago. Marconi&#65533;s achievements will be celebrated with a series of Marconi Centenary commemorative events from October the 12th to the 17th in Clifden, coordinated by the Clifden Chamber of Commerce.

The celebrations include a lecture by Paul Duffy, Chartered Engineer and historian, entitled &#65533;Marconi-The Engineering Marvel&#65533;. This lecture will take place at the Clifden Station House Theatre on Sunday the 14th of October at 1 p.m. Michael Sexton, Chartered Engineer and author of &#65533;Marconi: The Irish Connection&#65533;, will give a lecture on the national aspect of Marconi&#65533;s work at the Clifden Station House Theatre on Monday the 15th of October at 1 p.m.

Professor Peter Kennedy will chair a forum entitled "Whither Wireless Communications? Marconi's Legacy in the 21st Century&#65533; on Tuesday the 16th of October at Clifden Station House Theatre. This forum will reflect on Marconi's achievements and the future for wireless communications in an era of ubiquitous connectivity.
[IRTS]

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NEWS FROM ARNEWSLINE

HAMS HELP NAB FLORIDA BURGLERS

3 Florida juveniles who allegedly used Amateur Radio gear to coordinate at least one burglary and possibly more have been taken into custody. This, after two they showed up on a wide area repeater that two hams were monitoring. One of them was a retired police officer.

It all started back on September 8th . Albert Moreschi, AG4BV, of Jupiter Farms and John Levey, KI4HTL, of Palm Beach Gardens, were listening to the repeater when some unexpected transmissions were heard. Some unlicensed operators showed up and what they were talking about caught KI4HTL's ear.

As a retired police officer, Levey, he knew what it was being discussed. So he began recording the radio transmissions from the suspects while he and Morsechi notified local law enforcement. Unfortunately, the would-be burglars didn't describe the house well enough to get the exact address.

Then on September 21st the same group of bootleggers again showed up on the repeater. It was evident to Levey what was happening, so he again began recording the transmissions while coordinating with Morsechi by cell phone.

Meantime, the owner of the house being burglarized was huddled in her bedroom closet, calling sheriff's deputies for help. They arrived on scene and the hams listening to the repeater knew it because the last transmission from the suspects was "Code Red, Code Red, Code Red. There are cops everywhere, dude!"

But for Levey, the work didn't end with the suspects arrest. He then headed to the Jupiter Farms Sheriff's Office substation where one of the suspects had been taken. KI4HTL identified himself as a former police officer and a ham radio operator. He told the deputy on duty that he had recordings of the suspects radio transmissions. The Sheriff's Office is now in possession of the tapes.

Oh yes. We forgot to mention that the repeater that the suspects chose to use has coverage Boynton Beach to Port St. Lucie. That's several hundred square miles. Its also a Citizens Emergency Response Team Repeater so there is always someone listening in.

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RSGB NEWS G4NJH

The successful 3B7C DXpedition was extended for a day beyond its initial target. Operations were finally closed down at 0331z on Tuesday 25 September. The group managed a grand total of 135,718 QSOs, making it the third most-worked DXpedition of all time. Like 3B7C, the two most worked DXpeditions, D68C and 3B9C, were all operated by the Five Star DXers Association. Congratulations to all those involved.

The JOTA Story

A new publication has been announced to celebrate 50 years of Jamboree On The Air. The book is co-authored by Les Mitchell, G3BHK, Len Jarrett, VE3MYF and Richard Middelkoop, PA3BAR. A limited edition of The JOTA Story will be available shortly after the 50th JOTA on 20th and 21st October.

See http://home.tiscali.nl/worldscout/Jota/jota%20history.htm

OPERATIONAL NEWS -

October 6th to 7th
2007 Oceania DX Contest SSB

The EMDRC will be operating a portable station at Kurth's Kiln, located near Gembrook.

The Oceania DX contest has been around for many years in early October and was known previously as the VK/ZL Contest. Activity has increased over the last three years due to a huge promotional effort by a joint Australian and New Zealand Committee.

PHONE: 0800 UTC Saturday 6 October to 0800 UTC Sunday 7 October 2007

The Parks web page for Kurth Kiln is
http://svc015.wic028p.server-web.com/1park_display.cfm?park=238
the friends group is
http://home.vicnet.net.au/~fofkk/

October 13th and 14th of October
Oceania DX CW contest.

This contest is for 24 hour and start 0800 UTC Saturday 14 October to 0800 UTC Sunday 15 October 2007.

Boat Anchor Sprints:
October (13).
Local ZL time: 2000 to 2100 hrs

Section 1: Old radios - all valves - i.e. ZC1, 19 set, Heathkits, any home brew set, but must have all valves.

Section 2: Any Hybrid transceiver (must have valve finals i.e. FT200, FTDX400/401, Drake, FT 101s, etc..

Amplitude Modulated signals only.

The overall winner shall be the entrant having the highest points score which will be published in the following New Zealand "Break-in".
(Jamie Pye ZL2NN, Editor NZART's InfoLine)

>From October 6 0000hrs UTC through 7 October 2359 UTC there is a world wide event promoting PSK31 and studying propogation on the 30 metre band..

The frequency being used 10.139.5Mhz USB

Sponsored by the amateur group PropNet the event will see a world wide net of automatic beacon like PSK31 stations which will periodically transmit ID statements.

Reception of these signals will be logged to produce a report on propagation... Details can be found on the PropNet Google group site.
The Group encourages listeners to report on reception of the signals...

Events such as this are widening the capability of amateur radio and the utilisation of the tools provided by PSK31.

Following on from PropNet, all Australian and New Zealand amateurs are invited to join together in the true Anzac spirit by participating in the first ever VK/ZL 30 Meter Digital Weekend, October 21.

This is not a contest but a casual affair promoting 30 meter Digital activity allowing those worldwide to work amateurs in VK/ZL and to see how well

propagation really does work on this band.

So if you have some spare time over the 3rd weekend in October to hop on the band and work a few stations that would be great. It is lining up to be a exciting opportunity that may turn into a annual event.

When: Starting at 0500UTC on 21 October and Ending at 2000UTC 22 October

Where: 30 meter Band 10.135 to 10.145 MHZ

Modes: Mainly PSK31 BUT all digital modes welcomed including RTTY.

Objective: To make contact with VK/ZL Stations. This is not a contest but a casual event in promoting 30 meters Digital activity in conjunction with the 30 meter PSK Group
www.groups.yahoo.com/group/30meterPSKGroup

Contact: Bill ZL3NB at zl3nb@xtra.co.nz

Please send all logs to zl3nb@xtra.co.nz or by snail mail to
174 Beach Road, North Beach, Christchurch New Zealand 8083

NOVEMBER 17/18 VK Spring VHF-UHF Field Day

John Martin reports that this is a week later than in past years. The change of dates avoids clashes with some club activities that will taking place earlier in the month.

There are two minor changes in the rules:

1. Stations may enter both the 24 hour and 8 hour sections, but only if the station actually operates for more than 8 hours.
2. Changing locations: It is not in the spirit of the contest for grid-hoppers to set up more than one station and move between them. The rules now make it clear that not only the operator but also the station must be moved when operating locations are changed.

The full details are on www.wia.org.au

NOW ROBERT BROOMHEAD - VK3KRB.

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- FINAL FRONTIER
VK5ZAI is the Australian Co-ordinator for ARISS.

AMSAT-VK UNOFFICIAL HF Net.
2nd Sunday each month.
November through March 0900 UTC 7.068 MHz
April through October 1000 UTC 3.685 MHz

Sputnik 1 &#65533; a world first

Confirmation that the Soviet Union had launched the first man-made earth orbiting satellite came with a radio signal that was heard half a century ago last Thursday, October the 4th.

Around the world amateur radio enthusiasts picked up the satellite's beacon signal on a frequency of 20.007MHz.

A number of radio amateurs had their five minutes of fame through media reports of their claims of hearing the satellite.

Its history making orbit of earth had a permanent impact on many of today's baby-boomers, whose interest in space and technology was awakened by Sputnik 1,
the true beginning of man's space exploration.

Now let's listen to how Sputnik 1's weak signal was heard in October 1957 as it orbited once every 96 minutes.

(audio file sputnik1)

We acknowledge the National Aeronautical and Space Administration for that audio, first reported in Australia, according to the Mercury newspaper, by VK7YY, OIC, Hobart Radio.

The same edition of the Mercury published pictures of Len Edwards VK7LE and Crosby Welch VK7CW receiving Sputnik 1 transmissions. It was claimed that: "Hundreds of the State's hams tuned into the Red satellite".

Transmissions were on 20.005 MHz. & 40.002 MHz. and received at good volume.

The professor of physics at Sydney University said ; " the launching of the Soviet space satellite "means life or death for us freedom or the extinction of civilisation"".

That same weekend the Australian Government had planned detonation of an air blast nuclear bomb at Maralinga.

Those were interesting times and that information is from the REAST Historian also Jim Linton VK3PC

One day shy of a month after Sputnik 1 made history as the world's first man-made satellite, the Soviet Union launched Sputnik 2. This time, in addition to radio transmitters like that of its predecessor, the satellite carried the first animal into orbit, a dog named Laika

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sputnik

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- INTERNET --- THE HAMS DOMAIN

Word in of a "toolbar" that can be downloaded and installed in web browsers like internet explorer, opera or firefox.

Once installed it will appear as a tool bar in the browser with links to tons and tons of information on ham related subjects totally free of cost.

It comes with live internet links to BBC world service, Voice Of America, Radio Australia, Radio New Zealand and more can be added.

This is a free service hosted by JOHN, G0DPC.

Download from haminfobar.co.uk:80/

(vu3mes satyan chennai)

WW SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS --- RADIO SCOUTING
http://www.scouts.com.au
http://www.scout.org/jota
http://www.wiaq.com/nationalnews/jotahead.htm

SCOUT JOTA HF Voice Calling Frequencies
3590, 7090, 14190, 21190, 28590 kHz
14290, 18140, 21360, 24960, 28390 kHz (DX)

This years 50th JOTA will run from October 19th at 22:00 hours to October 21st at 24:00 hours YOUR local time.

An official start will be given by the World Scout Bureau radio station in Geneva, Switzerland on October 19th at 21:00 h UTC with a transmission in the 20 and 80 meter bands and on EchoLink.

VK4's Redcliffe and Districts Radio Club will be operating a field station at the Murrenbong Scout campsite, located at Petrie in the Northern outskirts of Brisbane, for this years 50th anniversary of JOTA, and the 100th anniversary of the Scouting Movement.

The Club will be operating QRO HF on, SSB, CW, RTTY, PSK31 as well as EchoLink and IRLP via the VK4RRC 2 metre and 70 cm club repeaters.

The club is also offering a crystal radio kit building exercise at the campsite, along with fox hunting and CW activities.

For bookings, or if you can help, please contact our club secretary, Peter, VK4TAA, secretary@vk4rc.we.net.au or Peter, VK4TGV, peter@rumpleteazer.net for more details, or visit the club website, http://vk4rc.we.net.au for updated news of the event.

The club is already expecting 120 visitors over the weekend, please keep a listen out for the call sign, VK4SMB, that's VK4, Scouts MurrenBong.

BB's DIARY ROOM - THE FUTURE, IN AMATEUR RADIO

SOCIAL SCENE

OCTOBER 6
Gold Coast Amateur Radio Society Annual Hamfest at Albert Waterways Hall.

October 14
Annual inter-club BBQ in central Victoria.

Members of the Central Goldfields Amateur Radio Club of Maryborough, Midland Amateur Club from Bendigo, the Ballarat Amateur Radio Group and Amateur Radio Victoria will attend this event at Laanacoorie next month.

Organiser Peter Rafferty VK3CC explains that it's a BYO meat and drinks affair, with bread, butter, tea, coffee provided.

Apart from being a really great social occasion, last year's BBQ resulted in the cooperative venture - the Centre Victoria RadioFest at Kyneton.

The BBQ will be at the Laanacoorie Hall, the date Sunday the 14th of October starting at 10am.

Laanacoorie is on the Loddon River on the Eddington side of Bendigo about one third of the way between Maryborough and Bendigo.

OCTOBER 27-28
The Wagga Amateur Radio Club is this year's host for the Riverina Field Day.

The Field Day is being held on the 27th and 28th of October. So please pencil the date into your calendar.

The venue is again the clubhouse in Small St. The usual flea markets, Trade and other displays will run continuously in the hall from 9am on Sunday.

There will be a Field Day dinner to mark the opening and will be held at Clubrooms on the Saturday evening. It will take the form of a smorgasbord. Bookings are essential.

More Field Day information can be obtained from the club's website http://wagga.radiocorner.net/

Wagga Wagga is the largest inland city in NSW and is well situated halfway between Sydney and Melbourne. These days it is a very leisurely 4 and a half hour drive from Sydney's outskirts with the majority of the trip on dual lane highway. So why not plan a getaway and join us for the weekend.

For more information contact John VK2YW on 02 6926 5471 AH or vk2yw@wia.org.au

NOVEMBER 4
The Ballarat Hamvention at the Great Southern Woolshed located on the Western Highway on the Melbourne Side of Ballarat. General entry for $6:00 is from 10am. details at the BARG website
www.barg.org.au

NOVEMBER 5
The Gladstone Amateur Radio Club will hold its annual beach BBQ at Millennium Esplanade, Tannum Sands 12:00 midday. There will be a mystery auction and games as well as a few refreshing drinks in the shady picnic area by the beach.
For out-of-towners, just put in a call on 146.500 MHz or the repeater on 146.625 MHz for direction, or look for the clubs distinctive mud-crab banner. RSVP if you like via gladstone_ar_club@yahoo.com.au

NOVEMBER 11
Westlakes Amateur Radio Club Field/Market Day. Gates open 8am, close 4pm. Boot Sales, Auction, Home Brew Competition, Lee Andrews Stand plus +++

DECEMBER 2
Westlake's Amateur Radio Clubs Christmas Party will be held Noon at Eastern

Tiger Restaurant, which is located in the Cardiff RSL building, interested?
get in touch with VK2FDNE Diane.

DECEMBER 8
VK4 ALARA get-together, 3:30pm at GOLD COAST AMATEUR RADIO SOCITIES clubroom.
It's a Christmas Spit Roast Buffet and just $23:50 each,
Contact Pam to organise tickets 02 6676 6595

DECEMBER 9
Summerland Amateur Radio Club at Lismore are holding their Christmas Party
Ph: 6624 7247
Club: 414 Richmond Hill Rd. Email: vk2src@sarc.org.au
GOONELLABAH, NSW. 2480. http://www.nor.com.au/community/sarc/
Post: PO Box 524 IRLP: 6220

JANUARY 20 2008

The Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group invite all amateurs to attend the 2008 Mid North Coast Radio Expo to be held in Coffs Harbour on Sunday 20th January.

The Expo is held at the St Johns Church Hall, Mc Lean Street, Coffs Harbour. Gary VK2ZKT is the Radio Expo Coordinator on 02 66 55 2 990 or visit the Groups comprehensive web site at www.mncarg.org

FEBRUARY 10

Announcing Centre Victoria RadioFest No. 2.
Second-hand traders, club corner, short-talk lectures, displays and the popular dipole factory will all return, plus some new exciting activities to be announced later.
All major commercial traders have already made commitments to be there again in 2008.
For second hand table bookings that cost only $12.50 please contact Nick Angelo VK3UCK 0488 653 201, or check out the website radiofest.amateurradio.com.au

FEBRUARY 17

CENTRAL COAST AMATEUR RADIO FIELD DAY

On Sunday 17th February 2008 the Central Coast Amateur Radio Club Field Day will again be held at the Wyong Race Course. This is the most popular field day in Australia, generally drawing about two thousand interested amateurs and electronic hobbyists each year.

Major Australian radio and electronic equipment suppliers will be in attendance with displays of the latest radio and electronic equipment for sale.

Displays will also be provided by several amateur radio clubs and special interest groups and throughout the day an interesting lecture program will be provided.

The Newcastle Embroiders Guild will also be providing craft activities throughout the day which should be of great interest to the XYL's.

The extensive car boot sale area will again be very active, providing a wide choice of goods for sale. As usual the free tea, coffee and chat area will operate but this time in a new bigger location. The various food outlets providing hot and cold sit down or take away food will also operate as usual.

As a new feature this year to promote further socialisation by those attending the field day, an Official Dinner will be held at the venue on the evening of Saturday 16th February 2008. This will be a buffet style meal with a guest speaker who will talk on an interesting radio relevant subject.

This Field Day provides the greatest opportunity for the amateur operator or electronic enthusiast to see and purchase all the latest gear in one location and meet up with a very wide range of like minded enthusiasts a great opportunity to meet up with old friends and make new friends.

More details will soon appear on the Central Coast Amateur Radio Club's web site www.ccarc.org.au.

How about you put it in your calendar as a must do event!

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WIANews - we've reported...YOU decide.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".

Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of the National WIA.

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WIANews THANKS OUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS , OUR RELAY OPERATORS ACROSS THE WORLD FOR FORWARDING INFORMATION AND COMMENTS THEIR LISTENERS HAVE PASSED ON TO MAKE WIANews VK'S LEADING WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PROGRAM.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au
Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".
Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of QNEWS for the National WIA.
Thanks to to our dedicated band of broadcast volunteers who utilize their time and equipment in bringing you this weekly broadcast.
The purpose of "WIANews" is to rapidly provide news of interest to active amateurs residing in Australia and the globe.
We strongly encourage membership in the Wireless Institute of Australia and

participation in the activities of local clubs.
Opinions expressed in "WIANews" are those of the writers who submit material
and do not necessarily reflect those of the rebroadcasters, nor the National
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WIANews wouldn't go astray...
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1649. SARL News in English 6/10/2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-06 16:04:42 UTC
From: website@sarl.org.za
Message-ID: <FB36794E8B394BA1B1C0462408801FCA@toron>
Source record: 3754
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 07 OCTOBER 2007

You are listening to ZS6SRL the official Radio Station of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is transmitted every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. To listen to a web stream or Echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links for details.

This, and previous bulletins, can be downloaded from the www.sarl.org.za. You can also read or download previous bulletins from there and subscribe to receive future bulletins by email.

Your news reader this morning is Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with relays on 3,695, 10,135, and 51,400 MHz as well as 438,825 and 1 297 MHz in the Pretoria area. (Other newsreaders please change to suit).

SILENT KEYS

The Pretoria Amateur Radio Club regrets to announce that Don Blackburn, ZS6CRT, became a silent key on Tuesday after a valiant battle with cancer. Don was a past chairman of the club.

Our sincere condolences to his wife Sue, ZS6SUE, and his children Jonathan ZR6JON and Samantha.

The key of Peter Finlay, ZS5ADN, became silent on 23 September after a long illness. To his family and friends, our sincerest condolences.

Sharief Osman, ZS1SSB, affectionately known as Ozzy, passed away at the age of 42 on the 22 September 2007. our sincerest condolences to his wife Amina, 3 young children, other relatives and friends.

(PAUSE)

In the news today:

2008 SARL NATIONAL CONVENTION - A FEAST OF AMATEUR RADIO

INTECNET AND PRESIDENT'S NET TONIGHT

EXPANSION OF 40 METRE BAND

DRAFT POWERLINE REGULATION PROCESS CONTINUES

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

2008 SARL NATIONAL CONVENTION - A FEAST OF AMATEUR RADIO

The SARL National convention will be held in Bloemfontein from 11 to 13 April 2008 and promises to be a weekend of amateur radio activity South Africa has not seen for many years. The weekend will be hosted by the Bloemfontein Amateur Radio Club and will include a visit to the Boyden Observatory on the Friday evening. The Annual General Meeting will be held on the Saturday morning followed by an ARDF demonstration Hunt and various technical session covering HF, VHF and Hamnet.

Visits to the Leeuwberg museum and Onse Rust will be arranged with the Gala Awards Dinner at the Commando Restaurant. The weekend will be concluded with breakfast with a view at the ZS9X Contest station on Sunday morning.

The organising committee is working with SA Airlink to provide special travel and accommodation packages. Diarise the date now and stay tuned. Information will be available on the web soon.

INTECNET AND PRESIDENT'S NET TONIGHT

The President's net will be held this evening, 7 October, starting at 19:00 and will be followed by the Intecnet.

SARL President, Graham Hartlett, will talk about plans for the 2008 AGM and nominations for Council which are due soon. He will also discuss the procedure for affiliated clubs to offer the class B examination for their students. The full examination procedure and the necessary application forms will be available on the member pages of the web after his presentation.

The Intecnet will feature a discussion on the HMO/SARL 40 metre beacon programme led by Dr Lee-Anne McKinnell of the HMO. John Willescroft, ZS6EF, who is constructing the beacon equipment will discuss the design and operational issues. A PowerPoint presentation is available on the web at www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI.

Clubs wishing to link their repeaters should send details of the telephone number to armi@sarl.org.za by noon today.

EXPANSION OF 40 METRE BAND

The SARL receives regular questions from amateurs about the expansion of the 40 metre band. The issue is on the top of the Agenda in our interaction with ICASA. There are however several problems to be overcome. One is that South Africa's signal distributor, Sentech, is still using that segment and will have to relocate to higher in the band. The SARL is in discussion with Sentech. In terms of the ITU agreement they have the right to continue using the spectrum till 2009.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?

Invoices were mailed in June, with follow-up reminders in August and September. If you have not yet renewed your membership, please do it as soon as possible. Members who have not remitted their dues by the end of October will no longer receive Radio ZS or have access to the member-only section of the SARL web. Your membership is important for Amateur Radio; it is our collective voice through the SARL, the national Body for Amateur Radio, which needs to be strong and representative. Your membership makes that difference. If you are not a member yet, it is never too late to join. Application forms are available on www.sarl.org.za.

DRAFT POWERLINE REGULATION PROCESS CONTINUES

At the SABS TC80 meeting on Thursday ICASA informed the committee that the draft regulations for PLT, Power Line Telecommunications, will be tabled for discussion at the Standards Liaison Committee this coming Thursday. The SARL was part of the drafting of the interim regulations and made several demands that for example all amateur HF bands are permanently notched. The SARL's position was noted but in the final draft to be discussed by the SLC no notching was included. Positive aspects of the draft regulations are the inclusion of an interference mitigation process and the requirement that a public accessible data base of PLT installations be maintained. PLT vendors must also give notice of planned installations.

The SARL made further representation to ICASA that International experience has shown that interference standards based on FCC limits are inadequate and will lead to unnecessary mitigation processes. A recent report from the ARRL laboratory pointing out the inadequacy of the FCC standards was also submitted.

At the TC80 meeting several additional problems were highlighted which will be discussed by the Chairman of the TC80 workgroup on EMC at the SLC meeting which he has been invited to attend.

After the final draft is agreed at the SLC, the draft regulations will be published in the Government Gazette for comment. The SARL is preparing its comment based on current known aspects of the draft regulation and will fine tune its objections once the final draft has been published. It is expected that the SARL will also attend public hearings.

AMATEUR RADIO DIRECTION FINDING - SARL RECOMMENDS THE 80 m APPROACH FOR NOW

At last week's Council meeting the future participation of South Africa in the ARDF - Amateur Radio Direction Finding competitions held annually by the IARU in Europe was discussed. On recommendation of the IARU ARDF committee chairman, Reinhardt Floesser, it was decided to first tackle ARDF on 80 metres. The reason for this is that on 2 metres too many reflections occur which for the newcomer presents problems in a multi transmitter competition which is the IARU standard. Later on 2 m ARDF will be added. The international competitions are presented in

two categories, HF and VHF.

The SARL is studying the various circuits and kits available and would welcome input from clubs and individuals. Please send your comments to zs4bs@netactive.co.za. An Intecnet with Rhynhardt Floesser is being planned for 25 November.

JOTA AND JOTI 20 TO 21 OCTOBER

Dave Gemmell, ZS6AAW, SA National JOTA Co-ordinator makes it known that Jamboree-on-the-Air, JOTA, and Jamboree-on-the-Internet, JOTI, will take place on 20 and 21 October.

Many thanks to Evan Davies, ZS6EVD, Eddie Leighton, ZS6BNE, and Lichtenburg ARC who planned, and will be operating as, ZS50MAF, in Mafikeng.

This year's is the 50th JOTA and 11th JOTI and it's not too late to arrange a JOTA station which can be put together in an hour or two!

If you had not been approached by scouts, invite them for a day or week-end to do experiments with antennas and contact local and overseas JOTA stations. Introduce them to different modes such as , CW, RTTY PSK 31, ECHOLINK, Skype, etc. from your club house, home or where ever.

Remember, register your station as an educational station with the SARL at least 7 days before the main event so that your unlicenced guests may also use your transmitting equipment under your guidance and derive maximum enjoyment from the event. Forms for this purpose are available on www.sarl.org

More international info. can be found on www.jota.org or www.jotajoti.org

SPRING QRP SPRINT RESULTS

Nine logs were received for the Spring QRP Sprint held on Sunday 9 September, 4 in the 5 watt class and 5 in the 1 watt class. The results are as follows

5 Watts: 1st Vidi, ZS1EL 2 992 points; 2nd Ruaan, ZS6RMS 1 600 points; 3rd Oakdale ARC, ZS1OAK 1 540 points; 4th Allen, ZR1AAH 864 points.

1 Watt: 1st Jan, ZS4JAN 15 120 points; 2nd Andre, ZS2ACP 12 960 points; 3rd Pam, ZS6APT 3 960 points; 4th Pierre, ZS6BQS 2 520 points; 5th Franz, ZS6EU 640 points.

Congratulations to the winners.

PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the expected solar activity will be at very low levels. The geomagnetic field is expected to be quiet in general increasing to unsettled levels on 17 till 19 October. The expected Effective Sun Spot number for the coming week will be less

than 5. Fortunately with the arrival of summer DX conditions are also warming up a bit.

15 m and 20 m will provide best opportunities for DX. There is a possibility of 15 and 20 m openings towards India from about 10:00 CAT. There may be 20 m openings to Australia from about 06:00. From 16:00 there may be 15 and 20 m openings towards Europe. From 18:00 there may be 15 and 80 m openings towards the USA.

For the CW and digital enthusiasts it will also be worth monitoring 10 MHz.

Locally conditions on 40 m is going to be good during the day and even 30 m may perform well over the longer distances.

It is once again time to work towards your 80 m WAZS award in the evenings. Remember that this is only a prediction and that HF always has the capability to surprise you. You will never know what you are missing unless you switch your rig on, listen and also call CQ.

Please visit www.spaceweather.co.za for further information.

DIARY OF EVENTS

7 October, tonight - President's Net and Intechnet; 18 October - Class A RAE; 20 October - Comments on SARL 2008 Competition Handbook to be in; 20 and 21 october - JOTA and JOTI;

SARL News invites clubs and individuals to submit news stories of interest to radio amateurs and shortwave listeners. Submit news stories if possible in both English and Afrikaans to www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date.

The SARL also invites you to listen to the programme Amateur Radio Mirror International, on the air every Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 590 kHz. For the web stream and echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links. A repeat transmission can be heard Mondays at 21:00 CAT on 3 215 kHz. Sentech sponsors the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

Today's South African Radio League news bulletin was compiled by George, ZS6NE, and transmitted by (your name and call sign).

Thank you for listening. 73.

/EX

========== Message Ends ========== To edit or remove your entry from this mailing list go to www.sarl.org.za/members/admin/maildat.asp

1650. [RAC-Bulletin] RAC Bullein #22 - BC Section Manager Election Results

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-06 16:47:59 UTC
From: John Iliffe <john.iliffe@sympatico.ca>
Message-ID: <4707BB13.5AFB640@sympatico.ca>
Source record: 3755
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

"Congratulations to Mike Hale, VE7DXD, who has been elected British Columbia Section Manager for a two-year term of office that begins November 1, 2007. Mike was elected through mail-in ballot by a two-vote margin.

RAC Vice President for Field Services Bob Cooke, VE3BDB, extends thanks to Mike for his support of Radio Amateurs of Canada which he displayed by standing in nomination for BC SM, and to out-going Section Manager Drew Watson, VA7DR, for his strong leadership and promotion of our national organization, particularly of the RAC Amateur Radio Emergency Service. The election results indicate that both men enjoy wide recognition and support in BC Section."

Thanks.

73,

Bob
ve3bdb

Sent by the RAC Bulletins from RACHQ mailing list robot.
Send comments to: rachq@rac.ca
For more information about the email robot, please visit:
http://rac.eton.ca/racbullemail.htm

1651. GB2RS NEWS Sunday 7 October 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-06 19:28:48 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200710061900.l96J0FI03536@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 3756
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

1 GB2RS NEWS Sunday 7 October

The news headlines

* HFC next weekend

* Train the Trainers course looms

* DFCWi used for EME contact

HF enthusiasts are reminded that the RSGB HF Convention takes place next weekend, 12 to 14 October. The closing date for booking accommodation packages and evening meals is 11am on Wednesday 10 October. You can of course just turn up on the Saturday or Sunday as a Day Visitor. Lunches are available without pre-booking. The RSGB HF Convention, sponsored by Icom and Martin Lynch & Sons, is the world's premier HF event of its type and an experience not to be missed by the serious operator.

A reminder to registered tutors that the RSGB's Train the Trainers scheme will run again shortly. The course, by Alan Betts, G0HIQ and Brian Reay, G8OSN, takes place on Sunday 21 October in Motherwell. For more information, or to register, contact RSGB Region 1 Manager Gordon Hunter, GM3ULP, as soon as possible. He can be contacted by email to gm3ulp@aol.com or by telephone on 01698 253394.

Last week GB2RS reported that 10GHz beacon GB3SCX was running an experimental mode, Dual Frequency CW with ident, or DFCWi. The world's first 10GHz EME contact using this mode has now been achieved. On 27 September, members of the Flight Refuelling Amateur Radio Society worked UK Microwave Group Chairman Brian, G4NNS, via DFCWi. Conventional CW was used to make initial contact. The DFCWi experiment took place using PC generated tones fed via a mic to a 2m SSB radio connected to a 3cm transverter. Both stations were using 12ft prime focus parabolic dish antennas, with 13W at G4RFR and 18W at G4NNS.

The RAYNET Convention and AGM will take place on Saturday 3 November at the East Sussex Fire and Rescue Headquarters, Eastbourne. Doors open at 9am and there will be presentations from 10am. The AGM starts at 2pm, and will be followed by an open forum. Disabled parking places are limited and should be reserved by contacting Dick.Jeffries@raynet-uk.net.

And now for the details of rallies and events for the coming week [Note to newsreaders: Please use your judgement on whether to read the 7 October event, based on your time slot and distance from the event.] On

Sunday 7 October Nantwich Bunker Trust are having a surplus electronic and electrical sale. The sale starts at 10.00 at French Lane, Nantwich, Cheshire. For more information log onto www.hackgreen.co.uk/.

On Saturday 13 October the GB3EE repeater group rally takes place at the Calow Community Centre, Chesterfield. For more information contact Steve, G6IBQ, on 0844 414 2056 or email steveg6ibq@aol.com.

2 On Sunday 14 October Great Lumley Amateur Radio Club are holding their rally from 10.00 at the Great Lumley Community Centre. For more information contact Nancy Bone, G7UUR, on 0191 477 0036 or email nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk. More details of these and future events can be found on pages 88 and 89 of the October edition of RadCom. Now for the news of special events John Howard, G0BUV, will be operating special event call sign GB8CMC from Birmingham until 9 October. The event is celebrating the 800th anniversary of the Coleshill Market Charter. The Charter was awarded by King John in 1207. Warrington Amateur Radio Club will be celebrating its 60th anniversary year by operating the special call sign GB6WRS throughout the month of October. The station will be active on all bands each day of the month. The Border Rievers Amateur Radio Society will be operating as GB4NTC on the 13 October, at Gragside House Rothbury. The station will be on the air from 1000 till 1800, operating on HF, VHF and UHF on voice and CW modes. Full details for the event can be found on their website www.brars.co.uk. And now the HF DX news compiled from 425 DX News, the Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin and other sources.

Andrew, G7COD, will be operating using 8Q7AK from the Island of Embudu, Maldives until October 12. He will be using SSB with a little CW on 30 to 12 metre bands. For more information check 8Q7AK on qrz.com. Javier, HR2J, will be running a one man expedition from 7 October to 8 November, and he expects to operate as HQ8R on all bands for at least four hours a day. Further information can be found on qrz.com under HQ8R. QSL direct to HR2J. Tom, DL2RTK, will be signing SD7T until 13 October activity from Ven Island, EU-137. The operators are Fred, SM7DAY, SM7DAY/7, Frank, DL2SWW, SD7W and Ric, DL2VFR, SD7V. QSL via home calls, bureau preferred. Richard, G3RWL, will be active as 8P6DR from Barbados, NA-021, WLOTA LH-0999, until 14 October. He plans to operate CW and digital modes on 80 to 10 metres. QSL via G3RWL, direct or bureau, e-mail requests for bureau cards to g3rwl at amsat.org. Look for Ermanno, SV0XAN/5, to be active from the islands of Lipsi, Agathonisi and Arkoi, Dodecanese, EU00 until 20 October. QSL via IK2WZD. Christoph, DK2CRN, (VK2AM) and George, DL1ECG, (VK2ALU) will be active from Australia on 9 to 27 October. QSL via home calls, direct or bureau. The W5 National Wildlife Refuge ARC will operate from the Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge on 12 to 14 October. This operation coincides with the National Wildlife Refuge Week and is in support of the KP1-5 Project and the US national wildlife refuge system. Look for W5NWR on SSB, CW, RTTY and PSK on frequencies of opportunity. QSL via NA5U. Other stations will be operating from wildlife refuges across the nation.

3 Now the contest news The RSGB 21/28MHz Contest takes place on 7 October from 0700 to 1900 on CW and SSB. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and district. The RSGB 432MHz activity takes place on 9 October from 2000 to 2230 local on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. The second sprint contest organised by the RSGB Contest Committee will take place on Wednesday 10 October. The sprint format requires stations to QSY often, and not maintain a run frequency. That means that different skills and operating styles are needed compared with a traditional contest. The contest is for the SSB event on 3.600 to 3.650MHz from 1900 to 2030 UTC. The exchange consists of callsigns, serial number, and the operator's name or nickname. Full details, including the important QSY element, can be found at www.rsgbhfcc.org. The Oceania DX Contest takes place from 0800 on 13 October to 0800 on 14 October on 1.8 to 28MHz bands, CW only. The exchange takes the form of RST and serial number. The EU Sprint Contest takes place on 13 October from 1600 to 1959 on 3.5, 7 and 14MHz bands on CW. The exchange takes the form of both callsigns, serial number, name and nickname. The RSGB 50MHz Contest takes place on 14 October from 0900 to 1200 on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number, locator and postcode. Now the solar factual data for the period from 24 September to 30 September, compiled by Neil Clarke, G0CAS Without any warning a small sunspot group emerged ending a 21 day spell when the solar disc was spotless. However, solar activity continued at very low levels. Solar flux levels increased slightly from 66 units to 68 by the 29th. The average was 67 units. The 90 day solar flux average on the 30th was 69 units, that's the same level as last week. X-ray flux levels remained below the minimum level throughout. Geomagnetic activity started at quiet levels but on the 27th as forecast a coronal hole disturbance commenced which lasted through to the 30th. The most disturbed day was the 29th with an Ap index of 26 units. The average was Ap 14 units. The ACE spacecraft saw solar wind speeds increase from 370 kilometres per second on the 27th to peak at 720 kilometres per second on the 30th. Particle densities were low except for the 27th and the 28th which increased to 10 particles per cubic centimetre. Bz varied between minus and plus 2 nanoTeslas on the 26th which was the quietest day and between minus 10 and plus on the most disturbed day.

Particularly during the periods of increased magnetic activity the higher HF bands were in very poor shape and only 14MHz showed anything more than occasional sparkle. Even that band opened later and closed earlier than in recent weeks. However, good openings to Australia and New Zealand were reported on 3.5 and 7MHz, with at least one strong opening on 3.5MHz to W6 around 0600UTC. This was a reminder that, for seasonal reasons, and because we are at the bottom of the solar cycle, low-band conditions should be particularly good. The modest increase in geomagnetic activity on the 28th and 29th gave rise to a handful of auroral reports, mostly from North America.

4 And finally the solar forecast. This week solar activity is expected to continue at very low levels. The solar disc could be spotless on some days. Solar flux levels should be in the high 60's throughout the

period. With the absence of any coronal holes on the earthward side of the Sun this week geomagnetic activity is expected to be quiet everyday. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitudes should be around 19MHz for the south and 16MHz for the north. The darkness hour lows should be about 8MHz. Paths this week to South Africa should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success rate will be around 24MHz. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success rate will be about 19MHz. The best time to try this path will be between 0900 and 1800 hours UTC. And that's all for this week from the propagation team.

5 Next, the Local News:

Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses

and website links where known.

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your

transmission.]

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST

and EAST ANGLIA On Monday 8 October Basingstoke Amateur Radio Club is having a club meeting. Contact Frank, M0AEU, by email to barc@2lo.info.

On Monday 8 October Coulsdon Amateur Transmitting Society is having a talk on artificial intelligence by Steve, G7SYO. Contact Andy, G8JAC, on g8jac@btinternet.com.

On Monday 8 October Felixstowe and District Amateur Radio Society is having a fish and chip supper at The Victoria, Felixstowe Ferry. Contact Paul, G4YQC, by email to paul.whiting@bt.com.

On Monday 8 October Surbiton Heritage Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is having a presentation by Surrey RAYNET. Contact Tony, G7DGW, on g7dgw@shares.uk.net, or on the web at www.shares.uk.net.

On Tuesday 9 October Harwell Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on contest logging and SD software by Martyn Preston, G0THY. Contact Martyn, G0THY, by email to g0thy@btinternet.com.

On Tuesday 9 October Stevenage and District Amateur Radio Society is looking at photographs from members archives. Contact Neil, M0ARH, on 01438 217 077.

On Wednesday 10 October Aylesbury Vale Radio Society Club is on the air and having a discussion evening. Contact Roger, G3MEH, on 01442 826 651, or by email to roger@g3meh.com.

On Wednesday 10 October Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is having a technical talk about the new club HF and VHF antennas, by Terry, G0VFW. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to

terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

On Wednesday 10 October Dover Radio Club is having a talk on Windows Vista by Matt, M1CMN. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk.

On Wednesday 10 October Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on digital signal processing by G0UUS. Contact Ken, M0KLS, on 02392 797 240.

On Wednesday 10 October Farnborough and District Radio Society is having part three of the talk on Morse appreciation by Derek, G3HEJ. Contact Colin, M3IHS.

On Wednesday 10 October Harwich Amateur Radio Interest Group is having a lecture: "Help! I'm being shot at!" by Rick Speller, G3LZR. Contact James, M0ZZO, on 01255 242 746.

On Wednesday 10 October Havering and District Amateur Radio Club is having an informal evening. Contact Dave, 2E0EBV, on 07956 594 514.

On Wednesday 10 October Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is having a table top sale. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

6 On Wednesday 10 October South Essex Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on ISS packet radio or an amateur radio video with Dave, G4UVJ. Details on the web at www.southessex.ARS.btinternet.co.uk, or by email to southessex.ARS@btinternet.com.

On Wednesday 10 October Worthing and District Amateur Radio Club is having its AGM. Contact Roy, G4GPX, on 01903 753 893.

On Thursday 11 October Reading and District Amateur Radio Club is having its annual construction contest, hosted by Robin Caine, G4IWS. Contact Pete, G8FRC, on 01189 695 697, or on the web at www.radarc.org.

On Thursday 11 October Shefford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a discussion on the theme of "how big is your carbon footprint?". Contact David, G8UOD, on 01234 742 757.

On Thursday 11 October Southgate Amateur Radio Club is having a junk sale. Contact Erik, 2E0ECR, on 0208 444 3247.

On Friday 12 October Loughton and Epping Forest Amateur Radio Society is having a VHF night on the air. Contact Marc, G0TOC, on 020 8502 1645, or by email to info@lefars.org.uk.

On Friday 12 October Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is having a radio night. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Friday 12 October Wimbledon and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air and having a construction night. Contact Jim, M0CON, on 020 8874 7456.

On Sunday 14 October Southdown Amateur Radio Society is operating at the Beachy Head Site. Contact John, G3DQY, on 01424,424,319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST On Monday 8 October Cornish Radio Amateur Club is having a meeting of the computer section with a talk by Clive, G3OCB, on computer security. Contact Ian, 01872 561 058.

On Wednesday 10 October South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is having its autumn table-top sale. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282.

On Wednesday 10 October Taunton and District Amateur Radio Club is on the air from the club station. Contact William, G3WNI, on 01823 666 234, or by email to g3wni@btinternet.com.

On Wednesday 10 October Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is on the air. Contact Tony, G0WMB, by email to tonytsgarc@beeb.net.

On Thursday 11 October Yeovil Amateur Radio Club is having a talk by T Woollards on Somerset Raynet. Contact Gary, 2E0BFJ (g.swain@tesco.net).

NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS The recently announced vacancy for an RSGB Deputy Regional Manager covering South Derbyshire & South Nottinghamshire remains unfilled. If you live in the area and would like to help the RSGB's Regional Team to strengthen relationships between the Society and its membership, please contact Regional Manager Jim Stevenson, G0EJQ, on 0789 172 1081 or by email to g0ejq@rsgb.org.uk.

On Monday 8 October Gloucester Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is having a workshop and HF operating evening. Contact Anne, 2E1GKY, on 01452 548478, daytime.

7 On Monday 8 October Stratford Upon Avon District Radio Society is having a talk on the history of radio manufacturing by M3NDZ. Contact Jack, G3VYE, on 01926 641 988.

On Tuesday 9 October Loughborough and District Amateur Radio Club is having its AGM. Contact Chris, G1ETZ, on 01509 504 319.

On Wednesday 10 October Telford and District Amateur Radio Society I shaving a hamfest debrief, feedback and idea sharing session. Contact Mike, G3JKX, on 01952 299 677, or by email to mjstreetg3jkx@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Friday 12 October Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is having a talk and demo on the National HRO by Tony Ferraioli. Details on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

On Monday 8 October Sheffield Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on Echolink by M1ERS. Contact Trevor, M0TWS.

On Monday 8 October Thornton Cleveleys Amateur Radio Society is having its construction competition. Contact Jack, G4BFH, by email to

jack.duddington@btinternet.com.

On Tuesday 9 October Wakefield and District Amateur Radio Society is having a pie and pea supper at HQ. Contact Dave, G4CLI, on 07748 221 855, or by email to g4cli@hotmail.co.uk.

On Wednesday 10 October Great Lumley Amateur Radio And Electronics Society is preparing for its rally. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Wednesday 10 October Hornsea Amateur Radio Club is having a digital picture show with Steve, 2E0NSQ, at the Old Mill Club House. Contact Steve, G4GPY, on 01482 860 440, or by email to g4gpy@eddiesplace.karoo.co.uk.

On Wednesday 10 October Mid-Cheshire Amateur Radio Society is having a review of the 'super crystal set' build and moving on to the next stage of construction. Contact Richard, G0JIT, by email to rsa@zetnet.co.uk.

On Friday 12 October South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is having a talk on railway telegraphy by Jim, G3KAF. Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999.

On Friday 12 October Tynemouth Radio Club is having a Morse and operating night. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Saturday 13 October Wakefield and District Amateur Radio Society is running its Foundation Licence course. Contact Dave, G4CLI, on 07748 221 855, or by email to g4cli@hotmail.co.uk.

On Sunday 14 October Great Lumley Amateur Radio And Electronics Society is holding its rally at the Great Lumley Community Centre. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

NEWS FOR SCOTLAND

On Sunday 7 October Cockenzie and Port Seton Amateur Radio Club is taking part in the RSGB 21/28MHz contest. Contact Bob, GM4UYZ, on 01875 811 723.

On Monday 8 October Lothians Radio Society is having a surplus equipment auction at the Royal Ettrick Hotel. Contact Toby, MM0TSS, on 07739 742 367, or by email to enquiries@lothiansradiosociety.com, or on the web at www.lothiansradiosociety.com.

8 On Thursday 11 October Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is having a construction and on the air evening. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

On Friday 12 October West Of Scotland Amateur Radio Society is having a club night. Details on the web at www.wosars.org.

On Saturday 13 October Moray Firth Amateur Radio Society is having its autumn junk sale at the Scout Hall in Fochabers. Contact Jim, MM0SMD, on 01340 820 134.

NEWS FOR WALES No news items have been received for Wales this week.
NEWS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

No news items have been received for Northern Ireland this week. And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast,

prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

1652. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1573 - October 7, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-07 15:40:17 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <E1IeY5u-0005g8-4s@elasmtp-banded.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 3757
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1573 - October 7, 2007

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1573 with a
release date of Sunday October 7, 2007 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. The U-S Postal Service
deals a blow to radio reading services -- even
some that help hams. Also, two life sentences
for the first convicted in the Hawks murders at
sea and the ARRL disqualification of Carl
Gardenias, WU6D, to run for Director leads to an
investigation backed by an on-line giant. Find
out the details on Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) report
number 1573 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

ASSISTED RADIO LIVING: HIGH POSTAGE RATES COULD DOOM CASSETTE-CASTERS

If you are a visually impaired radio amateur and
get your ham radio news or any information from
radio reading services, listen up. A recent
postage increase in the United States may doom a
lot of the cassette based reading
services. Services that cannot mail using the
Postal Services Free Matter category, and which
do not have some other way to generate
revenue. Several tape based reading services
have hinted that they will close their doors in
December once there are no longer any funds for
postage. Fred Vobbe, W8HDU, has more:

--

Recently, we were dealt a great disservice by the
United States Postal Service. The cost to mail a
cassette tape has increased from 63 cents to $1.30.

According to the USPS, the issue is that the
postal regulations have changed. Any item
thicker than 1/4 inch is now subject to this new higher rate.

Ironically, its now cheaper to send a tape
Canada, the United Kingdom or even Kuwait, than

it is to someone right down the street from me. Go figure.

Now, I am a member of the Lions Club, and I have
talked to several other magazines-on-tape. This
postage increase has been hurting a lot of cassette tape magazines.

Those that are not sending "Free Matter" and are
not subsidized, either have to pass their costs
on to their subscribers, or they go out of business.

I'm Fred Vobbe, W8HDU.

--

Statistically 10 million people in the United
States are "legally" blind or visually impaired.
However, the number of people ages 15 and older,
with a limitation in sight, who use a computer
regularly is a bit under 1 million. This makes
audio distribution to this group of citizens a
problem to not for profit content
providers. Amateur Radio Newsline stopped its
cassette mail-out service almost 20 years ago. (W8HDU, NRCDXAS)

**

RADIO JUSTICE: WOMAN SENTENCED IN HAM RADIO YACHT SLAYINGS
A Long Beach, California, woman has been
sentenced to two terms of life in prison without
the possibility of parole. This, for her role in
a plot involving her husband and others to kill a
retired ham radio couple and steal their 55-foot yacht.
26 year old Jennifer Deleon was convicted last
November of two counts of first- degree murder in
connection with the November 15, 2004, slaying of
retired probation officer Thomas Hawks, KD7VWJ,
and his 47-year-old wife, Jackie, KD7VWK. A jury
also found special circumstances of murder for
financial gain and multiple murder, making
mandatory the life without parole sentences.
Mrs. Deleon was tried separately from her
husband, Skylar and three other men indicted in
the case. Skylar Deleon will be tried in January
along with John Fitzgerald Kennedy. Prosecutors
are seeking the death penalty against the two
men, describing them, respectively, as the brains
and brawn behind the murder for profit plot. (OC
Register and other media reports)
**

HAM RADIO POLOTICS: ARRL EXEC UPHOLDS WU6D DISQUALIFICATION

A follow-up to our recent story revolving around the controversy in the ARRL Southwestern Divisions race for Director. The League's Executive Committee says that it has completed its consideration of the appeal filed by Carl Gardenias, WU6D, of the decision of the ARRL Ethics and Elections Committee. That decision disqualified him as a candidate for Director.. The Executive Committee says that based on its own independent review, it has voted unanimously to affirm the decision of the Ethics and Elections Committee.

According to the ARRL Letter, this decision was communicated to WU6D on October 1st, along with detailed findings of fact and conclusions of the committee. The Executive Committee is meeting as we go to air and says that it will release additional information after the meeting.

But it may not be over yet. At least not as far as Carl Gardenias, WU6D, is concerned. He is now taking the fight over his disqualification to the ham radio community. WU6D has created a website on which he has posted in chronological order all communications on this matter between himself and the ARRL. Also posted is the letter of complaint penned by incumbent Director Dick Norton, N6AA, that lead to Gardenias disqualification. It's quite an interesting story for anyone who follows ARRL politics. You can find it in cyberspace at www.wu6d.com (ARRL, others)

**

HAM RADIO POLITICS: AZ AND CA HAMS LAUNCH PROBE INTO WU6D DISQUALIFICATION

Meantime it appears as if the QRZ.com website and its founder Fred Lloyd, AA7BQ, are assisting into an independent inquiry of the Carl Gardenias, WU^D, disqualification.

Writing on his website, Lloyd says that a small group of hams in Arizona and Southern California are conducting an independent fact finding inquiry of their own. This, to determine whether there is more to the WU6D disqualification story than has been made public.

Lloyd is asking anyone with credible information about this event to please send an e-mail to the investigatory team at HamNews@yahoogroups.com. He asks that you include evidence or a statement as to why you believe your information is factual and true. Also, to please include your original sources when possible.

Lloyd ays that those what want their message to
be anonymous, put the word ANONYMOUS in the
subject line and Lloyd says that your identity will be kept confidential.

More about this independent inquiry into the
disqualification of Carl Garnenias, WU6D, to run
for ARRL Southwestern Division Director is on the
front page of www.qrz.com under the title of
"Trouble in River City." (QRZ.COM)

**

RADIO LAW: PALMDALE CA. ORDERS HAM ANTENNAS TAKEN DOWN

A Palmdale, California, ham has had his permits
to install an antenna on his property
revoked. This, after neighbors complained that
his ham radio operations were interfering with
their consumer electronic equipment and posed a threat to their safety.

Heeding complaints from these residents, the
city's Planning Commission voted unanimously
Thursday, September 27th to revoke the
minor-modification permits obtained in 2005 by
Alec Zubarau, WB6X, to erect a tower and
antenna. Asoka Herath, Palmdale's director of
planning says that the vote means Zubarau will
have 10 days to ask the City Council to overturn
the commission's ruling. The decision
also means that within 14 days, Zubarau must
cease using the tower and any antennas that now are considered illegal.

Zubarau will be allowed to re-apply to the city
for any permits he would need to legally install
and use other antennas. If the commission's
decision is appealed but upheld by the City
Council, Zubarau will have to dismantle the
antenna tower he constructed earlier.

Earlier this year, Zubarau's neighbors came to
the city alleging his radio transmissions were
interfering with the television, radio and
telephone reception. In response, Zubarau said
his radio equipment met all standards set by the
Federal Communications Commission and should be
having no effect on his neighbors. Zubarau's
attorney Fred Hopengarten, K1VR, is quoted in
news reports as saying that if interference were
a problem, it would be up to those neighbors to
find, acquire and install interference-eliminating equipment.

At least 10 people, including three attorneys,
spoke in Zubarau's defense. They advised the
planning commission any interference by the city

with the operation of a ham radio station could violate federal regulations. Attorney Pamela Royce, W6PNW, told the commission that it should consider very carefully the cost of possible litigation if Zubaru is forced to take his antennas down or is forced off the air. (AV Press and others)

**

BREAK 1

From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin stations around the world including the Three Rivers Amateur Radio Club repeater serving Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

(5 sec pause here)

**

WORLDBEAT: IARU REGION 2 CONFERENCE COMPLETES BUSINESS

The IARU Region 2 Conference we recently reported on has completed its work. According to a report from Radio Amateurs of Canada, several recommendations from the Region 2 Working Group on Emergency Communications were adopted. These include establishing an Emergency Communications Committee that will be responsible to the Executive Committee for carrying out planning, training, and the maintenance of equipment and personnel inventories for emergency assistance deployment.

Also, a Region 2 Relief Fund was established with an initial transfer of US$5,000.00 from the general reserve of Region 2, with additional contributions to be solicited. The Fund will be administered by the Executive Committee and will be available solely to assist Region 2 member societies whose club stations and buildings, including antenna systems, are damaged by natural disaster.

Band-planning was another hot topic with a new Region 2 band plan for 160 through 10 meters was adopted. It becomes effective on January 1, 2008 and is modeled on one adopted previously by IARU Region 1, with regional differences taken into account. Steps were also taken to try to reduce interference to national emergency nets, including establishing an inventory of such nets and calling their importance to the attention of the radio amateur community.

An offer by Radio Club Argentino to be
responsible for translation into Spanish of the
IARU Region 2 electronic bulletin was
accepted. The Conference also accepted the offer
of the Club de Radio Aficionados de El Salvador
to host the 17th General Assembly in 2010.

The conference held in Brazil was attended by 40
delegates and observers representing 18 countries
in the Americas. 11 were there in person and 7 by proxy. (RAC)

**

RESCUE RADIO: THE ARRL GOES TO MARS

The ARRL now has a new Emergency Communications
tool in its toolbox. It's the Military Affiliate or MARS call sign
AAN1ARL.

The League's MARS station will be housed at W1AW,
the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial
Station. According to W1AW Station Manager Joe
Carcia, NJ1Q, the AAN1ARL call sign was requested
to reflect both the holder of the license and the
various MARS services. (ARRL)

**

RADIO LAW: FCC PROPPOSES UNLICENED DEVICES ON UNUSED DTV CHANNELS

The Federal Communications Commission is
considering allowing unlicensed radio devices to
operate on locally unused broadcast TV
channels. The proposals are intended to allow
what the Commission terms as the development of
new and innovative types of unlicensed broadband
devices and services for businesses and
consumers. This, by utilizing vacant spectrum
that the FCC says to be particularly well suited for these purposes.

The cable TV industry has expressed anxiety that
such devices could cause interference to
television receivers connected directly to a
digital cable TV service without the use of a
set-top converter box. The concern exists
because the portion of TV spectrum that is not
used for TV broadcast in a given local area is
still likely to be used within the cable-TV transmission system.

The cable industry says that depending on the
effectiveness of shielding of a TV receiver's
tuner, emissions within an unused broadcast
channel could potentially cause co-channel
interference to a TV receiver tuned to a digital

cable channel that overlaps that same
spectrum. The FCC's Office of Engineering and
Technology recently published a report on tests
to investigate this issue. (FCC, RW)

**

RADIO TECHNOLOGY: CITADEL TURNS OFF IBOC

Citing many complaints from listeners, Citadel
Broadcasting, the parent company of ABC Radio
network, has instructed all 10 of it's A-M
affiliates who had already converted to In Band
On Channel or IBOC digital, to cease night time use of the modulation
scheme.

Some complaints came from listeners of the IBOC
modulated stations. Others came from listeners
of adjacent channel stations, that were being
interfered with due to the bandwidth required fot digital operations.

Citadel's Director of Engineering is Marty
Stabbert. He's quoted as saying that due to the
lackluster performance, limited benefit and
various reports of significant interference,
Citadel is suspending nighttime IBOC operations.
He then directed the stations to reinstate their
previous procedures for daytime-only
Iboc operation as soon as possible. Daytime
IBOC for the ABC network affiliates is not affected at this time. (CGC)

**

RADIO ACCIDENT: TOWER WORKER KILLED IN FALL

Tower worker Daniel Plants of Triadelphia, West
Virginia fell to his death on Sept. 24th. This,
while working alone to dismantle a storm damaged
radio tower in East Deer Township, Pennsylvania.

According to press reports, Plants was an
experienced tower climber who worked regularly on
sites in the Pittsburgh area over the past 30
years. He was about half-way up the 200-foot
tower when he fell. Although he was wearing a
safety harness and other rigging gear, it was
unclear if it was attached to the tower at the time of the fall.

OSHA is investigating the accident. The tower is
owned by gospel station WGBN AM based in a suburb of Pittsburgh. (CGC)

**

RADIO RULES: NEW US 500 KHZ LICENSE

Richard Dillman from the Maritime Radio Historical Society reports a new United States class 1A common carrier Morse code coast station has been licensed by the FCC. Station KDR has been licensed to James A. Dalke in Bellevue, Washington. Dalke is a broadcast engineer who just happens to have a 5kW Medium Frequency transmitter. KDR is licensed for operation on 500Khz and 482KHz at 5 kW. Two people made applications. Dalke's was granted on September 24th. (Various)

**

RADIO ON LINE: BETTER AUDIO WANTED

More and more, the home audio experience is happening via the family computer. This, according to the Consumer Electronics Association which says that almost three quarters of online adults in the United States are using home computers to listen to audio content,.

While most home PC audio users are satisfied with the audio experience, more than a third want better sound quality. When forced to choose between having a quality audio experience and owning a large number of audio files, almost half of home PC audio users chose quality over quantity the research stated. (RW)

**

THE SOCIAL SCENE: NEAR-FEST IN NH ON OCT 12 - 13

The New England Amateur Radio Festival is slated for on Friday October 12th and Saturday October 13th at the Deerfield Fairgrounds in Deerfield, New Hampshire. Convening in May and October, the NEAR-Fest celebrates the wonderful art and science of Amateur Radio. And as General Chairman Michael Crestohl, W1RC, tells us this years proceeds will be used to fund a very special project:

--

W1RC: "The proceeds from this one are going to finance an Amateur Radio Station at the Christa McAuliffe Planeterium in Concord New Hampshire."

--

Cresthol says that the planetarium staff are very excited at the prospect of having a radio station they can exhibit and operate. They also hope too use it to communicate directly with the

International Space Station and other NASA
facilities. A local area radio club has offered
to represent NEAR-Fest and assist Planetarium
staff members become licensed and proficient in the use of the equipment.

Again, that's the NEAR-Fest slated for October
12th and 13th at the Deerfield Fairgrounds in
Deerfield, New Hampshire with the proceeds going
to the establishment of a new Amateur Radio
station at the Christa McAuliffe Planeterium in
Concord New Hampshire. More is on-line at http://near-fest.com (W1RC)

**

THE SOCIAL SCENE: AMADOR CTY ARC SWAP MEET OCT 13 IN CA

On the other side of the country, California's
Amador County Amateur Radio Club holds its Swap
Meet on Saturday, October 13th. The location is
thre Martel Jackson area with talk-in on the
146.835 MHz repeater. For more information e-mail ae@volcano.net (E-mail)

**

THE SOCIAL SCENE: THE THIRD ANNUAL PARIS TEXAS HAMFEST

Also on Saturday October 13th is the Paris, Texas
Hamfest. Its being held at the Red River
Fairgrounds in Paris beginning at 8 a.m. local
time. This one has free parking, an indoor flea
market, forums, ham radio testing and lots
more. Talk-in is on the 147.040 MHz
repeater. It requires a 100 hertz sub audible
access tone. For more information contact
Richard Lenoir, KI5DX, at hi callbook address. (E-Mail)

**

RADIO HONORS: DARA TO PUBLISH FALLEN MILITARY HAM MEMORIAL

The Dayton Amateur Radio Association is looking
to honor silent key operators who have died in
service during the conflicts in Afghanistan or
Iraq. According to the ARRL Letter, DARA is
looking to publish a memorial page in the
Hamvention 2008 program. One that will list
these fallen hams by name, call sign, branch of service, rank and unit.
(ARRL)

**

RADIO HONORS: ARRL INVITES NOMINATIONS FOR 2007
INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Nominations are being solicited for the 2007 ARRL International Humanitarian Award. The honor is presented to a ham or group of hams who demonstrate devotion to human welfare, peace and international understanding through Amateur Radio.

Nominations should include a summary of the nominee's actions that qualify the individual or individuals, plus verifying statements from at least two people having first-hand knowledge of the events warranting the nomination. Nominations should also include the names and addresses of all references.

All nominations and supporting materials must be submitted in writing in English to the ARRL International Humanitarian Award, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111 USA. Nomination submissions are due by December 31st of this year. (ARRL)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: WA4SXM NAMED AMSAT VO FOR USER SERVICES

AMSAT President Rick Hambly, W2GPS, announced the appointment of Gould Smith, WA4SXM, to the position of AMSAT Vice President of User Services. In his new position Smith will serve on the Executive Team and will be responsible for the leadership of a team that will include the management of the AMSAT Journal. He will also oversee the AMSAT New Service, the AMSAT HF radio nets, Field Operations, Awards and Contests, the Dayton Hamvention display and other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Board. (ANS)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: VE7UQ IS NEW MANAGER FOR INCOMING QSL BUREAU FOR BC

Ken Clarke, VE7UQ, is the new Incoming QSL Bureau manager for British Columbia, Canada. With this change, the new address is the VE7-VA7 Incoming QSL Bureau, 12441 - 58A Avenue, Surrey B.C. V3X 1X6. Clarke replaces Dennis Livesey, VE7DK, who served in that post for the past 19 years. (RAC)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio amateur. From the United States of America, We are the Amateur Radio Newsline with links to the world from our only official website at www.arnewsline.org and being relayed by the

volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: THE POWER OF THE SHOE

Inventor Trevor Baylis hand-crank radio made him
the toast of Africa. Now he wants to unleash
pedestrian power world-wide. We have more in this report from the WIA News:

--

Its an electric shoe capable of charging batteries by pedestrian power
alone,
this for cell phones, two-way pagers, MP3 players, or just about any other
low-power portable gizmo.

Baylis's spiel: Put away those plugs, chuck those re-chargers and cords -
'cause juicing up will soon be as easy as a walk in the park.
This man is an avid inventor, from the non drip tea-pot to the talking
potty, a
children's toilet trainer that barks congratulations each time its occupant
performs to order. I dont think that one charges batteries though ....

So, back to his shoes, the heel insert is fashioned from piezoelectric
crystal,
and this when bent, squeezed, or struck, produces a high voltage at a very
low
current - rather like the static electricity created by rubbing fur on a
balloon.

Trevor went on to explain "We then put that charge back through a little
electronic circuit, which sorts it out before squirting it into the battery
of
the mobile phone - or "can't live without" electronic toy, held in a pouch
sewn
on the back of the boot."

--

It appears as if the man who gave us the crank-up
radio is inspired, once again. (WIA)

**

RADIO TRENDS: NEW GUIDELINES FOR AM BROADCASTING

The AM Broadcasting Subcommittee of the The
National Radio Systems Committee has adopted a
new guideline titled Bandwidth Options for Analog
AM Broadcasters. The document is a standard for
broadcasters who wish to operate their AM
facilities with audio bandwidths below 10

kHz. It also offers an explanation of why reduced AM bandwidth may be advantageous.

Additionally, the AMB Subcommittee adopted a guideline titled AM Pre-emphasis/de-emphasis and Broadcast Audio Transmission Bandwidth Specifications," and another to be known as "Emission Limitation for AM Broadcast Transmission." These are revisions to previously adopted standards, as a result of the group's periodic standards review process. (RW)

**

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY: IS THE PRICE REALLY RIGHT?

Here's something to think about the next time you go out to buy a new radio or station accessory. According to a new study, the amount of the discount may be less important than the numerical value of the farthest right digit.

This theory is explained in a new study from the Journal of Consumer Research. Keith S. Coulter of Clark University and Robin A. Coulter from the University of Connecticut are the first to identify a visual distortion effect that may influence how consumers look at sale prices.

The researchers show that "right-digit effect" influences consumer perception of sale prices. When the right digits are small, people perceive the discount to be larger than when the right digits are large. In other words, an item on sale for $211 from the original price of $222 is thought to be a better deal than an item on sale for $188 from an original price of $199, even though both discounts are $11. Got that so far? Well theres more.

The researchers also find that when consumers view regular and sale prices with identical left digits, they perceive larger price discounts when the right digits are "small" -- less than 5 -- than when they are "large," or, greater than 5.

The study's authors say that when consumers examine multi-digit regular and sale prices in an advertisement, they read those prices from left-to-right. If the left digits are identical, consumers will pay less attention to those digits, and instead will focus primarily upon the disparate right-most digits in the price comparison process.

The authors say that their findings indicate that comparative price advertising can distort consumers' perceptions in ways unintended by the seller. Then again, its doubtful either of these two gentlemen ever spent time at a hamfest to see what real bargaining is -- first hand. (Journal of Consumer Research)

**

HAM RADIO TECHNOLOGY: DFCWI BEACON ON THE AIR

A beacon using the newly created DFC Wi type modulation is on the air from the United Kingdom. On Wednesday September 19th, the 10 GHz GB3SCX beacon located in Dorset began operation using the new modulation technique to assist in evaluation of the mode.

The GB3SCX beacon modulation still carries a normal on/off CW identifier followed by 15 seconds of carrier on its G-P-S locked frequency of 10368.905 MHz. This is then followed by a DFC Wi transmission with tones 400 Hz higher for a Dot and 600 Hz higher for a Dash.

DFC Wi stands for Dual Frequency CW, with a third idle tone. It is described in more detail at www.scrbg.org/g4jnt/ (GB2RS, Southgate)

**

DX

In D-X, the 3B7C team on St. Drandons went QRT on September 25th around 03:31 UTC. The operation netted 135,500 QSOs. This total makes this expedition 3rd only to D68C and 3B9C. QSL information is on the 3B7C web page.

And word that Southgate Amateur Radio Club member, G3RWL will be active as 8P6DR from Barbados through October 14th. He plans to operate CW and digital modes on 80 through 10 meters. QSL via G3RWL, direct or bureau. E-mail requests for bureau cards can be sent to g3rwl at amsat.org.

Lastly, FO5RK, reports that his planned Dxpedition to Rotuma as 3D2AG/P is on schedule. His operation will take place between December 2007 and January 2008 with the actual dates will be announced later. FO5RK will be managing his own QSL requests upon his return home. Upon his return home, he will have his logs available on-line.

(From various DX sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEM: T-HUNTING FOR THE BIRDS

Since 1998, hams and other VHF listeners have
been helping biologists by listening for pulsed
signals from radio collars and tags. This fall's
project involves another endangered
bird. Newsline's Joe Moell K0OV has the details.
--

Fall is here and North American birds are heading
south to find winter homes. Every year, Eastern
Loggerhead Shrikes leave nesting grounds in
Ontario, Canada, but fewer and fewer are
returning in the spring. Scientists want to know
what happens to these critically endangered
songbirds, and they're asking for our help.

Researchers at the University of Guelph in
Ontario have placed radio tags on 16 young
shrikes. They need assistance from hams and
monitoring enthusiasts in eastern states to find
out if the birds end up in Florida as expected, or
somewhere else. You can help from the comfort of
your hamshack by tuning in regularly to the tag
frequencies, which are between 172 and 173 MHz.

The complete frequency list is at my Web site,
along with articles to help you distinguish the
tags from other signals you may hear there. Get
started now, because these Loggerhead Shrike tags
will only be active into November. The
information is at _www.homingin.com_
(http://www.homingin.com) . That's homingin, as one word.

Thanks in advance for your help. From southern
California, this is Joe Moell, K0OV, for Amateur Radio Newsline.

--

Again that website is www dot homing in dot com. (K0OV, ARNewsline(tm))

NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the
CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio
Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the
RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's W-I-A
News, that's all from the Amateur Radio
Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is
newsline@arnewsline.org. More information is
available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only
official website located at

www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), P.O. Box 660937, Arcadia, California 91066.

For now, I'm Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, fresh off an Airbus 320 from Denver Colorado saying 73 and we thank you for listening.

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1653. Re: Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1573 - October 7, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-07 19:22:15 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <470901cc$0$299$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 3758

```
-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

In <E1IeY5u-0005g8-4s@elasmtp-banded.atl.sa.earthlink.net> "William M. Pasternak"
<newsline@ix.netcom.com> writes:

>Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1573 - October 7, 2007

[...]

>ASSISTED RADIO LIVING: HIGH POSTAGE RATES COULD DOOM CASSETTE-CASTERS

>If you are a visually impaired radio amateur and
>get your ham radio news or any information from
>radio reading services, listen up. A recent
>postage increase in the United States may doom a
>lot of the cassette based reading
>services. Services that cannot mail using the
>Postal Services Free Matter category, and which
>do not have some other way to generate
>revenue. Several tape based reading services
>have hinted that they will close their doors in
>December once there are no longer any funds for
>postage. Fred Vobbe, W8HDU, has more:

>--

>Recently, we were dealt a great disservice by the
>United States Postal Service. The cost to mail a
>cassette tape has increased from 63 cents to $1.30.

>According to the USPS, the issue is that the
>postal regulations have changed. Any item
>thicker than 1/4 inch is now subject to this new higher rate.

>Ironically, its now cheaper to send a tape
>Canada, the United Kingdom or even Kuwait, than
>it is to someone right down the street from me. Go figure.

>Now, I am a member of the Lions Club, and I have
>talked to several other magazines-on-tape. This
>postage increase has been hurting a lot of cassette tape magazines.

>Those that are not sending "Free Matter" and are
>not subsidized, either have to pass their costs
>on to their subscribers, or they go out of business.

>I'm Fred Vobbe, W8HDU.
```

[...]

I don't know a lot of detail about the economics of this, particularly at the bulk/wholesale level, but I wonder if switching to CD-R's would be a reasonable alternative at this point. At retail at least, I observe that spindled CD-R's are about as cheap, if not slightly less so, than cassette tapes. CD players with headphones are approaching $10-$15 at box retailers, and CD-capable drives are ubiquitous in most households that have either PC's or DVD players, so this shouldn't be a hardship for the listeners, either. I recall a CBS "60 Minutes" piece about NetFlix, where they determined that a DVD could be mailed in a simple flat envelope inexpensively, and the odds of accidental breakage was low enough, that it was cheaper over large quantities to send it that way and just send a replacement for the occasional broken disc. CD-R's mailed that way would at least be under the 1/4" limit, and would save the extra postage.

There would be the need to set up CD burning equipment, but most standard PC's seem to already come with CD burners, and are not that expensive to buy separately. Whatever investment in new equipment by both sender and receiver would appear to be quickly offset by the saved postage multiplied over many bulk mailings.

Is one possible issue that the recipients like to reuse the cassettes? If so, then going to CD-RW's might be an option if they are not cost-prohibitive.

- --
Paul W. Schleck
pschleck@novia.net
http://www.novia.net/~pschleck/
Finger pschleck@novia.net for PGP Public Key

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v1.4.5 (SunOS)

iD8DBQFHCQGV6Pj0az779o4RAqASAKCEbLHHb5TzvKg7rbpzLHwRiQLdHACdFlsj
1vjfZIdy33wiBptE+0hR72s=
=Se85
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----

1654. IRTS Radio News Bulletin, Sunday October 7th 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-07 20:00:33 UTC
From: news at irts dot ie <devnull@panix.com>
Message-ID: <200710072000.l97K08Y24192@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 3759
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Irish Radio Transmitters Society
Radio News Bulletin

Sunday October 7th 2007

Silent Key EI9HY

We are sorry to have to tell you of the death of Brian Lynch EI9HY. Brian died three weeks ago after a short illness. To his wife Eileen and to his three daughters we extend our deepest sympathy. May he rest in peace.

Important Anniversary

Tuesday last marked the 60th Anniversary of the conclusion of the conference of the International Telecommunications Union held in Atlantic City in 1947. The outcome of this conference was very beneficial to the amateur community. A new HF band was obtained at 21 MHz and above 30 MHz the basic structure of the amateur bands up to 10 GHz was established. This included the VHF 2 metre band and the UHF 70 cm band together with the microwave bands at 13 cms (2.4 GHz), 6cms (5.7 GHz) and 3 cms (10 GHz).

Space Anniversary

Thursday last marked the 50th anniversary of the launch of the first artificial Earth satellite. Sputnik 1 was launched by the USSR on the 4th of October 1957. The 59-centimetre aluminium sphere weighed 84 kgs, had four aerials protruding from the back and took about 98 minutes to orbit the earth. The satellite carried batteries, which accounted for most of the weight and two radio transmitters. These transmitters sent pulsed signals on 20.005 MHz and 40.005 MHz and the length of these pulsed signals varied depending on the satellites temperature and internal pressure.

Radio amateurs throughout the world monitored the signals from Sputnik 1 and the signals heard on Radio Eireann here were recorded at an amateur station in Dublin. The batteries in the satellite ran out after

three weeks on the 26th of October. The satellite re-entered the Earth's atmosphere after three months and burned up on the 4th of January 1958 after about 1450 orbits of the Earth. It is interesting to note that just four years after the launch of Sputnik 1 the first amateur satellite Oscar 1 was put into orbit by the American Air Force on one of its rockets. This satellite orbited the earth for 22 days transmitting the familiar "HI"greeting in CW.

City of Belfast Radio Amateurs Society

COBRAS (GI2BX) are based in the Social Club of the famous Shorts aero-engineering firm in Belfast and GB2MGY are closely associated with the nearby SS Nomadic, the original tender ship of the Titanic.

COBRAS, the City Of Belfast Radio Amateurs Society look forward to welcoming Mike McGirr, K9AJ as Guest Speaker on Monday the 8th of October. Mike has become synonymous with many of the most memorable DXpeditions: Most recently, he was a CW operator and Team Physician of the BS7H activation of Scarborough Reef. The talk begins at eight o'clock in the COBRAS meeting room in the Shorts Social Club on Holywood Road, Belfast and all Visitors are very welcome to come along.

CQIR

As you no doubt heard, CQIR caused quite a stir on the bands last weekend. Despite poor propagation conditions on the Saturday, Irish stations on all continents were worked by the Society's headquarters station EI75IRTS from their location in the Phoenix Park. The team had erected a rhombic antenna with five wavelength legs at a height of 65 feet beamed on the states and this helped counter the poor propagation. The station made eleven hundred QSO's in the 24 hours of the Contest and to date over a hundred logs have been received for the event from around the world. Our thanks to all the EI and GI stations who participated and remember to get your logs in as soon as possible for inclusion in the draw. Details of how to submit your log are available on the IRTS website.

AREN supports Charity walk

AREN members Declan Horan, EI9FVB and Conor O Neill, EI4JN supported a walk in aid of the Irish Heart

Foundation on Saturday 29 September last. The walk in the McGillicudy Reeks was led by Conor who radioed regular reports to Declan through the Cork repeater. Declan operated from his home QTH in Ballicollig Co. Cork. The walkers encountered thick fog on the ascent, which later cleared, giving way to clear skies and spectacular views.

Marconi Clifden Celebrations

On the 17th of October 1907 Guglielmo Marconi sent his first commercial message from the then new station at Clifden, Ireland. This October in celebration of this historic event members of the Galway Radio Experimenters Club will be running a special event station from Saturday 13th to Wednesday 17th from Clifden. The club has been issued the call sign EI100MFT for the event, MFT been the last call sign used on the original station.

On the Wednesday they will be making a special linkup with the Marconi sister station in Glace Bay, Nova Scotia. Part of this linkup will be an exchange of greetings between President Mary McAleese and Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia the Honourable Mayann E. Francis. The group will also be honoured to have Princess Electra Marconi present as she is coming to Clifden for the festival along with an Exhibit from the Marconi Foundation in Bologna. The Galway Radio Experimenters Club will also be presenting a display of vintage equipment. More details on the festival can be found at www.clifden.ie. Visitors to the station are more than welcome and if you would like to participate this can also be arranged. For further information please contact Enda Broderick (II2II) on 086-8676410 or email: &#65533;enda dot Broderick at lightnet dot ie&#65533;.

Marconi Lectures

Marconi&#65533;s achievements will be celebrated with a series of Marconi Centenary commemorative events from October the 12th to the 17th in Clifden, coordinated by the Clifden Chamber of Commerce. The celebrations include a lecture by Paul Duffy, Chartered Engineer and historian, entitled &#65533;Marconi-The Engineering Marvel&#65533;. This lecture will take place at the Clifden Station House Theatre on Sunday the 14th of October at 1 p.m. Michael Sexton, Chartered Engineer and author of &#65533;Marconi: The Irish Connection&#65533;, will give a

lecture on the national aspect of Marconi's work at the Clifden Station House Theatre on Monday the 15th of October at 1 p.m.

Professor Peter Kennedy will chair a forum entitled "Whither Wireless Communications? Marconi's Legacy in the 21st Century" on Tuesday the 16th of October at Clifden Station House Theatre. This forum will reflect on Marconi's achievements and the future for wireless communications.

Waterford Rally

The Waterford Radio and Electronics Rally will take place on Sunday the 21st of October at the Woodlands Hotel on the Dunmore Road in Waterford. South East Communications and Long Communications will be at the rally. The IRTS, AREN and a bring-and-buy stand will also feature.

Doors open at 11 a.m. and admission is 5 Euro, accompanied children are admitted free of charge. For details including a directions map, visit the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group web site on www.searg.com.

Upcoming Rallies

The Foyle and District Rally will take place on Sunday the 4th of November 2007 at the White Horse Hotel, Derry. For more information visit www.mn0aku.org.uk.

The Mayo Radio Rally will take place on Sunday the 18th of November in the Belmount Hotel, Knock, Co. Mayo. For more information contact Padraic Baynes, EI9JA @ QTHR.

Talk on TETRA Digital Radio

There will be a free talk on TETRA digital radio in Dublin on the Thursday the 11th of October at 6 p.m. TETRA radio is a new secure radio system currently being rolled out by the Gardai and is in use on the LUAS tram system in Dublin. This system which operates in the UHF band features mobile phone like dialling as well as group calling like most PMR analogue systems. It may be rolled out in the future for all emergency and public services. The talk will be held at Engineers Ireland, 22 Clyde Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4, which is beside the American Embassy.

Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall, EI7IS at QTHR or by phone to 051-853806 or 087-6302026. Items for the radio news can also be faxed to 087 5 6302026. News should be submitted via e-mail to &#65533;news at irts dot ie&#65533; for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Friday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday&#65533;s bulletin.

1655. Cassettes/CD's (was: Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1573 - October 7, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-08 06:22:20 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5mtvnqFfa4qiU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 3760

"Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net> wrote in message
news:470901cc$0$299$540ea2cf@novia.net...

[snip]

> I don't know a lot of detail about the economics of this, particularly
> at the bulk/wholesale level, but I wonder if switching to CD-R's would
> be a reasonable alternative at this point. At retail at least, I
> observe that spindled CD-R's are about as cheap, if not slightly less
> so, than cassette tapes. CD players with headphones are approaching
> $10-$15 at box retailers, and CD-capable drives are ubiquitous in most
> households that have either PC's or DVD players, so this shouldn't be a
> hardship for the listeners, either. I recall a CBS "60 Minutes" piece
> about NetFlix, where they determined that a DVD could be mailed in a
> simple flat envelope inexpensively, and the odds of accidental breakage
> was low enough, that it was cheaper over large quantities to send it
> that way and just send a replacement for the occasional broken disc.
> CD-R's mailed that way would at least be under the 1/4" limit, and would
> save the extra postage.
>
> There would be the need to set up CD burning equipment, but most
> standard PC's seem to already come with CD burners, and are not that
> expensive to buy separately. Whatever investment in new equipment by
> both sender and receiver would appear to be quickly offset by the saved
> postage multiplied over many bulk mailings.
>
> Is one possible issue that the recipients like to reuse the cassettes?
> If so, then going to CD-RW's might be an option if they are not
> cost-prohibitive.

One thought that occurs to me (because I have personal experience of it) is
that some disabled people may actually not be able to physically handle
CD's. I know this because my brother is one of them. He is severely
physically disabled, has cerebral palsy and simply cannot pick up a CD/DVD
from its case and put it into a player. He can just about, with a lot of
physical effort, put a cassette into a tape player and set it running, but
he has a lot of difficulty manipulating the controls and is always chewing
up tapes due to continually stopping/starting/winding them.

He is a big fan of classical organ music and we buy him CD's and copy them
onto cassettes for him, but as he is constantly (through no fault of his
own) destroying them, we have to re-record them every so often. The trouble
is, blank cassettes are becoming increasingly difficult to obtain. Those
stores that do still stock them say that when their stocks are exhausted

they won't be having any more.

What my brother and people like him (surely he can't be the only one..?)
will do then is anybody's guess.

73 Ivor G6URP

1656. Re: Cassettes/CD's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-08 14:21:23 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <feddhg$1je0$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3761

Ivor Jones wrote:

> He is a big fan of classical organ music and we buy him CD's and copy them
> onto cassettes for him, but as he is constantly (through no fault of his
> own) destroying them, we have to re-record them every so often. The trouble
> is, blank cassettes are becoming increasingly difficult to obtain. Those
> stores that do still stock them say that when their stocks are exhausted
> they won't be having any more.
>
> What my brother and people like him (surely he can't be the only one..?)
> will do then is anybody's guess.

Hi Ivor,

This might be a solution.

Radio stations now use "cart" software, instead of the cartridges of old.

I've seen some of this software, at least for the mac - I'm certain that PC has them too. The sound or music is selected and played after being digitized and placed on a hard drive. In this way, the CD's can be digitized into MP3's, and he can select by pushing a key or use a mouse if he is capable.

I don't know all the particulars of the situation, but maybe this could help?

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1657. Re: Cassettes/CD's (was: Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1573 - October 7, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-08 18:37:16 UTC
From: MRe <m.reneman=geenspam=@hccnet.nl>
Message-ID: <470a3f2b$0$234$e4fe514c@news.xs4all.nl>
Source record: 3762

"Ivor Jones" <ivor@despammed.invalid> schreef in bericht
news:5mtvnqFfa4qiU1@mid.individual.net...
> "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net> wrote in message
> news:470901cc$0$299$540ea2cf@novia.net...
>
> [snip]
>
> > I don't know a lot of detail about the economics of this, particularly
> > at the bulk/wholesale level, but I wonder if switching to CD-R's would
> > be a reasonable alternative at this point. At retail at least, I
> > observe that spindled CD-R's are about as cheap, if not slightly less
> > so, than cassette tapes. CD players with headphones are approaching
> > $10-$15 at box retailers, and CD-capable drives are ubiquitous in most
> > households that have either PC's or DVD players, so this shouldn't be a
> > hardship for the listeners, either. I recall a CBS "60 Minutes" piece
> > about NetFlix, where they determined that a DVD could be mailed in a
> > simple flat envelope inexpensively, and the odds of accidental breakage
> > was low enough, that it was cheaper over large quantities to send it
> > that way and just send a replacement for the occasional broken disc.
> > CD-R's mailed that way would at least be under the 1/4" limit, and would
> > save the extra postage.
> >
> > There would be the need to set up CD burning equipment, but most
> > standard PC's seem to already come with CD burners, and are not that
> > expensive to buy separately. Whatever investment in new equipment by
> > both sender and receiver would appear to be quickly offset by the saved
> > postage multiplied over many bulk mailings.
> >
> > Is one possible issue that the recipients like to reuse the cassettes?
> > If so, then going to CD-RW's might be an option if they are not
> > cost-prohibitive.
>
> One thought that occurs to me (because I have personal experience of it) is
> that some disabled people may actually not be able to physically handle
> CD's. I know this because my brother is one of them. He is severely
> physically disabled, has cerebral palsy and simply cannot pick up a CD/DVD
> from its case and put it into a player. He can just about, with a lot of
> physical effort, put a cassette into a tape player and set it running, but
> he has a lot of difficulty manipulating the controls and is always chewing
> up tapes due to continually stopping/starting/winding them.
>
> He is a big fan of classical organ music and we buy him CD's and copy them
> onto cassettes for him, but as he is constantly (through no fault of his

> own) destroying them, we have to re-record them every so often. The trouble
> is, blank cassettes are becoming increasingly difficult to obtain. Those
> stores that do still stock them say that when their stocks are exhausted
> they won't be having any more.
>
> What my brother and people like him (surely he can't be the only one..?)
> will do then is anybody's guess.

!. there must be huge stockpiles of cassettes at institutions or private housholds who used them. They are not blank, but can be used. The only problem is to find them before they are thrown away.
In Holland you can find hundreds of them in recycling stores.

2. second solution is to find another way of packing the CD. No jewel box but paper or plastic sleaves or something else?

MRE

1658. Re: Cassettes/CD's (was: Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1573 - October 7, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-09 01:42:43 UTC
From: "Dr.Ace Ratliff" <Ace@WH2T.com>
Message-ID: <88039$470adbcb$4fc6537$1677@DIALUPUSA.NET>
Source record: 3763

"Ivor Jones" <ivor@despammed.invalid> wrote in message
news:5mtvnqFfa4qiU1@mid.individual.net...
>
> One thought that occurs to me (because I have personal experience of it)
> is that some disabled people may actually not be able to physically handle
> CD's. I know this because my brother is one of them. He is severely
> physically disabled, has cerebral palsy and simply cannot pick up a CD/DVD
> from its case and put it into a player. He can just about, with a lot of
> physical effort, put a cassette into a tape player and set it running, but
> he has a lot of difficulty manipulating the controls and is always chewing
> up tapes due to continually stopping/starting/winding them.
>
> He is a big fan of classical organ music and we buy him CD's and copy them
> onto cassettes for him, but as he is constantly (through no fault of his
> own) destroying them, we have to re-record them every so often. The
> trouble is, blank cassettes are becoming increasingly difficult to obtain.
> Those stores that do still stock them say that when their stocks are
> exhausted they won't be having any more.
>
> What my brother and people like him (surely he can't be the only one..?)
> will do then is anybody's guess.
>
> 73 Ivor G6URP
>
>
Ivor ,
Here is a possible solution.
I use a Sony DVD "Disk Explorer". My old model holds 200 disks. It will play audio CD's, MP3's, WMA, DVD, Video CD,s etc. They make/made a newer model that holds 300 disks. I know these units can be cascaded via jacks on the back of the units. I bet there are similar audio CD only units out there.
Once loaded with disks, the disks never need to be touched again.
73, Ace - WH2T

.

1659. Re: VLF 9 KHz

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-09 06:32:00 UTC
From: ~justusloonz~ <pissuparopeREMOVEBEFOREREPLY@mail.ru>
Message-ID: <pi3mg39tlk854gd3vrs2enlvnt2fin243v@4ax.com>
Source record: 3764

On Mon, 17 Sep 2007 10:24:47 EDT, "Richard Crowley"
<rcrowley@xp7rt.net> wrote:

>I've been following a conversation over on news:rec.audio.pro
>originated by a guy who is getting what appears to be CW
>RFI on his microphone(s) at 9 KHz. He also reported hearing
>similar "whistling" on the AM BCB.
>
>At first I thought of those submarine communication transmiters
>in the Great Lakes area (the problem is in Michigan). But, although
>they run megawatts, they appear to use either higher (14-60 KHz)
>or lower (40-80Hz) frequencies. And the ones in upper Michigan
>and Wisconsin appear to be shut down, anyway.
>
>http://www.fas.org/man/dod-101/navy/docs/scmp/part07.htm
>
>So is there anything at 9 KHz that could be an intermittent
>source of CW? Some Googling around the inter-web didn't
>turn up as much as I expected.

If you are away from 60Hz lines or have few issues with strong AC
buzz, the whistling is very likely a natural phenomenon between 8 and
10 Khz. I believe it to be something related to the earth's magnetic
field and have read something about this in the past. In fact, it was
a selling point of one popular VLF receiver years ago. It was
described as almost ghostly. I bet it was a Palomar VLF receiver ad!
The device has a large loop antenna.

The whistling may be even more clear, the further you are from power
lines. I'm also curious to know if the whistling is louder and more
noticeable when the solar cycle gets cranked up again in a few years.

73's!

1660. Re: VLF 9 KHz

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-09 15:36:33 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net>
Message-ID: <13gn7vgcjcm31b0@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3765

"~justusloonz~" wrote ...
> "Richard Crowley" wrote:
>>I've been following a conversation over on news:rec.audio.pro
>>originated by a guy who is getting what appears to be CW
>>RFI on his microphone(s) at 9 KHz. He also reported hearing
>>similar "whistling" on the AM BCB.
>>
>>At first I thought of those submarine communication transmiters
>>in the Great Lakes area (the problem is in Michigan). But, although
>>they run megawatts, they appear to use either higher (14-60 KHz)
>>or lower (40-80Hz) frequencies. And the ones in upper Michigan
>>and Wisconsin appear to be shut down, anyway.
>>
>>http://www.fas.org/man/dod-101/navy/docs/scmp/part07.htm
>>
>>So is there anything at 9 KHz that could be an intermittent
>>source of CW? Some Googling around the inter-web didn't
>>turn up as much as I expected.
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> If you are away from 60Hz lines or have few issues with strong AC
> buzz, the whistling is very likely a natural phenomenon between 8 and
> 10 Khz. I believe it to be something related to the earth's magnetic
> field and have read something about this in the past. In fact, it was
> a selling point of one popular VLF receiver years ago. It was
> described as almost ghostly. I bet it was a Palomar VLF receiver ad!
> The device has a large loop antenna.
>
> The whistling may be even more clear, the further you are from power
> lines. I'm also curious to know if the whistling is louder and more
> noticeable when the solar cycle gets cranked up again in a few years.

The OP finally discovered that the manufacturer had a
bad batch of tubes which intermittently broke into self-
oscillation in their circuit.

1661. [DXNL] DXNL 1540 (Oct 10, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-09 22:44:21 UTC
From: Robert Busch - DL7VOA <dxnl@dxhf.darc.de>
Message-ID: <3922236274.20071010004000@dxhf.darc.de>
Source record: 3766
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.dx,rec.radio.info

DXNL 1540 - Oct 10, 2007
DX Newsletter

a free and weekly service of
DARC Committee "DX and HF contesting"
(http://www.darcdxhf.de)

editor: Helmut Schlaffer, DL7MAE
(e-mail: dxnl@dxhf.darc.de)

translation by: Bob, DL7VOA
(e-mail: dl7voa@darc.de)

C5 - GAMBIA
After their successful DXpedition to Mauritius Island last year
Rich,OM2TW (team leader), Bob,OM1KW (CW/SSB OP), Joe,OM5AW (CW/SSB),
Roman,OM2RA (CW/SSB), Noro,OM6NM (CW/SSB), and Dano,OM1NW (digi/SSB)
of the "Mosquitos Contest Club" (OM0C) will show up from Gambia from
Oct 17-30 this year. Activities will take place as C52C with up to
four stations running simultaneously on 6-160m focussing on the
Top band 160m. Their plans include a participation in the upcoming
CQWW SSB Contest signing C50C and also a short trip to the island
Bijol (AF-060). The QSL manager is OM2FY, he confirms direct or via
the bureau. More information can be found online at:
http://www.om0c.com/gambia

CE - CHILE
Roberto,CE2/YV5IAL, will be QRV with from the Pacific coast using his
QRP equipment (5 watts) on 10/15/20/40m from Oct 15-21. He will try
to<work in PSK31 on 14070.15 kHz every day from 2200-0000 UTC.
QSLs via bureau to YV5IAL.

VK - AUSTRALIA
It is only little known that Australia issues also suffixes with four
letters. These are novice licenses and more of 1.000 of them have been
issued so far. The suffix always starts with a "F". Raj,VK4FRAJ, the
12 year old son of VK4AN is the only one known to work also in CW and
sometimes it is not very easy for him to explain that in CW. Raj works
with only 3 watts, a vertical and a logperiodic and is momentarily
working on his DXCC award. He is awaiting every QSL arriving via the
VK4 bureau or via the direct address of his father VK4AN:
Eddie, 17-19 Ross St, Maryborough, QLD 4650, Australia.

YK - SYRIA
Amateur radio is officially allowed in Syria for 60 years now. HAMs are

allowed to use the prefix 6C60 instead of YK between Oct 15 and Nov 11.

LU - ARGENTINA
The Grupo Argentino de CW (http://gacw.no-ip.org) celebrates its 30th anniversary this year and the festivities take place in "Morse" in the province Buenos Aires. LU1DZ/E, LU5FZ/D, LU6UO/D, LU7BTO/D, LW1EXU/D and LW2DX/D will be QRV from there with two stations on 160-10m from Oct 12-15.

T31 - CENTRAL KIRIBATI
Toshi,JA8BMK, destroyed his amplifier as T30XX on Tarawa and therefore cancelled his activity as T31XX. On his way back home to Japan he hit the airwaves as 3D2WW shortly.

YV - VENEZUELA
The Radio Club Venezolano organizes an activity from Portuguesa using the call YW3AJ in all modes on all bands.The operation takes place from Oct 11-14 and counts for the Venezuelan States Award. QSL via YV5AJ. Their website is: http://www.radioclubvenezolano.org/concurso.htm

4N - MONTENEGRO
Toby,DD5FZ, is going to hit the airwaves as 4N6FZ from Oct 15-27. He may be also a guest op at the station of YT6A and plans to take part in the CQWW SSB and the WAG Contest. QSL via DD5FZ, via bureau is ok.

5Z - KENYA, AF-067
5Z4/YT1CS showed up from AF-067 on Oct 6 and will stay there until the end of the month. OM Miki is using a TS-450S, a vertical for 40-10m and a dipole for 80m, works mostly in SSB and plans to take part in the CQWW SSB Contest. QSLs direct via his homecall.

6Y - JAMAICA, NA-097
Rick and JoAnne Donaldson are celebrating their 30th wedding anniversary and 18th year on air from Oct 12-14. Listen for N0NJY/6Y5 (Rick) and KB0IRW/6Y5 around 14190 kHz. QSLs via homecalls.

SOUTH PACIFIC
Larry,N0UU, and his XYL Jo Ann are travelling through the South Pacific and Larry plans to activate following DXCC entities and IOTA Islands:
Oct 15: FO/N0UU Makatea
Oct 16: FO/N0UU Fakarava
Oct 17: FO/N0UU Raroia
Oct 19: FO/N0UU Pukara
Oct 23: VP6UU Henderson Island (OC-056)
Oct 24: VP6UU Ducie Island (OC-182)
Oct 27: CE0/N0UU SA-001
Larry's preferred frequencies are 21.290 and 14.215 MHz but he has been spotted also in SSB on 17m. He confirms all QSOs also via bureau and invites everybody to visit his homepage at: http://www.tri.net/n0uu

4TH STRANGE RADIO EVENT
Once again the Italian "Strange Radio Team" (SRT) organizes an event which lasts from Oct 19, 0600 UTC, until Oct 21, 2200 UTC. Following

stations from all over the world will activate a special event call:
call QSL route
AO8SRT IZ8EDJ
CQ7SRT CT1BWW
DZ1SRT DU1IVT
HP1SRT HP1WW
L30BST IZ8EDJ
V55SRT IZ8EDJ
W1SRT W3IZ
YT07SRT YT3W
II0SRT IZ0BTV
IS0SRT IS0LFZ
IR2SRT I2JJR
II5SRT IZ5BTC
II6SRT IZ6FZS
IR7SRT IZ7CRW
All stations are working in SSB, more information about an award or
a plaque can be found at: http://www.strangeradioteam.com

IRELAND, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
Guglielmo Marconi sent the first commercial radio message from an
Irish place called Clifden on Oct 17, 1907. Members of the Galway Radio
Experimenters Club will activate the callsign EI100MFT from Oct 13-17.

KAZAKHSTAN, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
Sputnik 1 started the era of modern spaceflight 50 years ago. The OPs
UN7SW, UA9LAK/UN, UN7FW, EU1FC, RV3AR, RN3ADS and RU3AWD are activating
the special event station UP50SAT from the spaceport Baikonur during
the month of October. QSL via bureau to RV3AR.

THE NETHERLANDS, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
PA50JOTA from Nieuweroord is celebrating the golden jubilee of the
"Jamboree On The Air" from Oct 17-31 (http//www.scoutnet.nl/~jota).
QSL via PA3EFR.

SILENT KEYS
Dimitar,LZ5AZ, one of the founding members of the World Wide Young
Contesters, passed away at the age of 23 on Oct 2. The DX community
bemoans also the loss of the wellknown Ukrainian DXer Alexsandr
Kuznetsov,UY5EG, and the Spanish EME enthusiast Jose Maria Prat,EA3DXU.

LINKS: Current SOTA activities (mountain summits) are announced at:
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/activations.php or
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/spots.php
---
http://www.strangeradioteam.com/wwdxt is the link to the survey of the
Strange Radio Team (SRT) who should be voted DXpedition of the Year.
The World Wide DXpedition Trophy is won by N8S from Swains Island.
Pictures of the Clipperton DX Convention (Sep 22) were published at:
http://lesnouvellesdx.free.fr/photos/photo.php?page=cdxc2007

UPCOMING CONTESTS

Oct 13: The Makrothen Contest, RTTY
Oct 13: European Sprint Contest, CW
Oct 13/14: Oceania DX Contest, CW
Oct 14: ON Contest 80m, SSB
Oct 14: Komi-Ruhrgebiet QSO Party
Oct 14: The Makrothen Contest, RTTY

IOTA collected by Fredy,DE0MST (e-mail: iota@dxhf.darc.de)

Island activities:
AF-024, S7, Seychelles-Inner Islands: IZ5FSA, Stefano,IW5DPF, and Luca,I5IHE
will sign S79LL, S79SO and S79LC from Praslin Island from Oct 14-19.
QSL via homecalls (d).

EU-001, SV5, Dodekanes: Ermanno,SV0XAN/5, plans to become QRV from the
islands Lipsi, Agathonisi and Arkoi from Oct 2-20.QSL via IK2WZD (B/d).

EU-031, I, Ischia: Helmut,IC8/OE1MHL, is on the air until Oct 11 and can be
found on the bands mostly from 0500-0900 UTC and from 1700-2000 UTC.
The operation counts for the IIA NA-001, MIA MI-042 and WLOTA LH-0689.

EU-067, SV8, Kyklades: OM Rene,SV8/HB9AAI, is activating Antiparos Island
until Oct 16. QSL via homecall.

OC-013, E5, Rarotonga: Bill,N7OU, is QRV as E51NOU from Oct 8 until Nov 3.
QSL via homecall.

OC-038, ZL7, Chatham Islands: Ulli,ZL7/DL2AH, will hit the airwaves from
Chatham Island from Oct 17-30. QSL via homecall.

Lighthouse activities (WLOTA/ARLHS)

5R8RJ LH 3042 until Oct 26
EA6/LU5FF LH 1902 until Nov 16
SV0XAN/5 LH 0766 until Oct 20
SV0XAN/5 LH 0438 until Oct 20
PE1DTU LH 0043 NET 024 resident
EA8JA LH 1648 resident
YK9SV SYR-003 until Nov 1-15
W3B USA-060 Oct 13
YB9AQH LH 2589 until Oct 27

Bandspots of the last 7 days

80m
DA0SPUTNIK 3.685 1953Z via Bureau
IQ6LN 3.630 2018Z EURO-Basket, via Bureau
ON100SCOUT 3.700 2017Z via ON4HRT (B)
TM1RWC 3.609 2017Z via F6KMX (B)
TM7RWC 3.744 1850Z via F5APM (B)
VK9WWI 3.504 1855Z via HA7RY
W6ANI 3.798 0444Z

3B8CF 3.502 2015Z see QRZ.com
9U0A 3.517 2221Z via DL7DF (B)

40m
BY1TX/4 7.016 1845Z AS-146, via EA7FTR (B)
J6/DL7AFS 7.088 2142Z via DL7AFS (B)
OZ/DL1RTW 7.011 1445Z EU-125, via DL1RTW (B)
OZ/DL2VM 7.089 1453Z EU-172
PY1/DJ4CW 7.002 2210Z via AI4U (B)
R450WZ 7.013 1553Z via RU9WZ
UP50SAT 7.021 0026Z via RV3AR (B)
4O3A 7.034 2243Z RTTY, via YU1FW (B)
5X1MB 7.085 2140Z
9A73AA 7.010 0702Z via 9A2AA
9U0A 7.020 0400Z via DL7DF (B)

30m
BY1TX/4 10.103 1622Z AS-146, via EA7FTR (B)
SV2/YO3JW/p 10.104 1752Z
ZL7/SP9PT 10.103 1625Z via SP9PT (B)
5L2MS 10.105 2035Z via PA3AWW (B)
8R1XT 10.114 2000Z via DK8XT (B)

20m
AM9ML 14.015 0750Z vua EA4URE (B)
BY1TX/4 14.020 1014Z AS-146, via EA7FTR (B)
BY1TX/4 14.260 1024Z AS-146, via EA7FTR (B)
C91R 14.183 1624Z via CT1BXT (B)
HB9SPACE 14.252 1702Z via HB4FR (B)
HC8N 14.082 2331Z RTTY, via AA5BT (B)
J6/DL7AFS 14.197 1036Z via DL7AFS (B)
P29NI 14.080 0927Z RTTY, via G3KHZ (B)
P29NI 14.042 1331Z OC-283, via G3KHZ (B)
P29NI 14.265 1247Z OC-283, via G3KHZ (B)
PT7AZ 14.073 2300Z RTTY, via Bureau
TM0RWC 14.155 1433Z via F6KMX (B)
UP50SAT 14.157 0704Z via RV3AR (B)
ZS6AMT 14.140 1810Z
3V8SS 14.211 1449Z via RW4WM (B)
4U50SPACE 14.003 2045Z via HB9BOU (B)
5L2MS 14.035 1100Z via PA3AWW (B)
8R1XR 14.190 1437Z via DK6XR (B)
8R1XT 14.195 1459Z via DK8XT (B)
9G1YE 14.140 1759Z via PA3ERA (B)
9U0A 14.078 1719Z RTTY, via DL7DF (B)

17m
C91R 18.145 1416Z via CT1BXT (B)
DK150HZ 18.160 1443Z via Bureau
P29NI 18.070 1103Z OC-283, via G3KHZ (B)
PY1/DJ4CW 18.075 1818Z via AI4U (B)

8R1XR 18.135 1426Z via DK6XR (B)
9U0A 18.089 0735Z RTTY, via DL7DF (B)
9U0A 18.151 0651Z via DL7DF (B)

15m
ZD7X 21.285 1533Z via W0MM (B)
8R1XT 21.300 1754Z via DK8XT (B)
9U0A 21.077 1512Z RTTY, via DL7DF (B)

12m
9U0A 24.892 1603Z via DL7DF (B)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = LotW

Preview

DATE CALL DXNL

05Oct-15Oct 3C7Y 1539
15Dec-20Jan 3D2AG/Rotuma 1522
2006 -2007 3XM6JR 1484
15Oct-27Oct 4N6FZ 1540 *
-Apr/08 5H0RS 1515
26Sep-26Oct 5R8RJ 1537
-Oct 5Z4/YT1CS 1540 *
15Oct-11Nov 6C60 1540 *
-Apr/08 6W/EA4ATI 1515
01Sep- 6W/T98A 1531
04Oct-25Oct 7Q7CE 1539
-Nov 7Q7HB 1537
01Aug-21Oct 8J3ARDF 1530
28Sep-13Oct 8P6DR 1538
30Sep-12Oct 8Q7AK 1538
30Sep-13Oct 8R1XR/8R1XT 1538
2007 9N7JO 1501

-Nov A61TX 1496
-17Nov AT60MY 1534
17Oct-30Oct C52C/C50C 1540 *
-Aug/08 C91R 1538
15Oct-21Oct CE2/YV5IAL 1540 *
-Feb/08 DP0GVN 1496
08Oct-03Nov E51NOU 1540 *
2007/2008 EI100S(I) 1501
03Oct-24Oct EL (PAs) 1538
-30Nov EW905B 1523
-15Jan FO5RU 1537

NOW H40MY 1539
21Sep-20Oct HC1/EA1APV 1537
-Nov IS0/I2MOV 1533
2006 -2008 J28JA 1484/85
-Aug/08 J28OO 1534
22Sep-11Oct J6/DL7AFS.. 1538
Nov 2007 KH3/W7KFI 1525/31
06Oct-12Oct MS0WRC 1539
12Oct-14Oct N0NJY/6Y5.. 1540 *
17Oct-31Oct PA50JOTA 1540 *
-31Dec R100AK/IF 1534

14Oct-19Oct S79LL.. 1540 *
21Sep-30Nov SU8BHI 1537
-20Oct SV0XAN/5 1540 *
29Sep-13Oct SV5/NX1S 1539
-16Oct SV8/HB9AAI 1540 *
-31Dec SX100VAR 1528
NOW T61AA 1539
Feb/08 TI9 1533
07Oct-14Oct TK/DL1DVP.. 1539
NOW -2008 TL8QC 1459
07Sep-20Oct TM0-TM9RWC 1533
06Oct-19Oct TM0VDM 1539
Mar/08 TX5C (Clipp.) 1539
Oct UP50SAT 1540 *
Jan -Dec VI3SAA 1499

01Nov-15Nov VK9ANH (Norf.) 1538
08Oct-18Oct VK9CLF (LH) 1539
19Oct-25Oct VK9CNF (Norf.) 1539
Feb/08 VP6DX/Ducie 1521
08Sep-15Jan VP8CXV (Fal.) 1535
-27Oct YB9AQH 1535
11Oct-14Oct YW3AJ 1540 *
-31Dec Z360M 1531
NOW ZD7X 1535
29Sep-12Oct ZK2 (DL2AH) 1538
17Oct-30Oct ZL7/DL2AH 1538
05Oct-18Oct ZL7/SP9PT.. 1539

* = new or updated
.. = and other calls

QSL information

A7/M0FZQ via M0FZQ
AM3MM via EA3MM
AM9ML via EA4URE (B)
SV8/SV1JG via SV1JG (B)
SV9/G0SGB/p via G0SGB
TK/DF6ZY via DF6ZY (B)

TK/DL4FF via DL4FF (B)
TM1000 via F8KFZ
TM1RHC via F1BOW (B)
TM200T via F5PTI (B)
TM4RWC via F8KLY
TM5RWC via F6KRD (B)
TM6MXP via F5KFL (B)
TM8JPR via F6FLO
TM8RWC via F1ORJ
TM0RWC via F6KMX (B), (L), eQSL
Z29KM via EA7FTR (B)
ZV5O via PY5QW
5L2MS via PA3AWW (B)
5N47NDP via IK5JAN (d)
8P6DR via G3RWL (B)
9J2CA via G3SWH (B)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = Logbook of the World (LotW)

JD1BMM: Masafumi Ishihara, 2-305 Loran, 2-5-35 Miyazaki, Chuo-ku,
Chiba 260-0806, JAPAN

OE8RT writes: "Hello OMs! If you are still looking for a QSL card of
3DA0WW (2006): ZS6DXB was useless. His new QSL manager is LZ3HI now.
Emil has only received the logs and pays all other expenses on his own
so 3 US $ enclosed are appreciated to cover the costs for QSL printing,
postage etc.! 73, de OE8RT"

QSLs arrived direct: OE16B, XW3DT (via PO Box 11, GPO, Hongkong)

QSLs arrived via bureau: CU2JT, CU6NS (via EA5KB), CU8F (CT1GFK),
HS0ZEP (HB9FAF), UK8UWG, UP4L (UN7LZ)

Many thanks for contributing to this issue of the DXNL are going to:
Carl Smith (QRZ DX), 425DXNews, OPDX-Bulletin, DF6EX (for WIN-QSL), DH5NBK,
DJ5AV, DJ5MN, DJ9ZB, DK8JB, DL1SBF, DL2VPF, DL3TD, DL7VOA, F5NQL, F6AJA,
IZ7AUH, OE8RT, VK4AN, W1AW, YV5AJ, SWL Norbert Maybaum and others.

The German PDF version can be found on the DARC homepage at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/bulls/dxmb/2007/dxmb1540.pdf

Subscribe or unsubscribe to the DXNL mailing list yourself at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedxms.htm

1662. Wall Street Journal Article on Morse Code

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-10 04:25:38 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1191980352.867743.318960@d55g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3767

http://online.wsj.com/public/article/SB119161604206850468.html

This was a front page article.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1663. Re: Cassettes/CD's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-10 06:52:19 UTC
From: Bill Pasternak <arnewsline@juno.com>
Message-ID: <13goolj44o1u8a8@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3768

As I understand it -- at least here in the USA -- the Radio Reading Services (RRS) are locked into cassette tapes for the foreseeable future. This is because the players (and player recorders) are specifically designed to be "blind friendly" as defined by the Americans in Disability Act.

While many sightless people can manipulate CD players, there is no established "standard" as there are for cassettes and no real impetus to create one. Don't hold your breath waiting.

B-T-W: Most RRS tapes run at 15/16 IPS -- half the speed of the normal 1 7/8 IPS of cassette machines -- tho some like those my friend Hap Holly KC9RP (Of RAIN fame) are dual speed.

At low speed a C-120 (2 hr) cassette will store 4 hours of voice quality sound. Another reason that the cassette is so popular with the RSS.

de
Bill P. / WA6ITF

Ivor Jones wrote:
> "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net> wrote in message
> news:470901cc$0$299$540ea2cf@novia.net...
>
> [snip]
>
>> I don't know a lot of detail about the economics of this, particularly
>> at the bulk/wholesale level, but I wonder if switching to CD-R's would
>> be a reasonable alternative at this point. At retail at least, I
>> observe that spindled CD-R's are about as cheap, if not slightly less
>> so, than cassette tapes. CD players with headphones are approaching
>> $10-$15 at box retailers, and CD-capable drives are ubiquitous in most
>> households that have either PC's or DVD players, so this shouldn't be a
>> hardship for the listeners, either. I recall a CBS "60 Minutes" piece
>> about NetFlix, where they determined that a DVD could be mailed in a
>> simple flat envelope inexpensively, and the odds of accidental breakage
>> was low enough, that it was cheaper over large quantities to send it
>> that way and just send a replacement for the occasional broken disc.
>> CD-R's mailed that way would at least be under the 1/4" limit, and would
>> save the extra postage.
>>
>> There would be the need to set up CD burning equipment, but most
>> standard PC's seem to already come with CD burners, and are not that
>> expensive to buy separately. Whatever investment in new equipment by
>> both sender and receiver would appear to be quickly offset by the saved
>> postage multiplied over many bulk mailings.

>>
>> Is one possible issue that the recipients like to reuse the cassettes?
>> If so, then going to CD-RW's might be an option if they are not
>> cost-prohibitive.
>
> One thought that occurs to me (because I have personal experience of it) is
> that some disabled people may actually not be able to physically handle
> CD's. I know this because my brother is one of them. He is severely
> physically disabled, has cerebral palsy and simply cannot pick up a CD/DVD
> from its case and put it into a player. He can just about, with a lot of
> physical effort, put a cassette into a tape player and set it running, but
> he has a lot of difficulty manipulating the controls and is always chewing
> up tapes due to continually stopping/starting/winding them.
>
> He is a big fan of classical organ music and we buy him CD's and copy them
> onto cassettes for him, but as he is constantly (through no fault of his
> own) destroying them, we have to re-record them every so often. The trouble
> is, blank cassettes are becoming increasingly difficult to obtain. Those
> stores that do still stock them say that when their stocks are exhausted
> they won't be having any more.
>
> What my brother and people like him (surely he can't be the only one..?)
> will do then is anybody's guess.
>
> 73 Ivor G6URP
>
>
>

1664. Re: Wall Street Journal Article on Morse Code

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-10 06:52:33 UTC
From: Erkki.Komulainen@Helsinki.Fi.INVALID
Message-ID: <fehqojrcl1@oravannahka.helsinki.fi>
Source record: 3769

N2EY@aol.com wrote:
:http://online.wsj.com/public/article/SB119161604206850468.html
:This was a front page article.
:73 de Jim, N2EY

Thank for the tip. Nice writing.

73 de OH2EF (aka OH5SW), licensed since 1958, now at 63yrs
(Helsinki, Finland)

<http://www.helsinki.fi/people/Erkki.Komulainen/>

1665. Re: Cassettes/CD's

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-10 13:07:37 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13gpjjrpgbf2h3f@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3770

Bill Pasternak wrote:

> At low speed a C-120 (2 hr) cassette will store 4 hours of voice quality
> sound. Another reason that the cassette is so popular with the RSS.

But this capacity pales in comparison to digital devices. I was amazed
to discover that some of those little hand-held digital recorders store
144 hours of "extra high-quality" sound. That technology sure has
changed since I last looked at it.

73, Steve KB9X

1666. Re: Wall Street Journal Article on Morse Code

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-11 01:53:09 UTC
From: Bert Hyman <bert@iphouse.com>
Message-ID: <Xns99C5CA590523DVeebleFetzer@216.250.184.7>
Source record: 3771

In news:1191980352.867743.318960@d55g2000hsg.googlegroups.com
N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:

> http://online.wsj.com/public/article/SB119161604206850468.html
>
> This was a front page article.

"Like all Morse experts, Mr. Adams rarely breaks signals down into
letters, instead hearing complete words much as readers recognize words
on a page. When he transcribes a message at high speeds, his fingers are
five or 10 words behind his ears."

I've been licensed since 1961, and I've heard and read things like this
ever since.

I operated strictly CW for most of that time and I've never come close
to being able to copy like that.

I can copy by ear at 30-35WPM, but can only transcribe at about 20WPM
because I write down each letter as I hear it; copying behind is an
absolute mystery to me, as is the idea of hearing words instead of
individual letters.

It's probably way too late for me to get over 45 years of bad habits,
but how do people achive this state?

--
Bert Hyman St. Paul, MN bert@iphouse.com

1667. Re: Wall Street Journal Article on Morse Code

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-11 07:08:36 UTC
From: Dave Heil <k8mn@frontiernet.net>
Message-ID: <N5iPi.18797$B25.11495@news01.roc.ny>
Source record: 3772

Bert Hyman wrote:
> In news:1191980352.867743.318960@d55g2000hsg.googlegroups.com
> N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
>
>> http://online.wsj.com/public/article/SB119161604206850468.html
>>
>> This was a front page article.
>
> "Like all Morse experts, Mr. Adams rarely breaks signals down into
> letters, instead hearing complete words much as readers recognize words
> on a page. When he transcribes a message at high speeds, his fingers are
> five or 10 words behind his ears."
>
> I've been licensed since 1961, and I've heard and read things like this
> ever since.
>
> I operated strictly CW for most of that time and I've never come close
> to being able to copy like that.
>
> I can copy by ear at 30-35WPM, but can only transcribe at about 20WPM
> because I write down each letter as I hear it; copying behind is an
> absolute mystery to me, as is the idea of hearing words instead of
> individual letters.
>
> It's probably way too late for me to get over 45 years of bad habits,
> but how do people achive this state?

I don't think it's too late for you at all. You simply need to make some adjustments to your method. I run mobile CW and the thing which makes that possible while in motion is that one never writes anything down. The pen or pencil is what's getting in your way.

If you don't write it down, you're forced to remember the fellow's call, name, QTH and the like. When I operate from home, I type a callsign into my log. I might write down his weather or the type antenna he's running, if I plan to ask more about one of those items.

Try finding a couple of speed merchants on 80 or 40m some evening and don't even pick up your pen. Sure, you're likely to miss a few things. Go ahead and miss them. You'll get better at it in a short time.

Dave Heil K8MN

1668. Re: Wall Street Journal Article on Morse Code

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-11 17:39:27 UTC
From: crn@NOSPAM.netunix.com
Message-ID: <fel1to$mt0$1$8300dec7@news.demon.co.uk>
Source record: 3773

Bert Hyman <bert@iphouse.com> wrote:
>
> I can copy by ear at 30-35WPM, but can only transcribe at about 20WPM
> because I write down each letter as I hear it; copying behind is an
> absolute mystery to me, as is the idea of hearing words instead of
> individual letters.
>
> It's probably way too late for me to get over 45 years of bad habits,
> but how do people achive this state?
>

Just force yourself into the habit of waiting for each word to complete before scribbling it down. Your brain will still be listening for the stuff which arrives while you write. You will miss things at first but persistence will pay off.

It helps to be able to write without looking at the paper, this is just a coordination and neatness exercise which you can develop off air by copying from a book or newspaper to a scratchpad keeping your eye on the book.

1669. Re: Wall Street Journal Article on Morse Code

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-11 17:41:50 UTC
From: Fabian Kurz <usenet@fkurz.net>
Message-ID: <5n6t3dFgihn3U1@mid.dfncis.de>
Source record: 3774

Bert Hyman wrote:
> "Like all Morse experts, Mr. Adams rarely breaks signals down into
> letters, instead hearing complete words much as readers recognize words
> on a page. When he transcribes a message at high speeds, his fingers are
> five or 10 words behind his ears."
>
> I've been licensed since 1961, and I've heard and read things like this
> ever since.
[...]
> It's probably way too late for me to get over 45 years of bad habits,
> but how do people achive this state?

Like you, I have heard and read about this often (copying whole words rather than single letters), and I think it is a little bit misleading. I can easily copy plain text CW in German or English at around 60 WpM, but still, if I actively, consciously listen, I *do* hear every single letter.

But that does not mean that I have to concatenate those letters to form a word, like a first grade pupil does, when he reads an unknown word (I also recently encountered this problem again while learning Macedonian, written in cyrillic letters!). I rather make an assumption on what the word could be, often even before the word is transmitted. By making such predictions (and in most sentences you can easily predict the following word; or if not, you can predict the word based on the first letter, or make some rough assumptions of what might come next), you can stop to worry about the word after you have recognized the start.

If, however, an unexpected word appears, you have to change the plan in your mind, and decode it consciously. In most cases again, the first two or three letters will be sufficient to make a safe assumption on what the word will be. In cases of unknown names (operator, QTH, ...) you might have to go back to putting it together letter by letter.

I think everyone copies plain text CW similar to this, to a certain degree. It starts with your first standard QSOs: Those ever repeating phrases ('tnx fr rprt = ur rst 599 ='...) are soon 'hard coded' into your brain. They are so easy to copy because it's what you *expect* to hear. If the other station suddenly starts sending something _unexpected_, you're getting into trouble or at least you'll suddenly have to pay close attention. The reception is moving somewhere from your subconsciousness to a higher level of consciousness.

After my first 50 CW QSOs, I stopped to write down every single letter, and only had to write everything that was not the expected stuff like "my name is", but the names/QTHs itself.

So, hearing a whole word as one 'sound' does - in my personal experience - not work, you still hear it letter by letter. But the more routined you are, the deeper the process of perception slides into your subconsciousness.

73,
--
Fabian Kurz, DJ1YFK * Dresden, Germany * http://fkurz.net/

1670. [RAC-Bulletin] RAC Bulletin #23 VA5/VE5 New Incoming QSL Manager

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-12 18:15:40 UTC
From: John Iliffe <john.iliffe@sympatico.ca>
Message-ID: <470FB8F4.58E3C25E@sympatico.ca>
Source record: 3775
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Effective immediately, the Incoming QSL Manager for VA5/VE5 is:

Joe Musgrave - VA5JM / VE5CEM

729 - Fifth Street NE
Weyburn, SK
S4H 1A4

306-842-2626
ve5cem@sasktel.net

Radio Amateurs of Canada wishes Joe all the best with the Bureau.

Sent by the RAC Bulletins from RACHQ mailing list robot.
Send comments to: rachq@rac.ca
For more information about the email robot, please visit:
http://rac.eton.ca/racbullemail.htm

1671. Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1574 - October 12, 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-12 21:23:46 UTC
From: "William M. Pasternak" <newsline@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <E1IgNUK-0007jJ-EV@elasmtp-mealy.atl.sa.earthlink.net>
Source record: 3776
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Amateur Radio Newsline(tm) Report 1574 - October 12, 2007

The following is a special announcement. Last
weeks report on the decision to disqualify a
candidate for the ARRL Directors position in the
Southwestern Division brought some very mixed
reaction. While most hams in the division and a
few activists elsewhere were interested, the
majority outside the Southwestern Division were
not. As there is more information on this
situation this week, we are presenting it in a
separate program that follows the regular
newscast. Those interested can stay on-line to
hear it. Others can pull away at the end of the
normal newscast. We hope this satisfies most of
you. Now to this weeks news anchor, Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF..

Amateur Radio Newsline report number 1574 with a
release date of Friday, October 12, 2007 to follow in 5-4-3-2-1.

The following is a Q-S-T. Two new low noise
digital modes are unveiled for ham radio and
cross border interference to a repeater brings a
Washington state ham a proposed $7000
fine. Find out the details on Amateur Radio
Newsline(tm) report number 1574 coming your way right now.

(Billboard Cart Here)

**

EMERGING HAM RADIO TECHNOLOGY: NEW JT2 & JT4 DIGITAL MODES ANNOUNCED

Two new digital modes JT2 and JT4 are being
supported by an experimental version of the
popular WSJT weak signal software. Both are both
designed for making QSOs under extremely
weak-signal conditions while using the same
message structure and source encoding as that
used in J T 65. Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, has more:

--

The new mode called JT2 has a bandwidth of just
8.75 Hz enabling dozens of contacts to take place
in the 2.4 kHz SSB stock filter bandwidth found

in most of today's transceivers. The system uses
2-tone Frequency Shift Keying modulation for
synchronization and differential BPSK for the
encoded user information. In this way both a
sync bit and a data bit can be transmitted with
each channel symbol. Symbols are sent at a rate
of 4.375 baud, and tone separation for the 2 tone FSK modulation is 4.375
Hz.

The performance of JT2 may eventually be as good
as JT65, or slightly better at 144 MHz and
below. If it can be made to work up to its
potential, JT2 could be a great boon to random
digital E-M-E operation on 2 meters, especially
for those without panoramic wideband receivers
and software like MAP 65. JT2 may also be
attractive for use on the Very Low Frequency,
Medium Frequency and High Frequency bands under weak-signal conditions.

JT4 is similar to JT2 except that it uses 4-tone
Frequency Shift Keying . This, so it can also
include both a sync bit and a data bit in each
symbol. Again the keying rate is 4.375 baud, and
a number of different tone spacings are offered

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Bill
Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the studio in Los Angeles. Jim.

--

WSJT version 5.9.8, r558 is the experimental
release that contains both of the new operating
modes. Further information on JT2 and JT4 is on
line
at
http://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/K1JT/JT2_JT4.TXT.
More about WSJT is at http://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/K1JT (Southgate)

**

RADIO HAPPENINGS: THE ITU AT 60

Tuesday September 25th marked the 60th
Anniversary of the conclusion of a conference of
the International Telecommunications Union held
in Atlantic City, New Jersey. A conference that
was very beneficial to the Amateur Radio community worldwide.

At that gathering a new High Frequency band was
obtained at 21MHz. The 15 meter band as it became known.

Also, above 30 MHz the basic structure of the
amateur bands up to 10 GHz was established. This

included the VHF 2 meter band and the UHF 70 cm band along with microwave bands at 2.4 GHz. Much of this original infrastructure still remains in place today. (WIA News)

**

RESCUE RADIO: THIRD EMCOM PARTY ON THE AIR

If you are into public service work, mark Sunday, November 11th, from 11.00 to 15.00 UTC on your contest calendar. This, as International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 invites the headquarters stations of IARU member societies and stations of emergency communications groups to participate in the Third EmCom party on the Air.

Operations take place on and near the emergency Center-of-Activity frequencies on 80, 40, 20, 17 and 15 meters. The objective of the party is to increase the common interest among member societies in emergency communications while testing the usability of these Center of Activity frequencies perform across the various International Telecommunications Union regions.

This is the first time that all IARU regions are invited to participate the EmCom Party. This years exercise will be limited to SSB operation only, but plans do call for the introduction of digital modes in 2008. (Via E-Mail)

**

ENFORCEMENT: CROSS BORDER INTERFERENCE TO REPEATER BRINGS A $7000 FINE

In the first case of its kind that we know of, the FCC has issued a $7000 Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture to a United States ham for interfering with a Canadian repeater.

--

That's right Jim.

The FCC says that James J. Grinton, K7VNI, of Bellingham, Washington apparently, willfully and repeatedly violated Section 97.113(b) and Section 97.119(a) of the Commission's Rules. This, by transmitting one-way communications and by failing to transmit his assigned call sign in the Amateur Radio Service. The one way transmissions interfered with the VE7RPT repeater in British Columbia, Canada. That system sits atop Mt. Seymour and operates on the popular 146.34 in and 146.94 MHz out channel

pair.

Back on December 7, 2006, in response to a complaint alleging intentional interference to communications on the VE7RPT repeater, an agent from the FCC's Seattle Enforcement Bureau used mobile direction finding to locate the source of the signal. His efforts lead him to the residence of amateur radio operator James Grinton, K7VNI, in Bellingham. As a follow-up, during the period of December 9, 2006 to January 1, 2007, the Seattle agent monitored the repeater input frequency of 146.340 MHz. He observed 59 transmissions of varying lengths from Grinton's residence.

On January 19, 2007, the Seattle Field Office issued a Warning of Interference to Communications Letter to K7VNI. It informed Grinton that his station may be the source of willful or malicious interference to Amateur communications. Also, that if the transmissions continue, he would be investigated during ongoing FCC enforcement efforts. And if such an investigation indicated that he has violated the Communications Act or any FCC Rules, that he could be subject to severe penalties.

On February 27, 2007, in response to continued complaints, a Seattle agent again located the source of a signal on 146.340 MHz to coming from Grinton's residence. This time the agent recorded 17 minutes of a continuous transmission of one-way communications of music alleged to be transmitted by Grinton on 146.340 MHz. And during the period of January 19th to June 23rd the agent monitored 146.340 MHz and observed 163 transmissions by Grinton in which he failed to transmit his assigned call.

Now, based on the Commission's Forfeiture Policy Statement the FCC has fined Grinton $4000 for unauthorized emissions. It also tacked on another $3000 for Grinton's alleged multiple failures to properly I-D.

Jim-

--

The Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture to Grinton was issued on September 25th. He was given the usual 30 days to pay the $7000 fine or to file an appeal. (FCC)

**

BREAK 1

From the United States of America, We are the
Amateur Radio Newsline, heard on bulletin
stations around the world including the Reading
Club station W3BN serving Reading Pennsylvania.

(5 sec pause here)

**

HAM RADIO AND SCOUTING: JOTA 2007 OCT 20 - 21

The 50th anniversary of Scouting's Jamboree on
the Air is scheduled for October 20th and 21st
. JOTA at it is known is the largest official
scouting event in the world, with an expected
500,000 participants this year. Amateur Radio
Newsline's Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, is himself a
big supporter of the scouting movement and has this preview of JOTA 2007;

--

The event is sponsored by the World Scout Bureau
of the World Organization of the Scout Movement.

Radio amateurs bridge the continents and the
miles using their radios to help young people
gathered at their QTH connect with young people
in another community, another state or another country.

Typically, in the United States, ham operators
hook up with their local Boy and Girl Scout
councils to set up stations at camping events, camporees, or Scout camps.

In other cases, hams open their shacks to groups to come in to take part.

That's right, this is an event open to boys and
girls in the Scouting movement and Girl Guides, too.

Here in the United States, the K2BSA call sign of
the national Boy Scouts of America will be heard in a number of call areas.

You'll also hear other variations of the BSA call
held by Scout groups as you tune up and down the band.

There are also activities at the HB9S, the
headquarters of the World Scout Bureau in Geneva,
and GB2GP, from Gilwell Park in the United Kingdom.

It's a special year for the Boy Scouts of the
world as well as this is the 100th anniversary of
the founding of the movement by Lord Robert Baden Powell.

The thing to remember is this isn't a contest;
it's not designed to work as many stations as

possible. It's really aimed at introducing young
people to the capabilities of amateur radio
whether it be SSB or even the digital modes such as PSK-31.

The bottom line: We as amateurs need to make it a fun experience.

You'd be amazed at how many youngsters are "mike
shy" and need some prompting when they're offered a chance to get on the
air.

Have a sheet of paper prepared at the camporee or
in the shack which asks the guest operator to
write their first name, their rank in Scouting,
their home town, and their hobbies, maybe their pets.

You'll need to act as control operator to make sure the QSO goes smoothly.

Also, it's important for U.S. operators to brush
on third-party agreements among the countries.
You'll find more about them in the JOTA section
of the American Radio Relay League website.

http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/io/3rdparty.html

JOTA can be a rewarding experience for the operator, too.

And, it can spark interest in the next generation of amateur radio
operators.

From eastern Pennsylvania, listen for KC3BSA -
the call sign of Venture Crew 59 from the Hawk
Mountain Council at the Hawk Mountain Scout Reservation.

We'll be operating from the Cub Scout Tiger Day event.

Hope to hear you and your Scouts on the air!

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Mark Abramowicz, NT3V, in Philadelphia.

--

For more information on your nearest station take
your web browser to www.scout.org/jota (ARNewsline(tm))

**

RESCUE RADIO: W4WYT INJURED IN GYROCOPTER CRASH

A Blacksburg, Virginia, ham is in critical
condition after the gyroplane ne was piloting
crashed, killing his passenger. On Saturday,
October 6th, Ranson Pelt Jr, W4WYT, was flying
the ultra-light aircraft on what witnesses say
was a sightseeing trip when it fell to the ground
and caught fire in a residential neighborhood.

According to the Roanoke Times on-line, neighbors described seeing the gyroplane or gyrocopter -- a two-seat aircraft similar to a helicopter -- circle above the neighborhood about 1 p.m. before dropping to the ground behind a house and bursting into flames. Some who rushed to the scene found the Pelt reaching into the flames to free the passenger from the wreckage. According to a witness identified as Kirk Cowser, helpers had to restrain Pelt as he begged the them to get the woman out of the wreck. The unidentified passenger died in the blaze.

Pelt was eventually airlifted first to Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital and then transferred to the University of Virginia Medical Center. He was last reported in critical but stable condition.

Pelt's crash was the 14th aircraft accident in Blacksburg since 1962, but the first fatal one. The Federal Aviation Administration has been called in to investigate. (Roanoke Times On-Line, eHam.net)

**

ENFORCEMENT: APPLE I PHONE UPDATE THWARTS CELL CARRIER HACKS

If you own an Apple I Phone that's been hacked to operate on any cell carrier than ATT, you likely now own a very expensive door stop. One that will no longer let you make phone calls.

PC on-line says that the I Phone 1.1.1 update, released on Thursday, September 27th, disabled phones that had been hacked so to work with providers other than AT&T. AT&T is the only U.S. cellular provider Apple has allowed to carry its mobile phones and users of hacked units are reporting that the new update is making previously unlocked I Phones unusable. .

In recent weeks, a number of software tools have been developed to allow I Phone users to break away from Apple's AT&T-only restriction, but Apple has said that it would fight any attempts to unlock the iPhone. Several weeks ago the company released a warning that unlocking the unit would likely result in the modified I Phone becoming permanently inoperable when a future Apple-supplied automatic software updates are installed. This has now happened and modified phone will not operate even if a legitimate AT&T SIM card is re-installed.

SIM is an acronym for Subscriber Identity Module. That's the memory chip that contains account information and are used to authenticate devices on certain types of mobile networks. Unlocked I Phones had been able to use SIM cards from non-AT&T networks. (Science OnLine)

**

RADIO LAW: SOME IN CONGRESS FEAR DISASTROUS OUTCOME OF DTV CUTOVER

Some United States lawmakers are worried that too few Americans know that the analog television sets they have been using for years could become big cathode-ray paperweights after February 18, 2009. That's when broadcasters are mandated to shut off their analog signals and transmit only digital.

During a recent Senate Commerce Committee hearing examining the government-mandated transition to digital TV, lawmakers aired their views that too little was being done to get the message to Americans. They cite a poll released in January by the Association for Public Television Stations that indicates 61% of respondents had no idea the digital transition was going to take place. Of those that did know, most were not aware of a $40 per unit government subsidy that will be offered on the purchase of converter boxes that will permit current analog sets to display digitally transmitted pictures.

An even bigger problem is where to buy a set top digital converter box. While there are several companies including Philips and Motorola making them, they seem to be scarcer than hens teeth in the current consumer electronics marketplace. Few of the on-line sellers have them and we have yet to have a reporter walk into a brick and mortar establishment and find one on the shelf. And if you ask a salesman for help, he will likely try to sell you a new T-V rather than finding you the converter box you want.

Good luck on February 18, 2009 if you receive your television for free over the air.

**

CHANGING TECHNOLOGY: THE END OF TIME IN SOCAL

It's the end of time in southern California. At least as far as AT&T is concerned.

A brief note in customers' bills declared that
"Effective September 2007, Time of Day
information service will be discontinued."

What this means is that people throughout
southern California will no longer be able to
call 853-1212 to hear a woman's recorded voice
stating that, "At the tone, Pacific Daylight Time
will be...." Check for details http://tinyurl.com/ytsjkd (CGC)

**

NAMES IN THE NEWS: VE7DXD ELECTED NEW BC SECTION MANAGER

Mike Hale, VE7DXD, has been elected British
Columbia Section Manager for a two-year term of
office that begins November 1st. Hale was
elected through mail-in ballot by a two-vote
margin. He replaces out-going Section Manager
Drew Watson, VA7DR. A spokesman for Radio
Amateurs of Canada says that the very close
election results indicate that both men enjoy
wide recognition and support in British Columbia Section. (RAC)

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THE SOCIAL SCENE: AMSAT NA SPACE SYMPOSIUM - OCT 26 - 28 IN PA

The 2007 AMSAT Space Symposium will be held at
the Pittsburgh Airport Marriott Hotel on Friday,
October 26th through Sunday, October 28th. Among
the events planned will be technical forums
focusing on the latest planning and technology of
Amateur Radio in space along with technical
demonstrations of prototype flight hardware and
software for the upcoming AMSAT Eagle ham
satellite. Also planned are discussions and
demonstrations of SuitSat-2, ARISS and AO-51.

This year AMSAT is also focusing efforts to
attract local middle and high school students to
the Saturday sessions. To accomplish this some
special programs were put on the agenda and
invitations were made to local Pittsburgh area science teachers.

Also taking place will be the annual AMSAT-North
America Annual General Meeting and the
AMSAT-North America Board of Directors
Meeting. This means that AMSAT Directors and
Officers will be available to answer attendee questions

More information on this years AMSAT North
America Space Symposium is in cyberspace at www.amsat.org (ANS)

**

BREAK 2

This is ham radio news for today's radio
amateur. From the Auckland New Zealand and the
United States of America, we are the Amateur
Radio Newsline with links to the world from our
only official website at www.arnewsline.org and
being relayed by the volunteer services of the following radio amateur:

(5 sec pause here)

**

RADIO IN SPACE: CELEBRATING THE 50th ANNIVERSARY OF SPUTNIK 1

Its been a half century since the race to the
final frontier began. That was in October of
1957 with the launch of Sputnik 1. Jim Linton, VK3PC, takes us back in
time:

--

Confirmation that the Soviet Union had launched
the first man-made earth orbiting satellite came
with a radio signal that was heard half a century
ago last Thursday, October the 4th. Around the
world amateur radio enthusiasts picked up the
satellite's beacon signal on a frequency of 20.007MHz.

Now let's listen to how Sputnik 1's weak signal
was heard in October 1957 as it orbited once every 96 minutes.

--

Actual Sputnik 1 Audio

--

Its history making orbit of earth had a permanent
impact on many of today's baby-boomers, whose
interest in space and technology was awakened by
Sputnik 1, the true beginning of man's space exploration.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline' I'm Jim Linton, VK3PC

--

A number of radio amateurs had their five minutes
of fame through media reports of their claims of
hearing the satellite. Others had a house full
of friends and neighbors drop by at the oddest
hours to hear the radio signal from the first man made object in space.

But it does not end there. One day shy of a month
after Sputnik 1 made history as the world's first
man-made satellite, the Soviet Union launched

Sputnik 2. This time, in addition to radio transmitters like that of its predecessor, the satellite carried the first animal into orbit. A dog named Laika (WIA News)

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: A NEW SCHOOL CONTACT RECORD

At 1832 UTC, on Wednesday October 10th students at the Isummasaqvik School in Quaqtag, Canada successfully contacted Clay Anderson on the International Space Station. Anderson answered all 20 questions prepared plus 2 more before the ISS went out of range of the ARISS volunteer ground station ON4ISS in Belgium.

This marked the 39th school contact for a member of the Expedition 15 crew and surpasses the previous record of 38 set by Expedition 12. Contributors to the Exp. 15 record include Astronauts and Cosmonauts Sunita Williams, Fyodor Yurchikhin and Clay Anderson. (ANS)

**

RADIO IN SPACE: AEGIS - MAPPING THE SKY

Radio is part of a massive project to map a distant region of the Universe in multiple wavelengths. AEGIS, an acronym for the All-wavelength Extended Groth Strip International Survey combines the efforts of nearly 100 researchers from around the world observing the same small region of sky in all available wavelengths of the electromagnetic spectrum.

The target area, called the Extended Groth Strip, covers an area the width of four full moons just past the end of the Big Dipper's handle. The AEGIS region has now been surveyed more intensively from visible light through x-rays and the radio spectrum using more telescopes and radio telescopes than any other region of the sky.

The first information derived from this experiment is now bring released to the public using the capabilities of Google Sky. This is a new feature of Google Earth. (Science Daily)

**

WORLDBEAT - SOUTH AFRICA: SARL PRESIDENT ADDRESSES COLLEGE TEACHERS

In news from around the world, the president of the South Africa Radio League has told his nations educators that ham radio can be an important teaching tool. Addressing a group of teachers who attended a training course for Further Education and Training arranged by the Department of Communications, Graham Hartlett, ZS6GJH, cited amateur radio not just as a fun pastime, but as an activity that has a positive outcome on the further training of young people in the disciplines of science, engineering and technology.

Hartlett said that Amateur Radio can make a valuable contribution in a students career choice. It also has the ability to teach basic technical and communication skills that will equip young people to render services to their community such as disaster communication and communication during large sporting events.

The objective of the course where Hartlett spoke is to train teachers to take amateur radio into their colleges and universities. (SARL)

**

WORLDBEAT - UK: A COLOSSUS CODE BREAKING EVENT

To celebrate the completion of the British-built World War 2 decrypting machine called the Colossus Mark 2, there will be an on the air ham radio operating event on November 15th and 16th. And in this one the challenge is truly complex. Here's how it goes.

A series of messages will be enciphered on a World War 2 Lorenz cipher machine. They will then be transmitted using six tone RTTY from the Heinz Nixdorf Computer Museum in Paderborn, Germany. The challenge is for anyone to break the cipher settings and decipher these messages before the rebuilt Colossus Mark 2 at Bletchley Park in the United Kingdom does it.

The Milton Keynes Amateur Radio Society which is based at Bletchley Park has already been involved in making test transmissions with the Heinz Nixdorf Computer Museum. The actual frequencies, tones for Mark are 900, 1620 and 2340 hertz. For Space they are 540, 1260 and 1980 hertz. At airtime the operating frequencies for the event have not been announced.

Bletchley Park is the historic site of secret British code breaking activities during World War

Two and the birthplace of the modern computer. More is on-line at http://www.codesandciphers.org.uk/cevent.ht (Southgate, GB2RS)

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DX

In D-X, DL2AH, will be on the air from the Juan Fernandez Islands from March 18th to April 7th, 2008 operating portable C-E-Zero-Z. Activity will be holiday style on 40 through 10 meters mainly on SSB and RTTY using a FT-897. QSL via DL2AH, direct or by the Bureau.

Also, listen out for hams in Syria to use the special prefix 6C60 during the period from October 15th to November 15th. This, to celebrate the 60th anniversary of Amateur Radio in Syria. Operations will be on all of the High Frequency bands. QSL as directed on the air.

And W2GB, will be active from Jamaica as 6Y0B from October 23rd to the 30th. He states that he will be active before and after the CQ World Wide DX SSB Contest not jut during it. QSL direct to W2GB.

Lastly, G0UIH, will be active as VK2IAY/4 from Great Keppel Island from December 16th to the 2nd. As with his previous DXpeditions the main operation will be centered around 14 point 260 MHz, but with some possibility of time spent on 17 and 15 meters as well. QSL either direct or via the bureau.

(Above from various DX Newsletters and other sources)

**

THAT FINAL ITEMS: SHOES THAT SIGN APRS IN THE NIGHT

And finally this week the story of some shoes. Not your ordinary footwear. These are women's platform shoes that are equipped with A-P-R-S technology. But even the developer of says that these shoes are not for everybody. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, reports on the latest electronic footwear walking the streets:

--

The Aphrodite Project bills itself as a series of new media artworks inspired by the cult of Aphrodite. Its website notes that the Aphrodite

Project consists of three multi-media artworks called Sanctuary, Platforms, and Kestos Imas. And it's the Platforms or platform shoes that have hit home at ham radio.

Website advertising for the shoes says that safety is one of the main concerns of contemporary urban sex workers. To help protect those wearing them, each sandal will have an audible alarm system, which emits a piercing noise to scare off attackers. The shoes are also outfitted with a built in GPS receiver and an emergency button that relays both location and a silent alarm signal to public emergency services using the Automatic Position Reporting System.

The Aphrodite Project website says that use of position awareness and transmission systems to aid communities was inspired by the Automatic Position Reporting System. It says that APRS uses Amateur Radio to transmit position reports, weather reports, and messages between users. It also claims that APRS is free and open to the public.

To be clear, the website does not say where in the RF spectrum these shoes will operate. At the same time it does not say that they will not appears on bands like 2 meters, 220 or 70 cm where hams have established APRS networks. It just says that the technology is borrowed from ham radio.

So will these shoes with their APRS transponders soon start showing up on ham radio frequencies? We have tried to compact the Aphrodite Project to find out. As of airtime there has been no response from the group.

For the Amateur radio Newsline, I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

--

More about these APRS equipped shoes and whom they were designed for is on-line at http://theaphroditeproject.tv/ (CGC, Science OnLine, The Aphrodite Project)

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NEWSCAST CLOSE

With thanks to Alan Labs, AMSAT, the ARRL, the CGC Communicator, CQ Magazine, the FCC, the Ohio Penn DX Bulletin, Radio Netherlands, Rain, the

RSGB, the Southgate News and Australia's WIA News, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline(tm). Our e-mail address is newsline@arnewsline.org. More information is available at Amateur Radio Newsline's(tm) only official website located at www.arnewsline.org. You can also write to us or support us at Amateur Radio Newsline(tm), P.O. Box 660937, Arcadia, California 91066.

For now, with Bill Pasternak, WA6ITF, at the editors desk, I'm Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF saying 73 from Auckland, New Zealand and we thank you for listening.

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SPECIAL REPORT ON THE DISPUTED ARRL SOUTHWESTERN DIVISION ELECTION

This is a special report on the disputed ARRL Southwestern Division Election. Hers Jim Meachen, ZL2BHF:

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The American Radio Relay League's Executive Committee has issued an in-depth explanation as to why it decided to uphold the Ethics and Election Committee's decision to disqualify Carl Gardenias, WU6D, as a candidate for Director of the organization's Southwestern Division. Amateur Radio Newsline's Don Carlson, KQ6FM, has seen it and has the key points:

--

As previously reported, in late September the League's Ethics and Elections Committee declared Carl Gardenias, WU6D, disqualified to stand for election in the Southwestern Division race. Over the weekend of October 6th and 7th, the ARRL Executive Committee met in Little Rock, Arkansas. One item on their agenda was the appeal filed by Gardenias concerning his disqualification. What follows are the key points the ARRL's Executive Committee's summary of the decision affirming the decision of the Ethics and Elections Committee.

The Executive Committee release states that a series of subsequent actions and inactions, by and on behalf of Carl Gardenias, WU6D, is what led the Ethics and Elections Committee to disqualify him as a candidate and to declare the

one remaining eligible candidate, Dick Norton, N6AA, re-elected.

WU6D subsequently appealed this decision to the ARRL Executive Committee. After conducting its own rather in-depth investigation the Executive Committee found that the series of events began on August 30th. That's when Carl Gardenias' wife Cathy, K6VC, identifying herself as Assistant Section Manager responsible for the Orange Section newsletter, asked ARRL Secretary Dave Sumner, K1ZZ to review an article about the division election for the section newsletter. Sumner responded, pointing out several changes that should be made.

On September 3rd, Dave Sumner received an inquiry from Dick Norton forwarding a copy of an e-mail signed by Cathy Gardenias that had been sent on September 1st using an an e-mail address that is used by both Carl and Cathy Gardenias. That e-mail had gone to 22 addressees in the Orange as well as other Southwestern Division Sections. The e-mail contained the article with the requested changes made. But says the Executive Committee, material not reviewed by Dave Sumner had been added along with the unauthorized and inaccurate statement, quote: "Approved by the ARRL k1ZZ." The Executive Committee says that this additional material, having to do with candidates' Web sites, was incomplete and in any case was not appropriate for inclusion in an official ARRL communication. This, because of restrictions on the distribution of campaign material via official channels.

Early on September 4th, Director Norton filed a complaint with the Ethics and Elections Committee on the basis of the September 1st message and sent copies to both Carl and Cathy Gardenias. Norton proposed several remedies, none of which included disqualification.

Later that day, Cathy Gardenias purportedly sent e-mails to a number of addressees with -- quote -- "Corrections to information sent out on August 28, 2007 regarding up coming elections." The ARRL says that the reference to August 28th was erroneous and caused some confusion. The Executive Committee says that WU6D later confirmed that the message had been sent to some other addressees on August 30th and 31st, it had

not been sent as early as August 28th. Neither did the September 4th message correct everything that was wrong with the original message.

The Ethics and Elections Committee met by teleconference on Tuesday evening, September 4th, to discuss several matters including Dick Norton's complaint. Under ARRL election rules, a standard of truth applies to all mailings by candidates. The committee concluded that the appropriate remedy in this case was to require Carl Gardenias to distribute specific text of a correction and apology to everyone who had received the original message, including addressees who were not known to the committee.

On September 5th Dave Sumner communicated specific instructions to Carl Gardenias. WU6D acknowledged. He also said -- and we quote: "Thank you. Cathy has already made the corrections to Los Angeles, Orange and Arizona and will finish San Diego and Santa Barbara tomorrow." At that point it appeared that the matter was well on its way to a resolution.

Unfortunately, no evidence appeared over the next two days that the correction ordered by the committee actually had been distributed. On Friday, September 7th, Dave Sumner sent a follow-up message to Carl Gardenias requesting copies of the corrective e-mails, showing the addressees. An unsigned e-mail from came back almost immediately saying -- and again we quote: "Okay on Monday we are at the convention."

Dave Sumner replied, "Carl, I hope this means that on Monday you will send me a copy of the message that was sent soon after the Ethics and Elections Committee ordered that it be sent, last Wednesday. You acknowledged that instruction on the same day it was sent. A delay of several days in complying would not be acceptable to the committee."

The ARRL ays that nothing more was received from Gardenias over the next several days.

Having received no evidence that its instructions had been complied with, the Ethics and Elections Committee voted unanimously to disqualify Carl Gardenias. It also asked Dave Sumner to convey its decision to Gardenias. He did so by e-mail on September 13th.

The decision was announced on the ARRL Web site on September 14th. Also on that day, two messages of protest from Carl Gardenias were received by Dave Sumner.

On Monday, September 17th , Carl Gardenias filed an appeal with the ARRL Executive Committee. The appeal included a copy of the message forwarded to Dave Sumner on the previous Friday except that the date line read "Sent: Friday, September 07, 2007 10:30 PM." The Executive Committee then requested that Sumner try to determine whether any of the addressees had actually received the message that Carl Gardenias claimed had been sent on or about September 7th. K1ZZ sent separate messages to each of the other 22 addressees, except for two that clearly were bad. Of the remaining 20, 11 responded that they definitely had not received the message. Two others recalled seeing messages related to the election but could not say that they had seen the specific message in question. The others did not respond.

Some addressees did provide copies of a different "correction" message from Cathy Gardenias dated September 11th. The text of this message was inconsistent with the instructions that were given by the Ethics and Elections Committee on September 5th and that Carl Gardenias claimed on September 14th had been complied with on September 5th or 6th and later changed to September 7th.

On September 26, ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, and General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, contacted Carl Gardenias by telephone to seek clarification of the apparent discrepancies. Gardenias reportedly said that the first time he understood exactly what the Ethics and Elections Committee had instructed him to do was when Arizona Section Manager Tom Fagan, WB7NXH, explained it to him at the convention. Gardenias claimed that he used Fagan's laptop to send the corrective message from the convention. In a separate conversation, Fagan said that he observed Carl and Cathy Gardenias prepare the corrective e-mail using his laptop. The discrepancy in dates and the fact that none of the addressees appears to have received the message have not been explained.

The Committee report goes on to state that while Carl Gardenias has acknowledged the instruction to send the specific corrective message to

everyone who received the original message, he has not produced evidence nor has he claimed that the correction was sent to anyone other than the 22 addressees on the September 1st message.

On September 27th the Executive Committee met by teleconference and voted unanimously, based on its own independent review, to affirm the decision of the Ethics and Elections Committee to disqualify Carl Gardenias as a candidate for Director of the ARRL Southwestern Division. This decision was communicated to WU6D on October 1st, along with detailed "Findings of Fact and Conclusions" of the committee.

In summary, the Executive Committee says that had the instructions of the Ethics and Elections Committee been followed on September 5th or reasonably soon thereafter -- as Gardenias said at the time would be done -- the Southwestern Division Director election would have proceeded normally. It says that the responsibility for failure to do so rests with the candidate.

The Executive Committee also states that it was not necessary for it to decide whether the failure was intentional or merely the result of negligence in order to affirm the decision of the Ethics and Elections Committee. However, the committee also concludes that the discrepancies in the Gardenias' various claims and explanations are troubling and might well provide a separate and independent basis for disqualification.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Don Carlson, KQ6FM, in Reno.

--

Meantime, Cathy Gardenias, K6VC, the wife of disqualified candidate Carl Gardenias, WU6D, has responded to the ARRL Executive Committee findings. In a posting on the QRZ.com website, Mr. Gardenias expresses her belief -- and we quote -- "that evidence was presented to Mr. Sumner as secretary for the Election and Ethics committee and Executive Committee via his e-mail address and some of the evidence appears to have not been received by the Executive Committee."

Mrs. Gardenias also addresses several unanswered questions. This includes asking why the League keeps insisting that the Gardenias's used the ARRL server and website when they say that they

did not do so. K6VC claims the ARRL report is presented that way to make it appear as if they did something dishonest or misleading using their positions in the League's Orange Section which she says is defiantly not the case.

K6VC also expresses her view that the ARRL does not mean anything to her anymore. That she no longer believes in it and find that it cannot be trusted to represent the Amateur Radio community. She says that it only represents an organization of what she describes as "Good Ole Boys." This she says is sad because we will be the losers.

Her complete statement and the comments of others both pro and con are at:
http://www.qrz.com/ib-bin/ikonboard.cgi?s{31e2b3b41709267de508588be912a9;act=ST;f=3;t0569;st%

--

This has been a special report on the disputed election in the ARRL Southwestern Division.

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1672. Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-12 21:25:10 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1192209525.606954.261450@e9g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3777

Forty years ago today, October 12, 1967, FCC issued a Novice license to a 13-year-old kid in the 7th grade. The license arrived two days later, and the kid (me) went on the amateur bands for the first time October 14, 1967.

Since then, I've has had three amateur radio callsigns, six "permanent" QTHs, a long list of rigs, antennas, parts and test equipment, awards earned, articles published, and tens of thousands of QSOs. Many things in amateur radio are different now than they were then, many things are the same.

One thing that hasn't changed is that ham radio is sure a lot of fun.

Doesn't seem like 40 years, though.

What do others remember?

73 de Jim, N2EY

1673. The ARRL Letter, Vol 26, No 41 (Friday, October 12, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-13 01:16:48 UTC
From: ARRL Letter Mailing List <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
Message-ID: <200710122333.l9CNXNGk032396@linux11676.dn.net>
Source record: 3778
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

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The ARRL Letter
Vol. 26, No. 41
October 12, 2007
****

IN THIS EDITION:

* ARRL On-Line Auction Preview Starts Wednesday
* Secretary General of ITU Gets Amateur Radio License
* "The Doctor Is IN" the ARRL Letter
* The November/December National Contest Journal Is On Its Way
* FCC Enforcement Actions
* ARRL Executive Committee Explains Reasoning for Upholding Ethics and Election Committee's Decision to Disqualify Southwestern Division Director Candidate
* Solar Update
* IN BRIEF:
This Weekend on the Radio
ARRL Continuing Education Course Registration
No ARRL Audio News Friday, October 12
Newly Elected Section Managers Converge on Newington
Special Offer for Diamond Club Members
New Contest Manager on the Job
AA8EY Wins 2007 Severson Award
Military World Games Using in India Using Call Sign AT0MWG
Let Us Know What You Think

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==>Delivery problems: First see FAQ <http://www.arrl.org/members-only/faq.html#nodelivery>, then e-mail <letter-dlvy@arrl.org>
==>Editorial questions or comments only: S. Khrystyne Keane, <k1sfa@arrl.org>
==========

==> ARRL ON-LINE AUCTION PREVIEW STARTS WEDNESDAY

The 2007 ARRL On-Line Auction Preview starts Wednesday, October 17 and officially begins October 24, running through November 2. According to ARRL Business Services Manager Debra Jahnke, K1DAj, the Auction will feature more than 150 items. "This year, browsers and bidders will find a vastly increased amount of QST Product Review gear." Rather than auctioning this equipment off separately as has been done in the past, the On-Line Auction will serve as the focal point for a majority of this

year's QST Product Review items. "We won't reveal just yet what items will be up for bid, but chances are very likely that if our readers have had their eye on a piece of equipment, it will be there," Jahnke said.

This year's auction will offer an especially diverse variety of items, including transceivers, amplifiers, antennas, amateur accessories and other amateur-related items. Jahnke said that through the ARRL On-Line Auction, "We'll be offering new gear, pre-owned and vintage gear, a fabulous vacation in St Croix, one-of-a-kind treasures and a virtual flea market."

When asked to provide amateurs with a partial list of items up for bid, Jahnke said "We're keep specific items under wraps until the Auction Preview that begins on October 17. Anyone interested can check this out at the ARRL On-Line Auction Web site <http://www.arrl.org/development/auction/>. But I can promise you that bidders will not be disappointed."

"We'd also like to thank the manufacturers, dealers, ARRL Business Partners and members and non members alike for their donations to the On-Line Auction," Jahnke said.

==> SECRETARY GENERAL OF ITU GETS AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE

Dr Hamadoun Toure, Secretary General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), received his Amateur Radio license October 8. Toure, who holds the call sign HB9EHT, is from Mali. He has a Master's Degree in electrical engineering from the Technical Institute of Electronics and Telecommunications of Leningrad and a PhD from the University of Electronics, Telecommunications and Informatics of Moscow.

ARRL Chief Executive Officer and IARU Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ, said, "Dr Toure has recognized the value of Amateur Radio throughout his two terms as Director of the ITU Telecommunication Development Bureau and now as Secretary General. It is wonderful to be able to welcome him to our fraternity."

According to International Amateur Radio Club (IARC) President Attila Matas, OM1AM/HB9IAJ, IARC's station 4U1ITU will be operational as 4U1WRC during WRC-07 in Geneva later this month. They will be using newly installed antennas.

ITU is the leading United Nations agency for information and communication technologies. As the global focal point for governments and the private sector, ITU's role in helping the world communicate spans three core sectors: radiocommunication, standardization and development. ITU is based in Geneva, Switzerland, and its membership includes 191 Member States and more than 700 Sector Members and Associates.

==> "THE DOCTOR IS IN" THE ARRL LETTER

This week, ARRL Letter readers are in luck! The ARRL's very own Doctor, author of the popular QST column "The Doctor Is IN," answers a question from his mailbag:

Question -- Ray Fritts, KA8SYX, of Jacksonville, Florida, asks: If a piece of coaxial cable has a specified loss figure in dB per 100 feet at a given frequency, does that mean that the loss in a different length of the same cable that is a fraction of 100 feet long is the same fraction of loss? For example, I have a type of coax that has a loss of 6 dB per 100 feet at 150 MHz. I have a 15 foot length I want to use as a feed line for my 2 meter mobile SSB transceiver. Does that mean that my feed line would have a loss of about 0.9 dB, not including SWR and connector insertion? I am particularly interested in the loss in received signal. Is my math correct, or is there a different method to determine the amount of signal lost in a coaxial cable when the length is different from that for which the published loss figures are expressed?

The Doctor Answers -- Your calculations are right on. That's all there is to it. But do keep in mind just a few potential pitfalls:

Published cable loss data is for new cable. If used indoors in a non-hostile environment, it will stay close to new for many years. If the jacket allows moisture or moisture vapor to penetrate, it can degrade from subsequent corrosion. I have been amazed to find that the copper in some old cables that have been used outdoors has turned black from corrosion, and likely is no longer acting like a shield at all.

You are correct that the loss increases with an SWR higher than 1:1. For your receive case, keep in mind that the SWR is determined by the input impedance of the receiver -- not the antenna impedance. Sometimes receivers aligned for minimum noise figure do not have an impedance of 50 Ohms. Check your receiver specs.

Do you have a question or a problem? Send your questions to <doctor@arrl.org> or to "The Doctor," ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111 (no phone calls, please).

==> THE NOVEMBER/DECEMBER NCJ IS ON ITS WAY

Now that "contesting season" is in full swing, you don't want to miss a thing and you can get in-depth contesting articles, techniques and information from the National Contest Journal (NCJ). This bi-monthly magazine from the ARRL features articles on contesting in all modes, including phone, CW and RTTY, product reviews and station profiles, as well as regular columns.

The November/December issue has an article by Al Dewey, K0AD, on how to put up a tower in a deed-restricted neighborhood. Doug Zwiebel, KR2Q, reveals his secrets for winning the 2007 ARRL DX CW (QRP) Contest, while Ed Sawyer, N1UR, writes about winning the 2007 ARRL DX and Phone (Low Power) Contest. Not to be outdone by the low power operators, Scott Robbins, W4PA/VY2PA, writes about winning ARRL DX CW in 2007.

If you're interested in the new Elecraft K3, you won't want to miss "RTTY Contesting with the Elecraft K3," by Ed Muns, W0YK. Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, reviews the KD9SV Reversible Beverage System.

Regular columns in the upcoming issue include "VHF-UHF Contesting" by Jon K. Jones, N0JK; "Contest Tips, Tricks and Techniques" by Gary Sutcliffe, W9XT; "RTTY Contesting" by Don Hill, AA5AU; "Workshop Chronicles" by Don Daso, K4ZA; "Contesting on a Budget" by Paul Schaffenberger, K5AF, and "Propagation" by Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA.

NCJ is published by the ARRL and is a bi-monthly publication; it is edited by Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA. Subscribe at <http://www.arrl.org/ncj/>.

==> FCC ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

On October 5, the FCC's Enforcement Bureau released new Amateur Radio enforcement actions. Raymond W. Czyzewski, Jr, WA2SEI, of Interlachen, Florida, received notification from the FCC of a complaint alleging he "interfere[d] on the Six Meter Amateur band on June 19, 2007. The complaint also enclosed a threatening communication apparently from you to the complainant subsequent to the incident. The information contained in the complaint, if true, raises serious questions regarding your qualifications to retain an Amateur license." Czyzewski was given 20 days to respond and was directed to "support your response with a signed and dated affidavit or declaration under penalty of perjury, verifying the truth and accuracy of the information submitted in your response." He was warned that the FCC will use "all relevant information... including information that you disclose in your reply" to make a decision in his case, and that penalties could include "license revocation, suspension of your operator privileges, or monetary forfeiture (fine). Fines normally range from $7,500 to $10,000."

Guy E Weitl, WB6HGJ, of San Diego, California, received notification from the FCC of a complaint alleging "numerous instances of out of band operation on Twenty Meter frequencies 14.003, 14.005, 14.011 and 14.106 MHz, frequencies for which you are not authorized as a General Class licensee. The complaint also alleges that you have been sent several notices about out of band operation. The information contained in the complaint, if true, raises serious questions regarding your qualifications to retain an Amateur license." Weitl was given 20 days to respond and was directed to "support your response with a signed and dated affidavit or declaration under penalty of perjury, verifying the truth and accuracy of the information submitted in your response." He was warned that the FCC will use "all relevant information...including information that you disclose in your reply" to make a decision in his case, and that penalties could include "license revocation, suspension of your operator privileges, or monetary forfeiture (fine). Fines normally range from $7,500 to $10,000."

David B. Huston, WD8RFS, of Ely, Minnesota, received notification from the FCC regarding a complaint "concerning the operation of your repeater on 145.370 MHz. The complaint alleges lack of control and defective

signals and indicates that you have been contacted about these problems but have declined to address them." Huston was given 20 days to respond and was directed to "describe in detail" and include with his response "the procedures you use to control the repeater and provide the names and addresses of all control operators."

Darin W. Colville, KM0Q, of O'Fallon, Missouri, received notification from the FCC that he would face a six month restriction on his Amateur Radio license. The Commission said, "On March 16, 2007, we sent you copies of complaints received by the Commission concerning the operation of your Amateur station. The complaints alleged deliberate interference, broadcasting and failure to identify. Our letter stated that the information contained in the complaints, if true, raised serious questions regarding your qualifications to retain an Amateur license. We requested detailed information from you pursuant to Section 308(b) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. S: 308(b), which gives the Commission the authority to obtain information from applicants and licensees about the operation of their station and their qualifications to remain a licensee." After telephone conversations between Colville and FCC representatives, it was agreed that Colville would accept "a six month restriction on your license that would prohibit operation on any Amateur station on UHF or VHF for a period of six months in order to avoid further enforcement sanctions. That restriction is retroactive to July 9, 2007, and will end at midnight January 6, 2008."

James J. Grinton, K7VNI, of Bellingham, Washington, received a "Notice of Apparent Liability for Forfeiture" from the District Director of the FCC's Western Region Enforcement Bureau in Seattle and is apparently liable for a forfeiture in the amount of seven thousand dollars ($7,000)." The FCC said Grinton "apparently willfully and repeatedly violated Section 97.113(b) and Section 97.119(a) of the Commission's Rules ("Rules") by transmitting one-way communications and by failing to transmit his assigned call sign in the Amateur Radio Service."

Section 97.113(b) of the Rules states that "[a]n amateur station shall not engage in any form of broadcasting, nor may an amateur station transmit one-way communications..." Section 97.119(a) of the Rules states that "[e]ach amateur station, except a space station or telecommand station, must transmit its assigned call sign on its transmitting channel at the end of each communication, and at least every 10 minutes during a communication, for the purpose of clearly making the source of the transmissions from the station known to those receiving the transmissions."

The FCC noted the following timeline:

On December 7, 2006, in response to a complaint alleging intentional interference to Amateur Radio communications on the 146.340/146.940 MHz repeater (VE7RPT) repeater, an agent from the FCC's Seattle Office, used mobile direction finding techniques, to locate the source of the signal to the residence of James Grinton, K7VNI, in Bellingham, Washington."

During the period of December 9, 2006-January 1, 2007, the Seattle agent monitored 146.340 MHz and observed 59 transmissions of varying lengths from Grinton's residence.

On January 19, 2007, the Seattle Field Office issued a "Warning of Interference to Communications" to Grinton. The Warning Letter informed Grinton that his station may be the source of willful or malicious interference to amateur communications and that if the "transmissions continue, you will be investigated during ongoing FCC enforcement efforts. If such an investigation indicates that you have violated the Communications Act or any FCC Rules, you could be subject to severe penalties, including, but not limited to, substantial monetary forfeitures, and criminal sanctions including imprisonment."

On January 25, 2007, Grinton received and signed a receipt for the Warning Letter, but did not send a response to the Seattle Office.

On February 27, 2007, in response to continued complaints, a Seattle agent using mobile direction finding techniques, again located the source of a signal on 146.340 MHz to Grinton's residence in Bellingham, Washington. The Seattle agent monitored and recorded 17 minutes of a continuous transmission of one-way communications of music by Grinton on 146.340 MHz.

On March 5, 2007, the Seattle agent, again used using mobile direction finding techniques to locate the source of a signal on 146.340 MHz to Grinton's residence in Bellingham. The Seattle agent monitored and recorded 15 minutes of a continuous transmission of one-way communications of music by Grinton on 146.340 MHz.

During the period of January 19, 2007-June 23, 2007, the Seattle agent monitored 146.340 MHz and observed 163 transmissions by Grinton in which he failed to transmit his assigned call sign (K7VNI)

The FCC concluded that "Pursuant to the Commission's Forfeiture Policy Statement and Amendment of Section 1.80 of the Rules to Incorporate the Forfeiture Guidelines, ('Forfeiture Policy Statement'), and Section 1.80 of the Rules, the base forfeiture amount for unauthorized emissions is $4000 and base forfeiture amount for failure to provide station ID is $1000. "In assessing the monetary forfeiture amount, we must also take into account the statutory factors set forth in Section 503(b)(2)(E) of the Act, which include the nature, circumstances, extent, and gravity of the violations, and with respect to the violator, the degree of culpability, and history of prior offenses, ability to pay, and other such matters as justice may require. Based on the criteria in Section 503(b)(2)(E) of the Act, and the upward adjustment criteria in the Forfeiture Policy Statement, we find that an upward adjustment of the base forfeiture amount of $1000 for failure to provide station ID is warranted. Grinton apparently failed to transmit his amateur operator call sign on over 160 transmissions in a five month period. Grinton had previously been warned by the Seattle Office concerning FCC Rule violations. Considering the entire record and applying the factors listed above, we conclude that Grinton is apparently liable for a

forfeiture in the amount of $3000 for his failure to provide station ID, and is apparently liable for a $4000 forfeiture for unauthorized emissions."

Grinton has until October 25 to either pay the forfeiture or appeal.

==> ARRL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE EXPLAINS REASONING FOR UPHOLDING ETHICS AND ELECTION COMMITTEE'S DECISION TO DISQUALIFY SOUTHWESTERN DIVISION DIRECTOR CANDIDATE

The ARRL Executive Committee met the first weekend in October in Little Rock, Arkansas. One item on their agenda was of the appeal of Carl Gardenias, WU6D, concerning his disqualification from the race for Southwestern Division Director. Last month, the League's Ethics and Elections Committee declared Gardenias disqualified to stand for election in that race. What follows is the ARRL's Executive Committee's summary (in its entirety) affirming the decision of the Ethics and Elections Committee:

Summary of Events Leading to the Disqualification of Carl Gardenias, WU6D, as Candidate for Director of the ARRL Southwestern Division

In accordance with the bylaws of the ARRL, July and August QST carried solicitations for candidates for Director and Vice Director in five of the 15 ARRL divisions. Two candidates for Director of the Southwestern Division, encompassing southern California and Arizona, were nominated and initially found to be eligible by the ARRL Ethics and Elections Committee: incumbent Dick Norton, N6AA, and challenger Carl Gardenias, WU6D, who is currently serving as Section Manager of the ARRL Orange Section. Announcement of their eligibility was made on August 27.

The ARRL Ethics and Elections Committee is made up of three volunteer Directors, appointed by the President for one-year terms, from among those who are not subject to election that year.

A series of subsequent actions and inactions, by and on behalf of Mr Gardenias, led the Ethics and Elections Committee by unanimous vote to disqualify him as a candidate and to declare the one remaining eligible candidate, Dick Norton, N6AA, re-elected. Mr Gardenias appealed this decision to the ARRL Executive Committee. The voting members of the Executive Committee are the President and five Directors, none of whom happen to be members of the Ethics and Elections Committee. After consideration of the appeal, including additional material submitted by Mr Gardenias, the Executive Committee voted unanimously to uphold the decision of the Ethics and Elections Committee.

Full members in the Southwestern Division had expected to have the opportunity to choose between two candidates for Director, and are entitled to an explanation of what led to the disqualification of Mr Gardenias.

The series of events began on August 30 when Mr Gardenias' wife Cathy, K6VC, identifying herself as Assistant Section Manager responsible for

the Orange Section newsletter, asked ARRL Secretary David Sumner, K1ZZ to review an article about the division election for the section newsletter. Mr Sumner responded, pointing out several changes that should be made.

On September 3, Mr Sumner received an inquiry from Mr Norton forwarding a copy of an e-mail signed by Cathy Gardenias that had been sent on September 1 from gardenias@verizon.net, an e-mail address that is used by both Carl and Cathy Gardenias, to 22 addressees in the Orange as well as other Southwestern Division Sections. The e-mail contained the article with the requested changes made, but material not reviewed by Mr Sumner had been added along with the unauthorized and inaccurate statement, "Approved by the ARRL k1zz." The additional material, having to do with candidates' Web sites, was incomplete and in any case was not appropriate for inclusion in an official ARRL communication because of restrictions on the distribution of campaign material via official channels.

Early on September 4, Mr Norton filed a complaint with the Ethics and Elections Committee on the basis of the September 1 message and sent copies to both Carl and Cathy Gardenias. Mr Norton proposed several remedies, none of which included disqualification. Later that day, Cathy Gardenias sent e-mails to a number of addressees with "Corrections to information sent out on August 28, 2007 regarding up coming elections." The reference to August 28 was erroneous and caused some confusion; while Mr Gardenias later confirmed that the message had been sent to some other addressees on August 30 and 31, it had not been sent as early as August 28. Neither did the September 4 message correct everything that was wrong with the original message.

The Ethics and Elections Committee met by teleconference on Tuesday evening, September 4, to discuss several matters including Mr Norton's complaint. Under ARRL election rules, a standard of truth applies to all mailings by candidates. The committee concluded that the appropriate remedy in this case was to require Mr Gardenias to distribute specific text of a correction and apology to everyone who had received the original message, including addressees who were not known to the committee. On September 5 Mr Sumner communicated specific instructions to Mr Gardenias, who acknowledged and said "Thank you, Cathy has already made the corrections to LAX ORANGE, AZ and will finish SDG and SB tomorrow." At that point it appeared that the matter was well on its way to a resolution.

Unfortunately, no evidence appeared over the next two days that the correction ordered by the committee actually had been distributed. Therefore, on Friday, September 7 Mr Sumner sent a follow-up message to Mr Gardenias requesting copies of the corrective e-mails, showing the addressees. An unsigned e-mail from gardenias@verizon.net came back almost immediately saying, "Okay on Monday we are at the convention" [the Southwestern Division Convention], to which Mr Sumner replied, "Carl, I hope this means that on Monday you will send me a copy of the

message that was sent soon after the Ethics and Elections Committee ordered that it be sent, last Wednesday. You acknowledged that instruction on the same day it was sent. A delay of several days in complying would not be acceptable to the committee."

Nothing more was received from Mr Gardenias over the next several days.

Having received no evidence that its instructions had been complied with, the Ethics and Elections Committee voted unanimously to disqualify Mr Gardenias and asked Mr Sumner, who by that time was in Brasilia attending the IARU Region 2 Conference, to convey its decision to Mr Gardenias. He did so by e-mail on September 13. The decision was announced on the ARRL Web site the following day, September 14. Also on that day, two messages of protest from Mr Gardenias were received by Mr Sumner. One forwarded what was purported to be a copy of a message containing the text as ordered by the Ethics and Elections Committee to the 22 addressees on the September 1 message, plus Mr Sumner (although Mr Sumner had not received it). This message was identified as "Here is what was sent on Friday Sept. 5, 2007 to all concerned and you were BCC:" Curiously, the message as forwarded carried the date line "Sent: Friday, September 06, 2007 10:30 PM."
That Friday was actually September 7.

On Monday, September 17, Mr Gardenias filed an appeal with the ARRL Executive Committee. The appeal included a copy of the message forwarded to Mr Sumner on the previous Friday except that the date line reads "Sent: Friday, September 07, 2007 10:30 PM." The Executive Committee requested that Mr Sumner try to determine whether any of the addressees had actually received the message that Mr Gardenias claimed had been sent on or about September 7. Mr Sumner sent separate messages to each of the other 22 addressees, except for two that clearly were bad addresses. Of the remaining 20, 11 responded that they definitely had not received the message. Two others recalled seeing messages related to the election but could not say that they had seen the specific message in question. The other addressees did not respond.

Some addressees did provide copies of a different "correction" message from Cathy Gardenias dated September 11. The text of this message is inconsistent with the instructions that were given by the Ethics and Elections Committee on September 5 and that Mr Gardenias claimed on September 14 had been complied with on September 5 or 6 (later changed to September 7).

On September 26, ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, and General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, contacted Mr Gardenias by telephone to seek clarification of the apparent discrepancies. Mr Gardenias said that the first time he understood exactly what the Ethics and Elections Committee had instructed him to do was when Arizona Section Manager Tom Fagan, WB7NXH, explained it to him at the convention. Mr Gardenias claimed that he used Mr Fagan's laptop to send the corrective message from the convention. In a separate conversation, Mr Fagan said that he observed Carl and Cathy Gardenias prepare the corrective e-mail using his laptop.

The discrepancy in dates and the fact that none of the addressees appears to have received the message have not been explained. While Mr Gardenias has acknowledged the instruction to send the specific corrective message to everyone who received the original message, he has not produced evidence nor has he claimed that the correction was sent to anyone other than the 22 addressees on the September 1 message.

On September 27 the Executive Committee met by teleconference and voted unanimously, based on its own independent review, to affirm the decision of the Ethics and Elections Committee to disqualify Mr Gardenias as a candidate for Director of the ARRL Southwestern Division. This decision was communicated to Mr Gardenias on October 1, along with detailed "Findings of Fact and Conclusions" of the committee.

In summary, had the instructions of the Ethics and Elections Committee been followed on September 5 or reasonably soon thereafter -- as Mr Gardenias said at the time would be done -- the Southwestern Division Director election would have proceeded normally. The responsibility for failure to do so rests with the candidate. It was not necessary for the Executive Committee to decide whether the failure was intentional or merely the result of negligence in order to affirm the decision of the Ethics and Elections Committee. However, the discrepancies in the Gardenias' various claims and explanations are troubling and might well provide a separate and independent basis for disqualification.

(signed) ARRL Executive Committee, October 6, 2007

==>SOLAR UPDATE

Tad "'Cause You Shine Like the Midnight Sun" Cook, K7RA, this week reports: Average sunspot number for the past week is about half what it was the week before, but this doesn't mean much, since only two days of the last seven had any sunspots. In fact, the Sun showed spots on only seven of the last 29 days. Geomagnetic indices (the A and K index) have been very quiet lately. The US Air Force predicts the planetary A index to stay around 5 (which is very quiet) for October 12-16. October 26 is the next time they predict active conditions, with a planetary A index of 25. Since October 6, the planetary A index has been below five. Geophysical Institute Prague predicts quiet to unsettled conditions for today, October 12, quiet conditions on October 13-16 and unsettled conditions October 17-18. I suspect we won't see sunspots any time soon, although this can change. It seems we are still in the bottom of the cycle. Sunspot numbers for October 4-10 were 0, 0, 15, 13, 0, 0 and 0 with a mean of 4. The 10.7 cm flux was 67.3, 67.8, 69, 68.1, 68.1, 68.7 and 68.1 with a mean of 68.2. Estimated planetary A indices were 10, 7, 5, 4, 3, 3 and 3 with a mean of 5. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 8, 5, 3, 1, 0, 0 and 1 with a mean of 2.6. For more information concerning radio propagation, visit the ARRL Technical Information Service Propagation page <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/propagation.html>. To read this week's Solar Report in its entirety, check out the W1AW Propagation Bulletin page <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw/prop/>.

==>IN BRIEF:

* This weekend on the radio: This weekend, the ARRL School Club Roundup is October 15-19. The NCCC Sprint (CW) is October 12. The Microwave Fall Sprint, EU Autumn Sprint (CW) and FISTS Fall Sprint are October 13. The Makrothen RTTY Contest, Oceania DX Contest (CW) and Pennsylvania QSO Party are October 13-14. The North American Sprint (RTTY) and UBA ON Contest (SSB) are October 14. Next week, be sure to mark your calendars for the NCCC Sprint (CW) on October 19. October 20 is the Feld Hell Sprint, while the weekend of October 20-21 hosts the JARTS Worldwide RTTY Contest, the ARCI Fall QSO Party, the Worked All Germany Contest, the Stew Perry Topband Challenge, the W/VE Islands QSO Party, the 070 Club 160 Meter Great Pumpkin Sprint and the 50 MHz Fall Sprint. The Asia-Pacific Fall Sprint (CW) and UBA ON Contest (2 Meter) are October 21. The Illinois QSO Party is October 21-22 and the Run for the Bacon QRP Contest is October 22. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <http://www.arrl.org/contests/>, the ARRL Contester's Rate Sheet <http://www.arrl.org/contests/rate-sheet/> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html> for more info.

* ARRL Continuing Education Course Registration: Registration remains open through Sunday, October 21 for these online courses beginning on Friday, November 2: Technician License Course (EC-010); Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Level 1 (EC-001); Radio Frequency Interference (EC-006); Antenna Design and Construction (EC-009); Analog Electronics (EC-012), and Digital Electronics (EC-013). To learn more, visit the CCE Course Listing page <http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html> or contact the Continuing Education Program Coordinator <cce@arrl.org>.

* No ARRL Audio News Friday, October 12: There will be no ARRL Audio News October 12. The ARRL Audio News will return next week, Friday, October 19.

* Newly Elected Section Managers Converge on Newington: This weekend, those Section Managers who are new to their post are in Newington for an orientation. Delaware Section Manager Frank Filipkowski, AD3M; Kentucky Section Manager Jim Brooks, KY4Z; Sacramento Valley Section Manager Ron Murdock, W6KJ; Puerto Rico Section Manager Roberto Jimenez, KP4AC, and San Diego Section Manager Mitch Mitchell, K6BK, are in attendance. According to Supervisor of the ARRL Field Organization Team Steve Ewald, WV1X, "The Section Manager Workshop is an orientation and training event for new Section Managers that have come on board within the last year or so. ARRL has conducted this training once a year at HQ for the past several years, and it has been well received by past participants. The Membership and Volunteer Programs Department Staff, and its Field Organization Team are the lead coordinators of the event." The primary purposes of the Workshop sessions are to share ideas and to provide basic administrative, management, leadership and motivational training. "We also cover the responsibilities and functions of the Section Manager's position, and the SMs are able to visit with ARRL Headquarters

staff members and learn more about the many programs that ARRL supports. The Workshop sessions are presented by several ARRL Headquarter staff members who are experts in their respective areas," Ewald said.

* Special Offer for Diamond Club Members: ARRL Chief Development Officer Mary Hobart, K1MMH, reminds League members that now is a great time to join the Diamond Club or renew your Diamond Club membership. "For Diamond Club contributions of $100 or more before December 31, you will receive a 2008 ARRL calendar. This offer is good for new and renewing Diamond Club members." If you join at the Brass level ($250) or higher, you can also get a brick (with engraving up to three lines) placed in the ARRL Diamond Terrace.

* New Contest Manager on the Job: Sean Kutzko, KX9X, joined the ARRL Headquarters staff on October 8 as the ARRL Contest Manager. First licensed in 1982 as KA9NGH, Kutzko developed a taste for contesting after winning the Illinois section in the 1988 ARRL Novice Roundup. Since then, he has been active in both HF and VHF contesting, as well as HF DXing and VHF weak-signal communications. A long-standing member of the Society of Midwest Contesters (SMC) and a strong advocate of mentoring new contesters, Kutzko has won several contest and DX awards, including several Top Ten finishes in the ARRL Sweepstakes SSB contest as a QRP entrant. He has been on two HF contest DXpeditions, including 6Y7M in the 1994 CQ WPX CW contest, and V26NA in the 1997 ARRL International DX CW Contest. Kutzko also enjoys activating rare grid squares by going on "Grid DXpeditions" in the continental US for the VHF/UHF community. In the late 1990s, Kutzko published a regular column in the National Contest Journal (NCJ) that focused on DX locations available for hams to rent for contests or DXpeditions. "It's a great honor to be the Contest Branch Manager. Everybody at HQ has been very friendly and generous of their time and knowledge for me, the newcomer. There is a lot of work from several folks -- hams and non-hams alike -- that goes on behind the scenes to keep your contest logs properly scored and managed. While I still have a lot to learn, rest assured that as a fellow HF and VHF contester myself, my primary interest is to ensure logs are received and processed correctly, scores are reported quickly and accurately and awards are mailed in a timely fashion. Feel free to contact me with any contest-related questions you may have. You can reach me at 860-594-0232 or via e-mail <kx9x@arrl.org>. I am at your service," Kutzko said.

* AA8EY Wins 2007 Severson Award: ARRL Ohio Assistant Section Manager William Carpenter, AA8EY, of Westerville, Ohio, was named as the 14th recipient of the Allan Severson, AB8P (SK) Memorial Award. Ohio Section Manager Joe Phillips made the award presentation at the Ohio Section Conference last month. The Severson award, named for former Great Lakes Division Director Allan Severson who died in 1997, is issued to an Ohio ham radio operator who exemplified Allan's spirit of service to Amateur Radio. Carpenter is the former Emergency Coordinator of Franklin County (Columbus); he received the award for his work as EC. His Severson certificate read, "For his ground breaking role in organizing emergency

communications in Central Ohio and establishing a model for a county EC position." Though Allan Severson had an impressive resume during his lifetime of service to the ARRL, Phillips, in making the presentation, said that it is rarely spoken. "Al's true work in the League was his talent to inspire others to do their best; he was just a very special presence." Instead of citing a resume, the award honors the work of Allan with a single sentence written on every award certificate - "Allan's devotion to serve Amateur Radio inspired a whole generation of Ohio Section leadership."

* Military World Games in India Using Call Sign AT0MWG: The Military World Games take place in India October 14-21. Games organizers approached the Amateur Radio Society of India (ARSI), India's IARU Member-Society, to support them with Amateur Radio stations at various game locations. As such, a special call sign, AT0MWG, will be in use October 9-21. The venues for the games are Mumbai (for the sailing events), and Hyderabad and Secunderabad for other events. ARSI stations will operate from all locations on CW, SSB, digital and EchoLink. A special QSL card will be made for this call. The QSL Manager for the event is Sarla Sharma, VU2SWS, 7 Gaurav Apts, Behind Ashok Nagar, Nahur, Mulund, West Mumbai - 400 080 India. Non-Indian stations should send one IRC and a self-addressed envelope. Indian stations should send a self-addressed, stamped envelope. -- Thanks to The Daily DX for the information

* Let Us Know What You Think: What's your favorite part of The ARRL Letter? What kind of stories would you like to see in the Letter? Would you prefer the Letter in an HTML format? This is your Letter and your chance to let your voice be heard. Please send your suggestions to ARRL News Editor S. Khrystyne Keane, K1SFA, at k1sfa@arrl.org, with the subject line "ARRL Letter Suggestions." All messages will be read and discussed, and we look forward to implementing positive suggestions into the ARRL Letter.

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The ARRL Letter offers a weekly e-mail digest of essential and general news of interest to active radio amateurs. Visit the ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org> for the latest Amateur Radio news and news updates. The ARRL Web site <http://www.arrl.org/> also offers informative features and columns. ARRL Audio News <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/audio/> is a weekly "ham radio newscast" compiled and edited from The ARRL Letter. It's also available as a podcast from our Web site.

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delivery of The ARRL Letter--registered members should click on the
"Member Data Page" link (in the Members Only box). Click on "Modify
membership data," check or uncheck the appropriate boxes and/or change
your e-mail address if necessary. (Check "Temporarily disable all
automatically sent email" to temporarily stop all e-mail deliveries.)
Then, click on "Submit modification" to make selections effective.
(NOTE: HQ staff members cannot change your e-mail delivery address. You
must do this yourself via the Members Only Web Site.)

The ARRL Letter also is available to all, free of charge, from these
sources:

* ARRLWeb <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter/>. (NOTE: The ARRL Letter will
be posted each Friday when it is distributed via e-mail.)

* The QTH.net listserver, thanks to volunteers from the Boston Amateur
Radio Club: Visit Mailing Lists@QTH.Net
<http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/letter-list>. (NOTE: The ARRL
cannot assist subscribers who receive The ARRL Letter via this
listserver.)

1674. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-13 02:07:53 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <13h08mctdpp3uc7@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3779

<N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote

> Doesn't seem like 40 years, though.
>
> What do others remember?

:-) When a teen, my novice license arrived Friday the 13th, September 1963. My first QSO was that night on 80m on 3706 Kc with a fellow in Schoharie, NY. That was my only crystal. With crystals, we had to learn to listen all over our 50 Kc available band of 3700 - 3750.

My friend Gary and I went down to the FCC office in Manhattan to take the General exam just a few days before they were going to impose a $4 fee. Ouch! We had a deadline to meet! We couldn't afford to pay $4! Well, we both passed, and Gary called his mom to tell her the good news. Once we arrived back to his house it was apparent that his mother told a neighbor the good news because, as we walked by the neighbor's house, she exclaimed to us, "So now you're Captains!?"

Howard N7SO

1675. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-13 03:04:53 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13h0cd135irv666@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3780

Howard Lester wrote:
> <N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote
>
>> Doesn't seem like 40 years, though.
>>
>> What do others remember?
>
> :-) When a teen, my novice license arrived Friday the 13th, September 1963.
> My first QSO was that night on 80m on 3706 Kc with a fellow in Schoharie,
> NY. That was my only crystal. With crystals, we had to learn to listen all
> over our 50 Kc available band of 3700 - 3750.

I was also first licensed in 1963 and I think I had three crystals, but
one was 3706. That must have been a common frequency for a surplus xtal.

I do remember listening the whole band for a call from a CQ. You picked
the closest frequency you had a crystal for. I also remember that it
was somewhat common for QRM to pop up because the station transmitting
had a limited selection of crystals and didn't always listen on the
frequency that they were about to transmit.

But it sure was fun.

I met a fellow novice on 80 meters and he traveled to Knoxville to take
his General exam on the same day I did. We met there. He was so
nervous that he literally could not fill out the FCC-610 form. But
somehow he managed to calm himself enough to pass the CW test. Perhaps
it was the CW that did it. By then we were routinely chatting at speeds
more than the required 13 wpm.

> My friend Gary and I went down to the FCC office in Manhattan to take the
> General exam just a few days before they were going to impose a $4 fee.
> Ouch! We had a deadline to meet! We couldn't afford to pay $4! Well, we both
> passed, and Gary called his mom to tell her the good news. Once we arrived
> back to his house it was apparent that his mother told a neighbor the good
> news because, as we walked by the neighbor's house, she exclaimed to us, "So
> now you're Captains!?"

I took the General with a friend, too. He was very good at theory. I
was very good at code. Somehow he managed to squeak by the code test,
but he failed the theory test. I think that he got one answer off on
the answer sheet and was putting down his answers for the wrong number;
there's no way he could have failed that theory test.

I'm about to teach a Technician class beginning at the end of the month.
Times have changed. No longer is the entry license the Novice and one

must use the one-year term to build up code speed for the General. Instead I'll be trying to figure out how to teach both concepts and the question pool. It will be interesting. (I don't think I've taught a license class in the past two decades.)

But the fun remains in the hobby. Some things change and some things remain the same. Thanks for the memories.

1676. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-13 12:17:20 UTC
From: Jack VK2CJC <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com>
Message-ID: <fepo3o$b0s$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 3781

Happy... emm... license day... Jim :o)

I was born in1967 so less history here. Didnt get my license until I was 26 years old in 1993. I recall my first contact like it was yesterday. Sitting at my desk with a my new license and an FT480 on the FM calling frequency wondering what I should do next.

I'm on my fourth callsign, from two countries. Planning another move so number 5 on its way.

Many things in amateur radio change. But the basics will always be the same.

--
Jack VK2CJC / MM0AXL
FISTS #9666
CW Ops QRP Club #753
Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group
www.mncarg.org

1677. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-13 14:45:48 UTC
From: Bert Hyman <bert@iphouse.com>
Message-ID: <Xns99C85F5A3A81EVeebleFetzer@216.250.184.7>
Source record: 3782

In news:1192209525.606954.261450@e9g2000prf.googlegroups.com N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:

> What do others remember?

I remember a QST cover with an image of the sun labled "Cycle 19 - The Declining Years".

And now, here we are at the nadir of Cycle 23.

--
Bert Hyman St. Paul, MN bert@iphouse.com

1678. SARL News in English 13/10/2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-13 17:08:54 UTC
From: website@sarl.org.za
Message-ID: <37CF826081C7450880F391D256DEF4E7@toron>
Source record: 3783
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 14 OCTOBER 2007

You are listening to ZS6SRL the official Radio Station of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is transmitted every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. To listen to a web stream or Echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links for details.

You can download this and previous bulletins from www.sarl.org.za and you can also subscribe there to receive future bulletins by email.

Your news reader this morning is Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with relays on 3,695, 10,135, and 51,400 MHz as well as 438,825 and 1 297 MHz in the Pretoria area. (Other newsreaders please change to suit).

In the news today:

DON'T LET THE QSL BUREAU BE CLOGGED UP WITH YOUR CARDS

CAN YOU HOST A SARL/HMO BEACON?

ANOTHER SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER FOR MEMBERS WHO HAVE NOT YET RENEWED

CLUBS INVITED TO REGISTER TO BECOME A REGIONAL ZU EXAMINATION CENTRE

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

DON'T LET THE QSL BUREAU BE CLOGGED UP WITH YOUR CARDS

This is an urgent message for members of the SARL: please don't let the QSL bureau be clogged up with your incoming QSL cards. Send a self addressed stamped envelope to the QSL bureau so that cards can be despatched to you on a regular basis. Please take careful note of the following. If you send DL size envelopes, a standard mail postage stamp is sufficient. A DL size envelope will accommodate up to 10 cards. If you are an avid DXer, send a larger envelope. The postage requirements are as follows: For a B5 envelope also referred to as a C5, the postage is R3,90. For a B4 envelope, also referred to as A4, the postage is R4,89. Remember that postal rates are increased on April 1 each year, so, if you require your cards to be mailed to you monthly, send 12 envelopes in April each year or as required. After April each year the envelopes can no longer be used as they will carry insufficient postage.

The QSL bureau is part of the services a member receives. The outgoing QSL service is only available to SARL members.

The address of the QSL bureau is SARL QSL Bureau, P O Box 1721 STRUBENSVALLEI 1735.

CAN YOU HOST A SARL/HMO BEACON?

Radio amateurs are needed to host beacons in a number of rural towns. If you live in one of the following areas, please consider joining the beacon programme.

Swellendam, Western Cape; Lamberts Bay / Graafwater, Western Cape; Queenstown, Eastern Cape; Umtata, Eastern Cape; Sutherland, Northern Cape; Pofadder, Northern Cape; Kenhardt, Northern Cape; Kokstad, KwaZulu Natal; Louwsburg / Vryheid, KwaZulu Natal; Mmbatho, North West; Klerksdorp, North West; Bothaville, Free State.

To qualify for hosting a beacon you need to be licensed and be a member of the SARL. Please email Lee-Anne at beacon@hmo.ac.za if you would like to be part of the programme. There is no cost involved as the beacon is supplied free, complete with antenna, power supply and lightning protection.

The beacon service will be of great value in confirming actual propagation conditions in real time for research and prediction of the ionosphere. The Space Physics Group of the HMO includes an active ionospheric component, and provides ionospheric data for the purpose of Space Weather predictions, which includes HF propagation prediction. The HMO has recently become the Space Weather Regional Warning Centre for Africa, which includes amongst other parameters the provision of HF propagation predictions.

A number of volunteer radio amateurs will host beacons at their stations. A centralized database will be maintained that contains a record of each beacon, its host amateur and its time slot. A test beacon is in operation from the Krugersdorp area. Listen to it on 7 023 kHz. More details and useful links are on www.sarl.org.za.

ANOTHER SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER FOR MEMBERS WHO HAVE NOT YET RENEWED

As reported in last week's SARL News, membership invoices were mailed in June, with follow-up reminders in August and September. If you have not yet renewed your membership, please do it as soon as possible. Members who have not remitted their dues by the end of October will no longer receive Radio ZS or have access to the member-only section of the SARL web. Your membership is important for Amateur Radio; it is our collective voice through the SARL, the national Body for Amateur Radio, which needs to be strong and representative. Your membership makes that difference. If you are not a member yet, it is never too late to join. Application forms are available on www.sarl.org.za.

CLUBS INVITED TO REGISTER TO BECOME A REGIONAL ZU EXAMINATION CENTRE

Clubs affiliated to the SARL are invited to become regional ZU examination centres. After registration a club may arrange examinations for the entry level amateur radio license as frequently as required. Full details are available in the members' only section of the SARL web. Visit www.sarl.org.za, click on member button on the top left of the home page and enter the callsign and password.

The current arrangements to hold examinations nationally for all classes twice annually remain unaltered.

CQ HOU KOERS ON SATURDAY THE 20TH OF OCTOBER

CQ Hou Koers, the Voortrekkers' annual radio communications day, is taking place on Saturday the 20th of October. More than fifteen stations will be active countrywide. Please support this initiative and spare a few minutes to talk to the enthusiastic youngsters. All contacts are welcomed and a special QSL card is available.

If you are able to provide assistance to your local Voortrekker group, please contact Gerhard, ZS6GSC, at e-mail address gerjan@absamail.co.za or Andries, ZS6VL, e-mail andries.visagie@natref.com. For the latest news, see the forums section on the SARL website.

CLUB NEWS

The Pretoria Amateur Radio Club held their 77th AGM on Saturday the 29th September 2007. The new committee was elected with Almero du Pisani, ZS6LDP, as chairman. Almero will be assisted by the following members: Johan de Bruyn, ZS6JHB; Richard Peer, ZS6UK; Craig Symington, ZS6RH; Pierre Holtzhausen, ZS6PJH; Co-opted committee, members: Graham Reid, ZR6GJR; Johann de Beer, ZR6YV; Johan Lehman, ZS6JPL; Hans Kappetijn, ZS6KR; Willie Greyling, ZR6GJR. Roy Newton, ZS6XN; Tjerk Lammers, ZS6P; Andre van Tonder, ZS6BRC; Molly Peer, ZR6MOL; Doreen de Bruyn, ZR6DDB; Thobile Koni, ZS6TDK.

Thank you to the outgoing committee and welcome to the newly elected committee.

The Midlands Amateur Radio Club is planning to establish, on Saturday, 13th October, 2007, at 09:00, a ten week course in basic electronics. The venue is the Clubhouse, situated at the Natal Carbineers Drill Hall, in Geere Street, Pietermaritzburg. This plan has been widely advertised in the local press. Students will be charged R80 for the complete course, a sum which includes a free Course Manual. Those interested in this programme should contact Bert Cornell, ZS5MQ, on telephone number 033 344 3659.

PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the expected solar activity will be at very low levels. The geomagnetic field is expected to be quiet in general increasing to unsettled levels on 17 till 20 October. The expected Effective Sun Spot number for the coming week will be less than 5. Fortunately with the arrival of summer DX conditions are also

warming up a bit, that is if there is enough electricity to power your rig!

15 m and 20 m will provide best opportunities for DX. There is a possibility of 15 and 20 m openings towards India from about 14:00 CAT. There may be 20 m openings to Australia from about 06:00. From 15:00 there may be 15 and 20 m openings towards Europe. You may also give 10 m a try. From 18:00 there may be 15 and 80 m openings towards the USA.

For the CW and digital enthusiasts it will also be worth monitoring 10 MHz.

Locally conditions on 40 m are going to be good during the day and even 30 m may perform well over the longer distances.

It is once again time to work towards your 80 m WAZS award in the evenings. Remember that this is only a prediction and that HF always has the capability to surprise you. You will never know what you are missing unless you switch your rig on, listen and also call CQ.

Please visit www.spaceweather.co.za for further information.

DIARY OF EVENTS

13 October - Midlands Amateur Radio Club's Basic electronics course begins; 18 October - Class A RAE; 20 October - Deadline for comments on SARL 2008 Competition Handbook; 20 October - Voortekker's CQ Hou Koers; 20 and 21 October - JOTA and JOTI.

SARL News invites clubs and individuals to submit news stories of interest to radio amateurs and shortwave listeners. Submit news stories if possible in both English and Afrikaans to www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date.

The SARL also invites you to listen to the programme Amateur Radio Mirror International, on the air every Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 590 kHz. For the web stream and echolink by ZS6FCS visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links. A repeat transmission can be heard Mondays at 21:00 CAT on 3 215 kHz. Sentech sponsors the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

Today's South African Radio League news bulletin was compiled by Roger, ZR3RC, and transmitted by (your name and call sign).

Thank you for listening. 73.

/EX

========== Message Ends ========== To edit or remove your entry from this mailing list go to www.sarl.org.za/members/admin/maildat.asp

1679. GB2RS NEWS Sunday 14 October 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-13 19:00:25 UTC
From: Newsdesk@rsgb.org.uk
Message-ID: <200710131900.l9DJ09d29589@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 3784
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,uk.radio.amateur,rec.radio.info

1 GB2RS NEWS Sunday 14 October

The news headlines

* JOTA golden jubilee

* Sputnik celebrates 50th birthday

* GB2RS drops MT63 JOTA will be celebrating its golden jubilee over the weekend of 20 and 21 October. The theme for scouts this year is 'around the world in 50 hours'. Many special event stations are planned in the UK and worldwide. Around 130 UK special event callsigns have been issued.

As announced in the September RadCom, the RSGB is actively supporting JOTA with promotional materials. Packs containing leaflets, posters and associated resources, are available free of charge from RSGB HQ. To order a pack, please send a large stamped self-addressed envelope to the amateur radio department as soon as possible. Packs will be dispatched by return but delivery times cannot be guaranteed due to the current postal disruption.

As you may have read in the October issue of RadCom, Sputnik 1 celebrated its 50th anniversary on October 4. AMSAT heralded the event on the morning of 4 October by using AO-51 to retransmit the original Sputnik-1 telemetry. Once again listeners could hear the haunting beep-beep-beep from space.

For the last five years the GB2RS news has been transmitted using the MT63 data mode. It was transmitted on Sunday evenings at 2015 local time on 3600kHz and again at 2045 on 1840kHz. This proved popular initially, but a survey carried out recently has found that few people are now making use of it. This is probably because PC users are downloading the news from the RSGB web site at their convenience. It has therefore been decided that the MT63 data news bulletins will terminate after the transmissions on Sunday 28 October. Some experimental data bulletins will continue to be made on 5279kHz as part of the ongoing 5MHz Experiment. Any enquiries should be directed to the GB2RS News Manager Gordon, G3LEQ, on 01 565 652652.

In World War 2 the Colossus computer was created to help break Enigma coded messages. The originals were destroyed after the War, but a working example has recently been rebuilt. The work took 10 years, #1.2 million, and immense efforts from volunteers. To mark the completion of the rebuild, a special celebration will be held on 15 and 16 November at Bletchley Park. A series of messages will be enciphered on a WWII

Lorenz cipher machine. It is planned that the codes will be transmitted using six tone RTTY from the Heinz Nixdorf Computer Museum in Germany, in the same format transmitted in WWII. The signals will be received by a replica 'Y' station and fed to Colossus for decoding. The RSGB hope to bring you a report on the Colossus Mk 2 in a future issue of RadCom.

The November issue of RadCom will be posted during the week commencing 15 October. Due to the current disruptions within the postal service, deliveries may be delayed. Members are asked to be patient and allow extra time before contacting the RSGB to query non-delivery.

2 Members of the Wythall Amateur Radio Club and Contest Group will be taking part in the CQ World Wide DX SSB Contest. They will be on the air from the Pembrokeshire coast on October 27 and 28. The group will be using the club's callsign MW5W and enter the contest as a Multi-Multi entry with three stations. Some of the operators will be on the air before the contest, signing their own callsign. For more information log onto www.wythallradioclub.co.uk/.

And now for the details of rallies and events for the coming week

[Note to newsreaders: Please use your judgement on whether to read the 14 October event, based on your time slot and distance from the event.] On Sunday 14 October Great Lumley Amateur Radio Club are holding their rally from 10.00 at the Great Lumley Community Centre. For more information contact Nancy Bone, G7UUR, on 0191 477 0036 or email nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk. On Sunday 21 October Blackwood & District Amateur Radio Society is running its annual Amateur Radio Rally. The RSGB Regional Manager Gareth Price, GW3MPP, will be in attendance with the RSGB Book Stall. He will be making a presentation to the Blackwood & DARS, who are celebrating their 75th anniversary and the presentation to the winner of the RSGB CDXC Cup. For rally details contact Dave, GW4HBK, on 01495 228516 or by email to ddlewhbk@btinternet.com. More details of these and future events can be found on pages 88 and 89 of the October edition of RadCom. Now for the news of special events Warrington Amateur Radio Club will be celebrating its 60th anniversary year by operating the special call sign GB6WRS throughout the month of October. The station will be active on all bands each day of the month. The Galway Radio Experimenters Club will be running a special event station EI100MFT on 13 to 17 October from Clifden in Ireland. The club will be celebrating when Guglielmo Marconi sent his first commercial message from the station at Clifden. Special event station PA50JOTA will be active on 17 to 31 October from Nieuweroord to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the Jamboree On The Air. QSL via PA3EFR. The Border Rievers Amateur Radio Society will be operating as MX0BRS/Jota on 18 October, from Cramlington, participating in the JOTA weekend. The station will be on the air from 1000 till 1800, operating on HF, VHF and UHF on voice and CW modes. Full details for the event can be found on their website www.brars.co.uk. And now the HF DX news compiled from 425 DX News, the Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin and other sources.

Dave, G3TBK, will be active again using callsign J88DR from Wednesday 11 October until the end of the month. Activity will be on all HF Bands, using CW, SSB and RTTY. SSTV can be operated on request. QSL either direct to home call or via RSGB Bureau. Leo, IZ5FSA, Stefano, IW5DPF and Luca, I5IHE, will be active as S79LL, S79SO and S79LC from Praslin Island (AF-024), Seychelles on 14 to 19 October. QSL via home calls, direct only.

3 Look for Ermanno, SV0XAN/5, to be active from the islands of Lipsi, Agathonisi and Arkoi, Dodecanese, EU00 until 20 October. QSL via IK2WZD. John, KE6GFF, will be in Afghanistan for the third time and will operate from Kabul as T6EE from 18 October to 12 November. Look for him on or around 14210kHz. QSL via home call John Kountz, 1065 van Dyke Dr Laguna Beach, CA 92651, US. Igor, VE3ZF, Ken, VE3FDX, Bill, K5YG, Travis, W5GED, John, VA2MCJ and Eugene, N2AA, will be active from Orleans Island (NA-128) on 18 to 21 October. They will be signing VE3ZF/2 CW and SSB and W5GED/VE2 RTTY and PSK, while during the W/VE Islands QSO Party 20 to 21 October the callsign will be VE2IDX. QSL VE2IDX via VE3ZF, others via home call. Haru, JA1XGI, will be active as VK9GLX from Lord Howe Island (OC-004) on 19 to 22 October. He plans to operate CW, SSB and digital modes on 40, 30 and 20 metres. QSL via JA1XGI, direct or bureau or W8XGI direct only. Christoph, DK2CRN, (VK2AM) and George, DL1ECG, (VK2ALU) will be active from Australia until 27 October. QSL via home calls, direct or bureau. Now the contest news The RSGB 50MHz Contest takes place on 14 October from 0900 to 1200 on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number, locator and postcode. The RSGB 1.3 and 2.3GHz Activity takes place on 16 October from 2000 to 2230 on all modes. The exchange takes the form of RST, serial number and locator. The JARTS WW RTTY Contest takes place from 0000 on 20 October to 2359 on 21 October, on 3.5 and 28MHz bands, RTTY mode. The exchange takes the form of RST and age of operator. The Worked All Germany Contest takes place from 1500 on 20 October to 1459 on 21 October, on 3.5 to 28MHz bands, on CW and SSB. The exchange takes the form of RST and serial number. Now the solar factual data for the period from 1 October to 7 October, compiled by Neil Clarke, G0CAS For another week solar activity was once again very low. Like last week another small sunspot group appeared but nothing came of it. Solar flux levels varied little day to day and averaged 68 units. The 90 day solar flux on the 7th was 69 units, that's the same level as last week. X-ray flux levels remained yet again remained below the minimum level. Geomagnetic activity started at quiet levels but on the 3rd a coronal hole disturbance arrived and lasted through to the 4th. The 3rd was the most disturbed day with an Ap index of 18units. The rest of the period the geomagnetic field was quiet and the average was Ap 8 units. The ACE spacecraft saw solar wind speeds increase from 400 kilometres per second on the 2nd to 600 by the 4th. Particle densities were low throughout. Bz varied between minus 3 and plus 2 nanoTeslas on the quiet days and between minus 7 and plus 8 nanoTeslas during the disturbance. The increase in geomagnetic levels was enough to take the edge off HF propagation but not sufficiently for aurora at VHF. However, although there were very few signals on 28MHz, there were

occasional openings to Africa on 21 and 24MHz and to the Pacific and the Far East on 14MHz. Australia and New Zealand were

4 again workable on the lower bands by well-equipped stations around about 0600 to 0700UTC. And finally the solar forecast. This week solar activity is expected to continue at very low levels with no sign of an end to the present period of inactivity. When activity does increase it will happen without any warning and is almost impossible to forecast. Solar flux levels should be in the high 60's all week. Geomagnetic activity is expected to be quiet until around Wednesday when a coronal hole disturbance should arrive. Even though the disturbance is not expected to be strong, it should last until the weekend. MUFs during daylight hours at equal latitudes should be around 19MHz for the south and 16MHz for the north. The darkness hour lows should be about 8MHz. Levels could be slightly lower during the second half of the week. Paths this week to Japan should have a maximum usable frequency with a 50 per cent success rate of about 18MHz. The optimum working frequency with a 90 per cent success rate will be around 14MHz. The best time to try this path will be between 0800 and 1100 hours UTC. And that's all for this week from the propagation team.

5 Next, the Local News:

Please note that details of all RSGB-affiliated clubs and societies can be found on the RSGB website, including e-mail addresses

and website links where known.

[Note to newsreaders: Please read the local news items appropriate to the service area of your

transmission.]

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-EAST

and EAST ANGLIA On Sunday 14 October Southdown Amateur Radio Society is operating at the Beachy Head Site. Contact John, G3DQY, on 01424,424,319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

On Monday 15 October Burnham Beeches Radio Club is having a talk on test equipment for the amateur. Contact G4XDU, on 01628625720.

On Monday 15 October Surrey Radio Contact Club is having its Fix-It, advice, Chin Wag, Move-It-On evening. Contact Ray, G4FFY, on 020 8644 7589.

On Tuesday 16 October Maidenhead and District Amateur Radio Club is having a club night. Contact John, G8RYW, on 01628 628 463, or by email to g8ryw@tesco.net.

On Tuesday 16 October Stevenage and District Amateur Radio Society is having a software defined radio demo. Contact Neil, M0ARH, on 01438 217 077.

On Tuesday 16 October Verulam Radio Club is watching the video of the 3YOX DXpedition. Contact Norman, G8ATO, on 07773 628 912.

On Wednesday 17 October Chesham and District Amateur Radio Society is having a 2m pedestrian portable perambulation with cryptic clues set by G3XZG. Contact Terry, G0VFW, on 01442 506 344, or by email to terry.g0vfw@ntlworld.com.

On Wednesday 17 October Dover Radio Club is having an operating night. Contact Brian, G4SAU, by email to g4sau@DARC.org.uk.

On Wednesday 17 October Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is having a final planning session for JOTA. Contact Ken, M0KLS, on 02392 797 240.

On Wednesday 17 October Havering and District Amateur Radio Club is having a review of 2007 event pictures with Dave, M0TAZ. Contact Dave, 2E0EBV, on 07956 594 514.

On Wednesday 17 October Norfolk Amateur Radio Club is having an informal evening. Contact Mark Taylor, G0LGJ, on 01362 691099, or by email to narc@g0lgj.co.uk.

On Wednesday 17 October Southdown Amateur Radio Society is operating at the Halisham shack. Contact John, G3DQY, on 01424,424,319, or by email to vaughdqy@aol.com.

On Thursday 18 October Colchester Radio Amateurs is having a meeting at St Helena School. Contact Kevan 2E0WMG at colchesterradioamateurs@hotmail.co.uk or on 07766543784.

On Thursday 18 October Cray Valley Radio Society is having a visit to the vintage Wireless Museum with G0UKN. Contact Bob, BRS32525, on 020 8265 7735 after 8pm.

On Thursday 18 October Shefford and District Amateur Radio Society is having its autumn junk sale. Contact David, G8UOD, on 01234 742 757.

6 On Thursday 18 October Sutton and Cheam Radio Society is having a talk on radio astronomy by Evan Duffield, M3TJU. Contact John, G0BWV, on 020 8644 9945, or by email to info@scrs.org.uk.

On Friday 19 October Cambridge and District Amateur Radio Club is having part 2 of the aerial extravaganza by Mike, G8VCN. Contact David, G8JKV.

On Friday 19 October Mid-Sussex Amateur Radio Society is having its AGM and wine and cheese evening. Contact Sue, G6YPY, on 01273 845 103, or by email to sue@figgerit.co.uk.

On Friday 19 October Wey Valley Amateur Radio Group is taking a light hearted look at early electrics with Stan Casperd, G3XON. Details on the web at www.weyvalleyarg.org.uk.

On Saturday 20 October Fareham and District Amateur Radio Club is operating its JOTA station at Fort Widley from 10am. Operations will be

on 2m, HF, SSB and, if facilities permit, on Echolink and slow scan TV. Contact Ken, M0KLS, on 02392 797 240.

On Sunday 21 October Itchen Valley Amateur Radio Club is taking part in JOTA with Liz, M0ACL. Contact Liz, M0ACL, on 02380 254599.

NEWS FOR THE SOUTH-WEST On Monday 15 October Appledore and District Amateur Radio Club is having a radio quiz set by Dave, G0GPK. Contact Beryl, G1SVP.

On Monday 15 October Wyke Regis Training Centre is commencing its last Foundation Course of the year. The course will run from 6.30pm till 8.30pm for 4 to 5 Monday evenings. Contact Neville, M5NEV, by email to m5nev@wykeradio.org.

A new radio club is being proposed for Bath and surrounding areas. On Wednesday 17 October there will be a meeting for all interested parties to discuss the proposals for Bath Amateur Radio Club. All amateurs from the area are encouraged to participate. For more information please contact Rob on 01225 351 016 or by email to robpegs@hotmail.com.

On Wednesday 17 October Exmouth Amateur Radio Club is having an operating night. Contact g0uil@eclipse.co.uk.

On Wednesday 17 October South Bristol Amateur Radio Club is discussing club events and contest planning for 2008. Contact Len, G4RZY, on 01275 834 282.

On Wednesday 17 October Taunton and District Amateur Radio Club is preparing for JOTA. Contact William, G3WNI, on 01823 666 234, or by email to g3wni@btinternet.com.

On Wednesday 17 October Thornbury and South Gloucestershire Amateur Radio Club is having a video night. Contact Tony, G0WMB, by email to tonytsgarc@beeb.net.

On Thursday 18 October Swindon and District Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on the Somerset range of kits by Tim Walford, G3PCJ. Contact Mike, M5CBS, on 01793 826 465.

On Thursday 18 October Yeovil Amateur Radio Club is having a talk on vintage broadcast receivers by M0WOB. Contact Gary, 2E0BFJ, by email to g.swain@tesco.net.

On Friday 19 October Bournemouth Radio Society is having its AGM. Contact John, G0HAT, on 07719 700 771.

On Sunday 21 October Taunton and District Amateur Radio Club is taking part in JOTA from Huish Wood, operating as GB0THW. Contact William, G3WNI, on 01823 666 234, or by email to g3wni@btinternet.com.

7

NEWS FOR THE MIDLANDS On Monday 15 October Gloucester Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is having a mini DF Hunt. Contact Anne, 2E1GKY, on

01452 548478, daytime.

On Tuesday 16 October Derby and District Amateur Radio Society is having an illustrated talk by Keith, G3TTC, on broadcast transmitting aerials. Contact Martin, G3SZJ, on 01332 556 875.

On Tuesday 16 October Loughborough and District Amateur Radio Club is on the air. Contact Chris, G1ETZ, on 01509 504 319.

On Tuesday 16 October Wythall Radio Club is having its AGM. Contact Chris, G0EYO, on 07710 412 819, or by email to g0eyo@blueyonder.co.uk, or on the web at www.wythallradioclub.co.uk.

On Wednesday 17 October Telford and District Amateur Radio Society is having a nostalgia night, where members are invited to bring something old and interesting. Contact Mike, G3JKX, on 01952 299 677, or by email to mjstreetg3jkx@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Thursday 18 October Salop Amateur Radio Society is having its pre AGM discussion. Contact Glenda, G1YJB, on 01939 235 412.

On Thursday 18 October Solihull Amateur Radio Society is having its AGM at the Shirley Centre, 274 Stratford Road. Contact Paul, G8AYY, on 0121 783 2996.

On Friday 19 October Hucknall Rolls-Royce Amateur Radio Club is having a 2 meter VHF mobile fox hunt. Details on the web at www.hrrarc.com.

NEWS FOR THE NORTH OF ENGLAND

On Sunday 14 October Great Lumley Amateur Radio And Electronics Society is holding its rally at the Great Lumley Community Centre, Front Street, Great Lumley, near Chester Le Street, County Durham. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

On Monday 15 October Sheffield Amateur Radio Club is having a talk by G3VOT on antennas for new people. Contact Trevor, M0TWS.

On Monday 15 October Thornton Cleveleys Amateur Radio Society is having its AGM. Contact Jack, G4BFH, by email to jack.duddington@btinternet.com.

On Tuesday 16 October Chester and District Radio Society is having a talk on tunnel communications by Eric Walton and Jock McEwan. Details on the web at www.chesterdars.org.uk, info@chesterdars.org.uk.

On Tuesday 16 October Pontefract District Amateur Radio Society is having a construction evening, making low pass filters for HF transmitters. A PCB and kit of parts will be provided. Contact Colin, G0NQE, on 01977 677 006, info@pontefractradioclub.org.

On Tuesday 16 October Stockport Radio Society is having a surplus equipment review evening. Contact David, M1ANT, on 0161 456 7832.

On Wednesday 17 October Denby Dale Amateur Radio Society is having its AGM. Contact David, G6OCD, on 0700 5947317, or by email to david.g6ocd@ntlworld.com.

On Wednesday 17 October Great Lumley Amateur Radio and Electronics Society is holding a post mortem on the rally. Contact Nancy, 0191 477 0036, 07990 760 920, or by email to nancybone2001@yahoo.co.uk.

8 On Thursday 18 October Grimsby Amateur Radio Society is having its annual junk sale. Contact Brian, G4DXB, on 01472 231 383.

On Thursday 18 October Wakefield and District Amateur Radio Society is on the air. Contact Dave, G4CLI, on 07748 221 855, or by email to g4cli@hotmail.co.uk.

On Friday 19 October South Manchester Radio and Computer Club is having a video show "The Spitfire Fighter". Contact Ron, on 0161 969 3999.

On Friday 19 October Tynemouth Radio Club is having a virtual Morse and JOTA briefing by Glen G0SBN. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Saturday 20 October Tynemouth Radio Club is taking part in Jamboree on the air with Tynemouth Scouts. Contact Tony, G8YFA, by email to tonyregnart@blueyonder.co.uk.

On Saturday 20 October Wakefield and District Amateur Radio Society is taking part in Jamboree on the air with the Wakefield 23rd Scout Group. Contact Dave, G4CLI, on 07748 221 855, or by email to g4cli@hotmail.co.uk.

NEWS FOR SCOTLAND

On Wednesday 17 October Paisley (YMCA) Amateur Radio Club is having a demonstration of how to operate the shack radio gear. Contact Jim, GM3UWX.

On Thursday 18 October Aberdeen Amateur Radio Society is having mini talks. Contact Lewis, GM4AJR, on 01224 575 663, or on the web at www.aars.freeserve.co.uk.

On Friday 19 October Cockenzie and Port Seton Amateur Radio Club is having a video night. Contact Bob, GM4UYZ, on 01875 811 723.

On Friday 19 October West Of Scotland Amateur Radio Society is having its technical forum. Details on the web at www.wosars.org.

On Saturday 20 October Moray Firth Amateur Radio Society is taking part in JOTA from Fochabers. Contact Jim, MM0SMD, on 01340 820 134.

NEWS FOR WALES On Tuesday 16 October Carmarthen Amateur Radio Society is having a talk on air traffic engineering. Contact Les, GW8PSJ, on 01239 811 922.

NEWS FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

On Saturday 20 October Bangor and District Amateur Radio Club is taking part in Jamboree on the air. Contact Mike, GI4XSF, on 028 4277 2 383.

And that's the end of this week's GB2RS news broadcast,

prepared by the Radio Society of Great Britain.

1680. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-13 21:26:07 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <13h2duv7p432a15@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3785

"Steve Bonine" wrote

> I was also first licensed in 1963 and I think I had three crystals, but
> one was 3706. That must have been a common frequency for a surplus xtal.

Gosh, Steve - I wonder if we worked each other. My antenna was so poor that, when I used an EICO VFO as a transmitter hooked up to a 100 ft random receiving antenna (with no matching system whatsoever) -- the EICO did better! With it, I worked 14 states including Oklahoma (from the NYC area). (Then I got an "OO" card in the mail, chastising me for using a VFO as a novice. I guess "OO" stands for "OH-OH!")

The Johnson Challenger was, on 80m, hooked up to a 40m vertical dipole hanging from the roof ledge of an 8 story apartment roof. Yep, it was right up against the brick wall. I was on the 5th floor. What a moron... ;-) See, I couldn't find any 40m crystals, so I got one for 80, and.... But that Challenger could actually load a 40m antenna on 80.

Thus the license class "novice."

Howard

1681. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-13 23:13:30 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1192314413.242707.34220@v23g2000prn.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3786

Some stories from those days:

My first rig was a single 6V6GT in the grid-plate circuit, running maybe 10 W with one xtal on 3726 kHz. Dummy load was a Christmas tree bulb, the big 7-1/2 watt kind. Antenna was a wire out to the crabapple tree. Ground was the radiator pipe. J-37 key and knife-switch TR. Antenna-current indicator was a pilot lamp in series with the lead-in.

But the power supply was from an old Philco TV. Big power transformer, 5U4, cap and chokes. Good for at least 400 mills and I wasn't drawing even 40.

Only parts bought new were the knife switch, the xtal and the 6V6GT. Everything else was scavenged from the trash or acquired second hand.

Still have the key and the 6V6GT.

Another mentioned the cost of exams and nervousness at the FCC office. I was lucky in that the FCC office was just a subway ride away. But a school kid had to wait for summer or the rare school holiday that wasn't a Federal holiday, because FCC exams were only given Monday through Wednesday mornings. And the $9 cost was a big deal, too.

The first time I went for the General, early summer 1968, I flunked the code because the examiner couldn't read my "Palmer Method" longhand well enough to find the required 65 consecutive correct characters. But he did find 25, so he let me take the written exam and I wound up with a simultaneous Novice/Tech, which was OK back then. WN3 call on HF and WA3 on VHF.

So I went home and taught myself to block-print, and listened to W1AW until I could copy the 18 wpm bulletins solid from one end to the other. Also saved up every spare penny to get the $9 exam fee. Went back to FCC in midsummer and passed 13 wpm no problem.

As I was about to leave, the FCC examiner said "why don't you try Advanced while you're here?" Though I hadn't prepared for it, there was no way a 14 year old kid would say no to The Man From FCC, so I tried it - and passed.

Two years later I was back for the Extra. But that's another story..

Tomorrow it will be 40 years since the license arrived in the mail...

73 de Jim, N2EY

1682. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-14 01:29:13 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <13h2s6taklni0d5@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3787

<N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote

> As I was about to leave, the FCC examiner said "why don't you try
> Advanced while you're here?" Though I hadn't prepared for it, there
> was no way a 14 year old kid would say no to The Man From FCC, so I
> tried it - and passed.

That white shirt and tie was pretty intimidating, wasn't it? I think it was in 1968 that I went to the NYC office for my Advanced. I knew I failed... but the man in the white shirt went over my answer sheet and casually said, "You passed." "I DID!?" was my trembling response.... "Yeah." Oh. I walked out of the exam room, went down the hall, threw my pencil in the air over my back and kept going.

Now exams are given in people's living rooms....

> Tomorrow it will be 40 years since the license arrived in the mail...

Congratulations, Jim. It's quite a "club" we belong to.

Howard N7SO

1683. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-14 14:03:16 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13h48ckhed9nf69@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3788

Howard Lester wrote:

> That white shirt and tie was pretty intimidating, wasn't it?

One of the most rewarding experiences of my ham radio career was serving as reader for a blind ham who was taking her Extra exam in Chicago, just before the FCC stopped administering them. She wanted to take the exam from the FCC. She passed. I felt a tiny part of her pride.

I suppose that the VE system is a positive and reasonable step for the hobby. It sure is easier to convince class attendees to come to a VE session than to travel to the nearest FCC examination location, so it's obvious that we get more new hams with the VE system than having the FCC administer the tests. Not to mention all the tax dollars that we're saving. But the new hams are missing a memory that all of us old timers have of being intimidated by the FCC exam process, and that's just a tiny bit sad.

Times change.

73, Steve KB9X

1684. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-14 14:14:05 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1192364886.879850.272950@z24g2000prh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3789

On Oct 13, 9:29?pm, "Howard Lester" <heyles...@dakotacom.net> wrote:

> That white shirt and tie was pretty intimidating, wasn't it?

Not at all. Not to me, anyway.

What was intimidating was the fact that the Examiner was The Man From FCC, who had sole power to say "You passed" or "You failed".
And if you failed, it was a 30 day minimum wait until you could try again, plus another $9 fee.

> but the man in the white shirt went over my answer sheet and
> casually said,
> "You passed." "I DID!?" was my trembling response....
> "Yeah." Oh. I
> walked out of the exam room, went down the hall, threw my pencil
> in the air
> over my back and kept going.

I think I had a built-in advantage.

As a kid in school, taking tests was something I was used to, at least weekly. One or two more tests was no big thing in itself.

Once the two-year experience requirement was met, I went for Extra. Late summer 1970, same FCC office, same examiner. I was by far the youngest person in the crowded waiting room that day. When The Man opened the exam room door at 8 AM sharp and asked for anyone taking the Extra, I was the only one trying for it.

He led me to the code test table and proceeded to open a locked filing cabinet and take out the little code machine and the paper tapes it used that contained The Actual Test. Plus 'phones, a legal pad and #2 pencil.

That little code machine used different-sized drive rollers to change speeds, btw, and there was a stack of test tapes for it.

I got the standard instructions: Test is five minutes of code, examiner must find 100 consecutive correct legible characters (which amounts to 1 minute at 20 wpm) to pass, when the code stops put the pencil down immediately or you fail.

Examiner asks if I'm ready, I manage a "yes" and put on the cans. He says "Go!" and starts the machine.

I started right off copying in block letters. The code is loud and clear and machine made, easier than copying off the air. After a bit I

settle down and start to think that it's easy - I'm getting every letter!

I see out of the corner of my eye that The Man is looking out the window, then over at me, Then he comes around and looks over my shoulder as I copy. Bends down to get a better look.

Then he walks around the table and shuts off the machine, even though the code has only been going for less than two minutes.

I look up, startled. I'd heard they always gave you the full five minutes....

"That was easy, huh kid?" asks The Man.

"Uh, yeah..." is all I can manage.

"It should be" says The Man. "That was only 13. Here's 20"

And he swapped drive spindles on the code machine and started it again.

Yes, I passed.

> Now exams are given in people's living rooms....

Nothing new about that. I took the Novice tests in K3NYT's dining room. Spring-summer 1967.

> > Tomorrow it will be 40 years since the license arrived in the
> > mail...

Which makes it today..

> Congratulations, Jim. It's quite a "club" we belong to.

Yup. But consider how few we are.

There were about 250,000 US hams back then. If we lost just 1% of those licensed then per year, only about 167,000 of us are left, out of over 655,000 US hams today.

If we lost 2% per year, only about 111,000 of us are left.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1685. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-14 15:59:54 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <13h4f7arsd02v1f@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3790

"Steve Bonine" wrote
> But the new hams are missing a memory that all of us old timers have of
> being intimidated by the FCC exam process, and that's just a tiny bit sad.

Steve, I think you're right - very right - especially after reading Jim's posting that followed yours. It's an experience that few of us hams share any more.

N7SO

1686. IRTS Radio News Bulletin, Sunday October 14th 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-14 20:00:14 UTC
From: news at irts dot ie <devnull@panix.com>
Message-ID: <200710142000.l9EK07k21102@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 3791
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info

Irish Radio Transmitters Society
Radio News Bulletin

Sunday October 14th 2007

Shannon Basin Radio Club Sprint Challenge

The Shannon Basin Radio club is again running its annual one-day Open, Fixed, Challenge for EI residents. This challenge is open to all licenced operators and short wave listeners, and will be held on the 4th of November 2007 from 14:00 to 18:00 Hours.

The purpose of the challenge is to encourage radio operators and short wave listeners to be active on the H.F bands. The challenge will have three modes of operation, and the winner in each mode will be awarded with the following.

The Lough Allen Shield will be awarded to the highest score in SSB. The Lough Ree Shield will be awarded to the highest score in CW (A1A). The Lough Derg Shield will be awarded to the highest score for SWL.

The above winners will also receive a personal trophy.

To receive a copy of the rules for the above challenge, please send a stamped address envelope to the contest manager EI6HW, Noel Mulvihill, Hillquarter, Coosan, Athlone, Co Westmeath or e-mail
�nfmulvihill at eircom dot net�.

CQIR

Logs are continuing to roll in from all over the world for the CQIR Contest. If you visit the IRTS web site you will see a list of logs received as well as the number of entries to date in the two prize draws. We will also have shortly on the website, details of the county and date of emigration as sent by the overseas Irish stations, it makes fascinating reading. And just a reminder to all stations who participated to send in their logs by email as soon as possible for inclusion in the results and the draws.

Marconi Clifden Celebrations

On the 17th of October 1907 Guglielmo Marconi sent his first commercial message from the then new station at Clifden, Ireland. This October in celebration of this historic event members of the Galway Radio Experimenters Club is running a special event station until this coming Wednesday the 17th from Clifden. The club has been issued the call sign EI100MFT for the event, MFT been the last call sign used on the original station.

On Wednesday they will be making a special linkup with the Marconi sister station in Glace Bay, Nova Scotia. Part of this linkup will be an exchange of greetings between President Mary McAleese and Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia the Honourable Mayann E. Francis. The group will also be honoured to have Princess Electra Marconi present as she is coming to Clifden for the festival along with an Exhibit from the Marconi Foundation in Bologna. The Galway Radio Experimenters Club will also be presenting a display of vintage equipment. More details on the festival can be found at www.clifden.ie. Visitors to the station are more than welcome and if you would like to participate this can also be arranged. For further information please contact Enda Broderick (II2II) on 086-8676410 or email: ﷺenda dot Broderick at lightnet dot ieﷺ.

Waterford Rally

The Waterford Radio and Electronics Rally will take place next Sunday the 21st of October at the Woodlands Hotel on the Dunmore Road in Waterford. South East Communications and Long Communications will be at the rally. The IRTS, AREN and a bring-and-buy stand will also feature.

Doors open at 11 a.m. and admission is 5 Euro, accompanied children are admitted free of charge. For details including a directions map, visit the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group web site on www.searg.com.

Upcoming Rallies

The Foyle and District Rally will take place on Sunday the 4th of November 2007 at the White Horse Hotel, Derry. For more information visit www.mn0aku.org.uk.

The Mayo Radio Rally will take place on Sunday the 18th of November in the Belmount Hotel, Knock, Co. Mayo. For more information contact Padraic Baynes, EI9JA @ QTHR.

South Dublin Radio Club

This year's South Dublin Radio Club Christmas Party will take place on Tuesday the 11th of December. After last year's success, the venue will remain the same; "The Morgue", Tempelogue from 8.00 p.m. until late.

Members of other clubs and visitors are very welcome to this social event. It's always a great turnout. Limited free food will be available for paid up members while visitors can choose from the bar menu up to 9.00 p.m.

The club will then go on Christmas holidays until the return on the 8th of January

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Items for inclusion in next weeks Radio News should be forwarded to Mark Wall, EI7IS at QTHR or by phone to 051-853806 or 087-6302026. Items for the radio news can also be faxed to 087 5 6302026. News should be submitted via e-mail to "news at irts dot ie" for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Friday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday's bulletin.

1687. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-14 20:14:50 UTC
From: The Shadow <Cranston@CobaltClub.com>
Message-ID: <mZrQi.7564$W06.1129@newsfe17.phx>
Source record: 3792

"Howard Lester" <heylester@dakotacom.net> wrote in message
news:13h4f7arsd02v1f@corp.supernews.com...
> "Steve Bonine" wrote
>> But the new hams are missing a memory that all of us old timers have of
>> being intimidated by the FCC exam process, and that's just a tiny bit
>> sad.
>
> Steve, I think you're right - very right - especially after reading Jim's
> posting that followed yours. It's an experience that few of us hams share
> any more.
>
> N7SO
>
Only licensed 30 years ago, but took the exam before the steely-eyed FCC examiner at BATTERY Street in San Francisco. Back then, it was a lot tougher to get a Ham License than it was to join the US Navy hi hi. A memorable life experience. And the several week wait for the ticket in the mail was unforgettable as well.

Lamont Callsign withheld in the swampy waters of the news groups (;-)

1688. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-14 20:16:14 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1192387932.305968.153050@v23g2000prn.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3793

On Oct 14, 10:03?am, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
>
> I suppose that the VE system is a positive and reasonable
> step for the
> hobby. It sure is easier to convince class attendees to come
>to a VE
> session than to travel to the nearest FCC examination location,
> so it's
> obvious that we get more new hams with the VE system than
> having the FCC
> administer the tests.

I don't think it's obvious at all. Look at the growth in US amateur
radio over the decades, and the VE system by itself didn't really make
a noticeable difference in the number of new hams.

Remember too that in the mid-to-late 1970s the FCC offered
hams two test options:

1) Travel to an FCC exam point

2) Get a certain minimum number of people lined up for the
test, and FCC would send an examiner

Most hamfests above a certain size had FCC exam sessions
in that time period. Clubs and classes would have periodic exams, too.
All free.

> Not to mention all the tax dollars that we're
> saving.

That is the only reason we have the VE system, IMHO.
The FCC got unpaid volunteers to do almost all the work of test
preparation and administration, instead of paying federal
employees to do it.

> But the new hams are missing a memory that all of us old timers
> have of being intimidated by the FCC exam process, and that's
> just a tiny bit sad.

Given the choice, I'd rather have the tests be really good ones
that are readily accessible, with as little intimidation as possible.

I think the main effect the old system had on me (and probably many
others) was that, since it was somewhat difficult/expensive
to get to an FCC exam session, and the results of failure could be
rather dire, we tended to be way overprepared for the exams, and

surprised that they weren't as tough as we'd feared once we actually got to them.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1689. rec.radio.amateur.moderated Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-15 06:00:08 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines-1-1192428002@panix.com>
Source record: 3794
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info,rec.answers,news.answers

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Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines
Revision: 1.3 2007/07/28 14:56:26
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rram/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

Welcome to rec.radio.amateur.moderated! This is a moderated newsgroup
for amateur radio operators and other people having an interest in the
Amateur Radio Service, as defined by national regulations and
international treaties. Following are the posting guidelines for this
newsgroup.

This message includes the following sections:

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter
2. Additional posting guidelines
2.1 Netiquette guidelines
2.2 Posting form requirements
2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files
2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting
2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources
2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability to hold
an amateur radio license
2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling
2.8 Guidelines regarding civility
2.9 Other unacceptable topics

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1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter

rec.radio.amateur.moderated is an inclusive on-line community of amateur
radio operators and other people having an interest in the Amateur Radio
Service. Participants are invited to engage in open discussion of
amateur radio issues and exchange information about participating in the
hobby/service, in an atmosphere of civility, friendship, and fun.

Acceptable topics include but, are not necessarily limited to, questions
and discussions about amateur radio licensing, regulations, tips on
various aspects of setting up an amateur radio station, and sharing
operating experiences and insights.

Unacceptable posts include, but are not limited to, buy/sell/trade
posts, posts that are off-topic to the Amateur Radio Service, posts
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promoting or defending unlawful activities, etc. Crossposts of regular discussion articles between rec.radio.amateur.moderated and other discussion newsgroups are not permitted.

Frequently-Asked-Questions lists and other information/bulletin/ announcement postings may be crossposted to rec.radio.info, rec.answers, and news.answers only with prior approval of the moderators of those newsgroups. In all such cases, an appropriate "Followup-To" header, containing only rec.radio.amateur.moderated, will be added by the moderators if one is not already provided.

Posters are encouraged to state their own views and share their experiences, but to refrain from making assumptions about the motivations of other newsgroup participants. Posters are expected to maintain a basic tone of civility. Prohibited uncivil discourse includes, but is not limited to, name calling.

Posts containing unsolicited advice questioning the right, worthiness, suitability and/or readiness of any individual (or members of any group) to be an amateur radio operator are unacceptable in this newsgroup. If an individual chooses to post asking for advice on when or whether to obtain an amateur radio license, or to participate in any type of lawful activity in the Amateur Radio Service, respondents should be careful to address their comments only to the original poster and not explicitly generalize to others in similar situations.

Similarly, posts that arbitrarily declare certain classes of amateur radio licenses, or certain members of national amateur radio societies (e.g., American Radio Relay League, Radio Amateurs of Canada, Radio Society of Great Britain, Wireless Institute of Australia, etc.), to be more or less worthy than others, are not permitted. Posts that politely encourage individuals to join their local amateur radio society, or to upgrade to higher classes of amateur radio license in order to enjoy greater operating privileges, are permitted, however. Posts that contain reasoned, civil, and fact-based discussion of the activities and internal politics of national amateur radio societies are also permitted.

Buy/Sell/Trade and Commercial Policy:

Posts containing offers to buy, sell, or trade are not permitted on rec.radio.amateur.moderated. The rec.radio.swap newsgroup was created for this purpose, and should be used instead. All such articles will be rejected by the moderators with the advice to re-post to that newsgroup.

Postings that are entirely commercial press releases, advertisements, or other public relations campaigns will not be permitted. Relatively unbiased announcements or reviews of new amateur radio-related products or services may be permitted at the discretion of the moderators. Such posters are asked to disclose their financial or professional interest, if any, in such products or services.

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2. Additional Posting Guidelines

2.1 Netiquette guidelines

Participants who are new to Usenet should familiarize themselves with the "netiquette" of Usenet as well as the particular posting guidelines for this group. Several useful posts for "newbies" can be found on the newsgroup news.announce.newusers or on the WWW at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/by-newsgroup/news/news.announce.newusers.html

Particularly helpful articles are:
Welcome to Usenet!
Rules for posting to Usenet
Hints on writing style for Usenet
A Primer on How to Work With the Usenet Community
Emily Postnews Answers Your Questions on Netiquette
Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Usenet

2.2 Posting form requirements

Any article that falls into any of the following categories will be automatically rejected:

A) Articles that contain original text of more than 75 characters per line
B) Crossposted articles to newsgroups not included in these Guidelines
C) Articles that contain more than 400 lines
D) Encoded binary files (except PGP and other short digital signatures)
E) Attachments to posts
F) Articles containing obscene language
G) Articles from individuals who have been suspended or banned from the newsgroup

2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files

Many people close each article they write with a few lines of common text. This may be a cute quip or quote, or may include information about their family, contact information, or disclaimers required by their employer, for example.

Signature files used on rec.radio.amateur.moderated posting must be no longer than 8 lines.

The content of a poster's signature need not be relevant to amateur radio, but it must not violate any of the other posting guidelines. (For example, name-calling that would not be acceptable in the body of a message is also unacceptable in a signature.) Posters may include Uniform Resource Locators (URL's) and business addresses in signature files, provided they comply with all the other guidelines regarding signatures.

2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting

Posts more than 20 lines long that also have more than 75% quoted text will be carefully reviewed by a moderator to determine if that degree of quoting is warranted. Posts with excessive quoted text may be rejected.

Posters must show a reasonable effort to trim the post they are replying to and to include just enough material to establish context. "Me too!" posts are discouraged, and, when posted, must edit the quoted material significantly.

2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources

Unsolicited announcements and pointers to web sites that are strictly commercial press releases, advertisements, or other public relations campaigns, are not permitted. However, a pointer to a website or other external source of information is permitted and encouraged in cases where it is relevant to an existing thread, with appropriate context being given in the post. A URL with no information about what a user should expect to find there will be rejected. A pointer to information that is off-charter for rec.radio.amateur.moderated will be rejected, as will a pointer which itself does not meet the rec.radio.amateur.moderated guidelines (such as a URL containing embedded name-calling).

Moderators are not responsible for verifying the contents of any external information source.

2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability hold an amateur radio license

Identifiable groups and individuals may not be asked/told/etc. not to obtain an amateur radio license, or to only obtain certain classes of amateur radio license. It is not permissible to make statements that a person or members of a specific group "should" not, or should not be allowed to, become an amateur radio operator.

Solicited advice of this type is permissible; however, posters must be careful not to explicitly generalize to others who are in some way "like" the poster asking the question. Stick to the individual asking for advice.

It is acceptable to discuss verified violations, documented in criminal convictions or other government enforcement actions, by a person or members of a specific group.

2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling

Nastiness addressed at a person is considered name-calling. Criticizing a person's *actions* is not, provided that it is done in a civil manner.

Attacks on an action which by their very nature include an accusation against the person's character are not acceptable. For example, "That's a lie" implies an intentional prevarication, and is considered name-calling. Acceptable ways of questioning the truth of a poster's statement include the more tactful "I don't think that's true," "I believe you are mistaken because..." or even simply "That's not true."

"That's not true and you know it" crosses back over into name-calling, however.

2.8 Guidelines regarding civility

By charter, posters are expected to maintain a civil tone in all their postings. The guidelines on name-calling cover part of that requirement, but not all of it.

In general, posters are expected to consider the reputations of other participants, and refrain from making unnecessary accusations or assumptions about the motivations of others. A good rule of thumb is to phrase your comments as your opinion -- "I think..." "It seems to me that..." "This makes me wonder whether..." etc...

Posters are expected to make factual claims, to debate topics openly and in good faith, and to accept honest criticism, all without provocation or prevarication. At least one professional organization, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), has recognized that such fair dealings are necessary components of ethical conduct, and has incorporated them into its Code of Ethics:

http://www.ieee.org/portal/pages/about/whatis/code.html

Though the Amateur Radio Service is not a professional endeavor, the moderators strongly feel that the IEEE Code of Ethics is also a worthwhile set of guiding principles for participants in the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup.

Posters are not required to support the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). However, they are expected to adhere to the spirit of the other parts of the ARRL's "Amateur's Code":

http://www.arrl.org/acode.html

2.9 Other unacceptable topics

Participants are reminded that the charter also prohibits posts promoting or defending unlawful operating practices.

Posts may discuss whether operating practices are unlawful, or engage in reasoned debate over why certain operating practices should or should not be unlawful. Posts may discuss enforcement actions, such as by the Federal Communications Commission in the United States or similar government agencies in other countries, and evidence gathered by parties such as Official Observers in support of complaints about unlawful operation.

Discussions of what practices constitute unlawful operation in the Amateur Radio Service should be limited to *factual* descriptions of the laws in various jurisdictions. Posters' *opinions* as to what practices they consider unlawful are not permitted. In particular, posters are cautioned not to extrapolate their country's laws and regulations to those in other parts of the world, as they may be quite different.

Posts that entirely concern themselves with other radio services or hobbies, such as Citizen's Band, General Mobile Radio Service/Family Radio Service, and Scanner or Shortwave Listening, are considered off-topic to the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup. Newsgroups such as rec.radio.cb, rec.radio.scanner, and/or rec.radio.shortwave may be more appropriate venues for such posts.

Posts that attempt to publicly criticize moderators or moderation | decisions in the newsgroup itself are also not permitted, as stated in | our original newsgroup charter. Please direct any such critical | feedback to our administrative contact address at the bottom of this | article, where it will be carefully considered by an appeals team of | moderators. This team is distinct from the initial team of moderators | that approves or disapproves article submissions, and thus can provide | independent oversight of moderation decisions. |

Similarly, if you see an obviously inappropriate article in our | newsgroup, please assume that it was a mistake or a direct forgery. The | moderation team makes every effort to protect the newsgroup from such | incidents, but they do happen, albeit rarely. You may also submit | feedback to the same address regarding such articles in our newsgroup, | but it is likely that our monitoring software and procedures have | already detected it, and we are actively handling the problem. Please | resist "piling on" with followups to the newsgroup when these incidents | occur, so that we don't have to reject such articles. |

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-amateur-moderated-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the misc.kids.moderated Posting Guidelines.)

1690. ARS License Numbers September 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-15 12:30:23 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1192449078.612159.116380@e34g2000pro.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3795

These are the number of current,
unexpired FCC-issued amateur
radio licenses held by individuals
on the stated dates, and the
percentage of the total number
of active licenses that class contains.

Percentages may not add up to exactly
100.0% due to rounding.

These totals do not include licenses
that have expired but are in the grace
period, nor do they include club, military
and other station-only licenses.

Effective April 15, 2000, FCC no longer issued
new Novice, Technician Plus and Advanced
class licenses, so the numbers of those license
classes have declined steadily since then.

Also since April 15, 2000, FCC has renewed all
existing Technician Plus licenses as Technician.
It is therefore informative to consider the totals of
the two classes, since the Technician class
includes a significant number of Technician Plus
licenses renewed as Technician.

On February 23, 2007, the last Morse Code
test element, the 5 wpm receiving test, was
eliminated as a requirement.

The ARS License Numbers:

As of May 14, 2000:

Novice- 49,329 (7.3%)
Technician - 205,394 (30.4%)
Technician Plus - 128,860 (19.1%)
General - 112,677 (16.7%)
Advanced - 99,782 (14.8%)
Extra - 78,750 (11.7%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 334,254 (49.5%)

Total all classes - 674,792

As of February 22, 2007:

Novice - 22,896 (3.5%)
Technician - 293,508 (44.8%)
Technician Plus - 30,818 (4.7%)
General - 130,138 (19.9%)
Advanced - 69,050 (10.5%)
Extra - 108,270 (16.5%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 324,326 (49.5%)

Total all classes - 654,680

As of September 4, 2007:

Novice - 21,341 (3.3%)
Technician - 289,021 (44.1%)
Technician Plus - 24,602 (3.8%)
General - 142,286 (21.7%)
Advanced - 66,923 (10.2%)
Extra - 111,413 (17.0%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 313,623 (47.8%)

Total all classes - 655,586

As of September 15, 2007:

Novice - 21,254 (3.2%)
Technician - 289,491 (44.1%)
Technician Plus - 24,255 (3.7%)
General - 142,395 (21.7%)
Advanced - 66,841 (10.2%)
Extra - 111,477 (17.0%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 313,746 (47.8%)

Total all classes - 655,713

As of September 23, 2007:

Novice - 21,182 (3.2%)
Technician - 289,750 (44.2%)
Technician Plus - 24,006 (3.7%)
General - 142,426 (21.7%)
Advanced - 66,681 (10.2%)
Extra - 111,522 (17.0%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 313,756 (47.9%)

Total all classes - 655,567

Changes:

>From May 14, 2000, to February 22, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 26,433
Technician - increase of 88,114
Technician Plus - decrease of 98,042

General - increase of 17,461
Advanced - decrease of 30,732
Extra - increase of 29,520

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 9,928

Total all classes - decrease of 20,112

>From May 14, 2000, to September 4, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 27,988
Technician - increase of 83,627
Technician Plus - decrease of 104,258
General - increase of 29,609
Advanced - decrease of 32,859
Extra - increase of 32,663

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 20,631

Total all classes - decrease of 19,206

>From May 14, 2000, to September 15, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 28,075
Technician - increase of 84,097
Technician Plus - decrease of 104,605
General - increase of 29,718
Advanced - decrease of 32,941
Extra - increase of 32,727

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 20,508

Total all classes - decrease of 19,079

>From May 14, 2000, to September 23, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 28,147
Technician - increase of 84,356
Technician Plus - decrease of 104,854
General - increase of 29,749
Advanced - decrease of 33,101
Extra - increase of 32,722

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 20,498

Total all classes - decrease of 19,225

>From February 22, 2007, to September 4, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 1,555
Technician - decrease of 4,487
Technician Plus - decrease of 6,216
General - increase of 12,148
Advanced - decrease of 2,127
Extra - increase of 3,143

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 10,703

Total all classes - increase of 906

>From February 22, 2007, to September 15, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 1,642
Technician - decrease of 4,017
Technician Plus - decrease of 6,563
General - increase of 12,257
Advanced - decrease of 2,209
Extra - increase of 3,207

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 10,580

Total all classes - increase of 1,033

>From February 22, 2007, to September 23, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 1,714
Technician - decrease of 3,758
Technician Plus - decrease of 6,812
General - increase of 12,288
Advanced - decrease of 2,369
Extra - increase of 3,252

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 10,570

Total all classes - increase of 887

73 de Jim, N2EY

1691. WIANEWS for week commencing 14th October 2007

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-15 12:53:00 UTC
From: nationalnews@wia.org.au
Message-ID: <200710151252.l9FCqqi00885@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 3796
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,aus.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

This is WIANEWS for week commencing 14th October 2007

Welcome to WIA National News for week commencing 14th October 2007,
I'm Grant VK3VIM sitting in for a cruising Graham.

Lots to report this week and also a special weird and wonderful from the podcasters podcaster Leo Lapotre on HP's model 35 Calculator.

Let's move on and into National News... with Robert Broomhead VK3KRB.

As we take up the news this week Dianne Ashton and husband Phil are into their second week of two weeks of some well earned Holidays. Whilst Dianne is away.. back in the office Margaret and the team are doing marvelous job of keeping everything up to date. However with one person away there is the possibility that there may be of a few delays in responding to some requests and certain examination matters so we do appreciate your patience and understanding.

WRC - 07 Starts on 22 October

The ITU's World Radio communication Conference 2007 (WRC-07) will commence in Geneva, Switzerland on 22 October and run until 16 November.

Keith Malcolm VK1ZKM will be leaving for Geneva next week. Keith will be a member of the Australian delegation to the WRC, nominated by the WIA and representing the amateur services. Keith's travel and other costs are being met by the WIA.

There are 3 items of particular interest to amateurs raised by the agenda for the WRC.

One is an agenda item that would allow the allocation of the band 7.2 to 7.3 MHz in Regions 1 and 3 to the amateur service, achieving a world wide 7 to 7.3 MHz band. However, Keith advises that he is unaware of any proposal supporting this, and the Australian public position is to oppose any change in this part of the spectrum.
Of course, this is unlikely to result in any change for Australian amateurs around 7 MHz.

Another matter is the proposal for an allocation to the amateur service of the band 5.260 to 5.410 MHz. The Region 1 organisation, CEPT, has proposed a footnote to allow administrations to make such an allocation, and other administration's proposals make it likely that the proposal will at least be discussed.

The final proposal for a secondary allocation for the amateur service 135.7 to 137.8 kHz with a 1 Watt e.i.r.p. power limit does seem to have

fairly general support.

"We are lucky to be represented by such an experienced and qualified person, and I am sure that Keith has the support and best wishes of all Australi an amateurs" said WIA President, Michael Owen VK3KI.

Keith will be reporting regularly to the WIA, and the WIA will be passing on as much information as possible about this important conference.

"Its Call book time again!"

If you want to find another Australian amateur, you need a call book. If you want to check a repeater frequency or band plan, you need a Call book.

But this years call book is special it's the special collectors edition with the Parkes radio telescope and group photo on the cover, the picture taken during the WIA 2007 AGM weekend and of course it has all of the regular information and more.

Where do you get it?

Members and non members can get it from the WIA office but you might want to support your club and buy from there. Last week all clubs should have received an order form and price details from Ted VK2ARA.

If you order a box of 24, they will be sent post free. If 24 is too many, contact another club and share. Compare the club price with the office price. You can make up to 50% profit for your club.

The Call books will be available from 17 October, so get those orders in to the office. Call books will be dispatched as soon as paid orders are received

1692. WIANEWS for week commencing 14th October 2007 (Repost, Corrected)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-15 13:21:48 UTC
From: nationalnews@wia.org.au
Message-ID: <200710151320.l9FDKNQ04092@panix2.panix.com>
Source record: 3797
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,aus.radio.amateur.misc,rec.radio.info

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If you do not have an order form, email to Ted vk2ara@wia.org.au

Dstar news

Since last weeks broadcast over 50 people have joined the Dstar email list which is being moderated by the Dstar National Technical Coordinator Richard Hoskins VK3JFK.

This list has been set up to provide assistance, information and news to amateurs about the Australian D-Star scene.

It is hoped that we can all assist each other in learning and having fun with D-Star. No question on the topic should be considered dumb as I'm sure that there are other people on the list wanting to know the same informatio n.

Flaming will not be tolerated. We are here for enjoyment and to learn not to be ridiculed.

Over time a set of D-Star Operational Guidelines will be developed similar to the Voice & IRLP Repeater Guidelines to encourage the best

consistent use of the D-Star systems.

The Australia D-Star web site is under construction. It will contain information on the basic operations of D-Star, radio configurations, operating frequencies of D-Star repeater systems and Gateways as well as links to other useful D-Star information. We have permission from ICOM America and ICOM Australia to use some of their material if required. The web site can be found at www.dstar.org.au

D-Star is a new system for all of us here in Australia and we all will have experiment and lot to learn so lets make it fun.

Thanks Robert and as Dstar roles out in VK3, Jim Linton reminds us that Dstar has been in VK8 for almost a year now!

Moving along with HAMS ACROSS AUSTRALIA

VK1

This weekend sees ACT WICEN at the Corsa de Mille Pini - course of a million pines 2 day car rally. Keeping WICEN busy again is the Brindabella Classic Run on the 21st and Fit's Challenge Bike Ride on the 28th. Great to see WICEN out and about providing a valuable community service.

The club monthly general meeting at Farrer on the 22nd sees Phil Gimshaw VK4KVK talking on HF antennas and "other things".

VK2

Did you know about the morse code transmissions from VK2WI? The transmissions are continuous on 3699KHz except during these Sunday broadcast periods.

This coming Thursday, the 18th. October 2007, the Central Coast Amateur Radio Club will be 50 years old, 37 people attended the 1st meeting in the Gosford School of Arts Hall now part of the Gosford Public School. We (?) are organising a dinner with a very good speaker at the Wyong Race Course for Saturday, 16th February 2008. To book seats and further info contact Ray VK2 HAY on (02) 43 25 21 82.

VK3

WICEN VK3 have several events coming up. Saturday and Sunday the 24th and 25th November is a Car Rally in Gippsland with 2 metres, 70cm and packet radio being used.

A big event for WICEN is the Red Cross Murray River Marathon from the 26th - 31st December just after Christmas. For further details contact John Weir VK3ZRV on 9431 0667.

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I'm Lia VK3FLIA and I'm here to tell you about F-Troop. F-Troop is held on the VK3RMM repeater after the news broadcast on Sunday mornings commencing at about 11.05am.

The purpose of F-Troop is to help and encourage new licensees to become familiar with radio operating techniques. It is run by experienced Amateur Radio Victoria operators, so why not join us after today's broadcast.

I'm Lia VK3FLIA and you are listening to VK1WIA

VK4

December 8th and the VK4 ALARA get-together. It's being held at the Gold Coast Amateur Radio Societies clubrooms. Starting at 3:30pm, it's a Christmas spit roast buffet and all for $23:50 each. Contact Pam to organise tickets on 02 6676 6595.

I hear Graham VK4BB met up with Pam at the Queensland Club Presidents Lunch in Brisbane where Michael Owen VK3KI spoke just yesterday. Pam told Graham ALARA and the Gold Coast Amateur Radio Society are looking forward to as many visitors and members as possible December 8.

VK7

VK7's big day out. A quick reminder to get yourself to VK7's BIG DAY OUT namely the Sewing Circle BBQ on the 4th of November.

It is at the home of Ken VK7DY and Wendy VK7FWJS at Orielton - 30 kms east of Hobart.

There will be much to see and do including: show & tell, homebrew contests trading table, many demonstrations of radio modes, Satellite TV, amateur television and antenna rising.

There will be the home brew awards and the Terry Wilson VK7HTW (silent key) award for services to Amateur Radio for 2007 and the presentation of the Sewing Machine Award to the operator most worthy of this Annual Award.

Go along, meet new friends and renew old friendships take the partner and family.

VK8

The VK8ZMA EchoIRLP node in Katherine NT has changed frequency to 147.800MHz simplex. This was changed to eliminate interference to the new APRS Satgate Mike runs on 145.825MHz.

EDUCATION YOUTH AND ADVANCEMENT OF AMATEUR RADIO
PRESENTED BY KYLEA VK6MRS

HAM COLLEGE - setting the bar for Amateur Education.

Since the inception of Ham College in WA as an entity, in Jan 2007, they have conducted 5 foundation courses averaging eight candidates each. One

standard course, with seven attendees and an advanced course currently running with nine persons attending. The college has conducted eighty one written exams consisting of forty foundation assessments; 23 Standard theory; 6 advanced theory and 12 regulations and forty five practical assessments. The pass rates have been Foundation 87.5% (5 NYC); Standard 81% (7 NYC); Advanced 70% (3 NYC) and regs 100%.

Only three candidates at standard level have not been upgrades.

It is worth noting that only one NYC had completed an Ham College Course and the youngest foundation candidate was at the time aged nine.

The present intention for next year is to continue the foundation courses every two months and an examination/assessment day every month. The Standard and Advanced courses will be run again as they have this year with the Standard from Feb to July and the Advanced July through to Dec. Several people have expressed interest in learning morse and this will be followed up with a view to running a morse course commencing early next year.

Over the last six months two people, John 6ATU and Duncan 6MHZ, have attended several foundation courses in an assistant trainer capacity. Both John and Duncan have fulfilled the requirements in the college instructor training policy and are now qualified as Foundation Course Instructors for Ham College.

In addition to these existing courses Ham College will endeavour to introduce several new initiatives. Three or four practical weekends with a view to encouraging the 'home brew project' side of our hobby. A series of lectures for experienced amateurs similar to those that used to be held by the WIA VK6 Division. Both of these are in the planning phase.

In the longer term it is intended to open discussions with the Education Dept to introduce our hobby into schools.

So there is a bit of news from the West.

If you are interested in attending Ham College to obtain or upgrade your licence or you would like to sign up for next years morse course. Please contact me Kylea on 0412 704226.

SOUTH AFRICA: RTA PRESENTATIONS NOW AVAILABLE ON THE WEB

The first of the presentations made at the South African Radio League's Radio Technology in Action days are now available on the web. The Presentations are in PDF format and can be downloaded for printing or viewing on screen.

The URL is www.sarl.org.za, click on activity and then on RTA.

The South African Radio League also invites everyone to visit the RTA Section of the web regularly as presentations will be added over the next few weeks.

Alan VK4YAR reminds us that the Wireless Institute of Australia's Foundation Licence Manual is a full colour manual consisting of 95 pages of information for those studying, or those who would just like a reference book for foundation Licence Operators.

The manual contains the all relevant information you will need to know To successfully complete a training course to obtain our foundation licence.

It also contains a wealth of information a Foundation Licence operator Will need. Items like Band Plans, Electrical Safety information, operating procedures such as the Q code, how to contact you local radio club, the WIA and much more.

For more information on obtaining the foundation licence manual please visit wia.org.au

Bob Bristow, VK6POP the JOTA-JOTI Coordinator Scouts Australia says JOTA Or "The Jamboree On The Air," is on again, for the 50th time, next weekend, 19th-21st of October. Around 500,000 scouts around the world take part in this, the largest annual Scout event. This year, being the 50th JOTA, the event begins at 2200 Friday, local time, to match the 50th Anniversary theme "around the world in 50 hours"

The Jamboree on the Air began as an amateur radio station at the World Scout Jamboree at Sutton Coldfield in 1957, marking the 50th anniversary of Scouting. The amateur radio activity was a success and Jamboree on the Air began as a separate event in 1958.

In 1996, Scouts who had been contacting each other over the Internet, decided that a Jamboree on the Internet (JOTI) would be a good idea. It was a good idea. In Australia alone, over 10,000 unique connections are made to the ScoutLink chat servers.

These days, of course, with the introduction of computers and the internet into Amateur Radio, the demarcation between JOTA and JOTI has become a little blurred. This doesn't matter, however, because the basic aim of the JOTA-JOTI weekend is for Scouts to make contact with Scouts all over the world.

For 50 years now, JOTA has been supported by Amateur Radio groups and individual s who give their time and often donate the use of their own equipment. These people have had a great effect on the young people they have introduced to the hobby of Amateur Radio.

Sometimes, when surfing the internet for something to do with Amateur Radio, or looking up someone on QRZ.com, I read someone's bio, and Sure enough, so many of them were not only Scouts, but became interested in the hobby through Scouts and Jamboree On The Air.

The 2008 JOTA-JOTI looks like being one of the biggest. There is a lot of interest around, partly fed by the activities of the World Centenary of Scouting and the very successful ARISS contact at the Australian Jamboree in January, and partly due to the work put in by Scout Leaders

and Radio Amateurs in promoting the hobby and making it relevant to Scouts of today.

In 2008, we have the Centenary of Scouting in Australia. The Prime Minister has declared 2008 The Year Of The Scout. It's my desire to make Amateur Radio activities very much a part of those celebrations, and JOTA-JOTI bigger and better.

With International News, I'm Rob VK5MM

A couple of cyber hams. Linking amateur radio into new technologies has been much talked about. Social sites such as YouTube and the Wordpress blogging platform allow even the most modest ham to videoblog and blog till their hearts content and two US hams are great adapters of these technologies. Randy K7AGE in Grass Valley California is a prolific video blogger on YouTube. Posting 33 videos to date on a variety of amateur radio topics with 471 subscribers and thousands of views.

Whilst over in the written land of blogging, Jeff Davis KE9V maintains a thoughtful blog on amateur radio with postings almost daily. Jeff also produces a great podcast called Long Delayed Echos which Jeff describes as "an audio program for ham radio enthusiasts". In the current editions the theme is 'Explorer Series' with the latest edition the 1931 Wilkins-Ellsworth TransArctic Submarine Expedition.

http://ke9v.net/
http://www.youtube.com/user/K7AGE

DARC OFFERS ASSISTANCE TO GERMAN AUTHORITIES

The Deutscher Amateur Radio Club has sent a letter to the German Federal Office of Civil Protection and Disaster Assistance. This to offer Amateur Radio assistance in cases of emergency.

In a letter signed by president Jochen Hindruchs, DL9KCX, the German national society underlines the fact that Amateur Radio stations are technically independent and that the Deutscher Amateur Radio Club structure with districts and local clubs fits the communications needs of the regional authorities.

JAPAN HAS SURGE IN NEW HAMS

News from the Japan Amateur Radio League is that in the 12 months to March 2007 the number of newly qualified amateur operator licensees has steeply increased when compared with the same period in the previous year.

Breaking it down, the 1st class licence recorded a four-fold increase in new licences and the 2nd class had an amazing 18-times increase. There were also more new hams taking up Japan's 3rd and 4th class licences too.

The JARL puts this higher interest in amateur radio, at least in part, to the revision of Japan's national radio regulations based on the World Recommunications Conference 2003 decision to end the mandatory requirement for Morse code tests.

(IARU R3 News/Jim Linton VK3PC)

DELFI C2 SAT LAUNCH DELAYED

The launch of Delfi-C3 satellite has been moved to December. Once on-orbir, Delfi-C3 will also have a linear transponder with a passband uplink: from 435.570 to 435.530 MHz and an inverting downlink from 145.880 to 145.920 MHz. The bird will also carry a telemetry downlink in the amateur satellite segment of the 2 meter band. The primary telemetry downlink will be on 145.870 MHz running BPSK in AX.25 protocol at 1200 Baud.

There are two major reasons for the postponement of the launch. These Are weather and the Indian launch schedule. The typhoon season in India lasts from mid-October until December. The launch schedule is dependent on mission priorities.

SEANET 2007 - REMINDER

The 35th Southeast Asia Net (SEANET) convention will take place in the Northern Thai town of Lampang from November 8-11, 2007, hosted by the Radio Amateur Society of Thailand under the Royal Patronage of His Majesty the King
(RAST).

Full details of the programme can be found at the SEANET 2007 website with details of the programme and an online registration form at http://www.sabah.net.my/seanet/seanet_2007.htm

RADIO RULES: NEW US 500 KHZ LICENSE

Richard Dillman from the Maritime Radio Historical Society reports a new United States class 1A common carrier Morse code coast station has been licensed by the FCC. Station KDR has been licensed to James A. Dalke in Bellevue, Washington. Dalke is a broadcast engineer who just happens to have a 5kW Medium Frequency transmitter. KDR is licensed for operation on 500Khz and 482KHz at 5 kW. Two people made applications. Dalke's was granted on September 24th.
(Various)

RADIO ON LINE: BETTER AUDIO WANTED

More and more, the home audio experience is happening via the family computer. This, according to the Consumer Electronics Association which says that almost three quarters of online adults in the United States are using home computers to listen to audio content,.

While most home PC audio users are satisfied with the audio experience, more than a third want better sound quality. When forced to choose between having a quality audio experience and owning a large number of audio files, almost half of home PC audio users chose quality over quantity the research stated.
(RW)

MEDIA WATCH

HAM RADIO PROMOTION: MGM FILM PRESENTS RADIO HAMS

A film from Metro Goldwayn Mayer that promotes Amateur Radio has surfaced On the Internet. Produced in 1939 by Pete Smith, "Radio Hams centres on a family called to dinner. All but the teenage son respond. When family members go looking for him, one by one they are snared into a world of ham radio high adventure. One that includes a rescue in Alaska and a tragic search for a downed aircraft at sea.

Unlike most films promoting ham radio, this one is not a documentary. It's a fully scripted 10 minute dramatic presentation featuring a cast of professional actors well directed by Felix Fiest. E. Mauriece Adler is credited with writing the screen play.

"Radio Hams" is really a nostalgic look back at ham radio the way it never was.

WEIRD N WONDERFUL

In 1972, HP introduced the first scientific calculator, the HP35, lets catch up with tech journalist Leo Laporte and Dick DeBartolo as they discuss "a classic".

A classic indead, and I was only 3 years old! Thanks to Leo's daily wiz gizz report there from the TWIT.TV network.

Well that brings us to the end of WIA national news this week, thanks go to our great broadcast team for their effort this week. On the news desk, from us all at VK1WIA, bye for now.

==========

WIANews - we've reported...YOU decide.

Societies and Club News Letter Editors can EXCHANGE a feed prior to the actual broadcast date, e-mail nationalnews@wia.org.au

Callbacks follow the RF editions, but also for text readers you may lodge a quick reply to let us know you read it, who knows, you might even get a "cheerio call".

Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of the National WIA.

HOP TO SPECIFIC WIANews TOPICS

WIA WEB ZONE, www.wia.org.au

WIANews THANKS OUR REGULAR CONTRIBUTORS , OUR RELAY OPERATORS ACROSS THE WORLD FOR FORWARDING INFORMATION AND COMMENTS THEIR LISTENERS HAVE PASSED ON TO MAKE WIANews VK'S LEADING WEEKLY AMATEUR RADIO PROGRAM.

E-mail WIANews WITH VK STORIES.

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Compiled by VK4BB on behalf of QNEWS for the National WIA.

Thanks to to our dedicated band of broadcast volunteers who utilize their time and equipment in bringing you this weekly broadcast.

The purpose of "WIANews" is to rapidly provide news of interest to active amateurs residing in Australia and the globe.

We strongly encourage membership in the Wireless Institute of Australia and participation in the activities of local clubs.

Opinions expressed in "WIANews" are those of the writers who submit material and do not necessarily reflect those of the rebroadcasters, nor the National WIA.

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1693. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-15 19:53:39 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1192477509.843778.313290@y27g2000pre.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3798

On Oct 12, 1:25?pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:

> What do others remember?

It's a cool late February weekday in the year 1956. I am 23 and a month out of active US Army duty, having spent the last three Army years in radio communications, I had decided to get a civilian commercial radio operator license two weeks prior. I've done the cram thing on over-drive, practically memorizing all of the looseleaf notebook FCC rules borrowed from a new friend at a broadcast station. I walk several blocks from the train station to the Federal Building in Chicago. I am alone, have never been walking in downtown Chicago before...but I am confident although a bit tired. The train ride was an hour and a half and the flat Illinois prarie boring as usual.

The FCC Field Office is upstairs and I find it. Everything seems to be utilitarian-government. World War II ended 11 years prior and all federal offices look "war surplus" furnished. Three visible officials are brusque, bored, not effusive; i.e., it's like being back in the Army. Familiar. FCC guys are fussing with a paper-tape code machine and one of the three radiotelegraph testees has a problem with connecting his favorite speed key (allowed then). I am going for radiotelephone first class. I fill out a two-page form about myself, then do the first of four written tests, a short one required of everyone then about FCC organization and laws. Code beeps are heard in the background and a telegrapher seems to be mumbling while copying; he is advised to be quiet.

Government-issue tables are too high, government-issue chairs too low. I pass the first test, then everyone is interrupted by loud bell claning outside.It is a fire drill in the Federal Building. FCC agents are not happy. I get a cup of bad coffee from a stand at the main entrance and do the break, waiting and waiting, my mind reviewing what I've memorized in rules and regs. The military had never required licensing and is not accountable to the FCC in radio operation.

Back upstairs again to finish the parts. I have to draw a couple schematics and explain what the parts do on a supplied schematic. One of the tests is multiple-choice. Not a problem, it is something almost

intuitive to me now. Regulations and special law considerations are not. I finish the last part and bring it to the remaining agent's desk...I wonder idly where the other two have gone. He pulls out a template and other test notes from under his desk blotter. Not much "security" there. I stand quietly to one side, sort of in civilian parade rest. After a long time of checking and making a few notes he finally notices another human in the office. The telegrapher testees have finished and are gone. He looks up and says "You passed" in a bored unenthusiastic tone. I say "Thank you" with as much enthusiasm and leave. I know the government drill.

It is now after lunch and the return train won't leave for three hours. What to do? I have a hot dog from a street vendor, good franks in Illinois and Wisconsin, as I know. I idly look in shop windows, pass a movie house in its last week of first-run showing of the film "Oklahoma." It has a matinee. I buy a ticket and watch it from the balcony, the only one up there. At the train station I buy a copy of the Chicago Tribune and pass the return trip time reading of news that don't really affect my life. I have no real emotion about the day. I was confident in passing and did. My mind is at ease. The rest of my life awaits.

Time Machine forward to February 2007 and FCC announcing the fateful decision of No Code Testing for US amateur licenses. I hadn't planned on getting a "ham ticket." I idly check for exam places near me in Los Angeles. ARRLweb lists one on 25 February, a Sunday, at an old firehouse across from a Ralphs supermarket that I've shopped in for over 40 years. I thought the one-engine firehouse had closed down years ago? I say to myself, "Why not?" and call the ARRL VEC team leader listed for other info. I will miss the Fontana, CA, NASCAR race carried on ESPN2 but we have a DVR in the cable company's set-top box. The old one-door firehouse had been replaced for years but is now one of the stations of the Los Angeles Emergency Communications Auxilliary. Nice folks in there, all pleasant and seeming enthusiastic. I wait and wait in a room full of strangers, all younger than myself. Actual testing doesn't begin until an hour and a half after scheduled time. Must be 30 to 35 folks in there by then, most doing just routine administrative things they could have done themselves. Why didn't they, I wonder? No real problem but it delays license testing. The ARRL VEC team leader knows I am

going for Extra but I get the impression he doesn't
think I can do it.

These tests are not even close to the formal testing
I've had in college classrooms. I am retired and my
"job" doesn't depend on passing this test. I will not
cease to exist if I don't pass it. I have prepared for it
and have confidence that I can pass. But...let's GET
ON with it there, people! It's at least a half hour wait
between each test element. I chat idly during
breaks with others. Most seem amazed at what I
am doing. Why, I wonder? I don't look THAT old.
Do they really stand in awe of tests? How did they
get California drivers licenses which also require
multiple-choice testing? Did some fail to graduate
high school?

There are four in this ARRL VEC team. I casually study
them as much as they seem to study me. Interesting
situation. I smile inwardly. The team leader practices
lots of testing security, even to using a small padlocked
test-material box. Every examiner checks everyone's
answers. That's good. That also slows down the
process. I was surprised to see an African-American
on the VEC team. That's a rarity in US amateur radio.

I finish the last test. The VEC leader seems really
surprised. He shakes my hand in congratulations. So
do the other three. Am I the first applicant who got
"Extra out of the box" with this VEC team? I guess so.
One of them mumbled something to that extent. Okay,
another test completed, another in many tests taken
during my life. I leave, walk across the street to get to
my car and drive a mile back to my house. My name
and new callsign (for amateur radio purposes) shows
up on FCC databases for 7 March 2007. I am 74.

Did I get all sorts of emotional goosebumps over that
ham test? No. I had planned to do it, prepared myself,
and felt confident in passing...much the same as I'd
done 51 years prior for my commercial license.
Planning, preparedness, confidence works every time.

73, Len AF6AY

1694. New IARU Region 2 Bandplan

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-16 13:35:37 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1192533054.392406.255520@e9g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3699

http://www.iaru-regionii.org/Region_2_MF__HF_Bandplan_Annex__1_2008.pdf

This plan is supposed to go into effect Jan 1 2008. It's a voluntary plan, not FCC regulations.

IMHO:

Good Things:

1) The general idea of sorting modes by bandwidth is a valid one. Narrow and wide modes just don't mix well.

2) The plan puts 'robot' (unattended) stations in well-defined places, rather than letting them wander all over the band.

3) There are centres of activity - watering holes - for various activities, like image transmission. This does not mean they can't go on other places, just that there's a defined place to meet.

Bad Things:

4) The plan almost completely bans AM voice! From 160 through 10 meters, AM is only allowed on 3600-3625 kHz, 3875-3900 kHz, and 29000-29300 kHz. On all but 10 metres, AM is an asterisk to the 2700 Hz bandwidth.

5) The plan does not agree with other, similar plans, such as the ARRL bandplan. It seems to me that the IARU Region 2 bandplan and the bandplan of the largest amateur radio organization in Region 2 should at least agree.

The no-AM thing is a big one to me, even though I'm a CW operator. AM is a perfectly legal mode on all US HF/MF amateur bands except 60 and 30 meters, yet the plan says that 'good amateur practice' is to not use AM *anywhere* below 29 MHz except 50 kHz of 80/75 meters. And that's regardless of propagation, number of hams on the band, contests, etc.

This sort of thing sets a very bad precedent. It effectively makes the use of a perfectly legal mode 'bad practice' on all but a small percentage of the available-by-law spectrum, and on all but parts of two bands.

Now some may say "it's just a voluntary bandplan, not a regulation". And that's true, but it's not the whole story.

When interference problems between amateur operations have arisen that do no involve clear Part 97 rules violations, FCC has usually ruled on the side of the amateur operating in accordance with the voluntary bandplan in effect at the time. The most-common example I know are cases where an uncoordinated repeater and a coordinated one have interference issues. AFAIK, the uncoordinated repeater always loses because coordination is good amateur practice. But coordination is really just a form of voluntary bandplan, since we amateurs administer it, not the FCC.

It seems to me that under the IARU plan, if I were to operate AM on, say, 40 metres, and an SSB station were to complain about interference from me, I'd be on the defensive from the getgo because, by definition, the SSB op is operating in accordance with the bandplan and I'm not.

Most of all, if they can do it to AM, they can do it to other modes. Once the precedent is set, it's just a matter of expanding it.

It seems really odd to me that while recent FCC rules changes widened many of the phone bands, particularly on 80/75, this bandplan drastically reduces and eliminates them for AM.

Again, IMHO, the IARU can do better.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1695. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-16 16:10:23 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <ff2mn1$14pq$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3700

Steve Bonine wrote:
> Howard Lester wrote:
>
>> That white shirt and tie was pretty intimidating, wasn't it?
>
> One of the most rewarding experiences of my ham radio career was serving
> as reader for a blind ham who was taking her Extra exam in Chicago, just
> before the FCC stopped administering them. She wanted to take the exam
> from the FCC. She passed. I felt a tiny part of her pride.
>
> I suppose that the VE system is a positive and reasonable step for the
> hobby. It sure is easier to convince class attendees to come to a VE
> session than to travel to the nearest FCC examination location, so it's
> obvious that we get more new hams with the VE system than having the FCC
> administer the tests. Not to mention all the tax dollars that we're
> saving. But the new hams are missing a memory that all of us old timers
> have of being intimidated by the FCC exam process, and that's just a
> tiny bit sad.

As a little counterpoint to the issue, I was licensed first in 1999
(rank newbie - HA!) and took my first Element one test in 2000.

Well, I flunked it.

What I remembered though was the examiner who labored over trying to
find the different ways that I might have squeezed through and actually
passed the thing. But it just wasn't to be. Poor guy was so apologetic
and felt so badly that I ended up feeling badly for him.

So much depends on our outlook, but I would trade that guy's kindness
and eagerness to get me into the fold, over being intimidated by the
steely eyed examiner. It made me look forward to passing my test and
getting into that fraternity. Which I did a few months later. And passed.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1696. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-16 18:04:59 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13h9tvt95mktj3f@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3701

Michael Coslo wrote:

> So much depends on our outlook, but I would trade that guy's kindness
> and eagerness to get me into the fold, over being intimidated by the
> steely eyed examiner. It made me look forward to passing my test and
> getting into that fraternity. Which I did a few months later. And passed.

Ah . . . back then, the 5 wpm code test was not administered by the FCC, at least not for the Novice ticket. It was administered by your fellow operator, as part of the examination for Novice.

I gave a number of Novice exams back then, and it was always a pleasure to do so. I also taught a number of Novice classes, most of which was code, and enjoyed doing it. Mostly I think my students enjoyed it, too.

So we got both experiences . . . an Elmer's kindness, plus the steely eyed examiner <grin> (Although my memory of the examiners in Chicago is a pretty positive one.)

73, Steve KB9X

1697. [DXNL] DXNL 1541 (Oct 17, 2007)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-16 23:07:08 UTC
From: Robert Busch - DL7VOA <dxnl@dxhf.darc.de>
Message-ID: <1538466421.20071017010315@dxhf.darc.de>
Source record: 3702
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.amateur.dx,rec.radio.info

DXNL 1541 - Oct 17, 2007
DX Newsletter

a free and weekly service of
DARC Committee "DX and HF contesting"
(http://www.darcdxhf.de)

editor: Helmut Schlaffer, DL7MAE
(e-mail: dxnl@dxhf.darc.de)

translation by: Bob, DL7VOA
(e-mail: dl7voa@darc.de)

BV - TAIWAN, AS-020
Juergen,BX3/DJ3KR, will stay in Taiwan between Oct 18 and Nov 5 and
plans to hit the airwaves in all modes on all bands. QSL via homecall.

CT3 - MADEIRA, AF-014
A German group (DJ6QT, DJ7JC, DK8NC, DL8OBF) stays on Madeira (AF-014)
from Oct 16-30 and plans to show up as CT3/homecalls on all bands.
They will sign CT9L during the upcoming WAG and CQWW SSB Contests.
QSLs for CT9L via DJ6QT, all other QSLs via the operator's homecalls.

HI - DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, NA-096
After being in Senegal for a while Dani,EA4ATI, has been staying in
the Dominican Republic for a few months now and finally received his
license (HI5/EA4ATI). He is working with 100 watt and dipole.
QSLs via homecall.

HS - THAILAND
HS0ZHR (OP SM1TDE) has returned to Sweden. He had to leave Thailand
much earlier than expected.

SP - POLAND
The special event station HF100SK marks the 100th anniversary of the
scouts in Poland. It is working from Skierniewice till the end of 2007.
QSL via SP7ZIA.

SU - EGYPT
SU50JOTA remembers 50 years of JOTA and will be QRV in CW/SSB on 15/17/
20/40/80m from the "International Scout Centre" in Kairo on Oct 20/21.
The team members are SU1GS, SU1SA, SU1AO, SU1KM, SU1KA, SU9NC, SU1SK.
The QSL manager is SU1SK.

T6 - AFGHANISTAN
John,KE6GFF, will be QRV again from Kabul signing T6EE between Oct 18

and Nov 13. His preferred frequency is 14.210 MHz and he plans to take part in the upcoming CQWW SSB Contest as well. QSL via home address: John Kountz, 1065 van Dyke Dr., Laguna Beach, CA 92651, USA.

V3 - BELIZE, NA-073
John,W5JON, and his XYL Cathy,W5HAM, will be active from the island Ambergris Caye (NA-073) from Oct 25-31. Listen for V31FB in SSB on 10-160m (also in the CQWW SSB Contest) but he also likes to make skeds for 160m. Cathy prefers the beach holiday. It was many years ago when she promised her husband he may go anywhere for contesting as long as there is also a beach! Now they are going to visit Belize for the fifth time. John will use an IC-7000 plus a 400 watts amplifier and has a free sight to Europe.

V4 - ST KITTS AND NEVIS, NA-104
Scott Andersen,V4/NE1RD, is going to the airwaves from Oct 24-31. He hopes to set a new record in the QRP category of the WWDX from the island of St. Kitts (NA-104). You can get eQSLs, LoTW confirmations and also regular paper QSLs via bureau or direct. SWL reports are welcome.

VK9/L - LORD HOWE ISLAND, OC-004
Haru,JA1XGI, will be active as VK9GLX in CW/SSB/RTTY/SSTV on 20/30/40m and possibly also on the lowbands from Oct 19-22.
QSLs via bureau or direct to JA1XGI or direct only via W8XGI.

VP5 - TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS, NA-002
VP5/WA2VYA, VP5/K2WB, VP5/W2WAS and VP5/N2VW will be QRV in CW/SSB especially on the WARC bands from Providenciales (NA-002) on Oct 23-30. They will use the call VP5T during the CQWW SSB Contest (QSL via N2VW). All other QSLs should be sent via buro to the OPs homecall or via LoTW.

XU - CAMBODIA
A Finnish/Belgian team consisting of Wim,XU7TZG, Reijo,OH4MDY (XU7MDY), Anni,OH4JGE (XU7JGE), and Jack,ON4AJV (XU7AJV), was announced to become active from Oct 20 until Nov 5. Following QRGs have been published: 1825, 3507, 7003, 10104, 14007, 21007, 24897 and 28020 kHz, but the lowbands will be emphasized.Listen for XU7MDY in a single band category of the CQWW SSB Contest. Unfortunately QSLs only direct.

3V - TUNISIA
The "Gold Jubilee of the JOTA" will take place from Oct 19-21 and the "Tunisia Scouts Amateur Radio Club" celebrates its 10th birthday during the same time. Listen for 3V8CB and 3V8ST QRV sein, mainly in CW/SSB. QSL cards only via bureau, NOT direct!

4O - MONTENEGRO
The radioclub of the "Council of Europe" and Ranko,4O3A, are going to activate the new DXCC counter Montenegro using the call 4O0CE from Oct 17-21. Reason for that is that Montenegro has joined the Council of Europe last May. QSL via F5LGF.
Online logs will be available at: http://ewwa.free.fr

6W - SENEGAL
Jovica,T98A (ex-ST2A), has passed the Senegalese license exam now and promised to be very active as 6W1SJ for the next two years. Jovica preferably works in CW, but also some SSB and digital modes. There are good chances he might activate also other African countries from there. QSL via T93Y: Boris Knezovic, Box 59, 71000 Sarajevo,Bosnia-Hercegovina QSL via bureau or e-mail requests (t93y@lol.ba) are possible as well.

6Y - JAMAICA, NA-097
John,W2GB, will be QRV as 6Y0B from Oct 23-30, including the participation in a single OP category of the CQWW Contest. QSL via W2GB.

A3, 5W, KH8, ZL - SOUTH PACIFIC TRIP
Willy,ON5AX, and his XYL Magda,ON3AX, are travelling the South Pacific Ocean between Oct 17 and Dec 14. They will be QRV in CW/SSB/PSK on 40m/30m/20m and they also intend to participate in the CQWW SSB Contest while staying on American Samoa. This is their travelling schedule:
5W0AX Samoa (OC-097) Oct 17-22
KH8/ON5AX US-Samoa Oct 24-29
A35AX Tonga Nov 2-14
ZL/ON5AX Neuseeland Nov 16-Dec 14

INDIA, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
The special event station AT0MWG is working in CW/SSB/RTTY/PSK from the "4th Military World Games" (http://www.mwg2007.org) which are held in Mumbai until Oct 21. QSL via VU2SWS.

TURKEY, SPECIAL EVENT STATION
The Republic of Turkey is celebrating its 84th anniversary this year. For this reason TA2IJ is working as TC84IJ in CW/SSB until Oct 21. QSLs via TA2IJ.

GOLDEN JUBILEE OF THE JOTA
Following stations were announced to hit the bands during the upcoming JOTA event next weekend:
CT7EPO QSL via CTEGW
HL9BSA QSL via WX8C
HP1RCP QSL via HP bureau
ON50JOTA QSL via ON4GDV
PA50JOTA QSL via PA3EFR

LINKS: Current SOTA activities (mountain summits) are announced at:
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/activations.php or
http://sotawatch.sota.org.uk/spots.php

If you want to hear your QSOs mit CN2R with an audio clip you can perform a special logbook search at:
http://cn2r.net/cn2r/cn2log_interface/QSOs/Logbook.asp

UPCOMING CONTESTS

Oct 19-21: JOTA (http://www.scout.org/jota)
Oct 20/21: JARTS WW RTTY Contest

Oct 20/21: WAG Contest CW/SSB:
Please avoid the special contest free areas within the WAG Contest to
eliminate any collisions with JOTA stations.

IOTA collected by Fredy,DE0MST (e-mail: iota@dxhf.darc.de)

Island activities:
NA-088, HP4, Bocas del Toro Prov. Group: Tom,HP4/W4JKC, is a scientist and
stays on Colon Island from Oct 12 until Nov 2. QSL via W4JKC.

NA-128, VE2, QC Province Group: A team of American and Canadian OPs will be
active as VE3ZF/2 (CW/SSB) and W5GED/VE2 (RTTY/PSK) from Orleans Island
from Oct 18-21.They will sign VE2IDX during the W/VE Islands QSO Party.
QSL for VE2IDX via VE3ZF, all others via homecalls.

OC-005, VK9/N, Norfolk Island: Jack,HB9TL (VK6CTL), will be QRV as VK9CNF
from Norfolk Island from Oct 19-25. QSL direct via HB9QR.

OC-164, VK6, Western Australia State South Group: Wally,VK6YS, and
Bruce,KD6WW, are working as VK6YS/p from Rottnest Island until Oct 17.
QSL via VK4AAR (d).

OC-several: Larry,N0UU, will NOT travel through the South Pacific like
stated in the last DX Newsletter. Unfortunately this was a mistake.

Lighthouse activities (WLOTA/ARLHS)

YW6YL LH 2062 VEN-030 Dec 12-16
CU8AS LH 0947 AZO-015/016 resident
VK6YS/p LH 2197 until Oct 17

Bandspots of the last 7 days

160m
JA7NI 1.811 1735Z

80m
SD7V 3.518 2117Z via DL2VFR (B)
ZD7X 3.796 2148Z via W0MM (B)
3C7Y 3.795 2224Z via EA5BYP (B)
5R8RJ 3.507 1859Z via DJ7RJ (B)

40m
AP2TN 7.007 1942Z via DJ9ZB (B)
HV50VR 7.066 0714Z via IW0GPN (d)
MS0WRC 7.092 0639Z EU-010, via G0MTD (B)
ZM1A 7.011 0629Z via ZL1AMO (B)
5R8FU 7.002 1850Z via SM5DJZ

30m
OF2IPA 10.106 0547Z via OH4MDY
P29VLR 10.114 1518Z OC-256, via SM6CVX
VK6CHI 10.106 1607Z OC-193, via VK4AAR (d)

ZL7/SP9BQJ 10.143 1842Z RTTY, via SP9BQJ (B)
3C7Y 10.106 1825Z via EA5BYP (B)
5L2MS 10.116 2040Z via PA3AWW (B)

20m
H40MY 14.040 1313Z OC-178, via OM2SA (d)
MS0WRC 14.254 0759Z EU-010, via G0MTD (B)
ON60AF 14.237 1608Z via ON6KN (B)
3C7Y 14.195 1357Z AF-010, via EA5BYP (B)

17m
P29VLR 18.074 0612Z OC-256, via SM6CVX
3C7Y 18.073 1045Z via EA5BYP (B)
3C7Y 18.145 0855Z via EA5BYP (B)
5H3RK 18.076 0915Z see QRZ.com
5L2MS 18.100 1126Z RTTY, via PA3AWW (B)
9U0A 18.100 1249Z via DL7DF (B)

15m
HL0U 21.297 0900Z
J6/DL7AFS 21.298 1411Z via DL7AFS (B)
3C7Y 21.295 1716Z AF-010, via EA5BYP (B)
5L2MS 21.080 1237Z RTTY, via PA3AWW (B)

12m
5L2MS 24.935 1753Z via PA3AWW (B)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = LotW

Preview

DATE CALL DXNL

15Dec-20Jan 3D2AG/Rotuma 1522
2006 -2007 3XM6JR 1484
15Oct-27Oct 4N6FZ 1540
17Oct-21Oct 4O0CE 1541 *
-Apr/08 5H0RS 1515
26Sep-26Oct 5R8RJ 1537
17Oct-22Oct 5W0AX 1541 *
-Oct 5Z4/YT1CS 1540
15Oct-11Nov 6C60 1540
-Apr/08 6W/EA4ATI 1515
-Sep/09 6W1SJ 1541 *
23Oct-30Oct 6Y0B 1541 *
04Oct-25Oct 7Q7CE 1539
-Nov 7Q7HB 1537
01Aug-21Oct 8J3ARDF 1530
2007 9N7JO 1501

02Nov-14Nov A35AX 1541 *
-Nov A61TX 1496
-17Nov AT60MY 1534
18Oct-15Nov BX3/DJ3KR 1541 *
17Oct-30Oct C52C/C50C 1540
-Aug/08 C91R 1538
15Oct-21Oct CE2/YV5IAL 1540
-Feb/08 DP0GVN 1496
08Oct-03Nov E51NOU 1540
2007/2008 EI100S (I) 1501
03Oct-24Oct EL (PAs) 1538
-30Nov EW905B 1523
-15Jan FO5RU 1537

NOW H40MY 1539
21Sep-20Oct HC1/EA1APV 1537
-31Dec HF100SK 1541 *
-Nov IS0/I2MOV 1533
2006 -2008 J28JA 1484/85
-Aug/08 J28OO 1534
Nov KH3/W7KFI 1525/31
24Oct-29Oct KH8/ON5AX 1541 *
17Oct-31Oct PA50JOTA 1540
-31Dec R100AK/IF 1534

14Oct-19Oct S79LL.. 1540
21Sep-30Nov SU8BHI 1537
-20Oct SV0XAN/5 1540
-31Dec SX100VAR 1528
18Oct-13Nov T6EE 1541 *
NOW T61AA 1539
Feb/08 TI9 1533
NOW -2008 TL8QC 1459
07Sep-20Oct TM0-TM9RWC 1533
06Oct-19Oct TM0VDM 1539
Mar/08 TX5C (Clipp.) 1539

Oct UP50SAT 1540
25Oct-31Oct V31FB 1541 *
24Oct-31Oct V4/NE1RD 1541 *
18Oct-21Oct VE2IDX.. 1541 *
Jan -Dec VI3SAA 1499
01Nov-15Nov VK9ANH (Norf.) 1538
08Oct-18Oct VK9CLF (LH) 1539
19Oct-25Oct VK9CNF (Norf.) 1539
19Oct-22Oct VK9GLX (LH) 1541 *
23Oct-30Oct VP5T.. 1541 *
Feb/08 VP6DX/Ducie 1521
08Sep-15Jan VP8CXV (Fal.) 1535

20Oct-05Nov XU7MDY.. 1541 *
-27Oct YB9AQH 1535

-31Dec Z360M 1531
NOW ZD7X 1535
16Nov-14Dec ZL/ON5AX 1541 *
17Oct-30Oct ZL7/DL2AH 1538
05Oct-18Oct ZL7/SP9PT.. 1539

* = new or updated
.. = and other calls

QSL information

AP2TN via DJ9ZB (B)
BY1TX/4 via EA7FTR (B)
CO3CJ via EB7AEY
CU2MAIA via CU2ARA (B)
D4C via IZ4DPV (B)
DF50PAMIR via bureau, automatically
DM1DZ/HI7 via DM1DZ (B)
E51NOU via N7OU
E7/9A5BM via 9A5BM
E75X via 9A4X
HB0/DF4OR via DF4OR (B)
HB0/DJ3HJ via DJ3HJ (B)
HB0/DK5EW via DK5EW (B)
HB0/DK5TE via DK5TE
HB0/DL8RBL via DL8RBL (B)
HB9SPACE via HB4FR (B)
LZ130J via LZ2JB
OJ0B via OH2BH (B)
OL50NERA via OK1ULE
ON63POL via ON3CYV (B)
P29XXL via K8CW (B)
PA50JOTA via PA3EFR (B)
R15SRR via UA3DX (B)
R3K via RN3DK (B)
R35NP via RW1AI (B)
R450WZ via RU9WZ
RA9LI/FJL via UA9LP
S61FD via PA0KHS (2005/2006) (B)
S61FD via 9V bureau (2003/2007)
SO9Q via SP9QMP (B)
SX7W via SV7CUD (B)
TC84IJ via TA2IJ (d)
XU7AAJ via IW3SNW (d)
YW3AJ via YV5AJ
ZF2BO via W6BO
ZM1A via ZL1AMO (B)
ZS50SPUT via PO Box 273, Strand 7140, South Africa
ZS6DXB via LZ3HI
3V8SS via RW4WM
6W1SJ via T93Y (B)

9A73AA via 9A2AA (B)

(d) = only direct
(B) = bureau ok
* = new QSL manager
(L) = Logbook of the World (LotW)

YB0BCU: PO Box 1000, JKS 12010, Indonesia

Many thanks for contributing to this issue of the DXNL are going to:
Carl Smith (QRZ DX), 425DXNews, OPDX Bulletin, DF6EX (WINQSL), DJ0GM, DJ5AV,
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F6FQK, W5JON, SWL Norbert Maybaum and others.

The German PDF version can be found on the DARC homepage at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/bulls/dxmb/2007/dxmb1541.pdf

Subscribe or unsubscribe to the DXNL mailing list yourself at:
http://www.darc.de/referate/dx/fedxms.htm

1698. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-17 06:51:40 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <c195h35l2k1bl05l8hb7qitbgjpgrle3tk@4ax.com>
Source record: 3703

On Sun, 14 Oct 2007 11:59:54 EDT, "Howard Lester"
<heylester@dakotacom.net> wrote:

>Steve, I think you're right - very right - especially after reading Jim's
>posting that followed yours. It's an experience that few of us hams share
>any more.

So very true. For most hams that was the first one-on-one contact
that they had with the FCC and being told that one passed the exam
made it a positive contact. Some hams also went up to the FCC office
to look up information in the public data bases or to ask for an
interpretation of the Rules. Now one deals with the FCC via the very
impersonal internet or through a third party (privatization at its
worst) , and it's a good bet that most hams do not know the location
of the closest FCC District Office or the name and face of the
District Director or any of the field agents unless and until one
receives an inspection or Notice of Inquiry or Violation because of
some problem.

At one time the staff was encouraged to visit each ham club on a
regular basis. Everyone knew who Phil Kane was and how he could be
reached.

Those days are gone. What a loss.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1699. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-17 06:51:49 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <gi85h3tcp02r1kuhre7gn87rfkqdlfe4vk@4ax.com>
Source record: 3704

On Sun, 14 Oct 2007 10:14:05 EDT, N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:

>What was intimidating was the fact that the Examiner was The Man From
>FCC, who had sole power to say "You passed" or "You failed".

It was the applicant who determined if the result was passing or
failing. The examiner merely reported the results.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1700. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-17 07:12:09 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <csa5h3dp5qch08dl6gn962s040fsjhr1cp@4ax.com>
Source record: 3705

On Sun, 14 Oct 2007 16:16:14 EDT, N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:

>> Not to mention all the tax dollars that we're
>> saving.
>
>*That* is the only reason we have the VE system, IMHO.
>The FCC got unpaid volunteers to do almost all the work of test
>preparation and administration, instead of paying federal
>employees to do it.

That is not the only reason - part of the problem was that the very high brass had no idea why we were in the regulatory business in the first place. That culminated in the big decimation of the field staff in 1995-96 with the concomitant decline of the reputation and respect that the FCC had before then.

The "tax money" that was allegedly saved was poured down other holes that were created just because the position slots came available.

But you knew that....

DGMS
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1701. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-18 04:28:32 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1192669855.352467.256260@z24g2000prh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3706

On Oct 17, 2:51?am, Phil Kane <Phil.K...@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:
> On Sun, 14 Oct 2007 10:14:05 EDT, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> >What was intimidating was the fact that the Examiner was The Man From
> >FCC, who had sole power to say "You passed" or "You failed".
>
> It was the applicant who determined if the result was passing or
> failing. The examiner merely reported the results.

Bwaahaaahaaa! I walked right into that one, Phil!

However, didn't the examiner have to use at least some judgement as to whether an applicant's Morse Code copy was 'legible', and whether his/her sending was OK?

Going back before my time, when the exams involved writing essays, drawing diagrams and showing how an answer was derived, didn't the examiner have some judgement as to whether the applicant had properly answered a question?

--

The way I recall it, the examiner I met wasn't so much trying to intimidate as to simply let you know that this licensing stuff was serious business.

--

One more story:

In those days (1967-1970) the written exam questions came in a booklet and there was a separate answer sheet for your answers. They made a big deal about having two #2 pencils, filling in the little box completely, erasing completely, not making stray marks on the paper, do not bend, fold, spindle or mutilate, etc.

I'd had similar standardized tests several times in school, and there was always an air of mystery about how the tests were graded. It was implied that they were fed into a computer that had a no tolerance for those who didn't follow instructions.

Being a curious sort, I asked how the machine worked, but got no information. Top secret?

It seemed to me there were two possibilities: either there was some form of photoelectric system that shone a light through the paper, or there was a grid of contacts (gold plated?) that detected the answers by the conductivity of the graphite pencil marks.

The photoelectric system seemed more workable, but the grid-of-contacts system explained the insistence on #2 pencils.

When I went to take the test at the FCC office, I thought I might get a glimpse of the grading machine. But there was nothing that looked like such a device in the exam room.

When I handed in my completed written test, the examiner's assistant pulled out what looked to me like a manila file folder. She opened it up and slid the answer sheet inside - behind a piece of paper with holes punched in it. She counted up the holes with marked boxes behind them, then pulled out the answer sheet and looked for any questions with more than one box filled in. Whole operation took very little time. She said "You passed" and that was it.

What a letdown! No fancy machine, no photocells or gold-plated contacts, no computer, just some pieces of paper with holes in the right spots.

I got the distinct impression that I'd seen something I wasn't supposed to reveal to others.

The phrase "pay no attention to the man behind the curtain" took on a whole new meaning that day.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1702. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-18 18:08:08 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <633fh3l9rsktmr02f13unvtakn7hkerg4n@4ax.com>
Source record: 3707

On Thu, 18 Oct 2007 00:28:32 EDT, N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:

>However, didn't the examiner have to use at least some judgement as to
>whether an applicant's Morse Code copy was 'legible', and whether his/
>her sending was OK?
>
>Going back before my time, when the exams involved writing essays,
>drawing diagrams and showing how an answer was derived, didn't the
>examiner have some judgement as to whether the applicant had properly
>answered a question?

Wellll....yes.

We're even! <ggg>
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1703. Re: New IARU Region 2 Bandplan

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-18 19:57:38 UTC
From: Iitoi@earthlink.net
Message-ID: <1192736129.827376.127560@v29g2000prd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3708

On Oct 16, 1:35 pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:

>
> 5) The plan does not agree with other, similar plans, such as the ARRL
> bandplan. It seems to me that the IARU Region 2 bandplan and the
> bandplan of the largest amateur radio organization in Region 2 should
> at least agree.
>

The USA is just one of several dozen countries in Region II. Most of
them have completely different national bandplans, and none of them
correspond very closely with FCC mode-driven allocations. It would be
pretty arrogant to suggest that all those other countries should bring
their bandplans into line with Part 97.

The Man in the Maze
QRV on Baboquivari Peak, AZ

--
Iitoi

1704. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-20 00:37:39 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <13hije7eh0uqnaf@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3709

"Phil Kane" wrote

>>Steve, I think you're right - very right - especially after reading Jim's
>>posting that followed yours. It's an experience that few of us hams share
>>any more.

> So very true. For most hams that was the first one-on-one contact
> that they had with the FCC and being told that one passed the exam
> made it a positive contact.

Oh, it was a positive contact, all right. (I got to have two of them, both in the NYC office.) I remember more the FCC men who set my friend and I up with the headphones to listen to the 13 wpm tape. They were very nice to us teenagers. It's not to say that others, who got their tickets from VE's, don't have fond memories of *their* experiences. It's just that this was, well, the official place, #2 pencils and all that... ;-) And it was in a time (1963) when authority was respected a lot more than it is now.

Seriously, I attended a W5YI VE session here in Tucson about 14 years ago to take my Extra exams. It was in someone's house, and it was so noisy, they were having what amounted to a party while the exams were being given! I did pass the 20wpm (it was given in a separate room), but I failed the written.... in the party room. I was appalled at the "QRM" atmosphere. Give me the quiet, sterile FCC exam room anytime.

Howard N7SO

1705. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-20 02:56:34 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns99CED418C4D8Amcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 3710

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote in news:1192669855.352467.256260
@z24g2000prh.googlegroups.com:

> On Oct 17, 2:51?am, Phil Kane <Phil.K...@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:
>> On Sun, 14 Oct 2007 10:14:05 EDT, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>> >What was intimidating was the fact that the Examiner was The Man From
>> >FCC, who had sole power to say "You passed" or "You failed".
>>
>> It was the applicant who determined if the result was passing or
>> failing. The examiner merely reported the results.
>
> Bwaahaaahaaa! I walked right into that one, Phil!
>
> However, didn't the examiner have to use at least some judgement as to
> whether an applicant's Morse Code copy was 'legible', and whether his/
> her sending was OK?
>
> Going back before my time, when the exams involved writing essays,
> drawing diagrams and showing how an answer was derived, didn't the
> examiner have some judgement as to whether the applicant had properly
> answered a question?
>
> --
>
> The way I recall it, the examiner I met wasn't so much trying to
> intimidate as to simply let you know that this licensing stuff was
> serious business.

This kind of got me to thinking. Perhaps the judgement part is one of the reasons that essays went away. In a related situation, the first time I took my driving test, I went before a steely eyed Examiner, a state policeman by the name of Nix. I aced the written part of the test, and aced the driving test too. Then on the way back to the building where they were headquartered, he suddenly yelled out STOP NOW! I did so immediately, thinking there might be an emergency situation; after which he looked at me, grinned, and said "Congratulations, YOU flunked!" When I asked what I did wrong, He said "You didn't use your turn signal." My test was already over, and I did everything asked, and yet I couldn't do a thing about it.

I am a big supporter of the tests the way they are now.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1706. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-20 02:57:23 UTC
From: hot-ham-and-cheese@hotmail.com
Message-ID: <1192845695.435453.88640@y27g2000pre.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3711

On Oct 12, 6:25 pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> Forty years ago today, October 12, 1967, FCC issued a Novice license
> to a 13-year-old kid in the 7th grade. The license arrived two days
> later, and the kid (me) went on the amateur bands for the first time
> October 14, 1967.

Jim, October 14th is special for me, too. That's the date I entered
active duty.

> Since then, I've has had three amateur radio callsigns, six
> "permanent" QTHs, a long list of rigs, antennas, parts and test
> equipment, awards earned, articles published, and tens of thousands of
> QSOs. Many things in amateur radio are different now than they were
> then, many things are the same.

While serving, I had seven ranks, 10 PCS moves, including two
unaccompanied short tours (12 months in 1979 and another 12 months in
1988), one long tour (1989), several deployments, lots of awards, and
got to play radio, too.

> One thing that hasn't changed is that ham radio is sure a lot of fun.
>
> Doesn't seem like 40 years, though.

In ham years, you're just getting dried behind your ears... Enjoy
anther 20 or 30 or so...

> What do others remember?
>
> 73 de Jim, N2EY

I remember passing my novice test 20 years ago last November. In ham
years, I'm a rank beginner..

73, bb

1707. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-20 15:49:24 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1192883954.782885.118040@k35g2000prh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3712

On Oct 19, 10:56?pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote in news:1192669855.352467.256260
> @z24g2000prh.googlegroups.com:

> > Going back before my time, when the exams involved
> > writing essays,
> > drawing diagrams and showing how an answer was
> > derived, didn't the
> > examiner have some judgement as to whether
> > the applicant had properly
> > answered a question?

> This kind of got me to thinking. Perhaps the judgement part
> is one of the reasons that essays went away.

I agree. Your story about the driving test shows how arbitrary that judgement could be. Things like handwriting legibility and how good someone is at English composition could make the difference.

Another issue is the need for examiners who knew the material well enough to grade the tests. Anybody with the right answer key can grade a multiple-choice test but essays require a grader that knows the stuff - and has the time.

Historically:

- Novice was always all multiple-choice.

- the pre-1953 Advanced had essays, diagrams, show-your-work problems and multiple choice. When it was revived in 1967, it was all multiple choice. (No Advanceds were issued from 1953 to 1967).

- Technician/General/Conditional and Extra had essays, diagrams, show-your-work problems and multiple choice until about 1961, when the old blue-book tests were replaced with all-multiple-choice tests.

There was not a single changeover date from blue-book to multiple choice exams, because the examiners
were instructed to use up their existing stock of old exams before starting to use the new ones. So depending on where you went for the exam, you could get one or the other. I suspect that busy exam points like NYC used up their stock of old exams very quickly, while a less-busy place might have used them for quite a while after the new ones came out.

- For the first two years of their existence (1951-1953), Novice and Technician were tested at FCC offices unless the examinee could meet

the "Conditional criteria" of distance or physical disability.
After that time, those exams were issued by mail using a single
volunteer examiner, regardless of distance.

>From what older amateurs have told me, the reason FCC made the
switch was that the exam points were being inundated with people,
particularly teenagers, coming to take the exams without adequate
preparation. The tests were free in those days, and a kid on summer
vacation could show up at the FCC office three times in a summer
with the 30 day wait. IMHO the FCC wanted to both reduce their
workload of failed exams and reduce the number who passed simply
because they'd gone back so many times that they'd seen all the exam
versions.

The by-mail exam process slowed things down a lot because there
was a 6-8 week processing delay at every step, plus all the work was
at FCC Hq.

All the amateur radio written exams I took were multiple choice.
None of them were difficult at all, IMHO. They did require knowing
some radio theory and regulations governing the ARS, though.

> I am a big supporter of the tests the way they are now.

Two things I would change in the exam *process* (not *content*,
but *process*):

1) I would go back to the way things were in the late 1970s,
when FCC conducted the exams, both in their offices and by
request at hamfests, club meetings and almost anywhere that a
certain minimum number of examinees could be guaranteed.

2) I would make the exams themselves 'secret', that is, no more
open question pools.

Of course 2) would depend on 1). The chances of either actually
happening are probably 'slim to none'.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1708. Re: New IARU Region 2 Bandplan

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-20 15:49:45 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1192844057.210124.5530@y27g2000pre.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3713

On Oct 18, 3:57?pm, Ii...@earthlink.net wrote:
> On Oct 16, 1:35 pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:

> > 5) The plan does not agree with other, similar plans,
> > such as the ARRL
> > bandplan. It seems to me that the IARU Region 2
> > bandplan and the
> > bandplan of the largest amateur radio organization
> > in Region 2 should
> > at least agree.
>
> The USA is just one of several dozen countries in Region II.
> Most of
> them have completely different national bandplans, and none
> of them
> correspond very closely with FCC mode-driven allocations.

They don't have to.

The point I was making is that the IARU Region 2 bandplan is supposed
to be a plan for the entire Region. Yet it denies
AM operation on all but two small slices of two bands, regardless
of what FCC regulations or our national bandplan allows.

If I operate AM on 40 meters (say, 7290) during the daytime, is it bad
amateur practice because it's contrary to the IARU bandplan?
Or is it good amateur practice because it's in compliance with the
ARRL bandplan?

It's one thing to say that AM operation (or any mode) should
center around a certain frequency - that's what bandplans are
all about.

It's a very different thing to say there is no room at all for AM
on seven of the nine HF/MF amateur bands (60 isn't really a
"band") even though it's allowed by FCC regulations on eight
of those nine bands.

> It would be
> pretty arrogant to suggest that all those other countries
> should bring
> their bandplans into line with Part 97.

I'm not saying that at all.

What I'm saying is that national and regional bandplans should not
contradict each other.

It would be a simple matter to add a note saying that where AM is permitted by national regulations, it should center its operation on certain frequencies.

And if it is "arrogant" to suggest that other countries bring their bandplans into line with Part 97, isn't it equally arrogant for other countries to declare the use of a popular mode by US amateurs to be bad amateur practice?

Or to put it simply:

Why isn't there any room for AM on 160, 40, 20, 17, 15 or 12 meters?

73 de Jim, N2EY

1709. Re: New IARU Region 2 Bandplan

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-20 23:17:33 UTC
From: an old friend <kb9rqz@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <1192914681.228746.197380@k35g2000prh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3714

On Oct 18, 3:57 pm, Ii...@earthlink.net wrote:
> On Oct 16, 1:35 pm, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>
>
>
> > 5) The plan does not agree with other, similar plans, such as the ARRL
> > bandplan. It seems to me that the IARU Region 2 bandplan and the
> > bandplan of the largest amateur radio organization in Region 2 should
> > at least agree.
>
> The USA is just one of several dozen countries in Region II. Most of
> them have completely different national bandplans, and none of them
> correspond very closely with FCC mode-driven allocations. It would be
> pretty arrogant to suggest that all those other countries should bring
> their bandplans into line with Part 97.

hardly the band plan should agree with our rules and our rules and the
rules of the ham s in all region 2 counties should be indentical if at
all possible esp wrt the HF and MF spectrum unless radio waves on
those bands are to suddenly start respecting national borders

1710. Re: New IARU Region 2 Bandplan

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-20 23:18:08 UTC
From: an old friend <kb9rqz@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <1192914829.189063.49890@t8g2000prg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3715

On Oct 20, 11:49 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> On Oct 18, 3:57?pm, Ii...@earthlink.net wrote:

> > It would be
> > pretty arrogant to suggest that all those other countries
> > should bring
> > their bandplans into line with Part 97.
>
> I'm not saying that at all.

agreed you are not saying that

but you should be
>
> What I'm saying is that national and regional bandplans should not
> contradict each other.

nor should our rules contrdict those of the other nations of our
regions indeed idlealy our regs for HF and mf spac e should be clones
of each other basicaly

1711. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-21 16:04:07 UTC
From: Dan Yemiola AI8O <Dan@Yemiola.Net>
Message-ID: <fffske$i8h$1@news04.infoave.net>
Source record: 3716

"Howard Lester" <heylester@dakotacom.net> wrote in message
news:13hije7eh0uqnaf@corp.supernews.com...
>
> "Phil Kane" wrote
>
>>>Steve, I think you're right - very right - especially after reading Jim's
>>>posting that followed yours. It's an experience that few of us hams share
>>>any more.

In the mid 70's I took the first class phone exam in front of a FCC examiner
in Cincinnati.
Since there wasn't an FCC office in town they held the exam at a suburban
hotel in one of those meeting rooms where they pull out a divider to
subdivide the room. Unfortunately there was a Mary Kay Cosmetics meeting
being held on the other side of the ballroom, and every five minutes or so
Mary Kay ladies would start clapping and singing, just like camp meeting.

No "quiet, sterile FCC exam room " that day.

1712. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-21 16:38:48 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13hn04coboe1l5b@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3717

Dan Yemiola AI8O wrote:

> Unfortunately there was a Mary Kay Cosmetics meeting
> being held on the other side of the ballroom, and every five minutes or so
> Mary Kay ladies would start clapping and singing, just like camp meeting.
>
> No "quiet, sterile FCC exam room " that day.

At least they tried, sort of.

My General class exam was held in the Federal Building in Knoxville, TN. I've seen other articles here that described using headphones for code exams; we did not have them. The room was one of those sterile 1960s government classroom/conference rooms, and the echo was horrendous. It was kind of like copying cw through QRN on 80 meters, which is just what I had been doing for the past few months, so I did pass the test. But I do wonder why headphones were provided for some exam locations, but not for others.

73, Steve KB9X

1713. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-21 21:21:29 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <bignh3hi0l6toddj6c4j87ereikvndrtsg@4ax.com>
Source record: 3718

On Sat, 20 Oct 2007 11:49:24 EDT, N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:

>Another issue is the need for examiners who knew the material
>well enough to grade the tests. Anybody with the right answer key
>can grade a multiple-choice test but essays require a grader that
>knows the stuff - and has the time.

That was the main reason. The Commercial Radiotelegraph Operator
exams has diagrams to the end, and we always had to call an engineer
to grade those questions.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1714. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-21 21:39:10 UTC
From: Bruce in Alaska <fast@btpost.net>
Message-ID: <fast-00630E.10194021102007@netnews.worldnet.att.net>
Source record: 3719

In article <13hn04coboe1l5b@news.supernews.com>,
Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> wrote:

> Dan Yemiola AI8O wrote:
>
> > Unfortunately there was a Mary Kay Cosmetics meeting
> > being held on the other side of the ballroom, and every five minutes or so
> > Mary Kay ladies would start clapping and singing, just like camp meeting.
> >
> > No "quiet, sterile FCC exam room " that day.
>
> At least they tried, sort of.
>
> My General class exam was held in the Federal Building in Knoxville, TN.
> I've seen other articles here that described using headphones for code
> exams; we did not have them. The room was one of those sterile 1960s
> government classroom/conference rooms, and the echo was horrendous. It
> was kind of like copying cw through QRN on 80 meters, which is just what
> I had been doing for the past few months, so I did pass the test. But I
> do wonder why headphones were provided for some exam locations, but not
> for others.
>
> 73, Steve KB9X
>

I took my General Test at the FCC Office in the OLD Federal Office
Building in Seattle, Washington, from the Steelie Eyed, Old Crone
named Gertrude Johnson, who was the Office Secratary. She did a
REAL Good impression of "Librarian from Hell". NO talking, no noise
of any kind, if your eyes even left your desk, you FAILED. She was
Code Proficent, clear up to 35WPM, and the EIC, Bob Deitch, was even
Better. I took my First Class Radiotelephone Exam in the same place
the next year, and Ms. Johnson was still there.
Years later, when I took the Advanced Exam, in the NEW Federal
Office Building, Bob Zinns was the examiner, and they just made you
erase all the memory in your calculator. I had it a lot easier
then, as I had been doing Marine Ship Inspections, with Inspectors
from the Seattle Office for a couple of years, and had a good
relationship whith all of them.
A few years after that, I was approched by the FCC Region X Director,
Bill Johnson, and was offered a position with the Commission as
a Resident Field Agent for Southeastern Alaska, attached to the
Anchorage Office. I spent 5 years working for them, untill the
ALGORE BloodLetting, that destroyed Field Operations as we knew
it.

Bruce in alaska <AL7AQ>
--
add <path> before @

1715. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-21 21:39:28 UTC
From: John Siegel <JohnASiegel@worldnet.att.net>
Message-ID: <471B97D4.4080903@worldnet.att.net>
Source record: 3720

Steve Bonine wrote:
> Dan Yemiola AI8O wrote:
>
>> Unfortunately there was a Mary Kay Cosmetics meeting being held on the
>> other side of the ballroom, and every five minutes or so Mary Kay
>> ladies would start clapping and singing, just like camp meeting.
>>
>> No "quiet, sterile FCC exam room " that day.
>
>
> At least they tried, sort of.
>
> My General class exam was held in the Federal Building in Knoxville, TN.
> I've seen other articles here that described using headphones for code
> exams; we did not have them. The room was one of those sterile 1960s
> government classroom/conference rooms, and the echo was horrendous. It
> was kind of like copying cw through QRN on 80 meters, which is just what
> I had been doing for the past few months, so I did pass the test. But I
> do wonder why headphones were provided for some exam locations, but not
> for others.
>
> 73, Steve KB9X
>
I took my exam in Philly in the same era. Fortunately the headphones did
help
with the jack hammers going outside.
John

1716. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-21 21:40:32 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <7rgnh35a7g70gpfms9g314j8lo9m1f8blq@4ax.com>
Source record: 3721

On Sat, 20 Oct 2007 11:49:24 EDT, N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:

>The by-mail exam process slowed things down a lot because there
>was a 6-8 week processing delay at every step, plus all the work was
>at FCC Hq.

Actually they were processed at the License Center in Gettysburg, PA
which still processes all licenses, inputting the data into the ULS
and printing/mailing the actual document.

>1) I would go back to the way things were in the late 1970s,
>when FCC conducted the exams, both in their offices and by
>request at hamfests, club meetings and almost anywhere that a
>certain minimum number of examinees could be guaranteed.
>
>2) I would make the exams themselves 'secret', that is, no more
>open question pools.
>
>Of course 2) would depend on 1). The chances of either actually
>happening are probably 'slim to none'.

The success of (2) depends on the willingness to prosecute any and all
persons who reveal or possess the contents of any examination without
authorization. Does the name "Dick Bash" ring any bells? It's still
a sore point with me.

The chances of either actually happening range from "none" to "what
world are you on".
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1717. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-21 22:07:07 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <dihnh3dpd6kocjigbe6h8hgn302ijnlai3@4ax.com>
Source record: 3722

On Sun, 21 Oct 2007 12:38:48 EDT, Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> wrote:

>But I do wonder why headphones were provided for some exam locations, but not
>for others.

It all depended on what resources the local office could scrounge up,
because the nickel-nursers at HQ were not of a mind to buy such things
in an era when we had to scrounge surplus equipment from Federal
disposal sites. Other agencies were "retiring" or discarding stuff
that was newer and better than what we had in service. For many years
our non-technical vehicles were the Fords and Chevys seized by the DEA
from low-level drug dealers. The BMWs and Mercedes of the high-level
dealers they kept for themselves.

The FCC was, and to some extent still is, a "pauper agency". They
don't get to keep any of the license fees or spectrum auction proceeds
collected, over and above the actual cost of processing the license or
running the auction.
--

"Stand Clear of the Closing Doors, Please"

Phil Kane - Beaverton, OR
PNW Milepost 755 - Tillamook District

1718. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-21 22:30:22 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <80knh3p604t59u555h0im3gfecvgavkrg8@4ax.com>
Source record: 3723

On Sun, 21 Oct 2007 17:39:10 EDT, Bruce in Alaska <fast@btpost.net>
wrote:

>I spent 5 years working for them, untill the ALGORE BloodLetting, that destroyed Field
>Operations as we knew it.

That was the first time that I heard Internet Al blamed for it.

I had always thought that it was Der Hundt, when The Congress laid the
task of rewriting the Cable TV rules on the agency but refused to
approve any more slots (money) for the reg-writers. and he looked
around to see who was expendable. He had no understanding of what the
field did, no matter how hard we tried, and so the blood-letting of
the field started. The then-Bureau chief (Beverly Baker, one of my
law school mentors) resigned rather than go through with it. She was
replaced by a former Chief Recruiting Sergeant for the Marine
Corps.... (no further comment)

I took early-out 10 seconds after it was offered. That's how good
morale was under that cloud 12 years ago.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1719. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-21 22:32:28 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <vnknh3dkgp51jrgnru9drr5fbjec2ptivg@4ax.com>
Source record: 3724

On Sun, 21 Oct 2007 17:39:28 EDT, John Siegel
<JohnASiegel@worldnet.att.net> wrote:

>I took my exam in Philly in the same era. Fortunately the headphones did
>help with the jack hammers going outside.

During most of the 1980s they were tearing up the streets outside the
San Francisco office, and we actually had to find an inside conference
room to give the code tests.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1720. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-22 01:05:23 UTC
From: Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-E5D360.19450321102007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 3725

Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:
> N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
>
> >2) I would make the exams themselves 'secret', that is, no more
> >open question pools.

> The success of (2) depends on the willingness to prosecute any and all
> persons who reveal or possess the contents of any examination without
> authorization. Does the name "Dick Bash" ring any bells? It's still
> a sore point with me.
>
> The chances of either actually happening range from "none" to "what
> world are you on".

You could get the same result, effectively, by increasing the size of
the question pool. Just go from the present 8 or 10 to 1 ratio (pool
size to test size) to something larger. It could be easily accomplished
with the issuance of the next set of pools.

--
Klystron

1721. Re: New IARU Region 2 Bandplan

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-22 01:55:43 UTC
From: Iitoi <Iitoi@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <ffgtbq$o00$1@aioe.org>
Source record: 3726

<N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote

>
> Why isn't there any room for AM on 160, 40, 20, 17, 15 or 12 meters?
>

There's plenty of room; Part 97 rules allow AM operation on each of those bands.

Neither the ARRL or IARU bandplan has any legal standing beyond being two (of several) recommended ways of hams using their assigned spectrum. Since the bandplans serve two different populations sets, it isn't reasonable to expect that they'll be carbon copies of each other. If every country had exactly the same assigned bands, and those countries all micromanaged the ham spectrum like FCC does, then a unified and consistent IARU bandplan might be feasible as "law" to all those administrations. In the meantime, FCC isn't issuing any nasty letters for AM operation on any band where it's authorized, even if IARU hasn't blessed that operation.

The Man in the Maze
QRU on Baboquivari Peak, AZ

--
Iitoi

1722. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-22 02:54:39 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns99D0E78D8FCF2mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 3727

Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz> wrote in
news:xxx-E5D360.19450321102007@news.verizon.net:

> You could get the same result, effectively, by increasing the size
> of
> the question pool. Just go from the present 8 or 10 to 1 ratio (pool
> size to test size) to something larger. It could be easily
> accomplished with the issuance of the next set of pools.

And yet, it begs the question of *should* the tests be harder? And
were they harder back in the day?

This is an oft contentious issue that I think it is possible that
memory might be playing a sort of trick on people.

I have done a little research on the subject, imcluding "study guides"
from the 1950's. I found the major difference was that the 1950s tests
apparently contained more tube oriented material.

I was also struck by the fact that some of the questions are verbatim
what they are now! Some of the electronic basics have not changed, and
there are apparently only so many ways to ask the same question.

My references are for Novice and General, and I can say that the Novice
written was very, very, easy. The General was of similar difficulty to
today's General test. When I can get materials for the Advanced, and
more importantly the Extra, I think I'll find a similar pattern.

My conclusions:

At least since the late 1950's, the testing was no more difficult than
it is now. Many of the questions have changed, but in the context of the
times it was quite similar.

Study guides were a substitute for question pools. Judging by the
verbatim content of some of the questions to what is in the question
pools, there must have been some relationship.

Perhaps one of the reasons that many people believe that the old time
tests were so much more difficult is that at the time, they were for the
test taker! Some yougster taking a General test back in 1957 would
indeed find the test hard. After a few decades of college, practical
learning, work, and experience, and a look at the new tests, one can be
excused in thinking that they are "easy", because after all the
knowledge accumulation, they are easy.

But not for everyone, and certainly the testing regimen should not be
tailored to the highest denominator, so to speak.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1723. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-22 04:10:53 UTC
From: Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-655D7B.23530121102007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 3728

Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
>
> And yet, it begs the question of *should* the tests be harder? And
> were they harder back in the day?

A frequently heard position is that the elimination of the code test should be counterbalanced by an increase in the difficulty and/or size of the written test. I suggested that back when there still was a code test, as a means of getting rid of the code test. At this point, I am ambivalent on the topic. Considering the shrinking population of hams, I'd like to keep the Technician test easy and advertise it as a foot in the door, especially to persons who are interested in ham radio mainly as a tool that is intended to serve other areas (emergency and disaster relief, for example).

> This is an oft contentious issue that I think it is possible that
> memory might be playing a sort of trick on people.
>
> I have done a little research on the subject, imcluding "study guides"
> from the 1950's. I found the major difference was that the 1950s tests
> apparently contained more tube oriented material.
>
> I was also struck by the fact that some of the questions are verbatim
> what they are now! Some of the electronic basics have not changed, and
> there are apparently only so many ways to ask the same question.
>
> My references are for Novice and General, and I can say that the Novice
> written was very, very, easy. The General was of similar difficulty to
> today's General test. When I can get materials for the Advanced, and
> more importantly the Extra, I think I'll find a similar pattern.

I don't doubt that, but the elimination of essays and diagram drawing questions has made the tests easier for some. Persons who can memorize the material can get grades that are out of all proportion to their knowledge of radio and electronics. Larger pools would change that.

> My conclusions:
>
> At least since the late 1950's, the testing was no more difficult than
> it is now. Many of the questions have changed, but in the context of the
> times it was quite similar.
>
> Study guides were a substitute for question pools. Judging by the
> verbatim content of some of the questions to what is in the question
> pools, there must have been some relationship.

>
> Perhaps one of the reasons that many people believe that the old time
> tests were so much more difficult is that at the time, they were for the
> test taker! Some yougster taking a General test back in 1957 would
> indeed find the test hard. After a few decades of college, practical
> learning, work, and experience, and a look at the new tests, one can be
> excused in thinking that they are "easy", because after all the
> knowledge accumulation, they are easy.
>
> But not for everyone, and certainly the testing regimen should not be
> tailored to the highest denominator, so to speak.

I found that to be true. In the late 1970's, I bought a copy of the Ameco study guide for the phone-one test (the thick book with an orange cover). I was unable to read it; I made absolutely no progress with it. Earlier this year, I used it to study for the GROL and found it quite easy. I wondered, at the time, whether that meant that I had become smarter.
On the other hand, some of those old study guides were clearly inadequate for the task. I have a copy of the "General Class Amateur License Handbook" by Howard S. Pyle, W7OE, Sams Publications [1961,1964,1968], 136 pages. You could MEMORIZE the entire book and still not come close to passing the test. It just glossed over the material.

--
Klystron

1724. Welcome to rec.radio.info!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-22 06:00:03 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/welcome-1-1193032801@panix.com>
Source record: 3729
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.scanner,rec.radio.shortwave,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/welcome
Revision: 1.3 2007/09/29 19:13:17
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** Welcome to rec.radio.info! ***

Welcome to rec.radio.info, a group that aims to provide a noise-free
source of information and news for the entire rec.radio hierarchy.

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to the group
every month. You are now reading the first article, which explains what
rec.radio.info is, and answers some Frequently Asked Questions. The
second article is titled Posting Guidelines, and you only need to read
it if you want to submit an article to rec.radio.info.

You can skip to the next section of this article by searching for the
next
" -- " string. The sections available are:
- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?
- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?
- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?
- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.
- What type of material is considered inappropriate?
- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to
rec.radio.info?
- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?
- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to
speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

-- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?

The purpose or charter of rec.radio.info is to provide the Usenet
community with a resource for information, news, and facts about any and
all things radio.

All the other rec.radio groups are intended for discussions and general
chit chat about radio. Rec.radio.info will contain informational,
factual articles only. Follow-ups are redirected to an appropriate other
group, and further discussion (if any) will not take place in
rec.radio.info.
```

In order to ensure that rec.radio.info contains only appropriate articles, it was decided to create the group as a moderated newsgroup.

-- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?

It provides a "tag" for each article to be assembled into a filtered presentation in rec.radio.info (even with cross-posting, only one message, with a unique Message-ID, is propagated across the net). This tag also facilitates a pre-existing method of dropping or canceling the articles locally within the discussion groups if you don't want to see them. This accommodates individuals who want to separate the bulletins from the discussions, discussions from the bulletins, as well as those who are adamant about not reading another newsgroup and wanted to see everything all in one basket.

With the total size of Usenet (in number of newsgroups and total traffic) doubling every year or so, this is no insignificant contribution to reducing information noise and chaos. Making the discussion groups a catch-all, and making extra newsgroups filters on that catch-all, is also the most realistic way to implement such a scheme (It's not intuitively obvious what the charter, contents, and general appropriate topics for each and every newsgroup are. Seeing FAQ's and charter/intro postings in the home newsgroup is beneficial for new readers).

By cross-posting one only is adding a few tens of bytes to each bulletin (to specify the extra group on the Newsgroups line), but are adding the capability for very powerful filtering features available on most news servers, listservers and readers. Your local news guru could probably explain these features in more detail.

In rn, for example, according to Leanne Phillips in her rn kill-file FAQ, add a line of the form:

/Newsgroups:.*[,]rec\.radio\.info/h:j

either in ~/News/KILL (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere) or ~/News/rec/radio/amateur/misc/KILL (if you don't want to see them just in rec.radio.amateur.misc). The latter method means your kill file will only be consulted during rec.radio.amateur.misc (and hence runs more efficiently), and will probably work for most people.

In nn, according to Bill Wohler in his nn FAQ, add a line of the form:

rec.radio.info:!s/:^

in ~/.nn/kill (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere), or put the following lines:

sequence
rec.radio.info
rec.radio.

at the end of ~/.nn/init in order to see all the rec.radio.info bulletins first, then read the remaining rec.radio.* without the

bulletins.

More information about kill files may be obtained from Dave Fawthrop's Killfile FAQ at:

http://www.hyphenologist.co.uk/killfile/

-- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?

If you are new to Usenet and are not familiar with the terminology, you might want to read the general introductory articles found in the newsgroup news.announce.newusers. Doing so will make your life on the net much easier, and will probably save you from making silly beginner's mistakes.

If you think that at this moment you are reading an echo, a conference, or a bulletin board, I'd also strongly suggest a trip over to news.announce.newusers.

For the rest of this article, we will assume you have a basic knowledge of Usenet terminology and mechanics.

A moderated group means that any article that needs to be posted to the group has to be accepted by the moderator of the group. Since we need to ensure that followups to an article (discussion) do not show up in the rec.radio.info newsgroup, the `Followup-To:' header line contains a newsgroup that is appropriate for discussions about the specific article.

-- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.

Rec.radio.info is a moderated newsgroup, which means that all articles submitted to the group will have to be approved by the moderator first.

The current moderator of the group is the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team. Submissions to rec.radio.info can be posted, or e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Comments, criticisms, suggestions or questions about the group can be e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

But before you do so, please be sure to check out the "Posting Guidelines" article.

The influence of the moderator should be minimal and of an administrative nature, consisting chiefly of weeding out obviously inappropriate articles, while making sure correct headers etc. are used for the appropriate ones.

-- What type of material is considered inappropriate?

There are three broad categories of articles which will be rejected by the moderator:

1) Requests for information: rec.radio.info is strictly a one-way street. We receive information in our mailbox; we then post it to rec.radio.info. Requests for specific information belong in the normal discussion newsgroups. If your request gets answered, you might consider passing the answer on to rec.radio.info, though. Especially if you can edit it into a informational, rather than a discussion, format.

2) Obvious discussion articles, or articles that appear unsubstantiated.

3) Commercial stuff: a relatively unbiased test of a radio product would be accepted, but any hint of for-profit might be reason for rejection. For three reasons: This is not the purpose of the list, for-profit is a controversial topic, and this list may be passed onto Amateur Packet Radio (where for-profit is prohibited except under certain provisos).

rec.radio.swap may be more deserving of the posting in any matter.

Similarly, copyrighted material generally cannot be used. If it's TRULY worthwhile to the net, We would recommend obtaining permission from the copyright holder. Please note the source, and if permission was given. We reserve the right to make the final decision concerning appropriateness in all situations. In most cases, a brief summary of, or pointer to, the copyrighted information may be all we can allow.

-- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to rec.radio.info?

Google has an excellent web interface to Usenet newsgroups. It is available at:

http://groups.google.com

It supports both reading and posting.

Another excellent web interface to at least the radio-related Usenet |
newsgroups is the RadioBanter site: |

http://www.radiobanter.com |

sponsored by the NewsgroupBanter project: |

http://www.newsgroupbanter.com |

It, too, supports both reading and posting. |

-- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere? |

Yes. See Google Groups and RadioBanter above. |

Effectively this means that anything you post to rec.radio.info will be permanently stored, so your work will not be lost.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as time critical.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires co-operation and goodwill to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio hierarchy.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

1725. rec.radio.info Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-22 06:05:02 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines-1-1193033100@panix.com>
Source record: 3730
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.scanner,rec.radio.shortwave,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines
Revision: 1.5 2007/03/22 16:30:49
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** rec.radio.info - Posting Guidelines and Etiquette ***

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to this group
and to rec.answers/news.answers every month. You are now reading the
second article, which explains how to submit something to
rec.radio.info, and which answers some Frequently Asked Questions about
the submission process. The first article is titled "Welcome to
rec.radio.info", and it might be a good idea to check it out as well.

-- How do I submit something to rec.radio.info?

Two possibilities. You can use your newsreading software to just post
the article to rec.radio.info, as you would do with any other
newsgroup. The difference is that the software recognizes the special
status of rec.radio.info as a moderated group, and will e-mail your
article to us, the moderation team, instead of posting it to the group.

Alternatively, you can mail your article directly to us at the following
address:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Mailing us directly is probably (a wee bit) faster, but using the
transparency offered by the newsreading software is probably more
convenient.

If you have any questions, or wish to deal with some administrivia with
the moderation team, we suggest mailing to the following address:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

-- How soon will I see my article appear?

It depends on how busy we are. Your article reaches us as mail, we have
to read it first, give it the stamp of approval, and finally send it on
to the group. We will attempt to read and decide on all submissions
within 72 hours at the very least, though we will probably be able to
process submissions much faster in actual practice.
```

The site from which we moderate this newsgroup, "Public Access Internet and Unix, NYC" (Panix), is directly connected to the Internet, and articles posted at that site should appear at most major news sites, including Google Groups, the same day. The principal delay, therefore, will be the wait in the moderator's submission queue.

If you post a periodic article, and have shown to be trustworthy, we may allow you to post directly if the article is of a timely nature. See the section below on direct posting.

-- Should my article be in a specific format?

No. If it is not totally illegible, we will accept it, and if it does not have a correct subject-line we will correct it with your permission -- that's what a moderator is for.

However.

You could do us a big favor by making sure your article conforms to these simple requirements:

1) The article must present information, not discussion or requests, We will reject the article or require you to change the wording if it is worth it.
2) A good, descriptive Subject line.
3) Always mention what source you got the information from.
4) Don't forget to include a Followup-To header, at least if you don't want further discussion to automatically be forwarded to you, the poster, which is the default if the article is only posted to rec.radio.info.

As we said: if your article is appropriate we will post it even if you don't follow these guidelines, but then don't blame us for not processing it immediately. 'Perfect' articles we can send on with a couple of keystrokes. Stuff that needs minor editing is going to have to wait until we have time to do so.

Please do not waste both our and your time by posting requests, as this is an information only news group.

-- What about crossposting?

If you send something to rec.radio.info, just name any group you'd like to cross-post to in the Newsgroups field. Then, when we approve the article for rec.radio.info it will get automatically cross-posted to any other groups mentioned. This will also override the default Followup-To: poster, replacing it with the groups you cross posted to.

We would prefer if the group be cross-posted to the various discussion groups in the rec.radio.* hierarchy that are appropriate:

rec.radio.amateur.misc Amateur (ham) radio and related matters
rec.radio.amateur.packet Amateur Packet Radio discussions
rec.radio.amateur.policy Amateur Radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.noncomm Non commercial radio discussions

rec.radio.shortwave International broadcasting on the 'HF' bands
rec.radio.cb Citizens Band (27 MHz) discussion
rec.radio.scanner Scanner discussions (unsupported group)

or in one of the moderated groups:

rec.radio.amateur.moderated Amateur radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.broadcasting Discussion of *domestic* radio broadcasting

We will leave it up to the poster to decide which group(s) are appropriate, but reserve the right to add groups if we feel it has broader interest. We will consult with the poster first.

Notes on crossposting:

- rec.radio.broadcasting is also a moderated group. The rec.radio.broadcasting moderator prefers to review all articles himself before posting. Placing rec.radio.broadcasting before rec.radio.info on the Newsgroups line should accomplish this. We will typically abide by the rec.radio.broadcasting moderator's decision whether the article is appropriate for rec.radio.info.

- rec.radio.amateur.moderated is also a moderated group. As the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team manages both rec.radio.amateur.moderated and rec.radio.info, we can manage crossposting and approvals for both newsgroups. The rec.radio.amateur.moderated group does not allow crossposting to other discussion newsgroups, whether moderated or unmoderated. However, we would like to manage rec.radio.info as consistently as possible with how it was done by previous moderators, including the grandfathering of existing regular postings. Therefore, the submitter can choose rec.radio.amateur.moderated or the other unmoderated rec.radio.amateur.* discussion newsgroups for crossposting, but not both.

- Any FAQ or informational posting approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderation team that is also crossposted to any rec.radio.* newsgroup (besides just rec.radio.info) is also automatically pre-approved for rec.radio.info. See below for more information.

If you post to another moderated group, it may be better to make special arrangements with both moderators before posting by contacting us at our administrivia addresses.

In addition, cross-posts do not take up extra space; modern newsreaders can be configured to show you cross-posted articles only once anyway; not everybody reads rec.radio.info; and rec.radio.info was never meant to reduce the volume of the regular discussion newsgroups. But keep in mind that some of the mail gateways may filter out the informational postings (at request of the subscribers) to keep the load down.

You decide.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, can I make arrangements to help speed up delivery by posting directly from my site?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as timely.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires cooperation and good will to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio.* hierarchy.

If you are currently maintaining (or plan to maintain) a radio-related periodic information posting, you may wish to consider crossposting it to rec.answers/news.answers. Postings that are approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderators for this treatment are automatically pre-approved for crossposting to rec.radio.info (as the news.answers requirements are far more rigorous than the requirements this newsgroup ever plans to use). For more information about this option, consult the appropriate information articles and posting guidelines in rec.answers/news.answers.

Realize also, that even if your post is not approved for rec.answers/news.answers, it can still be approved for rec.radio.info. The intention is not so much to get every last bit of radio-related information on rec.answers/news.answers, but rather to provide an alternative avenue of approval (as well as grandfather existing maintainers of radio-related information and spare them additional bureaucratic hurdles). Again, crossposting to either rec.radio.info or rec.answers/news.answers, both, or neither, is at the discretion of the poster (subject to the approval of the moderators). You decide what is most appropriate for your article.

Please remember that as an information maintainer, you are not alone. There are many others on the net who maintain and post periodic information postings, using various intermediate-to-advanced features of Usenet (usually via automated tools). Various degrees of technical support and general hand-holding are available from many Usenet veterans. Send us some E-mail describing your needs to our administrative address below, and we'll try to help, or at least refer you to the right knowledgeable individual(s).

-- And Follow-ups?

If the only newsgroup you have specified is rec.radio.info, then the Followup-To: field will always be set to poster. If you do not want this, you must supply a Followup-To line of your own, and we will honor that one, as long as it is a subset of the original Newsgroups line.

If you specify newsgroups to cross-post to, then the Followup-To field will be set to include all the cross-posted groups, excepting rec.radio.info itself. Again, if you do not wish this behavior, supply your own Followup-To line.

We maintain other standards on the various RFC-1036 (news transport) header lines. For example, if the article is appropriate for passing into the Packet Radio Information Network, we encapsulate the Packet Bulletin Identifier (BID) in the Message-ID: news header line indicating the machine of origin as the ampr.org domain:

Message-ID: <$opa.55.1994@ampr.org> |

where the Packet Radio BID, in this example, is `$OPA.55', and it was posted in the year 1994, because some of the Bid numbers are cycled yearly. Hopefully, this can be used as a key to re-introduce the articles for the Packet Radio network. Also, if the article is a repost of an already existing information article in the rec.radio heirarchy, we ensure that the References: header line is linked to that previously posted article. This also helps to tag articles, and may be used for additional filtering if needed.

Since the articles are archived, please use the Summary and Keywords header lines to help one search for your article.

-- Why have I received no reply from you?

We never reject anything in silence, and we make a point of it to answer all our mail. However, E-mail, like a brain cell, can and does get lost, every now and again.

So, if you send us something, and you don't see it appear it rec.radio.info, and you still have not heard from us in reply after say, five days, you can be pretty sure that either your mail never reached us, or that our answer has never reached you. In that case, please try again (We will filter out duplicates).

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

1726. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-22 12:25:51 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1193051344.283260.261940@z24g2000prh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3731

On Oct 21, 10:54?pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
> Klystron <x...@yyy.zzz> wrote innews:xxx-E5D360.19450321102007@news.verizon.net:

> And yet, it begs the question of *should*
> the tests be harder? And
> were they harder back in the day?

Depends on what you mean by "harder".

> This is an oft contentious issue that I think it is possible that
> memory might be playing a sort of trick on people.
>
> I have done a little research on the subject, imcluding
> "study guides"
> from the 1950's. I found the major difference was that
> the 1950s tests
> apparently contained more tube oriented material.

I have License Manuals from 1948, 1951, 1954, 1962 and 1971.
There are more differences than just the tube emphasis.

For example, the old study guides focused on a few subjects in-depth,
and left other subjects completely alone. Lots of stuff on
power supplies, including rectifiers and filters, but almost nothing
on receivers, for example. Lots of calculations of how to know
you're in the band with a frequency meter or crystal with a certain
percentage error and a certain temperature characteristics, but
nothing on RF exposure. Etc.
>
> I was also struck by the fact that some of the questions are
> verbatim
> what they are now! Some of the electronic basics have not
> changed, and
> there are apparently only so many ways to ask the same question.

Sure - there's only so many ways to ask for the unit of resistance.

The big thing is that the old study guides simply indicated the areas
that would be covered on the exams, not the exact Q&A nor the exact
method of the test. So some mental processing was essential.

> My references are for Novice and General, and I can say
> that the Novice
> written was very, very, easy.

I would say it was *basic*. It covered the regulations, some theory,
and that's about it.

Novice (back then) was also a one-year, nonrenewable, one-time
license with extremely limited privileges. So its test could be very
basic and still cover the needed material.

>The General was of similar difficulty to
> today's General test.

IMHO, it's not about difficulty but about covering the relevant
material, and being sure the person being tested knows that material.

> At least since the late 1950's, the testing was no more difficult than
> it is now. Many of the questions have changed, but in the context
> of the
> times it was quite similar.
>
> Study guides were a substitute for question pools. Judging by the
> verbatim content of some of the questions to what is in the
> question
> pools, there must have been some relationship.
>
> Perhaps one of the reasons that many people believe that the old > time
> tests were so much more difficult is that at the time, they were for > the
> test taker! Some yougster taking a General test back in 1957
> would
> indeed find the test hard. After a few decades of college, practical
> learning, work, and experience, and a look at the new tests, one >can be
> excused in thinking that they are "easy", because after all the
> knowledge accumulation, they are easy.

That's certainly true. In fact, the person to worry about is the
experienced amateur who thinks the exams are "hard" even after
gaining experience.

However, note that we cannot look at the actual exams of those days,
because they aren't available. We can only extrapolate from the study
guides. Today's tests are wide open. Big difference there!

The test-taker of those old days had no clear idea how the questions
would be worded, nor how many would be on a given subject, so the
usual response was to assume the worst and
overprepare. Then the actual test seemed relatively simple.

At least that was my experience.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1727. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-22 14:29:37 UTC
From: Ralph E Lindberg <n7bsn@callsign.net>
Message-ID: <n7bsn-44C5B2.05332322102007@individual.net>
Source record: 3732

In article <dihnh3dpd6kocjigbe6h8hgn302ijnlai3@4ax.com>,
Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:

> On Sun, 21 Oct 2007 12:38:48 EDT, Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> wrote:
>
> >But I do wonder why headphones were provided for some exam locations, but
> >not
> >for others.
>
> It all depended on what resources the local office could scrounge up,
> because the nickel-nursers at HQ were not of a mind to buy such things
> in an era when we had to scrounge surplus equipment from Federal
> disposal sites. Other agencies were "retiring" or discarding stuff
> that was newer and better than what we had in service. For many years
> our non-technical vehicles were the Fords and Chevys seized by the DEA
> from low-level drug dealers. The BMWs and Mercedes of the high-level
> dealers they kept for themselves.
>
> The FCC was, and to some extent still is, a "pauper agency". They
> don't get to keep any of the license fees or spectrum auction proceeds
> collected, over and above the actual cost of processing the license or
> running the auction.
> --
>
> "Stand Clear of the Closing Doors, Please"
>
> Phil Kane - Beaverton, OR
> PNW Milepost 755 - Tillamook District

Some 20 years ago I had a job interview with the Regional Engineer, she
was crowing about the $100K budget plus-up he just got, I didn't have
the heart to tell him that I had a $100K pin money budget (as a minor
project lead for the DoD)

--

Personal e-mail is the n7bsn but at amsat.org
This posting address is a spam-trap and seldom read
RV and Camping FAQ can be found at
http://www.ralphandellen.us/rv

1728. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-22 14:30:27 UTC
From: Ralph E Lindberg <n7bsn@callsign.net>
Message-ID: <n7bsn-966266.05345222102007@individual.net>
Source record: 3733

In article <fast-00630E.10194021102007@netnews.worldnet.att.net>,
Bruce in Alaska <fast@btpost.net> wrote:

> In article <13hn04coboe1l5b@news.supernews.com>,
> Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> wrote:
>
> > Dan Yemiola AI8O wrote:
> >
> > > Unfortunately there was a Mary Kay Cosmetics meeting
> > > being held on the other side of the ballroom, and every five minutes or
> > > so
> > > Mary Kay ladies would start clapping and singing, just like camp meeting.
> > >
> > > No "quiet, sterile FCC exam room " that day.
> >
> > At least they tried, sort of.
> >
> > My General class exam was held in the Federal Building in Knoxville, TN.
> > I've seen other articles here that described using headphones for code
> > exams; we did not have them. The room was one of those sterile 1960s
> > government classroom/conference rooms, and the echo was horrendous. It
> > was kind of like copying cw through QRN on 80 meters, which is just what
> > I had been doing for the past few months, so I did pass the test. But I
> > do wonder why headphones were provided for some exam locations, but not
> > for others.
> >
> > 73, Steve KB9X
> >
>
> I took my General Test at the FCC Office in the OLD Federal Office
> Building in Seattle, Washington, from the Steelie Eyed, Old Crone
> named Gertrude Johnson, who was the Office Secratary. She did a
> REAL Good impression of "Librarian from Hell". NO talking, no noise
> of any kind, if your eyes even left your desk, you FAILED. She was
> Code Proficent, clear up to 35WPM,

Wasn't she just scary?

--

Personal e-mail is the n7bsn but at amsat.org
This posting address is a spam-trap and seldom read
RV and Camping FAQ can be found at
http://www.ralphandellen.us/rv

1729. Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-22 14:59:26 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13hpelos43h30b5@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3734

In a week I will begin teaching an entry-level class that the local radio club is offering. I would love any words of wisdom from experienced instructors of this material. I suspect that it has been at least a couple of decades since I last taught such a class, and things have changed a bit in that time <grin>.

The basic issue I'm wrestling with is walking the tightrope between teaching the actual questions from the pool and teaching concepts. It's not fair to the students to ignore the existence of the pool; after all, one of the goals of the class is to prepare them to take the written exam. But another goal is to get them ready to actually be an active member of the ham radio community, and memorizing pool questions doesn't contribute to that objective. So I'll try to do both -- cover concepts and review the actual questions.

Another issue is the scheduling of the class. There are proponents of the weekend method -- cover the material in a day or so. While there are advantages to that, I favor multiple shorter sessions. I think that learning is much better in that environment, but in today's hectic world, getting people to commit to multiple sessions is problematic. We've decided on six session spread over three weeks. Maybe that was a fatal error; time will tell.

I wish we still had something like the Novice license. I'd like to be able to get past the pressure of the written exam and get prospective hams some real experience so they understand what I'm babbling about in class. For example, you can lecture about repeaters, but if the students have actually *used* a repeater, they have a whole different understanding of what you're saying.

73, Steve KB9X

1730. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-22 17:46:09 UTC
From: Bruce in Alaska <fast@btpost.net>
Message-ID: <fast-72F269.09253122102007@netnews.worldnet.att.net>
Source record: 3735

In article <80knh3p604t59u555h0im3gfecvgavkrg8@4ax.com>,
Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:

> On Sun, 21 Oct 2007 17:39:10 EDT, Bruce in Alaska <fast@btpost.net>
> wrote:
>
> >I spent 5 years working for them, untill the ALGORE BloodLetting, that
> >destroyed Field
> >Operations as we knew it.
>
> That was the first time that I heard Internet Al blamed for it.
>
> I had always thought that it was Der Hundt, when The Congress laid the
> task of rewriting the Cable TV rules on the agency but refused to
> approve any more slots (money) for the reg-writers. and he looked
> around to see who was expendable. He had no understanding of what the
> field did, no matter how hard we tried, and so the blood-letting of
> the field started. The then-Bureau chief (Beverly Baker, one of my
> law school mentors) resigned rather than go through with it. She was
> replaced by a former Chief Recruiting Sergeant for the Marine
> Corps.... (no further comment)
>
> I took early-out 10 seconds after it was offered. That's how good
> morale was under that cloud 12 years ago.
> --
>
> 73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
>
> >From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
> Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon
>
> e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net
>

ALGORE was the guy who was incharge of the "Reinvention Of Government"
movement under the Clinton Administration. The Commission was one of
first agencies that got "ReInvented", and FOB was the first Bureau
that got slashed. It was interesting that the total number of employees
stayed fairly static thru the whole process..... $60K Engineers and
$45K Field Techs, replaced with $120K Economists, and $100K Lawyers....
and this saved money, How? Oh well, I really enjoyed my time with the
Commission, and the friends I made, and still have, some of whom are
still there. Although fewer, each year.

Bruce in alaska
--
add <path> before @

1731. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-22 19:51:26 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <4blph3t8clcpl2hlqi9f4binsilg48ml6u@4ax.com>
Source record: 3736

On Mon, 22 Oct 2007 10:29:37 EDT, Ralph E Lindberg
<n7bsn@callsign.net> wrote:

>Some 20 years ago I had a job interview with the Regional Engineer, she
>was crowing about the $100K budget plus-up he just got, I didn't have
>the heart to tell him that I had a $100K pin money budget (as a minor
>project lead for the DoD)

One year in the 1980s the annual budget for the FCC was less than
DoD's expenditure for toilet paper. For enforcement budget and
staffing shortfalls, we can thank JEdgar Hoover who made sure that
enforcement activities of agencies other than his fiefdom were starved
for funds. His legacy lives on.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1732. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-22 23:58:59 UTC
From: Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-B83C40.19534322102007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 3737

Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> wrote:
> [...]
> The basic issue I'm wrestling with is walking the tightrope between
> teaching the actual questions from the pool and teaching concepts. It's
> not fair to the students to ignore the existence of the pool; after all,
> one of the goals of the class is to prepare them to take the written
> exam. But another goal is to get them ready to actually be an active
> member of the ham radio community, and memorizing pool questions doesn't
> contribute to that objective. So I'll try to do both -- cover concepts
> and review the actual questions.
> [...]

A standard technique in college-level courses is to assign some readings that will not be discussed in class. Then, you give a test that covers the outside readings as well as the lecture content. You could use the question pool as outside reading material and then lecture about actual practice. Difficult questions from the pool could be covered at the end of class as an "extra help" session.

> I wish we still had something like the Novice license. I'd like to be
> able to get past the pressure of the written exam and get prospective
> hams some real experience so they understand what I'm babbling about in
> class. For example, you can lecture about repeaters, but if the
> students have actually *used* a repeater, they have a whole different
> understanding of what you're saying.

Keep in mind that the Element 2 written test used to be the written part of the Novice test. Arguably, it is easier to get a no-code Technician license than it was to get a Novice license. Please understand: I am not complaining. I think that is a good situation, especially if the intent is to draw newcomers into real-world communications, like disaster relief and not the self-limited exchange of beeps that the old Novice class was offered.

--
Klystron

1733. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-23 02:32:34 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <XJOdnaudr-O_wIDanZ2dnUVZ_hWdnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 3738

"Steve Bonine" <spb@pobox.com> wrote in message
news:13hpelos43h30b5@news.supernews.com...
> In a week I will begin teaching an entry-level class that the local radio
> club is offering. I would love any words of wisdom from experienced
> instructors of this material. I suspect that it has been at least a
> couple of decades since I last taught such a class, and things have
> changed a bit in that time <grin>.
>
> The basic issue I'm wrestling with is walking the tightrope between
> teaching the actual questions from the pool and teaching concepts. It's
> not fair to the students to ignore the existence of the pool; after all,
> one of the goals of the class is to prepare them to take the written exam.
> But another goal is to get them ready to actually be an active member of
> the ham radio community, and memorizing pool questions doesn't contribute
> to that objective. So I'll try to do both -- cover concepts and review
> the actual questions.
>
> Another issue is the scheduling of the class. There are proponents of the
> weekend method -- cover the material in a day or so. While there are
> advantages to that, I favor multiple shorter sessions. I think that
> learning is much better in that environment, but in today's hectic world,
> getting people to commit to multiple sessions is problematic. We've
> decided on six session spread over three weeks. Maybe that was a fatal
> error; time will tell.
>
> I wish we still had something like the Novice license. I'd like to be
> able to get past the pressure of the written exam and get prospective hams
> some real experience so they understand what I'm babbling about in class.
> For example, you can lecture about repeaters, but if the students have
> actually *used* a repeater, they have a whole different understanding of
> what you're saying.
>
> 73, Steve KB9X
>

The ARRL license manuals do a pretty good job of explaining the material
that goes into the questions. Also try to squeeze in some demos such as
using the repeater. A few, but not too many, anecdotal experiences of your
own can be productive too. Perhaps the first time you "let the smoke out"
of a radio or tuner or whatever.

Dee, N8UZE

1734. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-23 02:35:52 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Fa-dndiaU45_wIDanZ2dnUVZ_q2hnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 3739

"Steve Bonine" <spb@pobox.com> wrote in message
news:13hpelos43h30b5@news.supernews.com...
> In a week I will begin teaching an entry-level class that the local radio
> club is offering. I would love any words of wisdom from experienced
> instructors of this material. I suspect that it has been at least a
> couple of decades since I last taught such a class, and things have
> changed a bit in that time <grin>.
>
> The basic issue I'm wrestling with is walking the tightrope between
> teaching the actual questions from the pool and teaching concepts. It's
> not fair to the students to ignore the existence of the pool; after all,
> one of the goals of the class is to prepare them to take the written exam.
> But another goal is to get them ready to actually be an active member of
> the ham radio community, and memorizing pool questions doesn't contribute
> to that objective. So I'll try to do both -- cover concepts and review
> the actual questions.
>
> Another issue is the scheduling of the class. There are proponents of the
> weekend method -- cover the material in a day or so. While there are
> advantages to that, I favor multiple shorter sessions. I think that
> learning is much better in that environment, but in today's hectic world,
> getting people to commit to multiple sessions is problematic. We've
> decided on six session spread over three weeks. Maybe that was a fatal
> error; time will tell.
>
> I wish we still had something like the Novice license. I'd like to be
> able to get past the pressure of the written exam and get prospective hams
> some real experience so they understand what I'm babbling about in class.
> For example, you can lecture about repeaters, but if the students have
> actually *used* a repeater, they have a whole different understanding of
> what you're saying.
>
> 73, Steve KB9X
>

Also keep in mind the new privileges that Technicians have regarding HF
since the changes in Dec. 2006 and February 2007. Possibly print out the
NEW band charts from the ARRL site and hand them out. You could give an HF
operating demo for example.

Dee, N8UZE

1735. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-23 03:16:07 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1193106790.226455.314040@z24g2000prh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3740

On Oct 22, 7:58?pm, Klystron <x...@yyy.zzz> wrote:
> Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
> A standard technique in college-level courses is to assign some
> readings that will not be discussed in class.
> Then, you give a test that
> covers the outside readings as well as the lecture content.

This is an excellent idea *if* the info is readily available. Handouts
are a good idea too, as are links to specific web pages.

Another thing I suggest is demos. Talking about repeaters is one
thing, working somebody many miles away using a handheld is
another.

But don't limit the demos to VHF or FM - just showing things
like PSK31, CW, etc., are a good idea.

> > For example, you can lecture about repeaters, but if the
> > students have actually *used* a repeater,
> > they have a whole different
> > understanding of what you're saying.

Hence the demos.
>
> Keep in mind that the Element 2 written test used to
> be the written part of the Novice test.

I don't think that's true. Not anymore.

Before the 2000 restructuring, the written exams were these:

Element 2 - Novice
Element 3A - Technician
Element 3B - General
Element 4A - Advanced
Element 4B - Extra

Each element required its own element plus all lower elements.

As part of the 2000 restructuring, the elements were combined:

Old Elements 2 and 3A were combined and renamed new Element 2, used
for Technician

Old Element 3B was renamed new Element 3 and used for General

Old Elements 4A and 4B were combined and renamed new Element 4.

> Arguably, it is easier to get a no-code
> Technician license than it was to get a Novice license.

Agreed - which sealed the fate of the Novice, by making Technician the
de-facto entry license.

> Please
> understand: I am not complaining. I think that is a good situation,
> especially if the intent is to draw newcomers into real-world
> communications, like disaster relief and not the self-limited
> exchange of beeps that the old Novice class was offered.

I disagree!

The old Novice offered a lot more than "the self-limited exchange of
beeps".

The old Novice wasn't meant as a permanent license class, but rather
as a training ground towards the higher class licenses.

Yes, the privileges were limited, as was the license term. But what
that did was to focus newcomers on a few bands and radio basics.
It also reduced the cost of getting started.

Many Novices built their first stations, or part of them. This was
practical because the limited priviliges meant that even a simple, low
cost station was competitive with what other hams in the Novice
subbands were using.

But those days were ended by the Tech becoming the entry point. Not
many new hams can build an HT as a first project!

IMHO, the ideal 2007 entry-level license would offer a variety of
bands and modes.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1736. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-23 04:03:56 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13hqsl0q31ovd61@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3741

Klystron wrote:

> A standard technique in college-level courses is to assign some
> readings that will not be discussed in class.

With all due respect, this is far from a college-level course. I have limited expectations that the attendees will spend vast amounts of time studying outside of class, and frankly I rather hope that that time will be spent taking practice exams. I think it's unrealistic to expect that if I "assign readings" anyone will actually read them.

> Then, you give a test that
> covers the outside readings as well as the lecture content. You could
> use the question pool as outside reading material and then lecture about
> actual practice. Difficult questions from the pool could be covered at
> the end of class as an "extra help" session.

This would be a fine strategy if my primary goal were to teach concepts, but my primary goal is to get these students a passing grade on the test. Sorry, but that's just the way that it is. I don't think it's appropriate for me to teach actual practice to people when they first need to pass their written exam.

What I would *like* to do is teach a followup class on what people need to know to get on the air -- how to select equipment, what actual antennas are like, operating procedures, and so on. But I simply cannot do that *and* teach them enough to pass the written test in the amount of time available. I consider my first priority getting them past the written test, then we can work from there.

I have to add, and I don't want to sound condescending, but I know that some of the people who will attend this class are barely literate, much less capable of reading and understanding the question pool . . . even though it's written at a junior-high level. This may be another challenge that I have -- how can I keep the intelligent people in the class interested when the dumber-than-a-rock crowd doesn't even understand the concept of what a frequency is?

> Keep in mind that the Element 2 written test used to be the written
> part of the Novice test.

Uh, no.

> Arguably, it is easier to get a no-code
> Technician license than it was to get a Novice license.

Different. Maybe easier, maybe not. Depends on how you learn and your educational background.

The written test for Novice was trivial. I had no problem with it when I was 13 years old. I also had no particular problem learning code when I was 13 years old, but the theory test for General class was quite intimidating. The Tech written is at least somewhat similar to the General back then.

> Please
> understand: I am not complaining. I think that is a good situation,
> especially if the intent is to draw newcomers into real-world
> communications, like disaster relief and not the self-limited exchange
> of beeps that the old Novice class was offered.

Sorry, but the the Novice class offered a lot more than "the self-limited exchange of beeps". It was a true entry-level license with incentive to upgrade. (You can't get much better incentive than the license going away in a year.) You got a real taste for ham radio and a real understanding of what the additional privileges you would earn really meant.

The Tech license is not an ideal entry-level license. It requires quite a bit of intimidating work to learn material that is pretty foreign to people who have no experience in radio. Once you've got the license you need someone to demonstrate the wonders of HF, else there is no incentive to upgrade.

What I'm looking for is a real entry-level license, similar to the Novice ticket, with an incentive to upgrade. I want to be able to actually teach concepts and the real skills that people need to get involved in ham radio, without feeling that I cannot do so because my limited time must be spent getting them the knowledge to correctly pick answers to pool questions.

But that's not likely to happen, so I'll do the best I can with what I have.

73, Steve KB9X

1737. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-23 04:15:10 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13hqt96afsqal94@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3742

Dee Flint wrote:

> Also keep in mind the new privileges that Technicians have regarding HF
> since the changes in Dec. 2006 and February 2007. Possibly print out the
> NEW band charts from the ARRL site and hand them out. You could give an HF
> operating demo for example.

I actually have a bit of a problem explaining to potential Technician Class licensees that they have CW privileges on HF bands. It just seems either ironic or silly.

An HF demo is an excellent idea, but probably not possible as part of the actual class. Setting up an HF station at the classroom location would be an interesting challenge. (Might be fun, though.) Perhaps I will invite the class to visit me at home so I can do some HF work, or even schedule an extra session that's billed as a review session plus demo.

I prefer to explain things from the point of view that Technician is the entry-level license, then demonstrate HF and explain that it's available by passing additional written exams that are similar to what they're studying for now. My experience is that "CW" is a four-letter word. YMMV.

I do plan to do some demos as you suggested in your other article, including using a repeater, and maybe something related to EchoLink. This will depend a little on the background of the students, something I won't know until the first class.

Thanks for the suggestions.

73, Steve KB9X

1738. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-23 13:03:53 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1193137072.296051.325070@q5g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3743

On Oct 23, 12:03?am, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:

> With all due respect, this is far from a college-level course.
> I have
> limited expectations that the attendees will spend vast
> amounts of time
> studying outside of class, and frankly I rather hope
> that that time will
> be spent taking practice exams. I think it's unrealistic
> to expect that
> if I "assign readings" anyone will actually read them.

I disagree!

The readings can be handouts of a few pages. Introductory stuff
with links to more advanced things.
>
> This would be a fine strategy if my primary goal were
> to teach concepts,
> but my primary goal is to get these students a
> passing grade on the
> test. Sorry, but that's just the way that it is. I don't think it's
> appropriate for me to teach actual practice to people when
> they first
> need to pass their written exam.

Then you're essentially "teaching the test". And with all due respect,
that's a mistake IMHO. Here's why:

I think that we hams have sometimes placed too much emphasis
on getting lots of people licensed rather than educated and licensed.
The result is folks who are licensed amateurs but don't really know
how to get on the air. They're then left without the structure of a
class, to learn what's needed to actually use the license.

A recent statistic from ARRL said that 22% of new hams had *never*
gotten on the air with their new license. To me, that's a direct
indication of putting the license ahead of the knowledge needed to
use it.
>
> What I would *like* to do is teach a followup class on what people > need
> to know to get on the air -- how to select equipment, what actual
> antennas are like, operating procedures, and so on. But I simply
> cannot
> do that *and* teach them enough to pass the written test in the
> amount

> of time available. I consider my first priority getting them past the
> written test, then we can work from there.

Perhaps the handouts could cover the practical stuff.

If time is that limited, then IMHO its purpose is to guide rather
than to be comprehensive.

> I have to add, and I don't want to sound condescending, but I
> know that
> some of the people who will attend this class are barely
> literate, much
> less capable of reading and understanding the question
> pool . . . even
> though it's written at a junior-high level.

Who *are* these folks? I mean, the current written exams
have been passed by elementary school children years
away from middle school.

I suggest that if you have low expectations, the class will
live down to them, and if you have high expectations, they
will live up to them.

> This may be another
> challenge that I have -- how can I keep the intelligent people in the
> class interested when the dumber-than-a-rock crowd doesn't even
> understand the concept of what a frequency is?

With all due respect, if someone cannot grasp the concept of what
a frequency is, they should not be a licensed radio amateur, IMHO.
Such a lack of basic radio knowledge means the person just isn't
qualified yet, and endangers both the person and those around them.

The whole point of license testing is to insure that licensees know
the basics.

> The Tech license is not an ideal entry-level license.

Agreed. But it's what we've got.

> It requires quite
> a bit of intimidating work to learn material that is pretty foreign to
> people who have no experience in radio.

I disagree. It all depends on how the material is presented. To
use the frequency example, while most people might not know a
kilocycle from a bicycle, they will probably know that a piano
produces different tones. A simple electronic keyboard can demo
that principle easily. Then it's a short step to different radio
frequencies.

Of course it must also be learned that there's a difference between
sound as vibrating air and radio as a vibrating electromagnetic field,

but that's part of the game.

> Once you've got the license you
> need someone to demonstrate the wonders of HF, else there is no
> incentive to upgrade.

Why not as part of the frequency demo? How about a long roll of paper with various frequencies on it - 60 Hz for power, the AM BC band, the 49 MHz baby-monitor band, VHF and UHF TV, FM BC band, cell phones, microwaves, and oh yes, the ham bands. Color code it for the various services.

> What I'm looking for is a real entry-level license, similar to the
> Novice ticket, with an incentive to upgrade. I want to be able to
> actually teach concepts and the real skills that people need to get
> involved in ham radio, without feeling that I cannot do so because > my
> limited time must be spent getting them the knowledge to correctly > pick
> answers to pool questions.

Then you need more time. It's that simple. The time can be class time, or it can be time the students spend reading and learning on their own. But it takes time to learn this stuff.

"If it were easy, everybody would do it."

73 de Jim, N2EY

1739. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-23 13:04:49 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1193138019.362293.68820@y27g2000pre.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3744

On Oct 23, 12:15?am, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:

> I actually have a bit of a problem explaining to potential Technician
> Class licensees that they have CW privileges on HF bands. It just
> seems
> either ironic or silly.

I think it's neither.

The way I would present it is that the limited HF privileges of the
Technician are there if people want to use them. Amateur radio
is not all voice, particularly on HF, and the students need to know
that fact.

> An HF demo is an excellent idea, but probably not possible as
> part of
> the actual class. Setting up an HF station at the classroom
> location
> would be an interesting challenge. (Might be fun,
> though.) Perhaps I
> will invite the class to visit me at home so I can do some HF work, >or
> even schedule an extra session that's billed as a review session
> plus demo.

Or put together a video of HF stations in action. That way you
can cover a lot of ground in a short time, and present a wide
variety of modes and equipment types. Ask around - there
are probably hams in your area who would demo everything
from CW to AM to satellites to PSK31 for a video.

> I prefer to explain things from the point of view that
> Technician is the
> entry-level license, then demonstrate HF and explain that it's
> available
> by passing additional written exams that are similar to what they're
> studying for now.

But that's not entirely accurate - and you shouldn't present
inaccuracies.

The HF privileges of Techs today are far more than what I got as a
Novice, yet I was more than willing to pass the tests just to get
those old Novice bands.

> My experience is that "CW" is a four-letter word. YMMV.

It's all about attitude. CW is a big part of amateur radio, and
should be presented. There's no test for it, but it's something
Techs are allowed to do.

The key (pun intended) is to present it as something positive
that can be learned if the person is interested.

If you act like it's hard, they'll think it's hard. If you act like
it's fun, they'll get that message too.
>
> I do plan to do some demos as you suggested in your other
> article,
> including using a repeater, and maybe something related to
> EchoLink.
> This will depend a little on the background of the students,
> something I
> won't know until the first class.

I suggest that you present a wide variety and let them pick
and choose. Do not assume too much.

For example, I see many hams assuming that young people
will be interested in modes that use computers (like WinLink)
but not in modes like CW and AM using older technologies.

Yet in my experience the reverse is often true. The uniqueness
of those older modes and methods is often what they find most
interesting. They're surrounded by computers, networks, etc. -
those things are everyday, "Radio" is special to them.

You have to give them the big picture and let them pick the pieces
they like.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1740. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-23 15:24:10 UTC
From: Doug Smith W9WI <w9wi@invalid.nospam>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.10.23.14.25.19.1292@invalid.nospam>
Source record: 3745

On Tue, 23 Oct 2007 00:15:10 -0400, Steve Bonine wrote:
> studying for now. My experience is that "CW" is a four-letter word. YMMV.

Y'know, what I've found around here is that most new licensees (who didn't
have to learn Morse) are interested in learning Morse.

(whether they'll actually take the time to do it is another question)

As long as one emphasizes it is not *required*, I think it would do more
good than harm to at least mention CW as an option.

1741. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-23 15:24:38 UTC
From: Doug Smith W9WI <w9wi@invalid.nospam>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.10.23.14.36.06.136140@invalid.nospam>
Source record: 3746

On Mon, 15 Oct 2007 15:53:39 -0400, AF6AY wrote:
> It's a cool late February weekday in the year 1956. I am
> 23 and a month out of active US Army duty, having spent
> the last three Army years in radio communications, I had
> decided to get a civilian commercial radio operator
> license two weeks prior. I've done the cram thing on over-
> drive, practically memorizing all of the looseleaf notebook
> FCC rules borrowed from a new friend at a broadcast
> station. I walk several blocks from the train station to
> the Federal Building in Chicago. I am alone, have never
> been walking in downtown Chicago before...but I am
> confident although a bit tired. The train ride was an
> hour and a half and the flat Illinois prarie boring as usual.
>
> The FCC Field Office is upstairs and I find it. Everything
> seems to be utilitarian-government. World War II ended
> 11 years prior and all federal offices look "war surplus"
> furnished. Three visible officials are brusque, bored, not
> effusive; i.e., it's like being back in the Army. Familiar.
> FCC guys are fussing with a paper-tape code machine

Believe it or not, in 1974 I took my General code test on the same paper-tape code machine you saw the inspectors fussing with in 1956.

The pitch jumped briefly about halfway through. Didn't faze most of us, but when the tape was over one of the guys being tested protested loudly & insisted on being tested again. Don't know if he passed on the second try.

(the rest of us all passed on the first try, even with the jumping pitch)

By the time I took the 20wpm for the Extra two years later, they were using a cheap portable cassette player. It worked, but most of the "soul" was missing.

The train ride was from Milwaukee; I suspect the Federal Building was somewhat taller; and there was a Sears Tower along the walk from the train station, but I suspect it was a similar experience.

1742. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-23 16:01:45 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net>
Message-ID: <5o6k60Flfg8aU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 3747

"Steve Bonine" wrote ...
> The basic issue I'm wrestling with is walking the tightrope between
> teaching the actual questions from the pool and teaching concepts. It's
> not fair to the students to ignore the existence of the pool; after all,
> one of the goals of the class is to prepare them to take the written exam.
> But another goal is to get them ready to actually be an active member of
> the ham radio community, and memorizing pool questions doesn't contribute
> to that objective. So I'll try to do both -- cover concepts and review
> the actual questions.

Why not teach the concept, and then *include* the pool questions
among other examples of practical application of the concept.
That would accomplish both while better tying them together.

1743. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-23 18:44:08 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1193162775.148002.161460@e34g2000pro.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3748

On Oct 22, 8:15?pm, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
> Dee Flint wrote:
> > Also keep in mind the new privileges that Technicians have regarding HF
> > since the changes in Dec. 2006 and February 2007. Possibly print out the
> > NEW band charts from the ARRL site and hand them out. You could give an HF
> > operating demo for example.
>
> I actually have a bit of a problem explaining to potential Technician
> Class licensees that they have CW privileges on HF bands. It just seems
> either ironic or silly.
>
> An HF demo is an excellent idea, but probably not possible as part of
> the actual class. Setting up an HF station at the classroom location
> would be an interesting challenge. (Might be fun, though.) Perhaps I
> will invite the class to visit me at home so I can do some HF work, or
> even schedule an extra session that's billed as a review session plus demo.
>
> I prefer to explain things from the point of view that Technician is the
> entry-level license, then demonstrate HF and explain that it's available
> by passing additional written exams that are similar to what they're
> studying for now. My experience is that "CW" is a four-letter word. YMMV.
>
> I do plan to do some demos as you suggested in your other article,
> including using a repeater, and maybe something related to EchoLink.
> This will depend a little on the background of the students, something I
> won't know until the first class.
>
> Thanks for the suggestions.

Steve, I would say that a DEMO of anything that appeals to the senses
is excellent, be it a whole station or just a handheld VHF-UHF, with,
of course, a prearranged contact with a friend who knows that its a
class demonstration.

Audio-visual presentations have worked for six decades in getting
interest started and as a break in the formality of pure classroom
environments. It is a basic principle of effective marketing. It
gets the hook in the students to keep at it.

Yes, it is a lot more trouble to do, but even a short-and-snappy
contact with a "shack on the belt" handheld will have an emotional
appeal and break to the students. Quite probably most have already
heard this elsewhere but, with prearrangement with another ham, it
will be a solid contact. Even better, if the on-air conversation is
done with the contact's knowledge, the back-and-forth will be more

solid evidence of what can be done by Them later.

Everything should be aimed at the STUDENT. So far, I sense you have a feeling for them, a very good thing in my opinion.

The students are all looking at you in the class. You are their primary focus. The instructor has to be LOOKING and APPEARING relaxed and at-ease with the subject. You will have to appeal to their emotional senses to hold their interest. That's very subliminal but it is also an almost essential thing. It isn't acting. It is just a matter of remaining in contact with students, keeping their attention.

A lot of actual testing involves memorization of regulations, of the law itself. Memorization of such things is indespensible at any level of license class testing. It might be effective to have short periods of the class involving spotlighting just one part of that, get the class involved by having them do minor competition between themselves in front of the class on what you've just explained to them. That's a very old trick of many instructors, from public school on up to highly theoretical subjects. It can be good if presented in a friendly manner. It cannot be done effectively if it downplays the intelligence or emotional being of the different students.

Just a few words of friendly advice on your good volunteerism. I hope your classes do well and it is a success.

73, Len AF6AY

1744. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-23 21:14:25 UTC
From: Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-2C3AA4.16213023102007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 3650

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
> Klystron wrote:

> > A standard technique in college-level courses is to assign some
> > readings that will not be discussed in class. Then, you give a test that
> > covers the outside readings as well as the lecture content. You could
> > use the question pool as outside reading material and then lecture about
> > actual practice. Difficult questions from the pool could be covered at
> > the end of class as an "extra help" session.

> This is an excellent idea *if* the info is readily available. Handouts
> are a good idea too, as are links to specific web pages.
> [...]

When I was studying for the Technician test, I made a printout of the
question pool and had it spiral bound at Kinko's (about $4).

> > Keep in mind that the Element 2 written test used to
> > be the written part of the Novice test.

> I don't think that's true. Not anymore.
> [...]

I was thinking back a bit farther than that. Do you have the element
breakdown for the 1970's and 1980's?

> > Please
> > understand: I am not complaining. I think that is a good situation,
> > especially if the intent is to draw newcomers into real-world
> > communications, like disaster relief and not the self-limited
> > exchange of beeps that the old Novice class was offered.

> I disagree!
> [...]
> IMHO, the ideal 2007 entry-level license would offer a variety of
> bands and modes.

Which brings us back to the present-day Technician license. The 10
meter segment is quite substantial and the Novice CW segments are still
there, in the event that someone actually wants them.
Is there any data about how many no-code licensees ever use Morse?
I've seen a lot of wishful thinking among the old guard, but I don't
think that it is based in fact.

--
Klystron

1745. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-23 22:02:35 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13hsrr7hg6lq67c@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3651

Doug Smith W9WI wrote:
> On Tue, 23 Oct 2007 00:15:10 -0400, Steve Bonine wrote:
>> studying for now. My experience is that "CW" is a four-letter word. YMMV.
>
> Y'know, what I've found around here is that most new licensees (who didn't
> *have* to learn Morse) are interested in learning Morse.
>
> (whether they'll actually take the time to do it is another question)
>
> As long as one emphasizes it is not *required*, I think it would do more
> good than harm to at least mention CW as an option.

You don't have to worry about me mentioning CW . . . other than in disaster scenarios, almost all of my operating is on CW. I am a CW bigot, and it would be impossible for me to teach a class without letting my love of CW show.

But that view is very much not held by the members of the local radio club. None of them can understand how anyone could actually enjoy CW. I have tried to explain it, and I don't think I'm a bad ambassador for CW, but it just doesn't click with them. Mostly I just let the CW digs pass me by, but I have every intention of introducing CW (and other non-voice modes) in the class.

I am thrilled to hear that there is a desire to learn CW by people who were not forced to do so. I was hoping that would happen. I don't think *I* would have, so I tend to extrapolate my tendencies to today's new hams. It will be interesting to look back in a few years and try to determine how many new CW ops have come on board.

73, Steve KB9X

1746. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-23 22:02:41 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13hsrrfnjok8186@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3652

Richard Crowley wrote:

> Why not teach the concept, and then *include* the pool questions
> *among other examples* of practical application of the concept.
> That would accomplish both while better tying them together.

To some extent that's exactly what I plan to do. However, there are a number of concepts that aren't represented in the question pool with specific questions. That's one reason I need to draw the distinction between this being an introductory electronics class and it being a license class for the Technician class exam.

73, Steve KB9X

1747. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-23 23:19:43 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <T-ydnWG0e9bAHIPanZ2dnUVZ_jKdnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 3653

"Steve Bonine" <spb@pobox.com> wrote in message
news:13hqt96afsqal94@news.supernews.com...
> Dee Flint wrote:
>
>> Also keep in mind the new privileges that Technicians have regarding HF
>> since the changes in Dec. 2006 and February 2007. Possibly print out the
>> NEW band charts from the ARRL site and hand them out. You could give an
>> HF operating demo for example.
>
> I actually have a bit of a problem explaining to potential Technician
> Class licensees that they have CW privileges on HF bands. It just seems
> either ironic or silly.
>
> An HF demo is an excellent idea, but probably not possible as part of the
> actual class. Setting up an HF station at the classroom location would be
> an interesting challenge. (Might be fun, though.) Perhaps I will invite
> the class to visit me at home so I can do some HF work, or even schedule
> an extra session that's billed as a review session plus demo.
>

If some hams in your area have mobile setups (like I do in my car), invite
one of them to come over and demo it in the vehicle.

Dee, N8UZE

1748. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-23 23:53:24 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1193180164.060547.223270@i38g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3654

On Oct 23, 7:24?am, Doug Smith W9WI <w...@invalid.nospam> wrote:
> On Mon, 15 Oct 2007 15:53:39 -0400, AF6AY wrote:

> Believe it or not, in 1974 I took my General code test on the same
> paper-tape code machine you saw the inspectors fussing with in 1956.

Heh, heh, I'll bet the government-issue furniture was the same...:-)

>
> The pitch jumped briefly about halfway through. Didn't faze most of us,
> but when the tape was over one of the guys being tested protested loudly &
> insisted on being tested again. Don't know if he passed on the second try.
>
> (the rest of us all passed on the first try, even with the jumping pitch)

I would insist the group would have to be interrupted by a fire
drill... :-)

> By the time I took the 20wpm for the Extra two years later, they were
> using a cheap portable cassette player. It worked, but most of the "soul"
> was missing.

Well, according to Phil Kane, money is the real soul of the FCC.

I don't think it is that bad. I moved from the Midwest to California
in November of 1956. The Field Office of the FCC is in Long Beach,
CA, and that office doesn't look furnished in WWII-surplus.

I rather like my local area's Communications Auxilliary. It seems to
have been put in place some time around the Attack on America
("9/11"). The Old Firehouse had been replaced by the LAFD years ago
by a larger station somewhat close by...to all intents and purposes it
looked like an unused building. But, inside there is a converted bus
as a mobile radio station and there is a permanent base station in the
rear of the firehouse which can do HF to UHF comms. The LAFD is
responsible for the Communications Auxilliary and they kindly let the
VEC do test exams there. Seemed like the Old Firehouse is still kept
up nicely as if it could house a regular crew of firemen. We couldn't
get to inspect the Auxilliary's radio stuff but could see in through a
window set in the door.

>From the listing of amateur radio test sites, I could have gone to a
Denny's Restaurant reserved room near me or a private residence
somewhat farther away. At a mile away, the Old Firehouse and on a
Sunday afternoon was better. Getting a closer look at one of the
Communications Auxilliary's stations was a plus.

> The train ride was from Milwaukee; I suspect the Federal Building was
> somewhat taller; and there was a Sears Tower along the walk from the train
> station, but I suspect it was a similar experience

Heh, probably. I haven't been back to "The Loop" since then but been through Chicago Midway and, certainly, O'Hare, many a time since then, even a trip to Meigs Field right on the lakefront. But, 51 1/2 years ago I was just out of four years in the Army and could walk just about any distance needed. :-) I wouldn't think of trying that walk now. :-)

One thing I remember being amazed at in a 2001 trip back to northern Illinois for the Big 50 Reunion of our high school class of '51 was that WMCW in Harvard, Illinois, was still operating. I worked there a few months in 1956 when it was literally a converted farmhouse. 500 W daylight only, it was "the voice of Boone, McHenry, and Walworth Counties" sitting just off a two-lane highway and I did the whole works as the only employee. The 'studio' was the old living room and the control room was converted from the former dining room. :-) The farmhouse is gone and the studios for WMCW are now 'downtown' in Harvard, a bigger wide place in the road than it was 45 years prior. Only the single vertical for 1600 KHz remains, where I once replaced a mandatory warning light bulb that had gone out as a favor to the station owner, Esther Blodgett (of Blodgett Broadcasters).

73, Len AF6AY

1749. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-23 23:56:52 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13hsrrb2a30gq83@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3655

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
> On Oct 23, 12:03?am, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:

>> I have to add, and I don't want to sound condescending, but I
>> know that
>> some of the people who will attend this class are barely
>> literate, much
>> less capable of reading and understanding the question
>> pool . . . even
>> though it's written at a junior-high level.
>
> Who *are* these folks? I mean, the current written exams
> have been passed by elementary school children years
> away from middle school.

I probably shouldn't sell the students short until I see who actually shows up. But the impetus for the class was a request from a couple of people who have already attended two previous entry-level classes taught by the radio club in the next town over. I saw their material; it's good; anyone who managed to attend their class and not pass is either unmotivated or unteachable.

> I suggest that if you have low expectations, the class will
> live down to them, and if you have high expectations, they
> will live up to them.

You have an excellent point, and I will try to act on it. On the other hand, I do have to be realistic. I have to adapt the material to the level of the people in the class, to the best of my ability and striving not to pitch it so low that part of the class gives up in disgust.

> With all due respect, if someone cannot grasp the concept of what
> a frequency is, they should not be a licensed radio amateur, IMHO.
> Such a lack of basic radio knowledge means the person just isn't
> qualified yet, and endangers both the person and those around them.

I think you've gone too far because I went too far in my example.

Let me try to say this in different words.

The students in this class live in rural Minnesota. Electronics is foreign to most of them. They can run a GPS-controlled tractor and cover their fields without double-spraying a single row, but don't expect them to understand the concepts of how GPS works. Or want to.

It's a real challenge to teach electronics to this demographic. For one thing, their motivation to learn the material is 100% related to passing

the exam; they really couldn't care less that 1 amp will flow through a resistance of 1 ohm if 1 volt is applied. Some of it I can make "real" -- bring in a long extension cord, measure the resistance, discuss what that means when you put a welder at the end.

Most of these folks will never be electronics gurus. They don't need to be. They need to understand enough concepts to understand how to operate the equipment that they buy. Do they need to understand the relationship between wavelength and frequency to do that? No.

> The whole point of license testing is to insure that licensees know
> the basics.

I'm not sure that's actually true. Why do we care that a Technician licensee knows Ohm's law?

It seems to me that the point of license testing is to erect a barrier to entry. If that were not the case, the license pool would look a lot different. It would consist of regulations and practical knowledge that was actually used on a day-to-day basis. It would consist of material that, to use your phrase above, is essential to insuring that the licensee is not a danger to the person and those around him.

>> What I'm looking for is a real entry-level license, similar to the
>> Novice ticket, with an incentive to upgrade. I want to be able to
>> actually teach concepts and the real skills that people need to get
>> involved in ham radio, without feeling that I cannot do so because > my
>> limited time must be spent getting them the knowledge to correctly > pick
>> answers to pool questions.
>
> Then you need more time. It's that simple. The time can be
> class time, or it can be time the students spend reading and
> learning on their own. But it takes time to learn this stuff.

But I don't have more time. It's going to be hard enough convincing people to come to six sessions spread over three weeks. If I asked for more time, I would get no students. The goal is to figure out how to best use the time I have.

If I'm really successful, I will be able to lure people back to a followup class. That's the only way I'll ever get access to more of their time.

> "If it were easy, everybody would do it."

And we're back to the concept of the exam as a barrier to entry. If you have zero barrier, you have CB. If you have infinite barrier, you have no one entering.

Like everything else in life, this class is a series of tradeoffs. I picked six two-hour sessions as a compromise between having enough time to cover everything I want to cover and being able to attract enough people to conduct a class. I'll trade off time covering concepts to

time covering specific pool questions since I owe it to the students to cover both. And I'm sure I'll be challenged to keep it simple enough for some students while trying to challenge the rest.

73, Steve KB9X

1750. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-24 01:46:50 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13ht8vom5o6hc8b@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3656

Dee Flint wrote:

> If some hams in your area have mobile setups (like I do in my car), invite
> one of them to come over and demo it in the vehicle.

I wish we were in a slightly different spot in the sunspot cycle <grin>
When the band's not open, HF looks a lot like VHF/UHF. Or worse.
"This is called white noise."

Your suggestion is an excellent one. Please take my comment as the
humor it is intended to be.

73, Steve KB9X

1751. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-24 04:38:55 UTC
From: Bryan <bryan.swadenerNOSPAM@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <s7KdnR2_QJe2VIPanZ2dnUVZ_jOdnZ2d@giganews.com>
Source record: 3657

Steve Bonine wrote:
> Doug Smith W9WI wrote:
> > On Tue, 23 Oct 2007 00:15:10 -0400, Steve Bonine wrote:
> >> studying for now. My experience is that "CW" is a four-letter word.
YMMV.
> >
> > Y'know, what I've found around here is that most new licensees (who
didn't
> > *have* to learn Morse) are interested in learning Morse.
> >
> > (whether they'll actually take the time to do it is another question)
> >
> > As long as one emphasizes it is not *required*, I think it would do more
> > good than harm to at least mention CW as an option.
>
> You don't have to worry about me mentioning CW . . . other than in
> disaster scenarios, almost all of my operating is on CW. I am a CW
> bigot, and it would be impossible for me to teach a class without
> letting my love of CW show.
>
> But that view is very much not held by the members of the local radio
> club. None of them can understand how anyone could actually enjoy CW.
> I have tried to explain it, and I don't think I'm a bad ambassador for
> CW, but it just doesn't click with them. Mostly I just let the CW digs
> pass me by, but I have every intention of introducing CW (and other
> non-voice modes) in the class.
>
> I am thrilled to hear that there is a desire to learn CW by people who
> were not forced to do so. I was hoping that would happen. I don't
> think *I* would have, so I tend to extrapolate my tendencies to today's
> new hams. It will be interesting to look back in a few years and try to
> determine how many new CW ops have come on board.
>
> 73, Steve KB9X

This is an interesting discussion, and I'd like to add my thoughts. CW vs
fone is not unlike driving a vehicle w/ a standard vs automatic
transmission. Or, in my case, bracket (drag) racing a standard vs automatic
transmission. Yeah, it's easier to win when using an automatic transmission
but it's not impossible with a stickshift -- and doing so gives me more
satisfaction. Like you with the anti-CW digs, I let the digs against racing
a stickshift roll off me (for, they know not the joy of it).
Bryan WA7PRC

1752. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-24 05:52:55 UTC
From: Dan Yemiola AI8O <Dan@Yemiola.Net>
Message-ID: <ffm9gatmo1@news04.infoave.net>
Source record: 3658

"Mike Coslo" <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net> wrote in message
news:Xns99D0E78D8FCF2mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136...
> Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz> wrote in
> news:xxx-E5D360.19450321102007@news.verizon.net:
>
>
> Perhaps one of the reasons that many people believe that the old time
> tests were so much more difficult is that at the time, they were for the
> test taker! Some yougster taking a General test back in 1957 would
> indeed find the test hard. After a few decades of college, practical
> learning, work, and experience, and a look at the new tests, one can be
> excused in thinking that they are "easy", because after all the
> knowledge accumulation, they are easy.

Precisely my experience! In my day to day work I picked up a LOT of
electronics knowledge and experience.
NOT to BRAG but one day in 1983 I just happened to be in Detroit.
I just walked in and took the General test.
The secretary looked up my Novice license and then gave me the General test
and I upgraded to Tech Plus (it ws just called TECH then).
The hardest part of the exam for me was the parts rules and regs that were
just arbitrary like Band limits and how many days you had to respond to a
violation notice.

Same with the EXTRA exam I took in 2000. Day to day working knowledge was
more than enough to pass the exam.
>
> But not for everyone, and certainly the testing regimen should not be
> tailored to the highest denominator, so to speak.

No I think the exam should have more questions to test not just hit the high
points but also test the depth of the testee's knowledge, that is I think
the exam should have more questions, not harder just more questions.
>

1753. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-24 22:14:20 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1193261051.781837.288060@i13g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3659

Posted by Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> on Sun, 21 Oct 2007
22:54:39 EDT

>Klystron <x...@yyy.zzz> wrote in news:xxx-E5D360.19450321102007@news.verizon.net:

>> You could get the same result, effectively, by increasing the size of
>>the question pool. Just go from the present 8 or 10 to 1 ratio (pool
>> size to test size) to something larger. It could be easily
>> accomplished with the issuance of the next set of pools.
>
> And yet, it begs the question of *should* the tests be harder? And
> were they harder back in the day?
>
> This is an oft contentious issue that I think it is possible that
> memory might be playing a sort of trick on people.

As an FYI on the tests up to mid-2007, I've counted the number of pool
questions from my printout of the pools available in Februrary 2007:

Technician pool had 392 (35 required). Ratio of pool to requred
11.20:1

General pool had 485 (35 required). Ratio of pool to required 13.86:1

Extra pool had 802 (50 required). Ratio of pool to required 16.04:1

The pools have gone beyond 10:1 by a fair margin...even if I've mis-
counted slightly. My printouts (single spaced, both sides) FILL a
1" loose-leaf notebook.

Some time back I showed the notebook to an acquaintance who is an
aspiring actor, not a radio hobbyist. He is used to memorizing lines
of
a script and being as letter-perfect as possible, his lines as well
as
others in the same scene. His main comment went something like,
"Holy ##$%&!!! You had to memorize all that?!?" :-)

"No," I said, "Only certain things about regulations...theory and
practice should be known enough to pass."

Out of 120 questions, I missed 6 (counting the marks made by the
VEC team leader) and am sure that 5 of those were on certain
regulations like bandplan numbers and satellite operation. That was
satisfactory to me with 95 percent correct. I've got a little chart
of
bandplans and don't expect to get to outer space to operate

satellites. :-)

73, Len AF6AY

1754. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-25 00:25:30 UTC
From: Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-FFB4E7.18502224102007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 3660

AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote:
>
> As an FYI on the tests up to mid-2007, I've counted the number of pool
> questions from my printout of the pools available in Februrary 2007:
>
> Technician pool had 392 (35 required). Ratio of pool to requred
> 11.20:1
>
> General pool had 485 (35 required). Ratio of pool to required 13.86:1
>
> Extra pool had 802 (50 required). Ratio of pool to required 16.04:1
>
> The pools have gone beyond 10:1 by a fair margin...even if I've mis-
> counted slightly. My printouts (single spaced, both sides) FILL a
> 1" loose-leaf notebook.

Did you exclude from that count the questions that were later
disqualified? When I took the tests, most of the questions about band
edges had to be dropped because of the rule change. A few others were
dropped due to errors or poor wording. I think the current pool size has
been chosen to allow for a safety margin for the elimination of some
erroneous questions. (I am currently studying for the GMDSS operator
test and the worst questions on the amateur tests are worded better than
a large number of these.)
My figure of 8 or 10 pool questions to 1 test questions was very
rough and not intended for 4 significant digit precision. However, other
FCC test pools bring the average a bit closer to it, such as the GMDSS
test pool (600 in pool, 100 on test).

> Some time back I showed the notebook to an acquaintance who is an
> aspiring actor, not a radio hobbyist. He is used to memorizing lines
> of
> a script and being as letter-perfect as possible, his lines as well
> as
> others in the same scene. His main comment went something like,
> "Holy ##$%&!!! You had to memorize all that?!?" :-)
>
> "No," I said, "Only certain things about regulations...theory and
> practice should be known enough to pass."
>
> Out of 120 questions, I missed 6 (counting the marks made by the
> VEC team leader) and am sure that 5 of those were on certain
> regulations like bandplan numbers and satellite operation. That was
> satisfactory to me with 95 percent correct. I've got a little chart
> of

> bandplans and don't expect to get to outer space to operate
> satellites. :-)

Beat you. I got 100 on all three tests (amateur elements 2, 3 and 4).
I will admit that there was some rote memorization involved, especially
on the parts that I didn't know anything about (calculations involving
imaginary numbers, for example).

--
Klystron

1755. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-25 13:41:36 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1193310742.755719.69950@k79g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3661

On Oct 23, 7:56?pm, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote:

> > Who *are* these folks? I mean, the current written exams
> > have been passed by elementary school children years
> > away from middle school.
>
> I probably shouldn't sell the students short until I see who actually
> shows up.

That's a big part of what I am saying.

> But the impetus for the class was a request from a couple of
> people who have already attended two previous entry-level
> classes taught
> by the radio club in the next town over. I saw their material; it's
> good; anyone who managed to attend their class and not pass is > either unmotivated or unteachable.

I'm not convinced. Did you sit in on the classes and see what was
actually presented? Were the students able to attend all the classes
or only some? Good material, by itself, isn't going to guarantee
success.

> > I suggest that if you have low expectations, the class will
> > live down to them, and if you have high expectations, they
> > will live up to them.
>
> You have an excellent point, and I will try to act on it.

Thanks

> On the other
> hand, I do have to be realistic. I have to adapt the material to the
> level of the people in the class, to the best of my ability and striving
> not to pitch it so low that part of the class gives up in disgust.

That's true of any class, isn't it? Particularly one where attendance
is 100% voluntary.

> > With all due respect, if someone cannot grasp the
> > concept of what
> > a frequency is, they should not be a licensed radio amateur,
> > IMHO.
> > Such a lack of basic radio knowledge means the
> > person just isn't
> > qualified yet, and endangers both the person

> > and those around them.
>
> I think you've gone too far because I went too far in my example.

I stand by my statement. There must be certain minimum
qualifications to be a licensed ham. That doesn't mean a
high level, but it does mean all hams should know the
basics of how radio works. Otherwise the whole purpose
of the ARS is undermined.

> The students in this class live in rural Minnesota. Electronics is
> foreign to most of them. They can run a GPS-controlled tractor
> and
> cover their fields without double-spraying a single row, but don't
> expect them to understand the concepts of how GPS works.
> Or want to.

I'm not saying they should understand GPS to a high level. But
being from rural Minnesota doesn't mean they are incapable of
understanding basic radio if presented properly.

> It's a real challenge to teach electronics to this demographic.
> For one
> thing, their motivation to learn the material is 100% related
> to passing
> the exam; they really couldn't care less that 1 amp will
> flow through a
> resistance of 1 ohm if 1 volt is applied.

They don't have to *like* it, they just have to know it.

> Some of it I can make "real"
> -- bring in a long extension cord, measure the resistance,
> discuss what
> that means when you put a welder at the end.

BINGO! That's exactly it - tie the seemingly-abstract theory
to a real-world practical example. Another would be a demo
of why short thick jumper cables are better than long thin ones.

I can tell you from personal experience that most of a teacher's
job in such situations is finding an explanation that can connect
what the student already knows to what is being taught.

> Most of these folks will never be electronics gurus. They
> don't need to
> be. They need to understand enough concepts to
> understand how to
> operate the equipment that they buy.

Agreed. The license tests are the starting point, too, meaning
the person who passes them has met the *minimum* qualifications,
not that the person is an expert.

> Do they need to understand the
> relationship between wavelength and frequency to do that?

Yes! (IMHO)

> No.

Sorry, that's one of the most basic things about radio there
is. All it really requires is an understanding that low frequency
= long waves and high frequency = short waves.
>
> > The whole point of license testing is to insure that
> > licensees know the basics.
>
> I'm not sure that's actually true. Why do we care
> that a Technician
> licensee knows Ohm's law?

Because it's basic to the operation of radio.

Real world example: There's a lot of electronics out there
that requires a certain minimum voltage to work properly.
Typically 11.5 volts or so for "12 volt" equipment.
Some things, like camcorders, have automatic minimum
voltage shutdown. Most ham gear doesn't have such
protection.

At least some amateur transceivers will emit spurious signals
if you try to transmit with them using too-low supply voltage.
Synthesizer unlock and similar stuff.
Spurs that can cause interference to other radio services.
On top of that, most rigs draw a lot more current on transmit
than receive.

So if our new Technician doesn't understand Ohm's Law in
at least a very basic way, s/he could hook up their rig using
wire that has too much R, and then transmit all kinds of spurs
because the rig is getting too low a voltage on transmit. Yet it
will receive perfectly because there's enough voltage when
not transmitting. Indeed, the ham could even start a fire by
overheating the power supply wires.

> It seems to me that the point of license testing is to erect a barrier
> to entry. If that were not the case, the license pool would look a lot
> different. It would consist of regulations and practical knowledge > that
> was actually used on a day-to-day basis. It would consist of
> material
> that, to use your phrase above, is essential to insuring that the
> licensee is not a danger to the person and those around him.

Ohm's Law isn't just theory. An understanding of it is a practical
necessity for radio amateurs. Otherwise they're not qualified to
do what the license allows.

> > Then you need more time. It's that simple. The time can be
> > class time, or it can be time the students spend reading and
> > learning on their own. But it takes time to learn this stuff.

> But I don't have more time.

Doesn't have to be *your* time.

> It's going to be hard enough convincing
> people to come to six sessions spread over three weeks.
> If I asked for
> more time, I would get no students.

How do you know?

> The goal is to figure out how to
> best use the time I have.
> If I'm really successful, I will be able to lure people back to a
> followup class. That's the only way I'll ever get access to more of
> their time.

At a certain point, they have to be interested enough to invest
the necessary time and effort.

> > "If it were easy, everybody would do it."
>
> And we're back to the concept of the exam as a barrier to entry.

No.

It's not about "barriers". It's about a ham knowing the basics.

> If you have zero barrier, you have CB.

I would phrase it as "zero requirements". But yes, you have cb.
And look how that turned out. Should amateur radio become
nothing more than high power multiband cb? I say no.

> If you have infinite barrier, you have
> no one entering.

Of course, but the license requirements are far from infinite. They're
just the basics.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1756. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-25 22:04:48 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <7m32i3hg69t1ntqgtsb8g3jov9frthlf5n@4ax.com>
Source record: 3662

On Tue, 23 Oct 2007 19:53:24 EDT, AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote:

>I don't think it is that bad. I moved from the Midwest to California
>in November of 1956. The Field Office of the FCC is in Long Beach,
>CA, and that office doesn't look furnished in WWII-surplus.

Until 1975 the LA office was in downtown LA, and its last location was on the top floor of the U S Courthouse. When the judges made them move, the deal was cut to move to Long Beach with G.I. 1960s-era furniture. It helped that one of the engineers there (a good friend and ham who rose to become the Western Regional Director but died much too young 15 years ago) was a superior surplus scrounger who found the newest-looking stuff.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1757. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-25 22:57:39 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <13i275dj1h9v808@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3663

Reading all the back and forth discussion of Steve's upcoming classes and his concerns... I'm getting really confused. When I was a teenager playing with CB, I didn't know nuthin' from nuthin' about radio, antennas, you name it. Once I became determined to become a ham, I eagerly learned all about it in order to pass my Novice, and then the General, and.... and at points when I saw the need (such as "gee, what is this 'swr' business?"), I learned more. So Steve, if you're so concerned about how these "students" are going to respond to your technical talks and related licensing materials, why are they even invited? Are they really interested in becoming hams? Or (at an extreme), are you recruiting potential hams like "Psssst! Hey kid - come 'eah - you wanna get a ham license?"

If they're going to whine about "Why do I have to learn this stuff??" then *I* don't think they deserve the privilege of a license.

Howard N7SO

1758. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-26 01:25:24 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1193354051.958444.68210@o80g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3664

On Oct 25, 6:57?pm, "Howard Lester" <heyles...@dakotacom.net> wrote:

> Once I became determined to become a ham, I eagerly
> learned all about it
> in order to pass my Novice, and then the General, and....
> and at points when
> I saw the need (such as "gee, what is this 'swr' business?"),
> I learned more.

I was and still am like that. A lot of radio stuff I learned simply
because it looked interesting or might be useful "someday".

But not everyone is like that. Doesn't mean they can't be
good hams.

> So Steve, if you're so concerned about how these "students"
> are going
> to respond to your technical talks and related licensing
> materials, why are
> they even invited?

Anyone with interest is invited. And any good teacher tries to
match the presentation to the students.

> Are they really interested in becoming hams?

That's the key question.

> Or (at an
> extreme), are you recruiting potential hams like "Psssst! Hey kid - > come 'eah - you
wanna get a ham license?"

Well, it's not quite like that!

The way I see it, people with interest should be welcomed and
helped. But the person has to take a certain amount of
responsibility to learn what's needed and to get set up. There's
a point where "help" turns into "doing it for" in such a way that
it actually works against the goal.

It's the old "give a man a fish/teach a man to fish" thing, aka
"learned helplessness".

> If they're going to whine about "Why do I have to learn this
> stuff??" then
> *I* don't think they deserve the privilege of a license.

It's not "whining" to ask why the requirements exist. All license test requirements have to justify their existence.

The Basis and Purpose of amateur radio includes the idea that hams will know at least the basics of radio. Ohm's Law and the relation of frequency and wavelength are pretty basic radio stuff, therefore, they belong on the test.

Simple as that.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1759. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-26 01:27:42 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1193357787.108022.305200@i38g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3665

Klystron posted on Wed 24 Oct 2007 17:25

>AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote:
>
>> As an FYI on the tests up to mid-2007, I've counted the number of pool
>> questions from my printout of the pools available in Februrary 2007:
>
> Did you exclude from that count the questions that were later
>disqualified?

I only counted the applicable pool questions. Yes, I also
printed out the NCVEC website listing of question changes,
but only as a very general reference, not to be used
specifically for my 25 Feb 07 test. www.ncvec.org

>When I took the tests, most of the questions about band
>edges had to be dropped because of the rule change. A few others were
>dropped due to errors or poor wording.

I took my test before an ARRL VEC team. The ARRL-supplied
test question sheets had already excluded changed questions
(and answers). Good security was practiced by the ARRL VEC
team leader and the other three in the team, all materials for
testing kept in a small padlocked carrying box. Scoring
templates were translucent plastic sheets, blue and imprinted
with the ARRL logo, if memory serves me correctly.

> My figure of 8 or 10 pool questions to 1 test questions was very
>rough and not intended for 4 significant digit precision. However, other
>FCC test pools bring the average a bit closer to it, such as the GMDSS
>test pool (600 in pool, 100 on test).

After doing the total count of questions on my printout, I used
a pocket calculator to derive the percentages. It has flexible
significant digit settings and I used my standard setting of two
significant digits in the fraction of percentages. I apologize if
that offends anyone. [HP-32S II, cost $60 in 2001 off-the-shelf,
just got an HP-35S, $60 still, the latest in the 35-year history
of scientific pocket calculators, direct from HP on-line shop]

GMDSS testing would be done in front of a COLEM since it is a
Commercial radio license group. Different from the VEC.

My First Class Radiotelephone (Commercial) Operator license
test was taken at an FCC Field Office in Chicago, IL, 51 1/2
years ago. There were no COLEMs or VECs then and testing
was not privatized. All commercial radiotelephone licenses

were changed to the General Radiotelephone Operator License (GROL) much later and my First 'Phone was changed automatically to that. I kept that GROL renewed also until it became a lifetime license, no renewals required. I am not interested in obtaining any other commercial license now.

>> Out of 120 questions, I missed 6 (counting the marks made by the
>> VEC team leader) and am sure that 5 of those were on certain
>> regulations like bandplan numbers and satellite operation. That was
>> satisfactory to me with 95 percent correct.

>Beat you. I got 100 on all three tests (amateur elements 2, 3 and 4).

I concentrated only on passing my three required test elements. I wasn't in 'competition' with anyone else but myself. The FCC sets the limits on the pass versus fail and the FCC grants the license. I passed. I mentioned my observed scoring only as an afterthought. The percentage of questions passed didn't seem to be logged by any in the VEC team. Scores aren't in the data-base from the FCC.

>I will admit that there was some rote memorization involved, especially
>on the parts that I didn't know anything about (calculations involving
>imaginary numbers, for example).

Complex number quantities are not an absolute necessity in amateur radio...unless one wants to be successful in designing certain parts of radio and electronics or doing a more in-depth realization of what actually comprises impedance or admittance. I learned complex number quantities from a third- or fourth-hand used reference on mathematics given to me in 1959. [I still have it and use it as a refresher on other math from time to time] They are not hard to learn, just a bit strange to those who haven't yet gone beyond scalar quantities. Both the HP-32 and HP-35S will do complex number arithmetic as a built-in function on the keyboard and the HP-35S has a much larger program storage.

I wish you well on your GMDSS test before a COLEM.

73, Len AF6AY

1760. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-26 01:51:09 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13i2h0185kpg1a6@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3666

Howard Lester wrote:
> Reading all the back and forth discussion of Steve's upcoming classes and
> his concerns... I'm getting really confused. When I was a teenager playing
> with CB, I didn't know nuthin' from nuthin' about radio, antennas, you name
> it. Once I became determined to become a ham, I eagerly learned all about it
> in order to pass my Novice, and then the General, and.... and at points when
> I saw the need (such as "gee, what is this 'swr' business?"), I learned
> more. So Steve, if you're so concerned about how these "students" are going
> to respond to your technical talks and related licensing materials, why are
> they even invited? Are they really interested in becoming hams? Or (at an
> extreme), are you recruiting potential hams like "Psssst! Hey kid - come
> 'eah - you wanna get a ham license?"
>
> If they're going to whine about "Why do I have to learn this stuff??" then
> *I* don't think they deserve the privilege of a license.

Let me try to address your questions and comments from Jim. I
understand what you are both saying, and agree with much of it. But we
have some basic disagreements.

Let's remind ourselves of the five purposes of the amateur radio service
from Part 97:

(a) Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to
the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service,
particularly with respect to providing emergency communications.
(b) Continuation and extension of the amateurï¿½s proven ability to
contribute to the advancement of the radio art.
(c) Encouragement and improvement of the amateur service through rules
which provide for advancing skills in both the communications and
technical phases of the art.
(d) Expansion of the existing reservoir within the amateur radio service
of trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts.
(e) Continuation and extension of the amateurï¿½s unique ability to
enhance international goodwill.

Items b, c, and d require technical knowledge of radio. Items a and e
do not.

There are two reasons why I do not expect the students in my entry-level
class to develop a detailed understanding of electronics.

First, this knowledge is not necessary in today's hobby. Sure, it's
desirable, and it's necessary if you want to actually get involved in
certain aspects of the hobby, like building your own equipment. But it
is perfectly possible to participate in emergency communications, or to

enhance international goodwill, and not know an ohm from an amp.

Second, most people today simply do not have any desire to learn radio theory. Does that mean that these individuals should be excluded from the ham radio hobby? I do not think so. It's certainly your prerogative to believe differently. Related to this, I know that most of these folks are "learning" this material simply so that they can pass the test and that within a couple of weeks they'll retain none of it. If that bothered me, I wouldn't teach the class.

In short, my goal is to get some new hams licensed. At worst, they can fulfill two of the five stated goals of the service. At best, they will discover the wonders of the hobby and get involved, and in that process they'll learn a lot more because they want to. I hope that I can help them get involved, but they'll never get involved if they don't pass that first exam.

I have about 18 hours of one-on-many time with these folks. I have to figure out how to "best" use this time. "Best" is really what we're talking about in this subthread. I'd love to give them a good electronics background, but that's simply not possible in 18 hours. My primary goal is to get them through the exam, and that factors into my definition of "best use of time".

I don't think that my standards are too low. I would rather give these folks an opportunity to be productive members of the ham radio fraternity than to insist on a burning desire from the beginning to learn about radio fundamentals.

1761. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-26 18:34:11 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fft83o$1jbk$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3667

AF6AY wrote:

> Out of 120 questions, I missed 6 (counting the marks made by the
> VEC team leader) and am sure that 5 of those were on certain
> regulations like bandplan numbers and satellite operation. That was
> satisfactory to me with 95 percent correct. I've got a little chart
> of bandplans and don't expect to get to outer space to operate
> satellites. :-)

Hi Len,

The bandplan frequencies and satellite operations are a real issue with me. I always thought that better questions were available, since like you note, you look at a chart. I do too.

At least with the band plans, the better question for the test would be to see if the testee knew where to look them up.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1762. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-26 18:35:20 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <ffta0fflm1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3668

Steve Bonine wrote:

If I may interject here, I think we may be treating people as a group more so than individuals.

Some of those people in your class may just want to fire up the repeater and chat.

Some of them may just want to do emergency comms.

Some may want to build stuff.

Very importantly though, they may not know until they are exposed to it.

When I first became a Ham, my interests were in applying the hobby to my other hobby, amateur astronomy.

After that, I joined a club, and went to FD. I operated Field day with a control OP. I thought WOW! this is a lot of fun. So I went for my General Test. After Struggling with Morse Code - it is not easy for some of us, I got my General Ticket.

Then I discovered Digital modes, and a whole new part of the hobby opened up for me.

I kept on discovering things, the latest being how enjoyable HF Mobile is. I built my own bugcatcher, and have been surprised how well it works, given the low efficiency of mobile antenna setups.

My point here is that I discovered a lot of things about Ham Radio that I didn't expect, and they became the focus of my hobby.

Oddly enough, I never integrated Amateur radio as I had originally planned to, in Astronomy.

Don't sell the students short. Some of them may indeed just want to "pass the test". But by exposing them to a little of the different aspects of the hobby might just awake something in them that they didn't know existed.

Some thoughts for demos:

Obvious ones like the repeater operations.

An FT-817 with a miracle whip might be just the ticket for demonstrating SSB, CW and Digital. With all the "hot" setups out there, a less than mediocre setup such as this will still be able to make QSOs with.

I'd suggest going from FM to SSB to PSK-31, to CW, just to keep things lively. Could be done by bandwidth, with an explanation of how the smaller bandwidth signal tends to get across better. It's always good to have a sked setup with another Ham in case propagation is bad.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1763. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-26 20:08:04 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <2kh4i393eajivk3u3t8837ca07bq2h4sap@4ax.com>
Source record: 3669

On Fri, 26 Oct 2007 14:34:11 EDT, Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:

>At least with the band plans, the better question for the test would be
>to see if the testee knew where to look them up.

Another approach would be to have a sample chart with the segments
labeled by their emission designators, such as A1A or J3E, and ask for
the segment allowed to Phone or Morse, or Data, etc.

This would be independent of "real life" band plans or regulations,
which are subject to frequent changes, and would test another phase
of the knowledge of The Compleat Ham.

The California Bar Exam does just that - they give you a set of laws
and a fact pattern and you have to write something - an argument, a
petition, etc based on those, not on "real life" which can be
something different depending on the latest court cases.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1764. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-26 20:53:22 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1193430694.312406.9480@k79g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3670

On Oct 26, 2:34 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> AF6AY wrote:
> > Out of 120 questions, I missed 6 (counting the marks made by the
> > VEC team leader) and am sure that 5 of those were on certain
> > regulations like bandplan numbers and satellite operation. >

> The bandplan frequencies and satellite operations are a real issue with
> me. I always thought that better questions were available, since like
> you note, you look at a chart. I do too.
>
> At least with the band plans, the better question for the test would be
> to see if the testee knew where to look them up.
>
With all due respect, I think there's a bit of terminology confusion
here.

In amateur radio use, "bandplan" refers to voluntary, suggested usage
of frequencies,
not regulations. For example, AM operation on 75 meters centers around
3885 kHz
even though it is legal (for Region 2 Extras) to use AM anywhere from
3600 to 4000 kHz (as
long as the sidebands are inside those limits).

"Subbands" refers to the frequency limits in the regulations
themselves, by mode, class of license,
or both.

For example, 'phone modes are not allowed from 3500 to 3600 kHz for
any class of FCC-licensed
radio amateur in Region 2. That CW/data-only subband is part of the
regulations, not the bandplan.
Or the rule that only Extras can use 3500 to 3525 kHz, etc. -
regulations, not bandplan.

Yes, some hams do use the term "bandplan" to refer to the regulations.
But doing so leads
to confusion, because the term usually means voluntary agreements, not
regulations. Why
not use the term that most clearly expresses the concept?

On 160 meters there are no subbands by mode or license class, but
there is a bandplan!
Same for 30 meters.

The problem with removing direct questions on the regs is that such an approach has a
proven record of not working as a regulatory tool. Back when FCC licensed cb users,
the license form required a signed statement that the licensee had read the regulations,
understood them, and would follow them to the letter. Compliance with the regulations
for that radio service turned out to be less than FCC anticipated, however.

Putting specific questions on the regs in the tests is one way of saying that knowing those
regs is important for all hams. If they are replaced by questions about "where do you look
up the band edges" or some such, why can't the whole exam be replaced by such questions?

73 de Jim, N2EY

1765. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-27 05:12:48 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1193460320.566091.185980@y27g2000pre.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3671

Michael Coslo posted on Fri, 26 Oct 2007 14:34:11 EDT

>AF6AY wrote:
>> Out of 120 questions, I missed 6 (counting the marks made by the
>> VEC team leader) and am sure that 5 of those were on certain
>> regulations like bandplan numbers and satellite operation. That was
>> satisfactory to me with 95 percent correct. I've got a little chart
>> of bandplans and don't expect to get to outer space to operate
>> satellites. :-)

>Hi Len,
>
> The bandplan frequencies and satellite operations are a real issue with
>me. I always thought that better questions were available, since like
>you note, you look at a chart. I do too.

Mike, I agree with you but don't see it as anything worth arguing
about.

>At least with the band plans, the better question for the test would be
>to see if the testee knew where to look them up.

That could be a solution. I'm still wondering about all those space
questions, though. Like there's not going to be many DXepiditions
to earth orbit specifically for radio amateurs.. :-)

73, Len AF6AY

1766. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-27 05:13:50 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1193460464.692648.4440@v29g2000prd.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3672

Phil Kane posted on Fri, 26 Oct 2007 16:08:04 EDT

>On Fri, 26 Oct 2007 14:34:11 EDT, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>>At least with the band plans, the better question for the test would be
>>to see if the testee knew where to look them up.
>
>Another approach would be to have a sample chart with the segments
>labeled by their emission designators, such as A1A or J3E, and ask for
>the segment allowed to Phone or Morse, or Data, etc.
>
>This would be independent of "real life" band plans or regulations,
>which are subject to frequent changes, and would test another phase
>of the knowledge of The Compleat Ham.

"Compleat Ham?" :-) 'Armour plated?' Or Farmer John? :-)

>The California Bar Exam does just that - they give you a set of laws
>and a fact pattern and you have to write something - an argument, a
>petition, etc based on those, not on "real life" which can be
>something different depending on the latest court cases.

With all due respect, Phil, a Bar Examination is for a professional
license, not an amateur radio license. No one is expecting the
theory part to be taken from a state Professional Engineer license,
yet that would be as applicable in the same sense, yes?.

While there is so much hoo-hah about 'privatization' of amateur
radio examinations, the NCVEC are all composed of licensed
amateurs. They seem to have done good in the last two
decades and one can communicate with them about what
should be the questions. Could anyone but the FCC discuss
things about the FCC amateur radio test questions before
privatization? I ask because I was unaware that there was any
possibility of suggesting anything about that before privatization.

73, Len AF6AY

1767. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-27 06:55:47 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1193462563.234027.120800@e34g2000pro.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3673

On Oct 25, 5:51?pm, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
> In short, my goal is to get some new hams licensed. At worst, they can
> fulfill two of the five stated goals of the service. At best, they will
> discover the wonders of the hobby and get involved, and in that process
> they'll learn a lot more because they want to. I hope that I can help
> them get involved, but they'll never get involved if they don't pass
> that first exam.
>
> I have about 18 hours of one-on-many time with these folks. I have to
> figure out how to "best" use this time. "Best" is really what we're
> talking about in this subthread. I'd love to give them a good
> electronics background, but that's simply not possible in 18 hours. My
> primary goal is to get them through the exam, and that factors into my
> definition of "best use of time".
>
> I don't think that my standards are too low. I would rather give these
> folks an opportunity to be productive members of the ham radio
> fraternity than to insist on a burning desire from the beginning to
> learn about radio fundamentals.

Steve, from all the talk of the others and your very patient replies,
I think you are doing the right thing with your preparations. It is
very basic stuff you are doing and that is a good step, perhaps the
best step for your Class of collected tabula rasas. I applaud your
efforts.

Since I've been involved in radio and electronics (one way or another)
for 6 decades, making the "Compleat Ham" (as Phil put it) just can't
be done in 18 hours. It would take at least a thousand hours, perhaps
two. Had it been that long a 'class' the drop-out rate would be
large. As you say, some aren't interested in theory, some are only
interested in certain aspects of radio. Those who only want VHF and
up operation probably could care less about the ionosphere and all
that long-distance propagation. But...the thing others haven't
mentioned or others just gloss over is that you HAVE some that are
interested enough to come for 18 hours.

"The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step."

So far, the 'discussion' has been a lot of argument by others all
about stepping, which way to go, etc., etc., ad something or other. I
doubt that anything of that applies. They have taken the first nibble
of the bait and aren't yet hooked, but I sense you can play them in.

PRESENTATIONS of anything are always better with a sense of theater about them. That involves the personality of the presenter, the prime focus of all in this classroom. Their interest must be held and focussed on the material and that comes from their sensing the presenter' mood and personality. Projection of the presenter to this 'audience' requies confidence and a friendliness with them.

Preparation and presentation go hand-in-hand. It is nice if you can do some audio-visual things but simple, easy-to-read-at-distance graphics will do. It breaks the flow a bit, but that's good. It lets the class focus on the material; they don't always have to watch the presenter. Being at ease in front of an audience is sometimes a toughie. It was for me the first few times, but I adapted to it. The ease of the presenter is absorbed by this 'audience.' Lack of ease will reflect in the audience drifting away from the presentation and they may feel uncomfortable.

Since I'm a bit far from you, I can't watch a rehersal of your presentation and suggest some improvement, but maybe there's one or more there who would be willing to stand in for the 'audience?' I don't know how much experience you've had before such an audience but I think you will get the feel of it right quick. You know the material. The only thing left is letting your enthusiasm rub off on the folks in class.

You've made the first step for them. Now it is time to extend your hand to have them follow. I hope they ALL follow you...and eagerly.

73, Len AF6AY

1768. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-27 12:51:57 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13i6d2hbeefehf8@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3674

AF6AY wrote:

> Since I've been involved in radio and electronics (one way or another)
> for 6 decades, making the "Compleat Ham" (as Phil put it) just can't
> be done in 18 hours. It would take at least a thousand hours, perhaps
> two. Had it been that long a 'class' the drop-out rate would be
> large.

"Compleat Hams" are not made in class. They are "made" by participating in the hobby. Traditional classes should be a part of that participation (I have little patience with the people who say, "I don't have time to attend your class on emergency communication or participate in your exercise, but I'll be around when there's a real emergency") but experience is the real teacher. And you can't begin that experience until you pass that first written test.

> As you say, some aren't interested in theory, some are only
> interested in certain aspects of radio. Those who only want VHF and
> up operation probably could care less about the ionosphere and all
> that long-distance propagation. But...the thing others haven't
> mentioned or others just gloss over is that you HAVE some that are
> interested enough to come for 18 hours.

One of the things that continues to amaze me about the hobby is that it's not one hobby, but many. That's one of the things I hope to be able to communicate to the students in the class . . . not by preaching to them, but by describing the various aspects of the hobby (or by having someone who is passionate about "their" aspect come to class and expound on it). I do think that those who only want VHF should at least be exposed to propagation and how it works; how can they know if they might be interested in HF if they never even know it exists.

> "The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step."

The journey into the ham radio hobby begins with passing a written exam.

I suppose that's not really true. The journey begins with deciding to take the journey. For these students, the "single step" is attending this class. That fact sure puts the pressure on the instructor . . .

> So far, the 'discussion' has been a lot of argument by others all
> about stepping, which way to go, etc., etc., ad something or other. I
> doubt that anything of that applies. They have taken the first nibble
> of the bait and aren't yet hooked, but I sense you can play them in.

I hope so. Time will tell.

As a related comment . . . when I started this thread, one of the issues I was trying to explore was walking the tightrope between "teaching the pool" and teaching a general electronics class. As I continue to prepare the details of the class, I'm realizing that teaching a concepts class based on the pool questions isn't really that bad. If the students come out of the class understanding the concepts upon which the pool questions are based, they will have a pretty good start at an electronics background.

There are some huge gaps, of course. For example, somehow the concept of inductance doesn't appear at all. But after living with the pool for a while, I feel better about using it as the basis for an 18-hour introductory class.

I'm sure that some of the students will spend their study time memorizing the specific questions from the pool. I hope that I have some students who will embrace the concepts. All I can do is present the material in the clearest and most engaging way that I can, let my passion show through, and provide the mentoring and encouraging environment to get them into the hobby.

> Since I'm a bit far from you, I can't watch a rehersal of your
> presentation and suggest some improvement, but maybe there's one or
> more there who would be willing to stand in for the 'audience?' I
> don't know how much experience you've had before such an audience but
> I think you will get the feel of it right quick. You know the
> material. The only thing left is letting your enthusiasm rub off on
> the folks in class.

I don't mean this to be critical of your suggestion Len, but I'm reminded of an article I saw last night on the network TV news. It seems that FEMA decided to give a news conference, and when no reporters showed up, FEMA employees pretended to be reporters and asked questions of the FEMA presenter. I'm afraid that rehearsals of this class, which would likely be held with members of the local radio club taking the place of the students, would be a lot like that. It would certainly be useful to do it, and I'm sure my presentation would benefit, but the "audience" that I get for the real class is likely to be much different from the "audience" that I would have in a trial run.

I think that the single biggest challenge I'm going to have is finding the right "pitch point" for this class. I'm expecting to have a few folks whose eyes glaze over as soon as I try to cover anything even remotely difficult and a few who will think that my level of coverage is much too general. Trying to keep the interest of the one group and not bore the other is going to be a challenge. I hope I'm up to it.

73, Steve KB9X

1769. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-27 19:56:28 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <3r57i352h766u4efkqh9qt2usgt4ik392e@4ax.com>
Source record: 3675

On Sat, 27 Oct 2007 01:13:50 EDT, AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote:

>With all due respect, Phil, a Bar Examination is for a professional
>license, not an amateur radio license. No one is expecting the
>theory part to be taken from a state Professional Engineer license,
>yet that would be as applicable in the same sense, yes?.

I wasn't referring to the content level, but to the process of using
and applying "given" information rather than "memory guesses".
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1770. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-27 20:11:00 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <p867i3tol4cl3fmrnq5t4q5sn0dchefi6i@4ax.com>
Source record: 3676

On Sat, 27 Oct 2007 08:51:57 EDT, Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> wrote:

> "I don't
>have time to attend your class on emergency communication or participate
>in your exercise, but I'll be around when there's a real emergency"

Yes, there's always one more place in what we call the Resource Pool
Net where untrained and un credentialed hams can sit around and wait
to be called - if ever. The days of a random appearance, HT in hand,
are over in this era of Emergency Comm Centers and Incident Command
Systems. They can't even get in the door of the comm centers today,
and there are no resources available to train them to assist properly
during a "real emergency". Knowing how to rag chew or work a contest
doesn't quite cut it.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1771. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-27 20:52:09 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <ds47i3dommml9su0568u8icokbb4sm76vl@4ax.com>
Source record: 3677

On Sat, 27 Oct 2007 01:13:50 EDT, AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote:

>Could anyone but the FCC discuss
>things about the FCC amateur radio test questions before
>privatization? I ask because I was unaware that there was any
>possibility of suggesting anything about that before privatization.

In real life the FCC exams were mode up by engineers who were knowledgeable in the fields being tested. I myself wrote several questions on television standards and measurements for the Radiotelephone First Class License revision in 1972. The questions on the amateur exams were composed by staff engineers who were active amateurs.

Yes, there was a provision for input from the "outside" by writing a letter to the Examinations and Licensing Branch of the Field Operations Bureau with the suggestions. This was not a "secret" process, either, because lots of such letters were received and reviewed by the committee that was responsible for examination revisions. Some suggestions were accepted, others were rejected.

My gripe with privatization is that these are functions that should be done by the FCC, not by others. Dumping them on someone else is not the proper way to solve the problems that existed.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1772. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-28 20:55:24 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13i9tp75frf8s86@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3678

Phil Kane wrote:

> and there are no resources available to train them to assist properly
> during a "real emergency".

Allow me to rephrase in case someone misinterprets:

There are no resources available during a real emergency to train them.

1773. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-29 17:19:31 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fg4usj$172g$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3679

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
> On Oct 26, 2:34 pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>> AF6AY wrote:
>>> Out of 120 questions, I missed 6 (counting the marks made by the
>>> VEC team leader) and am sure that 5 of those were on certain
>>> regulations like bandplan numbers and satellite operation. >
>
>> The bandplan frequencies and satellite operations are a real issue with
>> me. I always thought that better questions were available, since like
>> you note, you look at a chart. I do too.
>>
>> At least with the band plans, the better question for the test would be
>> to see if the testee knew where to look them up.
>>
> With all due respect, I think there's a bit of terminology confusion
> here.

Thanks for the correction Jim. I should have stated that what I don't
like on the tests is questions about what particular frequencies you are
allowed to operate on by your class.

> Putting specific questions on the regs in the tests is one way of
> saying that knowing those
> regs is important for all hams. If they are replaced by questions
> about "where do you look up the band edges" or some such, why can't the
>whole exam be replaced by such questions?

That is kind of slippery sloping my point. Knowing that we are supposed
to ID at certain intervals, or what a wavelength is, or what unit is
used to describe electrical power (all questions from the Technicians
test) are things that require some knowledge, and simply knowing where
to look them up would be troublesome and time consuming in a real time
situation if one had no knowledge of what they were - or even what, in
which case knowing would not be possible.

While printing out that nice little chart from ARRL and posting it by
the rig is simple to the point, and can be looked at before transmitting
to make sure you are within the limits.

Of course taking into account the bandwidth of the transmitted signal,
another question that would be better on the test than the simple
statement of frequencies.

- 73 d eMike KB3EIA -

1774. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-29 21:37:29 UTC
From: Bruce in Alaska <fast@btpost.net>
Message-ID: <fast-6CA643.11495929102007@netnews.worldnet.att.net>
Source record: 3680

In article <fg54av$173a$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>,
Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:

> The major downside of all this is that as Emergency ops move toward this
> mode, the question arises of why they would be using amateur radio to
> perform the function at all - they might as well have their own system
> on their own frequencies, that they alone use.
>
> - 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

One of the REAL Reasons that Amateur Radio can play a part in Emergency Comms, is really very simple, and usually not thought of, in many Govt. EMS/Enforcment Groups.

What happenes when the Repeaters, and or Remote Bases, are lost due to Power Loss, FIRE, or EarthQuake, at the High Point Remote Locations that the EMS/Enforcment System uses, or secondly, what happens when the Telco Links from the EMS/Enforcment Comms Center fail, due to these same situations and the CommCenter can work the Repeaters and Remote Bases via RF Links but can't communicate with the next higher Govt entity?

Cases on Point here. World Trade Center Collapse.

All local South Mannhatten VHF and UHF Remote Base and Repeaters for New York, as well as most of the other Govt. Frequencies were installed on Top of the WTC. When it collapsed, they lost 95% of their Repeated, and Remote Base Comms, and couldn't talk to each other except on one or two simplex Emergency Backup Freqs, that weren't common to ALL the EMS People from ALL the Mutual Aid Responders.

LA Fire a couple of years ago.

Again, 90% of the local Camms were taken out when one of the MAIN Remote Base and Repeater Location up on the Rim of the World Highway was caught in a Flashover during a major fire. None of the equipment, that was inside the building was damaged, but ALL the Coax, and most of the Antennas were destroyed by the heat of the fire, causing these systems to be OFFLine from that point, untill MONTHS later when the tower was rebuilt.

Our EMS People depend on their Comms to work, and work reliably, in oreder to be effective in thier jobs. when these systems fail, they can still work their individual jobs, but their effectivness as a EMS System is greatly reduced. A good Emergency Plan, with TRAINED Volenteers, and Backup Equipment, and Frequencies, can help keep these EMS folks effective.

How many EMS Systems have a Backup, Mobile, EMS RemoteBase and Repeater Comm Infostructure, ready to deploy, should the fixed Infostructure Fail?

Is there an Backup EMS/Enforcment Comms Policy, inplace, that sets the rules for use of the minimal Simplex Frequencies that will be common to ALL Mutual Aid Responders, for a given Massive Comms Failure, and who is in charge of that traffic, and getting the traffic to the right places.

The Feds have been trying to deal with these senerios since 9/11, and are just NOW, starting to get a handle on SOME of the problems, and solutions, that will be involved.

We see the RED Cross, starting to require their volenteers to be Credentialed. I understand that SOME of the Enforcment folks are issuing Limited Credentials to Trained Ham Club folks that they have used before, and incorporate into their Backup Emeregency Comms Policies and Proceedures.

All this is just for local EMS/Enforcment Comms, but who can provide the Long Distance Comms, to the higher Govt. Entities, when the longlines are out. This was a MAJOR problem in the Post Katrina New Orleans Senerio. The National Guard usually HAS the equuipment, and MAY have the personnel, but are they ready on a moments notice, or does it take Days to ManUp and Deploy. Wouldn't it be nice if the Hams via their own Club System, could have a BackUp Emergency Comms Plan and Policy to provide such Systems from Local to County, and County to State, should their be an urgent need, should disaster, of these magnitudes, happen.

Bruce in alaska just one of many, who actually Think about such stuff......
--
add <path> before @

1775. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-29 22:58:38 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Vq-dnQFm894N-LvanZ2dnUVZ_gqdnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 3681

"Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
news:fg4usj$172g$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...
> [snip]
> Thanks for the correction Jim. I should have stated that what I don't like
> on the tests is questions about what particular frequencies you are
> allowed to operate on by your class.
>

Yet there are times such as mobile or portable operation that we don't have
that band chart with us. So it's nice to know our frequencies.

>
> Of course taking into account the bandwidth of the transmitted signal,
> another question that would be better on the test than the simple
> statement of frequencies.
>

I definitely agree that this should be a possible test question as one can
be out of band simply due to the width of the signal. A lot of people don't
understand this until they get "dinged" so to speak. When I teach a class,
I try to emphasize this.

Dee, N8UZE

1776. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-29 23:18:00 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <feoci31lni8nonngai6cj7m50a8qtn83q2@4ax.com>
Source record: 3682

On Mon, 29 Oct 2007 13:21:40 EDT, Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:

>What I have been seeing recently is that people who are already working
>in emergency operations have been getting Technician licenses, and
>intend to commandeer repeaters as needed during emergencies.

Our district-wide ARES/RACES groups have several repeaters licensed to
members so no "commandeering" is necessary. In addition, we routinely
test simplex paths between our served agencies in case repeaters go
down for any reason.
>
>Even in our area, whole groups of folk have been getting licensed in
>this reverse manner. We have ambulance drivers, paramedics, comm center
>staff. I suspect in the near far term, we won't be getting in the door period,
>unless we become some kind of semi professional unpaid volunteer.

We've kicked this around too. All of our active members have been
"vetted" by the state police for RACES ID cards and most of us carry
Sheriff's Office entry passes (picture ID, not law enforcement officer
credentials) that are necessary to get into facilities where the SO
provides security.

We've also kicked around the situation where in our hospital we have
to go through the Emergency Room entry area to reach the EOC, and the
ER docs and nurses are empowered that if during an emergency/lockdown
they see anyone in the ER whom they do not recognize they are to have
security detain them for interrogation. For that reason those of us
who serve hospitals also have hospital picture IDs issued by the
security department.

Welcome to the 21st Century.

I think a new class of Ham is inadvertently coming about - that
>of the quasi-professional ham - one who is employed in a field that
>occasionally calls on them to use their amateur radio license in pursuit
>of their work. Note that the FCC has upheld this as legal IIRC.

Most, if not all of our served agencies have ruled that in a "real"
emergency, the employee does his or her regular job, not serve as part
of the Amateur Radio teams. We have MOUs with the served agencies
that we will provide the necessary comms if their regular comms become
unavailable.

The only exception is with the HEARTNET role as the secondary backup
for the inter-hospital ER status and reporting system carried on 800
MHz with a primary backup of 155 MHz, and if both of those
"commercial" services go down, the 146 MHz simplex net is used by ER

personnel who are licensed hams. We have no problem with that because the traffic that would be handled is very medical-specific and decisions have to be made "on the fly" over the radio, and it's better to have the RNs do it than to have to pass messages through non-medical personnel.

>The major downside of all this is that as Emergency ops move toward this
>mode, the question arises of why they would be using amateur radio to
>perform the function at all - they might as well have their own system
>on their own frequencies, that they alone use.

And they do. We are the "whenever all fails, we are still there." And the "modern" 800 MHz systems are virtually useless when things get hot because of either system hardware failure or priority public safety traffic making the system unavailable to "lower on the ladder" users.

A very small payback for the privilege of using the spectrum that we get.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1777. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-30 03:14:32 UTC
From: konstans <konstans@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <fg5i3l$h5a$1@registered.motzarella.org>
Source record: 3683

"Steve Bonine" <spb@pobox.com> wrote in message
news:13hpelos43h30b5@news.supernews.com...
> In a week I will begin teaching an entry-level class that the local

> Another issue is the scheduling of the class. There are proponents of the
> weekend method -- cover the material in a day or so. While there are
> advantages to that, I favor multiple shorter sessions. I think that
> learning is much better in that environment, but in today's hectic world,
> getting people to commit to multiple sessions is problematic. We've
> decided on six session spread over three weeks. Maybe that was a fatal
> error; time will tell.

have you considered schedlues the classes past the projecting VE tests
ession allowing to focus more at fist on the exam and more later on real
operating

1778. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-30 12:49:38 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fg786j$1j80$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3684

Bruce in Alaska wrote:
> In article <fg54av$173a$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>,
> Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:
>
>> The major downside of all this is that as Emergency ops move toward this
>> mode, the question arises of why they would be using amateur radio to
>> perform the function at all - they might as well have their own system
>> on their own frequencies, that they alone use.

> What happenes when the Repeaters, and or Remote Bases, are lost due to
> Power Loss, FIRE, or EarthQuake, at the High Point Remote Locations that
> the EMS/Enforcment System uses, or secondly, what happens when the Telco
> Links from the EMS/Enforcment Comms Center fail, due to these same
> situations and the CommCenter can work the Repeaters and Remote Bases
> via RF Links but can't communicate with the next higher Govt entity?
>

There you have it. I would say that those who are running the show are
very VHF/UHF centric. They don't know about long distance radio, except
for perhaps satellite Operations, which are still line of site. Someone
somewhere has to know what bands to use at what time and for what distance.

<A bunch of good stuff snipped>

> The Feds have been trying to deal with these senerios since 9/11, and
> are just NOW, starting to get a handle on SOME of the problems, and
> solutions, that will be involved.

Your post is pretty accurate, Bruce.

One of the things that I want to add is that while Amateur radio was one
of the few things that worked very well, those who are in command are
bent on turning it into something more like what failed.

I believe that the present day post 911, and even more post Katrina
emphasis on emcomm Amateur radio is imposing a structure upon those Hams
who would volunteer their time, when in fact, what has allowed Ham radio
to work in emergencies is that very lack of structure among
knowledgeable Hams who in a random fashion come forth and offer their
services and know-how to the problem at hand.

I believe that imposing a structure on the ARS, and bringing it into the
fold, so to speak, will increase the chances that Amateur radio will be
the one to fail along with other parts of the emergency operations.

As we are called upon to have our backgrounds checked, our lifestyle and
financial dealings investigated, and resign ourselves to hauling out the

trash or unloading trucks, there will be less of us willing to spend our vacation time or even simply lose money to offer our services.

At that time, most of what will be left is those quasi-professional technicians who are licensed to talk, but know precious little else about how to make sure the comms continue. Then comes failure.

It's a real problem, because those who make the decisions can only see solutions as application of structure, and if there is a problem, the answer must be more structure. Its like the old saying "If your tool is a hammer, all problems look like nails."

This is a very controversial position for sure, as witnessed by local Emergency people's reaction when I bring it up. My only suggestion is for people to look at what causes failure, and correct it. Some times what seems like a good idea is what causes failure. If that is the case, no application of more of that "good idea" will create success.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1779. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-30 20:27:10 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <8b4fi3d9po2e33ghrkqvp1d5k72id5uufp@4ax.com>
Source record: 3685

On Tue, 30 Oct 2007 08:49:38 EDT, Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:

> There you have it. I would say that those who are running the show are
>very VHF/UHF centric. They don't know about long distance radio, except
>for perhaps satellite Operations, which are still line of site. Someone
>somewhere has to know what bands to use at what time and for what distance.
>
Most, if not all, of our served agencies have or are getting HF
transceivers for "long distance" communication. If the repeater
and/or packet relays go down, that's what we have to use to connect to
state and regional EOCs, usually by NVIS facilities. Most of our
leadership have those in their home stations as well. Some of us are
looking into automatic interchange between VHF to HF for digital
traffic. We aren't content with a "shack on the belt" approach.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1780. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-31 02:16:16 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns99D9E2599972Fmcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 3686

Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote in
news:8b4fi3d9po2e33ghrkqvp1d5k72id5uufp@4ax.com:

> On Tue, 30 Oct 2007 08:49:38 EDT, Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:
>
>> There you have it. I would say that those who are running the
>> show are
>>very VHF/UHF centric. They don't know about long distance radio,
>>except for perhaps satellite Operations, which are still line of site.
>>Someone somewhere has to know what bands to use at what time and for
>>what distance.
>>
> Most, if not all, of our served agencies have or are getting HF
> transceivers for "long distance" communication. If the repeater
> and/or packet relays go down, that's what we have to use to connect to
> state and regional EOCs, usually by NVIS facilities. Most of our
> leadership have those in their home stations as well. Some of us are
> looking into automatic interchange between VHF to HF for digital
> traffic. We aren't content with a "shack on the belt" approach.

Perhaps your local setup is doing well, Phil, I can only see what is
happening locally, and what I get from the news.

I suspect they have some good people running the show there?\

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1781. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-31 17:49:49 UTC
From: konstans <konstans@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <fgac2l$14r$1@registered.motzarella.org>
Source record: 3687

"Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> wrote in message
news:Vq-dnQFm894N-LvanZ2dnUVZ_gqdnZ2d@comcast.com...
>
> "Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
> news:fg4usj$172g$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...
>> [snip]
>> Thanks for the correction Jim. I should have stated that what I don't
>> like on the tests is questions about what particular frequencies you are
>> allowed to operate on by your class.
>>
>
> Yet there are times such as mobile or portable operation that we don't
> have that band chart with us. So it's nice to know our frequencies.

how many mobiles will premit out of band op Dee? none of mine will

only on HF can this be an issue since only hthere does the rules contiue the
insanity ofparts of bands to deferent class (amoug the classes we still
issue)
>
>>
>> Of course taking into account the bandwidth of the transmitted signal,
>> another question that would be better on the test than the simple
>> statement of frequencies.
>>
>
> I definitely agree that this should be a possible test question as one can
> be out of band simply due to the width of the signal. A lot of people
> don't understand this until they get "dinged" so to speak. When I teach a
> class, I try to emphasize this.

I thought it was such a question
>
> Dee, N8UZE
>

1782. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-31 18:13:30 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5oru7uFobotuU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 3688

"konstans" <konstans@hotmail.com> wrote in message
news:fgac2l$14r$1@registered.motzarella.org
: : "Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> wrote in message
: : news:Vq-dnQFm894N-LvanZ2dnUVZ_gqdnZ2d@comcast.com...
: : :
: : : "Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
: : : news:fg4usj$172g$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...
: : : : [snip]
: : : : Thanks for the correction Jim. I should have stated
: : : : that what I don't like on the tests is questions
: : : : about what particular frequencies you are allowed
: : : : to operate on by your class.
: : : :
: : :
: : : Yet there are times such as mobile or portable
: : : operation that we don't have that band chart with us.
: : : So it's nice to know our frequencies.
: :
: : how many mobiles will premit out of band op Dee? none
: : of mine will

They can be programmed or modified to.

For example my Icom IC-V82 2m handie will transmit anywhere from 136-174 MHz. This was apparently necessary to allow it to operate on the US 2m band 144-148 MHz. Here in Region 1 (UK) we only have 144-146 on 2m so so in order to keep the warranty intact, I asked the importers to modify it for the US band when I bought it, as I travel there on holiday regularly. They told me that opening it up to 134-174 was the only way it could be done, apparently the firmware in US versions that cover 144-148 only is different.

73 Ivor G6URP

1783. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-10-31 23:45:11 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1193862922.622104.63940@i13g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3689

On Oct 30, 4:49?am, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> Bruce in Alaska wrote:
> > In article <fg54av$173...@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>,
> > Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:

> It's a real problem, because those who make the decisions can only see
> solutions as application of structure, and if there is a problem, the
> answer must be more structure. Its like the old saying "If your tool is
> a hammer, all problems look like nails."

If all you have is a nail-puller, your structure won't hold
together...

AF6AY

1784. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-01 03:13:50 UTC
From: Dick Grady AC7EL <rng@richbonnie.com>
Message-ID: <koeii3d0i1c19pumijpt6pavd8e28qtjf9@4ax.com>
Source record: 3690

Last December, some hams in my town put on a "Ham Cram" one-day study and license test for Technician Class. One week ahead of time, the students received a print-out of the question pool. On Ham Cram day, from 7:30 AM to 1:00 PM they were drilled on the questions, with the correct answer being stressed. After a lunch break, at 2:00 PM my VE License exam team arrived to test them. 13 of 14 passed. BUT, I have had contact with several of these students since the Ham Cram, and they had almost no practical knowledge of amateur radio. They required A LOT of Elmering. IMHO, lessons spread out one night a week for a couple of months, with practical demonstrations and discussions of ham culture would have made much better hams.

73 de Dick, AC7EL

1785. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-01 09:54:14 UTC
From: Mindraker <anon@anon.com>
Message-ID: <h9hWi.506$_P3.340@newsfe05.lga>
Source record: 3691

"Dick Grady AC7EL" <rng@richbonnie.com> wrote in message
news:koeii3d0i1c19pumijpt6pavd8e28qtjf9@4ax.com...
> Last December, some hams in my town put on a "Ham Cram" one-day study and
> license test for Technician Class. One week ahead of time, the students
> received a print-out of the question pool. On Ham Cram day, from 7:30 AM
> to
> 1:00 PM they were drilled on the questions, with the correct answer being
> stressed. After a lunch break, at 2:00 PM my VE License exam team arrived
> to
> test them. 13 of 14 passed. BUT, I have had contact with several of
> these
> students since the Ham Cram, and they had almost no practical knowledge of
> amateur radio. They required A LOT of Elmering. IMHO, lessons spread out
> one
> night a week for a couple of months, with practical demonstrations and
> discussions of ham culture would have made much better hams.
>
> 73 de Dick, AC7EL

There is very little math on the Tech test. If you can't remember to divide
the number "300", you probably won't remember the rest of the answers.
However, experience makes a good ham, not knowledge of the answers. I am an
extra class ham, but I realized that without experience or a fundamental
knowledge of electronics, I really couldn't do much more than push a button
and chat.
-Mindraker

1786. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-01 11:09:25 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <aNadnW87RrJfLrTanZ2dnUVZ_gqdnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 3692

"konstans" <konstans@hotmail.com> wrote in message
news:fgac2l$14r$1@registered.motzarella.org...
>
> "Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> wrote in message
> news:Vq-dnQFm894N-LvanZ2dnUVZ_gqdnZ2d@comcast.com...
>>
>> "Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
>> news:fg4usj$172g$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...
>>> [snip]
>>> Thanks for the correction Jim. I should have stated that what I don't
>>> like on the tests is questions about what particular frequencies you are
>>> allowed to operate on by your class.
>>>
>>
>> Yet there are times such as mobile or portable operation that we don't
>> have that band chart with us. So it's nice to know our frequencies.
>
> how many mobiles will premit out of band op Dee? none of mine will
>

All HF rigs that I have permit one to set and transmit SSB in the CW/Data
portion. That is operating out of band. Happened to a lot of continental
US folks last weekend in the CQ WW contest. I suppose they got excited and
weren't paying attention to the frequency readout.

> only on HF can this be an issue since only hthere does the rules contiue
> the
> insanity ofparts of bands to deferent class (amoug the classes we still
> issue)

You are overlooking the splits by mode. For example it is against FCC rules
for continental US stations to transmit any voice mode in the CW/DATA
portion.

>>
>>>
>>> Of course taking into account the bandwidth of the transmitted signal,
>>> another question that would be better on the test than the simple
>>> statement of frequencies.
>>>
>>
>> I definitely agree that this should be a possible test question as one
>> can
>> be out of band simply due to the width of the signal. A lot of people
>> don't understand this until they get "dinged" so to speak. When I teach

>> a
>> class, I try to emphasize this.
>
> I thought it was such a question

Even if there is a question in the pool, it may not show up in an actual test. Basically the pool needs to contain several questions of this type to insure that one does show up on the actual test taken.

Dee, N8UZE

1787. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-01 13:34:51 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1193922979.198995.177400@57g2000hsv.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3693

On Nov 1, 7:09 am, "Dee Flint" <deeflin...@comcast.net> wrote:

> All HF rigs that I have permit one to set and transmit SSB in the CW/Data
> portion.

All the HF amateur rigs I have seen will also permit one to transmit
data modes in the 'phone/image subbands, which is also against US
regs. Some will permit things like too-wide-for-the-regs FM on HF,
too.

> That is operating out of band. Happened to a lot of continental
> US folks last weekend in the CQ WW contest. I suppose they got excited and
> weren't paying attention to the frequency readout.

Or they don't know the rules well enough to apply them all the time.

> For example it is against FCC rules
> for continental US stations to transmit any voice mode in the CW/DATA
> portion.

Whether we like it or not, subbands-by-license-class are a reality for
FCC-licensed amateurs. That's a reality which isn't going to change
soon, because FCC has repeatedly denied all proposals to eliminate
subbands-by-mode or subbands-by-license-class on the HF amateur radio
bands. We might someday go to subbands-by-bandwidth, if someone can
come up with a reasonable proposal, but the situation won't change
much if that happens. We'll still have the case of 'you can't transmit
that mode on this frequency'.

There's also the fact that we US amateurs - all of us - are allowed
by the regs to design, build, repair and modify our rigs, and they
don't have to be formally type-accepted or certified. So it makes
sense to require us to know the regs rather than expecting our rigs to
prevent our mistakes.

> Even if there is a question in the pool, it may not show up in an actual
> test. Basically the pool needs to contain several questions of this type to
> insure that one does show up on the actual test taken.

Even if the question shows up on the test, the person can get it
wrong.

IMHO, one of the fundamental weaknesses of the written tests today is
that all subjects and questions are lumped together so that a person
can have huge holes in their knowledge yet still pass. This is of
particular concern because the holes can be in subjects like safety
and regulations.

I think it would be better if each test were broken down into subelements-by-subject, and marked in such a way that you'd need a passing grade in each subelement to pass the whole exam.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1788. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-01 14:34:40 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13ijouuso9oj74b@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3694

Dee Flint wrote:

> Even if there is a question in the pool, it may not show up in an actual
> test. Basically the pool needs to contain several questions of this type to
> insure that one does show up on the actual test taken.

Remember that the exam is built by choosing a given number of questions from each subelement. For example, there are four questions on the Tech exam from subelement 1, which is FCC Rules and station license responsibilities. When the pool was constructed one of the aspects was a weighting of the various topics. There are, for example, only two questions from subelement 7 (Operating in the field. Contests. Special events. Satellite operation).

I don't envy the committee that formulated the pool. No matter what they come up with, a lot of folks will criticize it. A fine example of a thankless job.

73, Steve KB9X

1789. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-01 17:50:24 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13ijof5ti6063e7@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3695

Dick Grady AC7EL wrote:
> Last December, some hams in my town put on a "Ham Cram" one-day study and
> license test for Technician Class. One week ahead of time, the students
> received a print-out of the question pool. On Ham Cram day, from 7:30 AM to
> 1:00 PM they were drilled on the questions, with the correct answer being
> stressed. After a lunch break, at 2:00 PM my VE License exam team arrived to
> test them. 13 of 14 passed. BUT, I have had contact with several of these
> students since the Ham Cram, and they had almost no practical knowledge of
> amateur radio. They required A LOT of Elmering. IMHO, lessons spread out one
> night a week for a couple of months, with practical demonstrations and
> discussions of ham culture would have made much better hams.

I think that the optimum recipe for baking a new ham is first a class that teaches basic concepts based on the pool questions, then the exam, followed by a combination of classes and one-on-one Elmering to get the new hams on the air and integrated into the ham-radio community.

If you present a prospective ham with the prospect of a class that continues for months they're likely to be intimidated to the point of deciding that they can't make that level of time commitment. The trick is finding a scheduling scheme that gives you enough time to do more than just go over the pool questions but doesn't scare away all the prospective students.

A one-day cram might be a good starting point *if* there is plenty of followup support and the new/prospective hams are encouraged to do more than attend the one-day class, pass their written test, and then never get involved with the hobby. Personally, I don't care for cram sessions, but some people do, and they have the advantage of providing an opportunity to get people "hooked" and thereby get them into appropriate followup activities. They also have the potential for being such a negative experience that they turn off prospective hams. Everything is a trade off.

The key to getting new people involved in the hobby is to pique their interest enough that they follow through. Back in the "good 'ole days" the allure of radio technology was enough to attract folks, many of them teenagers, into the hobby. In today's world, radio is pretty "low tech" and this natural attraction is diluted by newer bells and whistles. We need to do the same kinds of public relations and marketing that is done by other activities that are competing for peoples' spare time. We need people to read or see something that makes them think, "Gee, that could be a rewarding activity." You can offer all the entry-level classes you want, but if no one is interested enough in the potential of ham radio to attend the class, nothing is gained.

That's not to say that I have any magic answers on how to do this. I do see a trend of more "middle aged" recruits coming on board these days -- people who have had the idea in the back of their heads for years of getting into ham radio, and finally have time to act on it. My experience is that many of these folks see an article about ham radio being used for some aspect of public service, and that's what re-kindles the latent idea, but I have no real scientific basis for that belief. I think it would be a good use of ARRL funds to do some market research in this area, figure out what it is that's motivating people to enter the hobby, then use that knowledge to improve our PR.

As an aside, for those who might be interested in the class that was the impetus to start this thread, I've got ten students and I think that things are going well. Most of the students are interacting in the class and seem to be enthusiastic about what they're learning. (Well, perhaps "enthusiastic" is a bit of an overstatement since much of what we discuss is dry regulations, but at least I haven't heard any snores yet.) Of course it is much too early to tell how successful we will be since I will judge that based on how many of these folks I hear on the air and see at local ham-related activities six months from now.

73, Steve KB9X

1790. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-01 17:51:51 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13ijpjt62a8rlc0@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3696

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:

> So it makes
> sense to require us to know the regs rather than expecting our rigs to
> prevent our mistakes.

I agree with this, but it brought a question to my mind.

The new generation of HF transceivers -- the ones that have quite a bit of computing ability built in -- do they have the ability to enforce sub-bands? Certainly they *could* have that ability, since they already "know" the band edges and in most cases won't allow you to transmit completely outside a band allocation, but why not support the next step and not allow SSB in the CW band?

I don't think that most folks who find themselves doing something stupid like using SSB outside of the US sub-bands do so because they don't know the regulations. They get caught up in the excitement of a contest or chasing DX or their mind slips out of gear, and when they realize what they've just done they feel about two inches tall. I would like to see the flexibility in a piece of equipment that I just shelled out big bucks for to keep me from doing this, while at the same time giving me the flexibility to program the segments that apply to my license class or if I take the rig to a different location where the rules are different.

Or maybe this is already a feature of the new rigs. I wouldn't know, not having bought any HF equipment in this century.

73, Steve KB9X

1791. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-01 18:09:14 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1193939846.876601.156980@z24g2000prh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3697

On Nov 1, 6:34?am, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
> Dee Flint wrote:
> > Even if there is a question in the pool, it may not show up in an actual
> > test. Basically the pool needs to contain several questions of this type to
> > insure that one does show up on the actual test taken.
>
> Remember that the exam is built by choosing a given number of questions
> from each subelement. For example, there are four questions on the Tech
> exam from subelement 1, which is FCC Rules and station license
> responsibilities. When the pool was constructed one of the aspects was
> a weighting of the various topics. There are, for example, only two
> questions from subelement 7 (Operating in the field. Contests. Special
> events. Satellite operation).
>
> I don't envy the committee that formulated the pool. No matter what
> they come up with, a lot of folks will criticize it. A fine example of
> a thankless job.

Steve, I've got to agree with you 100% on that. :-)

I did pause a moment to reflect on a few years of lots of folks'
comments, on-line, off-line, in-print, in-person. There's some
relationship to "instant gratification" that is a catch-phrase in all
the complaints. As I sense it, all the "experienced experts" on
everything want the TEST to prove all successful applicants
become Instant Experts almost as good as the complainers. :-)

The predecessors of the FCC and the FCC itself continued to
use licensing (and tests for same) as a regulatory tool for their
lawful charter of all US civil radio. It was never, ever intended
to be any academic test good enough for award of a degree in
a subject...yet so many others blur the distinct difference of an
amateur radio license TEST verses expertise a la academia.

Back when the FCC 'personally' tested radio operators, it was
proclaimed a 'Real Test.' From expeience of many of my
contemporaries, that 'reality' didn't exist. There was no way
one could 'test' for radio equipment of 1956 to make anyone
'expert.' When the FCC revamped a lot of their work to include
privatization - which included Frequency Coordinaton of many
PLMRS users as well as amateur repeaters - it became a
'bad thing.' The TEST was no longer 'real' since all the
questions and right-wrong answers were public...which came
about through other political work, not the fact of privatization.

I cannot see where the Volunteer Examiner Coordinator system is so 'bad.' It is composed of active fellow amateur radio licensees and I doubt that any of them could be considered dummies. That's better than having questions and answers thunk up by a faceless few at the FCC, ones whose primary task is radio regulation, not boosting amateur radio nor trying to get more licensees. All in all, I think the VEC QPC is doing a FINE job given their virtual free rein on what to ask in every test element.

It is even better when one considers the first word in their description: Voluntary. Those on the Committee have guts as well as experience in volunteering for a sometimes thankless task. I salute their work and dedication (with all five fingers, properly) for keeping up that task for two decades (give or take).

73, Len AF6AY

1792. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-01 19:16:06 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <ie7ki3lq55k2a4vojs72ip1blqfs7cep99@4ax.com>
Source record: 3698

On Thu, 1 Nov 2007 13:51:51 EDT, Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> wrote:

>I would like to see
>the flexibility in a piece of equipment that I just shelled out big
>bucks for to keep me from doing this,

That separates the "Compleat Ham" who is in control of the station
from the "appliance operator".

>while at the same time giving me
>the flexibility to program the segments that apply to my license class
>or if I take the rig to a different location where the rules are different.

An interesting thought.
>
>Or maybe this is already a feature of the new rigs. I wouldn't know,
>not having bought any HF equipment in this century.

I acquired an Elecraft K2/100 about 18 months ago. It has been
augmented by the K3 now. Both are top-of-the-line HF rigs in kit or
modular form (think of a Heathkit on steroids). Neither has the
feature that you are describing.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1793. Info on DSO 2150 USB Oscilloscope

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-01 19:17:23 UTC
From: WB5RVZ <rrrobson@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <1193944243.903925.69880@19g2000hsx.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3600

I am just starting to get my feet wet in homebrewing, etc., and need to consider getting a scope. I see a chinese product on ebay, "DSO 2150 USB Oscilloscope" which seems to have adequate specs for un challenging measurement requirements.

I was wondering if anyone on this reflector has had any experience with this product?
tx es 73 de robby wb5rvz

1794. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-01 21:09:54 UTC
From: Jack VK2CJC <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com>
Message-ID: <fgd9kj$9d2$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 3601

> The new generation of HF transceivers -- the ones that have quite a bit of
> computing ability built in -- do they have the ability to enforce
> sub-bands? Certainly they *could* have that ability, since they already
> "know" the band edges and in most cases won't allow you to transmit
> completely outside a band allocation, but why not support the next step
> and not allow SSB in the CW band?

I should imagine that this facility would be easily added as a feature. But they never will. When I moved from the UK to Australia, I took my region 1 HF radios to region 3. I contacted Kenwood and Icom to find out if I could reprogram the band edges to allow use of the larger 40m band. Both were very helpful and told me how to "wide band" them, which fixed the problem.

I found out that the radios were available in 3 versions. One for each region. And it was not possible to make one version into another without replacing ICs at the factory.

If "mode sensitive" sub bands were programmed, every time someone moved, or a change in bandplan was brought in, it would be nessesary to go to the Yaecomwood dealership and ask to have the radio changed. An expensive, time consuming and unnecessary exercise :o)

Besides. I wouldn't buy a radio that was restrictively programmed in a manner I wasn't able to undo. Just for the principle of it.

--
Jack VK2CJC / MM0AXL
FISTS #9666
CW Ops QRP Club #753
Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group
www.mncarg.org

1795. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-01 23:32:03 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <_qSdnYmDq8FQ_LfanZ2dnUVZ_qmlnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 3602

"Steve Bonine" <spb@pobox.com> wrote in message
news:13ijouuso9oj74b@news.supernews.com...
> Dee Flint wrote:
>
>> Even if there is a question in the pool, it may not show up in an actual
>> test. Basically the pool needs to contain several questions of this type
>> to insure that one does show up on the actual test taken.
>
> Remember that the exam is built by choosing a given number of questions
> from each subelement. For example, there are four questions on the Tech
> exam from subelement 1, which is FCC Rules and station license
> responsibilities. When the pool was constructed one of the aspects was a
> weighting of the various topics. There are, for example, only two
> questions from subelement 7 (Operating in the field. Contests. Special
> events. Satellite operation).
>
> I don't envy the committee that formulated the pool. No matter what they
> come up with, a lot of folks will criticize it. A fine example of a
> thankless job.
>
> 73, Steve KB9X
>

Very true.

Dee, N8UZE

1796. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-01 23:35:28 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <68CdneghAdI1_7fanZ2dnUVZ_jednZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 3603

"Steve Bonine" <spb@pobox.com> wrote in message
news:13ijpjt62a8rlc0@news.supernews.com...
> N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
>
>> So it makes
>> sense to require us to know the regs rather than expecting our rigs to
>> prevent our mistakes.
>
> I agree with this, but it brought a question to my mind.
>
> The new generation of HF transceivers -- the ones that have quite a bit of
> computing ability built in -- do they have the ability to enforce
> sub-bands? Certainly they *could* have that ability, since they already
> "know" the band edges and in most cases won't allow you to transmit
> completely outside a band allocation, but why not support the next step
> and not allow SSB in the CW band?
>

This will cause a problem for those who use AFSK for RTTY rather than FSK.

The radio has to be set for "SSB" to use AFSK. The effect on the receiving end is identical to using FSK and so is a perfectly legal way to do RTTY.. If you put this as a "hard point" in the radio, you eliminate using AFSK for RTTY. Something along the lines of the "law of unintended consequences".

Dee, N8UZE

1797. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-01 23:46:40 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <BMednW4saMCy_rfanZ2dnUVZ_u-unZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 3604

"Phil Kane" <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote in message
news:ie7ki3lq55k2a4vojs72ip1blqfs7cep99@4ax.com...
> On Thu, 1 Nov 2007 13:51:51 EDT, Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> wrote:
>
>>I would like to see
>>the flexibility in a piece of equipment that I just shelled out big
>>bucks for to keep me from doing this,
>
> That separates the "Compleat Ham" who is in control of the station
> from the "appliance operator".
>
>>while at the same time giving me
>>the flexibility to program the segments that apply to my license class
>>or if I take the rig to a different location where the rules are
>>different.
>
> An interesting thought.
>>
>>Or maybe this is already a feature of the new rigs. I wouldn't know,
>>not having bought any HF equipment in this century.
>

You can program many new rigs to auto mode switch based on frequency but
they also allow you override that auto mode at any time.

Dee, N8UZE

1798. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-02 02:45:20 UTC
From: Tom Horne <hornetd@veriqrmzon.net>
Message-ID: <dUtWi.12007$oy4.7075@trnddc08>
Source record: 3605

Steve Bonine wrote:
> N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
>> On Oct 23, 12:03?am, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
>
>>> I have to add, and I don't want to sound condescending, but I
>>> know that
>>> some of the people who will attend this class are barely
>>> literate, much
>>> less capable of reading and understanding the question
>>> pool . . . even
>>> though it's written at a junior-high level.
>>
>> Who *are* these folks? I mean, the current written exams
>> have been passed by elementary school children years
>> away from middle school.
>
> I probably shouldn't sell the students short until I see who actually
> shows up. But the impetus for the class was a request from a couple of
> people who have already attended two previous entry-level classes taught
> by the radio club in the next town over. I saw their material; it's
> good; anyone who managed to attend their class and not pass is either
> unmotivated or unteachable.
>
>> I suggest that if you have low expectations, the class will
>> live down to them, and if you have high expectations, they
>> will live up to them.
>
> You have an excellent point, and I will try to act on it. On the other
> hand, I do have to be realistic. I have to adapt the material to the
> level of the people in the class, to the best of my ability and striving
> not to pitch it so low that part of the class gives up in disgust.
>
>> With all due respect, if someone cannot grasp the concept of what
>> a frequency is, they should not be a licensed radio amateur, IMHO.
>> Such a lack of basic radio knowledge means the person just isn't
>> qualified yet, and endangers both the person and those around them.
>
> I think you've gone too far because I went too far in my example.
>
> Let me try to say this in different words.
>
> The students in this class live in rural Minnesota. Electronics is
> foreign to most of them. They can run a GPS-controlled tractor and
> cover their fields without double-spraying a single row, but don't

> expect them to understand the concepts of how GPS works. Or want to.
>
> It's a real challenge to teach electronics to this demographic. For one
> thing, their motivation to learn the material is 100% related to passing
> the exam; they really couldn't care less that 1 amp will flow through a
> resistance of 1 ohm if 1 volt is applied. Some of it I can make "real"
> -- bring in a long extension cord, measure the resistance, discuss what
> that means when you put a welder at the end.
>
> Most of these folks will never be electronics gurus. They don't need to
> be. They need to understand enough concepts to understand how to
> operate the equipment that they buy. Do they need to understand the
> relationship between wavelength and frequency to do that? No.
>
>> The whole point of license testing is to insure that licensees know
>> the basics.
>
> I'm not sure that's actually true. Why do we care that a Technician
> licensee knows Ohm's law?
>
> It seems to me that the point of license testing is to erect a barrier
> to entry. If that were not the case, the license pool would look a lot
> different. It would consist of regulations and practical knowledge that
> was actually used on a day-to-day basis. It would consist of material
> that, to use your phrase above, is essential to insuring that the
> licensee is not a danger to the person and those around him.
>
>>> What I'm looking for is a real entry-level license, similar to the
>>> Novice ticket, with an incentive to upgrade. I want to be able to
>>> actually teach concepts and the real skills that people need to get
>>> involved in ham radio, without feeling that I cannot do so because > my
>>> limited time must be spent getting them the knowledge to correctly >
>>> pick
>>> answers to pool questions.
>>
>> Then you need more time. It's that simple. The time can be
>> class time, or it can be time the students spend reading and
>> learning on their own. But it takes time to learn this stuff.
>
> But I don't have more time. It's going to be hard enough convincing
> people to come to six sessions spread over three weeks. If I asked for
> more time, I would get no students. The goal is to figure out how to
> best use the time I have.
>
> If I'm really successful, I will be able to lure people back to a
> followup class. That's the only way I'll ever get access to more of
> their time.
>
>> "If it were easy, everybody would do it."
>

> And we're back to the concept of the exam as a barrier to entry. If you
> have zero barrier, you have CB. If you have infinite barrier, you have
> no one entering.
>
> Like everything else in life, this class is a series of trade offs. I
> picked six two-hour sessions as a compromise between having enough time
> to cover everything I want to cover and being able to attract enough
> people to conduct a class. I'll trade off time covering concepts to
> time covering specific pool questions since I owe it to the students to
> cover both. And I'm sure I'll be challenged to keep it simple enough
> for some students while trying to challenge the rest.
>
> 73, Steve KB9X
>

I never got a class for my novice license thirty years ago. I listened to a lot of code on a shortwave radio in the parlor of a church's community building and practically memorized an ARRL publication entitled "How to Become a Radio Amateur" if I'm remembering correctly. And even though I'm an electrician by craft let me assure you that there is not a lot of theory to electrical service work. The only time I've needed ohms law is for long outdoor feeders but I was ahead of the other apprentices when I learned about feeders because of amateur radio. I let my novice license lapse because I moved to an apartment and could not have antennas there.

So back in January my Fire Chief calls me aside and says since you've been training the Community Emergency Response Team volunteers and studied up on disaster preparedness I want you to represent the department on the cities Disaster Preparedness Committee. My work on the committee showed me that the local government could not afford a lot by way of communications for disaster response work. The only likely source of help we could identify was amateur radio.

I new there had been a lot of changes in the thirty years gone by so I took the technician class given over two weekends in February of this year. One of the things that the instructors showed us was some home brew antennas. After passing my exam I tackled a collinear J-Pole as my first home brew antenna because I could afford the tubing a lot easier than I could afford any of the ready made antennas that claimed a similar gain. I bought a used SWR meter, a club member checked it against an antenna analyzer into a club antenna, and using only that SWR meter and some patience I adjusted the J-pole to an acceptable SWR. A used Yaesu FT470, Mirage BD35, and that J-pole, and I'm working a fair number of repeaters, participating in the local EMCOM training net and working every public service gig I can. I can't build a radio yet, but I have been praised for my work on the events by people who have no reason to butter me up. I got to try out HF at the Get On The Air table of the clubs field day in June and the list goes on. I think I'm getting an awful lot of mileage out of that two weekends.

I know I'm rambling but don't sell your students short. If you put the effort into preparing a lot of show and tell, using real world examples they may surprise you with how much they learn. Some of what they learn you may never be aware of but the stuff I learned out of ARRL books is still helping me feed my family. The material they put in the effort to present during those two weekends back in February is helping me to learn to help my community if the stuff ever does hit the fan.
--
Tom Horne, W3TDH

"This alternating current stuff is just a fad. It is much too dangerous for general use." Thomas Alva Edison

1799. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-02 05:27:22 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13il5tkl93g9d6d@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3606

Jack VK2CJC wrote:

> If "mode sensitive" sub bands were programmed, every time someone moved, or
> a change in bandplan was brought in, it would be nessesary to go to the
> Yaecomwood dealership and ask to have the radio changed. An expensive, time
> consuming and unnecessary exercise :o)

Today's ham equipment has plenty of computing capacity to be able to handle band edges, sub-bands, and band plans. These rigs can be connected to a PC and programmed using software specific to the equipment. For example, it's common to program local repeaters (and not-so-local repeaters) into the memory of VHF/UHF rigs using the software on the owner's PC then downloading the information into the rig.

It would be an easy programming effort to do the same kind of thing for HF. Let the owner pick a starting place, perhaps by ITU region, and modify it based on license class and/or personal preference. Essentially I'm asking for the capability to program the details of band plans into the rig and to easily change this information as desired.

> Besides. I wouldn't buy a radio that was restrictively programmed in a
> manner I wasn't able to undo. Just for the principle of it.

No, neither would I (except that I've bought rigs that won't transmit outside of amateur allocations, presumably something that I could undo given proper motivation). But that's not at all what I am suggesting.

For those of you who are upset with me as an "appliance operator", I don't see anything wrong with using available technology to keep me from doing something stupid.

1800. Re: Entry-level class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-02 05:28:29 UTC
From: Tom Horne <hornetd@veriqrmzon.net>
Message-ID: <oVtWi.12008$oy4.9856@trnddc08>
Source record: 3607

Steve Bonine wrote:
> N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
>> On Oct 23, 12:03?am, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
>
>>> I have to add, and I don't want to sound condescending, but I
>>> know that
>>> some of the people who will attend this class are barely
>>> literate, much
>>> less capable of reading and understanding the question
>>> pool . . . even
>>> though it's written at a junior-high level.
>>
>> Who *are* these folks? I mean, the current written exams
>> have been passed by elementary school children years
>> away from middle school.
>
> I probably shouldn't sell the students short until I see who actually
> shows up. But the impetus for the class was a request from a couple of
> people who have already attended two previous entry-level classes taught
> by the radio club in the next town over. I saw their material; it's
> good; anyone who managed to attend their class and not pass is either
> unmotivated or unteachable.
>
>> I suggest that if you have low expectations, the class will
>> live down to them, and if you have high expectations, they
>> will live up to them.
>
> You have an excellent point, and I will try to act on it. On the other
> hand, I do have to be realistic. I have to adapt the material to the
> level of the people in the class, to the best of my ability and striving
> not to pitch it so low that part of the class gives up in disgust.
>
>> With all due respect, if someone cannot grasp the concept of what
>> a frequency is, they should not be a licensed radio amateur, IMHO.
>> Such a lack of basic radio knowledge means the person just isn't
>> qualified yet, and endangers both the person and those around them.
>
> I think you've gone too far because I went too far in my example.
>
> Let me try to say this in different words.
>
> The students in this class live in rural Minnesota. Electronics is
> foreign to most of them. They can run a GPS-controlled tractor and
> cover their fields without double-spraying a single row, but don't

> expect them to understand the concepts of how GPS works. Or want to.
>
> It's a real challenge to teach electronics to this demographic. For one
> thing, their motivation to learn the material is 100% related to passing
> the exam; they really couldn't care less that 1 amp will flow through a
> resistance of 1 ohm if 1 volt is applied. Some of it I can make "real"
> -- bring in a long extension cord, measure the resistance, discuss what
> that means when you put a welder at the end.
>
> Most of these folks will never be electronics gurus. They don't need to
> be. They need to understand enough concepts to understand how to
> operate the equipment that they buy. Do they need to understand the
> relationship between wavelength and frequency to do that? No.
>
>> The whole point of license testing is to insure that licensees know
>> the basics.
>
> I'm not sure that's actually true. Why do we care that a Technician
> licensee knows Ohm's law?
>
> It seems to me that the point of license testing is to erect a barrier
> to entry. If that were not the case, the license pool would look a lot
> different. It would consist of regulations and practical knowledge that
> was actually used on a day-to-day basis. It would consist of material
> that, to use your phrase above, is essential to insuring that the
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>> Then you need more time. It's that simple. The time can be
>> class time, or it can be time the students spend reading and
>> learning on their own. But it takes time to learn this stuff.
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> But I don't have more time. It's going to be hard enough convincing
> people to come to six sessions spread over three weeks. If I asked for
> more time, I would get no students. The goal is to figure out how to
> best use the time I have.
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> have zero barrier, you have CB. If you have infinite barrier, you have
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> 73, Steve KB9X
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--
Tom Horne, W3TDH

"This alternating current stuff is just a fad. It is much too dangerous for general use." Thomas Alva Edison

1801. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-02 15:41:46 UTC
From: Jeff <jeff@local.host>
Message-ID: <472ae7ea$0$1340$834e42db@reader.greatnowhere.com>
Source record: 3608

```
">
> The radio has to be set for "SSB" to use AFSK. The effect on the
> receiving end is identical to using FSK and so is a perfectly legal way to
> do RTTY.. If you put this as a "hard point" in the radio, you eliminate
> using AFSK for RTTY. Something along the lines of the "law of unintended
> consequences".
>
> Dee, N8UZE
>

Indeed, it is also a problem if you use the HF set as the driver for a
transverter to a band where the bandplan is entirely different.

73
Jeff
```

1802. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-02 15:44:34 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1194002927.149018.295360@19g2000hsx.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3609

On Nov 1, 12:51?pm, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> > So it makes
> > sense to require us to know the regs rather than
> > expecting our rigs to
> > prevent our mistakes.
>
> I agree with this, but it brought a question to my mind.
>
> The new generation of HF transceivers -- the ones that
> have quite a bit
> of computing ability built in -- do they have the ability to enforce
> sub-bands?

I don't know of any that do, in terms of subbands-by-mode or subbands-by-license-class.

But I don't think it would be a big feat of software engineering to have a lookup table that compared the mode selection with the transmit frequency, and allowed transmission only if the selection was in the lookup table.

> Certainly they *could* have that ability, since they already
> "know" the band edges and in most cases won't allow you to
> transmit
> completely outside a band allocation, but why not support the next > step
> and not allow SSB in the CW band?

As N8UZE points out, this would limit flexibility, because all sorts of "soundcard data modes" are often implemented by putting the rig in SSB mode and feeding audio into it. This may become less of a problem as more rigs incorporate data modes internally. (The Elecraft K3 can send and receive RTTY and PSK31 without a computer, monitor, or keyboard).

> I don't think that most folks who find themselves doing something
> stupid
> like using SSB outside of the US sub-bands do so because they > don't know
> the regulations. They get caught up in the excitement of a contest > or
> chasing DX or their mind slips out of gear, and when they realize > what
> they've just done they feel about two inches tall.

With all due respect, if someone forgets the regs by being caught up in the excitement, they really don't know them in a practical sense.

> I would like to see
> the flexibility in a piece of equipment that I just shelled out big
> bucks for to keep me from doing this, while at the same time
> giving me
> the flexibility to program the segments that apply to my license
> class
> or if I take the rig to a different location where the rules are
> different.

The second problem is that, for flexibility, you'd have to include the ability to defeat/disable the feature. Which means it could be left in the off position unintentionally, and provide no protection.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1803. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-02 17:15:20 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5p1426Fokcs1U1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 3610

"Steve Bonine" <spb@pobox.com> wrote in message
news:13il5tkl93g9d6d@news.supernews.com

[snip]

: : For those of you who are upset with me as an "appliance
: : operator", I don't see anything wrong with using
: : available technology to keep me from doing something
: : stupid.

Your brain is available technology and has been around for a lot longer
than computers ;-)

Seriously, I know what you're saying and I sort of agree, but I wouldn't
want to see anything forced on us. If you feel you may "do something
stupid" without assistance, fine, for my part I prefer the flexibility of
using my equipment how I want to, not how a computer tells me I should.

73 Ivor G6URP

1804. Edison Quote (was: Entry-level class)

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-02 18:36:24 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <i1rmi3hijlutqs6ju7d0v3cm96pd6lh6ph@4ax.com>
Source record: 3611

On Thu, 1 Nov 2007 22:45:20 EDT, Tom Horne <hornetd@veriqrmzon.net>
quoted:

>"This alternating current stuff is just a fad. It is much too dangerous
>for general use." Thomas Alva Edison

"What do you mean, Charlie, 'back and forth' ?" <ggg>

My engineering school, one of the top ones in the country, had a
graduate in the 1880s named Thomas E. Edison. The new school
president a while back proclaimed "Thomas Edison graduated from here".
Someone had to drop a word to him that it wasn't THE Thomas Edison,
who never went to college.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1805. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-02 19:03:38 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1194028158.234641.258180@z9g2000hsf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3612

On Nov 2, 12:27?am, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
> Jack VK2CJC wrote:
>
> Today's ham equipment has plenty of computing
> capacity to be able to
> handle band edges, sub-bands, and band plans.
> These rigs can be
> connected to a PC and programmed using software specific to the
> equipment.

> It would be an easy programming effort to do the same
> kind of thing for
> HF.

I don't know how 'easy' it would be, but it could be done. The classic
'bell-the-cat' question is: who will do the actual work?

> Let the owner pick a starting place, perhaps by ITU region, and
> modify it based on license class and/or personal preference.
> Essentially I'm asking for the capability to program the details of
> band
> plans into the rig and to easily change this information as desired.

Or, the rigmakers could offer downloadable firmware options. When
the rules change, download an update. Some rigmakers, like TenTec and
Elecraft, do this already.

Another approach is that as SDRs become more popular, the feature
would be part of the user interface.

> > Besides. I wouldn't buy a radio that was restrictively
> > programmed in a
> > manner I wasn't able to undo. Just for the principle of it.
>
> No, neither would I (except that I've bought rigs that won't transmit
> outside of amateur allocations, presumably something that I could
> undo
> given proper motivation). But that's not at all what I am suggesting.

Ultimately you'd want the ability to defeat the feature, in case the
rig were sold or loaned to someone with a higher license class, or the
rules changed, or you traveled somewhere with different rules.

> For those of you who are upset with me as an "appliance
> operator", I
> don't see anything wrong with using available technology to keep > me from doing
something stupid.

I think it depends on the intent.

It's one thing to build in features that prevent problems. For example, the power supplies of my non-QRP homebrew rigs built since 1980 have built-in time delay protection so that the high voltage cannot be applied until the final amplifier and rectifier tubes have had 60 seconds to warm up, and the bias supply is operating. That protection is not essential to the operation of the rig, but it has probably saved me from a few problems along the way.

It's quite a different thing, IMHO, to build in features with the intent that the features remove the need for the licensed operator to know things, like the subband edges.

IOW, the feature is a backup, not primary protection.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1806. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-02 19:04:09 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <jlrmi3pbc8eoqpgp4vos6u4mpdh7gph5m2@4ax.com>
Source record: 3613

On Fri, 2 Nov 2007 11:44:34 EDT, N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:

> (The Elecraft K3 can send and receive RTTY and PSK31 without a computer, monitor, or
>keyboard).

Good trick. I can see using the front-panel display for the monitor
but how does one input alphanumeric characters without a keyboard of
sorts?

Then again, what do I know? I'm just as lowly K2 "appliance operator"
<ggg>
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1807. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-02 21:49:57 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <472b94c2$0$287$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 3614

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

In <1194028158.234641.258180@z9g2000hsf.googlegroups.com> N2EY@AOL.COM writes:

>On Nov 2, 12:27?am, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:
>> Jack VK2CJC wrote:
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>> Today's ham equipment has plenty of computing
>> capacity to be able to
>> handle band edges, sub-bands, and band plans.
>> These rigs can be
>> connected to a PC and programmed using software specific to the
>> equipment.

>> It would be an easy programming effort to do the same
>> kind of thing for
>> HF.

>I don't know how 'easy' it would be, but it could be done. The classic
>'bell-the-cat' question is: who will do the actual work?

Another angle on the same challenge would be who would be motivated to
develop a vendor-independent standard, that would actually be widely
adopted by vendors, to implement this? Witness the various permutations
of DC power connectors (with amateur radio emergency groups driven to
distraction trying to establish at least local standards). Witness the
inability to develop working, vendor-independent, interoperable
standards for high-speed radio modems (9600 baud and above) that could
be found in commonly-available commercial amateur radio gear. Amateur
radio equipment manufacturers appear to prefer to differentiate their
products by unique, and unfortunately incompatible, means of interfacing
and control, with few economic incentives to standardize with other
brands.

>> Let the owner pick a starting place, perhaps by ITU region, and
>> modify it based on license class and/or personal preference.
>> Essentially I'm asking for the capability to program the details of
>> band
>> plans into the rig and to easily change this information as desired.

>Or, the rigmakers could offer downloadable firmware options. When
>the rules change, download an update. Some rigmakers, like TenTec and
>Elecraft, do this already.

Will your amateur radio that is programmed to recognize band edges and
allowed modes be able to be modified via reasonably available tools and

techniques for the indefinite future? Examples that may cause me to think otherwise include:

- Most amateur radio equipment in the past couple of decades, for economic reasons, tends to use custom bit-masked EEPROM's to implement their internal programming, something that would not be economical to duplicate by third-party manufacturers. Though amateur radio equipment would seem to be covered by the Magnuson Moss Act (i.e., availability of parts on the open market for some period of time after the end of manufacture, preservation of warranty even if third party parts and service are used, etc.), I also recall letters to QST complaining about repair depots simply being unable to fix amateur radio equipment, some of which was less than 10 years old.

- I recall a legal dust-up from some years ago, discussed on the newsgroups, where Motorola was cracking down on efforts to reverse-engineer radio interfaces and the software that is used to modify the configurations of their radios. Regardless of whether Motorola was taking a legally defensible position, if the software is proprietary, or unable to run on current computers, or otherwise unavailable or unusable in some way, you may be left holding the bag.

Consider the problem with VCR's and the recent change in the start of Daylight Savings Time in the U.S., and no way to modify them.

>Another approach is that as SDRs become more popular, the feature
>would be part of the user interface.

This would appear to offer more promise of future compatibility and programmability, though might still run afoul of legal problems with regard to reverse engineering or otherwise developing openly-published specifications and third-party software tools. Whether or not these positions would be legally defensible might not prevent manufacturers from attempting to chill the open market for these tools via intimidation tactics. Also, how long would it take for software-defined radios to propagate out to the amateur radio community in significant enough numbers to make a meaningful impact?

>> > Besides. I wouldn't buy a radio that was restrictively
>> > programmed in a
>> > manner I wasn't able to undo. Just for the principle of it.
>>
>> No, neither would I (except that I've bought rigs that won't transmit
>> outside of amateur allocations, presumably something that I could
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>rules changed, or you traveled somewhere with different rules.

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>intent that the features remove the need for the licensed operator to
>know things, like the subband edges.

>IOW, the feature is a backup, not primary protection.

>73 de Jim, N2EY

I think that's the important distinction. It's also related to a classic conundrum in developing safety systems in other fields. I would welcome an amateur radio that had fault protection to keep me from blowing the finals if I accidentally transmitted into no load or an infinite load. I'm not so sure about an amateur radio that would keep me from transmitting out of band or in an unauthorized mode if assumptions about what constituted "out of band" or "authorized mode" changes, or if I find myself in a true, bona-fide, communications emergency.

The Usenet newsgroup comp.risks (aka, "Risks Digest") has touched on many of these types of issues. For example, while a rev-limiter on a motor would increase safety by preventing a blown engine, putting speed limiters on automobiles to keep them within speed limits may increase accidents by denying the necessary amount of power to get you out of a reasonably unanticipated emergency situation while passing or merging. An airplane whose controls would keep you from overstressing the airframe, or flying into restricted airspace, might also keep you from making appropriate emergency maneuvers, where landing alive with your crew and passengers, but with an airframe you have just end-of-lifed, or under fighter escort to be whisked off to a friendly interview with the authorities, might be far preferable to the alternatives.

- - --
73, Paul W. Schleck, K3FU
pschleck@novia.net
http://www.novia.net/~pschleck/
Finger pschleck@novia.net for PGP Public Key

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v1.4.5 (SunOS)

```
iD8DBQFHK5SL6Pj0az779o4RAqO+AJ9xxoDtAggjbx5/2VFmBJSHqmiibgCgxP/K
RCO/Au67cS5M2dwZJsV0TUg=
=Fvin
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----
```

1808. Geosats for Hams truy a new world for SatARS

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-02 22:38:10 UTC
From: konstans <konstans@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <fgg7ve$f3d$1@registered.motzarella.org>
Source record: 3615

The following is a Q-S-T. AMSAT announces plans for a geosynchronous ham radio satellite, W-R-C 2007 opens in Geneva, D-Star comes to Germany and France and ham radio operators stand down as the California wildfires are contained. Find out the details on Amateur Radio NewslineT report number 1577 coming your way right now.

**

HAM RADIO IN SPACE: AMSAT SAYS HAM RADIO GEOSAT IN PLANNING

Its called Phase 4 Lite and it will likely change the face of ham radio forever. Amateur Radio Newsline's Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, has a peek at the future of a geosynchronous ham radio satellite in Earth orbit:

--

The weekend of October 26th to the 28th has likely changed the face of ham radio space operations. So say two leaders in the Amateur Radio space program speaking at the AMSAT-North America Space Symposium in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. That's they announced that a first-ever geosynchronous ham radio satellite is now in its initial planning.

In satellite talk, geosynchronous means stationary in the sky. From the standpoint of a ground station user, it means always knowing where to point an antenna. No tracking and no guesswork.

At that gathering, AMSAT President Rick Hambly, W2GPS, and Vice-President of Engineering Bob McGwier,N4HY, announced that AMSAT has been in consultation with Intelsat. This, regarding an application of an Intelsat platform carrying amateur radio satellites into geosynchronous orbit.

The Phase IV Lite Geosynchronous Payload is planned to consist of similar transponders already under development for the Phase 3 satellites. Accelerated development on the digital Advanced Communication Package is anticipated. The Intelsat geosynchronous platform would be able to provide the AMSAT Phase IV Lite payload with approximately 400 watts of DC power for 15 years.

In addition to the on-orbit payload AMSAT plans to develop an earth station attainable by the average ham so that users can immediately take advantage of the audio, digital messaging, and video services of the Phase IV bird. The Advanced Communication Package would be a self-contained earth station which could be sent with amateur radio communication teams or delivered to disaster areas to provide for 24 hour a day, 7 day a week and 3565 days a year emergency communications. These teams would be able to point a small dish at a predictable spot in the sky and immediately begin delivering disaster communication support without depending on the vagaries of High

Frequency propagation.

But that's not all. Hambly and Mc Gwier say that the Phase IV payload could also be used to provide a Tracking and Data Relay System Satellite -like relay of ARISS communications. The current 10 minute school contact could now be expanded to hours-long contact with the International Space Station. This opens possibilities for extended student involvement with experiments aboard the space station.

As the late Roy Neal, K6DUE, might have said: Truly a new world of Amateur Radio.

For the Amateur Radio Newsline I'm Bruce Tennant, K6PZW, in Los Angeles.

--

So when can we expect this new satellite to be on-orbit?, AMSAT says that engineering studies, funding studies, among other negotiations are continuing so no specific date can be set. However Bob McGuier N4HY observes that the project is far enough along that AMSAT needs to begin planning engineering work and possible construction of such a geosynchronous payload so it is ready if Intelsat says they have a ride for it. (AMSAT-NA)

**

1809. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-02 22:58:04 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1194043398.496389.191590@19g2000hsx.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3616

On Nov 2, 2:04?pm, Phil Kane <Phil.K...@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:
> On Fri, 2 Nov 2007 11:44:34 EDT, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> > (The Elecraft K3 can send and receive RTTY and PSK31
> > without a computer, monitor, or
> >keyboard).

Couple of other modes, too. See the website - the manual is online
now:

www.elecraft.com
>
> Good trick. I can see using the front-panel display for the monitor
> but how does one input alphanumeric characters without a
> keyboard of sorts?

You send Morse Code to the rig and it translates/encodes the Morse
into the PSK31, RTTY, etc. Paddles are the usual input device.

Built in, not an add-on device. The decoder is reputedly very good
too, its only limitation being the limited display space.
>
> Then again, what do I know? I'm just as lowly K2 "appliance
> operator"
> <ggg>

bwaahaahaaa....

73 de Jim, N2EY

1810. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-03 17:06:26 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1194098311.875260.209730@z9g2000hsf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3617

On Nov 1, 1:09?pm, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
> On Nov 1, 6:34?am, Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> wrote:

> > Remember that the exam is built by choosing
> > a given number of questions
> > from each subelement. For example, there are
> > four questions on the Tech
> > exam from subelement 1, which is FCC Rules and station
> > license
> > responsibilities.

Yet it is possible to get all four of those questions wrong and still pass the test. The result is a licensed amateur with big 'holes' in his/her knowledge of certain areas.

> > I don't envy the committee that formulated the pool.
> > No matter what
> > they come up with, a lot of folks will criticize it.
> > A fine example of
> > a thankless job.

The big question is whether the criticism is constructive, or just a form of complaining. IOW, does the critic offer a way to make the process better?

> The predecessors of the FCC and the FCC itself continued to
> use licensing (and tests for same) as a regulatory tool for their
> lawful charter of all US civil radio. It was never, ever intended
> to be any academic test good enough for award of a degree in
> a subject...yet so many others blur the distinct difference of an
> amateur radio license TEST verses expertise a la academia.

Who are these people, making such claims, Len?

It seems to me that one main purpose of license testing is to insure that the licensee knows enough about the thing being licensed for so that s/he can reasonably do what the license allows. For an amateur license, that means knowing the basics of amateur radio, in the form of technology, rules & regs, and operating practices.

Most important is that the tests focus on what *amateurs* are allowed to do on the air, and how they typically do it. Experience and knowledge of other radio services may or may not be relevant. A Ph.D. in EE with multiple patents is not necessarily qualified to be a radio amateur if s/he doesn't know the amateur radio regulations.

> Back when the FCC 'personally' tested radio operators, it was
> proclaimed a 'Real Test.' From expeience of many of my
> contemporaries, that 'reality' didn't exist.

>From my personal experience, and from that of many of *my*
contemporaries, that reality certainly did exist. Not that the tests
for an amateur or commercial radio license were equivalent to
what I later encountered in EE school, but they were real tests
of what the licensee knew with regards to amateur radio.

> There was no way
> one could 'test' for radio equipment of 1956 to make anyone
> 'expert.'

Agreed - but that wasn't the purpose. The tests were to see if
the licensee had met a certain minimum level of knowledge and
skill, not that the person was an expert.

Anyone knowledgeable about Morse Code will tell you that even
the old 1 minute solid copy 20 wpm Morse Code test wasn't
"expert" level.....;-)

> When the FCC revamped a lot of their work to include
> privatization - which included Frequency Coordinaton of many
> PLMRS users as well as amateur repeaters - it became a
> 'bad thing.' The TEST was no longer 'real' since all the
> questions and right-wrong answers were public...which came
> about through other political work, not the fact of privatization.

The question-and-answer pools became public knowledge in two steps.

The first was the publication of the "Bash books" in the 1970s, whose
information was gathered by means that, IMHO, clearly violated the
law. But the top folks at FCC decided not to prosecute Dick Bash nor
those who helped him, so the books made it possible for those willing
to spend the money to see a pretty close replica of the actual exams.

The second step was the creation of the Question Pool Committee
and the VEC system in the early 1980s. This replaced the work of
paid Federal government employees with that of unpaid amateur
volunteers.

> I cannot see where the Volunteer Examiner Coordinator
> system is so 'bad.'

I think the main criticism is not of the VEC system itself, but
rather the fact that prospective licensees can see the exact
questions and answers that will be on the test.

In the pre-Bash-book days, a prospective licensee did not have
access to the exact Q&A. There were study guides which
indicated the general areas of information that would be on the test,
and in some cases the test followed the study guide closely, but
that was not the same thing as seeing the exact questions and
answers.

For example, the study guide showed some Ohm's Law problems in essay format. The actual test would show some Ohm's Law problems in multiple-choice format, but the prospective amateur did not know much else about the Ohm's Law problems on the test. The logical response in most cases was to learn enough Ohm's Law theory to be able to solve all sorts of problems in that subject.

With the actual test questions available, it becomes possible to "study the test" rather than actually learning the material. In another thread in this NG, there have been discussions about using a class to teach the test rather than an understanding of the material.

Which is better - learning and understanding the material, even at a basic level, or simply learning the test questions by rote memory, to be forgotten?

> It is composed of active fellow amateur
> radio licensees and I doubt that any of them could be
> considered dummies. That's better than having questions
> and answers thunk up by a faceless few at the FCC, ones
> whose primary task is radio regulation, not boosting amateur
> radio nor trying to get more licensees.

Again, the perceived problem is not the VEC system itself, but the fact of public Q&A.

Note too that the Question Pool Committee is, in practice, almost as much of a "faceless few" as the FCC was.

VECs do not make up the questions and answers directly. Nor do they make any decisions on the process other than selecting specific questions for each exam, to insure randomness. They only proctor the exams.

> All in all, I think the
> VEC QPC is doing a FINE job given their virtual free rein on
> what to ask in every test element.

I agree that within their limitations they are doing a good job. The problem is the limitations they have to work under. Those limitations are not of their doing.

There have also been a few *documented* instances of irregularities in the administration of exams by specific VEC groups. (See FCC Enforcement Letters).

> It is even better when one considers the first word in their
> description: Voluntary. Those on the Committee have
> guts as well as experience in volunteering for a sometimes
> thankless task. I salute their work and dedication (with all
> five fingers, properly) for keeping up that task for two
> decades (give or take).

It's good to see you saluting and thanking them, Len. Particularly considering your criticism of certain VECs in the past. What changed your mind?

Volunteer examiners go back a lot longer than the 1980s.
They date back at least to the 1930s, when the Class C license was created for those who lived too far from an FCC exam point, or who were disabled. Later (1954), all routine exams for Novice and Technician licenses, as well as the Conditional, were done by volunteer examiners.

My first amateur radio license exams were given by a volunteer examiner, K3NYT, when I was a little past my 13th birthday. I realize now that it took him some time and effort to make the exam sessions possible for me. That Novice license of 1967 opened up the world of amateur radio to me, and led to a career in electrical engineering.

And yes, I thanked him.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1811. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-03 18:20:30 UTC
From: Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-A677FF.13575403112007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 3618

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
> [...]
> I think the main criticism is not of the VEC system itself, but
> rather the fact that prospective licensees can see the exact
> questions and answers that will be on the test.
> [...]

If the size of the pool were increased, would that satisfy your objection? Given a finite body of information, there are only so many questions that can be formulated from it to test an applicant's knowledge. I have a number of the old Ameco Q&A books from the days before question pools (for the commercial tests). If you compare the Ameco questions, that is, the questions that the author MADE UP, with the later FCC questions, you don't find a great deal of difference. I have always found that a decently written test preparation guide, in Q&A format, for a test like a New York State Regents exam, an SAT, a GRE or a GMAT is just about as good as a published test pool, especially if the pool is large. That is particularly true when the questions tend to be similar from one year to the next (For example, one year, they ask you to solve for x when 3x=6. The next year, the question is changed to 4x=8. The test prep guide has a sample question of 5x=10.)

--
Klystron

1812. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-03 20:00:50 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <c3jpi3pkpev6a6qokk6huml2rmd5r8vupm@4ax.com>
Source record: 3619

On Sat, 3 Nov 2007 14:20:30 EDT, Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz> wrote:

> If the size of the pool were increased, would that satisfy your
>objection? Given a finite body of information, there are only so many
>questions that can be formulated from it to test an applicant's
>knowledge.

The national Multistate Bar Exam, one element of each state's bar exam, is composed of 200 multiple choice questions. Half of those come from the published "Green Book", a compilation of 500 Q&As, the equivalent of the Question Pool Study Guide. The other half are composed on the fly by a "faceless committee" for each semi-annual exam (all given on the same day nationwide). Thus, 20% of the Q&As on each test is from a published pool, while the remaining 80% of the Q&As require absolute knowledge of the published areas being tested.

The answer choices of each question usually consist of two that are obviously incorrect and two more that appear to be very close, and the process is really to identify the better of the two. A score of 130 = 65% or better is the minimum required in most states. In California, acknowledged to have the toughest test, a score of 152 = 76% is an absolute pass where performance on the other elements of the exam are not even taken into account.

Granted that the level of knowledge required for passing the Bar exam is greater than the level of knowledge required for passing an amateur exam, the key factor in both is not the size of the published pool, but should be the knowledge of the examinee.

As we were told in Bar Exam review courses, the correct answer is right there in front of you, and all you really have to know is "a", "b", "c" , or "d".
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1813. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-03 20:07:02 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <gtkpi3p2urrgkhrm6qd83r4qop79jtqruo@4ax.com>
Source record: 3620

On Sat, 3 Nov 2007 16:00:50 EDT, Phil Kane
<Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:

> Thus, 20% of the Q&As on
>each test is from a published pool, while the remaining 80% of the
>Q&As require absolute knowledge of the published areas being tested.

Correction - the exam questions from the published pool are 20% of
those published. The ratio of published to non-published questions is,
of course, 50%/50%.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1814. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-03 21:31:01 UTC
From: Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-32307A.16475503112007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 3621

Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:
> [...]
> Correction - the exam questions from the published pool are 20% of
> those published.
> [...]

Objection, your honor. Counsel's answer is non-responsive.

I asked if a larger question pool would be as good as non-published questions. You responded with a tale about a test that includes 100 questions that are drawn from a pool of 500 questions (5 to 1 ratio). We have already established that the amateur pool to question ratio is over 10 to 1. Would you consider an increase to, let's say, 20 to 1 to be an acceptable solution?

--
Klystron

1815. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-03 23:18:00 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <13iq0bf7c73140f@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3622

"Klystron" wrote

> Objection, your honor. Counsel's answer is non-responsive.
>
> I asked if a larger question pool would be as good as non-published
> questions. You responded with a tale about a test that includes 100
> questions that are drawn from a pool of 500 questions (5 to 1 ratio). We
> have already established that the amateur pool to question ratio is over
> 10 to 1. Would you consider an increase to, let's say, 20 to 1 to be an
> acceptable solution?

Objection overruled. Now sit down at your rig and "work" someone in the cw portion of the band... at 25 wpm. You already have your license; enjoy it.

;-)

1816. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-04 04:59:46 UTC
From: Jack VK2CJC <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com>
Message-ID: <fgjgmemqt1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 3623

> for my part I prefer the flexibility of using my equipment how I want to,
> not how a computer tells me I should.

Well put Ivor. I feel the same way.

My most recent 2m radio (Yaesu FT1802) has automatic repeater shift, which I
have been forced to turn off as it tries to shift the TX on a few
frequencies which due to local convention, I require to use simplex.
Automatic features are great, especially if you can switch them off :o)

--
Jack VK2CJC / MM0AXL
FISTS #9666
CW Ops QRP Club #753
Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group
www.mncarg.org

1817. Battery question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-04 15:11:05 UTC
From: Jack VK2CJC <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com>
Message-ID: <fgjoo7$29l$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 3624

Heres a couple of questions for someone who knows about batteries.

I have two hand held radios which I rarely use. An Alinco dual bander with Nmhi batteries, and a commercial UHF with Nicad batteries. Both sets of batteries are in good order and hold a charge well. I can leave them for months and when I pick the radios up, they still have a good charge in them.

Today I lifted both radios, the first time in a month or two, and both had totally flat batteries. I know both were fully charged when I last switched them off. What happened? The weather has got warmer in the last month, and the humidity levels are up. But nothing else has changed. What flattened them both?

Also...

Last time I took a hand held radio abroad, I took 2 sets of batteries. Both were fully charged when they were packed. Both were flat when I reached my destination. Same with my mobile phone and camera batteries as well. All were nearly flat and had not been switched on during the journey. What is it that makes batteries go flat when travelling in a pressurised aircraft?

I hope someone can advise. I've been thinking about the aircraft one for ages :o)

73
--
Jack VK2CJC / MM0AXL
FISTS #9666
CW Ops QRP Club #753
Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group
www.mncarg.org

1818. Re: Battery question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-04 17:03:28 UTC
From: jimp@specsol.spam.sux.com
Message-ID: <mr8105-kth.ln1@mail.specsol.com>
Source record: 3625

Jack VK2CJC <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com> wrote:
> Heres a couple of questions for someone who knows about batteries.

> I have two hand held radios which I rarely use. An Alinco dual bander with
> Nmhi batteries, and a commercial UHF with Nicad batteries. Both sets of
> batteries are in good order and hold a charge well. I can leave them for
> months and when I pick the radios up, they still have a good charge in them.

> Today I lifted both radios, the first time in a month or two, and both had
> totally flat batteries. I know both were fully charged when I last switched
> them off. What happened? The weather has got warmer in the last month, and
> the humidity levels are up. But nothing else has changed. What flattened
> them both?

> Also...

> Last time I took a hand held radio abroad, I took 2 sets of batteries. Both
> were fully charged when they were packed. Both were flat when I reached my
> destination. Same with my mobile phone and camera batteries as well. All
> were nearly flat and had not been switched on during the journey. What is it
> that makes batteries go flat when travelling in a pressurised aircraft?

> I hope someone can advise. I've been thinking about the aircraft one for
> ages :o)

Nothing in an airplane makes batteries go flat.

Commercial aircraft are pressurized to an equivelant altitude of around
7-8 thousand feet.

I regularly fly at those altitudes in my unpressurized aircraft with
the backup handheld in a seat pouch and the batteries are just fine.

Perhaps the batteries aren't as good as you think or the last charge
was longer ago than you remember.

--
Jim Pennino

Remove .spam.sux to reply.

1819. Re: Battery question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-04 17:03:52 UTC
From: Jeff <jeff@local.host>
Message-ID: <472def28$0$1344$834e42db@reader.greatnowhere.com>
Source record: 3626

> Heres a couple of questions for someone who knows about batteries.
>
> I have two hand held radios which I rarely use. An Alinco dual bander with
> Nmhi batteries, and a commercial UHF with Nicad batteries. Both sets of
> batteries are in good order and hold a charge well. I can leave them for
> months and when I pick the radios up, they still have a good charge in
> them.
>
> Today I lifted both radios, the first time in a month or two, and both had
> totally flat batteries. I know both were fully charged when I last
> switched them off. What happened? The weather has got warmer in the last
> month, and the humidity levels are up. But nothing else has changed. What
> flattened them both?
>
> Also...
>
> Last time I took a hand held radio abroad, I took 2 sets of batteries.
> Both were fully charged when they were packed. Both were flat when I
> reached my destination. Same with my mobile phone and camera batteries as
> well. All were nearly flat and had not been switched on during the
> journey. What is it that makes batteries go flat when travelling in a
> pressurised aircraft?
>

All secondary batteries have a self discharge rate, some types are higher
than others, a couple of months is more than sufficient to self discharge a
battery pack. Another factor to take into consideration is that most modern
handhelds do not have a 'hard' on/off switch. There is always a small
standby current drawn. It is best to actually remove the pack from the
radio.

As far as batteries on aircraft; I have never had any problems, and I can't
think of a mechanism that would discharge them.

regards
Jeff

1820. Re: Battery question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-04 21:02:26 UTC
From: Jack VK2CJC <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com>
Message-ID: <fglb1h$8o1$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 3627

> Perhaps the batteries aren't as good as you think or the last charge
> was longer ago than you remember.

4 sets of batteries were all good order and fully charged the day before leaving and were all flat or almost flat on arrival.

I cant think of any reason why either. Its an odd one :o)

And it wasn't a one off, I've done this journey a few times, and had the same results. Its a long trip, UK to Australia, 3 flights, 22 hours in the air. But radio, camera and phone were not switch on during this time.

Suggestions welcome.....

1821. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-05 02:23:33 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1194227853.639022.132850@d55g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3628

On Nov 2, 4:49?pm, Paul W. Schleck <pschl...@oasis.novia.net>" wrote:
> -----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
> Hash: SHA1
>
> In <1194028158.234641.258...@z9g2000hsf.googlegroups.com> N...@AOL.COM writes:
> >The classic
> >'bell-the-cat' question is: who will do the actual work?
>
> Another angle on the same challenge would be who would be motivated to
> develop a vendor-independent standard, that would actually be widely
> adopted by vendors, to implement this? Witness the various permutations
> of DC power connectors (with amateur radio emergency groups driven to
> distraction trying to establish at least local standards). Witness the
> inability to develop working, vendor-independent, interoperable
> standards for high-speed radio modems (9600 baud and above) that could
> be found in commonly-available commercial amateur radio gear. Amateur
> radio equipment manufacturers appear to prefer to differentiate their
> products by unique, and unfortunately incompatible, means of interfacing
> and control, with few economic incentives to standardize with other
> brands.

I think there are a couple of reasons for that:

1) The relatively-small amateur market won't support the cost of
standardization. IOW, it would add too much to the cost of a rig.

2) The rigmakers don't want any more interoperability, because it
means less sales

> > the rigmakers could offer downloadable firmware options. When
> >the rules change, download an update. Some rigmakers, like TenTec and
> >Elecraft, do this already.
>
> Will your amateur radio that is programmed to recognize band edges and
> allowed modes be able to be modified via reasonably available tools and
> techniques for the indefinite future? Examples that may cause me to
> think otherwise include:
>
> - Most amateur radio equipment in the past couple of decades, for
> economic reasons, tends to use custom bit-masked EEPROM's to
> implement their internal programming, something that would not be
> economical to duplicate by third-party manufacturers. Though amateur
> radio equipment would seem to be covered by the Magnuson Moss Act
> (i.e., availability of parts on the open market for some period of
> time after the end of manufacture, preservation of warranty even if

> third party parts and service are used, etc.), I also recall letters
> to QST complaining about repair depots simply being unable to fix
> amateur radio equipment, some of which was less than 10 years old.

Isn't that true of almost any consumer electronics?

We hams are the exception that proves the rule. We tend to keep rigs
in working order for a very long time, compared to, say, VCRs,
computers or TV sets.

Note also that hams like N4PY have come up with aftermarket software
improvements for rigs like Ten Tec.

> - I recall a legal dust-up from some years ago, discussed on the
> newsgroups, where Motorola was cracking down on efforts to
> reverse-engineer radio interfaces and the software that is used to
> modify the configurations of their radios. Regardless of whether
> Motorola was taking a legally defensible position, if the software is
> proprietary, or unable to run on current computers, or otherwise
> unavailable or unusable in some way, you may be left holding the bag.

The idea is that you're either supposed to pay Motorola prices, or
replace the radios.

> Consider the problem with VCR's and the recent change in the start of
> Daylight Savings Time in the U.S., and no way to modify them.

That reminds me, I have a bunch of things to reset....

> >Another approach is that as SDRs become more popular, the feature
> >would be part of the user interface.
>
> This would appear to offer more promise of future compatibility and
> programmability, though might still run afoul of legal problems with
> regard to reverse engineering or otherwise developing openly-published
> specifications and third-party software tools. Whether or not these
> positions would be legally defensible might not prevent manufacturers
> from attempting to chill the open market for these tools via
> intimidation tactics. Also, how long would it take for software-defined
> radios to propagate out to the amateur radio community in significant
> enough numbers to make a meaningful impact?

Good point! But the ability to add and change filters by firmware/
software methods is a major reason to go SDR.

> >I think it depends on the intent.
> >It's one thing to build in features that prevent problems. For
> >example, the power supplies of my non-QRP homebrew rigs built since
> >1980 have built-in time delay protection so that the high voltage
> >cannot be applied until the final amplifier and rectifier tubes have
> >had 60 seconds to warm up, and the bias supply is operating.
> >That protection is not essential to the operation of the rig, but it
> >has probably saved me from a few problems along the way.

> >It's quite a different thing, IMHO, to build in features with the
> >intent that the features remove the need for the licensed operator to
> >know things, like the subband edges.
> >IOW, the feature is a backup, not primary protection.

> I think that's the important distinction. It's also related to a
> classic conundrum in developing safety systems in other fields.

Yup - been there, done that.

> I would
> welcome an amateur radio that had fault protection to keep me from
> blowing the finals if I accidentally transmitted into no load or an
> infinite load. I'm not so sure about an amateur radio that would keep
> me from transmitting out of band or in an unauthorized mode if
> assumptions about what constituted "out of band" or "authorized mode"
> changes, or if I find myself in a true, bona-fide, communications
> emergency.

One way to implement such protection is to have an override switch
that must be activated for each exception. Or just a "feature off"
switch.

> The Usenet newsgroup comp.risks (aka, "Risks Digest") has touched on
> many of these types of issues. For example, while a rev-limiter on a
> motor would increase safety by preventing a blown engine, putting speed
> limiters on automobiles to keep them within speed limits may increase
> accidents by denying the necessary amount of power to get you out of a
> reasonably unanticipated emergency situation while passing or merging.

I can't think of a reasonable real-world situation where an RPM
limiter would cause problems.

Speed limiters, though, have practical problems. The max speed would
have to be set higher than the highest legal speed limit in the
country, so we're talking about 80-85 MPH. Since the car doesn't know
if it's on a superhighway or in a school zone, the practical effect
would be rather small.

> An airplane whose controls would keep you from overstressing the
> airframe, or flying into restricted airspace, might also keep you from
> making appropriate emergency maneuvers, where landing alive with your
> crew and passengers, but with an airframe you have just end-of-lifed, or
> under fighter escort to be whisked off to a friendly interview with the
> authorities, might be far preferable to the alternatives.
>
There's also the problem of what happens if the protection system
fails.

It seems to me that the best implementation for ham rigs would be a
firmware feature that you could turn off, and update as needed by
downloads.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1822. Re: Battery question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-05 14:12:54 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net>
Message-ID: <13iu7gbdtm8k657@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3629

"Jack VK2CJC" wrote ...
>> Perhaps the batteries aren't as good as you think or the last charge
>> was longer ago than you remember.
>
> 4 sets of batteries were all good order and fully charged the day
> before leaving and were all flat or almost flat on arrival.
>
> I cant think of any reason why either. Its an odd one :o)
>
> And it wasn't a one off, I've done this journey a few times, and had
> the same results. Its a long trip, UK to Australia, 3 flights, 22
> hours in the air. But radio, camera and phone were not switch on
> during this time.
>
> Suggestions welcome.....

If these are commercial flights, are they going through
any kind of imaging screening equipment? What kind?

1823. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-05 21:03:08 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fgnmku$18s4$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3630

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
> On Nov 2, 2:04?pm, Phil Kane <Phil.K...@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:
>> On Fri, 2 Nov 2007 11:44:34 EDT, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>>> (The Elecraft K3 can send and receive RTTY and PSK31
>>> without a computer, monitor, or
>>> keyboard).
>
> Couple of other modes, too. See the website - the manual is online
> now:
>
> www.elecraft.com
>> Good trick. I can see using the front-panel display for the monitor
>> but how does one input alphanumeric characters without a
>> keyboard of sorts?
>
> You send Morse Code to the rig and it translates/encodes the Morse
> into the PSK31, RTTY, etc. Paddles are the usual input device.

That is pretty darn clever. Does it have any special characters for backing up/corrections? I don't know if you've ever done it or not, but I suspect that it would be really easy to drop into "cw speak", which might be a little strnge for us native psk'ers. In any event, props go out to Elecraft for an innovative solution.

- 73 de Mike KB3EIA -

1824. Good Job!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-06 00:18:08 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <1194298803.073347.312030@k35g2000prh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3631

ARRL promotes kit-building.

Details at ----> http://www.arrl.org/?artid=7817

73, de Hans, K0HB

1825. Re: Battery question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-06 00:18:48 UTC
From: Jack VK2CJC <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com>
Message-ID: <fgnvil$u3$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 3632

> If these are commercial flights, are they going through
> any kind of imaging screening equipment? What kind?

Excellent point Richard.

In recent years all luggage is x-rayed. My wife is a radiographer and always takes an interest in the machinery. She has never seen this particular type of imaging before. It shows different types of metal as different colours. Despite the commonly used name, its not really x-ray, indicated by the lack of concern of leaked radiation :o) Its definitely magnetic.

Could this be the battery killer?

Jack

1826. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-06 00:23:15 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1194301912.987150.275200@v23g2000prn.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3633

Posted by N...@AOL.COM on Sun, 4 Nov 2007 21:23:33 EST

>On Nov 2, 4:49?pm, Paul W. Schleck <pschl...@oasis.novia.net>" wrote:
>
>1) The relatively-small amateur market won't support the cost of
>standardization. IOW, it would add too much to the cost of a rig.

STANDARDIZATION, nearly all of it industry standards,
make up nearly everything in the component parts of any
manufactured and nearly every home-built radio equipment
for at least the last half century. Everything from fasteners
(nuts and bolts) made to English and metric industry
standards, vacuum tubes, resistors, capacitors, inductors,
transistors and diodes (of the 'registered' 2N and 1N prefixes).
There's industry standards on aluminum and magnesium
alloys, even some on castings of same. There's industry
standards on rack panels even though that was once
started by AT&T for the telephone infra-structure. There's
industry standards on wire (American Wire Gauge ruling
through the market demand)...although those standards v.
government specifications blur for heavier guages.

The 1%, 2%, 5%, and 10% logarithmic-sequence of parts
values has become a de facto standard because of its
ease in equating the parts' tolerances. The 'UHF' series
of common RF connectors on amateur radios was
originally a military specification but has become a de
facto standard through its incorporation; the military
doesn't use it now, hasn't for years, the patents on it
have run out and it is a relatively cheap coaxial connector
compared to other, better coaxial connectors.

>2) The rigmakers don't want any more interoperability, because it
>means less sales

Aeronautical Radio, Inc (ARINC) was once solely a
commercial company engaged in providing air-ground
communications with aircraft before our government
got its act together and created the air traffic control
system. They still do that but ARINC is better
known to commercial avionics equipment makers as
an industry Standards Group that, by common
agreement of members, establishes standards on all
civilian avionics equipment. Those cover everything
from cases, their mounting equipment, even the control
wiring with specified connectors and specific connections

for control functions. ARINC standards have been acceptable to manufacturers and users for fifty years. The civilian avionics market is smaller than the USA amateur radio market.

The 'D-Star' VHF-UHF standard, currently under large promotion by Icom, may or may not become a standard. A lot of opposition to that standard is from US amateurs because it originated in Japan and was conceived and tested there. <shrug>

'S Meter' levels aren't really standardized as to receiver input signal levels except as a 'common use' standard and a recommendation by the IARU. Yet most are under the impression that all S Meters are calibrated/scaled alike (they aren't) and routinely report their S Meter readings in QSOs. :-)

Amateur radio equipment, especially transceivers, are designed and made for stand-alone use. Peripherals are relegated to outside-the-antenna-connector devices or different speaker boxes and other audio processing things. The external connections are standardized as to power input (AC standards from the power distribution infrastructure or DC power from the auto industry), computer interface connections (USB, serial, parallel) if those are included for read-out or computer control, and 'open-source' connections such as automatic antenna tuners made by the originating manufacturer or by independent suppliers. Microphone, headset/speaker, morse key connections still aren't standardized fully, not even as de facto standards; that allows more sales of adapters for that small niche market. :-)

I'm puzzled about all this palaver over some bandplan automatic lock-out on frequency control and transmitting. Allocations of amateur frequency and modes for same aren't locked to any standard but the common-agreement terms of the ITU-R. Sub-band allocations are always at the discretion of the national radio regulating authorities and may change at any time dependent on that nation's politicking for sub-band use. :-)

I've seen a LOT of different human factors documents and guides, but have yet to see a specific arrangement for manual control functions on any consumer electronics product. The 'need' for that seems to be no different for remote control via computer. Computer interfaces are very standardized now but that industry has had a quarter century to work those out; they evolved in the same manner as all standards did. Some have

disappeared such as the 5 1/4" floppy and the 'Centronics' connector (Amphenol Blue-Ribbon); the 8" floppy and CP/M OS disappeared so early that few computerists of today know they once existed. :-) PC operating systems are standardized on the MS Windows package through agressive marketing and buyers agreeing to that despite the 'Linux' alternative.

De facto 'standards' will come about through a combination of manufacturer's marketing efforts and public acceptance...plus other manufacturers offering 'compatible' things to work with the apparent market-leader that started the de facto standard. That's how it was "forty years ago" and that's how it will continue to be. <shrug>

AF6AY

1827. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-06 03:08:24 UTC
From: Iitoi <Iitoi@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <fgojti$2js$2@aioe.org>
Source record: 3634

<N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote in message
news:1194227853.639022.132850@d55g2000hsg.googlegroups.com...
>
> The idea is that you're either supposed to pay Motorola prices, or
> replace the radios.
>

Motorola just announced the intent to purchase Yaesu Musen.

The Man in the Maze
QRS at Baboquivari Peak, AZ

--
Iitoi

1828. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-06 03:08:59 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1194317883.021099.305700@19g2000hsx.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3635

On Nov 5, 4:03?pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> >> On Fri, 2 Nov 2007 11:44:34 EDT, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> >>> (The Elecraft K3 can send and receive RTTY and PSK31
> >>> without a computer, monitor, or
> >>> keyboard).
>
> > Couple of other modes, too. See the website - the manual is online
> > now:
>
> >www.elecraft.com

> > You send Morse Code to the rig and it translates/encodes the
> > Morse
> > into the PSK31, RTTY, etc. Paddles are the usual input device.
>
> That is pretty darn clever.

Yup.

Of course it means you have to know how to send Morse Code in order to
do PSK31 or RTTY without a keyboard, but still.....

> Does it have any special characters for
> backing up/corrections?

Check the manual. It's interesting reading.

> I don't know if you've ever done it or not, but
> I suspect that it would be really easy to drop into "cw speak",
> which
> might be a little strnge for us native psk'ers.

O RLY?

> In any event, props go
> out to Elecraft for an innovative solution.

They've got a lot of them. Their manuals are worth a read
just for the ingenuity that went into the rig designs.

I got a chance to use a KX1 on Field Day this year. Amazing
little rig. Complete with accessory paddles, it's about the size of a
stack of QSL cards.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1829. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-06 04:28:22 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1194318998.979541.234760@k79g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3636

On Nov 5, 10:08?pm, "Iitoi" <Ii...@earthlink.net> wrote:

> Motorola just announced the intent to purchase Yaesu Musen.

Actually, they are buying Vertex, which owns Yaesu - and a lot more.

Which raises the question - will they keep Yaesu as a major amateur
radio manufacturer, sell off the amateur division, or shut it down?

Interesting times!

73 de Jim, N2EY

1830. K3TUP

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-06 14:18:06 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13j0tqhjsj2su4d@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3637

There is an article in today's LA Times about John Kanzius, K3TUP. It mentions that he is a ham radio operator, providing nice publicity for the hobby.

http://www.latimes.com/features/health/men/la-na-cancer2nov02,0,4783224.story

73, Steve KB9X

1831. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-07 00:49:05 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fgqh5q$1a58$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3638

AF6AY wrote:

> 'S Meter' levels aren't really standardized as to
> receiver input signal levels except as a 'common use'
> standard and a recommendation by the IARU. Yet
> most are under the impression that all S Meters are
> calibrated/scaled alike (they aren't) and routinely
> report their S Meter readings in QSOs. :-)

Ain't that the truth! There is so much ambiguity in S-meters that they are more for self comparison than anything else. I calibrated my S-meter during an antenna comparison a year or so ago, and they wen't in agreement, and they weren't linear - which is to say that while S-7 might be a bit high, and S-5 mogt be a bit low, and S-2 something else altogether.

Coupled with what I understand was a change in how many db were considered an S-unit to boot makes the S meter more of an entertainment device, or more likely one of the less important functions of the meter we use ot adjust power, alc, SWR and the like.

> Amateur radio equipment, especially transceivers,
> are designed and made for stand-alone use.
> Peripherals are relegated to outside-the-antenna-
> connector devices or different speaker boxes and
> other audio processing things. The external
> connections are standardized as to power input
> (AC standards from the power distribution infrastructure
> or DC power from the auto industry), computer
> interface connections (USB, serial, parallel) if those
> are included for read-out or computer control, and
> 'open-source' connections such as automatic antenna
> tuners made by the originating manufacturer or by
> independent suppliers. Microphone, headset/speaker,
> morse key connections still aren't standardized
> fully, not even as de facto standards; that allows
> more sales of adapters for that small niche market. :-)
>
> I'm puzzled about all this palaver over some bandplan
> automatic lock-out on frequency control and transmitting.

Certainly those who have the most need for the lock outs wouldn't program them in anyhow. But I find it just an interesting thought exercise.

- 73 de Mike N3LI -

1832. Re: Battery question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-07 00:51:35 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net>
Message-ID: <5pc2gnFqkp73U1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 3639

"Jack VK2CJC" wrote ...
>> If these are commercial flights, are they going through
>> any kind of imaging screening equipment? What kind?
>
> Excellent point Richard.
>
> In recent years all luggage is x-rayed. My wife is a radiographer and
> always takes an interest in the machinery. She has never seen this
> particular type of imaging before. It shows different types of metal as
> different colours.
> Despite the commonly used name, its not really x-ray, indicated by the
> lack of concern of leaked radiation :o) Its definitely magnetic.
>
> Could this be the battery killer?

So are they just discharged? Can you recharge them?
Or are they destroyed? Were the radios affected?

If you can see the scanning equipment, can you at least
get a manufacturer name from it? And maybe a model
number? With that, you could do some internet research
to discover what method it uses and if there are any other
reports of bad interactions with batteries, etc.

Richard KE7GKP

1833. Linux for Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-07 00:55:46 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fgqhm8$153g$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3640

In finding the cure for Vista, I've installed Ubuntu Linux on my laptop. It is turning out to be a tremendous OS, and it addresses one of my major complaints of most flavors of Linux - that being whenever you try to install a program, it takes you back to 1985 computing.

Any Linux lovin' hams here that have any advice or suggestions on good programs, such as logging, propagation or the other apps we like to have?

- 73 de Mike N3LI -

1834. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-07 01:17:53 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fgqg96$14lu$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3641

N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:
> On Nov 5, 4:03?pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>> N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>>>> On Fri, 2 Nov 2007 11:44:34 EDT, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
>>>>> (The Elecraft K3 can send and receive RTTY and PSK31
>>>>> without a computer, monitor, or
>>>>> keyboard).
>>> Couple of other modes, too. See the website - the manual is online
>>> now:
>>> www.elecraft.com
>
>>> You send Morse Code to the rig and it translates/encodes the
>>> Morse
>>> into the PSK31, RTTY, etc. Paddles are the usual input device.
>> That is pretty darn clever.
>
> Yup.
>
> Of course it means you have to know how to send Morse Code in order to
> do PSK31 or RTTY without a keyboard, but still.....

Indeed! My Morse code shortcomings are all on the receiving side. I can send fairly well, but I have to have a pretty clean signal to hear it easily.

>> Does it have any special characters for
>> backing up/corrections?
>
> Check the manual. It's interesting reading.
>
>> I don't know if you've ever done it or not, but
>> I suspect that it would be really easy to drop into "cw speak",
>> which
>> might be a little strnge for us native psk'ers.
>
> O RLY?

I've always said that Hams are probably the origin of leet.

>> In any event, props go
>> out to Elecraft for an innovative solution.
>
> They've got a lot of them. Their manuals are worth a read
> just for the ingenuity that went into the rig designs.
>

> I got a chance to use a KX1 on Field Day this year. Amazing
> little rig. Complete with accessory paddles, it's about the size of a
> stack of QSL cards.

Well so is my IC-761, as long as you can stack up a few thousand in
maybe 30 piles.....

Seriously, the KX-1 is a nice little Xceiver.

- 73 de Mike N3LI -

1835. Re: Linux for Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-07 03:27:15 UTC
From: The Shadow <Cranston@CobaltClub.com>
Message-ID: <%29Yi.1474$pr6.309@newsfe06.phx>
Source record: 3642

"Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
news:fgqhm8$153g$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...
> In finding the cure for Vista, I've installed Ubuntu Linux on my laptop.
> It is turning out to be a tremendous OS, and it addresses one of my major
> complaints of most flavors of Linux - that being whenever you try to
> install a program, it takes you back to 1985 computing.
>
> Any Linux lovin' hams here that have any advice or suggestions on good
> programs, such as logging, propagation or the other apps we like to have?
>
>
> - 73 de Mike N3LI -
>
Try AC6V's site
Linux For Hams URL:
http://ac6v.com/software.htm#LIN

73 Lamont

1836. Re: Linux for Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-07 03:27:35 UTC
From: The Shadow <Cranston@CobaltClub.com>
Message-ID: <A79Yi.1475$pr6.504@newsfe06.phx>
Source record: 3643

"Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
news:fgqhm8$153g$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...
> In finding the cure for Vista, I've installed Ubuntu Linux on my laptop.
> It is turning out to be a tremendous OS, and it addresses one of my major
> complaints of most flavors of Linux - that being whenever you try to
> install a program, it takes you back to 1985 computing.
>
> Any Linux lovin' hams here that have any advice or suggestions on good
> programs, such as logging, propagation or the other apps we like to have?
>
>
> - 73 de Mike N3LI -
>

Also see Logging prograns use CNTRL F - Search for Linux
http://ac6v.com/logging.htm

Lamont

1837. Re: Linux for Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-07 13:46:43 UTC
From: Fabian Kurz <usenet@fkurz.net>
Message-ID: <5pds5bFqri2nU1@mid.dfncis.de>
Source record: 3644

Michael Coslo wrote:
> In finding the cure for Vista, I've installed Ubuntu Linux on my laptop.
> It is turning out to be a tremendous OS, and it addresses one of my
> major complaints of most flavors of Linux - that being whenever you try
> to install a program, it takes you back to 1985 computing.
>
> Any Linux lovin' hams here that have any advice or suggestions on good
> programs, such as logging, propagation or the other apps we like to have?

The "Linux Hamradio Applications and Utilities Homepage" at
http://radio.linux.org.au/ is probably the most comprehensive
directory of Linux ham software. It's actively maintained and
contains over 400 different software packages, sorted by
categories like "logging", "morse", ...

I'm using Linux (and FreeBSD) for all my ham radio needs, which
is mainly logging (YFKlog for normal QSOs, YFKtest for contests)
and (very rarely) some digital modes (gmfsk, fldigi).

For some eyecandy, I am using xplanet to show me a world grayline
map on my desktop background, with markers for all DXCCs (colour
indicating cfmed/worked/needed). Of course, it's automatically
generated by my logging software.

Furthermore I have a small script running on my workstation here
which automatically check for new mail and send me the subject
line and sender in morse code if something arrives.

There are very many little neat things you can do in an Linux/Unix
environment with a short Perl/Python/Shell script, which is almost
impossible under Windows.

I started using Linux as my main OS about 4 years ago. Since
then, a lot has changed, both with Linux in general as an
operating system becoming more and more available for the
masses, but also in availability of decent ham radio
applications. And I am a little proud that I made my own, small
contributions to this. By making my own software available under
a free license and by submitting bug reports, patches and
suggestions to the numerous authors of excellent Linux ham radio
software.

73,
--
Fabian Kurz, DJ1YFK * Dresden, Germany * http://fkurz.net/

1838. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-08 01:56:39 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1194479297.301675.260020@o38g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3645

On Nov 5, 7:23 pm, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:
> Posted by N...@AOL.COM on Sun, 4 Nov 2007 21:23:33 EST
>
> >On Nov 2, 4:49?pm, Paul W. Schleck <pschl...@oasis.novia.net>" wrote:
>
> >1) The relatively-small amateur market won't support the cost of
> >standardization. IOW, it would add too much to the cost of a rig.
>
> STANDARDIZATION, nearly all of it industry standards,
> make up nearly everything in the component parts of any
> manufactured and nearly every home-built radio equipment
> for at least the last half century. Everything from fasteners
> (nuts and bolts) made to English and metric industry
> standards, vacuum tubes, resistors, capacitors, inductors,
> transistors and diodes (of the 'registered' 2N and 1N prefixes).

The standardization being discussed was about things like power
connectors and the possible feature of the rig not transmitting
outside
the licensee's privileges (such as no 'phone in the CW/data subbands).

btw, many of the parts in consumer and amateur electronics today
are "house numbered", particularly ICs, and replacements can be a
real problem.

> >2) The rigmakers don't want any more interoperability, because it
> >means less sales
>
> Aeronautical Radio, Inc (ARINC) was once solely a
> commercial company engaged in providing air-ground
> communications with aircraft before our government
> got its act together and created the air traffic control
> system. They still do that but ARINC is better
> known to commercial avionics equipment makers as
> an industry Standards Group that, by common
> agreement of members, establishes standards on all
> civilian avionics equipment.

Key factor there is "common agreement of members".

> 'S Meter' levels aren't really standardized as to
> receiver input signal levels except as a 'common use'
> standard and a recommendation by the IARU.

Even if S meter readings were standardized, differences
in antenna systems would make the readings meaningless

on an absolute scale.

> Yet
> most are under the impression that all S Meters are
> calibrated/scaled alike (they aren't) and routinely
> report their S Meter readings in QSOs. :-)

Who are "most", Len?

None of my homebrew receivers or transceivers has ever
had an S meter. Yet I give signal reports as part of most
QSOs.

> Amateur radio equipment, especially transceivers,
> are designed and made for stand-alone use.

Most are, but not all. For example, the Kachina 505DSP,
introduced about a decade ago, requires connection to a
computer. Same for the Ten Tec Pegasus, introduced
about a year after the 505DSP.

The inexpensive PSK31 transceivers commonly known as
the "Warbler" is another example.

More recently, some software-defined rigs have been produced
that require computer connection to operate.

> Peripherals are relegated to outside-the-antenna-
> connector devices or different speaker boxes and
> other audio processing things.

Isn't being "outside" the definition of "peripheral"?

Many rigs nowadays have numerous *internal* options as
well, such as filters and firmware upgrades. These are almost
always manufacturer-specific if not model-specific.

At least one company (Elecraft) makes their transceivers
available with a wide variety of internal options that can be
added at initial construction, or later.

For example, their basic K2 transceiver is a 10 watt CW-only
80/40/30/20/17/15/12/10 rig. Options include an antenna
tuning unit, SLA battery, analog and DSP audio filters,
SSB, 160 meters/second receiver antenna input, noise blanker,
60 meters, 100 watt amplifier, and serial port. Their other
products offer similar options. But they are all specific to the
manufacturer.

www.elecraft.com

> The external
> connections are standardized as to power input
> (AC standards from the power distribution infrastructure
> or DC power from the auto industry),

Not on amateur gear. Some use Molex, some use PowerPoles,
some use other connectors for DC power.

> computer
> interface connections (USB, serial, parallel) if those
> are included for read-out or computer control, and
> 'open-source' connections such as automatic antenna
> tuners made by the originating manufacturer or by
> independent suppliers. Microphone, headset/speaker,
> morse key connections still aren't standardized
> fully, not even as de facto standards; that allows
> more sales of adapters for that small niche market. :-)

My point exactly.

> I'm puzzled about all this palaver over some bandplan
> automatic lock-out on frequency control and transmitting.

What's the puzzlement? It's just a proposed feature.

> Allocations of amateur frequency and modes for same
> aren't locked to any standard but the common-agreement
> terms of the ITU-R. Sub-band allocations are always at
> the discretion of the national radio regulating authorities
> and may change at any time dependent on that nation's
> politicking for sub-band use. :-)

The idea was that the rig could prevent an amateur from
accidentally transmitting where s/he wasn't supposed to.
Not just out-of-band but out of subband, even when the handy
frequency chart isn't available, or the operator doesn't look at it.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1839. Re: Linux for Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-08 01:57:19 UTC
From: xpyttl <xpyttl_NOSPAM@earthling.net>
Message-ID: <IbtYi.145$me2.85@newsfe06.lga>
Source record: 3646

"Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
news:fgqhm8$153g$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...
> In finding the cure for Vista, I've installed Ubuntu Linux on my laptop.
> It is turning out to be a tremendous OS, and it addresses one of my major
> complaints of most flavors of Linux - that being whenever you try to
> install a program, it takes you back to 1985 computing.

I'm afraid you will find that when you start installng many ham radio apps, you are still back to 1985. One of the reasons I'm kind of a fan of Fedora is that a number of ham related apps are part of the distro, and so install easily like those on Ubuntu. Those apps, tho, aren't your loggers and such, they are more the design apps that I happen to be interested in.

It doesn't have Ubuntu's eye candy, though, and unfortunately, Fedora is intended to be the "bleeding edge" distro, so about as soon as you get it installed it goes out of support. On the other hand, after many attempts, they have heavy-duty security that is pretty painless. It took them quite a few releases to get there tho, and the other distros haven't even started down the path yet.

..

1840. Re: Linux for Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-08 05:32:46 UTC
From: Bill Horne <telecom-digest@comcastQRM.net>
Message-ID: <m6SdnfMdlsDZG6_anZ2dnUVZ_vqpnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 3647

xpyttl wrote:
> Fedora is
> intended to be the "bleeding edge" distro, so about as soon as you get it
> installed it goes out of support. On the other hand, after many attempts,
> they have heavy-duty security that is pretty painless. It took them quite a
> few releases to get there tho, and the other distros haven't even started
> down the path yet.

I disagree: any Linux distro can be made secure, and just because Redhat
has chosen "secure" defaults in Fedora doesn't mean that other distros
can't be set for security.

Security is always a compromise between useability and effectiveness,
and while Ubuntu may have chosen to set less secure defaults to obtain
easier installation (or networking, or...), the _capability_ to set
them is always there for anyone to use, not only in Ubuntu but in all
the Linux distributions.

--
Bill Horne

(Remove QRM from my address for direct replies.)

1841. Re: Linux for Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-08 16:17:33 UTC
From: Gordon Hudson <hostroute@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <47331441$0$508$5a6aecb4@news.aaisp.net.uk>
Source record: 3648

"Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
news:fgqhm8$153g$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...
> In finding the cure for Vista, I've installed Ubuntu Linux on my laptop.

Its about the only current operating system that will work properly on a
laptop.
Vista requires too much memory to work properly on a laptop.
We use Linux on all our business laptops now.

I would recommend trying the K desktop (distributed as "Kubuntu") because
the K programs can handle DVD's and other things more easily.
You can run K and Gnome and switch between them.

1842. Re: Linux for Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-08 16:19:24 UTC
From: xpyttl <xpyttl_NOSPAM@earthling.net>
Message-ID: <xNEYi.19$e61.7@newsfe06.lga>
Source record: 3649

"Bill Horne" <telecom-digest@comcastQRM.net> wrote in message
news:m6SdnfMdlsDZG6_anZ2dnUVZ_vqpnZ2d@comcast.com...
> xpyttl wrote:

> I disagree: any Linux distro can be made secure, and just because Redhat
> has chosen "secure" defaults in Fedora doesn't mean that other distros
> can't be set for security.

I think you miss the point. Fedora/Red Hat have chosen to use a new security model called SELinux that is far more secure than the old Linux UID based model, but a LOT harder to make work without really getting in the way. Most of the other distros have this model available, but getting it configured so it isn't a major PITA is a pretty big deal.

The system is a lot more granular than the legacy system, which means, among other things, that an attacker gaining root privileges still has very limited access to the system. With the old system, any sort of privilege escalation and its game over. That granularity means that there are a lot more things to twiddle, and a lot of thinking about what gets in the way and what doesn't.

Fedora bit the bullet back in FC3 (seems like ages ago), and finally by FC6 it had reached the point where it could be fully turned on and not be constantly getting in the way.

The thing about SELinux is that the compromise between useability and effectiveness isn't quite as stark as it is with the old UID system. You can have the system configured to be quite restrictive, and never notice that those restrictions are there. Getting all the policies set that way is no small project, however.

Of course you could turn it on with Ubuntu, but you would spend months, if not years, getting it configured so it actually provided protection while not raising it's ugly head every time you tried to do something. Red Hat has spent three or four years sorting out all those settings, and the default settings for Fedora are now pretty good.

..

1843. Re: Linux for Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-08 19:53:47 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fgvnnc$ua4$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3551

xpyttl wrote:

> It doesn't have Ubuntu's eye candy, though, and unfortunately, Fedora is
> intended to be the "bleeding edge" distro, so about as soon as you get it
> installed it goes out of support. On the other hand, after many attempts,
> they have heavy-duty security that is pretty painless. It took them quite a
> few releases to get there tho, and the other distros haven't even started
> down the path yet.

Late flash - I found some other Ubuntu repository, and theere are a lot
of Ham Radio Apps there. I've installed a few, and so far so good.

1844. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-09 03:25:12 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1194577591.099939.198910@v23g2000prn.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3552

On Nov 6, 8:17?pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> N...@AOL.COM wrote:

> > Of course it means you have to know how to
> > send Morse Code in order to
> > do PSK31 or RTTY without a keyboard, but still.....

> Indeed! My Morse code shortcomings are all on the receiving
> side. I can
> send fairly well, but I have to have a pretty clean signal to hear it
> easily.

IMHO the circle game is complete.

I recall an article in QST (March 1964) where, by using
the right key sequences, a 60 wpm RTTY machine
could be made to send Morse Code. This was
particularly useful because in those days amateurs
using RTTY had to ID in Morse Code.

A few years later came the first CW keyboards,
which permitted someone with no Morse Code
sending skills to generate near-perfect Morse Code.

Now we have a rig that will permit a person with
no typing skills to send perfect RTTY or PSK31.

> > O RLY?

> I've always said that Hams are probably the origin of leet.

Naw, the landline telegraphers started it.

> - 73 de Mike N3LI

Congrats on the new call!

73 de Jim, N2EY

1845. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-09 11:57:43 UTC
From: Jeff <jeff@local.host>
Message-ID: <47341f7d$0$1342$834e42db@reader.greatnowhere.com>
Source record: 3553

<> Now we have a rig that will permit a person with
> no typing skills to send perfect RTTY

I thought that was the punch tape reader

Jeff

1846. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-09 15:12:59 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1194619021.529648.187720@q5g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3554

On Nov 9, 6:57 am, "Jeff" <j...@local.host> wrote:

> I thought that was the punch tape reader

BWAAHAAHAAA - good one!

--

Another neat RTTY trick involved paper tape.

By using certain sequences of letters, the holes in
the paper tape could be made to form letters and numbers.
What was printed on the page looked like gibberish-with-a-pattern
but if you looked at the tape the message was clear.

Of course since it took several characters to make one letter, the
effective speed on a 60 wpm machine was about 15-20 wpm. And
there was no going back if you made a mistake. But the effect could
be impressive to the uninitiated.

73 de Jim, N2EY

...remembering the smell of hot machine oil in the W3ABT room...

1847. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-10 02:46:07 UTC
From: hot-ham-and-cheese@hotmail.com
Message-ID: <1194658898.681366.288900@k79g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3555

On Nov 9, 11:12 am, N...@AOL.COM wrote:
> On Nov 9, 6:57 am, "Jeff" <j...@local.host> wrote:
>
> > I thought that was the punch tape reader
>
> BWAAHAAHAAA - good one!
>
> --
>
> Another neat RTTY trick involved paper tape.
>
> By using certain sequences of letters, the holes in
> the paper tape could be made to form letters and numbers.
> What was printed on the page looked like gibberish-with-a-pattern
> but if you looked at the tape the message was clear.
>
> Of course since it took several characters to make one letter, the
> effective speed on a 60 wpm machine was about 15-20 wpm. And
> there was no going back if you made a mistake. But the effect could
> be impressive to the uninitiated.
>
> 73 de Jim, N2EY
>
> ...remembering the smell of hot machine oil in the W3ABT room...

I remember back-spacing and nulling out the mistake, then continuing.
But I wasn't 10 years old, either.

1848. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-10 12:52:47 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <1194677101.152898.324920@v23g2000prn.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3556

N...@AOL.COM posted on Fri, 9 Nov 2007 10:12:59 EST:

>On Nov 9, 6:57 am, "Jeff" <j...@local.host> wrote:

>Another neat RTTY trick involved paper tape.

"Trick?" TTY p-tape was standard practice among the big guns
in communications of the 1940s. Back then it was 60 WPM on
a 24/7 basis...just keep them fed with paper, ink, and once in a
while, some lubricant. Teletype Corporation made a fine piece
of goods.

>Of course since it took several characters to make one letter, the
>effective speed on a 60 wpm machine was about 15-20 wpm. And
>there was no going back if you made a mistake. But the effect could
>be impressive to the uninitiated.

TTY p-tape makes it possible to do an immediate re-send of the
SAME message if a wire or radio circuit is blitzed by something.
During WWII and afterwards it was the standard way at big hubs
of networks that spread around the globe...be they military or
commercial, the 'torn tape relay' rooms were big and efficient.

>...remembering the smell of hot machine oil in the W3ABT room...

I can easily remember an entire second floor at ADA's control
center tape relay room of the early 1950s. Over 200 teleprinter
machines busy working away 24/7. Impressive all by itself. And
that was only the third-largest hub (RUAP) in the Army network
then.

73, Len AF6AY

1849. Re: Battery question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-10 12:53:08 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <solaj313n6cmt3g1d4pthcdtso62300lc8@4ax.com>
Source record: 3557

On Tue, 6 Nov 2007 19:51:35 EST, "Richard Crowley"
<rcrowley@xp7rt.net> wrote:

>If you can see the scanning equipment, can you at least
>get a manufacturer name from it? And maybe a model
>number? With that, you could do some internet research
>to discover what method it uses and if there are any other
>reports of bad interactions with batteries, etc.

Nowadays if you ask about that, someone will suspect you of being a
saboteur (don't want to use the "T" word).

A sad reflection on our times.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1850. Re: Linux for Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-11 01:09:48 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <EuOdnQluM8A2yavanZ2dnUVZ_uHinZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 3558

On Thu, 08 Nov 2007 11:17:33 -0500, Gordon Hudson wrote:

> "Michael Coslo" <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote in message
> news:fgqhm8$153g$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu...
>> In finding the cure for Vista, I've installed Ubuntu Linux on my
>> laptop.
>
> Its about the only current operating system that will work properly on
a
> laptop.
> Vista requires too much memory to work properly on a laptop. We use
> Linux on all our business laptops now.

I must agree. My new laptop is no slouch, but at times I felt that I was operating with a 286 machine under Vista. My average time from boot to actually doing something was as much as 30 minutes, as all the programs accessed the web, looking for updates, and many of them crashed. At least

half the time, I have to hard kill the machine to turn it off. This is the fifth laptop I've tried with Vista. None have actually worked.

During Field day this year, we had tried to use N3FJP's software for networked logging with Vista. It failed most spectacularly (Vista failed,

the logging software itself works wonderfully on XP machines. Apparently Vista occasionally "loses" an IP address, and the cure is to reboot. Not a very good situation in the middle of a multi station logging effort.

My laptop has performed flawlessly since the OS change.

The Ubuntu repositories have a lot of apps, There are Ham specific ones, such as loggers, digital mode software (linux even has AMTOR/PACTOR transmitting software) there are antenna modeling programs, even a Smith chart program. Lots of developer apps too.

There are quite a few electronic apps, such as transmission line calculators, and a whole lot of other stuff that I am just finding out about. More Hams need to check it out - I think the whole Operating system is in line with "Ham Spirit".

> I would recommend trying the K desktop (distributed as "Kubuntu")
> because the K programs can handle DVD's and other things more easily.
> You can run K and Gnome and switch between them.

I'll probably give that a try

--
-73 de Mike N3LI -

1851. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-11 01:29:04 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <EuOdnQhuM8C3x6vanZ2dnUVZ_uHinZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 3559

On Thu, 08 Nov 2007 22:25:12 -0500, N2EY wrote:

> On Nov 6, 8:17?pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
>> N...@AOL.COM wrote:
<some snippage>
> Now we have a rig that will permit a person with no typing skills to
> send perfect RTTY or PSK31.

Like they say, "It's all good". I don't know anyone nearby that has a K@,

but at Dayton next year I'm going to haunt the Elecraft booth.

>> I've always said that Hams are probably the origin of leet.
>
> Naw, the landline telegraphers started it.

Point conceeded! ;^)

>
>> - 73 de Mike N3LI
>
> Congrats on the new call!

Thanks. I was toying around, not too serious, looking for something a
little shorter, and found this one. I like it both for Morse and Voice.

And N5EE was taken already, hehe

-73 de Mike N3LI -

1852. Re: Linux for Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-11 05:36:34 UTC
From: Kc4uai <bob_brock@verizon.net>
Message-ID: <cSsZi.2901$CI1.360@trnddc03>
Source record: 3560

Mike Coslo wrote:
>
> The Ubuntu repositories have a lot of apps, There are Ham specific ones,
> such as loggers, digital mode software (linux even has AMTOR/PACTOR
> transmitting software) there are antenna modeling programs, even a Smith
> chart program. Lots of developer apps too.
>
> There are quite a few electronic apps, such as transmission line
> calculators, and a whole lot of other stuff that I am just finding out
> about. More Hams need to check it out - I think the whole Operating
> system is in line with "Ham Spirit".

Well I don't really care for Ubuntu myself, but I can see where folks would like it. Personally I dislike it because it goes to great lengths to isolate you from the Unix stuff, most notable is that you cannot log into the "root" account from the GUI. Of course that's not usually a good idea, but there are times when it just makes sense to be "root" on a box.

For the folks that don't want to care about the Unix stuff, Ubuntu does a good job of hiding a lot of that. It also has a "run from the CD" mode that's kind of nice. You can run it without installing anything and see what you think. If you don't like it, just take the CD out.

Where do you find the HAM stuff though? I've got a Ubuntu install that I play with and I'd like to see what's built for it.

-= bob =-
(AKA KC4UAI)

1853. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-11 13:29:02 UTC
From: N2EY@AOL.COM
Message-ID: <1194787509.899344.66320@k79g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3561

On Nov 10, 8:29?pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@comcast.net> wrote:
> On Thu, 08 Nov 2007 22:25:12 -0500, N2EY wrote:
> > On Nov 6, 8:17?pm, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> > > Now we have a rig that will permit a person with no
> > > typing skills to
> > > send perfect RTTY or PSK31.
>
> Like they say, "It's all good". I don't know anyone nearby that has a K@,

Did you mean "K2" or "K3"? I have a K2 and at least one other
regular here does too. Great rigs. I've used the KX1 and K1 as well.

> but at Dayton next year I'm going to haunt the Elecraft booth.

You and a lot of others...

Elecraft has shipped a few dozen K3s so far. The first two production
runs sold out long ago, if you order now, expect
a few weeks' wait as they catch up on backlog. Some reviews
have started to appear on the 'net, and eventually there will be
QST and Sherwood measurements of the truly amazing numbers.

I worked a couple of stations using K3s in CW SS last weekend, so they
are on the air.

>From the descriptions, assembling a K3 is more like building a PC than
it is assembling a Heathkit. The boards and modules are all
preassembled; you simply put it together and configure it. Which is
not a trivial job!

And like a PC, you have a choice of which options to add to the basic
unit. Options can be added at initial build or later. This helps keep
the price down - if you don't need things like general coverage
receive or a second receiver, you don't have to pay for them.

I don't work for Elecraft and my only interest is as a stisfied
customer and builder.

> >> - 73 de Mike N3LI
>
> > Congrats on the new call!
>
> Thanks. I was toying around, not too serious, looking for
> something a
> little shorter, and found this one. I like it both for Morse and Voice.
>
> And N5EE was taken already, hehe

>
Yup, one of the shortest possible US CW calls that's not a 1x1. It's
tied with AE5E. Compare with a call like KQ0JJJ....

Besides, "N3LI" has the same rhythm as "N2EY"...

73 de Jim, N2EY

1854. Re: Linux for Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-11 17:07:32 UTC
From: xpyttl <xpyttl_NOSPAM@earthling.net>
Message-ID: <%AEZi.12$G%5.2@newsfe06.lga>
Source record: 3562

"Kc4uai" <bob_brock@verizon.net> wrote in message
news:cSsZi.2901$CI1.360@trnddc03...

> It also has a "run from the CD" mode that's kind of nice. You can run it
> without installing anything and see what you think. If you don't like it,
> just take the CD out.

The Fedora project just announced a "spin" of Fedora called "Fedora Electronic Lab". This is a live CD loaded up with electronics stuff. Fedora includes a set of LiveCD tools to encourage custom spins. So far no ham app spin, tho.

The problem with these Live CDs is that you still need to have a bit of Linux savvy if you want to use the Live CD and save some data. It isn't hard, but if you are using the Live CD to try out some Linux distro that can be a pretty big barrier to fully enjoying it.

..

1855. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-11 19:09:15 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <2ikej3hnjq7d1m7m23pu46q62vfj2pqusv@4ax.com>
Source record: 3563

On Sun, 11 Nov 2007 08:29:02 EST, N2EY@AOL.COM wrote:

>Yup, one of the shortest possible US CW calls that's not a 1x1. It's
>tied with AE5E. Compare with a call like KQ0JJJ....
>
>Besides, "N3LI" has the same rhythm as "N2EY"...

One of my former staffers and still friends, Bob Weller, picked up the
call N6NE about 20 years ago. Bob spent 9 years with the FCC, then
went to the private sector as a broadcast engineering consultant, and
this week returned to the FCC as the RadHaz specialist. AFAIK he's
still a CW contester, hence the short call.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1856. Re: Linux for Hams

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-13 01:24:21 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fha69gfmk1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3564

Kc4uai wrote:

>
> For the folks that don't want to care about the Unix stuff, Ubuntu does
> a good job of hiding a lot of that. It also has a "run from the CD" mode
> that's kind of nice. You can run it without installing anything and see
> what you think. If you don't like it, just take the CD out.
>
> Where do you find the HAM stuff though? I've got a Ubuntu install that
> I play with and I'd like to see what's built for it.

Under Symantec, you can open up some extra repositories. I think theere
is one more standard Ubuntu repository, and a "universal" one. There are
both finished apps and various engines for developers. There are a
couple more repositories that have proprietary drives also.

- 73 de Mike N3LI -

1857. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-13 04:48:14 UTC
From: "Dr.Ace Ratliff" <Ace@WH2T.com>
Message-ID: <f3f25$473928d4$4e087d1$15369@DIALUPUSA.NET>
Source record: 3565

<N2EY@AOL.COM> wrote in message
news:1193051344.283260.261940@z24g2000prh.googlegroups.com...
> On Oct 21, 10:54?pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
>> Klystron <x...@yyy.zzz> wrote
>> innews:xxx-E5D360.19450321102007@news.verizon.net:
>
Snipped

> Novice (back then) was also a one-year, nonrenewable, one-time
> license with extremely limited privileges. So its test could be very
> basic and still cover the needed material.
>
Snipped
> 73 de Jim, N2EY
>

Novice's back then were also limited to 75 watts plate input power and rock
bound (No VFO) operations.
Ace - WH2T

.

1858. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-13 04:49:27 UTC
From: "Dr.Ace Ratliff" <Ace@WH2T.com>
Message-ID: <ed812$47392b82$4e087f7$15433@DIALUPUSA.NET>
Source record: 3566

> Beat you. I got 100 on all three tests (amateur elements 2, 3 and 4).
> I will admit that there was some rote memorization involved, especially
> on the parts that I didn't know anything about (calculations involving
> imaginary numbers, for example).
>
> --
> Klystron
>

When I started studying for the Advanced or maybe it was the Extra class exam I was somewhat intimidated by the section on imaginary numbers, J operator, etc.
I studied it in college to get my electronics degree but that was quite a while ago.
My first thought was I can just guess at these questions and if I miss them all I will still pass the test.
Then I decided to just memorize the (Radio Shack) study material, not the formulas or the math to solve the problem.
I passed first try.
Ace - WH2T

.

1859. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-13 04:53:40 UTC
From: "Dr.Ace Ratliff" <Ace@WH2T.com>
Message-ID: <9f74b$47392d77$4e087f7$15490@DIALUPUSA.NET>
Source record: 3567

"Dee Flint" <deeflint01@comcast.net> wrote in message
news:Vq-dnQFm894N-LvanZ2dnUVZ_gqdnZ2d@comcast.com...
>
> I definitely agree that this should be a possible test question as one can
> be out of band simply due to the width of the signal. A lot of people
> don't understand this until they get "dinged" so to speak. When I teach a
> class, I try to emphasize this.
>
> Dee, N8UZE
>

Many times as an Official Observer or OO I have seen people operate LSB 1
Khz from the lower phone band edge. Even after I quoted the law to the (not
on that freq) they would still argue that they were operating in the band !
Ace - WH2T

.

1860. Practice CW

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-13 16:46:18 UTC
From: James Barrett <xucaen@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <1194972021.537010.246400@o80g2000hse.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3568

Hi, I'm learning CW, and so far have not been able to tune in the Arrl practice frequencies. I have only a 10 meter wire antenna, and I'm wondering if there is anyone here from the southern New England area that knows CW that wouldn't mind some practice on the 10 meter tech sub-band. Fair warning, I'm not up to 5 wpm yet. :)
I am usally on the air around 7pm.

Jim

1861. Re: Practice CW

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-13 18:11:45 UTC
From: Bill Horne <telecom-digest@comcastQRM.net>
Message-ID: <eqGdnY9Ofp1DSqTanZ2dnUVZ_u6rnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 3569

James Barrett wrote:
> Hi, I'm learning CW, and so far have not been able to tune in the Arrl
> practice frequencies. I have only a 10 meter wire antenna, and I'm
> wondering if there is anyone here from the southern New England area
> that knows CW that wouldn't mind some practice on the 10 meter tech
> sub-band. Fair warning, I'm not up to 5 wpm yet. :)
> I am usually on the air around 7pm.
>
>
> Jim
>

Jim,

Please tell us your callsign and grid square: at this point in the
sunspot cycle, ten meters isn't going to get much further than a CB set.

There are also other options you can pursue:

1. Use a computer and download one of several Morse study
programs. I found them indispensable for learing the
code, especially since they allow you to make custom
lists of the characters you're having trouble with.

2. If you have VHF gear, you can set up schedules with
local hams to do MCW on simplex or even with a
cooperative repeater.

3. If all else fails, you can build a modem adapter that
will allow you to practice with a friend via tele-
phone line.

HTH.

73, W1AC

--
Bill Horne

(Remove QRM from my address for direct replies.)

1862. Re: Practice CW

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-13 21:46:57 UTC
From: James Barrett <xucaen@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <1194979303.788931.198040@22g2000hsm.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3570

On Nov 13, 1:11 pm, Bill Horne <telecom-dig...@comcastQRM.net> wrote:
> James Barrett wrote:
> > Hi, I'm learning CW, and so far have not been able to tune in the Arrl
> > practice frequencies. I have only a 10 meter wire antenna, and I'm
> > wondering if there is anyone here from the southern New England area
> > that knows CW that wouldn't mind some practice on the 10 meter tech
> > sub-band. Fair warning, I'm not up to 5 wpm yet. :)
> > I am usually on the air around 7pm.
>
> > Jim
>
> Jim,
>
> Please tell us your callsign and grid square: at this point in the
> sunspot cycle, ten meters isn't going to get much further than a CB set.
>
> There are also other options you can pursue:
>
> 1. Use a computer and download one of several Morse study
> programs. I found them indispensable for learing the
> code, especially since they allow you to make custom
> lists of the characters you're having trouble with.
>
> 2. If you have VHF gear, you can set up schedules with
> local hams to do MCW on simplex or even with a
> cooperative repeater.
>
> 3. If all else fails, you can build a modem adapter that
> will allow you to practice with a friend via tele-
> phone line.
>
> HTH.
>
> 73, W1AC
>
> --
> Bill Horne
>
> (Remove QRM from my address for direct replies.)

Hi Bill, my call sign is kb1odg, and according to the Arrl web site (I
don't have a grid map at the moment), my grid square is FN41.
I've been using a program called "Just Learn Morse Code" and it has
helped with copying code, but now I'm looking for software that can

"receive" code sent by a key.

In my search I came across this link, Arrl has made mp3 practice recordings.
http://www.arrl.org/w1aw/morse.html

I did another search for MCW and came across this link: a schematic for building an MCW oscillator
http://www.geocities.com/SiliconValley/2775/mcwosc1.html

I have a 2 meter HT, but it is only FM. I have not yet heard any morse code in FM, except for repeater call signs. Does anyone do morse code in FM on 2 meters?

Jim

1863. Audio examples of RFI

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-13 22:13:02 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13jk8as6m2psea0@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3571

Some months ago, I happened across a web site which contained short audio clips of various interesting sources of RF interference (MP3 files or a similar format). I remember a furnace, an electric blanket, and common stuff like arcing power lines and ignition noise. I should have known to grab the files and keep them local.

I went looking for the site again so that I could use these files as examples in the class I'm teaching, and can't find the site. I suspect it's now gone. Did anyone snag any of these examples, or point me to a source?

Thanks. 73, Steve KB9X

1864. Re: Forty Years Licensed

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-14 01:28:33 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <tkjkj35f0o9dq9e7k1i6rpo3330voqga0q@4ax.com>
Source record: 3572

On Mon, 12 Nov 2007 23:53:40 EST, "Dr.Ace Ratliff" <Ace@WH2T.com>
wrote:

> Many times as an Official Observer or OO I have seen people operate LSB 1
>Khz from the lower phone band edge. Even after I quoted the law to the (not
>on that freq) they would still argue that they were operating in the band !

"Wishing won't make it so!"

The monitoring stations used to call that "shooting fish in a barrel"
back in the days when they did spectrum cruising (proactive
enforcement).
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1865. Re: Practice CW

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-14 01:46:10 UTC
From: kelly@dvol.com
Message-ID: <1194996518.505670.61590@50g2000hsm.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3573

On Nov 13, 11:46 am, James Barrett <xuc...@gmail.com> wrote:
> Hi, I'm learning CW, and so far have not been able to tune in the Arrl
> practice frequencies. I have only a 10 meter wire antenna, and I'm
> wondering if there is anyone here from the southern New England area
> that knows CW that wouldn't mind some practice on the 10 meter tech
> sub-band. Fair warning, I'm not up to 5 wpm yet. :)
> I am usually on the air around 7pm.

My suggestion is to forget 10M, FM and VHF and get yourself some sort of HF radio which can directly tunes the 80M W1AW code practice sessions which should really boom your neighborhood. They're out there for much less than the cost of another HT. This one is only a hundred bucks brand new:

http://www.mfjenterprises.com/products.php?prodid=MFJ-9380K.

And you could use it to run CW on 80 after you've become a General and if you haven't been there yet it'll also introduce you to the wonderful world of ham radio solder smoke. Another affordable route to HF gear is the vast used equipment market.

I can vouch for the effectiveness of the 80M W1AW code practice sessions which took me from zip to 25WPM and beyond "back when".

> Jim

Brian w3rv

1866. Re: Practice CW

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-14 02:07:30 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <13jkm2lorcldm39@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3574

"James Barrett" wrote

> Hi, I'm learning CW, and so far have not been able to tune in the Arrl
> practice frequencies. I have only a 10 meter wire antenna,

To what is that 10 meter wire antenna connected? If it's a regular old HF transceiver (typically 160m - 10m) then you can use that 10 meter wire antenna to receive on 80 meters... and you should be able to hear W1AW on it. ?

BTW, I'm glad you're wanting to learn CW!

Howard N7SO

1867. Re: Practice CW

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-14 18:12:10 UTC
From: The Shadow <Cranston@CobaltClub.com>
Message-ID: <KfG_i.6459$pr6.4494@newsfe06.phx>
Source record: 3575

"James Barrett" <xucaen@gmail.com> wrote in message
news:1194979303.788931.198040@22g2000hsm.googlegroups.com...
> On Nov 13, 1:11 pm, Bill Horne <telecom-dig...@comcastQRM.net> wrote:
>> James Barrett wrote:
>> > Hi, I'm learning CW, and so far have not been able to tune in the Arrl
>> > practice frequencies. I have only a 10 meter wire antenna, and I'm
>> > wondering if there is anyone here from the southern New England area
>> > that knows CW that wouldn't mind some practice on the 10 meter tech
>> > sub-band. Fair warning, I'm not up to 5 wpm yet. :)
>> > I am usually on the air around 7pm.
>>
>> > Jim
>>
>> Jim,
>>
>> Please tell us your callsign and grid square: at this point in the
>> sunspot cycle, ten meters isn't going to get much further than a CB set.
>>
>> There are also other options you can pursue:
>>
>> 1. Use a computer and download one of several Morse study
>> programs. I found them indispensable for learing the
>> code, especially since they allow you to make custom
>> lists of the characters you're having trouble with.
>>
>> 2. If you have VHF gear, you can set up schedules with
>> local hams to do MCW on simplex or even with a
>> cooperative repeater.
>>
>> 3. If all else fails, you can build a modem adapter that
>> will allow you to practice with a friend via tele-
>> phone line.
>>
>> HTH.
>>
>> 73, W1AC
>>
>> --
>> Bill Horne
>>
>> (Remove QRM from my address for direct replies.)
>
> Hi Bill, my call sign is kb1odg, and according to the Arrl web site (I
> don't have a grid map at the moment), my grid square is FN41.

> I've been using a program called "Just Learn Morse Code" and it has
> helped with copying code, but now I'm looking for software that can
> "receive" code sent by a key.
>
> In my search I came across this link, Arrl has made mp3 practice
> recordings.
> http://www.arrl.org/w1aw/morse.html
>
>
> I did another search for MCW and came across this link: a schematic
> for building an MCW oscillator
> http://www.geocities.com/SiliconValley/2775/mcwosc1.html
>
> I have a 2 meter HT, but it is only FM. I have not yet heard any morse
> code in FM, except for repeater call signs. Does anyone do morse code
> in FM on 2 meters?
>
> Jim

Jim we have sent morse code practice on our 2M repeater (or simplex) The repeater code practice was a net and sanctioned by the repeater club and scheduled. Or use an infrequently used simplex frequency.

You need a CPO (Code Practice Oscillator) just key up the HT and place the CPO speaker next to the HT mic. Use the CPO to generate code audio. This audio modulates the FM transmitter.

Or have a computer program that sends code (by list or keyboard) place HT mic near the computer speaker.

When transmitting on the air 2M, be sure to ID your call every 10 minutes and a short voice announcement of what you are doing. Works well. Don't use a repeater for code practice without permission from the repeater club, best use an infrequently used simplex frequency e.g. 147.555 MHz NOT 146.520 MHz the National Simplex Freq)

Since code requirement has been dropped from the exams, we have discontinued the code practice nets.

Re ARRL code practice -- problem here is they send at various speeds - so you have to wait for transmissions you can copy and practice. Why not just get a computer program. See URL:

http://ac6v.com/morseprograms.htm

Another problem is two newbies probably send pretty sloppy code- not the way to learn receiving.

Good luck with the code.
Lamont

1868. Cyrillic cw

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-15 02:03:40 UTC
From: Dan Yemiola AI8O <Dan@Yemiola.Net>
Message-ID: <fhg63f$q93$1@news04.infoave.net>
Source record: 3576

Can anyone point me to a website with a table of Cyrillic CW?

1869. Re: Cyrillic cw

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-15 04:25:59 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net>
Message-ID: <5q202aFtqfqtU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 3577

"Dan Yemiola AI8O" wrote ...
> Can anyone point me to a website with a table of Cyrillic CW?

Do you mean like this?....

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Other_alphabets_in_Morse_code#Cyrillic

The page lists several other languages, also.

I found it with Google: cyrillic telegraphy
Google & Wikipedia are your friends. :-)

1870. Re: Cyrillic cw

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-15 05:17:19 UTC
From: Bill Horne <telecom-digest@comcastQRM.net>
Message-ID: <QYudnewm2qgELqbanZ2dnUVZ_orinZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 3578

Dan Yemiola AI8O wrote:
> Can anyone point me to a website with a table of Cyrillic CW?
>
>

GIYF: http://www.astrosol.ch/images/cyrillicalphabet.jpg

--
Bill Horne

(Remove QRM from my address for direct replies.)

1871. Re: Cyrillic cw

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-15 05:17:31 UTC
From: The Shadow <Cranston@CobaltClub.com>
Message-ID: <dyO_i.8183$pr6.5951@newsfe06.phx>
Source record: 3579

"Dan Yemiola AI8O" <Dan@Yemiola.Net> wrote in message
news:fhg63f$q93$1@news04.infoave.net...
> Can anyone point me to a website with a table of Cyrillic CW?
>

Try URL:
http://homepages.cwi.nl/~dik/english/codes/morse.html#russian

The Shadow Knows
Lamont

1872. Re: Cyrillic cw

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-15 05:18:27 UTC
From: The Shadow <Cranston@CobaltClub.com>
Message-ID: <3GO_i.8208$pr6.5992@newsfe06.phx>
Source record: 3580

"Dan Yemiola AI8O" <Dan@Yemiola.Net> wrote in message
news:fhg63f$q93$1@news04.infoave.net...
> Can anyone point me to a website with a table of Cyrillic CW?
>
Also see URL;
http://www.cvni.net/radio/nsnl/nsnl011/nsnl11morse.html

http://www.cvni.net/radio/nsnl/nsnl011/nsnl11morse.html

The Shadow Do
Lamont

1873. rec.radio.amateur.moderated Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-15 07:00:03 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines-1-1195110001@panix.com>
Source record: 3581
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info,rec.answers,news.answers

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Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines
Revision: 1.3 2007/07/28 14:56:26
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rram/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

Welcome to rec.radio.amateur.moderated! This is a moderated newsgroup
for amateur radio operators and other people having an interest in the
Amateur Radio Service, as defined by national regulations and
international treaties. Following are the posting guidelines for this
newsgroup.

This message includes the following sections:

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter
2. Additional posting guidelines
2.1 Netiquette guidelines
2.2 Posting form requirements
2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files
2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting
2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources
2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability to hold
an amateur radio license
2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling
2.8 Guidelines regarding civility
2.9 Other unacceptable topics

------------------------------------------------------------------------

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter

rec.radio.amateur.moderated is an inclusive on-line community of amateur
radio operators and other people having an interest in the Amateur Radio
Service. Participants are invited to engage in open discussion of
amateur radio issues and exchange information about participating in the
hobby/service, in an atmosphere of civility, friendship, and fun.

Acceptable topics include but, are not necessarily limited to, questions
and discussions about amateur radio licensing, regulations, tips on
various aspects of setting up an amateur radio station, and sharing
operating experiences and insights.

Unacceptable posts include, but are not limited to, buy/sell/trade
posts, posts that are off-topic to the Amateur Radio Service, posts
```

promoting or defending unlawful activities, etc. Crossposts of regular discussion articles between rec.radio.amateur.moderated and other discussion newsgroups are not permitted.

Frequently-Asked-Questions lists and other information/bulletin/ announcement postings may be crossposted to rec.radio.info, rec.answers, and news.answers only with prior approval of the moderators of those newsgroups. In all such cases, an appropriate "Followup-To" header, containing only rec.radio.amateur.moderated, will be added by the moderators if one is not already provided.

Posters are encouraged to state their own views and share their experiences, but to refrain from making assumptions about the motivations of other newsgroup participants. Posters are expected to maintain a basic tone of civility. Prohibited uncivil discourse includes, but is not limited to, name calling.

Posts containing unsolicited advice questioning the right, worthiness, suitability and/or readiness of any individual (or members of any group) to be an amateur radio operator are unacceptable in this newsgroup. If an individual chooses to post asking for advice on when or whether to obtain an amateur radio license, or to participate in any type of lawful activity in the Amateur Radio Service, respondents should be careful to address their comments only to the original poster and not explicitly generalize to others in similar situations.

Similarly, posts that arbitrarily declare certain classes of amateur radio licenses, or certain members of national amateur radio societies (e.g., American Radio Relay League, Radio Amateurs of Canada, Radio Society of Great Britain, Wireless Institute of Australia, etc.), to be more or less worthy than others, are not permitted. Posts that politely encourage individuals to join their local amateur radio society, or to upgrade to higher classes of amateur radio license in order to enjoy greater operating privileges, are permitted, however. Posts that contain reasoned, civil, and fact-based discussion of the activities and internal politics of national amateur radio societies are also permitted.

Buy/Sell/Trade and Commercial Policy:

Posts containing offers to buy, sell, or trade are not permitted on rec.radio.amateur.moderated. The rec.radio.swap newsgroup was created for this purpose, and should be used instead. All such articles will be rejected by the moderators with the advice to re-post to that newsgroup.

Postings that are entirely commercial press releases, advertisements, or other public relations campaigns will not be permitted. Relatively unbiased announcements or reviews of new amateur radio-related products or services may be permitted at the discretion of the moderators. Such posters are asked to disclose their financial or professional interest, if any, in such products or services.

---

2. Additional Posting Guidelines

2.1 Netiquette guidelines

Participants who are new to Usenet should familiarize themselves with the "netiquette" of Usenet as well as the particular posting guidelines for this group. Several useful posts for "newbies" can be found on the newsgroup news.announce.newusers or on the WWW at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/by-newsgroup/news/news.announce.newusers.html

Particularly helpful articles are:
Welcome to Usenet!
Rules for posting to Usenet
Hints on writing style for Usenet
A Primer on How to Work With the Usenet Community
Emily Postnews Answers Your Questions on Netiquette
Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Usenet

2.2 Posting form requirements

Any article that falls into any of the following categories will be automatically rejected:

A) Articles that contain original text of more than 75 characters per line
B) Crossposted articles to newsgroups not included in these Guidelines
C) Articles that contain more than 400 lines
D) Encoded binary files (except PGP and other short digital signatures)
E) Attachments to posts
F) Articles containing obscene language
G) Articles from individuals who have been suspended or banned from the newsgroup

2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files

Many people close each article they write with a few lines of common text. This may be a cute quip or quote, or may include information about their family, contact information, or disclaimers required by their employer, for example.

Signature files used on rec.radio.amateur.moderated posting must be no longer than 8 lines.

The content of a poster's signature need not be relevant to amateur radio, but it must not violate any of the other posting guidelines. (For example, name-calling that would not be acceptable in the body of a message is also unacceptable in a signature.) Posters may include Uniform Resource Locators (URL's) and business addresses in signature files, provided they comply with all the other guidelines regarding signatures.

2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting

Posts more than 20 lines long that also have more than 75% quoted text will be carefully reviewed by a moderator to determine if that degree of quoting is warranted. Posts with excessive quoted text may be rejected.

Posters must show a reasonable effort to trim the post they are replying to and to include just enough material to establish context. "Me too!" posts are discouraged, and, when posted, must edit the quoted material significantly.

2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources

Unsolicited announcements and pointers to web sites that are strictly commercial press releases, advertisements, or other public relations campaigns, are not permitted. However, a pointer to a website or other external source of information is permitted and encouraged in cases where it is relevant to an existing thread, with appropriate context being given in the post. A URL with no information about what a user should expect to find there will be rejected. A pointer to information that is off-charter for rec.radio.amateur.moderated will be rejected, as will a pointer which itself does not meet the rec.radio.amateur.moderated guidelines (such as a URL containing embedded name-calling).

Moderators are not responsible for verifying the contents of any external information source.

2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability hold an amateur radio license

Identifiable groups and individuals may not be asked/told/etc. not to obtain an amateur radio license, or to only obtain certain classes of amateur radio license. It is not permissible to make statements that a person or members of a specific group "should" not, or should not be allowed to, become an amateur radio operator.

Solicited advice of this type is permissible; however, posters must be careful not to explicitly generalize to others who are in some way "like" the poster asking the question. Stick to the individual asking for advice.

It is acceptable to discuss verified violations, documented in criminal convictions or other government enforcement actions, by a person or members of a specific group.

2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling

Nastiness addressed at a person is considered name-calling. Criticizing a person's *actions* is not, provided that it is done in a civil manner.

Attacks on an action which by their very nature include an accusation against the person's character are not acceptable. For example, "That's a lie" implies an intentional prevarication, and is considered name-calling. Acceptable ways of questioning the truth of a poster's statement include the more tactful "I don't think that's true," "I believe you are mistaken because..." or even simply "That's not true."

"That's not true and you know it" crosses back over into name-calling, however.

2.8 Guidelines regarding civility

By charter, posters are expected to maintain a civil tone in all their postings. The guidelines on name-calling cover part of that requirement, but not all of it.

In general, posters are expected to consider the reputations of other participants, and refrain from making unnecessary accusations or assumptions about the motivations of others. A good rule of thumb is to phrase your comments as your opinion -- "I think..." "It seems to me that..." "This makes me wonder whether..." etc...

Posters are expected to make factual claims, to debate topics openly and in good faith, and to accept honest criticism, all without provocation or prevarication. At least one professional organization, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), has recognized that such fair dealings are necessary components of ethical conduct, and has incorporated them into its Code of Ethics:

http://www.ieee.org/portal/pages/about/whatis/code.html

Though the Amateur Radio Service is not a professional endeavor, the moderators strongly feel that the IEEE Code of Ethics is also a worthwhile set of guiding principles for participants in the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup.

Posters are not required to support the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). However, they are expected to adhere to the spirit of the other parts of the ARRL's "Amateur's Code":

http://www.arrl.org/acode.html

2.9 Other unacceptable topics

Participants are reminded that the charter also prohibits posts promoting or defending unlawful operating practices.

Posts may discuss whether operating practices are unlawful, or engage in reasoned debate over why certain operating practices should or should not be unlawful. Posts may discuss enforcement actions, such as by the Federal Communications Commission in the United States or similar government agencies in other countries, and evidence gathered by parties such as Official Observers in support of complaints about unlawful operation.

Discussions of what practices constitute unlawful operation in the Amateur Radio Service should be limited to *factual* descriptions of the laws in various jurisdictions. Posters' *opinions* as to what practices they consider unlawful are not permitted. In particular, posters are cautioned not to extrapolate their country's laws and regulations to those in other parts of the world, as they may be quite different.

Posts that entirely concern themselves with other radio services or hobbies, such as Citizen's Band, General Mobile Radio Service/Family Radio Service, and Scanner or Shortwave Listening, are considered off-topic to the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup. Newsgroups such as rec.radio.cb, rec.radio.scanner, and/or rec.radio.shortwave may be more appropriate venues for such posts.

Posts that attempt to publicly criticize moderators or moderation | decisions in the newsgroup itself are also not permitted, as stated in | our original newsgroup charter. Please direct any such critical | feedback to our administrative contact address at the bottom of this | article, where it will be carefully considered by an appeals team of | moderators. This team is distinct from the initial team of moderators | that approves or disapproves article submissions, and thus can provide | independent oversight of moderation decisions. |

Similarly, if you see an obviously inappropriate article in our | newsgroup, please assume that it was a mistake or a direct forgery. The | moderation team makes every effort to protect the newsgroup from such | incidents, but they do happen, albeit rarely. You may also submit | feedback to the same address regarding such articles in our newsgroup, | but it is likely that our monitoring software and procedures have | already detected it, and we are actively handling the problem. Please | resist "piling on" with followups to the newsgroup when these incidents | occur, so that we don't have to reject such articles. |

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-amateur-moderated-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the misc.kids.moderated Posting Guidelines.)

1874. Re: Battery question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-15 12:14:02 UTC
From: Jack VK2CJC <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com>
Message-ID: <fhh4jt$dk6$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 3582

> So are they just discharged? Can you recharge them?
> Or are they destroyed? Were the radios affected?

Just discharged. The radios are OK.

I have never noticed any names on the "x-ray" equipment. I should imagine thats the sort of detail they will keep to themselves. Giving the specs away would make it easier for the "bad guys" to figure out how to beat the scan.

1875. "Nobody Builds Anymore"?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-15 12:15:11 UTC
From: N2EY@aol.com
Message-ID: <b28e915f-9e45-44eb-b787-ba7d8ef21e44@w73g2000hsf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3583

Occasionally, I see comments/complaints that "nobody builds anymore"
or that "you can't homebrew really good equipment" etc.

Apparently this amateur hasn't gotten the word:

http://www.arrl.org/qex/2007/11/drent.pdf

73 de Jim, N2EY

1876. Antennas and Propagation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-15 12:15:37 UTC
From: JDP <K4JDP@bellsouth.net>
Message-ID: <NEW_i.7361$A71.3799@bignews9.bellsouth.net>
Source record: 3584

Those of you with high-end antenna systems: are you hearing DX from stateside? Are you working DX from stateside? On what freqs. and what UTC times? I know the current solar cycle is at almost rock-bottom but wonder if having high-end antennas make a difference as I read an article in QST by the Force 12 CEO that it did help when he connected an unused antenna at TWR in Bonaire to their HF rigs. He said it was like turning a light on in a dark room. The bands came "alive." If propagation is at an all-time low right now, how is that possible?

jdp

1877. Re: "Nobody Builds Anymore"?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-16 02:09:39 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns99E9D4B7A6108mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 3585

N2EY@aol.com wrote in news:b28e915f-9e45-44eb-b787-ba7d8ef21e44
@w73g2000hsf.googlegroups.com:

> Occasionally, I see comments/complaints that "nobody builds anymore"
> or that "you can't homebrew really good equipment" etc.

Too often! I don't really think it is correct either. I look around my shack and garage and most of my stuff is homebrew. My entire hobby is more about making things than it is operating. I haven't built my own Xceiver yet tho'.

> Apparently this amateur hasn't gotten the word:
>
> http://www.arrl.org/qex/2007/11/drent.pdf

Looks like it should be a really nice unit with good performance. Good for him, and I'm going to follow this one!

- 73 de Mike N3LI -

1878. Re: "Nobody Builds Anymore"?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-16 13:11:05 UTC
From: N2EY@aol.com
Message-ID: <a9378e64-0dee-4c21-9b7f-5994dae25464@f3g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3586

On Nov 15, 9:09 pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
> N...@aol.com wrote in news:b28e915f-9e45-44eb-b787-ba7d8ef21e44
> @w73g2000hsf.googlegroups.com:

> I look around my
> shack and garage and most of my stuff is homebrew.

Same here! And what isn't homebrew was usually assembled from a kit,
converted from surplus or restored from 'basket case' condition.

Google my call to see the shack...

> My entire hobby is more
> about making things than it is operating.

I do both, though I lean more to operating.

>I haven't built my own > Xceiver
> yet tho'.

I've built three from scratch and restored/assembled several others.

> > Apparently this amateur hasn't gotten the word:
>
> >http://www.arrl.org/qex/2007/11/drent.pdf
>
> Looks like it should be a really nice unit with good performance.

Top drawer! Definitely not a project for a beginner but it shows what
can be done.

It will be interesting to see if full schematics, and PCB layouts are
available, and if certain parts can be obtained (like crystal
filters).

73 de Jim, N2EY

1879. Re: "Nobody Builds Anymore"?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-16 18:51:32 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <e6118200-d8be-48bb-8ef7-91ef8f2169d4@s36g2000prg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3587

On Nov 15, 6:09 pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
> N...@aol.com wrote in news:b28e915f-9e45-44eb-b787-ba7d8ef21e44
> @w73g2000hsf.googlegroups.com:
>
> > Occasionally, I see comments/complaints that "nobody builds anymore"
> > or that "you can't homebrew really good equipment" etc.
>
> Too often! I don't really think it is correct either. I look around my
> shack and garage and most of my stuff is homebrew. My entire hobby is more

> about making things than it is operating. I haven't built my own Xceiver
> yet tho'.
>
> > Apparently this amateur hasn't gotten the word:
>
> >http://www.arrl.org/qex/2007/11/drent.pdf
>
> Looks like it should be a really nice unit with good performance.
> Good for him, and I'm going to follow this one!

As I opined in my 'invisible' posting: It looks like a very nice pre-
production prototype. Production versions would be about $3K each
or so.

In addition: Cornell Drentea has an interesting AOL home page. Over
35 years as a pro in the RF business. One should be able to believe
his specifications.

73, Len AF6AY

1880. Re: "Nobody Builds Anymore"?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-17 16:11:30 UTC
From: N2EY@aol.com
Message-ID: <2e927494-819c-4170-a574-d20fad8bc605@n20g2000hsh.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3588

On Nov 15, 9:09 pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:

> >http://www.arrl.org/qex/2007/11/drent.pdf
>
> Looks like it should be a really nice unit with good performance.

Some more observations....

The designer/builder/author is KW7CD, whose website has lots of interesting stuff. 50 years a ham, author of many books and articles, holder of several patents, and much more.

The rig looks like really good homebrew craftsmanship. Would love to see inside - hope that's in a future issue.

One thing I found interesting was the rated power consumption. when AC powered. 200 VA receive, 800 VA on full-power transmit! Possibly a switching supply with low power factor?

The logical comparison to make is with the Elecraft K3. A K3/100 with general coverage receive, TCXO and four optional filters is less than $2450 (without power supply). I'll leave it to others to compare numbers and features.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1881. Re: Antennas and Propagation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-17 20:56:04 UTC
From: Doug Smith W9WI <w9wi@invalid.nospam>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.11.17.20.35.38.926765@invalid.nospam>
Source record: 3589

On Thu, 15 Nov 2007 07:15:37 -0500, JDP wrote:
> Those of you with high-end antenna systems: are you hearing DX from
> stateside? Are you working DX from stateside? On what freqs. and what UTC
> times?

It's *easier* to work DX with high-end antennas, but it's *possible*
without them. I've been away from my station for a week, but worked about
a dozen DX stations on 20m CW while I was gone, working from the mobile.
I also frequently work DX on 40m CW and have worked some on SSB on both
bands. (in both cases from the mobile)

I would say 40 and 20 are your best bets. 40 during hours of darkness -
roughly until midnight being your best bet. (because sunrise in Europe is
a bit after that and while you'll still have propagation, most of the
DX stations available to work won't) 20 is best in the morning (from
sunrise to about 10am or so) and in the evening. (say, 4pm-sunset)

But don't write off 15 or 10 meters. They *do* open, even now. Try
especially during DX contests. There's an all-band contest on CW next
weekend, and the ARRL 10-Meter Contest (both phone and CW) in December.

And, of course, the WARC bands. 12 may be rather spotty (but not
completely dead). 17 is open most days. 30 is open *every* day though
sometimes only domestically.

Try non-voice modes. Used to be CW was by far your best bet for DXing
with limited antennas. CW still works a LOT better than phone when you
don't have the biggest signal in the world. PSK31 has become VERY popular
and it's quite easy to work DX on that mode - nearly as easy as on CW and
sometimes with even less power.

1882. Re: "Nobody Builds Anymore"?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-19 19:03:05 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fhsj07$r5a$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3590

AF6AY wrote:
> On Nov 15, 6:09 pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
>> N...@aol.com wrote in news:b28e915f-9e45-44eb-b787-ba7d8ef21e44
>> @w73g2000hsf.googlegroups.com:
>>
>>> Occasionally, I see comments/complaints that "nobody builds anymore"
>>> or that "you can't homebrew really good equipment" etc.
>> Too often! I don't really think it is correct either. I look around my
>> shack and garage and most of my stuff is homebrew. My entire hobby is more
>
>> about making things than it is operating. I haven't built my own Xceiver
>> yet tho'.
>>
>>> Apparently this amateur hasn't gotten the word:
>>> http://www.arrl.org/qex/2007/11/drent.pdf
>> Looks like it should be a really nice unit with good performance.
>> Good for him, and I'm going to follow this one!
>
> As I opined in my 'invisible' posting: It looks like a very nice pre-
> production prototype. Production versions would be about $3K each
> or so.
>
> In addition: Cornell Drentea has an interesting AOL home page. Over
> 35 years as a pro in the RF business. One should be able to believe
> his specifications.

Wow, an accomplished fellow for sure. On his home page I can see one big difference between him and me. He apparently could put the stuff he tore apart back together at the age of six. It took me until around 15 to do that. I was grounded a lot as a kid until my grandfather started shipping old radios that I was supposed to take apart. ;^)

Well a lot more than one big difference......

- 73 de Mike N3LI -

1883. Re: "Nobody Builds Anymore"?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-19 19:03:53 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fhsj7a$r5e$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3591

N2EY@aol.com wrote:
> On Nov 15, 9:09 pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
>
>>> http://www.arrl.org/qex/2007/11/drent.pdf
>> Looks like it should be a really nice unit with good performance.
>
> Some more observations....
>
> The designer/builder/author is KW7CD, whose website has lots of
> interesting stuff. 50 years a ham, author of many books and articles,
> holder of several patents, and much more.
>
> The rig looks like really good homebrew craftsmanship. Would love to
> see inside - hope that's in a future issue.

This one was pretty good!

http://members.aol.com/cdrentea/images/hr24.jpg

I'm truly impressed with a fellow who has the ability and sense of humor
to poke fun at himself.

- 73 de Mike N3LI -

1884. Re: "Nobody Builds Anymore"?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-19 19:41:13 UTC
From: billg999@cs.uofs.edu
Message-ID: <5qe73hFvcsuvU4@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 3592

In article <fhsj07$r5a$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>,
Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> writes:
>
> Wow, an accomplished fellow for sure. On his home page I can see one big
> difference between him and me. He apparently could put the stuff he tore
> apart back together at the age of six. It took me until around 15 to do
> that. I was grounded a lot as a kid until my grandfather started
> shipping old radios that I was supposed to take apart. ;^)

I repaired my first radio at the age of 9. It was a desktop Philco
with Standard Broadcast :-) and Short Wave. I used it all thru my
youth to listen to the likes of "The Lone Ranger", "The Shadow",
"Your's Truly, Johnny Dollar" and "Big John and Sparky". I just
collected it from my parents house. You know what, that same component
has gone bad. You just can't get quality, I guess. That electrolytic
only lasted 48 years. Wonder where I can find another one so I can
fix it again. :-)

bill
KB3YV

--
Bill Gunshannon | de-moc-ra-cy (di mok' ra see) n. Three wolves
bill@cs.scranton.edu | and a sheep voting on what's for dinner.
University of Scranton |
Scranton, Pennsylvania | #include <std.disclaimer.h>

1885. Re: "Nobody Builds Anymore"?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-20 01:51:38 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <d00d2e68-fe57-49d1-9054-2073441b9bdc@s36g2000prg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3593

On Nov 19, 11:03 am, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> N...@aol.com wrote:
> > On Nov 15, 9:09 pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:

> > The rig looks like really good homebrew craftsmanship. Would love to
> > see inside - hope that's in a future issue.
>
> This one was pretty good!
>
> http://members.aol.com/cdrentea/images/hr24.jpg
>
> I'm truly impressed with a fellow who has the ability and sense of humor
> to poke fun at himself.

Mike, that lab bench shot looked perfectly normal to me. It's obviously in the breadboard stage then and that's been the way its been in the industry for over 40 years and on thousands of ham benches, too! :-)

Look to me that Cornell was just being honest about it all. :-)

73, Len AF6AY

1886. Re: "Nobody Builds Anymore"?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-20 14:41:35 UTC
From: WB5RVZ <rrrobson@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <8bf31083-aa75-4208-a3a9-31823bf84405@c30g2000hsa.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3594

On Nov 15, 8:09 pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
> > Apparently this amateur hasn't gotten the word:
>
> >http://www.arrl.org/qex/2007/11/drent.pdf

IMHO, having read Mr. Drentea's CV, I would not characterize him as an
amateur.

1887. Re: "Nobody Builds Anymore"?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-20 18:01:26 UTC
From: konstans <konstans@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <fhv278$m1g$1@registered.motzarella.org>
Source record: 3595

"AF6AY" <LenAnderson@ieee.org> wrote in message
news:d00d2e68-fe57-49d1-9054-2073441b9bdc@s36g2000prg.googlegroups.com...
On Nov 19, 11:03 am, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> N...@aol.com wrote:
> http://members.aol.com/cdrentea/images/hr24.jpg
>
> I'm truly impressed with a fellow who has the ability and sense of humor
> to poke fun at himself.

Mike, that lab bench shot looked perfectly normal to me. It's
obviously in the breadboard stage then and that's been the way its
been in the industry for over 40 years and on thousands of ham
benches, too! :-)

Look to me that Cornell was just being honest about it all. :-)

Being honest about the procees any process is ajrdy the noram in the ARS

1888. Welcome to rec.radio.info!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-22 07:00:11 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/welcome-1-1195714801@panix.com>
Source record: 3596
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.scanner,rec.radio.shortwave,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/welcome
Revision: 1.3 2007/09/29 19:13:17
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** Welcome to rec.radio.info! ***

Welcome to rec.radio.info, a group that aims to provide a noise-free
source of information and news for the entire rec.radio hierarchy.

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to the group
every month. You are now reading the first article, which explains what
rec.radio.info is, and answers some Frequently Asked Questions. The
second article is titled Posting Guidelines, and you only need to read
it if you want to submit an article to rec.radio.info.

You can skip to the next section of this article by searching for the
next
" -- " string. The sections available are:
- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?
- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?
- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?
- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.
- What type of material is considered inappropriate?
- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to
rec.radio.info?
- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?
- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to
speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

-- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?

The purpose or charter of rec.radio.info is to provide the Usenet
community with a resource for information, news, and facts about any and
all things radio.

All the other rec.radio groups are intended for discussions and general
chit chat about radio. Rec.radio.info will contain informational,
factual articles only. Follow-ups are redirected to an appropriate other
group, and further discussion (if any) will not take place in
rec.radio.info.
```

In order to ensure that rec.radio.info contains only appropriate articles, it was decided to create the group as a moderated newsgroup.

-- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?

It provides a "tag" for each article to be assembled into a filtered presentation in rec.radio.info (even with cross-posting, only one message, with a unique Message-ID, is propagated across the net). This tag also facilitates a pre-existing method of dropping or canceling the articles locally within the discussion groups if you don't want to see them. This accommodates individuals who want to separate the bulletins from the discussions, discussions from the bulletins, as well as those who are adamant about not reading another newsgroup and wanted to see everything all in one basket.

With the total size of Usenet (in number of newsgroups and total traffic) doubling every year or so, this is no insignificant contribution to reducing information noise and chaos. Making the discussion groups a catch-all, and making extra newsgroups filters on that catch-all, is also the most realistic way to implement such a scheme (It's not intuitively obvious what the charter, contents, and general appropriate topics for each and every newsgroup are. Seeing FAQ's and charter/intro postings in the home newsgroup is beneficial for new readers).

By cross-posting one only is adding a few tens of bytes to each bulletin (to specify the extra group on the Newsgroups line), but are adding the capability for very powerful filtering features available on most news servers, listservers and readers. Your local news guru could probably explain these features in more detail.

In rn, for example, according to Leanne Phillips in her rn kill-file FAQ, add a line of the form:

/Newsgroups:.*[,]rec\.radio\.info/h:j

either in ~/News/KILL (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere) or ~/News/rec/radio/amateur/misc/KILL (if you don't want to see them just in rec.radio.amateur.misc). The latter method means your kill file will only be consulted during rec.radio.amateur.misc (and hence runs more efficiently), and will probably work for most people.

In nn, according to Bill Wohler in his nn FAQ, add a line of the form:

rec.radio.info:!s/:^

in ~/.nn/kill (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere), or put the following lines:

sequence
rec.radio.info
rec.radio.

at the end of ~/.nn/init in order to see all the rec.radio.info bulletins first, then read the remaining rec.radio.* without the

bulletins.

More information about kill files may be obtained from Dave Fawthrop's Killfile FAQ at:

http://www.hyphenologist.co.uk/killfile/

-- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?

If you are new to Usenet and are not familiar with the terminology, you might want to read the general introductory articles found in the newsgroup news.announce.newusers. Doing so will make your life on the net much easier, and will probably save you from making silly beginner's mistakes.

If you think that at this moment you are reading an echo, a conference, or a bulletin board, I'd also strongly suggest a trip over to news.announce.newusers.

For the rest of this article, we will assume you have a basic knowledge of Usenet terminology and mechanics.

A moderated group means that any article that needs to be posted to the group has to be accepted by the moderator of the group. Since we need to ensure that followups to an article (discussion) do not show up in the rec.radio.info newsgroup, the `Followup-To:' header line contains a newsgroup that is appropriate for discussions about the specific article.

-- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.

Rec.radio.info is a moderated newsgroup, which means that all articles submitted to the group will have to be approved by the moderator first.

The current moderator of the group is the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team. Submissions to rec.radio.info can be posted, or e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Comments, criticisms, suggestions or questions about the group can be e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

But before you do so, please be sure to check out the "Posting Guidelines" article.

The influence of the moderator should be minimal and of an administrative nature, consisting chiefly of weeding out obviously inappropriate articles, while making sure correct headers etc. are used for the appropriate ones.

-- What type of material is considered inappropriate?

There are three broad categories of articles which will be rejected by the moderator:

1) Requests for information: rec.radio.info is strictly a one-way street. We receive information in our mailbox; we then post it to rec.radio.info. Requests for specific information belong in the normal discussion newsgroups. If your request gets answered, you might consider passing the answer on to rec.radio.info, though. Especially if you can edit it into a informational, rather than a discussion, format.

2) Obvious discussion articles, or articles that appear unsubstantiated.

3) Commercial stuff: a relatively unbiased test of a radio product would be accepted, but any hint of for-profit might be reason for rejection. For three reasons: This is not the purpose of the list, for-profit is a controversial topic, and this list may be passed onto Amateur Packet Radio (where for-profit is prohibited except under certain provisos).

rec.radio.swap may be more deserving of the posting in any matter.

Similarly, copyrighted material generally cannot be used. If it's TRULY worthwhile to the net, We would recommend obtaining permission from the copyright holder. Please note the source, and if permission was given. We reserve the right to make the final decision concerning appropriateness in all situations. In most cases, a brief summary of, or pointer to, the copyrighted information may be all we can allow.

-- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to rec.radio.info?

Google has an excellent web interface to Usenet newsgroups. It is available at:

http://groups.google.com

It supports both reading and posting.

Another excellent web interface to at least the radio-related Usenet |
newsgroups is the RadioBanter site: |

http://www.radiobanter.com |

sponsored by the NewsgroupBanter project: |

http://www.newsgroupbanter.com |

It, too, supports both reading and posting. |

-- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere? |

Yes. See Google Groups and RadioBanter above. |

Effectively this means that anything you post to rec.radio.info will be permanently stored, so your work will not be lost.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as time critical.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires co-operation and goodwill to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio hierarchy.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

1889. rec.radio.info Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-22 07:05:04 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines-1-1195715101@panix.com>
Source record: 3597
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.scanner,rec.radio.shortwave,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines
Revision: 1.5 2007/03/22 16:30:49
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** rec.radio.info - Posting Guidelines and Etiquette ***

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to this group
and to rec.answers/news.answers every month. You are now reading the
second article, which explains how to submit something to
rec.radio.info, and which answers some Frequently Asked Questions about
the submission process. The first article is titled "Welcome to
rec.radio.info", and it might be a good idea to check it out as well.

-- How do I submit something to rec.radio.info?

Two possibilities. You can use your newsreading software to just post
the article to rec.radio.info, as you would do with any other
newsgroup. The difference is that the software recognizes the special
status of rec.radio.info as a moderated group, and will e-mail your
article to us, the moderation team, instead of posting it to the group.

Alternatively, you can mail your article directly to us at the following
address:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Mailing us directly is probably (a wee bit) faster, but using the
transparency offered by the newsreading software is probably more
convenient.

If you have any questions, or wish to deal with some administrivia with
the moderation team, we suggest mailing to the following address:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

-- How soon will I see my article appear?

It depends on how busy we are. Your article reaches us as mail, we have
to read it first, give it the stamp of approval, and finally send it on
to the group. We will attempt to read and decide on all submissions
within 72 hours at the very least, though we will probably be able to
process submissions much faster in actual practice.
```

The site from which we moderate this newsgroup, "Public Access Internet and Unix, NYC" (Panix), is directly connected to the Internet, and articles posted at that site should appear at most major news sites, including Google Groups, the same day. The principal delay, therefore, will be the wait in the moderator's submission queue.

If you post a periodic article, and have shown to be trustworthy, we may allow you to post directly if the article is of a timely nature. See the section below on direct posting.

-- Should my article be in a specific format?

No. If it is not totally illegible, we will accept it, and if it does not have a correct subject-line we will correct it with your permission -- that's what a moderator is for.

However.

You could do us a big favor by making sure your article conforms to these simple requirements:

1) The article must present information, not discussion or requests, We will reject the article or require you to change the wording if it is worth it.
2) A good, descriptive Subject line.
3) Always mention what source you got the information from.
4) Don't forget to include a Followup-To header, at least if you don't want further discussion to automatically be forwarded to you, the poster, which is the default if the article is only posted to rec.radio.info.

As we said: if your article is appropriate we will post it even if you don't follow these guidelines, but then don't blame us for not processing it immediately. 'Perfect' articles we can send on with a couple of keystrokes. Stuff that needs minor editing is going to have to wait until we have time to do so.

Please do not waste both our and your time by posting requests, as this is an information only news group.

-- What about crossposting?

If you send something to rec.radio.info, just name any group you'd like to cross-post to in the Newsgroups field. Then, when we approve the article for rec.radio.info it will get automatically cross-posted to any other groups mentioned. This will also override the default Followup-To: poster, replacing it with the groups you cross posted to.

We would prefer if the group be cross-posted to the various discussion groups in the rec.radio.* hierarchy that are appropriate:

rec.radio.amateur.misc Amateur (ham) radio and related matters
rec.radio.amateur.packet Amateur Packet Radio discussions
rec.radio.amateur.policy Amateur Radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.noncomm Non commercial radio discussions

rec.radio.shortwave International broadcasting on the 'HF' bands
rec.radio.cb Citizens Band (27 MHz) discussion
rec.radio.scanner Scanner discussions (unsupported group)

or in one of the moderated groups:

rec.radio.amateur.moderated Amateur radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.broadcasting Discussion of *domestic* radio broadcasting

We will leave it up to the poster to decide which group(s) are appropriate, but reserve the right to add groups if we feel it has broader interest. We will consult with the poster first.

Notes on crossposting:

- rec.radio.broadcasting is also a moderated group. The rec.radio.broadcasting moderator prefers to review all articles himself before posting. Placing rec.radio.broadcasting before rec.radio.info on the Newsgroups line should accomplish this. We will typically abide by the rec.radio.broadcasting moderator's decision whether the article is appropriate for rec.radio.info.

- rec.radio.amateur.moderated is also a moderated group. As the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team manages both rec.radio.amateur.moderated and rec.radio.info, we can manage crossposting and approvals for both newsgroups. The rec.radio.amateur.moderated group does not allow crossposting to other discussion newsgroups, whether moderated or unmoderated. However, we would like to manage rec.radio.info as consistently as possible with how it was done by previous moderators, including the grandfathering of existing regular postings. Therefore, the submitter can choose rec.radio.amateur.moderated or the other unmoderated rec.radio.amateur.* discussion newsgroups for crossposting, but not both.

- Any FAQ or informational posting approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderation team that is also crossposted to any rec.radio.* newsgroup (besides just rec.radio.info) is also automatically pre-approved for rec.radio.info. See below for more information.

If you post to another moderated group, it may be better to make special arrangements with both moderators before posting by contacting us at our administrivia addresses.

In addition, cross-posts do not take up extra space; modern newsreaders can be configured to show you cross-posted articles only once anyway; not everybody reads rec.radio.info; and rec.radio.info was never meant to reduce the volume of the regular discussion newsgroups. But keep in mind that some of the mail gateways may filter out the informational postings (at request of the subscribers) to keep the load down.

You decide.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, can I make arrangements to help speed up delivery by posting directly from my site?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as timely.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires cooperation and good will to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio.* hierarchy.

If you are currently maintaining (or plan to maintain) a radio-related periodic information posting, you may wish to consider crossposting it to rec.answers/news.answers. Postings that are approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderators for this treatment are automatically pre-approved for crossposting to rec.radio.info (as the news.answers requirements are far more rigorous than the requirements this newsgroup ever plans to use). For more information about this option, consult the appropriate information articles and posting guidelines in rec.answers/news.answers.

Realize also, that even if your post is not approved for rec.answers/news.answers, it can still be approved for rec.radio.info. The intention is not so much to get every last bit of radio-related information on rec.answers/news.answers, but rather to provide an alternative avenue of approval (as well as grandfather existing maintainers of radio-related information and spare them additional bureaucratic hurdles). Again, crossposting to either rec.radio.info or rec.answers/news.answers, both, or neither, is at the discretion of the poster (subject to the approval of the moderators). You decide what is most appropriate for your article.

Please remember that as an information maintainer, you are not alone. There are many others on the net who maintain and post periodic information postings, using various intermediate-to-advanced features of Usenet (usually via automated tools). Various degrees of technical support and general hand-holding are available from many Usenet veterans. Send us some E-mail describing your needs to our administrative address below, and we'll try to help, or at least refer you to the right knowledgeable individual(s).

-- And Follow-ups?

If the only newsgroup you have specified is rec.radio.info, then the Followup-To: field will always be set to poster. If you do not want this, you must supply a Followup-To line of your own, and we will honor that one, as long as it is a subset of the original Newsgroups line.

If you specify newsgroups to cross-post to, then the Followup-To field will be set to include all the cross-posted groups, excepting rec.radio.info itself. Again, if you do not wish this behavior, supply your own Followup-To line.

We maintain other standards on the various RFC-1036 (news transport) header lines. For example, if the article is appropriate for passing into the Packet Radio Information Network, we encapsulate the Packet Bulletin Identifier (BID) in the Message-ID: news header line indicating the machine of origin as the ampr.org domain:

Message-ID: <$opa.55.1994@ampr.org> |

where the Packet Radio BID, in this example, is `$OPA.55', and it was posted in the year 1994, because some of the Bid numbers are cycled yearly. Hopefully, this can be used as a key to re-introduce the articles for the Packet Radio network. Also, if the article is a repost of an already existing information article in the rec.radio heirarchy, we ensure that the References: header line is linked to that previously posted article. This also helps to tag articles, and may be used for additional filtering if needed.

Since the articles are archived, please use the Summary and Keywords header lines to help one search for your article.

-- Why have I received no reply from you?

We never reject anything in silence, and we make a point of it to answer all our mail. However, E-mail, like a brain cell, can and does get lost, every now and again.

So, if you send us something, and you don't see it appear it rec.radio.info, and you still have not heard from us in reply after say, five days, you can be pretty sure that either your mail never reached us, or that our answer has never reached you. In that case, please try again (We will filter out duplicates).

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

1890. Looking for PSK31 advice

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-24 06:52:49 UTC
From: Jack VK2CJC <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com>
Message-ID: <fi8fth$g8k$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 3598

Hi Folks

I discovered PSK31 just before the sunspots faded out. I bought an interface and worked QRP on 14.070MHz. Had a really good time too, its a fantastic mode, especially for QRP and those who cant fit yagis into the homestead (like me).

But a quick question to those more familiar with data modes.

If I connect the interface to my desktop computer, it receives well, but I cant get clear transmit. It sends full scale white noise no matter how I adjust the mic gain or audio levels. If I connect up the laptop, same TX noise problem .... until I unplug the mains charger and run on batteries. Then its perfect.

My laptop batteries last about 2 hours there days, so I'm limited to 2 hour long operation until I sort the problem or get a higher capacity battery.

Any thoughts what's causing it?

cheers
Jack VK2CJC / MM0AXL
FISTS #9666
CW Ops QRP Club #753
Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group
www.mncarg.org

1891. Re: Looking for PSK31 advice

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-24 13:56:49 UTC
From: Alan WA4SCA <ALANBIDDLE70@YAHOO.COM>
Message-ID: <0v4gk35p163fjltrtofcv7fc2im6avcovu@4ax.com>
Source record: 3599

Jack,

The first thing to check is that the interface is FULLY isolated.
Surprisingly, some commercial interfaces use isolation transformers on
only the RX line. Also, not all use fully isolated keying. Check the
manual, or disconnect all the computer inputs to the interface, and
then check with a meter between the interface case and the rig. Should
NOT read a DC short. (Or probably with the laptop connected without
the mains, check between a metal point on the laptop and the rig.
Haven't tried this, but it should work the same.)

If you find a DC ground, it can be easily fixed with an inexpensive
600 ohm audio transformer. The PTT is a little harder, but not much.

--
Alan
WA4SCA

1892. Re: Looking for PSK31 advice

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-24 15:04:25 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13kge506ji9r1e@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3501

Alan WA4SCA wrote:
> Jack,
>
> The first thing to check is that the interface is FULLY isolated.

I don't agree. If the problem was in the interface, it would work equally badly with the desktop, laptop, or laptop on batteries. The thing that Jack did to resolve the problem was to disconnect the power supply from his laptop. This implies to me that the issue is RF getting into the computer via the AC power line. Or in the case of the laptop, it could be that the RF is getting into the system because the cable between the power supply and the laptop is acting as an antenna.

That's the aspect that I would work on. It sounds to me like RF is getting into the computers. When the laptop is running on battery, it's sufficiently shielded so that it's able to operate. If the desktop has a metal case, it might be that bypassing the AC feed would help. Shielding the cable between the laptop's AC supply and the laptop might help. Even moving the physical location of the various components may help.

One of the things that tends to poke a hole in this whole theory is the fact that Alan is running QRP. If there were a lot of RF floating around the shack, my idea would make more sense. On the other hand, computer equipment is remarkably sensitive to RF at specific frequencies, and Murphy suggests that that's where you're operating . . .

1893. Re: Looking for PSK31 advice

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-24 16:34:49 UTC
From: Alan WA4SCA <ALANBIDDLE70@YAHOO.COM>
Message-ID: <6qggk31jr4q73q9d906ak6kuocpepi22jf@4ax.com>
Source record: 3502

One has to start somewhere, and the presence of ground loops can, and have, resulted in RF and not just audio problems. FWIW.

--
Alan
WA4SCA

1894. Re: Looking for PSK31 advice

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-24 19:36:25 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13kgv5pimnja1f8@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3503

Alan WA4SCA wrote:
> One has to start somewhere, and the presence of ground loops can, and
> have, resulted in RF and not just audio problems. FWIW.

The whole concept of grounding is probably fertile ground for
investigation for this problem.

1895. Re: Looking for PSK31 advice

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-24 19:36:38 UTC
From: Jack VK2CJC <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com>
Message-ID: <fi9uba$58q$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 3504

Thanks for the input guys.

I am using a Buxcomm rascal interface (I had forgotten the make, but have been reminded since), which apparently has excellent isolation.

The problem occurs equally on all HF bands, so is not really frequency specific.

If its a stray RF problem, which I am very willing to accept, I'm surprised that it effects two very differently designed computers in exactly the same way.

1896. Re: Looking for PSK31 advice

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-24 23:18:46 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13khbeldlctbba8@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3505

Jack VK2CJC wrote:

> If its a stray RF problem, which I am very willing to accept, I'm surprised
> that it effects two very differently designed computers in exactly the same
> way.

Do they perhaps have the same CPU chip, in spite of their very different
design?

1897. Re: Looking for PSK31 advice

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-26 04:55:40 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net>
Message-ID: <13kkii43nphuk9b@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3506

"Alan WA4SCA" wrote ...
> One has to start somewhere, and the presence of ground loops can, and
> have, resulted in RF and not just audio problems. FWIW.

This is a FAQ in the audio world. It is a very common problem
with getting audio into and out of laptops. Their "brick" power
supplies are notoriously noisy. At AF frequencies, and likely RF,
as well. In the audio world, we use full transformer isolation in
and out. (Or else use an inexpensive USB-powered audio interface.
Likely cheaper than trying to isolate the PSK31 interface.)

1898. Re: Looking for PSK31 advice

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-26 04:57:03 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net>
Message-ID: <13kkitnflnn5298@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3507

"Steve Bonine" wrote ...
> Jack VK2CJC wrote:
>
>> If its a stray RF problem, which I am very willing to accept, I'm
>> surprised that it effects two very differently designed computers in
>> exactly the same way.
>
> Do they perhaps have the same CPU chip, in spite of their very
> different design?

Not the CPU's fault. It is almost guaranteed to be the "brick"
power supply. Note that the problem goes away when you
disconnect the "brick" and run on the internal battery supply.

I bought a used "brick" power supply for this Dell laptop on
eBay and it came with an intermittent (3-pin U-ground) mains
power plug. So I chopped it off and replaced it with an after-
market, 2-prong plug and I don't have problems with ground
loops and RFI from the garbage power supply anymore.

Yeah, yeah, green-wire "protective ground", etc. etc. Well,
I don't see what exactly the "protection" here is doing, and
if the green-wire ground WAS supposed to be there for RFI
shielding purposes, then why does it *go away* when I
disconnect the green-wire ground? Riddle me that! :-)

1899. Re: Looking for PSK31 advice

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-26 12:29:50 UTC
From: Jack VK2CJC <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com>
Message-ID: <fidlud$qp5$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 3508

> Yeah, yeah, green-wire "protective ground", etc. etc. Well,
> I don't see what exactly the "protection" here is doing,

Well it will be double insulated so doesn't really need an earth at all.
I'm surprised there was one.

Jack

1900. Re: Looking for PSK31 advice

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-26 12:30:29 UTC
From: N2EY@aol.com
Message-ID: <60fe6e02-7226-4f4e-acab-c506351c8fc7@r31g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3509

On Nov 25, 11:57 pm, "Richard Crowley" <rcrow...@xp7rt.net> wrote"

> Yeah, yeah, green-wire "protective ground", etc. etc. Well,
> I don't see what exactly the "protection" here is doing, and
> if the green-wire ground WAS supposed to be there for RFI
> shielding purposes, then why does it *go away* when I
> disconnect the green-wire ground?

The green wire isn't there for RFI purposes. At least not primarily.

It's there mostly for safety purposes. In case something fails inside
the power supply, the system cannot become hot-to-ground.

RFI prevention is secondary.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1901. Re: Looking for PSK31 advice

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-26 14:20:03 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fiehc6uds1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3510

N2EY@aol.com wrote:
> On Nov 25, 11:57 pm, "Richard Crowley" <rcrow...@xp7rt.net> wrote"
>
>> Yeah, yeah, green-wire "protective ground", etc. etc. Well,
>> I don't see what exactly the "protection" here is doing, and
>> if the green-wire ground WAS supposed to be there for RFI
>> shielding purposes, then why does it *go away* when I
>> disconnect the green-wire ground?
>
> The green wire isn't there for RFI purposes. At least not primarily.
>
> It's there mostly for safety purposes. In case something fails inside
> the power supply, the system cannot become hot-to-ground.
>
> RFI prevention is secondary.

RE the misbehaving unit:

Jack, you probably have a number of problems going on, so I'll outline some things you can try, and try them one at a time, so you can troubleshoot which one might cure the problem. Some you may already have done.

Pull the audio out cable from the laptop and have a listen to the signal while transmitting both with and without the power supply attached. Sound okay - the same- both times?

Get the computer and transmitter on the same mains line.

Isolate, isolate, Can you get a line isolator on that power supply, or possibly make up a cable to run the laptop off a good power supply?

I don't know how the power plugs are in your QTH, but if you are 2 pronged no neutral, you can try reversing the plug on the Power supply.

This probably isn't the problem, but some clip on ferrites on the DC end of the power supply can't hurt.

Can you try another laptop PS?

- 73 de Mike N3LI -

1902. Re: Battery question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-26 17:49:23 UTC
From: homepc <wiebe08@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <AAD2j.2102$so3.348@newsfe18.lga>
Source record: 3511

Just out of curiosity, does this happen when the batteries are removed from the radio also? Try carrying the batteries in a separate battery holder next time and see if they suffer the same fate.

"Jack VK2CJC" <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com> wrote in message news:fgjoo7$29l$1@victor.killfile.org...
> Heres a couple of questions for someone who knows about batteries.
>
> I have two hand held radios which I rarely use. An Alinco dual bander with
> Nmhi batteries, and a commercial UHF with Nicad batteries. Both sets of
> batteries are in good order and hold a charge well. I can leave them for
> months and when I pick the radios up, they still have a good charge in
> them.
>
> Today I lifted both radios, the first time in a month or two, and both had
> totally flat batteries. I know both were fully charged when I last
> switched them off. What happened? The weather has got warmer in the last
> month, and the humidity levels are up. But nothing else has changed. What
> flattened them both?
>
> Also...
>
> Last time I took a hand held radio abroad, I took 2 sets of batteries.
> Both were fully charged when they were packed. Both were flat when I
> reached my destination. Same with my mobile phone and camera batteries as
> well. All were nearly flat and had not been switched on during the
> journey. What is it that makes batteries go flat when travelling in a
> pressurised aircraft?
>
> I hope someone can advise. I've been thinking about the aircraft one for
> ages :o)
>
> 73
> --
> Jack VK2CJC / MM0AXL
> FISTS #9666
> CW Ops QRP Club #753
> Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group
> www.mncarg.org
>
>
>

1903. Re: New IARU Region 2 Bandplan

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-26 20:56:46 UTC
From: "R.A Abrahams" <r.aabrahams@wanadoo.nl>
Message-ID: <474b2953$0$59790$dbd4b001@news.wanadoo.nl>
Source record: 3512

OM's

visiting the group i read that Antique Modulation is out
Of course there will be a reason use of bandwith?
However there are groups of OM that are interested in W.O. 2 equipments and
even shipradio
They may not use their Rigs anymore?
Only because young newcomers dont understand history and can not tune with
their modern SSB rig
19 sets or ARNC s old aircraft sets like TR 2200 wil be forbidden
We are also amateurs who love a part of the hobby

73 de PA 0 RAB

<N2EY@AOL.COM> schreef in bericht
news:1192533054.392406.255520@e9g2000prf.googlegroups.com...
> http://www.iaru-regionii.org/Region_2_MF__HF_Bandplan_Annex__1_2008.pdf
>
> This plan is supposed to go into effect Jan 1 2008. It's a voluntary
> plan, not FCC regulations.
>
> IMHO:
>
> Good Things:
>
> 1) The general idea of sorting modes by bandwidth is a valid one.
> Narrow and wide modes just don't mix well.
>
> 2) The plan puts 'robot' (unattended) stations in well-defined places,
> rather than letting them wander all over the band.
>
> 3) There are centres of activity - watering holes - for various
> activities, like image transmission. This does not mean they can't go
> on other places, just that there's a defined place to meet.
>
> Bad Things:
>
> 4) The plan almost completely bans AM voice! From 160 through 10
> meters, AM is only allowed on 3600-3625 kHz, 3875-3900 kHz, and
> 29000-29300 kHz. On all but 10 metres, AM is an asterisk to the 2700
> Hz bandwidth.
>
> 5) The plan does not agree with other, similar plans, such as the ARRL
> bandplan. It seems to me that the IARU Region 2 bandplan and the
> bandplan of the largest amateur radio organization in Region 2 should

> at least agree.
>
> ---
>
> The no-AM thing is a big one to me, even though I'm a CW operator. AM
> is a perfectly legal mode on all US HF/MF amateur bands except 60 and
> 30 meters, yet the plan says that 'good amateur practice' is to not
> use AM *anywhere* below 29 MHz except 50 kHz of 80/75 meters. And
> that's regardless of propagation, number of hams on the band,
> contests, etc.
>
> This sort of thing sets a very bad precedent. It effectively makes the
> use of a perfectly legal mode 'bad practice' on all but a small
> percentage of the available-by-law spectrum, and on all but parts of
> two bands.
>
> Now some may say "it's just a voluntary bandplan, not a regulation".
> And that's true, but it's not the whole story.
>
> When interference problems between amateur operations have arisen that
> do no involve clear Part 97 rules violations, FCC has usually ruled on
> the side of the amateur operating in accordance with the voluntary
> bandplan in effect at the time. The most-common example I know are
> cases where an uncoordinated repeater and a coordinated one have
> interference issues. AFAIK, the uncoordinated repeater always loses
> because coordination is good amateur practice. But coordination is
> really just a form of voluntary bandplan, since we amateurs administer
> it, not the FCC.
>
> It seems to me that under the IARU plan, if I were to operate AM on,
> say, 40 metres, and an SSB station were to complain about interference
> from me, I'd be on the defensive from the getgo because, by
> definition, the SSB op is operating in accordance with the bandplan
> and I'm not.
>
> Most of all, if they can do it to AM, they can do it to other modes.
> Once the precedent is set, it's just a matter of expanding it.
>
> It seems really odd to me that while recent FCC rules changes widened
> many of the phone bands, particularly on 80/75, this bandplan
> drastically reduces and eliminates them for AM.
>
> Again, IMHO, the IARU can do better.
>
> 73 de Jim, N2EY
>

1904. Re: New IARU Region 2 Bandplan

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-27 00:05:37 UTC
From: Dee Flint <deeflint01@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <V_Odna60xLt_ztbanZ2dnUVZ_j-dnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 3513

The band plan is merely a suggestion for use in those countries that have
not developed their own band plans. It does not ban AM voice. In those
countries that already have band plans such as the US, Canada, etc, it does
NOT supersede them.

"R.A Abrahams" <r.aabrahams@wanadoo.nl> wrote in message
news:474b2953$0$59790$dbd4b001@news.wanadoo.nl...
> OM's
>
> visiting the group i read that Antique Modulation is out
> Of course there will be a reason use of bandwith?
> However there are groups of OM that are interested in W.O. 2 equipments
> and even shipradio
> They may not use their Rigs anymore?
> Only because young newcomers dont understand history and can not tune with
> their modern SSB rig
> 19 sets or ARNC s old aircraft sets like TR 2200 wil be forbidden
> We are also amateurs who love a part of the hobby
>
> 73 de PA 0 RAB
>
>
>
> <N2EY@AOL.COM> schreef in bericht
> news:1192533054.392406.255520@e9g2000prf.googlegroups.com...
>> http://www.iaru-regionii.org/Region_2_MF__HF_Bandplan_Annex__1_2008.pdf
>>
>> This plan is supposed to go into effect Jan 1 2008. It's a voluntary
>> plan, not FCC regulations.
>>
>> IMHO:
>>
>> Good Things:
>>
>> 1) The general idea of sorting modes by bandwidth is a valid one.
>> Narrow and wide modes just don't mix well.
>>
>> 2) The plan puts 'robot' (unattended) stations in well-defined places,
>> rather than letting them wander all over the band.
>>
>> 3) There are centres of activity - watering holes - for various
>> activities, like image transmission. This does not mean they can't go
>> on other places, just that there's a defined place to meet.
>>

>> Bad Things:
>>
>> 4) The plan almost completely bans AM voice! From 160 through 10
>> meters, AM is only allowed on 3600-3625 kHz, 3875-3900 kHz, and
>> 29000-29300 kHz. On all but 10 metres, AM is an asterisk to the 2700
>> Hz bandwidth.
>>
>> 5) The plan does not agree with other, similar plans, such as the ARRL
>> bandplan. It seems to me that the IARU Region 2 bandplan and the
>> bandplan of the largest amateur radio organization in Region 2 should
>> at least agree.
>>
>> ---
>>
>> The no-AM thing is a big one to me, even though I'm a CW operator. AM
>> is a perfectly legal mode on all US HF/MF amateur bands except 60 and
>> 30 meters, yet the plan says that 'good amateur practice' is to not
>> use AM *anywhere* below 29 MHz except 50 kHz of 80/75 meters. And
>> that's regardless of propagation, number of hams on the band,
>> contests, etc.
>>
>> This sort of thing sets a very bad precedent. It effectively makes the
>> use of a perfectly legal mode 'bad practice' on all but a small
>> percentage of the available-by-law spectrum, and on all but parts of
>> two bands.
>>
>> Now some may say "it's just a voluntary bandplan, not a regulation".
>> And that's true, but it's not the whole story.
>>
>> When interference problems between amateur operations have arisen that
>> do no involve clear Part 97 rules violations, FCC has usually ruled on
>> the side of the amateur operating in accordance with the voluntary
>> bandplan in effect at the time. The most-common example I know are
>> cases where an uncoordinated repeater and a coordinated one have
>> interference issues. AFAIK, the uncoordinated repeater always loses
>> because coordination is good amateur practice. But coordination is
>> really just a form of voluntary bandplan, since we amateurs administer
>> it, not the FCC.
>>
>> It seems to me that under the IARU plan, if I were to operate AM on,
>> say, 40 metres, and an SSB station were to complain about interference
>> from me, I'd be on the defensive from the getgo because, by
>> definition, the SSB op is operating in accordance with the bandplan
>> and I'm not.
>>
>> Most of all, if they can do it to AM, they can do it to other modes.
>> Once the precedent is set, it's just a matter of expanding it.
>>
>> It seems really odd to me that while recent FCC rules changes widened
>> many of the phone bands, particularly on 80/75, this bandplan

>> drastically reduces and eliminates them for AM.
>>
>> Again, IMHO, the IARU can do better.
>>
>> 73 de Jim, N2EY
>>
>
>

1905. Grounding my HF radio equipment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-27 20:56:19 UTC
From: James Barrett <xucaen@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <778a8912-e7b5-4642-8ef2-df847fd43ffe@y20g2000hsy.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3514

Hi, I did some searches on google for grounding, but all the information I have found talks about grounding antennas and such against lightning strikes. But the grounding I am interested in researching is the type of ground I would use on my HF radio, power supply, and antenna tuner. I haven't grounded anything yet, but I would like to. I seem to have a hazy recollection of reading somewhere that I should use copper braid and connect it to the house ground. But during my search I found this image (which basically sums up the article it came from) http://www.qsl.net/n5nj/kuby/image16.gif

Does it really matter if my equipment is ground to the house ground or should it really be connected to its own external ground? And if/when I ground to guard against lightning strikes, would I use that same external ground or go with yet another external ground?

I'm still doing my research, but figured it couldn't hurt to ask.

Thanks!

Jim

1906. Re: Grounding my HF radio equipment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-28 01:46:38 UTC
From: Dave Heil <k8mn@frontiernet.net>
Message-ID: <IQ13j.21484$B25.6634@news01.roc.ny>
Source record: 3515

James Barrett wrote:

> Does it really matter if my equipment is ground to the house ground or
> should it really be connected to its own external ground? And if/when
> I ground to guard against lightning strikes, would I use that same
> external ground or go with yet another external ground?
>
> I'm still doing my research, but figured it couldn't hurt to ask.

Jim,

You'll see numerous references on the web to "single point ground." It is very, very important stuff. I got nailed on this stuff back in August, 2003. Here's how it played out:

We had a violent thunderstorm early one morning about 7 A.M. Suddenly there were three near strikes (simultaneous lightning and thunder) within a ten second time frame. In addition to telephones, computers and home entertainment equipment, my four month old Ten-Tec Orion and numberous shack accessories were zapped. My house ground is a single 8 foot copper plated ground rod. The lightning ground for the shack was an identical ground rod driven about thirty feet away from the house ground.

When the strikes conducted a surge into my home via the power lines, all three wires had very high voltage on them. The shack ground was still at its usual potential (0). The house ground was elevated to high voltage. There was a potential difference between the shack ground the the house ground. That potential quickly equalized inside my equipment.

Ten-Tec reported that six boards inside the Orion had their ground traces evaporated.

For a shack ground, you want the shortest possible distance between your rig and earth. The house ground will be as close as possible to your electrical service entrance. If, like me, you have to use two ground rods, you need to bond the two of them together with a big, fat wire so that the two can never be at different potentials.

If you have a tower, I'll assume that you have at least one 8 foot ground rod driven at its base. Bond your coaxial cable sheaths to the rod at the tower. The sheaths should also be bonded to your shack ground.

Dave Heil K8MN

1907. Re: Grounding my HF radio equipment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-28 03:21:59 UTC
From: konstans <konstans@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <fiihv0vq1@registered.motzarella.org>
Source record: 3516

"James Barrett" <xucaen@gmail.com> wrote in message
news:778a8912-e7b5-4642-8ef2-df847fd43ffe@y20g2000hsy.googlegroups.com...
> Hi, I did some searches on google for grounding, but all the
> information I have found talks about grounding antennas and such
> against lightning strikes. But the grounding I am interested in
> researching is the type of ground I would use on my HF radio, power
> supply, and antenna tuner. I haven't grounded anything yet, but I
> would like to. I seem to have a hazy recollection of reading somewhere
> that I should use copper braid and connect it to the house ground.
> But during my search I found this image (which basically sums up the
> article it came from) http://www.qsl.net/n5nj/kuby/image16.gif
>
> Does it really matter if my equipment is ground to the house ground or
> should it really be connected to its own external ground? And if/when
> I ground to guard against lightning strikes, would I use that same
> external ground or go with yet another external ground?
>
> I'm still doing my research, but figured it couldn't hurt to ask.
>
> Thanks!
>
> Jim
my own experence is that using the household ground at hf is marginal at
best

my own result were greatly inproved with aan extrenal seperat e ground

1908. Re: Audio examples of RFI

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-28 14:21:14 UTC
From: Mindraker <anon@anon.com>
Message-ID: <ARc3j.1$7d2.0@newsfe07.lga>
Source record: 3517

There was one on youtube about someone monitoring electric power lines interfering with radio. He was driving around with his car, and rather well done.
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pdcY0Eetvsw
-Mindraker

"Steve Bonine" <spb@pobox.com> wrote in message news:13jk8as6m2psea0@news.supernews.com...
> Some months ago, I happened across a web site which contained short audio
> clips of various interesting sources of RF interference (MP3 files or a
> similar format). I remember a furnace, an electric blanket, and common
> stuff like arcing power lines and ignition noise. I should have known to
> grab the files and keep them local.
>
> I went looking for the site again so that I could use these files as
> examples in the class I'm teaching, and can't find the site. I suspect
> it's now gone. Did anyone snag any of these examples, or point me to a
> source?
>
> Thanks. 73, Steve KB9X
>

1909. Re: Grounding my HF radio equipment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-29 00:34:50 UTC
From: Joaquin Tall <opalockamishabob@netscape.net>
Message-ID: <EKudncV7A-qAmtPanZ2dnUVZ_uyinZ2d@nethere.com>
Source record: 3518

Hi James,

There are several good articles at the www.eham site on this very subject.
If you can read between the lines of some of the muck slinging, you can come
up with several really good solutions.

Just click on the "view more articles" link [at the top of the horizontal
green separator] HTH.

Alain

"James Barrett" <xucaen@gmail.com> wrote in message
news:778a8912-e7b5-4642-8ef2-df847fd43ffe@y20g2000hsy.googlegroups.com...
> Hi, I did some searches on google for grounding, but all the
> information I have found talks about grounding antennas and such
> against lightning strikes. But the grounding I am interested in
> researching is the type of ground I would use on my HF radio, power
> supply, and antenna tuner. I haven't grounded anything yet, but I
> would like to. I seem to have a hazy recollection of reading somewhere
> that I should use copper braid and connect it to the house ground.
> But during my search I found this image (which basically sums up the
> article it came from) http://www.qsl.net/n5nj/kuby/image16.gif
>
> Does it really matter if my equipment is ground to the house ground or
> should it really be connected to its own external ground? And if/when
> I ground to guard against lightning strikes, would I use that same
> external ground or go with yet another external ground?
>
> I'm still doing my research, but figured it couldn't hurt to ask.
>
> Thanks!
>
> Jim
>

1910. Re: Grounding my HF radio equipment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-29 17:09:59 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fimq1mnve1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3519

Joaquin Tall wrote:
> Hi James,
>
> There are several good articles at the www.eham site on this very subject.
> If you can read between the lines of some of the muck slinging, you can come
> up with several really good solutions.
>
> Just click on the "view more articles" link [at the top of the horizontal
> green separator] HTH.
>
> Alain
>
>
>
> "James Barrett" <xucaen@gmail.com> wrote in message
> news:778a8912-e7b5-4642-8ef2-df847fd43ffe@y20g2000hsy.googlegroups.com...
>> Hi, I did some searches on google for grounding, but all the
>> information I have found talks about grounding antennas and such
>> against lightning strikes. But the grounding I am interested in
>> researching is the type of ground I would use on my HF radio, power
>> supply, and antenna tuner. I haven't grounded anything yet, but I
>> would like to. I seem to have a hazy recollection of reading somewhere
>> that I should use copper braid and connect it to the house ground.
>> But during my search I found this image (which basically sums up the
>> article it came from) http://www.qsl.net/n5nj/kuby/image16.gif
>>
>> Does it really matter if my equipment is ground to the house ground or
>> should it really be connected to its own external ground? And if/when
>> I ground to guard against lightning strikes, would I use that same
>> external ground or go with yet another external ground?
>>
>> I'm still doing my research, but figured it couldn't hurt to ask.

There are two grounds for your radio system. There is an RF ground, and
there is a power ground. They aren't the same, and even the term
"ground" is a little nebulous. But it is convention.

Dealing with the Power ground, you'll want to tie the grounds on the
back of your radios/tuners/amplifiers together. There are a number of
ways to do this. Some folks construct a copper ground plane that has
wires running to it from the equipment needing grounded.

Another possibility is wiring to the grounding bars such as are used for
electrical service. This is the method I use.

Whatever method used, short wires are better working practice.

I'll just go over my own setup as beyond the grounding bar, you'll get a lot of opinions on what is right. I run heavy gauge wire out to a 8 foot copper pipe embedded about 7.5 feet into the ground, and have ground clamps to attach it. Braid is good too.

Some other thoughts:

I install the pipe hydrostatically - I sweat a garden hose adapter onto the copper pipe, attach a hose to it, and let 'er rip (hopefully no disclaimers needed here) The water digs a hole for the pipe, which then sinks into it. It's fun

some folks ground to a water pipe. Not a good idea, as modern plumbing does not always have continuity - there might be a piece of PVC in the line somewhere.

I have my Arrester going to that pipe also. I'm using a "spark gap" type arrester, but I would really recommend one of the gas discharge types. They are quick to respond, and better protection in general.

Hope this helps.

- 73 de Mike N3LI -

1911. Re: Grounding my HF radio equipment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-30 01:30:22 UTC
From: kelly@dvol.com
Message-ID: <c15faef4-3961-42fd-866b-4c2c1d8c8c81@d4g2000prg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3520

On Nov 27, 8:46 pm, Dave Heil <k...@frontiernet.net> wrote:
> James Barrett wrote:
> > Does it really matter if my equipment is ground to the house ground or
> > should it really be connected to its own external ground? And if/when
> > I ground to guard against lightning strikes, would I use that same
> > external ground or go with yet another external ground?
>
> > I'm still doing my research, but figured it couldn't hurt to ask.
>
> Jim,
>
> You'll see numerous references on the web to "single point ground." It
> is very, very important stuff. I got nailed on this stuff back in
> August, 2003. Here's how it played out:
>
> We had a violent thunderstorm early one morning about 7 A.M. Suddenly
> there were three near strikes (simultaneous lightning and thunder)
> within a ten second time frame. In addition to telephones, computers
> and home entertainment equipment, my four month old Ten-Tec Orion and
> numberous shack accessories were zapped. My house ground is a single 8
> foot copper plated ground rod. The lightning ground for the shack was
> an identical ground rod driven about thirty feet away from the house ground.
>
> When the strikes conducted a surge into my home via the power lines, all
> three wires had very high voltage on them. The shack ground was still
> at its usual potential (0). The house ground was elevated to high
> voltage. There was a potential difference between the shack ground the
> the house ground. That potential quickly equalized inside my equipment.
>
> Ten-Tec reported that six boards inside the Orion had their ground
> traces evaporated.
>
> For a shack ground, you want the shortest possible distance between your
> rig and earth. The house ground will be as close as possible to your
> electrical service entrance. If, like me, you have to use two ground
> rods, you need to bond the two of them together with a big, fat wire so
> that the two can never be at different potentials.

This whole topic area seems to be eternally confused and confusing and
I'm in the parade of the confused. On a common sense basis I
absolutely agree with your connecting the station grounds to the
'lectric service entrance ground for the reasons you've stated.

But somewhere along the line somebody in the ham groups stated that
the National Electrical Code states that there shall be one and *only

one* grounding point per power drop and the neighborhood code cops and
the insurance companies reportedly get stiff about it.

So is it legal to connect a phalanx of ham station ground rods to the
service entrance ground?? Or not.

> If you have a tower, I'll assume that you have at least one 8 foot
> ground rod driven at its base. Bond your coaxial cable sheaths to the
> rod at the tower. The sheaths should also be bonded to your shack ground.
>
> Dave Heil K8MN

w3rv

1912. Re: Grounding my HF radio equipment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-30 02:39:26 UTC
From: dplatt@radagast.org
Message-ID: <9n9425-2a6.ln1@radagast.org>
Source record: 3521

In article <c15faef4-3961-42fd-866b-4c2c1d8c8c81@d4g2000prg.googlegroups.com>,
<kelly@dvol.com> wrote:

>This whole topic area seems to be eternally confused and confusing and
>I'm in the parade of the confused. On a common sense basis I
>absolutely agree with your connecting the station grounds to the
>'lectric service entrance ground for the reasons you've stated.
>
>But somewhere along the line somebody in the ham groups stated that
>the National Electrical Code states that there shall be one and *only
>one* grounding point per power drop and the neighborhood code cops and
>the insurance companies reportedly get stiff about it.
>
>So is it legal to connect a phalanx of ham station ground rods to the
>service entrance ground?? Or not.

As I understand it, according to the NEC, you must have only one
grounding *system* per building. This system may include two or more
ground rods, and/or a bare grounding wire buried in a trench around
the outside of the building. The ground rods and wires must be
securely bonded together with heavy-gauge wire... that's what ensures
that it's all one grounding "system".

What's dangerous is, as has been suggested, having separate grounding
rods (or grounding subsystems) which aren't well-bonded together. If
you connect any electrical apparatus to two such grounding points
(e.g. ham radio with a third-prong ground on its line cord, which is
also tied to a separate ground rod via the coax feedline), and a
lightning strike or a hot-to-ground fault occurs, your electrical
apparatus and its wiring can end up carrying a lot of current between
the ground points, thus creating a shock or fire hazard.

The bonding wires create a low-impedance path for such fault currents,
minimizing the voltage differential which exists between the ground
rods and thus helping keep down the flow of fault current through
undesired paths (e.g. your ham rig).

--
Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO
Friends of Jade Warrior home page: http://www.radagast.org/jade-warrior
I do _not_ wish to receive unsolicited commercial email, and I will
boycott any company which has the gall to send me such ads!

1913. Re: Grounding my HF radio equipment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-30 03:25:39 UTC
From: James Barrett <xucaen@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <c-idnb4CoqCR4dLanZ2dnUVZ_s2tnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 3522

Michael Coslo wrote:
> There are two grounds for your radio system. There is an RF ground, and
> there is a power ground. They aren't the same, and even the term
> "ground" is a little nebulous. But it is convention.

The is probably the biggest point of confusion for me. What do you mean by "RF ground"? The type of ground I was asking about is the ground terminal on the back of my radio,not the three prong power plug. There is the ground terminal on the back of my radio and there is also a ground terminal on my power supply, even though both have three prong power plugs. So, are the ground terminals on the back of my radio and power supply called RF ground, or are the called Power ground? Because I thought that the power ground was the three prong plug.

Jim

1914. Re: Grounding my HF radio equipment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-30 07:08:18 UTC
From: dplatt@radagast.org
Message-ID: <pcn425-dc1.ln1@radagast.org>
Source record: 3523

In article <c-idnb4CoqCR4dLanZ2dnUVZ_s2tnZ2d@comcast.com>,
James Barrett <xucaen@comcast.net> wrote:

>The is probably the biggest point of confusion for me. What do you mean
>by "RF ground"? The type of ground I was asking about is the ground
>terminal on the back of my radio,not the three prong power plug. There
>is the ground terminal on the back of my radio and there is also a
>ground terminal on my power supply, even though both have three prong
>power plugs. So, are the ground terminals on the back of my radio and
>power supply called RF ground, or are the called Power ground? Because I
>thought that the power ground was the three prong plug.

The intent of the third prong on the power plug is to provide a safe path from the equipment chassis, back to the power panel (where the neutral and hot are bonded together). This ensures that if there's a fault inside the equipment, and a "hot" wire touches the chassis, the stray current will immediately flow back to the panel via this ground connection (and likely cause a fuse to blow or a breaker to trip very quickly). It ensures that you don't end up with a chassis which is "hot", and isolated from ground... just waiting for somebody to touch it, accidentally complete a path to ground via their body, and get themselves mildly dead.

The intent of the ground terminal on the back of the radio is to let you tie the radio chassis to a good RF ground, so that if any RF reaches the chassis via conduction (e.g. coming back down the feedline) it doesn't leave you with a chassis which is RF-hot compared to grounded objects nearby (this could cause an RF burn if you touch the chassis, or sneak back into the microphone wiring and cause weird squawking sounds when you transmit). It's also necessary if you plan to use a random-wire or similar unbalanced antenna which is designed to work against the station ground (e.g. radials or counterpoises).

It's normally the practice to bond *all* of the equipment in your shack together with good (short, heavy) grounding wire or braid... once again, ensuring that different pieces of equipment have their chassis at the same (or nearly the same) AC and RF potential. By doing so, you are in effect bonding together your power/safety ground, and your station RF ground, creating a single ground system.

Because this in-the-station ground bonding isn't really designed to handle massive amounts of fault current (e.g. from lighting) and since it's in an area where you really don't want such fault current to flow (e.g. your shack), it's still important to bond your station's "RF ground" rod, and your house's service-panel ground rod, together as per NEC.

--
Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO
Friends of Jade Warrior home page: http://www.radagast.org/jade-warrior
I do _not_ wish to receive unsolicited commercial email, and I will
boycott any company which has the gall to send me such ads!

1915. Re: Grounding my HF radio equipment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-30 14:15:36 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fip58j$1im2$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3524

James Barrett wrote:
> Michael Coslo wrote:
>> There are two grounds for your radio system. There is an RF ground, and
>> there is a power ground. They aren't the same, and even the term
>> "ground" is a little nebulous. But it is convention.
>
> The is probably the biggest point of confusion for me. What do you mean
> by "RF ground"?

It is confusing, so you're not alone.

RF grounds can be related to Power grounds, but only so far. On say a ground plane antenna, where you have a vertical center rod connected to the coax center conductor, and some angled rods connected to the coax shield, those angled rods are serving as a ground plane. They aren't connected to actual earth.

This is where a lot of the confusion comes in. The ground plane is more of a counterpoise, or to look at it as a circuit, a place for the other part of the current to go.

Now if we look at say a vertical HF antenna of the 1/4 wave variety, typically this antenna will have "grounding" by way of many radial lengths of wire that are either buried in the earth at a shallow depth, or even just stapled to the surface of the earth.

This is "Kind of-sort of" like a power ground, in that it is in the earth, but its doing something different. It is operating very similarly to that ground plane. It gives the RF current a place to go.

I didn't go into things like impedence to avoid confusing the issue, but that would be next in the discussion.

The type of ground I was asking about is the ground
> terminal on the back of my radio,not the three prong power plug. There
> is the ground terminal on the back of my radio and there is also a
> ground terminal on my power supply, even though both have three prong
> power plugs. So, are the ground terminals on the back of my radio and
> power supply called RF ground, or are the called Power ground?

The ground terminals on your equipment are part of the power ground, that you would attach to the pipe in the yard. Explanation of that below. Any RF ground would be considered to be on the shield of the coax connectors.

> Because I
> thought that the power ground was the three prong plug.

Yes, generally. One of the reasons that we put in a separate ground rod from house ground for a power ground is that there can be currents on it after going around the house. It's still mostly neutral, but with hundreds of feet of that green wire running around the house, you can still get some currents.

Some people can "get away with" not having a station power ground. Kinda. I highly recommend one especially for some place to send your lightning protection.

- 73 de Mike N3LI -

1916. Re: Grounding my HF radio equipment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-30 14:16:06 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fip5rj$1im4$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3525

Dave Platt wrote:

> The intent of the third prong on the power plug is to provide a safe
> path from the equipment chassis, back to the power panel (where the
> neutral and hot are bonded together). This ensures that if there's a
> fault inside the equipment, and a "hot" wire touches the chassis, the
> stray current will immediately flow back to the panel via this ground
> connection (and likely cause a fuse to blow or a breaker to trip very
> quickly). It ensures that you don't end up with a chassis which is
> "hot", and isolated from ground... just waiting for somebody to touch
> it, accidentally complete a path to ground via their body, and get
> themselves mildly dead.

One of the reasons that Ground fault interrupters are around. If you have a hundred feet or even more of neutral wire going back to that panel, you can still get an appreciable current flowing through you without tripping a breaker. I've had my tookus saved by one of those GFCI things when a power tool failed in the manner you just described. I felt the shock for just a fraction of a second, then it tripped.

> the chassis, or sneak back into the microphone wiring and cause weird
> squawking sounds when you transmit).

Ahh, that happens to me all the time even without RF on the mic! ;^)

- 73 de Mike N3LI -

1917. Re: Grounding my HF radio equipment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-30 16:05:21 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fipbp3$1gf2$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3526

kelly@dvol.com wrote:

>
> This whole topic area seems to be eternally confused and confusing and
> I'm in the parade of the confused. On a common sense basis I
> absolutely agree with your connecting the station grounds to the
> 'lectric service entrance ground for the reasons you've stated.
>
> But somewhere along the line somebody in the ham groups stated that
> the National Electrical Code states that there shall be one and *only
> one* grounding point per power drop and the neighborhood code cops and
> the insurance companies reportedly get stiff about it.

There is a whole lot of misinformation regarding grounding. An interesting mental exercise is taking a tower say 50 feet from your house. According to some, in order to comply with NEC, the tower has to be grounded by sending a lead back to the house to that single ground point. I guess they want to insulate the tower base from ground - no ufer's here, thanks. Sounds like a disaster waiting to happen.

The good folks at Polyphaser have some excellent Technical notes. Kept me busy a long time reading the stuff:

http://www.polyphaser.com/technical_notes.aspx

Of particular interest is Ham Radio Station Protection:

http://tinyurl.com/2aymw9 (tinyurl needed - its a long one)

It is largely about lightning protection, but has good stuff pertaining to grounding.

- 73 d eMike N3LI -

1918. Re: Grounding my HF radio equipment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-30 18:23:40 UTC
From: kelly@dvol.com
Message-ID: <ad001060-e628-4a43-b5ef-1b13ec402175@a35g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3527

On Nov 29, 9:39 pm, dpl...@radagast.org (Dave Platt) wrote:
> In article <c15faef4-3961-42fd-866b-4c2c1d8c8...@d4g2000prg.googlegroups.com>,
. . . . .
>
> >So is it legal to connect a phalanx of ham station ground rods to the
> >service entrance ground?? Or not.
>
> As I understand it, according to the NEC, you must have only one
> grounding *system* per building. This system may include two or more
> ground rods, and/or a bare grounding wire buried in a trench around
> the outside of the building. The ground rods and wires must be
> securely bonded together with heavy-gauge wire... that's what ensures
> that it's all one grounding "system".
. . . . . .

Makes complete sense and answers my basic question. Thank you David.

I have five 8' ground rods already installed with more coming. All of
them will be bonded together with about 100' of #8 bare solid copper.

Let's try one more: This place is a "This Old House" type abode. There
is no basement and no visible service entrance ground rod. There's a
tight dirt crawl space under the place which I'm not about to even try
to wiggle and squirm through to find the power wiring ground
connection. If there is a ground it's the 3/4" copper water supply
line from the street which pops up somewhere in the crawl space per
normal practice in days of yore around here. I know for a fact that
it's an old ~80' 100% copper line, not plastic. On the other hand the
service entrance panel box is quite accessible. Would it be OK if I
connected my ham grounding system to the neutral/ground bus in the
panel box instead of to the water line??
>
> --
> Dave Platt <dpl...@radagast.org> AE6EO

w3rv

1919. Re: Grounding my HF radio equipment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-30 19:33:42 UTC
From: konstans <konstans@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <fipn0a$9la$1@registered.motzarella.org>
Source record: 3528

<kelly@dvol.com> wrote in message
news:c15faef4-3961-42fd-866b-4c2c1d8c8c81@d4g2000prg.googlegroups.com...
> On Nov 27, 8:46 pm, Dave Heil <k...@frontiernet.net> wrote:
>> James Barrett wrote:

> But somewhere along the line somebody in the ham groups stated that
> the National Electrical Code states that there shall be one and *only
> one* grounding point per power drop and the neighborhood code cops and
> the insurance companies reportedly get stiff about it.

the NEC refering only to the household AC wring(soon hopefully to DC circuts

at least according to the local electrical inspector

our system for RF are another affair all together

the inspector also aprooves the use if desired of seperate eletectal ground
when service of more than one voltage and/ot freq is ainvolved

in my case I have a houshold from the ower company enterance a seprate
gorund for my various solar and wind systems 12-48 v DCdepending on the
location plus the seperate Ground from my station

most inspector in my experence would rather our rf system were not grounded
in to the mais ground since they don't uderstand RF at all

1920. Re: Grounding my HF radio equipment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-11-30 21:53:57 UTC
From: kelly@dvol.com
Message-ID: <87ac3c3d-cf7a-4b91-9138-d2de7473a949@a35g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3529

On Nov 30, 11:05 am, Michael Coslo <m...@psu.edu> wrote:
> ke...@dvol.com wrote:
>

> There is a whole lot of misinformation regarding grounding.

Understatement of the day . . .

> An
> interesting mental exercise is taking a tower say 50 feet from your
> house. According to some, in order to comply with NEC, the tower has to
> be grounded by sending a lead back to the house to that single ground
> point. I guess they want to insulate the tower base from ground - no
> ufer's here, thanks. Sounds like a disaster waiting to happen.

Of course.

Over the years I've dealt with a grand total of two lightning "events". I had a 70' 45G tower with a monster mast which was topped by a homebrewed clone of a 2M Ringo Ranger which went to 90+ feet. Lightning magnet. There was one ground rod alongside the concrete base which was bonded (clamped and silver soldered) to the tower by a 1/8" x 1/2" copper strap.

There were three runs of coax, a run of shielded rotator cable and an unshielded run of 14/3 Romex up the tower with all shields and the Romex ground bonded to the tower. All the radio gear in the basement shack was grounded to the water line which was ~25' from the radios. Not slick by today's standards.

Along came the first hit and my whole world turned "bright electric blue". Power line/brown underwear hit. The thunder was still rumbling loudly so I scrambled behind the gear and furiously got into yanking plugs out of outlets when *bang* another hit . .

In the end there was all kinds of damage to the house wiring, TV sets and kitchen appliances toasted, second floor wall outlets atomized, etc. The only damage in the "radio room" was to the two vaporized disc ceramic AC line bypass caps in the 75A4.

>From this experience I learned that (a) lightning certainly can strike the same place twice in rapid succession and that (b) lightning can choose to hit power lines which are 30-40 feet *below* mongo grounded objects like a towers which makes no sense at all and (c) there are no manmade "cures" for lightning. Except maybe paid-up insurance coverage and prayer . .

> The good folks at Polyphaser have some excellent Technical notes. Kept
> me busy a long time reading the stuff:
>
> http://www.polyphaser.com/technical_notes.aspx
>
> Of particular interest is Ham Radio Station Protection:
>
> http://tinyurl.com/2aymw9 (tinyurl needed - its a long one)
>

That's a really good one. I'll print it out and dig into it. Tank yew
Michael.

> It is largely about lightning protection, but has good stuff pertaining
> to grounding.
>
> - 73 d eMike N3LI -

w3rv

1921. Re: Grounding my HF radio equipment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-02 01:31:55 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <ol24l3pqmlbo9l97ug54ug5fv73gi2kj3j@4ax.com>
Source record: 3530

On Fri, 30 Nov 2007 02:08:18 EST, dplatt@radagast.org (Dave Platt)
wrote:

>The intent of the third prong on the power plug is to provide a safe
>path from the equipment chassis, back to the power panel (where the
>neutral and hot are bonded together).

You do mean the neutral and ground, right?
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1922. Re: Grounding my HF radio equipment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-02 03:10:19 UTC
From: dplatt@radagast.org
Message-ID: <27k925-pfn.ln1@radagast.org>
Source record: 3531

>>The intent of the third prong on the power plug is to provide a safe
>>path from the equipment chassis, back to the power panel (where the
>>neutral and hot are bonded together).
>
>You do mean the neutral and ground, right?

Erp. Yes, indeed! Bonding neutral and hot at the panel would be
spectacular, but rather useless :-)

--
Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO
Friends of Jade Warrior home page: http://www.radagast.org/jade-warrior
I do _not_ wish to receive unsolicited commercial email, and I will
boycott any company which has the gall to send me such ads!

1923. Licensee Numbers Over Nine Months

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-04 06:02:28 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <9d7f6ae5-7c4a-4e77-8361-bbf8cca5ae43@e6g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3532

Based on the period of 3 March 2007 to 3 December 2007, the US amateur radio individual licensee totals have changed as follows:

New: 20,901 Expired: 19,739

Compared to an averaged 9 month period prior to 3 March 2007:*

New: 16,957 Expired: 21,822

The total number of individual licensees was 711,175 on 3 Mar 07 and that changed to 711,892 on 3 Dec 07 for a net gain of 717 in nine months. That is a 0.1% growth rate.

* Prior 12 month period total changes divided by 12, then multiplied by 9 to approximate a 9-month averaged period for comparison.

In short, nothing much has happened to numbers, no significant changes either way. Class changes are another matter. All data obtained from www.hamdata.com FCC Information page.

73, Len AF6AY

1924. Re: Antennas and Propagation

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-04 09:10:26 UTC
From: afcsman <afcsman@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <eMydnVNbnYDgjsjanZ2dnUVZ_tmhnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 3533

There are those who think it's not sporting, but ftp clusters, such as K3LR offer "up to the minute" DX as it is spotted on the bands. Go to ac6v.com to find a nearby cluster, as well as info on how to customize them for your geographic area.

I've had moderate results with 125 watts and a 70-foot-long end fed "zepp" antenna by using the 75-meter SSB DX "window" at 3790-3800 kHz. Usually good for insomniacs, as the Europeans wake up at 1-2 AM CST. DX comes through very close to 3500 KHz, too.

DX contests, such as the recent CQWW, bring them out of the woodwork. I heard tons of European and African stns on 80 during the CW contest. Never heard them there before, but I'll check the contest calendars from now on... Good Luck!
W9NPI (Michigan)

Doug Smith W9WI wrote:
> On Thu, 15 Nov 2007 07:15:37 -0500, JDP wrote:
>> Those of you with high-end antenna systems: are you hearing DX from
>> stateside? Are you working DX from stateside? On what freqs. and what UTC
>> times?
>
> It's *easier* to work DX with high-end antennas, but it's *possible*
> without them. (truncated)

1925. Followup on my Tech class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-04 14:35:33 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13lapcvertvbacf@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3534

I was going to followup to the original article that I posted on October 22 <13hpelos43h30b5@news.supernews.com> but I no longer have it locally. In that article I asked for advice on teaching an entry-level ham radio class, and the resulting thread was a big help. I appreciate the comments. Here's a short status on how things went.

The class consisted of six sessions held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, so it lasted three weeks. The last session was the Thursday before Thanksgiving, so we took that week off, then the students asked for a review session the Tuesday after Thanksgiving before the exam, which was Thursday, November 29.

Five new hams came out of the exam session, plus one upgrade from the local ham population (General to Extra). Seven people took the test, so two didn't make it. Of the two, one of them missed by only one question so he decided to try it again that night; the second attempt didn't work for him either.

Here's the real shocker for me: The VE team mailed the package back to the ARRL on Friday (11/30). The calls were in the FCC database yesterday (12/3). The ARRL couldn't have received the forms before yesterday, so that means that on the same day that the paperwork reached the ARRL the calls were issued. I went to the FCC website yesterday just to be sure that I remembered how to do a search by name and was astounded when the entries for these new hams showed up. That's impressive.

Other comments: I liked the format of six 2-hour sessions. The students also expressed their approval, but that's not too useful since they tend to be self-selected; only people who can fit six sessions into their schedule were there. I found that I could cover two of the sub-elements from the pool in a bit over two hours and had time to present general background information and also go over the specific pool questions.

I was reasonably satisfied with how the presentation broke out in terms of covering concepts and reviewing specific pool questions. We had time to do both, and I felt that both were valuable to the students.

All in all, I found it to be a rewarding experience for me, and the look on the face of one of the students when she was informed that she had passed the test was, as they say on the TV commercials, priceless. Now the next step is to get these new hams on the air.

73, Steve KB9X

1926. Re: Followup on my Tech class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-04 18:43:43 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net>
Message-ID: <5rllegF15gpd1U1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 3535

"Steve Bonine" wrote ...
> I found that I could cover two of the sub-elements from the pool in a bit
> over two hours and had time to present general background information and
> also go over the specific pool questions.
>
> I was reasonably satisfied with how the presentation broke out in terms of
> covering concepts and reviewing specific pool questions. We had time to
> do both, and I felt that both were valuable to the students.

Thanks for the followup report. Do you have an outline or
teacher's notes that you could share with others who want
to do a similar project?

1927. November 2007 ARS License Numbers

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-04 18:46:42 UTC
From: N2EY@aol.com
Message-ID: <d8af6b35-7dc8-486d-a3d1-6dc165acd4f3@a35g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3536

These are the number of current,
unexpired FCC-issued amateur
radio licenses held by individuals
on the stated dates, and the
percentage of the total number
of active licenses that class contains.

Percentages may not add up to exactly
100.0% due to rounding.

These totals do not include licenses
that have expired but are in the grace
period, nor do they include club, military
and other station-only licenses.

Effective April 15, 2000, FCC no longer issued
new Novice, Technician Plus and Advanced
class licenses, so the numbers of those license
classes have declined steadily since then.

Also since April 15, 2000, FCC has renewed all
existing Technician Plus licenses as Technician.
It is therefore informative to consider the totals of
the two classes, since the Technician class
includes a significant number of Technician Plus
licenses renewed as Technician.

On February 23, 2007, the last Morse Code
test element, the 5 wpm receiving test, was
eliminated as a requirement.

The ARS License Numbers:

As of May 14, 2000:

Novice- 49,329 (7.3%)
Technician - 205,394 (30.4%)
Technician Plus - 128,860 (19.1%)
General - 112,677 (16.7%)
Advanced - 99,782 (14.8%)
Extra - 78,750 (11.7%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 334,254 (49.5%)

Total all classes - 674,792

As of February 22, 2007:

Novice - 22,896 (3.5%)
Technician - 293,508 (44.8%)
Technician Plus - 30,818 (4.7%)
General - 130,138 (19.9%)
Advanced - 69,050 (10.5%)
Extra - 108,270 (16.5%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 324,326 (49.5%)

Total all classes - 654,680

As of November 1, 2007:

Novice - 20,916 (3.2%)
Technician - 291,761 (44.5%)
Technician Plus - 22,806 (3.5%)
General - 142,680 (21.7%)
Advanced - 66,117 (10.1%)
Extra - 111,736 (17.0%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 314,567 (48.0%)

Total all classes - 656,016

As of November 12, 2007:

Novice - 20,789 (3.2%)
Technician - 292,048 (44.6%)
Technician Plus - 22,322 (3.4%)
General - 141,496 (21.7%)
Advanced - 65,898 (10.1%)
Extra - 111,733 (17.1%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 314,370 (48.0%)

Total all classes - 655,286

As of November 25, 2007:

Novice - 20,666 (3.2%)
Technician - 292,686 (44.7%)
Technician Plus - 21,874 (3.3%)
General - 142,450 (21.7%)
Advanced - 65,698 (10.0%)
Extra - 111,760 (17.1%)

Total Tech/TechPlus - 314,560 (48.0%)

Total all classes - 655,134

Changes:

>From May 14, 2000, to February 22, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 26,433
Technician - increase of 88,114
Technician Plus - decrease of 98,042

General - increase of 17,461
Advanced - decrease of 30,732
Extra - increase of 29,520

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 9,928

Total all classes - decrease of 20,112

>From May 14, 2000, to November 1, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 28,413
Technician - increase of 86,367
Technician Plus - decrease of 106,054
General - increase of 30,003
Advanced - decrease of 33,665
Extra - increase of 32,986

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 19,687

Total all classes - decrease of 18,776

>From May 14, 2000, to November 12, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 28,540
Technician - increase of 86,654
Technician Plus - decrease of 106,538
General - increase of 29,819
Advanced - decrease of 33,884
Extra - increase of 32,983

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 19,884

Total all classes - decrease of 19,506

>From May 14, 2000, to November 25, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 28,663
Technician - increase of 87,292
Technician Plus - decrease of 106,986
General - increase of 29,773
Advanced - decrease of 34,084
Extra - increase of 33,010

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 19,694

Total all classes - decrease of 19,658

>From February 22, 2007, to November 1, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 1,980
Technician - decrease of 1,747
Technician Plus - decrease of 8,012
General - increase of 12,542
Advanced - decrease of 2,933
Extra - increase of 3,466

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 9,759

Total all classes - increase of 1336

>From February 22, 2007, to November 12, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 2,107
Technician - decrease of 1,460
Technician Plus - decrease of 8,496
General - increase of 12,358
Advanced - decrease of 3,152
Extra - increase of 3,463

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 9,956

Total all classes - increase of 606

>From February 22, 2007, to November 25, 2007:

Novice - decrease of 2,230
Technician - decrease of 822
Technician Plus - decrease of 8,944
General - increase of 12,312
Advanced - decrease of 3,352
Extra - increase of 3,490

Total Tech/TechPlus - decrease of 9,766

Total all classes - increase of 454

73 de Jim, N2EY

1928. Re: Followup on my Tech class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-04 20:36:10 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13lbehe672ng27@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3537

Richard Crowley wrote:
> "Steve Bonine" wrote ...
>> I found that I could cover two of the sub-elements from the pool in a bit
>> over two hours and had time to present general background information and
>> also go over the specific pool questions.
>>
>> I was reasonably satisfied with how the presentation broke out in terms of
>> covering concepts and reviewing specific pool questions. We had time to
>> do both, and I felt that both were valuable to the students.
>
> Thanks for the followup report. Do you have an outline or
> teacher's notes that you could share with others who want
> to do a similar project?

All the materials that I used in the class are available at
http://www.beebear.com/RadioClass/

I quickly admit that there is very little original material there. I
used material that is available on the net from several sources, adding
my own flavor. I apologize for a lack of instructor notes (like the
100-foot extension cord and the paddle/keyer used as instructive aides)
but it never occurred to me that anyone would ask. If anyone wants the
actual source presentations (there are PDFs on the web site) drop me an
email.

73, Steve KB9X
(Also known as "BeeBear", as you might guess from the URL)

1929. Re: Licensee Numbers Over Nine Months

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-05 15:28:14 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fj6cgpfkg1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3538

AF6AY wrote:
> Based on the period of 3 March 2007 to 3 December 2007, the US
> amateur radio individual licensee totals have changed as follows:
>
> New: 20,901 Expired: 19,739
>
> Compared to an averaged 9 month period prior to 3 March 2007:*
>
> New: 16,957 Expired: 21,822

> In short, nothing much has happened to numbers, no significant
> changes either way. Class changes are another matter. All data
> obtained from www.hamdata.com FCC Information page.

Interesting numbers, Len

We have a continuation of the dropoff of (almost certainly) inactive Hams. Not too surprising there, if a person subscribes to the idea that a lot of folks who once used 2 meters as a sort of "pre cell phone cell phone" had migrated over to cell phones to get their communication needs taken care of.

I think that that will continue until around 2009-10.

The number that I think is most important is the new license numbers. People are still getting licenses, and at a healthy rate.

- 73 de Mike N3LI -

1930. Re: Licensee Numbers Over Nine Months

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-05 16:47:22 UTC
From: N2EY@aol.com
Message-ID: <bee3b054-8d1d-4ea1-9361-d31412aa1b41@s36g2000prg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3539

On Dec 4, 1:02 am, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:

> Based on the period of 3 March 2007 to 3 December 2007, the US
> amateur radio individual licensee totals have changed as follows:
>
> New: 20,901 Expired: 19,739
>
> Compared to an averaged 9 month period prior to 3 March 2007:*
>
> New: 16,957 Expired: 21,822
>
> The total number of individual licensees was 711,175 on 3 Mar 07
> and that changed to 711,892 on 3 Dec 07 for a net gain of 717 in
> nine months.

The above numbers include licenses which have expired but are in the 2
year grace period. AF6AY is using the term "expired" in a different
way than FCC defines it. Hamdata.com avoids the confusion by using the
phrase "no longer licensed".

>That is a 0.1% growth rate.

> In short, nothing much has happened to numbers, no significant
> changes either way.

IMHO, it is significant that the license numbers were slowly
decreasing from 2003 to 2007, and are now slowly increasing. The
growth may be slight but at least it is not a loss.

> Class changes are another matter.

Let's take a look:

Using the number of unexpired current licenses held by individuals
(not including those in the grace period) the license class changes
expressed as a percentage of the total number of licenses from Feb 22
2007 to Nov 25 2007 are as follows:

Novice: decreased from 3.5% to 3.2% - loss of 0.3%
Technician: decreased from 44.8% to 44.7% - loss of 0.1%
Technician Plus: decreased from 4.7% to 3.3% - loss of 1.4%
General: increased from 19.9% to 21.7% - gain of 1.8%
Advanced: decreased from 10.5% to 10.0% - loss of 0.5%
Extra: increased from 16.5% to 17.1% - gain of 0.6%

Combined Tech/Tech Plus: decreased from 49.5% to 48.0% - loss of 1.5%.

Since no new Novice, Tech Plus or Advanced licenses have been issued since April 2007, their declines due to attrition, upgrading and the renewal of all Tech Plus as Technician are to be expected. Note that none of the license classes experienced a change of more than 1.8%, and most experienced changes of less than 0.7%.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1931. Re: Grounding my HF radio equipment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-05 23:48:24 UTC
From: "Tom Horne, Electrician" <hornetd@mindspring.com>
Message-ID: <13lebk2sa9rquec@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3540

konstans wrote:
> <kelly@dvol.com> wrote in message
> news:c15faef4-3961-42fd-866b-4c2c1d8c8c81@d4g2000prg.googlegroups.com...
>> On Nov 27, 8:46 pm, Dave Heil <k...@frontiernet.net> wrote:
>>> James Barrett wrote:
>
>> But somewhere along the line somebody in the ham groups stated that
>> the National Electrical Code states that there shall be one and *only
>> one* grounding point per power drop and the neighborhood code cops and
>> the insurance companies reportedly get stiff about it.
>
> the NEC refering only to the household AC wring(soon hopefully to DC circuts
>
> at least according to the local electrical inspector
>
> our system for RF are another affair all together
>
> the inspector also aprooves the use if desired of seperate eletectal ground
> when service of more than one voltage and/ot freq is ainvolved
>
> in my case I have a houshold from the ower company enterance a seprate
> gorund for my various solar and wind systems 12-48 v DCdepending on the
> location plus the seperate Ground from my station
>
> most inspector in my experence would rather our rf system were not grounded
> in to the mais ground since they don't uderstand RF at all
>
>

Any electrical contractor will tell you that not all electrical inspectors are well educated or trained. Ive had electrical inspectors state a preference for plastic boxes in a run of metallic conduit or cable. What those inspectors preferred was a direct violation of the National Electrical Code. I've had electrical inspectors try to order me to make a grounding connection in the meter enclosure which was totally unacceptable to the power utility and is not required by the NEC. I've had an electrical inspector fail my installation because I had made the Grounding Electrode Conductor connection to the service entry neutral conductor drip loop to comply with the requirements of the legacy Rural Electrification Administration (REA) power cooperative service standards even though the National Electrical Code specifically permits that location to be used.

What the electrical inspector may prefer may be directly adverse to your best interest. Bond all of your Grounding Electrodes together even if

your have to wait until after the electrical inspection to do so.
--
Tom Horne

"This alternating current stuff is just a fad. It is much too dangerous for general use." Thomas Alva Edison

1932. Re: Grounding my HF radio equipment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-05 23:48:46 UTC
From: "Tom Horne, Electrician" <hornetd@mindspring.com>
Message-ID: <13lebsbp0vnphe2@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3541

kelly@dvol.com wrote:
> On Nov 29, 9:39 pm, dpl...@radagast.org (Dave Platt) wrote:
>> In article <c15faef4-3961-42fd-866b-4c2c1d8c8...@d4g2000prg.googlegroups.com>,
> . . . . .
>>> So is it legal to connect a phalanx of ham station ground rods to the
>>> service entrance ground?? Or not.
>> As I understand it, according to the NEC, you must have only one
>> grounding *system* per building. This system may include two or more
>> ground rods, and/or a bare grounding wire buried in a trench around
>> the outside of the building. The ground rods and wires must be
>> securely bonded together with heavy-gauge wire... that's what ensures
>> that it's all one grounding "system".
> . . . . . .
>
> Makes complete sense and answers my basic question. Thank you David.
>
> I have five 8' ground rods already installed with more coming. All of
> them will be bonded together with about 100' of #8 bare solid copper.
>
> Let's try one more: This place is a "This Old House" type abode. There
> is no basement and no visible service entrance ground rod. There's a
> tight dirt crawl space under the place which I'm not about to even try
> to wiggle and squirm through to find the power wiring ground
> connection. If there is a ground it's the 3/4" copper water supply
> line from the street which pops up somewhere in the crawl space per
> normal practice in days of yore around here. I know for a fact that
> it's an old ~80' 100% copper line, not plastic. On the other hand the
> service entrance panel box is quite accessible. Would it be OK if I
> connected my ham grounding system to the neutral/ground bus in the
> panel box instead of to the water line??
>> --
>> Dave Platt <dpl...@radagast.org> AE6EO
>
> w3rv
>

It is not necessary to bring your bonding conductor to the inside of the
panel cabinet. Bonding it to the cabinet itself is sufficient. If any
portion of the Grounding Electrode Conductor is accessible then that is
the best place to connect your inter electrode bonding conductor.
--
Tom Horne

"This alternating current stuff is just a fad. It is much too dangerous
for general use." Thomas Alva Edison

1933. Re: Licensee Numbers Over Nine Months

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-06 00:33:13 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns99FDC3C619CAEmcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 3542

N2EY@aol.com wrote in news:bee3b054-8d1d-4ea1-9361-d31412aa1b41
@s36g2000prg.googlegroups.com:
>
>>That is a 0.1% growth rate.
>
>> In short, nothing much has happened to numbers, no significant
>> changes either way.
>
> IMHO, it is significant that the license numbers were slowly
> decreasing from 2003 to 2007, and are now slowly increasing. The
> growth may be slight but at least it is not a loss.

The decrease in license numbers at that time very well might have been due to the uncertainty of the demise of element 1. I know several new hams that waited for it to go away.

- 73 de Mike N3LI -

1934. Re: Licensee Numbers Over Nine Months

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-06 02:13:14 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <c3048677-bf98-450d-a84e-806c150e0c7e@s8g2000prg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3543

Michael Coslo posted on Wed, 5 Dec 2007 10:28:14 EST

>Interesting numbers, Len
>
>We have a continuation of the dropoff of (almost certainly) inactive
>Hams. Not too surprising there, if a person subscribes to the idea that
>a lot of folks who once used 2 meters as a sort of "pre cell phone cell
>phone" had migrated over to cell phones to get their communication needs
>taken care of.
>
>I think that that will continue until around 2009-10.

Mike, I wasn't presupposing any reasons for individuals to let their
licenses expire. Expirations are expirations. There's no proof or
anything else that all or some majority expirations come from
Technician class (the ones that supposedly used 2m as a cell
phone substitute).

I used www.hamdata.com primarily because that website does sort
out new licensees and expirations from the huge singular daily amateur
radio license database available from the FCC. QRZ and some other
amateur-oriented websites do different sorting. The ARRL website
listing only has sorting by 'active' license status, class, and state
or
province, does not indicate 'new' nor expiration nor class changes nor
'other administrative changes.'

ALL of these amateur-oriented statistical data services come from
the SAME public database information. That database contains
enough sub-data fields to derive all kinds of sorting. Some of that
sorting would require temporary storage of past database information
to show changes. The ARRL sorting is perhaps the simplest kind
since it requires no storage of previous database information, taking
only the 'active' individuals licensees out and sorting them by
license
class and geographical locations.

>The number that I think is most important is the new license numbers.
>People are still getting licenses, and at a healthy rate.

Well, at a 0.1% growth rate over 9 months, 'healthy' would be a
rather subjective descriptor, wouldn't it? :-)

At least they are INCREASING what was a LOSS rate, not a growth.
In the year prior to 3 March 2007 the number of expirations was
29,096 versus newcomer total of 22,605. That's a negative delta of

6,487. The positive delta over 9 months since 3 March 2007 was only 1,162 (20,901 newcomers v. 19,739 expirations).

Not having the exact statistical breakdown of any licensee numbers insofar as 9 months prior to 3 March 2007, I simply used the One Year prior available numbers and did simple arithmetic (multiply by 3/4) to find a comparative change of newcomer v. expirations. That turned out to be 21,822 expirations v. 16,957 newcomers, still a negative delta and a 4,865 average drop to total licensees in the same 9 months. In probability and speculation, without the elimination of the code test as ordered on 19 December 2006 (R&O FCC 06-178), the total licensee numbers would still be decreasing.

What would be more indicative of 'health' might be a more detailed sorting of public database information as to newcomers achieving what class license as their first. As a part of that, it would be nice
to see how many and from which class does a license class change within some time period. That seems to me to be more indicative of newcomers interest and the probable future of amateur radio in the USA once normal human attrition has taken care of the rest of us. If that probable future turns out to be different than what the devotees of the 60s and 70s newcomers did, then it is just different.
Such difference in perference would not be a 'moral flaw' of newcomers despite what some boomer-generation-newcomer licensees express now.

The future of USA amateur radio belongs to the newcomers of now. I think that the relatively minor number of existing licensees who ARE doing things for newcomers, such as Steve Bonine described in another thread here, are an EXCELLENT example of what should be done...positive steps, proactive steps to help, not hinder newcomers.

73, Len AF6AY

1935. Re: Licensee Numbers Over Nine Months

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-06 15:17:51 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13lg4jq8b5cnp4c@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3544

AF6AY wrote:

> The future of USA amateur radio belongs to the newcomers of now.
> I think that the relatively minor number of existing licensees who
> ARE doing things for newcomers, such as Steve Bonine described
> in another thread here, are an EXCELLENT example of what should
> be done...positive steps, proactive steps to help, not hinder
> newcomers.

I appreciate the kind words, Len, but I think that we all need to realize that the ham radio hobby as we know it is changing. Of course, that's no different than at any time in the past, since ham radio today is different in many respects than ham radio of previous generations. Like any other technology-driven activity, things have changed and will continue to change. Can you imagine how amazed someone from the spark-gap era would be if they were transported into today's world with its tiny multi-function DC-to-light transceivers? [And just as if to underscore how common that technology has become, when I misspelled "transceiver", my email client underlined it for me, and provided the correct spelling.]

There is, however, an aspect of change these days that is different than what the hobby has ever experienced, and it's related to the topic of this thread. The reality is that during the next decades the number of active ham radio operators is going to decrease. We can massage the numbers and wring our hands, but there are two absolute facts that we cannot change: (1) The ham population is aging, (2) The general population is less interested in ham radio than before.

Perhaps some are unwilling to accept the second statement as a fact, but I think you're deluding yourself if so. Historically, most recruits into the hobby came from young folks, and this demographic is simply not as fascinated by radio as in the past -- they have many alternatives vying for their spare time. We are getting more middle-aged and retiree recruits than ever before, but even this population has many potential ways to spend their spare time and ham radio has to compete.

But the big item is the current age of the ham radio population and the fact that the same forces that are competing for spare time in the general population apply to already-licensed hams. Analysis of number of hams licensed is valuable but it doesn't tell the whole story. How many licensed hams have gone inactive? There's no way license numbers can tell us, but there are other statistics that do shed a little light on it. I'm thinking about things like the number of entries in contests, or the number of voters in ARRL elections. The problem with these statistics is that they measure only one very narrow segment of

the hobby, but at least they're not falling off significantly. Yet.

I apologize for rambling, but the point is that I believe that the number of active hams will decline significantly sometime in the next 10-20 years. I base this on what I see at hamfests (the ones that haven't already folded), club meetings, and on the air -- almost all the active hams I run into are at least 50 years old, and many are 70-80 years old. These guys (yes, almost all are male) simply will not be active hams in 10-20 years. The best of recruiting cannot balance this single fact.

On the other hand, I'm not sure that there's anything specific to be done based on a belief that the number of active hams will decline. Our local club is considering going from monthly meetings to quarterly meetings; I don't think that's a good idea but it's the sort of thing that we may see more of in the years to come. Maybe if we recognize the reality of a shrinking active-ham population, we can come up with logical and realistic reactions.

73, Steve KB9X

1936. Re: Licensee Numbers Over Nine Months

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-06 18:32:38 UTC
From: N2EY@aol.com
Message-ID: <66945b15-9a3d-4147-82ce-a6ace4cdfdd7@a35g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3545

On Dec 5, 9:13 pm, AF6AY <LenAnder...@ieee.org> wrote:

> What would be more indicative of 'health' might be a more detailed
> sorting of public database information as to newcomers achieving
> what class license as their first.

How would that indicate the 'health' of amateur radio, Len?

Whenever multiple entry-level license classes have been offered in the USA, most newcomers have usually chosen the license class or classes that were easiest to earn. That way they could sample amateur radio without a big investment of time and effort, and learn-by-doing.

Of course some newcomers have bypassed the easiest-to-get license classes and started out as Generals, Advanceds or Extras. Nothing wrong with that, but how is it a measure of the 'health' of amateur radio?

> Such difference in perference would not be a 'moral flaw' of
> newcomers despite what some boomer-generation-newcomer
> licensees express now.

What does that mean, Len? Of whom do you speak?

> The future of USA amateur radio belongs to the newcomers of now.

But not just to the newcomers.

The future of USA amateur radio belongs to all who are interested and active in amateur radio, regardless of age, experience, license class, or their particular area of interest in amateur radio. Simply being a long-time-licensed amateur does not make someone irrelevant to the future of amateur radio.

> I think that the relatively minor number of existing licensees who
> ARE doing things for newcomers, such as Steve Bonine described
> in another thread here, are an EXCELLENT example of what should
> be done...positive steps, proactive steps to help, not hinder
> newcomers.

I agree that KB9X has done and is doing good things. But I think the number of "existing licensees who are doing things for newcomers" isn't minor at all.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1937. Re: Licensee Numbers Over Nine Months

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-06 18:33:22 UTC
From: N2EY@aol.com
Message-ID: <e9d7762f-8df2-4a74-ae15-86fc91aebdb4@a39g2000pre.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3546

On Dec 5, 7:33 pm, Mike Coslo <mco...@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:
> N...@aol.com wrote in news:bee3b054-8d1d-4ea1-9361-d31412aa1b41
> @s36g2000prg.googlegroups.com:

> > IMHO, it is significant that the license numbers were slowly
> > decreasing from 2003 to 2007, and are now slowly increasing. The
> > growth may be slight but at least it is not a loss.
>
> The decrease in license numbers at that time very well might have been due
> to the uncertainty of the demise of element 1. I know several new hams
> that waited for it to go away.

Interesting theory! I know at least one ham who waited for Element 1
to go away, too.

If there's the possibility that the "price" of something will drop in
the near future, "sales" of that item often drop as people decide to
wait and see.

The number of US hams rose from early 2000 to mid-2003, then began to
decline almost exactly when the ITU treaty changed.

But correlation is not causation. There are any number of possible
reasons for the changes, ranging from sunspot decline to economic
factors to inexpensive cell phones and broadband internet.

The big question is whether the growth will continue long-term.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1938. Re: Licensee Numbers Over Nine Months

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-07 02:23:53 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns99FED9AD61D07mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 3547

Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> wrote in
news:13lg4jq8b5cnp4c@news.supernews.com:

> AF6AY wrote:
>
>> The future of USA amateur radio belongs to the newcomers of now.
>> I think that the relatively minor number of existing licensees who
>> ARE doing things for newcomers, such as Steve Bonine described
>> in another thread here, are an EXCELLENT example of what should
>> be done...positive steps, proactive steps to help, not hinder
>> newcomers.
>
> I appreciate the kind words, Len, but I think that we all need to
> realize that the ham radio hobby as we know it is changing. Of
> course, that's no different than at any time in the past, since ham
> radio today is different in many respects than ham radio of previous
> generations. Like any other technology-driven activity, things have
> changed and will continue to change. Can you imagine how amazed
> someone from the spark-gap era would be if they were transported into
> today's world with its tiny multi-function DC-to-light transceivers?
> [And just as if to underscore how common that technology has become,
> when I misspelled "transceiver", my email client underlined it for me,
> and provided the correct spelling.]
>
> There is, however, an aspect of change these days that is different
> than what the hobby has ever experienced, and it's related to the
> topic of this thread. The reality is that during the next decades the
> number of active ham radio operators is going to decrease. We can
> massage the numbers and wring our hands, but there are two absolute
> facts that we cannot change: (1) The ham population is aging, (2) The
> general population is less interested in ham radio than before.
>
> Perhaps some are unwilling to accept the second statement as a fact,
>but I think you're deluding yourself if so. Historically, most
>recruits
> into the hobby came from young folks, and this demographic is simply
> not as fascinated by radio as in the past -- they have many
> alternatives vying for their spare time.

In my area in the past two months, we have picked up dozens of new
amateurs who are in their late teens/early 20's. That is a surge,
normally we pick up a few per month. But we have no problems with
expecting plenety of QCWA members 25 years from now.

> We are getting more middle-aged and retiree
> recruits than ever before, but even this population has many potential
> ways to spend their spare time and ham radio has to compete.

We have been getting some oldsters too. The amount they spend per capita is shocking at times, and their enthusiasm and willingness to get involved is a great help.

The concept of the child getting their license is over rated IMO. And these days and in this world, a child siomply could not get much of the experience available. I remember when I was a young'un, friends and mysel hiking up the hill to the fellow who had the cool CB station with a tower and one of those directional three pronged verticals on it. We spent hours with the gent, happy and safe.

These days if you are going to spend time with youth, you'd better have a person with you and have passed one of the State Police background investigations. An approved escort should be with the child at all events.

> I apologize for rambling, but the point is that I believe that the
> number of active hams will decline significantly sometime in the next
> 10-20 years. I base this on what I see at hamfests (the ones that
> haven't already folded), club meetings, and on the air -- almost all

I've been in the hamfest discussion, with older Hams, newer ones, and I've come to the conclusion that a large part of the reason that Hamfests go away is that they start too early and end WAY too early also.

These days if you get to a Hamfest at 11:00 a.m. you might as well forget even going. I've seen people starting the teardown process at 9:30.

Looking at getting to a Hamfest at say 6:30 a.m., there is a "circle of opportunity" where a person decides just how early they are willing to get up and travel. The closest decent sized Hamfests to here are Timonium MD and Breezeshooters in Butler. Timonium is around 3 hours, and Butler is a little over 2. So if I go to Timonium, I look forward to getting up at 3 in the morning. Add an hour of sleep for Butler. THe first couple years I was licensed, I would get up at that time - or more likely just not go to sleep Saturday night.But I think hard about it now. Those early start and end times severely limit the geography limits of attendance.

> On the other hand, I'm not sure that there's anything specific to be
> done based on a belief that the number of active hams will decline.

> Our local club is considering going from monthly meetings to
> quarterly
> meetings; I don't think that's a good idea but it's the sort of thing
> that we may see more of in the years to come. Maybe if we recognize
> the reality of a shrinking active-ham population, we can come up with
> logical and realistic reactions.

Respectully, I'm not really sure that another opinion on this subject is being unrealistic though.

We have been doing a 2 percent increase in the local ham population (not counting that recent surge) when newcomers/attrition is factored in. Club membership is up over 10 percent. (2006-07 stats)

I know that a lot of Hams are pessimistic about the future. We even have a few club members who figure that the service will die out in a few years, and have all kinds of reasons for that. A number of us decided that we were going to prove them wrong, and at least for the moment we are doing just that. We instituted a no wheedling and whining policy, a welcoming attitude toward the new guys and gals, gentle encouragement to upgrade, lots of social events - every other Saturday breakfasts, Wednesday evening very informal dinners, every other Saturday club shack get togethers, 4 big socials during the year. Contesting, trips to Ham radio stores. Only problem is some of the XYL's are starting to complain that their OM's need to spend a bit of time at home too. And we're all having a blast.

- 73 de Mike N3LI -

1939. Re: Licensee Numbers Over Nine Months

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-07 05:49:18 UTC
From: AF6AY <LenAnderson@ieee.org>
Message-ID: <49d9ce96-e46a-407c-91b5-685e172a2466@a39g2000pre.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3548

Steve Bonine <s...@pobox.com> posted on Thu, 6 Dec 2007 10:17:51 EST:

>I appreciate the kind words, Len, but I think that we all need to
>realize that the ham radio hobby as we know it is changing. Of course,
>that's no different than at any time in the past, since ham radio today
>is different in many respects than ham radio of previous generations.
>Like any other technology-driven activity, things have changed and will
>continue to change. Can you imagine how amazed someone from the
>spark-gap era would be if they were transported into today's world with
>its tiny multi-function DC-to-light transceivers? [And just as if to
>underscore how common that technology has become, when I misspelled
>"transceiver", my email client underlined it for me, and provided the
>correct spelling.]

Well, the comparison isn't limited to going all the way back to the
spark-gap transmitter era of the 1920s. Just compare it to the
amateur
radio equipment of 1957. Only the adaptations of commercial radio
done for the amateur radio market could accurately read to within
(maybe) a hundred cycles (think Collins Radio as the best example
then). SSB AM hadn't yet reached mainstream on HF and on-off keying
CW of chains of vacuum tubes were the order of the day. RTTY was rare
and packet unheard of, even the word 'data' hadn't become a generic to
embrace all the various 'digital' modes. In fact, 'digital' was
itself hardly used, limited to nerd-geek programmers of mainframe
computers. :-)

Personal computers just didn't exist as common items of communications
before 1970, just 37 years ago. The Bulletin Board Systems weren't
there except in planning by a very few in 1975, just 32 years ago.
BBSs were the precursor to the Internet and they flourished in the
decade of approximately 1982 to 1992, became
widely popular among personal computer hobbyists and devotees. The
Internet became public in 1991, just 16 years ago, and that changed
the fabric of society in the USA considerably more than personal radio
(including amateur) had ever done. Solid-state devices had an
enormous impact in almost all areas of electronics, including amateur
radio. I see that as a very positive impact on advancement
in all states of the electronics-radio art. A few still openly long
for the old ways when things were 'simpler.'

Tagline: "When I was young we whittled our own ICs out of wood!" :-)

>There is, however, an aspect of change these days that is different than
>what the hobby has ever experienced, and it's related to the topic of
>this thread. The reality is that during the next decades the number of

>active ham radio operators is going to decrease. We can massage the
>numbers and wring our hands, but there are two absolute facts that we
>cannot change: (1) The ham population is aging, (2) The general
>population is less interested in ham radio than before.

Heh heh, pardon my chuckling...if I had said the same thing before
2007 (and I have) the reaction would have been severe on Usenet. :-)

>Perhaps some are unwilling to accept the second statement as a fact, but
>I think you're deluding yourself if so. Historically, most recruits
>into the hobby came from young folks, and this demographic is simply not
>as fascinated by radio as in the past -- they have many alternatives
>vying for their spare time. We are getting more middle-aged and retiree
>recruits than ever before, but even this population has many potential
>ways to spend their spare time and ham radio has to compete.

I have to admit that my case is a rarity and don't put myself up as
any example to emulate. :-) I was already retired 9 years (at least
from regular hours) when I became an alleged 'beginner' in radio with
an amateur radio license. :-) [that was done on approximately the
51st anniversary of getting my first FCC license...which was done 4
years after I had entered military communications...:-)]

>But the big item is the current age of the ham radio population and the
>fact that the same forces that are competing for spare time in the
>general population apply to already-licensed hams. Analysis of number
>of hams licensed is valuable but it doesn't tell the whole story.

True enough, but such statistics are about the only thing available
and
are derived from public databases by the only agency that grants
amateur radio licenses in the USA.

>How many licensed hams have gone inactive?

Careful, Steve, you can start a whole new argument on using 'active'
or
'inactive.' In the legal sense of licensing 'active' is used to
describe if
a licensee is within their 10-year grant term and has not entered the
2-
year grace period. To ordinary folk, the word 'active' is commonly
used
for someone who is engaged in some activity currently with only minor
pauses to do other things currently. 'Inactive' to ordinary folk
would
mean a rather full stoppage of an activity.

>There's no way license numbers
>can tell us, but there are other statistics that do shed a little light
>on it. I'm thinking about things like the number of entries in
>contests, or the number of voters in ARRL elections. The problem with
>these statistics is that they measure only one very narrow segment of

>the hobby, but at least they're not falling off significantly. Yet.

One might look to the market for amateur radio goods as a 'minor' indicator also...and that would be in the number of visible advertisements in the few amateur radio interest publications. Those were already diminishing in 1990, 17 years ago. The appearance of intense interest is kept alive in QST as an example, but that is a membership magazine and sounding board for the ARRL. The size and quality of the only real independent competitor in monthlies is CQ and it has shrunk in the last two decades. Popular Communications is an independent but it also caters to other radio interests, not just amateur radio.

>On the other hand, I'm not sure that there's anything specific to be
>done based on a belief that the number of active hams will decline. Our
>local club is considering going from monthly meetings to quarterly
>meetings; I don't think that's a good idea but it's the sort of thing
>that we may see more of in the years to come. Maybe if we recognize the
>reality of a shrinking active-ham population, we can come up with
>logical and realistic reactions.

My opinion is that I don't see any 'logical' or 'realistic' things to come
out of these discussion forums. It's (to me) just a lot of personal expression, a window into what different folk think. A lot of commentary is based on what individuals want to see and such want things to continue in ways they like personally. Their 'reactions' have, by lots of visible proof, been severely negative to anyone proposing changes. :-) What I can see happening logically and realistically is individuals (such as yourself) doing things on an
active basis and looking ahead to a more realistic probable future for the hobby. Trends have already begun and those show more changes ahead.

Tagline: "Today is the tomorrow you worried about yesterday." :-)

73, Len AF6AY

1940. Re: Licensee Numbers Over Nine Months

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-07 05:50:05 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13lhibpteupm0b4@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3549

Mike Coslo wrote:
> Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> wrote:

> In my area in the past two months, we have picked up dozens of new
> amateurs who are in their late teens/early 20's. That is a surge,
> normally we pick up a few per month. But we have no problems with
> expecting plenety of QCWA members 25 years from now.
...
> We have been getting some oldsters too. The amount they spend per
> capita is shocking at times, and their enthusiasm and willingness to
> get involved is a great help.
...
> Respectully, I'm not really sure that another opinion on this subject is
> being unrealistic though.

Nope. I concede that my opinion is based on anecdotal information based on what *I* see. Maybe I'm doing something wrong, or not doing something right, but I'm sure not seeing the same influx that you are, here in my area.

> We have been doing a 2 percent increase in the local ham population (not
> counting that recent surge) when newcomers/attrition is factored in.
> Club membership is up over 10 percent. (2006-07 stats)

I'm glad to hear it. Really.

> I know that a lot of Hams are pessimistic about the future. We even have
> a few club members who figure that the service will die out in a few
> years, and have all kinds of reasons for that. A number of us decided
> that we were going to prove them wrong, and at least for the moment we
> are doing just that. We instituted a no wheedling and whining policy, a
> welcoming attitude toward the new guys and gals, gentle encouragement to
> upgrade, lots of social events - every other Saturday breakfasts,
> Wednesday evening very informal dinners, every other Saturday club shack
> get togethers, 4 big socials during the year. Contesting, trips to Ham
> radio stores. Only problem is some of the XYL's are starting to complain
> that their OM's need to spend a bit of time at home too. And we're all
> having a blast.

That's good, and I wish I could emulate your methods and get your results. But I think that the key words in the above paragraph are "a number of us". Maybe I can find some enthusiasm in the local area, but so far I've had little luck doing so. Perhaps the difference is urban area versus rural area.

1941. Re: Grounding my HF radio equipment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-07 20:19:23 UTC
From: kelly@dvol.com
Message-ID: <8e6a971e-2007-4c89-91db-c2be3f75169b@a35g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3550

On Dec 5, 6:48 pm, "Tom Horne, Electrician" <horn...@mindspring.com>
wrote:
> ke...@dvol.com wrote:

<snip>

> > Let's try one more: This place is a "This Old House" type abode. There
> > is no basement and no visible service entrance ground rod. There's a
> > tight dirt crawl space under the place which I'm not about to even try
> > to wiggle and squirm through to find the power wiring ground
> > connection. If there is a ground it's the 3/4" copper water supply
> > line from the street which pops up somewhere in the crawl space per
> > normal practice in days of yore around here. I know for a fact that
> > it's an old ~80' 100% copper line, not plastic. On the other hand the
> > service entrance panel box is quite accessible. Would it be OK if I
> > connected my ham grounding system to the neutral/ground bus in the
> > panel box instead of to the water line??
> >> --

>
> > w3rv
>
> It is not necessary to bring your bonding conductor to the inside of the
> panel cabinet. Bonding it to the cabinet itself is sufficient.

I would have thought that would'nt be kosher. Good info
> If any
> portion of the Grounding Electrode Conductor is accessible then that is
> the best place to connect your inter electrode bonding conductor.

Roger that.

Thanks Dave.

> --
> Tom Horne
>
> "This alternating current stuff is just a fad. It is much too dangerous
> for general use." Thomas Alva Edison

Many yeards ago I read an article which stated that back in World War
One days President Wilson convened an advisory council composed of a
number of prominent Americans from different fields. Edison was a
member. Somebody suggested that Einstein would make a good addition to
the group. Edison's comment was something like "Somebody like Einstein
might be handy to have around in case somethimg needs to be figured
out."

w3rv

1942. Re: Licensee Numbers Over Nine Months

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-08 00:04:29 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fjcbs4$14mu$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3451

Steve Bonine wrote:

> That's good, and I wish I could emulate your methods and get your
> results. But I think that the key words in the above paragraph are "a
> number of us". Maybe I can find some enthusiasm in the local area, but
> so far I've had little luck doing so. Perhaps the difference is urban
> area versus rural area.

It did take some enthusiastic people. One person is not enough, although one person can start the hunt for a few more.

- 73 de Mike N3LI -

1943. Any good ham Fleamarkest in So Calif Dec 15 or 16th?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-09 01:13:11 UTC
From: w1gsl@mit.edu
Message-ID: <475b3c45$0$502$b45e6eb0@senator-bedfellow.mit.edu>
Source record: 3452

I'm likley to be on the left coast next weekend.
Any good fleas?

I see 3 monthly ones, on an old list, for the third weekend..

Santee El Cajon ARC
Pomona Microwave Relay Assn
Chino Hills

Are they still real?
Relative merits?

73 Steve F
W1GSL

****
Steve Finberg W1GSL w1gsl@mit.edu
PO Box 397082 MIT Br Cambridge MA 02139-7082 617 258 3754
****

1944. Re: Any good ham Fleamarkest in So Calif Dec 15 or 16th?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-09 02:51:07 UTC
From: The Shadow <Cranston@CobaltClub.com>
Message-ID: <gZH6j.2358$mF1.844@newsfe08.phx>
Source record: 3453

"Steven L. Finberg" <w1gsl@mit.edu> wrote in message
news:475b3c45$0$502$b45e6eb0@senator-bedfellow.mit.edu...
> I'm likley to be on the left coast next weekend.
> Any good fleas?
>
> I see 3 monthly ones, on an old list, for the third weekend..
>
> Santee El Cajon ARC
> Pomona Microwave Relay Assn
> Chino Hills
>
> Are they still real?
> Relative merits?
>
> 73 Steve F
> W1GSL
>
> **
> Steve Finberg W1GSL
> w1gsl@mit.edu
> PO Box 397082 MIT Br Cambridge MA 02139-7082 617 258
> 3754
> **
>
>
See the AC6V Web Site for places to phone or e-mail or check websites for
fleamarkets in SOCAL
http://ac6v.com/sdswap.htm#sdswap

Don't know how current the info is but there are some contact points you can
make.
Relative merits are in the eye of the beholder (:-)
Have heard some comments about lots of computer stuff.

Lamont

1945. Re: Grounding my HF radio equipment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-10 01:45:30 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <475c9503$0$312$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 3454

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

In <8e6a971e-2007-4c89-91db-c2be3f75169b@a35g2000prf.googlegroups.com> kelly@dvol.com writes:

[...]

>Many yeards ago I read an article which stated that back in World War
>One days President Wilson convened an advisory council composed of a
>number of prominent Americans from different fields. Edison was a
>member. Somebody suggested that Einstein would make a good addition to
>the group. Edison's comment was something like "Somebody like Einstein
>might be handy to have around in case somethimg needs to be figured
>out."

>w3rv

Sounds like an interesting story. No disrespect intended if I say that it sounds apocryphal, though many credulous-sounding stories do sometimes actually turn out to be true (see http://www.snopes.com for the straight skinny on many of them). Perhaps the basic back-story is true, but with one or more different players (see below).

This one caught my eye, as someone who has a passing interest in American history from formal education in school, later personal reading of biographies by David McCullough, Steven Ambrose, etc., and from additional training that many Americans get: specifically, from watching hundreds of episodes of the game show "Jeopardy" :-).

I was wondering if someone else with more expertise in the subject had some additional insight. Googling around doesn't seem to demonstrate that the story is true, nor does it demonstrate that the story is untrue. One thing that makes me suspicious is that for these three men (Wilson, Edison, Einstein) to have knowledge of one another in the way that the story suggests, their timelines, particularly the periods during which they were famous in the United States, would have had to significantly overlap.

President Woodrow Wilson lived from 1856 to 1924 and served as President from 1913 to 1917.

Thomas Edison lived from 1847 to 1931, and generally became famous as an inventor after the invention of the phonograph in 1877.

Albert Einstein lived from 1879 to 1955, became well-known among physicists sometime during his famous, and initially controversial,

research published from 1905 to 1915, won the Nobel Prize in 1921, visited the U.S. shortly afterwards, and eventually became well-known among most Americans (including Presidents) sometime after he emigrated to the U.S. in 1932, certainly sometime during or after World War II.

Some points to ponder:

- An early 20th Century U.S. President like Wilson might have been aware of American winners of the Nobel prize, but might he have been made aware of a still relatively obscure German/Swiss physicist before he left office in 1917, pre-Nobel?

- Even if we assume that the President was Warren Harding (who was close to Thomas Edison, even camping out with him in Maryland during his presidency:

http://www.ohiochannel.org/your_state/collections/collection/details.cfm?collection_id=78985&file_id=81864

Harding only served briefly from 1921 to 1923. A better match would be Herbert Hoover, who clearly was aware of Albert Einstein:

http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/index.php?pid=22068

and served during the time that Thomas Edison was still alive:

http://teachpol.tcnj.edu/amer_pol_hist/thumbnail341.html

- Hoover's successor, Franklin Delano Roosevelt (FDR), only became president in 1933, two years after Edison died in 1931.

- Thomas Edison was a great inventor, but an individual without much formal education. Would he have necessarily been aware of what was going on in a theoretical academic field like Physics before 1917, and before Einstein had even done recognized works in that field? Recall that the General Theory of Relativity, published in 1915, was not widely accepted until years later, his Nobel Prize was for the Photoelectric Effect, and as a resident of one of the countries in the Central Powers (opposing the U.S., France, and the UK during WWI), his work would be censored from international publication during most of Wilson's term, anyway:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Albert_einstein#Light_and_general_relativity

- The only reference I could find to Albert Einstein and Thomas Edison even just in communication with one another was this photograph from 1930:

http://www.topfoto.co.uk/gallery/einstein/default.htm

where Einstein telephoned Edison (from Germany) to congratulate him on the 50th anniversary of the invention of the electric light bulb, much later than Wilson's term of office.

So, the timelines of Wilson, Edison, and Einstein don't really match up simultaneously. Nor do those of FDR match up with Edison, nor Wilson with Einstein. Either the President would have to be someone like Hoover or Harding, or the scientist would have to be someone else. At the very least, Einstein couldn't really be considered a "prominent American" until after he emigrated to the U.S. in 1932, and obtained U.S. citizenship in 1940.

Ob Amateur Radio: Thomas Edison was a contemporary of Hiram Percy Maxim (co-founder of the ARRL), who lived from 1869 to 1936, and is credited with inventing the Maxim Silencer for firearms, and the automobile muffler. Hiram's father, Hiram Stevens Maxim, invented the machine gun, and was involved on the losing end of several patent disputes with Edison over the incandescent light bulb.

- --
73, Paul W. Schleck, K3FU
pschleck@novia.net
http://www.novia.net/~pschleck/
Finger pschleck@novia.net for PGP Public

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v1.4.5 (SunOS)

iD8DBQFHXJTP6Pj0az779o4RAgMpAJ0QH3dYWEBX5sO36DXG9gDnfdruCQCfesiG
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=tCeq
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----

1946. 10M contest

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-10 01:45:46 UTC
From: KØHB <groupk0hb@earthlink.net>
Message-ID: <9f1699bf-0ae5-4f1c-bc9c-c8059ccd43c3@r1g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3455

So who broke the 10 meter band? More so who is going to fix it and when? (Better be someone good as the last one who worked on it didn't do so good.....downright well..... unsatisfactory!)

I suspect most scores from this weekend may look more like the typical number of band changes on a multi-band contest than total score.

Beep beep,

de Hans, K0HB

1947. Re: Grounding my HF radio equipment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-10 02:45:43 UTC
From: BNB Sound <jon@bnbsound.com>
Message-ID: <81242fe1-dc4c-477a-8ad7-0bd7fda8682d@w40g2000hsb.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3456

The National Electrical Code (NEC) specifies that there be two grounding points for a residential system. That can mean either two ground rods, six feet apart, connected to the panel with a continuous loop of wire, or a single ground rod in cases where there is municipal water, and the second ground source is the water main coming in, on the road side of the meter. The gas line also needs to be grounded to the panel.

In the main service panel, the grounding system is attached to the same buss as the bare neutral coming in from the transformer. If your shack is running off a sub-panel, it should be fed with four conductor cable. In this case an insulated neutral is used and the bare (or insulated, it doesn't matter in this instance) ground is connected to a separate equipment ground buss. If your shack is in a separate structure that has its own sub panel, it needs to be fed with three conductor ground, the neutral is connected to the ground bar and a ground wire from a single ground rod is connected to the same buss (similar to the setup at the main panel). It sounds confusing as written here, and it's even more confusing to read it from the NEC, but I just had this out yesterday with my local inspector while going over the fine points on a job.

All that NEC stuff is important to check to make sure you're setup is electrically safe. As for station grounding, it's not usually a good idea to use the electrical system ground rods for your RF grounds. Your rig, tuner, amps, etc, should all be grounded to a single buss with the shortest possible wires, then a large chunk of wire, #6 or better, should run as directly as possible to a separate 8' ground rod. If you have a tower, you should drive at least one 8 footer at the base and ground it there. There's no limit to the number of ground rods you can have for RF grounds, they're less than $10 from a distributor and well worth the effort. I've heard of hams setting up verticals with very minimal radials, just driving several ground rods.

>>But somewhere along the line somebody in the ham groups stated that
>>the National Electrical Code states that there shall be one and *only
>>one* grounding point per power drop and the neighborhood code cops and
>>the insurance companies reportedly get stiff about it.

The answer to that is that if there is more than one they must be connected. The methods differ depending on the location of services in the structures and around the property. An electrician following the NEC would have done this during the installation and (hopefully) the inspector would have signed off on it. Ground rods for RF equipment SHOULD NOT be connected in any way to the electrical system ground

rods.

73
KC2PNF
Jon Dayton

1948. Re: 10M contest

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-10 06:27:34 UTC
From: Doug Smith W9WI <w9wi@invalid.nospam>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.12.10.04.53.58.616502@invalid.nospam>
Source record: 3457

On Sun, 09 Dec 2007 20:45:46 -0500, Kï¿½HB wrote:
>
> So who broke the 10 meter band? More so who is going to fix it and
> when? (Better be someone good as the last one who worked on it didn't
> do so good.......downright well..... unsatisfactory!)
>
> I suspect most scores from this weekend may look more like the typical
> number of band changes on a multi-band contest than total score.

So, where were you??

QSO: 28021 CW 2007-12-08 1544 W9WI 599 TN WA0MHJ 599 MN
QSO: 28005 CW 2007-12-08 1600 W9WI 599 TN K0AD 599 MN
QSO: 28005 CW 2007-12-08 1610 W9WI 599 TN K0RC 599 MN
QSO: 28014 CW 2007-12-09 0157 W9WI 599 TN N0UY 599 MN
QSO: 28020 CW 2007-12-09 0314 W9WI 599 TN K0TCP 599 MN
QSO: 28003 CW 2007-12-09 1625 W9WI 599 TN KR0B 599 MN
QSO: 28003 CW 2007-12-09 1643 W9WI 599 TN AC0W 599 MN
QSO: 28039 CW 2007-12-09 1707 W9WI 599 TN W0LS 599 MN
QSO: 28021 CW 2007-12-09 1713 W9WI 599 TN N0AT 599 MN
QSO: 28017 CW 2007-12-09 1719 W9WI 599 TN KN0V 599 MN
QSO: 28017 CW 2007-12-09 1741 W9WI 599 TN KI0F 599 MN
QSO: 28017 CW 2007-12-09 1806 W9WI 599 TN K0SR 599 MN
w9wi@linux5:~/Contests$

(I don't see K0HB in this list!)

The first five QSOs were pretty weak on scatter, but the other seven were
pretty loud. Decent (though weak) Es opening up your way.

Managed just shy of 400 QSOs.

Oh, and the DX wasn't completely missing either:

QSO: 28002 CW 2007-12-08 1542 W9WI 599 TN ZW5B 599 114
QSO: 28003 CW 2007-12-08 1543 W9WI 599 TN WP4I 599 52
QSO: 28024 CW 2007-12-09 1412 W9WI 599 TN HD2A 599 234
QSO: 28029 CW 2007-12-09 1542 W9WI 599 TN PJ2T 599 180
QSO: 28003 CW 2007-12-09 1611 W9WI 599 TN ZS6WN 599 011
QSO: 28034 CW 2007-12-09 1705 W9WI 599 TN ZS1EL 599 193

There was more DX (notably HP1WW and HK1KYR) that faded out before I could
work them.

I did however get a BUNCH of reading (and my Christmas cards) done during
the contest...

1949. Re: 10M contest

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-11 01:33:54 UTC
From: Dave Heil <k8mn@frontiernet.net>
Message-ID: <uUk7j.186$Sa1.23@news02.roc.ny>
Source record: 3458

Kï¿½HB wrote:
> So who broke the 10 meter band? More so who is going to fix it and
> when? (Better be someone good as the last one who worked on it didn't
> do so good.......downright well..... unsatisfactory!)
>
> I suspect most scores from this weekend may look more like the typical
> number of band changes on a multi-band contest than total score.

My best DX for the 'test was Kansas and Nebraska.

Dave K8MN

1950. Re: 10M contest

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-11 01:34:13 UTC
From: Dave Heil <k8mn@frontiernet.net>
Message-ID: <lVk7j.187$Sa1.136@news02.roc.ny>
Source record: 3459

Kï¿½HB wrote:
> So who broke the 10 meter band? More so who is going to fix it and
> when? (Better be someone good as the last one who worked on it didn't
> do so good.......downright well..... unsatisfactory!)
>
> I suspect most scores from this weekend may look more like the typical
> number of band changes on a multi-band contest than total score.

My last was in error. I worked all the way out to NM and NV.

Dave K8MN

1951. Re: Grounding my HF radio equipment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-11 01:35:44 UTC
From: Dave Heil <k8mn@frontiernet.net>
Message-ID: <q2l7j.208$7d1.155@news01.roc.ny>
Source record: 3460

BNB Sound wrote:
> The National Electrical Code (NEC) specifies that there be two
> grounding points for a residential system. That can mean either two
> ground rods, six feet apart, connected to the panel with a continuous
> loop of wire, or a single ground rod in cases where there is municipal
> water, and the second ground source is the water main coming in, on
> the road side of the meter. The gas line also needs to be grounded to
> the panel.

Grounding the gas line here would be an exercise in futility. A metal
pipe goes into the ground just outside my home. It is three feet long.
It then connects to a plastic gas line which goes under U.S. Route 250
and runs to a gas meter about 100 yards away.

> All that NEC stuff is important to check to make sure you're setup is
> electrically safe. As for station grounding, it's not usually a good
> idea to use the electrical system ground rods for your RF grounds.
> Your rig, tuner, amps, etc, should all be grounded to a single buss
> with the shortest possible wires, then a large chunk of wire, #6 or
> better, should run as directly as possible to a separate 8' ground
> rod. If you have a tower, you should drive at least one 8 footer at
> the base and ground it there. There's no limit to the number of ground
> rods you can have for RF grounds, they're less than $10 from a
> distributor and well worth the effort.

That's a very, very bad idea. If your shack ground is not tied to your
electrical ground and a near miss strikes power lines, the shack ground
and your electrical ground will be at very different potentials. Your
radio gear will be right in the middle.

> I've heard of hams setting up
> verticals with very minimal radials, just driving several ground rods.

I've heard of it too, but it is another very bad idea. There is simply
no way that driven ground rods can substitute for a radial screen. They
are intended to do different things.

>>> But somewhere along the line somebody in the ham groups stated that
>>> the National Electrical Code states that there shall be one and *only
>>> one* grounding point per power drop and the neighborhood code cops and
>>> the insurance companies reportedly get stiff about it.
>
> The answer to that is that if there is more than one they must be
> connected. The methods differ depending on the location of services in
> the structures and around the property. An electrician following the
> NEC would have done this during the installation and (hopefully) the

> inspector would have signed off on it. Ground rods for RF equipment
> SHOULD NOT be connected in any way to the electrical system ground
> rods.

That's simply incorrect and dangerous. I have connected my shack ground to my electrical ground with some great big honkin' copper wire. You may have as many different ground rods as you like. You should connect all of them to a single point.

Dave K8MN

1952. Re: 10M contest

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-11 01:36:24 UTC
From: Dave Heil <k8mn@frontiernet.net>
Message-ID: <h8l7j.188$Sa1.64@news02.roc.ny>
Source record: 3461

Doug Smith W9WI wrote:
> On Sun, 09 Dec 2007 20:45:46 -0500, Kï¿½HB wrote:
>> So who broke the 10 meter band? More so who is going to fix it and
>> when? (Better be someone good as the last one who worked on it didn't
>> do so good.......downright well..... unsatisfactory!)
>>
>> I suspect most scores from this weekend may look more like the typical
>> number of band changes on a multi-band contest than total score.
>
> So, where were you??
>
> QSO: 28021 CW 2007-12-08 1544 W9WI 599 TN WA0MHJ 599 MN
> QSO: 28005 CW 2007-12-08 1600 W9WI 599 TN K0AD 599 MN
> QSO: 28005 CW 2007-12-08 1610 W9WI 599 TN K0RC 599 MN
> QSO: 28014 CW 2007-12-09 0157 W9WI 599 TN N0UY 599 MN
> QSO: 28020 CW 2007-12-09 0314 W9WI 599 TN K0TCP 599 MN
> QSO: 28003 CW 2007-12-09 1625 W9WI 599 TN KR0B 599 MN
> QSO: 28003 CW 2007-12-09 1643 W9WI 599 TN AC0W 599 MN
> QSO: 28039 CW 2007-12-09 1707 W9WI 599 TN W0LS 599 MN
> QSO: 28021 CW 2007-12-09 1713 W9WI 599 TN N0AT 599 MN
> QSO: 28017 CW 2007-12-09 1719 W9WI 599 TN KN0V 599 MN
> QSO: 28017 CW 2007-12-09 1741 W9WI 599 TN KI0F 599 MN
> QSO: 28017 CW 2007-12-09 1806 W9WI 599 TN K0SR 599 MN
> w9wi@linux5:~/Contests$
>
> (I don't see K0HB in this list!)
>
> The first five QSOs were pretty weak on scatter, but the other seven were
> pretty loud. Decent (though weak) Es opening up your way.
>
> Managed just shy of 400 QSOs.
>
> Oh, and the DX wasn't completely missing either:
>
> QSO: 28002 CW 2007-12-08 1542 W9WI 599 TN ZW5B 599 114
> QSO: 28003 CW 2007-12-08 1543 W9WI 599 TN WP4I 599 52
> QSO: 28024 CW 2007-12-09 1412 W9WI 599 TN HD2A 599 234
> QSO: 28029 CW 2007-12-09 1542 W9WI 599 TN PJ2T 599 180
> QSO: 28003 CW 2007-12-09 1611 W9WI 599 TN ZS6WN 599 011
> QSO: 28034 CW 2007-12-09 1705 W9WI 599 TN ZS1EL 599 193
>
> There was more DX (notably HP1WW and HK1KYR) that faded out before I could
> work them.
>

> I did however get a BUNCH of reading (and my Christmas cards) done during
> the contest...

I never considered a serious effort at this point the cycle. I did
about three hours in the contest and quit when the Steelers-Patriots
game began. I must have missed the DX. I worked SOAB HP mixed with:

71 QSOs 18 States on CW

47 QSOs 17 States on SSB

Total 13,370 mostly search and pounce

Dave K8MN

1953. Re: 10M contest

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-11 13:43:46 UTC
From: Doug Smith W9WI <w9wi@invalid.nospam>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.12.11.06.37.09.963205@invalid.nospam>
Source record: 3462

On Mon, 10 Dec 2007 20:34:13 -0500, Dave Heil wrote:

> Kï¿½HB wrote:
>> So who broke the 10 meter band? More so who is going to fix it and
>> when? (Better be someone good as the last one who worked on it didn't
>> do so good.......downright well..... unsatisfactory!)
>>
>> I suspect most scores from this weekend may look more like the typical
>> number of band changes on a multi-band contest than total score.
>
> My last was in error. I worked all the way out to NM and NV.

http://www.w9wi.com/ham/10m.gif

(I hope.)

It's an animated GIF, roughly 2.8MB. Shows which states I worked during each hour of the contest - the little blue bar at the lower left is a relative QSO count gradually increasing. (actually it's one pixel long for each QSO made to that point)

Worked coast-to-coast including a nice little opening to VE7 and Seattle around noon Sunday and one to New England around 0000UTC Sunday. (Sat. night)

1954. Re: Grounding my HF radio equipment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-11 14:17:05 UTC
From: "Paul W. Schleck" <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>
Message-ID: <475e1a23$0$339$540ea2cf@novia.net>
Source record: 3463

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNED MESSAGE-----
Hash: SHA1

In <475c9503$0$312$540ea2cf@novia.net> Paul W. Schleck <pschleck@oasis.novia.net>" writes:

[...]

>President Woodrow Wilson lived from 1856 to 1924 and served as President
>from 1913 to 1917.

[...]

While true, it's also true that he served as President from 1917 to 1921.

:-)

Even in that sea of dates that I posted, I should have noticed that
Wilson was not a one-termer, and did serve through World War I Armistice
Day on November 11, 1918.

- --
73, Paul W. Schleck, K3FU
pschleck@novia.net
http://www.novia.net/~pschleck/
Finger pschleck@novia.net for PGP Public Key

-----BEGIN PGP SIGNATURE-----
Version: GnuPG v1.4.5 (SunOS)

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=5L79
-----END PGP SIGNATURE-----

1955. Re: Grounding my HF radio equipment

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-11 18:46:20 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fjmlfv$1inc$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3464

Dave Heil wrote:

> BNB Sound wrote:
>> I've heard of hams setting up
>> verticals with very minimal radials, just driving several ground rods.
>
> I've heard of it too, but it is another very bad idea. There is simply
> no way that driven ground rods can substitute for a radial screen. They
> are intended to do different things.

Correct. RF "grounding" is so different from Power ground that it shouldn't even be called the same thing. Good RF grounding can be had without a direct connection to the earth, my radials are insulated wire and don't have any wire exposure to the ground, so that they won't corrode. (note that the antenna gets direct connection to ground through the base.

It sounded freaky weird to me at first, but as I put in my radials over several sessions (criteria being how long my poor abused knees could stand it) I measured and adjusted the system each time, and it worked as advertised. More radials = better grounding. The coil at the bottom of my vertical required less and less inductance to match the system.

But it surely isn't a power ground, and given that the rf is absorbed (right word) at or near the ground surface, those ground rods would only be useful at that first foot or so.

- 73 de Mike N3LI -

1956. Re: 10M contest

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-12 02:12:58 UTC
From: billg999@cs.uofs.edu
Message-ID: <5s8qu7F18a86qU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 3465

In article <Xns9A039E6F14AF3kc1ihmaccom@216.168.3.30>,
Larry Weil <kc1ih@mac.com> writes:
> "Kï¿½HB" <groupk0hb@earthlink.net> wrote in news:9f1699bf-0ae5-4f1c-bc9c-
> c8059ccd43c3@r1g2000hsg.googlegroups.com:
>
>>
>> So who broke the 10 meter band? More so who is going to fix it and
>> when? (Better be someone good as the last one who worked on it didn't
>> do so good.......downright well..... unsatisfactory!)
>>
>
> I worked Argentina from Salem, NH on Sunday. All my other QSO's were MA
> and NH.
>

Perhaps it's just me, but does anyone else see a dcided disadvantage
to being on either coast for a contest like this during the down side
of the sunspot cycle?

bill
KB3YV

--
Bill Gunshannon | de-moc-ra-cy (di mok' ra see) n. Three wolves
bill@cs.scranton.edu | and a sheep voting on what's for dinner.
University of Scranton |
Scranton, Pennsylvania | #include <std.disclaimer.h>

1957. Re: 10M contest

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-12 03:54:56 UTC
From: Jack VK2CJC <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com>
Message-ID: <fjnjun$58k$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 3466

> when the Steelers-Patriots game began.

Not being from the US, this is a phenomenon of which I am unfamiliar.

What's it all about?

--
Jack VK2CJC / MM0AXL
FISTS #9666 CW Ops QRP Club #753
Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group www.mncarg.org
Skype- vk2cjc MSN Messenger- (this emails return address)

1958. Re: 10M contest

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-12 07:30:42 UTC
From: Bryan <bryan.swadenerNOSPAM@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <M9CdnXe0L5VZF8LanZ2dnUVZ_gidnZ2d@giganews.com>
Source record: 3467

Jack VK2CJC wrote:
> > when the Steelers-Patriots game began.
>
> Not being from the US, this is a phenomenon of which I am unfamiliar.
>
> What's it all about?
>
> --
> Jack VK2CJC / MM0AXL
> FISTS #9666 CW Ops QRP Club #753
> Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group www.mncarg.org
> Skype- vk2cjc MSN Messenger- (this emails return address)

Hi Jack,

It's what we call football (played with protective padding) in the states.
I would hazard a guess that soccer or rugby (played w/o padding) is a bit
rougher.
I understand that the difference between soccer and rugby is that in soccer,
injuring your opponent is incidental to scoring while in rugby, scoring is
incidental to injuring your opponent. ;-)

73,
Bryan WA7PRC

1959. Re: 10M contest

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-12 07:34:07 UTC
From: Doug Smith W9WI <w9wi@invalid.nospam>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.12.12.07.30.22.349459@invalid.nospam>
Source record: 3468

On Tue, 11 Dec 2007 22:54:56 -0500, Jack VK2CJC wrote:

>> when the Steelers-Patriots game began.
>
> Not being from the US, this is a phenomenon of which I am unfamiliar.
>
> What's it all about?

American rules football.

(Pittsburgh vs. Boston. I think Dave is not too far from Pittsburgh.)

1960. Re: 10M contest

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-12 07:34:56 UTC
From: Doug Smith W9WI <w9wi@invalid.nospam>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.12.12.07.31.53.869401@invalid.nospam>
Source record: 3469

On Tue, 11 Dec 2007 21:12:58 -0500, Bill Gunshannon wrote:
> Perhaps it's just me, but does anyone else see a dcided disadvantage
> to being on either coast for a contest like this during the down side
> of the sunspot cycle?

I think it's largely a chance thing - if the short-skip happens to go your way then it's best to be in the middle. (this year the Texans got the luck. Right now 5 of the 10 top claimed scores in high-power CW are in Texas.)

1961. Re: 10M contest

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-12 11:18:12 UTC
From: crn@NOSPAM.netunix.com
Message-ID: <fjoa9t$i2k$1$8300dec7@news.demon.co.uk>
Source record: 3470

Jack VK2CJC <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com> wrote:
> > when the Steelers-Patriots game began.
>
> Not being from the US, this is a phenomenon of which I am unfamiliar.
>
> What's it all about?
>

A bit like a cross between Rugby and Football for girls.
They wear padding and stop for a chat every few minutes.
In the USA universities are rated on the success of their teams rather than
any academic achievement.

--
g4jci

1962. Re: 10M contest

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-12 11:18:31 UTC
From: Eric Oyen - N7ZZT <n7zzt@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <fjodgf$8up$2@aioe.org>
Source record: 3471

Kï¿½HB wrote:

>
> So who broke the 10 meter band? More so who is going to fix it and
> when? (Better be someone good as the last one who worked on it didn't
> do so good.......downright well..... unsatisfactory!)
>
> I suspect most scores from this weekend may look more like the typical
> number of band changes on a multi-band contest than total score.
>
> Beep beep,
>
> de Hans, K0HB

I Heard nothing but noise anywhere I tuned in the technician class segmen
t
(28.5 and down). no signals, not even a local calling CQ. what gives?

DE N7ZZT

1963. Re: 10M contest

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-12 15:04:41 UTC
From: billg999@cs.uofs.edu
Message-ID: <5sa5umF1859onU2@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 3472

In article <M9CdnXe0L5VZF8LanZ2dnUVZ_gidnZ2d@giganews.com>,
"Bryan" <bryan.swadenerNOSPAM@comcast.net> writes:
> Jack VK2CJC wrote:
>> > when the Steelers-Patriots game began.
>>
>> Not being from the US, this is a phenomenon of which I am unfamiliar.
>>
>> What's it all about?
>>
>> --
>> Jack VK2CJC / MM0AXL
>> FISTS #9666 CW Ops QRP Club #753
>> Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group www.mncarg.org
>> Skype- vk2cjc MSN Messenger- (this emails return address)
>
> Hi Jack,
>
> It's what we call football (played with protective padding) in the states.
> I would hazard a guess that soccer or rugby (played w/o padding) is a bit
> rougher.
> I understand that the difference between soccer and rugby is that in soccer,
> injuring your opponent is incidental to scoring while in rugby, scoring is
> incidental to injuring your opponent. ;-)
>
> 73,
> Bryan WA7PRC

Look at his call. Then ask him about his brand of football!!

bill
KB3YV

--
Bill Gunshannon | de-moc-ra-cy (di mok' ra see) n. Three wolves
bill@cs.scranton.edu | and a sheep voting on what's for dinner.
University of Scranton |
Scranton, Pennsylvania | #include <std.disclaimer.h>

1964. Re: 10M contest

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-12 15:05:12 UTC
From: billg999@cs.uofs.edu
Message-ID: <5sa68oF1859onU3@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 3473

In article <fjodgf$8up$2@aioe.org>,
Eric Oyen - N7ZZT <n7zzt@hotmail.com> writes:
> Kï¿½HB wrote:
>>
>> So who broke the 10 meter band? More so who is going to fix it and
>> when? (Better be someone good as the last one who worked on it didn't
>> do so good.......downright well..... unsatisfactory!)
>>
>> I suspect most scores from this weekend may look more like the typical
>> number of band changes on a multi-band contest than total score.
>>
>> Beep beep,
>>
>> de Hans, K0HB
> I Heard nothing but noise anywhere I tuned in the technician class segmen
> t
> (28.5 and down). no signals, not even a local calling CQ. what gives?
> DE N7ZZT

I have just set up my vertical and a couple of HF rigs after a hiatus of
more than a decade. I have not heard a single station above 40M yet.
I did hear a PA0 on 80M, good signal too.

Guess I picked the wrong time to get interested again. :-(Looking
around for antenna wire now so I can get some kind of a dipole up as I
was really never impressed with the oerformance of any of my trap verticals.
Sure wish I knew what I did with that W3DZZ Trap Dipole I started with in
Germany 30 years ago!!

bill
KB3YV

--
Bill Gunshannon | de-moc-ra-cy (di mok' ra see) n. Three wolves
bill@cs.scranton.edu | and a sheep voting on what's for dinner.
University of Scranton |
Scranton, Pennsylvania | #include <std.disclaimer.h>

1965. Re: 10M contest

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-12 18:21:59 UTC
From: Bert Hyman <bert@iphouse.com>
Message-ID: <Xns9A0464A06F812VeebleFetzer@127.0.0.1>
Source record: 3474

billg999@cs.uofs.edu (Bill Gunshannon) wrote in
news:5sa68oF1859onU3@mid.individual.net:

> I have just set up my vertical and a couple of HF rigs after a
> hiatus of more than a decade. I have not heard a single station
> above 40M yet. I did hear a PA0 on 80M, good signal too.
>
> Guess I picked the wrong time to get interested again.

Not necessarily; there's nowhere to go but up as the sunspots return.

I run Faros on the PC in the shack every weekend, from Friday
afternoon 'til Sunday evening watching and waiting ...

http://www.dxatlas.com/Faros/

One of my earliest ham-radio memories is a 1961 CQ cover with the
depressing title "Cycle 19 - The Declining Years" (I was first
licensed in January 1961).

--
Bert Hyman | W0RSB | St. Paul, MN | bert@iphouse.com

1966. Re: 10M contest

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-12 18:24:00 UTC
From: konstans <konstans@hotmail.com>
Message-ID: <fjp3t5iqc1@registered.motzarella.org>
Source record: 3475

"Bill Gunshannon" <billg999@cs.uofs.edu> wrote in message
news:5sa68oF1859onU3@mid.individual.net...
> In article <fjodgf$8up$2@aioe.org>,
> Eric Oyen - N7ZZT <n7zzt@hotmail.com> writes:
>> K&#65533;HB wrote:

```
>> (28.5 and down). no signals, not even a local calling CQ. what gives?
>> DE N7ZZT
>
> I have just set up my vertical and a couple of HF rigs after a hiatus of
> more than a decade. I have not heard a single station above 40M yet.
> I did hear a PA0 on 80M, good signal too.
```

```
indeed except for some very local signals (and a bit on FD) I have not used
the bands above 20m amuch at all and each station in my personal log between
20 and 6m has been one I help set oup the station and anttena myself
```

1967. Re: 10M contest

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-12 19:09:37 UTC
From: billg999@cs.uofs.edu
Message-ID: <5sap9iF18kpt4U1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 3476

In article <Xns9A0464A06F812VeebleFetzer@127.0.0.1>,
Bert Hyman <bert@iphouse.com> writes:
> billg999@cs.uofs.edu (Bill Gunshannon) wrote in
> news:5sa68oF1859onU3@mid.individual.net:
>
>> I have just set up my vertical and a couple of HF rigs after a
>> hiatus of more than a decade. I have not heard a single station
>> above 40M yet. I did hear a PA0 on 80M, good signal too.
>>
>> Guess I picked the wrong time to get interested again.
>
> Not necessarily; there's nowhere to go but up as the sunspots return.
>
> I run Faros on the PC in the shack every weekend, from Friday
> afternoon 'til Sunday evening watching and waiting ...
>
> http://www.dxatlas.com/Faros/
>
> One of my earliest ham-radio memories is a 1961 CQ cover with the
> depressing title "Cycle 19 - The Declining Years" (I was first
> licensed in January 1961).
>

Well, I just went out this morning and put up a 40M dipole (best I could
come up with from the junk left over in my cellar) and it hears a lot
better than the vertical. (A quick test using CHU showed it to be at
least twice as good as the vertical. Heard some guys chatting on 20M.
Heard what sounded like some slowscan and some packet, too. Nothing
above 20M but definitely better than what I heard during SS a couple
weekends ago. Have to find a listing for beacons and start getting
into this again. I had almost forgot how much fun it could be. Maybe
my next house will even have a tower and an HF beam. :-)

Wonder whent he next RTTY contest is? That was always my favorite mode.

All the best for the holidays to everyone.

bill
KB3YV

--
Bill Gunshannon | de-moc-ra-cy (di mok' ra see) n. Three wolves
bill@cs.scranton.edu | and a sheep voting on what's for dinner.
University of Scranton |
Scranton, Pennsylvania | #include <std.disclaimer.h>

1968. Re: 10M contest

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-12 21:24:31 UTC
From: dplatt@radagast.org
Message-ID: <0qo535-f3n.ln1@radagast.org>
Source record: 3477

In article <5sa68oF1859onU3@mid.individual.net>,
Bill Gunshannon <billg999@cs.uofs.edu> wrote:

>I have just set up my vertical and a couple of HF rigs after a hiatus of
>more than a decade. I have not heard a single station above 40M yet.
>I did hear a PA0 on 80M, good signal too.
>
>Guess I picked the wrong time to get interested again. :-(

As another poster said, "Not necessarily". The higher bands do open,
although less well than during a sunspot peak. Part of the problem, I
think, is that so many people are convinced that the higher bands are
dead that they don't bother to listen _or_ call CQ.

A few weeks ago I had a nice (brief but easily-copyable) PSK31 contact
on 20, from northern California to a polysyllabic city on the
Kamchatka peninsula. 35 watts and a simple horizontal dipole at 25'
on my end.

> Looking
>around for antenna wire now so I can get some kind of a dipole up as I
>was really never impressed with the oerformance of any of my trap verticals.

Ordinary TTHN-insulated stranded wire from your local homebuilding
store works fine and isn't expensive. No need to get fancy, unless of
course you _want_ to get fancy :-)

--
Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO
Friends of Jade Warrior home page: http://www.radagast.org/jade-warrior
I do _not_ wish to receive unsolicited commercial email, and I will
boycott any company which has the gall to send me such ads!

1969. Re: 10M contest

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-12 21:25:19 UTC
From: Bryan <bryan.swadenerNOSPAM@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <LlidnUAq55YS0_3anZ2dnUVZ_vmlnZ2d@giganews.com>
Source record: 3478

Bill Gunshannon wrote:
> Bert Hyman writes:
> > Bill Gunshannon wrote: in
> >
> >> I have just set up my vertical and a couple of HF rigs after a
> >> hiatus of more than a decade. I have not heard a single station
> >> above 40M yet. I did hear a PA0 on 80M, good signal too.
> >>
> >> Guess I picked the wrong time to get interested again.
> >
> > Not necessarily; there's nowhere to go but up as the sunspots return.
> >
> > I run Faros on the PC in the shack every weekend, from Friday
> > afternoon 'til Sunday evening watching and waiting ...
> >
> > http://www.dxatlas.com/Faros/
> >
> > One of my earliest ham-radio memories is a 1961 CQ cover with the
> > depressing title "Cycle 19 - The Declining Years" (I was first
> > licensed in January 1961).
> >
>
> Well, I just went out this morning and put up a 40M dipole (best I could
> come up with from the junk left over in my cellar) and it hears a lot
> better than the vertical. (A quick test using CHU showed it to be at
> least twice as good as the vertical. Heard some guys chatting on 20M.
> Heard what sounded like some slowscan and some packet, too. Nothing
> above 20M but definitely better than what I heard during SS a couple
> weekends ago. Have to find a listing for beacons and start getting
> into this again. I had almost forgot how much fun it could be. Maybe
> my next house will even have a tower and an HF beam. :-)
>
> Wonder whent he next RTTY contest is? That was always my favorite mode.
>
> All the best for the holidays to everyone.
>
> bill
> KB3YV

The nice thing about a full 40m lambda/2 dipole is that it'll accept power on 15m as well. While 15 has been mostly dead, there have been times when there's activity. I don't have anything for 10m (yet) so I can't give my personal impression, though some hams have reported short openings. 40 & 80 have been pretty hot... worked China on 40 in the WWDX CW contest... heard a

G3 working a pileup on 80m CW a few nights ago. I'm on the left coast and have just low dipoles for those bands (80m is a 4-wire cage inverted vee).
Bryan WA7PRC

1970. Re: 10M contest

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-12 22:32:06 UTC
From: The Shadow <Cranston@CobaltClub.com>
Message-ID: <WqY7j.11467$R92.4041@newsfe16.phx>
Source record: 3479

"Bill Gunshannon" <billg999@cs.uofs.edu> wrote in message
news:5sap9iF18kpt4U1@mid.individual.net...
> In article <Xns9A0464A06F812VeebleFetzer@127.0.0.1>,
> Bert Hyman <bert@iphouse.com> writes:
>> billg999@cs.uofs.edu (Bill Gunshannon) wrote in
>> news:5sa68oF1859onU3@mid.individual.net:
>>
>>> I have just set up my vertical and a couple of HF rigs after a
>>> hiatus of more than a decade. I have not heard a single station
>>> above 40M yet. I did hear a PA0 on 80M, good signal too.
>>>
>>> Guess I picked the wrong time to get interested again.
>>
>> Not necessarily; there's nowhere to go but up as the sunspots return.
>>
>> I run Faros on the PC in the shack every weekend, from Friday
>> afternoon 'til Sunday evening watching and waiting ...
>>
>> http://www.dxatlas.com/Faros/
>>
>> One of my earliest ham-radio memories is a 1961 CQ cover with the
>> depressing title "Cycle 19 - The Declining Years" (I was first
>> licensed in January 1961).
>>
>
> Well, I just went out this morning and put up a 40M dipole (best I could
> come up with from the junk left over in my cellar) and it hears a lot
> better than the vertical. (A quick test using CHU showed it to be at
> least twice as good as the vertical. Heard some guys chatting on 20M.
> Heard what sounded like some slowscan and some packet, too. Nothing
> above 20M but definitely better than what I heard during SS a couple
> weekends ago. Have to find a listing for beacons and start getting
> into this again. > bill
> KB3YV
>
Beacons A Bunch at AC6V's site URL:
http://ac6v.com/beacons.htm

Lamont

1971. Re: 10M contest

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-12 22:32:25 UTC
From: Bryan <bryan.swadenerNOSPAM@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <q6SdndCCIuij0f3anZ2dnUVZ_remnZ2d@giganews.com>
Source record: 3480

Bill Gunshannon wrote:
> Bryan writes:
> > Jack VK2CJC wrote:
> >> > when the Steelers-Patriots game began.
> >>
> >> Not being from the US, this is a phenomenon of which I am unfamiliar.
> >>
> >> What's it all about?
> >>
> >> --
> >> Jack VK2CJC / MM0AXL
> >> FISTS #9666 CW Ops QRP Club #753
> >> Mid North Coast Amateur Radio Group www.mncarg.org
> >> Skype- vk2cjc MSN Messenger- (this emails return address)
> >
> > Hi Jack,
> >
> > It's what we call football (played with protective padding) in the
states.
> > I would hazard a guess that soccer or rugby (played w/o padding) is a
bit
> > rougher.
> > I understand that the difference between soccer and rugby is that in
soccer,
> > injuring your opponent is incidental to scoring while in rugby, scoring
is
> > incidental to injuring your opponent. ;-)
> >
> > 73,
> > Bryan WA7PRC
>
> Look at his call. Then ask him about his brand of football!!
>
> bill
> KB3YV

Yes, I've worked many VK... I should've mentioned Australian Rules Football.
A friend (with tongue in cheek) explained it to me, "The first rule is,
there are no rules." ;-)
As a kid, we used to play touch (American) football in the schoolyard. It
was too easy to tag a ball carrier, so we made it two-handed. That was too
easy, so we made it two-handed-below-the-knees. Whether your tagged the
ball carrier or not, you were headed for the ground. The question was how
much it was going to hurt! ;-)

73,
Bryan WA7PRC

1972. Re: 10M contest

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-12 22:32:52 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <pcl0m3p550otlqv19ksrtne2rskqkqb86q@4ax.com>
Source record: 3481

On Wed, 12 Dec 2007 06:18:12 EST, crn@NOSPAM.netunix.com wrote:

> bit like a cross between Rugby and Football for girls.
>They wear padding and stop for a chat every few minutes.

No, they stop to allow TV commercials to be broadcast,

I have never seen an Elecraft product in use during those games.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1973. Re: 10M contest

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-12 23:37:12 UTC
From: billg999@cs.uofs.edu
Message-ID: <5sb959F18c6q7U2@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 3482

In article <LIidnUAq55YS0_3anZ2dnUVZ_vmlnZ2d@giganews.com>,
"Bryan" <bryan.swadenerNOSPAM@comcast.net> writes:
> Bill Gunshannon wrote:
>> Bert Hyman writes:
>> > Bill Gunshannon wrote: in
>> >
>> >> I have just set up my vertical and a couple of HF rigs after a
>> >> hiatus of more than a decade. I have not heard a single station
>> >> above 40M yet. I did hear a PA0 on 80M, good signal too.
>> >>
>> >> Guess I picked the wrong time to get interested again.
>> >
>> > Not necessarily; there's nowhere to go but up as the sunspots return.
>> >
>> > I run Faros on the PC in the shack every weekend, from Friday
>> > afternoon 'til Sunday evening watching and waiting ...
>> >
>> > http://www.dxatlas.com/Faros/
>> >
>> > One of my earliest ham-radio memories is a 1961 CQ cover with the
>> > depressing title "Cycle 19 - The Declining Years" (I was first
>> > licensed in January 1961).
>> >
>>
>> Well, I just went out this morning and put up a 40M dipole (best I could
>> come up with from the junk left over in my cellar) and it hears a lot
>> better than the vertical. (A quick test using CHU showed it to be at
>> least twice as good as the vertical. Heard some guys chatting on 20M.
>> Heard what sounded like some slowscan and some packet, too. Nothing
>> above 20M but definitely better than what I heard during SS a couple
>> weekends ago. Have to find a listing for beacons and start getting
>> into this again. I had almost forgot how much fun it could be. Maybe
>> my next house will even have a tower and an HF beam. :-)
>>
>> Wonder whent he next RTTY contest is? That was always my favorite mode.
>>
>> All the best for the holidays to everyone.
>>
>> bill
>> KB3YV
>
> The nice thing about a full 40m lambda/2 dipole is that it'll accept power
> on 15m as well.

A major point in my decision to go with a 40M dipole. :-)

> While 15 has been mostly dead, there have been times when
> there's activity. I don't have anything for 10m (yet) so I can't give my
> personal impression, though some hams have reported short openings. 40 & 80
> have been pretty hot... worked China on 40 in the WWDX CW contest... heard a
> G3 working a pileup on 80m CW a few nights ago.

It wasn't by any chance G3YEU, was it? A very good old friend of mine
from the days when I was DA1WO and he was DA1BS.

> I'm on the left coast and
> have just low dipoles for those bands (80m is a 4-wire cage inverted vee).

Well, I do have a Dentron Super Tuner as well, so in a pinch I can work
any band (except 160 which seems to be not working on my Drake at the
moment.)

bill
KB3YV

--
Bill Gunshannon | de-moc-ra-cy (di mok' ra see) n. Three wolves
bill@cs.scranton.edu | and a sheep voting on what's for dinner.
University of Scranton |
Scranton, Pennsylvania | #include <std.disclaimer.h>

1974. Re: 10M contest

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-13 09:27:36 UTC
From: Jack VK2CJC <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com>
Message-ID: <fjq88v$jd1$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 3483

What!!! Football made you miss part of a 10mtr band contest????

Well.... I dont know what to say.....
I..... I..... I.....
I'm shocked and appauled

:o)

1975. Re: 10M contest

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-13 17:06:59 UTC
From: Doug Smith W9WI <w9wi@invalid.nospam>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.12.13.15.03.05.296628@invalid.nospam>
Source record: 3484

On Thu, 13 Dec 2007 04:27:36 -0500, Jack VK2CJC wrote:

> What!!! Football made you miss part of a 10mtr band contest????
>
> Well.... I dont know what to say.....
> I..... I..... I.......
> I'm shocked and appauled

The *real* ham would have installed a TV tuner card in his hamshack
computer & operated during the time-outs.

(which seem to comprise 90% of the broadcast of an American football game...)

1976. Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-13 19:25:56 UTC
From: KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <dc263a4d-1968-4579-b1d1-0944eef37c35@e6g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3485

I was looking for a graphic of the US Ham Bands that included the ARRL band plan to replace the out of date posters in the club's shack. I went to looking around and found a few neat looking PDF files but I couldn't find a poster that has both the Part 97.301 and the ARRL band plan in graphical form.

I couldn't find what I wanted, so in true ham radio style I started to develop one of my own. While I was digging though part 97.301 and the ITU band plans I came up with an unanswered question. In Part 97.301, only 60 Meters is specified to be USB. The rest of the bands can legally be used with either USB or LSB when using SSB phone. I figured that the ARRL's band plan would specify USB or LSB for the band, but they don't, at least in the tables I found.

I understand that there is a convention born of convenience when SSB was just getting started. Apparently it was easier to build multi-band rigs for SSB that did upper and lower side band on various bands when this all got started but most of us don't build our rigs today.

Where can I find out what the convention here is for 160, 80, 40, 20, 17, 15, 12, 10, 6, 2 (and up) SSB phone operation?

Thanks!

-= bob =-

1977. Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-13 19:26:50 UTC
From: KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <3b204dc0-3ea6-42ee-b4d5-0b82b131c299@s19g2000prg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3486

I was considering another question and in a bout of laziness I figured
I'd ask the group and not spend a few hours reading Part 97 trying to
figure it out...

I use my assigned call sign to ID myself when operating my station,
but what if I'm operating a station that's not mine? Can I just
provide my call as identification or do I need to include the
station's call too?

What FCC rule(s) speak to this situation?

I'm guessing that I have to provide the ID of the station I'm
operating and my call being the control operator but what is the
accepted format for that for the various modes: CW, Phone, Etc?

-= bob =-

1978. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-13 20:19:20 UTC
From: The Shadow <Cranston@CobaltClub.com>
Message-ID: <dfg8j.16706$yV5.10955@newsfe15.phx>
Source record: 3487

"KC4UAI" <kc4uai@gmail.com> wrote in message
news:dc263a4d-1968-4579-b1d1-0944eef37c35@e6g2000prf.googlegroups.com...
>I was looking for a graphic of the US Ham Bands that included the ARRL
> band plan to replace the out of date posters in the club's shack. I
> went to looking around and found a few neat looking PDF files but I
> couldn't find a poster that has both the Part 97.301 and the ARRL band
> plan in graphical form.
>
> I couldn't find what I wanted, so in true ham radio style I started to
> develop one of my own. While I was digging though part 97.301 and the
> ITU band plans I came up with an unanswered question. In Part 97.301,
> only 60 Meters is specified to be USB. The rest of the bands can
> legally be used with either USB or LSB when using SSB phone. I figured
> that the ARRL's band plan would specify USB or LSB for the band, but
> they don't, at least in the tables I found.
>
> I understand that there is a convention born of convenience when SSB
> was just getting started. Apparently it was easier to build multi-
> band rigs for SSB that did upper and lower side band on various bands
> when this all got started but most of us don't build our rigs today.
>
> Where can I find out what the convention here is for 160, 80, 40, 20,
> 17, 15, 12, 10, 6, 2 (and up) SSB phone operation?
>
> Thanks!
>
> -= bob =-
>

Extracted from the fcc question pool -- see google for "usb lsb convention"
get a pdf file "Technician Study Sheet"

sez

Radio Modes

The simplest radio signal is just a single frequency. By turning that radio
wave on and off, it's possible to send morse code (CW). Amplitude
Modulation is the simplest voice modulation scheme but it's not very
efficient because it has two identical (redundant) sidebands with the voice
information and the radio carrier that doesn't contain any information.
Amateur radios often use Single Sideband (SSB) transmissions that are
spectrally (space) and power efficient by removing one of the AM sidebands
and the carrier before transmission. This leaves either the upper or lower
sideband (USB/LSB). Convention dictates that lower sideband (LSB) signals

are used below 10MHz and upper sideband (USB) is used above 10MHz.

60M as you pointed out is USB

Lamont

1979. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-13 22:33:47 UTC
From: The Shadow <Cranston@CobaltClub.com>
Message-ID: <ntg8j.23720$Wt7.21588@newsfe14.phx>
Source record: 3488

"KC4UAI" <kc4uai@gmail.com> wrote in message
news:3b204dc0-3ea6-42ee-b4d5-0b82b131c299@s19g2000prg.googlegroups.com...
>
> I was considering another question and in a bout of laziness I figured
> I'd ask the group and not spend a few hours reading Part 97 trying to
> figure it out...
>
> I use my assigned call sign to ID myself when operating my station,
> but what if I'm operating a station that's not mine? Can I just
> provide my call as identification or do I need to include the
> station's call too?
>
> What FCC rule(s) speak to this situation?
>
> I'm guessing that I have to provide the ID of the station I'm
> operating and my call being the control operator but what is the
> accepted format for that for the various modes: CW, Phone, Etc?
>
> -= bob =-
>

SEE ARRL PAGE
http://www.arrl.org/hrlm/additions/6-4-5.pdf

EXPLAINS IT ALL

Lamont

1980. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-13 22:34:12 UTC
From: Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu>
Message-ID: <fjs8s0$11ba$1@f04n12.cac.psu.edu>
Source record: 3489

KC4UAI wrote:
> I was considering another question and in a bout of laziness I figured
> I'd ask the group and not spend a few hours reading Part 97 trying to
> figure it out...
>
> I use my assigned call sign to ID myself when operating my station,
> but what if I'm operating a station that's not mine? Can I just
> provide my call as identification or do I need to include the
> station's call too?

This answer applies to US hams, as some other countries have other rules.
Our license have two parts, a Operator Privileges and a Station Privileges.

In principle, the station is licensed, not the operator. This probably
has to do with remote station operations.

However, it often leads to some confusion, such as an interpretation
that an Amateur who has no station does not have a license. Another
quandary can happen if say a friend hands you his HT at say a Public
service event. Do you ID with his call? His call. What about ownership
of the station? If I check out a rig for my club that was donated to the
club, that will be for sale, do I have to ID using a club call sign?

Okay, enough of that!!

In reality, we are identified by our call signs. If someone refers to
N3LI, I'm sure to say "wassup"? Every station I operate with the
exception of Field day and contesting at the clubhouse, I ID as my call.

> What FCC rule(s) speak to this situation?

I spent quite a while looking for just that, and there is no clear
rule. There are some rules regarding operating another station when a
person is operating outside their regular privileges, and upgraded
callsigns. but precious little regarding the station vs operator issue.

- 73 de Mike N3LI -

1981. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-13 22:34:31 UTC
From: Geber <Geber@bitbucket.invalid>
Message-ID: <Na6dnTfvQbhcMPzanZ2dnUVZ_sejnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 3490

The relevant section is §97.119 Station identification. The call of the station must be used, "an indicator consisting of the call sign assigned to the control operator's station must be included after the call sign."

However, I don't think the FCC prohibits one amateur from lending his equipment to another. So you could take the position that the station owner has lent his equipment to you, and during the loan, it is your station, so you only have to use your call sign.

"KC4UAI" <kc4uai@gmail.com> wrote in message news:3b204dc0-3ea6-42ee-b4d5-0b82b131c299@s19g2000prg.googlegroups.com...
>... I use my assigned call sign to ID myself when operating my station,
> but what if I'm operating a station that's not mine? Can I just
> provide my call as identification or do I need to include the
> station's call too?...

1982. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-14 00:08:21 UTC
From: dplatt@radagast.org
Message-ID: <05t835-mse.ln1@radagast.org>
Source record: 3491

In article <Na6dnTfvQbhcMPzanZ2dnUVZ_sejnZ2d@comcast.com>,
Geber <Geber@bitbucket.invalid> wrote:

>The relevant section is §97.119 Station identification. The call of the
>station must be used, "an indicator
>consisting of the call sign assigned to the control operator's station must
>be included after the call sign."

As I read it, that paragraph (3) applies only when the operator's
license class exceeds that of the station licensee... and most seem to
feel that it's required only if you're transmitting beyond the
privilege level allowed by the station license.

>However, I don't think the FCC prohibits one amateur from lending his
>equipment to another. So
>you could take the position that the station owner has lent his equipment to
>you, and during the loan,
>it is your station, so you only have to use your call sign.

That seems to be the usual convention.

There seem to be several common practices, which I believe (speaking
not as a lawyer) fall within the scope of what the FCC considers a
reasonable interpretation of the rules:

- Use your own station callsign (the "borrowing/lending equipment"
concept). This makes you fully responsible for the transmission.

- Use the station's own callsign, only. This seems to be legitimate
if you're operating with the station owner's permission, and are
transmitting within the privileges covered by the station's
licensee or trustee (and your own, if you don't have a higher-
privileged control operator present). This is a common approach
used for transmitting at a club station... you use the club station
ID.

- Use the station's callsign, slash, your own callsign. You'd do
this if you want to actually ID the location you're transmitting
from (e.g. a club station or that of a friend), but you're
transmitting on frequencies which are allowed by your own operator
class but not by the station licensee's class.

--
Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO
Friends of Jade Warrior home page: http://www.radagast.org/jade-warrior
I do _not_ wish to receive unsolicited commercial email, and I will
boycott any company which has the gall to send me such ads!

1983. Re: Followup on my Tech class

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-14 01:27:19 UTC
From: c28f62@TheWorld.com
Message-ID: <fjsl2f$4au$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 3492

In article <13lapcvertvbacf@news.supernews.com>,
Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> wrote:
>The class consisted of six sessions held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, so

This also works as a weekend -- Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, testing on Sunday, for people who can be motivated enough to read the ARRL book outside class.

>Here's the real shocker for me: The VE team mailed the package back to
>the ARRL on Friday (11/30). The calls were in the FCC database
>yesterday (12/3). The ARRL couldn't have received the forms before
>yesterday, so that means that on the same day that the paperwork reached
>the ARRL the calls were issued.

The ARRL uploads into the FCC database directly, which assigns the calls.

Laurel VEC, which does Hamvention in Dayton, posts the calls of people who take the test Friday ON SATURDAY. I asked how they do this, was told Laurel gives the Dayton VE team authority to upload data themselves. Sweet. The database is offline on the weekend, so Saturday testees have to wait until Monday.

ARRL VEC side of operations has their heads on straight. Now if they gave tests for free and let their VE teams upload ...

1984. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-14 01:27:37 UTC
From: c28f62@TheWorld.com
Message-ID: <fjslfm$527$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 3493

In article <dc263a4d-1968-4579-b1d1-0944eef37c35@e6g2000prf.googlegroups.com>,
KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com> wrote:
>I understand that there is a convention born of convenience when SSB
>was just getting started. Apparently it was easier to build multi-
>band rigs for SSB that did upper and lower side band on various bands
>when this all got started but most of us don't build our rigs today.

The story I heard is that this started because Collins radios had an IF
of 9MHz and only needed one set of (expensive) sideband filters to have
LSB below 9 and USB above. Mixing to get the final output: F1+F2 gives
same sideband you start with, F1-F2 inverts.

That's what I was told.

1985. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-14 02:05:56 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@despammed.invalid>
Message-ID: <5se5abF191ce2U1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 3494

"KC4UAI" <kc4uai@gmail.com> wrote in message
news:3b204dc0-3ea6-42ee-b4d5-0b82b131c299@s19g2000prg.googlegroups.com
: : I was considering another question and in a bout of
: : laziness I figured I'd ask the group and not spend a
: : few hours reading Part 97 trying to figure it out...
: :
: : I use my assigned call sign to ID myself when operating
: : my station, but what if I'm operating a station that's
: : not mine? Can I just provide my call as identification
: : or do I need to include the station's call too?
: :
: : What FCC rule(s) speak to this situation?
: :
: : I'm guessing that I have to provide the ID of the
: : station I'm operating and my call being the control
: : operator but what is the accepted format for that for
: : the various modes: CW, Phone, Etc?
: :
: : -= bob =-

I'm not sure I understand the question. Are you saying that if you visit someone else's shack and operate their equipment, you should use their callsign..?

Here in the UK the convention is to use your own call with the suffix /A (alternative address) i.e. "this is G6URP/A operating from the QTH of G3USA".

If however G3USA was licensed to use bands/modes I was not, I could operate on them under his callsign, but giving my own call as the operator. In this case I would complete G3USA's log not my own.

73 Ivor G6URP

1986. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-14 03:43:02 UTC
From: N2EY@aol.com
Message-ID: <4251758b-83fb-4f28-a207-2806bace20d9@b40g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3495

On Dec 13, 8:27 pm, c28...@TheWorld.com (Mark Kramer) wrote:
> In article <dc263a4d-1968-4579-b1d1-0944eef37...@e6g2000prf.googlegroups.com>,

> The story I heard is that this started because Collins radios had
> an IF of 9 MHz and only needed one set of (expensive) sideband
> filters to have
> LSB below 9 and USB above. Mixing to get the final output:
> F1+F2 gives
> same sideband you start with, F1-F2 inverts.
>
> That's what I was told.

You were told wrong. That mixing scheme does not invert the
sideband.

This amateur radio urban legend has been around a while, but that's
the first time I heard it attributed to Collins.

Here's what really happened:

A few hams were using SSB in the 1930s. W6DEI, Ray Moore, was
on the ham bands with SSB in 1934 or earlier, and the use of SSB
is promoted in "200 Meters And Down", first published in 1936. But
it wasn't until after WW2 (late 1940s) that SSB began to become
really popular with hams.

The HF ham bands in those days were just 80, 40, 20, 11 and 10 meters.
US hams didn't get 15 meters until 1953 or 54, and didn't
get 30, 17 and 12 meters until after 1979. 160 had been a popular
band before WW2 but it was reallocated to LORAN during the war
and we got it back a little at a time over many years, with all sorts
of restrictions, until LORAN was finally phased out.

40 meters had no 'phone segment until 1953/54, either. 11 and 10
were great as long as there were sunspots.

So the two most popular 'phone bands were 20 and 75, which were
much narrower then than today. For some reason, the 75 meter SSB folks
chose LSB, while the 20 meter gang went for USB. Most rigs of the time
could do either sideband on either band, but the convention took hold
early on and never changed. When US hams got 15 meters, it seemed
natural for 15 to be USB, and when 40 got a 'phone band, it was
equally natural for 40 to be LSB. It had nothing
to do with Collins or 9 MHz IFs.

Now about the mixing scheme:

None of the early Collins ham rigs had a 9 MHz IF. Collins made mechanical filters, which were only practical up to about 500 kHz or so, and sideband choice with them was a simple matter of switching a BFO crystal.

Some early SSB transmitters did indeed generate SSB at 9 MHz, and then heterodyned it to 75 or 20 by mixing with a VFO in the 5 MHz range. But that mixing scheme *does not* invert the sideband! If you take a 9 MHz SSB signal and mix it with a 5 MHz VFO signal, you'll get the same sideband out of the mixer as you put in, regardless of whether you add for 20 or subtract for 75. The VFO will tune backwards on 75, but the sideband will not invert. Those early rigs all had USB/LSB switches in order to match the convention.

The only way to get sideband inversion by mixing is if the local oscillator frequency is higher than both the input and output signal frequencies. The 9 MHz-IF story isn't just an urban legend - it flat out doesn't work.

It *is* true that if you generate SSB in the 5 MHz region and mix it with a ~9 MHz VFO, you'll get the desired sideband inversion. Some 1960s SSB rigs used that scheme - but they were long after the convention was in place. And the urban legend doesn't mention those rigs.

If you want to see the math on how all this works, I can post it.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1987. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-14 11:43:35 UTC
From: Bill Horne <telecom-digest@comcastQRM.net>
Message-ID: <0aidndHz5be7m__anZ2dnUVZ_jGdnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 3496

N2EY@aol.com wrote:
> On Dec 13, 8:27 pm, c28...@TheWorld.com (Mark Kramer) wrote:
>> In article <dc263a4d-1968-4579-b1d1-0944eef37...@e6g2000prf.googlegrou
ps.c
> om>,
>
>> The story I heard is that this started because Collins radios had
>> an IF of 9 MHz and only needed one set of (expensive) sideband
>> filters to have
>> LSB below 9 and USB above. Mixing to get the final output:
>> F1+F2 gives
>> same sideband you start with, F1-F2 inverts.
>>
>> That's what I was told.
>
> You were told wrong. That mixing scheme does not invert the
> sideband.
>
> This amateur radio urban legend has been around a while, but that's
> the first time I heard it attributed to Collins.

[snip]

ISTR that early Swan transceivers offered only USB for 20, 15, and 10,
and only LSB for 80 and 40. They say the memory is the second thing to
go, but perhaps that was where this convention got started.

BTW, given a choice between LSB and USB, the military's preference is
for Upper sideband, since using USB makes it easy to talk another
station on to a net frequency: if his voice sounds high, then so is his
frequency.

HTH.

73, Bill W1AC

--
Bill Horne
(Remove QRM from my address for direct replies.)

1988. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-14 13:46:06 UTC
From: N2EY@aol.com
Message-ID: <a83dbfe5-ad46-4785-89d0-b0b5138dbe2b@d4g2000prg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3497

On Dec 14, 6:43 am, Bill Horne <telecom-dig...@comcastQRM.net> wrote
:

> ISTR that early Swan transceivers offered only USB
> for 20, 15, and 10,
> and only LSB for 80 and 40.

You are correct, sir! But they were not the only ones to do
that - National and some others did too. The early Heath
monobanders had no sideband switch, for example.

Swans used IFs in the 5 MHz range.

> They say the memory is the second thing to
> go, but perhaps that was where this convention got started.

The problem is that by the time Swan showed up in the early 1960s,
the standard was already in place. And later Swans let you use
either sideband.

The 9 MHz IF/ 5 MHz VFO system was popular in the 1950s. The
Central Electronics 10A, 10B and 20A exciters all used it, as did
the popular W2EWL SSB rig featured in the article
"Cheap and Easy SSB". You'd think those popular rigs would have
caused the standard to be that the same sideband would be used
on both 20 and 75, because they don't invert the sideband. Swan
would then have been bucking an established trend. Yet the opposite
is true. I suspect that Swan chose their heterodyne scheme to
save a little money by not needing a second BFO xtal nor a switch.

> BTW, given a choice between LSB and USB, the
> military's preference is
> for Upper sideband, since using USB makes it easy to talk another
> station on to a net frequency: if his voice sounds high, then so is > his
frequency.

IMHO, there's also the simplicity. If everyone is on USB, regardless
of band, you don't have to think about which one to use, or even
provide a choice.

73 de Jim, N2EY

1989. Re: 10M contest

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-14 13:46:43 UTC
From: Bryan <bryan.swadenerNOSPAM@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <C5OdndevWPOnqP_anZ2dnUVZ_g2dnZ2d@giganews.com>
Source record: 3498

Bill Gunshannon wrote:
> Bryan writes:
> > Bill Gunshannon wrote:
> >> Bert Hyman writes:
> >> > Bill Gunshannon wrote: in
> >> >
> >> >> I have just set up my vertical and a couple of HF rigs after a
> >> >> hiatus of more than a decade. I have not heard a single station
> >> >> above 40M yet. I did hear a PA0 on 80M, good signal too.
> >> >>
> >> >> Guess I picked the wrong time to get interested again.
> >> >
> >> > Not necessarily; there's nowhere to go but up as the sunspots return.
> >> >
> >> > I run Faros on the PC in the shack every weekend, from Friday
> >> > afternoon 'til Sunday evening watching and waiting ...
> >> >
> >> > http://www.dxatlas.com/Faros/
> >> >
> >> > One of my earliest ham-radio memories is a 1961 CQ cover with the
> >> > depressing title "Cycle 19 - The Declining Years" (I was first
> >> > licensed in January 1961).
> >> >
> >>
> >> Well, I just went out this morning and put up a 40M dipole (best I
could
> >> come up with from the junk left over in my cellar) and it hears a lot
> >> better than the vertical. (A quick test using CHU showed it to be at
> >> least twice as good as the vertical. Heard some guys chatting on 20M.
> >> Heard what sounded like some slowscan and some packet, too. Nothing
> >> above 20M but definitely better than what I heard during SS a couple
> >> weekends ago. Have to find a listing for beacons and start getting
> >> into this again. I had almost forgot how much fun it could be. Maybe
> >> my next house will even have a tower and an HF beam. :-)
> >>
> >> Wonder whent he next RTTY contest is? That was always my favorite
mode.
> >>
> >> All the best for the holidays to everyone.
> >>
> >> bill
> >> KB3YV
> >
> > The nice thing about a full 40m lambda/2 dipole is that it'll accept

power
> > on 15m as well.
>
> A major point in my decision to go with a 40M dipole. :-)
>
> > While 15 has been mostly dead, there have been times when
> > there's activity. I don't have anything for 10m (yet) so I can't give
my
> > personal impression, though some hams have reported short openings. 40
& 80
> > have been pretty hot... worked China on 40 in the WWDX CW contest...
heard a
> > G3 working a pileup on 80m CW a few nights ago.
>
> It wasn't by any chance G3YEU, was it? A very good old friend of mine
> from the days when I was DA1WO and he was DA1BS.
>
> > I'm on the left coast and
> > have just low dipoles for those bands (80m is a 4-wire cage inverted
vee).
>
> Well, I do have a Dentron Super Tuner as well, so in a pinch I can work
> any band (except 160 which seems to be not working on my Drake at the
> moment.)
>
> bill
> KB3YV

I cut my 40/15m dipole for 7.07/21.21 MHz. I don't recall the callsign of the G3. Check out some of the nifty calculator programs on www.smeter.net. I used two... one for the cage dipole/inv-vee and one for a lambda/2 vertical for 20m. I use Davis RF (I have no connection with them) for my wire antenna parts. I found my local metal supplier *stocks* a good variety of aluminum tubing. I'll use them as a source of materials to resurrect my 15m/3el homebrew yagi for the upcoming sunspot peak.
73,
Bryan WA7PRC

1990. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-14 21:43:29 UTC
From: KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <e88b882f-91f7-4a23-b8af-b5f737ca736d@e10g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3499

On Dec 13, 4:33 pm, "The Shadow" <Crans...@CobaltClub.com> wrote:
> "KC4UAI" <kc4...@gmail.com> wrote in message
>
> > I'm guessing that I have to provide the ID of the station I'm
> > operating and my call being the control operator but what is the
> > accepted format for that for the various modes: CW, Phone, Etc?
>
> > -= bob =-
>
> SEE ARRL PAGEhttp://www.arrl.org/hrlm/additions/6-4-5.pdf
>
> EXPLAINS IT ALL
>

Yes, It sure does. Common sense seems to rule the day if you ask me.
This question came up in a discussion about what the ID requirements
where for operating the club station here at work. I was told that
all I needed to do was use my own call, but be sure to log my
activities in the station log. I guess they work under the "you are
borrowing the station" when you operate it, but something just didn't
sit right with me. If I'm required to log my activities into the
station log but only identify with my call something didn't make sense
and it didn't make sense to me just to use the club call when I'm
using the station for my own thing.

So, here's my "let's be totally careful" approach given the
discussions I've seen so far..

In all cases, I will log my activities into the club station's log
because the station trustee has requested that I do so.

For identification I will:

IF, I'm just operating the club station on my own and not
participating in an officially sanctioned club activity I will
identify with *both* calls, the club first followed by mine.

IF, I'm operating the station during an officially sanctioned club
event, I will identify with the club call only and log that I was the
control operator.

That sounds pretty safe to me based on what I've seen thus far. (At
least here in the USA..)

-= bob =-

1991. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-14 22:35:01 UTC
From: dplatt@radagast.org
Message-ID: <9jcb35-t17.ln1@radagast.org>
Source record: 3500

In article <e88b882f-91f7-4a23-b8af-b5f737ca736d@e10g2000prf.googlegroups.com>,
KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com> wrote:

>For identification I will:
>
>IF, I'm just operating the club station on my own and not
>participating in an officially sanctioned club activity I will
>identify with *both* calls, the club first followed by mine.

That's fine. Perhaps overly-conservative, but it seems like a fine
operating practice.

>IF, I'm operating the station during an officially sanctioned club
>event, I will identify with the club call only and log that I was the
>control operator.

That's safe, I think, *if* the club's trustee has a license class
equal to or greater than yours.

If not, then if you're transmitting in frequencies allowed by your
privileges but not by the trustee's, then you *must* take the
more-conservative approach of transmitting the club station's call,
stroke, your own callsign.

Otherwise, you'd end up with a situation in which listeners (possibly
including the OOs or the FCC) would hear an ID in (e.g.) the Extra
portion of the band, from a callsign belonging to a station which has
(e.g.) only General privileges. That could result in a letter from
Mr. Hollingsworth to the trustee, stating that the station had been
transmitting outside of its license privileges and asking for copies
of all of the logs, etc. That's the sort of situation best dealt with
by prevention :-)

--
Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO
Friends of Jade Warrior home page: http://www.radagast.org/jade-warrior
I do _not_ wish to receive unsolicited commercial email, and I will
boycott any company which has the gall to send me such ads!

1992. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-14 23:10:10 UTC
From: c28f62@TheWorld.com
Message-ID: <fjv0vq$vh6$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 3401

In article <4251758b-83fb-4f28-a207-2806bace20d9@b40g2000prf.googlegroups.com>,
<N2EY@aol.com> wrote:
>On Dec 13, 8:27 pm, c28...@TheWorld.com (Mark Kramer) wrote:
>and we got it back a little at a time over many years, with all sorts
>of restrictions, until LORAN was finally phased out.

LORAN is still active, at least according to the Coast Guard.

1993. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-14 23:10:54 UTC
From: KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <4edbb21a-bb52-4a16-aa50-b0549300d248@e10g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3402

On Dec 14, 4:35 pm, dpl...@radagast.org (Dave Platt) wrote:
> In article <e88b882f-91f7-4a23-b8af-b5f737ca7...@e10g2000prf.googlegroups.com>,
>
> KC4UAI <kc4...@gmail.com> wrote:
>
> That's safe, I think, *if* the club's trustee has a license class
> equal to or greater than yours.
>

Yea, I failed to mention that the station trustee and I are both the
same license class.

Under no circumstances can one operate outside of his/her privileges
while acting as the control operator and I wouldn't want to give the
impression that one can just ID with the club ID and consider
themselves an "extra for the day" by virtue of being in the club
shack. Now if somebody is there with them they can extend their
operations to include the highest licensed ham present, but the
highest license present then becomes the control operator and
communications outside of one's privileges becomes third party
communications if I'm reading the rules correctly.

I think I'm going to put a section in the operating manual for the
shack that explains all this. Just to keep the raft of newbies coming
in from making any mistakes that brings us to the attention of the FCC
enforcement guys.

-= bob =-

KC4UAI

1994. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-15 03:02:54 UTC
From: Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz>
Message-ID: <xxx-82B4DB.21402214122007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 3403

c28f62@TheWorld.com (Mark Kramer) wrote:
>
> LORAN is still active, at least according to the Coast Guard.

LORAN "C" still exists* but LORAN "A" has been eliminated. It was
LORAN A that used part of what we call the 160 meter band.

* But just barely exists, at that. Take a look at a marine electronics
catalog. The only LORAN-related product that I was able to find by
searching an on-line catalog was a replacement antenna that was made by
Shakespeare. You would think that the flat panel multifunction displays
(depth, RADAR, fish finder, moving map, etc.) would have LORAN as an
option, to back up GPS, but it appears to me that they do not.

--
Klystron

1995. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-15 05:31:48 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <ufp6m399k2gdmjha2e17beh1tvgnh89gpu@4ax.com>
Source record: 3404

On Fri, 14 Dec 2007 16:43:29 EST, KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com> wrote:

> I was told that
>all I needed to do was use my own call, but be sure to log my
>activities in the station log. I guess they work under the "you are
>borrowing the station" when you operate it, but something just didn't
>sit right with me.

I'm the trustee of several club stations (all under one call sign) and
NOBODY "borrows" those stations!

Next time ask a communications attorney who specializes in
interpreting FCC rules. <ggg>
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
ARRL Volunteer Counsel

email: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1996. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-15 05:35:33 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <qpp6m3do75qhnvtoj2r6b3iojbnepbqg89@4ax.com>
Source record: 3405

On Thu, 13 Dec 2007 17:34:12 EST, Michael Coslo <mjc5@psu.edu> wrote:

> In reality, we are identified by our call signs. If someone refers to
>N3LI, I'm sure to say "wassup"? Every station I operate with the
>exception of Field day and contesting at the clubhouse, I ID as my call.

Really, Mike! The station is IDed with the station licensee's call
sign. The only time that the call sign of the operator is used is if
the privileges of the op are greater than the privileges of the
station licensee and the op is exercising those privileges. This is
independent of who owns the radio.

That's the hardest thing that I have to teach to ops using our club
facilities and fixed facilities at ARES/RACES served agencies which
hold individual call signs.

Don't make me look it up and print it -- I'll bill you for the
research! <ggg>
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1997. rec.radio.amateur.moderated Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-15 07:00:02 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines-1-1197702001@panix.com>
Source record: 3406
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.info,rec.answers,news.answers

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Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/ham-radio/moderated/guidelines
Revision: 1.3 2007/07/28 14:56:26
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rram/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

Welcome to rec.radio.amateur.moderated! This is a moderated newsgroup
for amateur radio operators and other people having an interest in the
Amateur Radio Service, as defined by national regulations and
international treaties. Following are the posting guidelines for this
newsgroup.

This message includes the following sections:

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter
2. Additional posting guidelines
2.1 Netiquette guidelines
2.2 Posting form requirements
2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files
2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting
2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources
2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability to hold
an amateur radio license
2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling
2.8 Guidelines regarding civility
2.9 Other unacceptable topics

------------------------------------------------------------------------

1. Topics and posting policies from the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Charter

rec.radio.amateur.moderated is an inclusive on-line community of amateur
radio operators and other people having an interest in the Amateur Radio
Service. Participants are invited to engage in open discussion of
amateur radio issues and exchange information about participating in the
hobby/service, in an atmosphere of civility, friendship, and fun.

Acceptable topics include but, are not necessarily limited to, questions
and discussions about amateur radio licensing, regulations, tips on
various aspects of setting up an amateur radio station, and sharing
operating experiences and insights.

Unacceptable posts include, but are not limited to, buy/sell/trade
posts, posts that are off-topic to the Amateur Radio Service, posts
```

promoting or defending unlawful activities, etc. Crossposts of regular discussion articles between rec.radio.amateur.moderated and other discussion newsgroups are not permitted.

Frequently-Asked-Questions lists and other information/bulletin/ announcement postings may be crossposted to rec.radio.info, rec.answers, and news.answers only with prior approval of the moderators of those newsgroups. In all such cases, an appropriate "Followup-To" header, containing only rec.radio.amateur.moderated, will be added by the moderators if one is not already provided.

Posters are encouraged to state their own views and share their experiences, but to refrain from making assumptions about the motivations of other newsgroup participants. Posters are expected to maintain a basic tone of civility. Prohibited uncivil discourse includes, but is not limited to, name calling.

Posts containing unsolicited advice questioning the right, worthiness, suitability and/or readiness of any individual (or members of any group) to be an amateur radio operator are unacceptable in this newsgroup. If an individual chooses to post asking for advice on when or whether to obtain an amateur radio license, or to participate in any type of lawful activity in the Amateur Radio Service, respondents should be careful to address their comments only to the original poster and not explicitly generalize to others in similar situations.

Similarly, posts that arbitrarily declare certain classes of amateur radio licenses, or certain members of national amateur radio societies (e.g., American Radio Relay League, Radio Amateurs of Canada, Radio Society of Great Britain, Wireless Institute of Australia, etc.), to be more or less worthy than others, are not permitted. Posts that politely encourage individuals to join their local amateur radio society, or to upgrade to higher classes of amateur radio license in order to enjoy greater operating privileges, are permitted, however. Posts that contain reasoned, civil, and fact-based discussion of the activities and internal politics of national amateur radio societies are also permitted.

Buy/Sell/Trade and Commercial Policy:

Posts containing offers to buy, sell, or trade are not permitted on rec.radio.amateur.moderated. The rec.radio.swap newsgroup was created for this purpose, and should be used instead. All such articles will be rejected by the moderators with the advice to re-post to that newsgroup.

Postings that are entirely commercial press releases, advertisements, or other public relations campaigns will not be permitted. Relatively unbiased announcements or reviews of new amateur radio-related products or services may be permitted at the discretion of the moderators. Such posters are asked to disclose their financial or professional interest, if any, in such products or services.

---

2. Additional Posting Guidelines

2.1 Netiquette guidelines

Participants who are new to Usenet should familiarize themselves with the "netiquette" of Usenet as well as the particular posting guidelines for this group. Several useful posts for "newbies" can be found on the newsgroup news.announce.newusers or on the WWW at:

http://www.faqs.org/faqs/by-newsgroup/news/news.announce.newusers.html

Particularly helpful articles are:
Welcome to Usenet!
Rules for posting to Usenet
Hints on writing style for Usenet
A Primer on How to Work With the Usenet Community
Emily Postnews Answers Your Questions on Netiquette
Answers to Frequently Asked Questions about Usenet

2.2 Posting form requirements

Any article that falls into any of the following categories will be automatically rejected:

A) Articles that contain original text of more than 75 characters per line
B) Crossposted articles to newsgroups not included in these Guidelines
C) Articles that contain more than 400 lines
D) Encoded binary files (except PGP and other short digital signatures)
E) Attachments to posts
F) Articles containing obscene language
G) Articles from individuals who have been suspended or banned from the newsgroup

2.3 Guidelines on signature (.sig) files

Many people close each article they write with a few lines of common text. This may be a cute quip or quote, or may include information about their family, contact information, or disclaimers required by their employer, for example.

Signature files used on rec.radio.amateur.moderated posting must be no longer than 8 lines.

The content of a poster's signature need not be relevant to amateur radio, but it must not violate any of the other posting guidelines. (For example, name-calling that would not be acceptable in the body of a message is also unacceptable in a signature.) Posters may include Uniform Resource Locators (URL's) and business addresses in signature files, provided they comply with all the other guidelines regarding signatures.

2.4 Guidelines on excessive quoting

Posts more than 20 lines long that also have more than 75% quoted text will be carefully reviewed by a moderator to determine if that degree of quoting is warranted. Posts with excessive quoted text may be rejected.

Posters must show a reasonable effort to trim the post they are replying to and to include just enough material to establish context. "Me too!" posts are discouraged, and, when posted, must edit the quoted material significantly.

2.5 Guidelines on pointers to outside sources

Unsolicited announcements and pointers to web sites that are strictly commercial press releases, advertisements, or other public relations campaigns, are not permitted. However, a pointer to a website or other external source of information is permitted and encouraged in cases where it is relevant to an existing thread, with appropriate context being given in the post. A URL with no information about what a user should expect to find there will be rejected. A pointer to information that is off-charter for rec.radio.amateur.moderated will be rejected, as will a pointer which itself does not meet the rec.radio.amateur.moderated guidelines (such as a URL containing embedded name-calling).

Moderators are not responsible for verifying the contents of any external information source.

2.6 Guidelines regarding questioning someone's suitability hold an amateur radio license

Identifiable groups and individuals may not be asked/told/etc. not to obtain an amateur radio license, or to only obtain certain classes of amateur radio license. It is not permissible to make statements that a person or members of a specific group "should" not, or should not be allowed to, become an amateur radio operator.

Solicited advice of this type is permissible; however, posters must be careful not to explicitly generalize to others who are in some way "like" the poster asking the question. Stick to the individual asking for advice.

It is acceptable to discuss verified violations, documented in criminal convictions or other government enforcement actions, by a person or members of a specific group.

2.7 Guidelines regarding name-calling

Nastiness addressed at a person is considered name-calling. Criticizing a person's *actions* is not, provided that it is done in a civil manner.

Attacks on an action which by their very nature include an accusation against the person's character are not acceptable. For example, "That's a lie" implies an intentional prevarication, and is considered name-calling. Acceptable ways of questioning the truth of a poster's statement include the more tactful "I don't think that's true," "I believe you are mistaken because..." or even simply "That's not true."

"That's not true and you know it" crosses back over into name-calling, however.

2.8 Guidelines regarding civility

By charter, posters are expected to maintain a civil tone in all their postings. The guidelines on name-calling cover part of that requirement, but not all of it.

In general, posters are expected to consider the reputations of other participants, and refrain from making unnecessary accusations or assumptions about the motivations of others. A good rule of thumb is to phrase your comments as your opinion -- "I think..." "It seems to me that..." "This makes me wonder whether..." etc...

Posters are expected to make factual claims, to debate topics openly and in good faith, and to accept honest criticism, all without provocation or prevarication. At least one professional organization, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), has recognized that such fair dealings are necessary components of ethical conduct, and has incorporated them into its Code of Ethics:

http://www.ieee.org/portal/pages/about/whatis/code.html

Though the Amateur Radio Service is not a professional endeavor, the moderators strongly feel that the IEEE Code of Ethics is also a worthwhile set of guiding principles for participants in the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup.

Posters are not required to support the American Radio Relay League (ARRL). However, they are expected to adhere to the spirit of the other parts of the ARRL's "Amateur's Code":

http://www.arrl.org/acode.html

2.9 Other unacceptable topics

Participants are reminded that the charter also prohibits posts promoting or defending unlawful operating practices.

Posts may discuss whether operating practices are unlawful, or engage in reasoned debate over why certain operating practices should or should not be unlawful. Posts may discuss enforcement actions, such as by the Federal Communications Commission in the United States or similar government agencies in other countries, and evidence gathered by parties such as Official Observers in support of complaints about unlawful operation.

Discussions of what practices constitute unlawful operation in the Amateur Radio Service should be limited to *factual* descriptions of the laws in various jurisdictions. Posters' *opinions* as to what practices they consider unlawful are not permitted. In particular, posters are cautioned not to extrapolate their country's laws and regulations to those in other parts of the world, as they may be quite different.

Posts that entirely concern themselves with other radio services or hobbies, such as Citizen's Band, General Mobile Radio Service/Family Radio Service, and Scanner or Shortwave Listening, are considered off-topic to the rec.radio.amateur.moderated newsgroup. Newsgroups such as rec.radio.cb, rec.radio.scanner, and/or rec.radio.shortwave may be more appropriate venues for such posts.

Posts that attempt to publicly criticize moderators or moderation | decisions in the newsgroup itself are also not permitted, as stated in | our original newsgroup charter. Please direct any such critical | feedback to our administrative contact address at the bottom of this | article, where it will be carefully considered by an appeals team of | moderators. This team is distinct from the initial team of moderators | that approves or disapproves article submissions, and thus can provide | independent oversight of moderation decisions. |

Similarly, if you see an obviously inappropriate article in our | newsgroup, please assume that it was a mistake or a direct forgery. The | moderation team makes every effort to protect the newsgroup from such | incidents, but they do happen, albeit rarely. You may also submit | feedback to the same address regarding such articles in our newsgroup, | but it is likely that our monitoring software and procedures have | already detected it, and we are actively handling the problem. Please | resist "piling on" with followups to the newsgroup when these incidents | occur, so that we don't have to reject such articles. |

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-amateur-moderated-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the misc.kids.moderated Posting Guidelines.)

1998. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-15 07:05:05 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <6no6m35r65qn38buff72nd8atkmg8i8ujl@4ax.com>
Source record: 3407

On Thu, 13 Dec 2007 20:27:37 EST, c28f62@TheWorld.com (Mark Kramer)
wrote:

>The story I heard is that this started because Collins radios had an IF
>of 9MHz and only needed one set of (expensive) sideband filters to have
>LSB below 9 and USB above. Mixing to get the final output: F1+F2 gives
>same sideband you start with, F1-F2 inverts.
>
>That's what I was told.

The real story is that it was the Central Electronics (CV ??) exciter
that had that scheme.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

1999. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-15 07:05:39 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <f2p6m39mq9d0u0mvbf2tp3n3d62k4n0h5p@4ax.com>
Source record: 3408

On Fri, 14 Dec 2007 06:43:35 EST, Bill Horne
<telecom-digest@comcastQRM.net> wrote:

>BTW, given a choice between LSB and USB, the military's preference is
>for Upper sideband, since using USB makes it easy to talk another
>station on to a net frequency: if his voice sounds high, then so is his
>frequency.

USB was the commercial standard for the 50 years or so that I've been
in that business. Even with ISB (Independent SideBand) where each
sideband has different information, the "lower" sideband(s) are not
inverted relative to the "upper" sideband(s).
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

2000. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-15 07:05:48 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <gmp6m39hojq7prn40vtkh8tf34ffpv5lsd@4ax.com>
Source record: 3409

On Fri, 14 Dec 2007 18:10:10 EST, c28f62@TheWorld.com (Mark Kramer)
wrote:

>LORAN is still active, at least according to the Coast Guard.

Not on 1800 Kc.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

2001. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-15 07:05:59 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <lup6m3dkmp3hsc3v5u5p4fh43ngnvp3gn2@4ax.com>
Source record: 3410

On Fri, 14 Dec 2007 22:02:54 EST, Klystron <xxx@yyy.zzz> wrote:

> You would think that the flat panel multifunction displays
>(depth, RADAR, fish finder, moving map, etc.) would have LORAN as an
>option, to back up GPS, but it appears to me that they do not.

Don't tell the GPS folks that they need a backup! They are firmly
convinced that their system is the greatest thing since sliced bread!
<ggg>
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

2002. USB/LSB

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-15 13:54:07 UTC
From: N2EY@aol.com
Message-ID: <74022373-0f62-4039-8b19-21da5f71d3c8@r29g2000hsg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3411

On Dec 15, 2:05 am, Phil Kane <Phil.K...@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:
> On Thu, 13 Dec 2007 20:27:37 EST, c28...@TheWorld.com (Mark Kramer)
> wrote:
>
> >The story I heard is that this started because Collins radios had an IF
> >of 9MHz and only needed one set of (expensive) sideband filters to have
> >LSB below 9 and USB above. Mixing to get the final output: F1+F2 gives
> >same sideband you start with, F1-F2 inverts.
>
> >That's what I was told.
>
> The real story is that it was the Central Electronics (CV ??) exciter
> that had that scheme.

Yes, the CE 10A, 10B and 20A exciters all used a 9 MHz SSB
generator. They were quite popular in the 1950s.

But they could not be the source of the amateur LSB/USB convention,
because that scheme does not invert the sideband on
either 75 or 20.

73 de Jim, N2EY

2003. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-15 16:26:01 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13m7pithpo23k40@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3412

Phil Kane wrote:

> Don't tell the GPS folks that they need a backup! They are firmly
> convinced that their system is the greatest thing since sliced bread!
> <ggg>

Several years ago I had a QSO with a crusty old Navy type who had just retired, somewhat in disgust because the service was no longer teaching things like Morse code and how to use a sextant to do navigation. His contention was that if there was another war the enemy would knock out the US navigation satellites, we would knock out their system, and for the rest of the war both nations' fleets would wander the seas, lost.

I wonder how big the solar event would have to be to render GPS unusable. If that or something else took away the capability, it would certainly have a huge impact these days.

73, Steve KB9X

2004. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-15 16:26:37 UTC
From: Bruce in Alaska <fast@btpost.net>
Message-ID: <fast-63DC72.07202215122007@netnews.worldnet.att.net>
Source record: 3413

In article <fjv0vq$vh6$1@victor.killfile.org>,
c28f62@TheWorld.com (Mark Kramer) wrote:

> In article
> <4251758b-83fb-4f28-a207-2806bace20d9@b40g2000prf.googlegroups.com>,
> <N2EY@aol.com> wrote:
> >On Dec 13, 8:27 pm, c28...@TheWorld.com (Mark Kramer) wrote:
> >and we got it back a little at a time over many years, with all sorts
> >of restrictions, until LORAN was finally phased out.
>
> LORAN is still active, at least according to the Coast Guard.

You thinking of LORAN C which is 100Khz, not LORAN A which was
1800Khz to 2000Khz and was Phased Out in the 80's

Bruce in alaska
--
add <path> before @

2005. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-15 18:22:33 UTC
From: helmsman@worldnet.att.net
Message-ID: <ol58m3lbojv0ul1ujok8ar5p4t30isu3cn@4ax.com>
Source record: 3414

On Sat, 15 Dec 2007 11:26:01 EST, Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com> wrote:

>Phil Kane wrote:
>
>> Don't tell the GPS folks that they need a backup! They are firmly
>> convinced that their system is the greatest thing since sliced bread!
>> <ggg>
>
>Several years ago I had a QSO with a crusty old Navy type who had just
>retired, somewhat in disgust because the service was no longer teaching
>things like Morse code and how to use a sextant to do navigation. His
>contention was that if there was another war the enemy would knock out
>the US navigation satellites, we would knock out their system, and for
>the rest of the war both nations' fleets would wander the seas, lost.
>
>I wonder how big the solar event would have to be to render GPS
>unusable. If that or something else took away the capability, it would
>certainly have a huge impact these days.
>
>73, Steve KB9X

That's why the Japanese are teaching there machinists the old way's
along with the new. They call those old teachers "super machinists".

2006. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-16 15:00:02 UTC
From: Steve Bonine <spb@pobox.com>
Message-ID: <13maeappn70l16c@news.supernews.com>
Source record: 3415

helmsman@worldnet.att.net wrote:

> That's why the Japanese are teaching there machinists the old way's
> along with the new. They call those old teachers "super machinists".

I wonder what word they have coined for CW ops? <grin>

73, Steve KB9X

2007. Mobile Power Connector choices?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-18 15:09:13 UTC
From: KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <95a3f626-b814-4922-8b80-dd9f6f04449d@d4g2000prg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3416

It's not been an issue for me until this Christmas when my wife decided to get me a VHF/UHF mobile rig. I've been using an older Icom 2 meter rig in both the cars for years so both cars have Icom power cables in place, but the new rig doesn't use the same power connectors.

I'd like to settle on a common power connector for both the radios, but I'm not all that sure where to go to find something that is reasonably priced and is not going to disappear in the future and force me to go out and buy all new connectors again.

I figured I'd not remove any of the existing connectors on the radios, but build up short jumpers that adapt to the connector of choice. I also figured that I'd use the existing power wires by replacing the current Icom power connector with what ever I pick.

Any suggestions on what to use and where to get them?

-= bob =-

2008. Re: Mobile Power Connector choices?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-18 18:12:42 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net>
Message-ID: <5sqgs9F1adk2cU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 3417

"KC4UAI" wrote ...
> It's not been an issue for me until this Christmas when my wife
> decided to get me a VHF/UHF mobile rig. I've been using an older Icom
> 2 meter rig in both the cars for years so both cars have Icom power
> cables in place, but the new rig doesn't use the same power
> connectors.
>
> I'd like to settle on a common power connector for both the radios,
> but I'm not all that sure where to go to find something that is
> reasonably priced and is not going to disappear in the future and
> force me to go out and buy all new connectors again.
>
> I figured I'd not remove any of the existing connectors on the radios,
> but build up short jumpers that adapt to the connector of choice. I
> also figured that I'd use the existing power wires by replacing the
> current Icom power connector with what ever I pick.
>
> Any suggestions on what to use and where to get them?

Many groups seem to have standardized on power connectors
for interchangability reasons during events (including real
disasters, etc.) For example, in my area the PowerPole
connectors from Amp are the standard.

I buy my supplies from my specialty dealer (who is a ham)...
http://www.dcpwr.com/ But the connectors and accessories
are available from many places.

KE7GKP

2009. Re: Mobile Power Connector choices?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-18 18:22:51 UTC
From: Bruce in Alaska <fast@btpost.net>
Message-ID: <fast-44BD29.09053318122007@netnews.worldnet.att.net>
Source record: 3418

In article
<95a3f626-b814-4922-8b80-dd9f6f04449d@d4g2000prg.googlegroups.com>,
KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com> wrote:

> It's not been an issue for me until this Christmas when my wife
> decided to get me a VHF/UHF mobile rig. I've been using an older Icom
> 2 meter rig in both the cars for years so both cars have Icom power
> cables in place, but the new rig doesn't use the same power
> connectors.
>
> I'd like to settle on a common power connector for both the radios,
> but I'm not all that sure where to go to find something that is
> reasonably priced and is not going to disappear in the future and
> force me to go out and buy all new connectors again.
>
> I figured I'd not remove any of the existing connectors on the radios,
> but build up short jumpers that adapt to the connector of choice. I
> also figured that I'd use the existing power wires by replacing the
> current Icom power connector with what ever I pick.
>
> Any suggestions on what to use and where to get them?
>
> -= bob =-

What I did years ago was build a Conversion Cable using the Propritay
Power Plug of each rig and a common AMphenol Power Connector, with
say 3 inches of wire in between. The Amp Connectors can be had from
DigiKey, Mouser, even Jameco, or your local Electronic Components Supply
House, and you just buy a dozen extra for stock, and your set for
life.....

Bruce in alaska
--
add <path> before @

2010. Re: Mobile Power Connector choices?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-18 18:39:45 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@thisaddressis.invalid>
Message-ID: <5sqhepF1aeafnU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 3419

"KC4UAI" <kc4uai@gmail.com> wrote in message
news:95a3f626-b814-4922-8b80-dd9f6f04449d@d4g2000prg.googlegroups.com
: : It's not been an issue for me until this Christmas when
: : my wife decided to get me a VHF/UHF mobile rig. I've
: : been using an older Icom 2 meter rig in both the cars
: : for years so both cars have Icom power cables in place,
: : but the new rig doesn't use the same power connectors.
: :
: : I'd like to settle on a common power connector for both
: : the radios, but I'm not all that sure where to go to
: : find something that is reasonably priced and is not
: : going to disappear in the future and force me to go out
: : and buy all new connectors again.
: :
: : I figured I'd not remove any of the existing connectors
: : on the radios, but build up short jumpers that adapt to
: : the connector of choice. I also figured that I'd use
: : the existing power wires by replacing the current Icom
: : power connector with what ever I pick.
: :
: : Any suggestions on what to use and where to get them?
: :
: : -= bob =-

I use "bullet" connectors, common in the UK for making up power leads, not sure if you have them in the US..?

Here's a link to a UK supplier, you can see there what they are, obviously you would use them in a polarised fashion, with the female connector on the "live" feed from the battery.

These are the female ones:
http://www.maplin.co.uk/module.aspx?ModuleNo=42724&doy=18m12

Male:

http://www.maplin.co.uk/Module.aspx?ModuleNo=42722&&source=14&doy=18m12

Hope this helps, note to whoever moderates this, I know it's a commercial site but it's intended purely as a means of showing the type of connector I mean :-)

73 Ivor G6URP

2011. Re: Mobile Power Connector choices?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-18 19:10:33 UTC
From: xpyttl <xpyttl_NOSPAM@earthling.net>
Message-ID: <9LU9j.1304$Jh1.296@newsfe02.lga>
Source record: 3420

"KC4UAI" <kc4uai@gmail.com> wrote in message
news:95a3f626-b814-4922-8b80-dd9f6f04449d@d4g2000prg.googlegroups.com...
>
> I'd like to settle on a common power connector for both the radios,
> but I'm not all that sure where to go to find something that is
> reasonably priced and is not going to disappear in the future and
> force me to go out and buy all new connectors again.

Icom VHF radios now all use the same T connector, and I believe almost all other major manufacturers have moved to that connector for VHF/UHF radios. Different connector for HF, tho. As KE7GKP points out, a *LOT* of groups are moving to Anderson Power Pole connectors as a common connector, and this is pretty convenient around the shack, too. Simply make a pigtail for each rig with an APP connector, and now anything can connect anywhere, and odds are your local club or ARES group will have a similar convention.

One of the issues has been that lower cost/smaller connectors could not handle the current required for HF radios. While they APPs are available for different current levels, they can interconnect. So you can put a 45 amp connector on your power supply and plug in a radio with a 15 amp connector.

..

2012. Re: Mobile Power Connector choices?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-19 00:03:25 UTC
From: KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com>
Message-ID: <53296d1f-3c35-4f72-bf4d-080858abc146@s19g2000prg.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3421

On Dec 18, 1:10 pm, "xpyttl" <xpyttl_NOS...@earthling.net> wrote:
>
> Icom VHF radios now all use the same T connector, and I believe almost all
> other major manufacturers have moved to that connector for VHF/UHF radios.
> Different connector for HF, tho. As KE7GKP points out, a *LOT* of groups
> are moving to Anderson Power Pole connectors as a common connector, and this
> is pretty convenient around the shack, too. Simply make a pigtail for each
> rig with an APP connector, and now anything can connect anywhere, and odds
> are your local club or ARES group will have a similar convention.

Well, after some investigation online, it seems that the Power Pole solution is likely the most flexible for my purposes. The ARES group I'm in doesn't specifically specify a configuration, but many of the other groups in the area do specify the Power Pole.

I also decided to continue this standard into my shack so I can move the various radios between various locations and not have to worry about coming up with power connections all the time. There are also some very nice distribution panels available from various manufacturers that use this standard. I also found a distributer that also has some clips that hold the connectors together in high vibration environments (like my cars) and they also had some dust covers to hopefully keep the dust and kids' fingers out when no radio is installed.

I do wish that Anderson would put out a 2 conductor version of their "power pack" products. It would be nice if you could build these with built in clips and only have the size of 2 conductors instead of their minimum 4, but I guess there may not be a huge market for that. Well if they do come out with them in the future, it should be easy to retrofit if I want.

Thanks for the help..

-= bob =-

2013. Re: Mobile Power Connector choices?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-19 00:04:21 UTC
From: Nate Bargmann <n0nb.DO.NOT.SPAM@ME.networksplus.net>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.12.18.21.02.34@ME.networksplus.net>
Source record: 3422

On Tue, 18 Dec 2007 10:09:13 -0500, KC4UAI wrote:

> It's not been an issue for me until this Christmas when my wife decided
> to get me a VHF/UHF mobile rig. I've been using an older Icom 2 meter
> rig in both the cars for years so both cars have Icom power cables in
> place, but the new rig doesn't use the same power connectors.
>
> I'd like to settle on a common power connector for both the radios, but
> I'm not all that sure where to go to find something that is reasonably
> priced and is not going to disappear in the future and force me to go
> out and buy all new connectors again.
>
> I figured I'd not remove any of the existing connectors on the radios,
> but build up short jumpers that adapt to the connector of choice. I
> also figured that I'd use the existing power wires by replacing the
> current Icom power connector with what ever I pick.
>
> Any suggestions on what to use and where to get them?

If you decide to go with the Anderson Power Pole connectors, Powerwerx
has a good selection. I would also consider buying the West Mountain
Radio crimper as I have found it makes an excellent crimp that slips
easily into the plastic shell. I tried the cheaper G&B crimper and had
trouble making a consistent crimp that snapped into the shell easily.

APPs have an approximately 5 lbs seperation force rating, so you'll want
to avoid much tension on the connector in your installation. I have them

in my mobile installations without issue.

73, de Nate >>

--

"The optimist proclaims that we live in the best of all possible worlds,
the pessimist fears this is true."

2014. Re: Mobile Power Connector choices?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-19 00:51:45 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <13mgqoirc2nal8c@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3423

"xpyttl" wrote

> Icom VHF radios now all use the same T connector, and I believe almost all
> other major manufacturers have moved to that connector for VHF/UHF radios.

Not to intentionally hijack the thread, but... ;-) Where can I buy those T-connectors? I've looked in Allied and Newark catalogs and can't find them. In order to make jumpers or quick-disconnects, for example, I need to have a T-connector for my Yaesu mobiles (FT-1500 and FT-7800R) to attach to the radio's existing cable. I'm not going to cut off the existing cable.

Howard N7SO

2015. Re: Mobile Power Connector choices?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-19 01:14:07 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <13mgs2geh410115@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3425

"Howard Lester" wrote

> Where can I buy those T-connectors?

Hey, look what I found!

http://www.powerwerx.com/category.asp?CtgID=1003

What it took was knowing to add the term "T-connector" to my search. One thing led to another....

2016. Re: Mobile Power Connector choices?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-19 02:02:34 UTC
From: dplatt@radagast.org
Message-ID: <8mam35-2fj.ln1@radagast.org>
Source record: 3424

In article <13mgqoirc2nal8c@corp.supernews.com>,
Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net> wrote:

>Not to intentionally hijack the thread, but... ;-) Where can I buy those
>T-connectors? I've looked in Allied and Newark catalogs and can't find them.
>In order to make jumpers or quick-disconnects, for example, I need to have a
>T-connector for my Yaesu mobiles (FT-1500 and FT-7800R) to attach to the
>radio's existing cable. I'm not going to cut off the existing cable.

One source is http://www.powerwerx.com

They'll sell you the OEM "T" connectors with inserts ($1.95 per), or
a pre-made OEM-T-to-PowerPole adapter cable ($10 for a one-footer), or
a "universal both sides adapter" (one male T, one female T, two sets
of PowerPoles) for $15.

They also have the IC-7000 power connectors, FT-100 connectors, 6-pin
Molex, and lots of other goodies.

Oh... I've been advised that it's probably better not to use the small
metal "roll pins" to lock together individual PowerPole housing pairs.
At least one person has had problem with these pins popping out of the
connectors and (potentially) bouncing around in the vicinity of
battery terminals or other "hot" electrical contacts. Not good. If
you want to lock together the red and black halves of a pair, I'm told
that a drop of acetone or cyanoacrylate glue is a better way to do it.

I don't know if this caution applies to the retention clips, as I
haven't tried using these myself and don't know anyone who has.

--
Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO
Friends of Jade Warrior home page: http://www.radagast.org/jade-warrior
I do _not_ wish to receive unsolicited commercial email, and I will
boycott any company which has the gall to send me such ads!

2017. Re: Mobile Power Connector choices?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-19 07:43:41 UTC
From: Bill Powell <whp@att.net>
Message-ID: <lmahm3ln1n67oetjbogu2rpvtbptc2eghv@4ax.com>
Source record: 3426

A quick note re: Power Poles and mobile operation.
Use the smallest cable tie to hold the two connectors together as they
sometimes have a tendency to shake / pull apart.

Bill - WB1GOT

On Tue, 18 Dec 2007 10:09:13 EST, KC4UAI <kc4uai@gmail.com> wrote:

>
>It's not been an issue for me until this Christmas when my wife
>decided to get me a VHF/UHF mobile rig. I've been using an older Icom
>2 meter rig in both the cars for years so both cars have Icom power
>cables in place, but the new rig doesn't use the same power
>connectors.
>
>I'd like to settle on a common power connector for both the radios,
>but I'm not all that sure where to go to find something that is
>reasonably priced and is not going to disappear in the future and
>force me to go out and buy all new connectors again.
>
>I figured I'd not remove any of the existing connectors on the radios,
>but build up short jumpers that adapt to the connector of choice. I
>also figured that I'd use the existing power wires by replacing the
>current Icom power connector with what ever I pick.
>
>Any suggestions on what to use and where to get them?
>
>-= bob =-
>
>

2018. Re: Mobile Power Connector choices?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-19 17:41:54 UTC
From: xpyttl <xpyttl_NOSPAM@earthling.net>
Message-ID: <n8caj.35$Tt5.5@newsfe07.lga>
Source record: 3428

"Dave Platt" <dplatt@radagast.org> wrote in message
news:8mam35-2fj.ln1@radagast.org...

> One source is http://www.powerwerx.com

I pretty much always get them at hamfests, but I often end up getting them
from Tower Electronics, who has an online presence.

http://www.pl-259.com/page4.html

Looks like they are more expensive than PowerX tho. About the same for the
plug but double for the socket.

..

2019. Re: Mobile Power Connector choices?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-19 17:42:07 UTC
From: xpyttl <xpyttl_NOSPAM@earthling.net>
Message-ID: <o8caj.36$Tt5.3@newsfe07.lga>
Source record: 3427

"Bill Powell" <whp@att.net> wrote in message
news:lmahm3ln1n67oetjbogu2rpvtbptc2eghv@4ax.com...
>A quick note re: Power Poles and mobile operation.
> Use the smallest cable tie to hold the two connectors together as they
> sometimes have a tendency to shake / pull apart.

They have little clips you can get to prevent them pulling apart.

..

2020. Re: Mobile Power Connector choices?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-20 01:55:37 UTC
From: richgr@panix.com
Message-ID: <fkci2a$c4d$1@reader1.panix.com>
Source record: 3429

In article <9LU9j.1304$Jh1.296@newsfe02.lga>,
xpyttl <xpyttl_NOSPAM@earthling.net> wrote:

>Icom VHF radios now all use the same T connector, and I believe almost all
>other major manufacturers have moved to that connector for VHF/UHF radios.

Kenwood also.

Does anyone know where I can get a supply of these "T" connectors, both
the male & female ends?

I have found the female connectors with 6' of heavy wire and fuse
holders for about USD20, which I see as a bit pricey, but not the male
ends (the end that is on the radio).

--
Rich Greenberg N Ft Myers, FL, USA richgr atsign panix.com + 1 239 543 1353
Eastern time. N6LRT I speak for myself & my dogs only. VM'er since CP-67
Canines:Val, Red, Shasta & Casey (RIP), Red & Zero, Siberians Owner:Chinook-L
Retired at the beach Asst Owner:Sibernet-L

2021. Re: Mobile Power Connector choices?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-20 02:30:55 UTC
From: dplatt@radagast.org
Message-ID: <bn0p35-gln.ln1@radagast.org>
Source record: 3430

In article <fkci2a$c4d$1@reader1.panix.com>,
Rich Greenberg <richgr@panix.com> wrote:

>Kenwood also.
>
>Does anyone know where I can get a supply of these "T" connectors, both
>the male & female ends?

http://www.powerwerx.com

Click "Connectors" on the left, then "OEM Connectors".

The OEM "T" male and female connectors are $1.95 per connector (one
shell and two inserts).

--
Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO
Friends of Jade Warrior home page: http://www.radagast.org/jade-warrior
I do _not_ wish to receive unsolicited commercial email, and I will
boycott any company which has the gall to send me such ads!

2022. Re: Mobile Power Connector choices?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-20 15:33:43 UTC
From: Doug Smith W9WI <w9wi@invalid.nospam>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.12.20.15.25.59.855151@invalid.nospam>
Source record: 3431

On Wed, 19 Dec 2007 20:55:37 -0500, Rich Greenberg wrote:
> Does anyone know where I can get a supply of these "T" connectors, both
> the male & female ends?

I've bought them from Tower Electronics, http://www.pl-259.com/ . I'm
sure there are a number of other vendors online.

2023. Welcome to rec.radio.info!

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-22 07:00:03 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/welcome-1-1198306800@panix.com>
Source record: 3432
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.scanner,rec.radio.shortwave,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/welcome
Revision: 1.3 2007/09/29 19:13:17
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** Welcome to rec.radio.info! ***

Welcome to rec.radio.info, a group that aims to provide a noise-free
source of information and news for the entire rec.radio hierarchy.

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to the group
every month. You are now reading the first article, which explains what
rec.radio.info is, and answers some Frequently Asked Questions. The
second article is titled Posting Guidelines, and you only need to read
it if you want to submit an article to rec.radio.info.

You can skip to the next section of this article by searching for the
next
" -- " string. The sections available are:
- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?
- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?
- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?
- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.
- What type of material is considered inappropriate?
- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to
rec.radio.info?
- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere?
- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to
speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

-- What is the purpose of rec.radio.info?

The purpose or charter of rec.radio.info is to provide the Usenet
community with a resource for information, news, and facts about any and
all things radio.

All the other rec.radio groups are intended for discussions and general
chit chat about radio. Rec.radio.info will contain informational,
factual articles only. Follow-ups are redirected to an appropriate other
group, and further discussion (if any) will not take place in
rec.radio.info.
```

In order to ensure that rec.radio.info contains only appropriate articles, it was decided to create the group as a moderated newsgroup.

-- Why are messages almost always cross posted to rec.radio.info?

It provides a "tag" for each article to be assembled into a filtered presentation in rec.radio.info (even with cross-posting, only one message, with a unique Message-ID, is propagated across the net). This tag also facilitates a pre-existing method of dropping or canceling the articles locally within the discussion groups if you don't want to see them. This accommodates individuals who want to separate the bulletins from the discussions, discussions from the bulletins, as well as those who are adamant about not reading another newsgroup and wanted to see everything all in one basket.

With the total size of Usenet (in number of newsgroups and total traffic) doubling every year or so, this is no insignificant contribution to reducing information noise and chaos. Making the discussion groups a catch-all, and making extra newsgroups filters on that catch-all, is also the most realistic way to implement such a scheme (It's not intuitively obvious what the charter, contents, and general appropriate topics for each and every newsgroup are. Seeing FAQ's and charter/intro postings in the home newsgroup is beneficial for new readers).

By cross-posting one only is adding a few tens of bytes to each bulletin (to specify the extra group on the Newsgroups line), but are adding the capability for very powerful filtering features available on most news servers, listservers and readers. Your local news guru could probably explain these features in more detail.

In rn, for example, according to Leanne Phillips in her rn kill-file FAQ, add a line of the form:

/Newsgroups:.*[,]rec\.radio\.info/h:j

either in ~/News/KILL (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere) or ~/News/rec/radio/amateur/misc/KILL (if you don't want to see them just in rec.radio.amateur.misc). The latter method means your kill file will only be consulted during rec.radio.amateur.misc (and hence runs more efficiently), and will probably work for most people.

In nn, according to Bill Wohler in his nn FAQ, add a line of the form:

rec.radio.info:!s/:^

in ~/.nn/kill (if you don't want to see rec.radio.info articles anywhere), or put the following lines:

sequence
rec.radio.info
rec.radio.

at the end of ~/.nn/init in order to see all the rec.radio.info bulletins first, then read the remaining rec.radio.* without the

bulletins.

More information about kill files may be obtained from Dave Fawthrop's Killfile FAQ at:

http://www.hyphenologist.co.uk/killfile/

-- What is a 'follow-up', and what does 'moderated' mean?

If you are new to Usenet and are not familiar with the terminology, you might want to read the general introductory articles found in the newsgroup news.announce.newusers. Doing so will make your life on the net much easier, and will probably save you from making silly beginner's mistakes.

If you think that at this moment you are reading an echo, a conference, or a bulletin board, I'd also strongly suggest a trip over to news.announce.newusers.

For the rest of this article, we will assume you have a basic knowledge of Usenet terminology and mechanics.

A moderated group means that any article that needs to be posted to the group has to be accepted by the moderator of the group. Since we need to ensure that followups to an article (discussion) do not show up in the rec.radio.info newsgroup, the `Followup-To:' header line contains a newsgroup that is appropriate for discussions about the specific article.

-- OK, so now I know what 'moderated' means. Tell me more.

Rec.radio.info is a moderated newsgroup, which means that all articles submitted to the group will have to be approved by the moderator first.

The current moderator of the group is the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team. Submissions to rec.radio.info can be posted, or e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Comments, criticisms, suggestions or questions about the group can be e-mailed to:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

But before you do so, please be sure to check out the "Posting Guidelines" article.

The influence of the moderator should be minimal and of an administrative nature, consisting chiefly of weeding out obviously inappropriate articles, while making sure correct headers etc. are used for the appropriate ones.

-- What type of material is considered inappropriate?

There are three broad categories of articles which will be rejected by the moderator:

1) Requests for information: rec.radio.info is strictly a one-way street. We receive information in our mailbox; we then post it to rec.radio.info. Requests for specific information belong in the normal discussion newsgroups. If your request gets answered, you might consider passing the answer on to rec.radio.info, though. Especially if you can edit it into a informational, rather than a discussion, format.

2) Obvious discussion articles, or articles that appear unsubstantiated.

3) Commercial stuff: a relatively unbiased test of a radio product would be accepted, but any hint of for-profit might be reason for rejection. For three reasons: This is not the purpose of the list, for-profit is a controversial topic, and this list may be passed onto Amateur Packet Radio (where for-profit is prohibited except under certain provisos).

rec.radio.swap may be more deserving of the posting in any matter.

Similarly, copyrighted material generally cannot be used. If it's TRULY worthwhile to the net, We would recommend obtaining permission from the copyright holder. Please note the source, and if permission was given. We reserve the right to make the final decision concerning appropriateness in all situations. In most cases, a brief summary of, or pointer to, the copyrighted information may be all we can allow.

-- I do not have access to news, how can I get the information posted to rec.radio.info?

Google has an excellent web interface to Usenet newsgroups. It is available at:

http://groups.google.com

It supports both reading and posting.

Another excellent web interface to at least the radio-related Usenet |
newsgroups is the RadioBanter site: |

http://www.radiobanter.com |

sponsored by the NewsgroupBanter project: |

http://www.newsgroupbanter.com |

It, too, supports both reading and posting. |

-- Will the material appearing in rec.radio.info be archived somewhere? |

Yes. See Google Groups and RadioBanter above. |

Effectively this means that anything you post to rec.radio.info will be permanently stored, so your work will not be lost.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, is there a way to speed up it's delivery, or automate for more convenience?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as time critical.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires co-operation and goodwill to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio hierarchy.

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

2024. rec.radio.info Posting Guidelines

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-22 07:05:02 UTC
From: rram@panix.com
Message-ID: <radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines-1-1198307100@panix.com>
Source record: 3433
Cross-posted to: rec.radio.info,rec.radio.amateur.moderated,rec.radio.scanner,rec.radio.shortwave,rec.answers,news.answers

```
Posted-By: auto-faq 3.3.2 beta (PGPMoose V2.0, Perl 5.005)
Archive-name: radio/rec-radio-info/guidelines
Revision: 1.5 2007/03/22 16:30:49
Posting-Frequency: posted monthly
URL: http://www.panix.com/~rram/usenet/rri/index.html

Changes followed by "|".

*** rec.radio.info - Posting Guidelines and Etiquette ***

Two introductory articles about rec.radio.info are posted to this group
and to rec.answers/news.answers every month. You are now reading the
second article, which explains how to submit something to
rec.radio.info, and which answers some Frequently Asked Questions about
the submission process. The first article is titled "Welcome to
rec.radio.info", and it might be a good idea to check it out as well.

-- How do I submit something to rec.radio.info?

Two possibilities. You can use your newsreading software to just post
the article to rec.radio.info, as you would do with any other
newsgroup. The difference is that the software recognizes the special
status of rec.radio.info as a moderated group, and will e-mail your
article to us, the moderation team, instead of posting it to the group.

Alternatively, you can mail your article directly to us at the following
address:

rec-radio-info@panix.com

Mailing us directly is probably (a wee bit) faster, but using the
transparency offered by the newsreading software is probably more
convenient.

If you have any questions, or wish to deal with some administrivia with
the moderation team, we suggest mailing to the following address:

rec-radio-info-request@panix.com

-- How soon will I see my article appear?

It depends on how busy we are. Your article reaches us as mail, we have
to read it first, give it the stamp of approval, and finally send it on
to the group. We will attempt to read and decide on all submissions
within 72 hours at the very least, though we will probably be able to
process submissions much faster in actual practice.
```

The site from which we moderate this newsgroup, "Public Access Internet and Unix, NYC" (Panix), is directly connected to the Internet, and articles posted at that site should appear at most major news sites, including Google Groups, the same day. The principal delay, therefore, will be the wait in the moderator's submission queue.

If you post a periodic article, and have shown to be trustworthy, we may allow you to post directly if the article is of a timely nature. See the section below on direct posting.

-- Should my article be in a specific format?

No. If it is not totally illegible, we will accept it, and if it does not have a correct subject-line we will correct it with your permission -- that's what a moderator is for.

However.

You could do us a big favor by making sure your article conforms to these simple requirements:

1) The article must present information, not discussion or requests, We will reject the article or require you to change the wording if it is worth it.
2) A good, descriptive Subject line.
3) Always mention what source you got the information from.
4) Don't forget to include a Followup-To header, at least if you don't want further discussion to automatically be forwarded to you, the poster, which is the default if the article is only posted to rec.radio.info.

As we said: if your article is appropriate we will post it even if you don't follow these guidelines, but then don't blame us for not processing it immediately. 'Perfect' articles we can send on with a couple of keystrokes. Stuff that needs minor editing is going to have to wait until we have time to do so.

Please do not waste both our and your time by posting requests, as this is an information only news group.

-- What about crossposting?

If you send something to rec.radio.info, just name any group you'd like to cross-post to in the Newsgroups field. Then, when we approve the article for rec.radio.info it will get automatically cross-posted to any other groups mentioned. This will also override the default Followup-To: poster, replacing it with the groups you cross posted to.

We would prefer if the group be cross-posted to the various discussion groups in the rec.radio.* hierarchy that are appropriate:

rec.radio.amateur.misc Amateur (ham) radio and related matters
rec.radio.amateur.packet Amateur Packet Radio discussions
rec.radio.amateur.policy Amateur Radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.noncomm Non commercial radio discussions

rec.radio.shortwave International broadcasting on the 'HF' bands
rec.radio.cb Citizens Band (27 MHz) discussion
rec.radio.scanner Scanner discussions (unsupported group)

or in one of the moderated groups:

rec.radio.amateur.moderated Amateur radio practices, rules, etc.
rec.radio.broadcasting Discussion of *domestic* radio broadcasting

We will leave it up to the poster to decide which group(s) are appropriate, but reserve the right to add groups if we feel it has broader interest. We will consult with the poster first.

Notes on crossposting:

- rec.radio.broadcasting is also a moderated group. The rec.radio.broadcasting moderator prefers to review all articles himself before posting. Placing rec.radio.broadcasting before rec.radio.info on the Newsgroups line should accomplish this. We will typically abide by the rec.radio.broadcasting moderator's decision whether the article is appropriate for rec.radio.info.

- rec.radio.amateur.moderated is also a moderated group. As the rec.radio.amateur.moderated Moderation Team manages both rec.radio.amateur.moderated and rec.radio.info, we can manage crossposting and approvals for both newsgroups. The rec.radio.amateur.moderated group does not allow crossposting to other discussion newsgroups, whether moderated or unmoderated. However, we would like to manage rec.radio.info as consistently as possible with how it was done by previous moderators, including the grandfathering of existing regular postings. Therefore, the submitter can choose rec.radio.amateur.moderated or the other unmoderated rec.radio.amateur.* discussion newsgroups for crossposting, but not both.

- Any FAQ or informational posting approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderation team that is also crossposted to any rec.radio.* newsgroup (besides just rec.radio.info) is also automatically pre-approved for rec.radio.info. See below for more information.

If you post to another moderated group, it may be better to make special arrangements with both moderators before posting by contacting us at our administrivia addresses.

In addition, cross-posts do not take up extra space; modern newsreaders can be configured to show you cross-posted articles only once anyway; not everybody reads rec.radio.info; and rec.radio.info was never meant to reduce the volume of the regular discussion newsgroups. But keep in mind that some of the mail gateways may filter out the informational postings (at request of the subscribers) to keep the load down.

You decide.

-- I have a regular posting with timely information, can I make arrangements to help speed up delivery by posting directly from my site?

Yes, there is! It may take a bit of chatter with the moderator, but we are willing to take responsible people and provide them the means of posting the articles directly from their site. We will try everything we can as we fully realize that DX (distant signal) and astronomical data can be somewhat transitory. We are also willing to allow regular posters of information the same courtesy, even if the information is not as timely.

We refer to this as self-moderation, which is partly based on the model for rec.answers/news.answers. This requires cooperation and good will to be beneficial to the community in the rec.radio.* hierarchy.

If you are currently maintaining (or plan to maintain) a radio-related periodic information posting, you may wish to consider crossposting it to rec.answers/news.answers. Postings that are approved by the rec.answers/news.answers moderators for this treatment are automatically pre-approved for crossposting to rec.radio.info (as the news.answers requirements are far more rigorous than the requirements this newsgroup ever plans to use). For more information about this option, consult the appropriate information articles and posting guidelines in rec.answers/news.answers.

Realize also, that even if your post is not approved for rec.answers/news.answers, it can still be approved for rec.radio.info. The intention is not so much to get every last bit of radio-related information on rec.answers/news.answers, but rather to provide an alternative avenue of approval (as well as grandfather existing maintainers of radio-related information and spare them additional bureaucratic hurdles). Again, crossposting to either rec.radio.info or rec.answers/news.answers, both, or neither, is at the discretion of the poster (subject to the approval of the moderators). You decide what is most appropriate for your article.

Please remember that as an information maintainer, you are not alone. There are many others on the net who maintain and post periodic information postings, using various intermediate-to-advanced features of Usenet (usually via automated tools). Various degrees of technical support and general hand-holding are available from many Usenet veterans. Send us some E-mail describing your needs to our administrative address below, and we'll try to help, or at least refer you to the right knowledgeable individual(s).

-- And Follow-ups?

If the only newsgroup you have specified is rec.radio.info, then the Followup-To: field will always be set to poster. If you do not want this, you must supply a Followup-To line of your own, and we will honor that one, as long as it is a subset of the original Newsgroups line.

If you specify newsgroups to cross-post to, then the Followup-To field will be set to include all the cross-posted groups, excepting rec.radio.info itself. Again, if you do not wish this behavior, supply your own Followup-To line.

We maintain other standards on the various RFC-1036 (news transport) header lines. For example, if the article is appropriate for passing into the Packet Radio Information Network, we encapsulate the Packet Bulletin Identifier (BID) in the Message-ID: news header line indicating the machine of origin as the ampr.org domain:

Message-ID: <$opa.55.1994@ampr.org> |

where the Packet Radio BID, in this example, is `$OPA.55', and it was posted in the year 1994, because some of the Bid numbers are cycled yearly. Hopefully, this can be used as a key to re-introduce the articles for the Packet Radio network. Also, if the article is a repost of an already existing information article in the rec.radio heirarchy, we ensure that the References: header line is linked to that previously posted article. This also helps to tag articles, and may be used for additional filtering if needed.

Since the articles are archived, please use the Summary and Keywords header lines to help one search for your article.

-- Why have I received no reply from you?

We never reject anything in silence, and we make a point of it to answer all our mail. However, E-mail, like a brain cell, can and does get lost, every now and again.

So, if you send us something, and you don't see it appear it rec.radio.info, and you still have not heard from us in reply after say, five days, you can be pretty sure that either your mail never reached us, or that our answer has never reached you. In that case, please try again (We will filter out duplicates).

Please direct any comments, questions, or criticisms about this article to rec-radio-info-request@panix.com.

(Adapted, with permission, from the original article written by Mark Salyzyn, AG4YD, ex-VE6MGS.)

2025. Re: Mobile Power Connector choices?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-22 23:18:30 UTC
From: Geber <Geber@bitbucket.invalid>
Message-ID: <5PidnU9ELtOCGfDanZ2dnUVZ_hudnZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 3434

I suggest Powerpole connectors, since they are becoming quite
popular among hams active with RACES and ARES. One source
is http://www.powerwerx.com/ (the 15/30/45 ampere model;
the shells are all the same and the metal insert is chosen based on
wire size).

Note that the crimp connector from Anderson is expensive.
Powerwerx suggests a GB crip tool, which I have. It tends
to make the metal pieces a bit too wide, so you have to
squeeze them with pliers to make them fit into the shell.
You might want to solder them, if you're good at that.

73
de WY2Y

"KC4UAI" <kc4uai@gmail.com> wrote in message
news:95a3f626-b814-4922-8b80-dd9f6f04449d@d4g2000prg.googlegroups.com...
>
> It's not been an issue for me until this Christmas when my wife
> decided to get me a VHF/UHF mobile rig. I've been using an older Icom
> 2 meter rig in both the cars for years so both cars have Icom power
> cables in place, but the new rig doesn't use the same power
> connectors.
>
> I'd like to settle on a common power connector for both the radios,
> but I'm not all that sure where to go to find something that is
> reasonably priced and is not going to disappear in the future and
> force me to go out and buy all new connectors again.
>
> I figured I'd not remove any of the existing connectors on the radios,
> but build up short jumpers that adapt to the connector of choice. I
> also figured that I'd use the existing power wires by replacing the
> current Icom power connector with what ever I pick.
>
> Any suggestions on what to use and where to get them?
>
> -= bob =-
>
>
>

2026. IC718 info?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-23 06:09:05 UTC
From: Jack VK2CJC <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com>
Message-ID: <fkks57$6vr$1@victor.killfile.org>
Source record: 3435

Can anyone tell me....

Can an Icom IC718 do full break in CW without a relay clicking in and out
like my 706 does?

cheers
Jack

2027. Re: Mobile Power Connector choices?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-23 22:48:23 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <98ptm3l9m64ail9mb1ela6hpanjc35ubp7@4ax.com>
Source record: 3436

On Sat, 22 Dec 2007 18:18:30 EST, "Geber" <Geber@bitbucket.invalid>
wrote:

>Note that the crimp connector from Anderson is expensive.
>Powerwerx suggests a GB crip tool, which I have. It tends
>to make the metal pieces a bit too wide, so you have to
>squeeze them with pliers to make them fit into the shell.
>You might want to solder them, if you're good at that.

You might want to use the correct tool - the West Mountain ratchet
crimper. I invested in one of those several years ago and consider it
one of my best tool investments in all the years.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

2028. Re: Mobile Power Connector choices?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-24 00:08:28 UTC
From: dplatt@radagast.org
Message-ID: <839345-5ne.ln1@radagast.org>
Source record: 3437

In article <98ptm3l9m64ail9mb1ela6hpanjc35ubp7@4ax.com>,
Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:
>>Note that the crimp connector from Anderson is expensive.
>>Powerwerx suggests a GB crip tool, which I have. It tends
>>to make the metal pieces a bit too wide, so you have to
>>squeeze them with pliers to make them fit into the shell.
>>You might want to solder them, if you're good at that.
>
>You might want to use the correct tool - the West Mountain ratchet
>crimper. I invested in one of those several years ago and consider it
>one of my best tool investments in all the years.

Do you know whether the die (anvil-and-punch) sets for the PowerPole
connectors are available separately? There are several brands of
ratchet crimper handles which take interchangeable die sets (Ideal and
Paladin among others). I've got one such, and I'd rather spend $25 or
so on a die set to add to my collection rather than buying a whole new
set of handles.

--
Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO
Friends of Jade Warrior home page: http://www.radagast.org/jade-warrior
I do _not_ wish to receive unsolicited commercial email, and I will
boycott any company which has the gall to send me such ads!

2029. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-25 03:23:05 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <IMudnaF6Z8ch6-3anZ2dnUVZ_tPinZ2d@comcast.com>
Source record: 3438

On Sat, 15 Dec 2007 00:35:33 -0500, Phil Kane wrote:

> Really, Mike! The station is IDed with the station licensee's call
> sign. The only time that the call sign of the operator is used is if
> the privileges of the op are greater than the privileges of the station
> licensee and the op is exercising those privileges. This is independen
t
> of who owns the radio.
>
> That's the hardest thing that I have to teach to ops using our club
> facilities and fixed facilities at ARES/RACES served agencies which hol
d
> individual call signs.

Hi Phil,

I know what you are saying, but there is a world of difference between
the seemingly clear rule and the reality. Our club has 3 call signs.
Which do I use? I've loaned equipment to the club to use for field day.
Must we operate under my call sign, and don't forget the other equipment
is the club's, or might be other equipment loans.

Some times there could be so much discussion about what the "proper" call

sign is to use that people might just pack up and go home.

-73 de Mike N3LI -

2030. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-25 04:27:49 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <pp01n3lp93g7mglniiqahddjf0dr7tgne4@4ax.com>
Source record: 3439

On Mon, 24 Dec 2007 22:23:05 EST, Mike Coslo <mcoslo@comcast.net>
wrote:

>I know what you are saying, but there is a world of difference between
>the seemingly clear rule and the reality. Our club has 3 call signs.
>Which do I use?

Are you sure that all three have the same club name? The station
trustee is responsible for telling the operator(s) what the correct
club call sign is.

Our club has a club call sign covering all of our activities, and
there is a sub-group of contesters in the club who have obtained a
different club call sign - with a different licensee - for contests
that they participate in separate from the club station.

>I've loaned equipment to the club to use for field day.
>Must we operate under my call sign, and don't forget the other equipment
>is the club's, or might be other equipment loans.

No. Unless you "declare" that it is your personal station. The call
sign to be used is not tied to the ownership of the hardware.

You don't want to be stuck with the violations of someone else.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

2031. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-25 13:13:11 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@thisaddressis.invalid>
Message-ID: <5tcd2sF1c78ojU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 3440

"Mike Coslo" <mcoslo@comcast.net> wrote in message
news:IMudnaF6Z8ch6-3anZ2dnUVZ_tPinZ2d@comcast.com

[snip]

: I know what you are saying, but there is a world of
: difference between the seemingly clear rule and the
: reality. Our club has 3 call signs. Which do I use? I've
: loaned equipment to the club to use for field day. Must
: we operate under my call sign, and don't forget the other
: equipment is the club's, or might be other equipment
: loans.
:
: Some times there could be so much discussion about what
: the "proper" call
:
: sign is to use that people might just pack up and go home.

The club I used to belong to had 2 callsigns. As long as you held the correct level of privileges under your own call, as far as I know you could use whichever club call you wanted, as long as you completed the right logbook..!

73 Ivor G6URP

2032. Re: IC718 info?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-25 15:44:50 UTC
From: Brian Reay <see@website.invalid>
Message-ID: <iP8cj.42450$wD5.479@newsfe3-gui.ntli.net>
Source record: 3441

"Jack VK2CJC" <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com> wrote in message
news:fkks57$6vr$1@victor.killfile.org...
> Can anyone tell me....
>
> Can an Icom IC718 do full break in CW without a relay clicking in and out
> like my 706 does?

I can't help you directly but try the IC718 Yahoo group, the moderated one.

Merry Xmas

&
--
73
Brian, G8OSN
www.g8osn.org.uk

Check out: http://www.durhamconcerto.com/
Great music to celebrate a great University and City

Now your amateur licence is free, why not send at least £15 per year to
support the
Radio Communications Foundation or STELAR?

2033. Re: IC718 info?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-25 15:47:58 UTC
From: hot-ham-and-cheese@hotmail.com
Message-ID: <c731df64-6728-41c5-ae4a-b62473e39741@a35g2000prf.googlegroups.com>
Source record: 3442

On Dec 23, 2:09 am, "Jack VK2CJC" <vk2...@look-me-up-at-qrz.com>
wrote:
> Can anyone tell me....
>
> Can an Icom IC718 do full break in CW without a relay clicking in and out
> like my 706 does?
>
> cheers
> Jack

Yep. Within the first 5 pages (of 29) the e-ham reviews, there were
two comments on the clickity-clack relays.

2034. Yaesu FT-60 Programming SW for Mac/Linux?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-26 01:34:10 UTC
From: KB1JMV <kb1jmv@nospam.arrl.net>
Message-ID: <kb1jmv-F1A1D8.20324825122007@comcast.dca.giganews.com>
Source record: 3443

Finally got the Yaesu FT-60 I've been pining for from the SO for xmas; was wondering whether anyone's familiar with any Mac or Linux programming software for it. I have the serial cable and a USB/serial adapter, but a day's worth of Googling hasn't turned up any software for anything other than Windows.

Is there any programming software for Mac/Linux, or am I stuck either finding a Windows machine or running a Windows instance in VMWare to program it? (Setting aside the ability to program it by hand, which looks like no fun at all, particularly given that I have a cable...)

Any and all suggestions are welcome.

73 and happy holidays,
KB1JMV

2035. Re: Mobile Power Connector choices?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-26 10:21:36 UTC
From: Nate Bargmann <n0nb.DO.NOT.SPAM@ME.networksplus.net>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.12.26.03.44.41@ME.networksplus.net>
Source record: 3444

On Sun, 23 Dec 2007 19:08:28 -0500, Dave Platt wrote:

> Do you know whether the die (anvil-and-punch) sets for the PowerPole
> connectors are available separately? There are several brands of
> ratchet crimper handles which take interchangeable die sets (Ideal and
> Paladin among others). I've got one such, and I'd rather spend $25 or
> so on a die set to add to my collection rather than buying a whole new
> set of handles.

The dies are removable on the West Mountain crimper (I just checked), but

it is a different style handle than the RF Industries Handle I have at
work. I didn't try to see if they would interchange and I don't know if
WMR would sell the dies seperately. I recall paying about $50 for the
WMR crimper from Powerwerx.

The WMR crimper gives a perfect crimp so long as the handles aren't
squeezed beyond the point where the ratchet releases.

73, de Nate >>

--

"The optimist proclaims that we live in the best of all possible worlds,
the pessimist fears this is true."

2036. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-26 10:22:21 UTC
From: Mike Coslo <mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net>
Message-ID: <Xns9A11EAC5332C3mcoslocomcastnet@216.196.97.136>
Source record: 3445

Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote in
news:pp01n3lp93g7mglniiqahddjf0dr7tgne4@4ax.com:

> On Mon, 24 Dec 2007 22:23:05 EST, Mike Coslo <mcoslo@comcast.net>
> wrote:
>
>>I know what you are saying, but there is a world of difference between
>>the seemingly clear rule and the reality. Our club has 3 call signs.
>>Which do I use?
>
> Are you sure that all three have the same club name? The station
> trustee is responsible for telling the operator(s) what the correct
> club call sign is.

Each has a different Trustee.

> Our club has a club call sign covering all of our activities, and
> there is a sub-group of contesters in the club who have obtained a
> different club call sign - with a different licensee - for contests
> that they participate in separate from the club station.
>
>>I've loaned equipment to the club to use for field day.
>>Must we operate under my call sign, and don't forget the other
>>equipment is the club's, or might be other equipment loans.
>
> No. Unless you "declare" that it is your personal station. The call
> sign to be used is not tied to the ownership of the hardware.

And there is an important part of the equation. Is there an F.C.C.
form in which the "station" is declared as belonging to which call
sign? If I borrow a friend's HT to call back somone who calls me, I
think I am technically in violation of what station is what and
who's station.

> You don't want to be stuck with the violations of someone else.

Indeed. I think that this is one of those gray areas in which we some
times find our selves.

It reminds me of a drawn out discussion once about "Is it illegal to use
an antenna analyzer?"

After a whole lot of cogitation, the consensus was that it was indeed
illegal to use one without ID'ing, but that the F.C.C. enforcement
officer would be sorely tempted to box your ears if you turned someone
in for using an antenna analyzer.... 8^)

- 73 de Mike N3LI -

2037. Re: Yaesu FT-60 Programming SW for Mac/Linux?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-26 14:08:07 UTC
From: Nate Bargmann <n0nb.DO.NOT.SPAM@ME.networksplus.net>
Message-ID: <pan.2007.12.26.03.38.30@ME.networksplus.net>
Source record: 3446

On Tue, 25 Dec 2007 20:34:10 -0500, KB1JMV wrote:

> Any and all suggestions are welcome.

The Hamlib project, http://www.hamlib.org welcomes contributions for all manner of rigs. However, if the control information cannot be freely obtained, such as requiring a Non Disclosure Agreement, then we cannot utilize it. If the FT-60 has CAT control information in the manual, then

it shouldn't be difficult to add support. Otherwise, as I suspect, someone will need to reverse engineer the protocol.

73, de Nate >>

--

"The optimist proclaims that we live in the best of all possible worlds, the pessimist fears this is true."

2038. Re: Yaesu FT-60 Programming SW for Mac/Linux?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-26 14:51:55 UTC
From: Mike McDonald <pastormac1usa@yahoo.com>
Message-ID: <pastormac1usa-D28A1F.09224626122007@aioe.cjb.net>
Source record: 3447

In article <kb1jmv-F1A1D8.20324825122007@comcast.dca.giganews.com>,
KB1JMV <kb1jmv@nospam.arrl.net> wrote:

> Is there any programming software for Mac/Linux, or am I stuck either
> finding a Windows machine or running a Windows instance in VMWare to
> program it? (Setting aside the ability to program it by hand, which
> looks like no fun at all, particularly given that I have a cable...)

I'd say virtualization is the best bet as Yaesu would not likely open source their code or port it to multiple platforms. Parallels or VMware would be my choice.

It would be interesting to know what high level language Yaesu used to create the Windows port. My guess would be C# or something using Visual Studio that locks it strictly into Windows. If it was C++ or Java a straight re-compile is all that would be necessary.

--
Pax,

Pastor Mac
Made on an Intel iMac.
Windows is for Solitaire.

2039. Re: Yaesu FT-60 Programming SW for Mac/Linux?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-26 17:00:38 UTC
From: Edwin Johnson <edwinljohnson@bellsouth.net>
Message-ID: <Zvvcj.34961$N67.3678@bignews5.bellsouth.net>
Source record: 3448

On 2007-12-26, KB1JMV <kb1jmv@nospam.arrl.net> wrote:
> Finally got the Yaesu FT-60 I've been pining for from the SO for xmas;
> was wondering whether anyone's familiar with any Mac or Linux
> programming software for it. I have the serial cable and a USB/serial
> adapter, but a day's worth of Googling hasn't turned up any software for

You might look into vxur/vxuw at http://www.onjapan.net/ham to see if it might work for you. I just built it from the source code. I have both an FT-857 and a VX-5R. Since Yaesu used, apparently, the same protocol for programming both, my suspicion is they kept that for the FT-60, although don't know.

The documentation says to put the rig in 'clone' mode and then you use the program command line interface to download or write memory. I may do some experimenting with my VX-5R if I can located pin-outs on the radio, probably from my mic/phone jack, for the rs232. Might be fun to try. (My email address at top is good for off-line if you wish.)

73 ...Edwin, KD5ZLB
--
_____
"Once you have flown, you will walk the earth with your eyes
turned skyward, for there you have been, there you long to
return."-da Vinci http://bellsouthpwp2.net/e/d/edwinljohnson

2040. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-26 18:53:08 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <p785n3hjhmi03agjsuqu4rpunl85krav9c@4ax.com>
Source record: 3449

On Wed, 26 Dec 2007 05:22:21 EST, Mike Coslo
<mcoslo@youknow.comcast.net> wrote:

> And there is an important part of the equation. Is there an F.C.C.
> form in which the "station" is declared as belonging to which call
> sign? If I borrow a friend's HT to call back somone who calls me, I
> think I am technically in violation of what station is what and
> who's station.

No violation. That situation can be viewed either of two ways,
both equally valid and both equally legal - you are borrowing hardware
for YOUR station and use your call sign, or you are operating HIS
station and use his call sign.

>> You don't want to be stuck with the violations of someone else.
>
>Indeed. I think that this is one of those gray areas in which we some
>times find our selves.

Not grey at all to us comm lawyers.... <ggg>

>It reminds me of a drawn out discussion once about "Is it illegal to use
>an antenna analyzer?"
>
>After a whole lot of cogitation, the consensus was that it was indeed
>illegal to use one without ID'ing,

Depends on the power level used by the Analyzer. It may be operated
as a Part 15 device - no license, no ID - if it meets those
requirements.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

2041. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-27 00:05:50 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <13n5jghbtgn30b1@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3450

"Phil Kane" wrote

>>It reminds me of a drawn out discussion once about "Is it illegal to use
>>an antenna analyzer?"
>>
>>After a whole lot of cogitation, the consensus was that it was indeed
>>illegal to use one without ID'ing,

> Depends on the power level used by the Analyzer. It may be operated
> as a Part 15 device - no license, no ID - if it meets those
> requirements.

Is the power limit under Part 15 still 100 mw?

Howard N7SO (too lazy to look it up)

2042. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-27 05:29:52 UTC
From: "David G. Nagel" <nagel.david@sbcglobal.net>
Message-ID: <iuGcj.81487$Um6.18120@newssvr12.news.prodigy.net>
Source record: 3351

Howard Lester wrote:
> "Phil Kane" wrote
>
>>> It reminds me of a drawn out discussion once about "Is it illegal to use
>>> an antenna analyzer?"
>>>
>>> After a whole lot of cogitation, the consensus was that it was indeed
>>> illegal to use one without ID'ing,
>
>> Depends on the power level used by the Analyzer. It may be operated
>> as a Part 15 device - no license, no ID - if it meets those
>> requirements.
>
> Is the power limit under Part 15 still 100 mw?
>
> Howard N7SO (too lazy to look it up)
>
>
It is unless you are operating BPL then the sky appears to be the limit.

Dave WD9BDZ

2043. Re: Battery question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-27 16:05:52 UTC
From: ml <m@di.net>
Message-ID: <m-4B2502.07310127122007@news.verizon.net>
Source record: 3352

In article <fgjoo7$29l$1@victor.killfile.org>,
"Jack VK2CJC" <vk2cjc@look-me-up-at-qrz.com> wrote:

> Heres a couple of questions for someone who knows about batteries.
>
> I have two hand held radios which I rarely use. An Alinco dual bander with
> Nmhi batteries, and a commercial UHF with Nicad batteries. Both sets of
> batteries are in good order and hold a charge well. I can leave them for
> months and when I pick the radios up, they still have a good charge in them.
>
> Today I lifted both radios, the first time in a month or two, and both had
> totally flat batteries. I know both were fully charged when I last switched
> them off. What happened? The weather has got warmer in the last month, and
> the humidity levels are up. But nothing else has changed. What flattened
> them both?
>
> Also...
>
> Last time I took a hand held radio abroad, I took 2 sets of batteries. Both
> were fully charged when they were packed. Both were flat when I reached my
> destination. Same with my mobile phone and camera batteries as well. All
> were nearly flat and had not been switched on during the journey. What is it
> that makes batteries go flat when travelling in a pressurised aircraft?
>
> I hope someone can advise. I've been thinking about the aircraft one for
> ages :o)
>
> 73

there is probably a few thing gong on

firstly when you saythe batteries are 'fully' charged are you shooting
from the hip or actually measure both volts AND amps?

if not that your premise, 'batteries are fully charged' isn't prob as
good as you thought

as you stated you've had these batteries over time as they age they
have diminished capacity , they will not hold the amp/hr rate for as
long UNDER full LOAD while a quick voltage check or radio on test
might make it appear

the things the other folks said are also true higher temp will reduce
the battery life for example , that radios also have a small draw
current even when off etc

it's highly doubtful any 'xray' or other screaning machine at airports
had any significant effect millions go thru if everyone had problems
we'd hear about it by now

if you want to learn about the machines and are afraid to ask the clerks
just google it btw i've never seen a machine w/o a name tag but u
do have to know where to look perhaps some were removed

all these things added up are significant (except luggage
screaning)

what most likely happening is that the vibration of the plain caused
the power switch to turn on drain the battery and switch off alot
of strange things happen in packing .... removing the battery and
taping over the contacts should help

otherwise i'd suspect your batteries might just be old and not up to
full snuff

you'd have to make a controlled scienfitic test to be sure whats going
on

best of luck and holidayz

2044. h

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-27 17:39:35 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <2hn7n35642v13pfcsa7v1ei3her0icctrm@4ax.com>
Source record: 3353

On Wed, 26 Dec 2007 19:05:50 EST, "Howard Lester"
<heylester@dakotacom.net> wrote:

>> Depends on the power level used by the Analyzer. It may be operated
>> as a Part 15 device - no license, no ID - if it meets those
>> requirements.
>
>Is the power limit under Part 15 still 100 mw?
>
>Howard N7SO (too lazy to look it up)

You didn't miss anything by not trying to look it up. The Commish' in
its infinite wisdom made the Part 15 "intentional radiator" and
"incidental radiator" requirements very complicated several years ago,
with no real thought given to analog laboratory measuring equipment
such as TDRs, signal generators, and Antenna Analyzers.

The old "100 mw input" limits apply only to certain types of devices,
and in general "intentional radiators" have to be certified for
compliance with specified antenna arrangements.

Stuff like that keeps private-sector "FCC Certification Test
Facilities" in business.
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

2045. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-27 19:23:44 UTC
From: Bruce in alaska <fast@btpost.net>
Message-ID: <fast-6E35B6.09124427122007@netnews.worldnet.att.net>
Source record: 3354

In article <

@corp.supernews.com>,
"Howard Lester" <heylester@dakotacom.net> wrote:

> "Phil Kane" wrote
>
> >>It reminds me of a drawn out discussion once about "Is it illegal to use
> >>an antenna analyzer?"
> >>
> >>After a whole lot of cogitation, the consensus was that it was indeed
> >>illegal to use one without ID'ing,
>
> > Depends on the power level used by the Analyzer. It may be operated
> > as a Part 15 device - no license, no ID - if it meets those
> > requirements.
>
> Is the power limit under Part 15 still 100 mw?
>
> Howard N7SO (too lazy to look it up)

There a pile of definitions that define what the Maximum RF can be
for a Part 15 device these days. Frequency is one, Intentional, or
Unintentional radiation is another, Carrier, Spread Spectrum, etc.
It isn't for the Faint at Heart, to figure it out.

Bruce in alaska

--
Bruce in alaska
add <path> after <fast> to reply

2046. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-27 20:33:29 UTC
From: dplatt@radagast.org
Message-ID: <5ped45-5e2.ln1@radagast.org>
Source record: 3355

In article <2hn7n35642v13pfcsa7v1ei3her0icctrm@4ax.com>,
Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:

>You didn't miss anything by not trying to look it up. The Commish' in
>its infinite wisdom made the Part 15 "intentional radiator" and
>"incidental radiator" requirements very complicated several years ago,
>with no real thought given to analog laboratory measuring equipment
>such as TDRs, signal generators, and Antenna Analyzers.
>
>The old "100 mw input" limits apply only to certain types of devices,
>and in general "intentional radiators" have to be certified for
>compliance with specified antenna arrangements.
>
>Stuff like that keeps private-sector "FCC Certification Test
>Facilities" in business.

Phil,

In practice, is there anything that can be done about uncertified (and
very probably not-technically-compliant) intentional radiators?

Last year, after I bought a new car, I found that the remote-control
keyfob would not work reliably (or at all) when the car was parked in
a local mall's parking lot. When I sniffed around a bit with my HT, I
found that there was a strong, repetitive signal on 433.920 MHz. I
DF'ed to a local restaurant. The waiters at the restaurant use
hand-held remote terminals, which transmit the order (by item number,
apparently) back to a base in the kitchen where it's printed out by
the cooks. This makes for fast and reliable service, but the base is
apparently sending out a heartbeat transmission several times per
second. The signal is strong enough to swamp other devices on 433.920
MHz for around a hundred yards. I can pick it up on my car rig (in
SSB mode) for a couple of blocks in some directions.

One evening when I ate there I expressed curiosity and took a look at
one of the handheld terminals. It has a model-number sticker on the
bottom but there's no hint of a Part 15 registration number. I wrote
down the manufacturer name, found their website, and also dug through
the FCC Part 15 authorization database. I can't find any evidence
that this device (which is imported) was ever certified under Part 15.
I suspect that it's noncertified, and may have been cranked up to a
power level which is beyond the Part 15 limits (and certainly seems
excessive for what it's doing).

I passed the info along to my local ARRL OO, who contacted some lab
guys at the ARRL... they'd never heard of this particular problem. As

far as I know they didn't choose to follow up on the matter.

Since this isn't actually interfering with any licensed ham transmission I'm trying to make (but only with other Part 15 devices) I didn't feel that I really have standing to push the matter through the ARRL/OO or file a formal complaint with the FCC.

My gut feeling at this point is that trying to get the FCC to take this issue up with the manufacturer, importer, and/or customer (restaurant) is probably a waste of effort... can you hold out any hope that there's a way of dealing with the problem?

--
Dave Platt <dplatt@radagast.org> AE6EO
Friends of Jade Warrior home page: http://www.radagast.org/jade-warrior
I do _not_ wish to receive unsolicited commercial email, and I will boycott any company which has the gall to send me such ads!

2047. Re: h

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-27 23:30:44 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <13n8d6ing6tkb5f@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3356

"Phil Kane" wrote

> The old "100 mw input" limits apply only to certain types of devices,
> and in general "intentional radiators" have to be certified for
> compliance with specified antenna arrangements.

The device in question was a Heathkit CB walkie-talkie with a not so super regenerative receiver that I built in 1963. I suppose that radio was an "intentional radiator," but its intentions were pretty weak.... Oh, well, it led to a ham ticket.

Howard

2048. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-28 01:07:45 UTC
From: Richard Knoppow <dickburk@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <13n8f6tj9hu6t4f@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3357

"Phil Kane" <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote in message
news:f2p6m39mq9d0u0mvbf2tp3n3d62k4n0h5p@4ax.com...
> On Fri, 14 Dec 2007 06:43:35 EST, Bill Horne
> <telecom-digest@comcastQRM.net> wrote:
>
>>BTW, given a choice between LSB and USB, the military's
>>preference is
>>for Upper sideband, since using USB makes it easy to talk
>>another
>>station on to a net frequency: if his voice sounds high,
>>then so is his
>>frequency.
>
> USB was the commercial standard for the 50 years or so
> that I've been
> in that business. Even with ISB (Independent SideBand)
> where each
> sideband has different information, the "lower"
> sideband(s) are not
> inverted relative to the "upper" sideband(s).
> --
>
> 73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane
>
>>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
> Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon
>
> e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net
>
I'm not quite sure what you mean by "inverted". ISB
sidebands have the same orientation as normal sidbands,
meaning the lower is inverted with regard to the upper
sideband and in regard to the freqencies in the original
signal, i.e., the higher frequencies in a voice are lower in
RF absolute frequency although a greater separation from the
"carrier".
Single sidband transmission goes back to its early use
for intercontental radio links such as the telephone service
from the U.S. to England provided by AT&T. I've forgotten
the dates but think it was the late 1920's. The equipment
was enormously complex compared to later ham SSB stuff. One
of the methods used for privacy was sideband inversion
applied to both sidebands, that is, the lower voice
frequencies were further from the "carrier". If one had a

reasonably selective receiver the signals could be heard
clearly. This method was used mostly by RCA. ATT used a much
more complex system which split the voice base band into
several smaller bands and "shuffled" them with or without
inversion. One could tell it was voice but not decipher it.

--

Richard Knoppow
Los Angeles, CA, USA
dickburk@ix.netcom.com

2049. Re: h

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-28 20:21:59 UTC
From: Bruce in alaska <fast@btpost.net>
Message-ID: <fast-C73A10.10355628122007@netnews.worldnet.att.net>
Source record: 3358

In article <13n8d6ing6tkb5f@corp.supernews.com>,
"Howard Lester" <heylester@dakotacom.net> wrote:

> "Phil Kane" wrote
>
> > The old "100 mw input" limits apply only to certain types of devices,
> > and in general "intentional radiators" have to be certified for
> > compliance with specified antenna arrangements.
>
> The device in question was a Heathkit CB walkie-talkie with a not so super
> regenerative receiver that I built in 1963. I suppose that radio was an
> "intentional radiator," but its intentions were pretty weak.... Oh, well, it
> led to a ham ticket.
>
> Howard

I suspect your unit would be "GrandFathered" by the rules in effect
when it was built. Phil would know for sure.....

--
Bruce in alaska
add <path> after <fast> to reply

2050. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-28 20:23:56 UTC
From: Bruce in alaska <fast@btpost.net>
Message-ID: <fast-E9EF4F.11061128122007@netnews.worldnet.att.net>
Source record: 3359

In article <5ped45-5e2.ln1@radagast.org>,
dplatt@radagast.org (Dave Platt) wrote:

> In article <2hn7n35642v13pfcsa7v1ei3her0icctrm@4ax.com>,
> Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:
>
> >You didn't miss anything by not trying to look it up. The Commish' in
> >its infinite wisdom made the Part 15 "intentional radiator" and
> >"incidental radiator" requirements very complicated several years ago,
> >with no real thought given to analog laboratory measuring equipment
> >such as TDRs, signal generators, and Antenna Analyzers.
> >
> >The old "100 mw input" limits apply only to certain types of devices,
> >and in general "intentional radiators" have to be certified for
> >compliance with specified antenna arrangements.
> >
> >Stuff like that keeps private-sector "FCC Certification Test
> >Facilities" in business.
>
> Phil,
>
> In practice, is there anything that can be done about uncertified (and
> very probably not-technically-compliant) intentional radiators?
>
> Last year, after I bought a new car, I found that the remote-control
> keyfob would not work reliably (or at all) when the car was parked in
> a local mall's parking lot. When I sniffed around a bit with my HT, I
> found that there was a strong, repetitive signal on 433.920 MHz. I
> DF'ed to a local restaurant. The waiters at the restaurant use
> hand-held remote terminals, which transmit the order (by item number,
> apparently) back to a base in the kitchen where it's printed out by
> the cooks. This makes for fast and reliable service, but the base is
> apparently sending out a heartbeat transmission several times per
> second. The signal is strong enough to swamp other devices on 433.920
> MHz for around a hundred yards. I can pick it up on my car rig (in
> SSB mode) for a couple of blocks in some directions.
>
> One evening when I ate there I expressed curiosity and took a look at
> one of the handheld terminals. It has a model-number sticker on the
> bottom but there's no hint of a Part 15 registration number. I wrote
> down the manufacturer name, found their website, and also dug through
> the FCC Part 15 authorization database. I can't find any evidence
> that this device (which is imported) was ever certified under Part 15.
> I suspect that it's noncertified, and may have been cranked up to a

> power level which is beyond the Part 15 limits (and certainly seems
> excessive for what it's doing).
>
> I passed the info along to my local ARRL OO, who contacted some lab
> guys at the ARRL... they'd never heard of this particular problem. As
> far as I know they didn't choose to follow up on the matter.
>
> Since this isn't actually interfering with any licensed ham
> transmission I'm trying to make (but only with other Part 15 devices)
> I didn't feel that I really have standing to push the matter through
> the ARRL/OO or file a formal complaint with the FCC.
>
> My gut feeling at this point is that trying to get the FCC to take
> this issue up with the manufacturer, importer, and/or customer
> (restaurant) is probably a waste of effort... can you hold out any
> hope that there's a way of dealing with the problem?

A couple of things here: First the Terminal System "May" be covered
by a Station License issued by the FCC, in a different Radio Service.
Second, It may very well be an illegal Import, and not Certified.
Third, the Part 15 tag may have fallen, or worn off.
I had a case where a Fast Food Joint had setup their Drive-Thru Window
Com System on a UHF/Low Freq, on what was thought at the Corporate
Level, an unused Frequency in that town. It so happened, that it was the
Input for the local Sand & Gravel Dealers .25Kw Repeater, and all the
Cement Truck Drivers could hear was, "Do you want Fries with that order,
Sir?"
On Inspection, there was NO Station License Posted, and later revealed,
not even applied for. Corp. forgot and it "Slipped thru the Cracks",
Ya, Right. It was of MAJOR concern to the Sand & Gravel Company to rescue
their repeater, so I had to issue a "Notice Of Violation" unPlug the
Power Cord, for the Base Station, and "SEAL" it, and instruct the
Manager, that if the system went back on the Air, I would be back with
the Federal Marshal, and he would be going to the Gray-Bar Hotel. My Boss
got a call from some Corp. Weenie, complaining about the inspection,
how it was all a mistake, they were Sorry they lost the License
Application, that it was all the Installation Contractors Fault, it will
never happen again, Oh and by the way could we turn it back "ON" as is,
just until we can get this all straighten out?..... Didn't even get the
chance, to comment, as SHE hit the guy with a $5000 forfeiture for
UnLicensed Operation.

Just another day in the life of an FCC Resident Field Agent.....

--
Bruce in alaska
add <path> after <fast> to reply

2051. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-28 21:22:43 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <aapan3lin958qm5ibutvs7vbq3kkj1lqkn@4ax.com>
Source record: 3360

On Fri, 28 Dec 2007 15:23:56 EST, Bruce in alaska <fast@btpost.net>
wrote:

>A couple of things here: First the Terminal System "May" be covered
>by a Station License issued by the FCC, in a different Radio Service.

At 433 MHz? Not very likely.

>Second, It may very well be an illegal Import, and not Certified.

In this era this is most likely. I sent the necessary contact info to
Dave off-line to get something done about this.

>My Boss
>got a call from some Corp. Weenie, complaining about the inspection,
>how it was all a mistake, they were Sorry they lost the License
>Application, that it was all the Installation Contractors Fault, it will
>never happen again, Oh and by the way could we turn it back "ON" as is,
>just until we can get this all straighten out?......

I've heard that song before. Can it be played in 4 part harmony?
<ggg>

>Didn't even get the chance, to comment, as SHE hit the guy with a
>$5000 forfeiture for UnLicensed Operation.

How very much Marlene. "The List" shows that she's still the RA in
Anchorage. I haven't seen her since the Big Let's-Rename-the-Field
Bureau-and-Then-Take-It-Apart conference that we attended 12 years ago
where most of us made up our minds to retire. Are you still in
contact with her?
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

2052. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-28 21:24:15 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <5aqan3533fc3h53b648ln1h4jq094eb1qg@4ax.com>
Source record: 3361

On Fri, 28 Dec 2007 15:21:59 EST, Bruce in alaska <fast@btpost.net>
wrote:

>I suspect your unit would be "GrandFathered" by the rules in effect
>when it was built. Phil would know for sure.....

Either that or "grandmothered"... <ggg>
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

2053. Re: h

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-28 21:40:51 UTC
From: Howard Lester <heylester@dakotacom.net>
Message-ID: <13nan9m777gv8a2@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3362

"Bruce in alaska" wrote

>> The device in question was a Heathkit CB walkie-talkie with a not so
>> super
>> regenerative receiver that I built in 1963. I suppose that radio was an
>> "intentional radiator," but its intentions were pretty weak.... Oh, well,
>> it
>> led to a ham ticket.
>>
>> Howard
>
> I suspect your unit would be "GrandFathered" by the rules in effect
> when it was built. Phil would know for sure.....

Bruce, it's long since been grandfathered to the landfill. :-)

2054. Re: Identification Question

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-29 20:16:09 UTC
From: Bruce in alaska <fast@btpost.net>
Message-ID: <fast-3FCC0B.10262029122007@netnews.worldnet.att.net>
Source record: 3363

In article <aapan3lin958qm5ibutvs7vbq3kkj1lqkn@4ax.com>,
Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote:

> How very much Marlene. "The List" shows that she's still the RA in
> Anchorage. I haven't seen her since the Big Let's-Rename-the-Field
> Bureau-and-Then-Take-It-Apart conference that we attended 12 years ago
> where most of us made up our minds to retire. Are you still in
> contact with her?
> --
>
> 73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

No, but I did have a chance to talk to Dave, a few years back.
He was the other RA that was left after the Blood-Letting. I
understand they still work out of the Old Anchorage Monitoring
Station Site, near the Airport, but I haven't traveled up that
way for years.
Yea, she was a real "Piece of Work". I wonder if she ever got
"Called UP" as she was a Major in the Reserves, when I worked
for her. I wouldn't want to face her down, if she had a weapon in
hand....

--
Bruce in alaska
add <path> after <fast> to reply

2055. Re: Any good ham Fleamarkest in So Calif Dec 15 or 16th?

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-30 02:38:21 UTC
From: Richard Knoppow <dickburk@ix.netcom.com>
Message-ID: <13ndp6lrlrs3d30@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3364

"The Shadow" <Cranston@CobaltClub.com> wrote in message
news:gZH6j.2358$mF1.844@newsfe08.phx...
>
> "Steven L. Finberg" <w1gsl@mit.edu> wrote in message
> news:475b3c45$0$502$b45e6eb0@senator-bedfellow.mit.edu...
>> I'm likley to be on the left coast next weekend.
>> Any good fleas?
>>
>> I see 3 monthly ones, on an old list, for the third
>> weekend..
>>
>> Santee El Cajon ARC
>> Pomona Microwave Relay Assn
>> Chino Hills
>>
>> Are they still real?
>> Relative merits?
>>
>> 73 Steve F
>> W1GSL

The TRW swap meet seems to be the only regular one in
the Los Angeles area. It was today and I was there.
Directions are on the W6TRW web site. There are occasional
treasures but also a lot of just plain trash. Get there
early, the sellers are just about gone by noon. The other
meets on the list are pretty far from the city.

--

Richard Knoppow
Los Angeles, CA, USA
dickburk@ix.netcom.com

2056. Scanning for "reality"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-30 19:05:46 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net>
Message-ID: <13nfqvt93oqvl07@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3365

I'm following a thread over in the film/TV production sound NG,
news:rec.arts.movies.produciton.sound dealing with equipment
selection and configuration for some new "reality" TV show. The
fact that these range from insipid to contemptible aside, I was
amused to note one of the equipment recommendations...

Apparently the directors/producers are using portable scanners
which are programmed to the wireless mic frequencies of the
"talent", (and with the "talent"s names programmed for display)
so that the producer/director can scan all the conversations to
find something "juicy" to send the camera crew to shoot. OTOH
perhaps it is only art imitating life where people listen to police,
fire, and other public agencies to find out what's going on. :-)

In some places (notably NYC) many audio production pros
carry computer-based wideband radios to plot local spectrum
situations in order to select reliable wireless mic frequencies.
And they are desparing at the imminent loss of the analog
TV channels (where they freuqently use narrow slices of
unused local channels for wireless mics and other wireless
functions.)

2057. Re: Scanning for "reality"

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-30 19:25:40 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <8vrfn3556a0u334lcd9dfq7l7mssf8md2t@4ax.com>
Source record: 3366

On Sun, 30 Dec 2007 14:05:46 EST, "Richard Crowley"
<rcrowley@xp7rt.net> wrote:

>In some places (notably NYC) many audio production pros
>carry computer-based wideband radios to plot local spectrum
>situations in order to select reliable wireless mic frequencies.
>And they are desparing at the imminent loss of the analog
>TV channels (where they freuqently use narrow slices of
>unused local channels for wireless mics and other wireless
>functions.)

They are not alone - the entire broadcast industry is concerned about
it. We (both BC people and hams) often lose sight of the real meaning
of "secondary allocation".
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

2058. Re: New Lithium Battery Rules by TSA

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-31 02:21:02 UTC
From: Jerseyj <jerseyj69@comcast.net>
Message-ID: <jerseyj69-826273.19445430122007@newsgroups.comcast.net>
Source record: 3367

In article <fl88520rn1@news3.newsguy.com>, me@privacy.net wrote:

> http://www.thestreet.com/s/us-tackles-lithium-batteries/newsanalysis/hardware/
> 10396317.html?puc=_googlen?cm_ven=GOOGLEN&cm_cat=FREE&cm_ite=NA
>
> Important info for hams flying with Lithium batteries.

I don't get it. Either they are safe or they are unsafe. Why would any number of batteries (say 2) be ok, but not 3. Once more it appears some rules are being made to have people "feel protected" rather than dealing with the actual problem....

2059. Re: New Lithium Battery Rules by TSA

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-31 04:21:39 UTC
From: Phil Kane <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop>
Message-ID: <4ergn3d19ot58rp15dvtg0si4ps4qgkhc1@4ax.com>
Source record: 3368

On Sun, 30 Dec 2007 21:21:02 EST, Jerseyj <jerseyj69@comcast.net>
wrote:

>Once more it appears some
>rules are being made to have people "feel protected" rather than dealing
>with the actual problem....

The rules are made so that the technically illiterate "gate checkers"
have a bright line between "OK" and "not OK".
--

73 de K2ASP - Phil Kane

>From a Clearing in the Silicon Forest
Beaverton (Washington County) Oregon

e-mail: k2asp [at] arrl [dot] net

2060. Re: New Lithium Battery Rules by TSA

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-31 15:42:46 UTC
From: Ivor Jones <ivor@thisaddressis.invalid>
Message-ID: <5tru7pF1f3vnoU1@mid.individual.net>
Source record: 3369

"Phil Kane" <Phil.Kane@nov.shmovz.ka.pop> wrote in message
news:4ergn3d19ot58rp15dvtg0si4ps4qgkhc1@4ax.com
: : On Sun, 30 Dec 2007 21:21:02 EST, Jerseyj
: : <jerseyj69@comcast.net> wrote:
: :
: : : Once more it appears some
: : : rules are being made to have people "feel protected"
: : : rather than dealing with the actual problem....
: :
: : The rules are made so that the technically illiterate
: : "gate checkers" have a bright line between "OK" and
: : "not OK". --

Understood, but why are (for example) 2 batteries ok but 3 not ok..?

73 Ivor G6URP

2061. Re: New Lithium Battery Rules by TSA

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-31 15:43:07 UTC
From: xpyttl <xpyttl_NOSPAM@earthling.net>
Message-ID: <xI7ej.24$F5.2@newsfe07.lga>
Source record: 3370

"Jerseyj" <jerseyj69@comcast.net> wrote in message
news:jerseyj69-826273.19445430122007@newsgroups.comcast.net...
> In article <fl88520rn1@news3.newsguy.com>, me@privacy.net wrote:
>
>> http://www.thestreet.com/s/us-tackles-lithium-batteries/newsanalysis/hardware/
>> 10396317.html?puc=_googlen?cm_ven=GOOGLEN&cm_cat=FREE&cm_ite=NA
>>
>> Important info for hams flying with Lithium batteries.
>
> I don't get it. Either they are safe or they are unsafe. Why would any
> number of batteries (say 2) be ok, but not 3. Once more it appears some
> rules are being made to have people "feel protected" rather than dealing
> with the actual problem....

Lithium batteries are like little bombs. They are pretty dangerous,
although unlikely to cause trouble if left alone. A few years ago, the
Material Safety Data Sheets from all the manufacturers included detailed
warnings about the flammability, specialized equipment needed to extinguish
these things, and the toxicity of the vapors. About two years ago all of
the MSDSs changed to say something like "safe for transportation" and not
much else. I assume some industry pressure was brought to bear, perhaps
some carriers were reluctant to transport the things.

Nevertheless, they are not completely safe. I suspect the rules are an
attempt to balance the risks between the risk of the things and the reality
that they need to be transported.

..

2062. Re: New Lithium Battery Rules by TSA

Newsgroup: rec.radio.amateur.moderated
Date: 2007-12-31 19:05:17 UTC
From: Richard Crowley <rcrowley@xp7rt.net>
Message-ID: <13nicupkidttp25@corp.supernews.com>
Source record: 3371

"Ivor Jones" wrote ...
> "Phil Kane" wrote
> : : <jerseyj69@comcast.net> wrote:
> : :
> : : : Once more it appears some
> : : : rules are being made to have people "feel protected"
> : : : rather than dealing with the actual problem....
> : :
> : : The rules are made so that the technically illiterate
> : : "gate checkers" have a bright line between "OK" and
> : : "not OK". --
>
> Understood, but why are (for example) 2 batteries ok but 3 not ok..?

Possibly because two of the larger batteries as used for
broadcast TV camcorders (etc) are at the limit of mass
of the critical (dangerous) material. There is another
discussion of this same topic over on those newsgroups
(news:rec.arts.movies.production.sound, etc.)

Of course, at the other end of the spectrum, two of the
microscopic batteries used in hearing-aids, etc. are a tiny
fraction of the mass. But the technically illeterate gate
checkers can only reliably count batteries rather than
calculating the total collective mass of lithium, etc.